VII. SIGNATURES OF PARTICIPANTS

The following pages include signatures and/or letters of support from the following:

Federal Agencies State Agencies County or Municipal Governments Private Sector and Individual Signature (includes companies, organizations, etc.) Letters of Support

CONSERVATION AGREEMENT

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-Western Colorado Ecological Services Field Office hereby states it intent to assist with and participate in the implementation of the Parachute-Piceance-Roan Conservation Plan (Plan) as prepared by the Working Group. By signing this Conservation Agreement (Agreement) the Service shows support for the purpose, guiding principals, and conservation actions as stated in the Plan. Authority for the Service to enter into this Agreement and participate in implementation of the Plan comes from the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended; the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended. Signing of this Agreement does not constitute a review under the Policy for Evaluating Conservation Efforts When Making Listing Decisions (PECE), nor an evaluation of the real or absolute extinction risk for the greater sage-grouse. The Service's endorsement of the Plan is not an indication that it will determine, under PECE, that the Plan should be considered when the Services makes a listing determination for the greater sage-grouse, nor does the existence of the Plan necessarily result in the Service determining that listing is not warranted. Specific commitments are as follows:

- To pursue funding opportunities through available grants or funding sources for implementation of the Plan.
- To attempt to provide a representative to Working Group meetings. 2.
- To use our authorities to review Federal projects and recommend measures to avoid or minimize 3. impacts to the greater sage-grouse and its habitat.
- To provide technical assistance for proposed projects as needed and requested. 4.
- To provide recommendations to address issues of concern during future Plan revisions, including but 5. not limited to inclusion of habitat disturbance guidelines for project related impacts.

Performance of all activities described above is contingent on adequate funds and staff being made available and allocated to the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). All projects or management actions implemented in accordance with the Plan will be subject to all laws, regulations, policies and procedures in effect at the time the action is implemented. This agreement is neither a fiscal nor a funds obligating document. This Agreement shall not prohibit the Service from engaging in management actions regarding greater sage-grouse conservation beyond those described in this Agreement and in the Plan. However, such management actions should be coordinated with the Working Group.

This Agreement is effective as of the date of signing and shall remain in effect until the Service chooses to amend or terminate the agreement. If the habitat disturbance guideline issue is not resolved within six months, the Service's support of this plan may be terminated.

Allan R. Pfister, Western Colorado Field Supervisor

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-Ecological Services

allan R. Pfish

139

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (White River Field Office) hereby states its intent and commitment to assist with and participate in the implementation of the Parachute-Piceance-Roan (PPR) Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Plan. This plan was prepared by a work group of affected stakeholders and is designed to conserve and enhance populations and habitats of Greater Sage-grouse (GRSG), a BLM sensitive species. This plan is in no way meant to be construed as a Resource Management Plan Decision. All projects or management actions implemented through these guidelines will be subject to site specific environmental analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act. Specific commitments made hereby are as follows:

- All proposed projects or actions funded, implemented or authorized by the BLM will be analyzed with respect to impacts on Greater Sage-grouse and their habitats in accordance with the guidelines set forth in this plan.
- To implement the guidelines, conservation actions, and intent set forth in this plan within the constraints of existing laws, policies, regulations and management plans, and while considering the needs or implications to other species and multiple uses.
- To work with private landowners, companies, organizations and other state or federal agencies to implement necessary conservation actions to maintain or enhance Greater Sage-grouse habitat as outlined in this plan.
- To exercise authorities for maintenance, conservation and management of Greater Sagegrouse populations and suitable habitat pursuant to provisions in the BLM Sensitive Species Policy Manual and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA).

Performance of all activities described above is contingent on adequate staff and funding being allocated to the signatory agency. This agreement shall not prohibit the signatory agency from engaging in management actions regarding Greater Sage-grouse conservation beyond those described in the agreement and in the Conservation Plan. Such management actions should be coordinated with the PPR Work Group.

This agreement shall become effective on the date of signature by the participating agency and shall remain in effect until the signatory party chooses to terminate the agreement, or the agreement is terminated by consent of the PPR Work Group. The agreement may be terminated by providing 90 days written notice to the PPR Work Group.

Kent Walter, White River Field Office Manager

Bureau of Land Management, USDI

APRIL 29, 2008

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (Grand Junction Pield Office) hereby states its intent and commitment to assist with and participate in the implementation of the Parachute-Piccance-Roan (PPR) Greater Sage-groupe Conservation Plan. This plan was prepared by a work group of afficient stakeholders and is designed to conserve and enhance populations and habitus of Greater Sage-groupe (GRSG), a BLM sensitive species. This plan is in no way meant to be construed as a Resource Management Plan Demacon. All projects or management actions implemented through these guidelines will be subject to site specific commitmental analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act. Specific commitments made hereby are as follows:

- All proposed projects or actions funded, implemented or authorized by the EUM will be analyzed with respect to impracts on Greater Sage, grouse and their habitats in accordance with the guidelines set forth in this plan.
- To implement the guidelines, conservation actions, and interaset forth in this plan within the constraints of existing laws, policies, regulations and management plans, and while considering the needs of implications to other species and multiple uses.
- To work with private landowners, companies, organizations and other state or federal agencies to implement necessary conservation actions to maintain or enhance Counter Sage groups habitat as outlined in this plan.
- To exercise authorities for maintenance, conservation and management of Greater Suggrouse populations and sintable natural pursuant to provisions in the BLM Sensitive Species Policy Manual and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA).

Performance of all activities described above is contingent on adequate stalf and funding being allocated to the agnatory agency. This agreement shall not probabilit the agnatory agency from engaging in management serious regarding Greater Sage, groups conservation beyond those described in the agreement and in the Conservation Plant. Such management actions should be coordinated with the PPR Work Group.

this agreement shall become effective on the date of signature by the participating agency and shall remain in effect until the signatury party chooses to terminate the agreement, or the agreement is terminated by consent of the PPR Work Group. The agreement may be terminated by providing 90 days written notice to the PPR Work Group.

May 27, 2008

Catherine Robertson, Grand Junction Field Office Manager

Bureau of Land Management, USDI

Monday, June 09, 2008.max

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (White River Field Office) hereby states its intent and commitment to assist with and participate in the implementation of the Parachute-Piceance-Roan (PPR) Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Plan. This plan was prepared by a work group of affected stakeholders and is designed to conserve and enhance populations and habitats of Greater Sage-grouse (GRSG), a BLM sensitive species. This plan is in no way meant to be construed as a Resource Management Plan Decision. All projects or management actions implemented through these guidelines will be subject to site specific environmental analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act. Specific commitments made hereby are as follows:

- All proposed projects or actions funded, implemented or authorized by the BLM will be analyzed with respect to impacts on Greater Sage-grouse and their habitats in accordance with the guidelines set forth in this plan.
- To implement the guidelines, conservation actions, and intent set forth in this plan within the constraints of existing laws, policies, regulations and management plans, and while considering the needs or implications to other species and multiple uses.
- To work with private landowners, companies, organizations and other state or federal agencies to implement necessary conservation actions to maintain or enhance Greater Sage-grouse habitat as outlined in this plan.
- To exercise authorities for maintenance, conservation and management of Greater Sagegrouse populations and suitable habitat pursuant to provisions in the BLM Sensitive Species Policy Manual and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA).

Performance of all activities described above is contingent on adequate staff and funding being allocated to the signatory agency. This agreement shall not prohibit the signatory agency from engaging in management actions regarding Greater Sage-grouse conservation beyond those described in the agreement and in the Conservation Plan. Such management actions should be coordinated with the PPR Work Group.

This agreement shall become effective on the date of signature by the participating agency and shall remain in effect until the signatory party chooses to terminate the agreement, or the agreement is terminated by consent of the PPR Work Group. The agreement may be terminated by providing 90 days written notice to the PPR Work Group.

Jamie Connell, Glenwood Springs Field Office

Bureau of Land Management, USDI

Date

6.10.2008

CONSERVATION AGREEMENT

The USDA / Natural Resources Conservation Service hereby states its intent to assist with and participate in the implementation of the Parachute, Piceance & Roan Creek Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Plan, as prepared by the Parachute, Piceance & Roan Creek Greater Sage-grouse Work Group.

Performance of all activities described in the Plan pertaining to the NRCS is contingent on adequate funds and staff being made available and allocated to the agency. This agreement shall become effective on the date of signature by the participating parties, and shall remain in effect until the parties choose to terminate the agreement, or the agreement is terminated by consent with the Parachute, Piceance & Roan Creek Greater Sage-grouse Work Group.

Dennis Davidson

District Conservationist, USDA-NRCS

Garfield County

Andy Keep

District Conservationist, USDA-NRCS

Rio Blanco County

Jim Currier

District Conservationist, USDA-NRCS

Mesa County

The Colorado Division of Wildlife hereby states its intent and commitment to assist with and participate in the implementation of the *Parachute-Piceance-Roan Greater Suge-Grouse Conservation Plan* as prepared by the Parachute-Piceance Roan (PPR) Greater Sage-Grouse Working Group. Specific commitments made hereby are as follows:

To provide one staff person to coordinate the implementation of this plan and represent the Division on the Parachute-Piceance-Roan Working Group, which consists of representatives from state and federal agencies, local government, conservation organizations, landowners, private industry, and interested members of the local community.

- To assume lead responsibility for the inventory and monitoring of Greater Sage-Grouse in the Parachute-Piceance-Roan area, and to sanually compile and report inventory and monitoring information.
- To assume lead responsibility for the reintroduction of Greater Sage-Grosse into formerly occupied habitats in Colorado.
- To implement and enforce specific State statutes and Wildlife Commission Regulations (Colorado Revised Statutes, Title 33, Articles 3 and 6, and Colorado Wildlife Commission Regulations Chapter 3) that control the taking and possession of Greater Sage-Grouse in Colorado.

To make recommendations to, and cooperate with, other stare and federal agencies, local governments, private landowners, and land developers to avoid minimize, or mitigate negative impacts of development and other land uses on Greater Sage-Grouse populations and their habitats to the Parachute-Piceance-Roan area

- 6. To make recommendations to, provide some funding for, and cooperate with other state and federal agencies, local governments, private landowners, and conservation organizations to conserve and enhance Greater Sage-Grouse habitats in the Purachure-Piccanoc-Roan area.
- To continue to support and conduct research on the population dynamics and habital relationships of Greater Suge-Grouse in Colorado.

Performance of the commitments described above is contingent on adequate funding being made available and allocated to the signatory agency. This agreement shall not prohibit the signatory agency from engaging in management actions regarding Greater Sage-Grouse beyond those described in this agreement and in the Conservation Plan. This agreement shall become effective on die date of signing by the participating party and shall remain in effect until the signatory party chooses to terminate the agreement. The agreement may be terminated by providing 90 days written notice to the Parachure-Piceance-Roan Working Group.

Thomas E. Lenning for

Director, Colorado Division of Wildlife

5/10/08 Date

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RIO BLANCO COUNTY P.O. BOX I MEEKER, CO 81641



RIO BLANCO COUNTY SIGNATURE PAGE

Rio Blanco County has participated in the development of the Parachute-Piceance-Roan Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Plan and concurs with the findings. The Rio Blanco County Board of County Commissioners support the mission of the Plan to conserve and enhance Greater Sage-grouse population and habitats in Rio Blanco and Garfield Counties in ways that are compatible with existing and future land uses thereby insuring the opportunity for people to enjoy this wildlife resource in perpetuity. Any actions undertaken by the County are strictly voluntary. Signing this plan shows the County's support, but shall in no way bind the County to any particular action.

> COUNTY OF RIO BLANCO, STATE OF COLORADO, By and Through Its BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

Clerk& Recorder Rio Bianco County Chairman

mo Commissioner

Kenneth C. Parsons, Commissioner

Forrest F. Nelson, Chairman County Administration (970) 878-9430 Joe F. Collins

Kenneth C. Parsons

boccaco.rio-blanco.co.us

Fax (970) 878-5442 Rio Blanco County Administration Building, 317 E. Market Street. Meeker, CO 81641

VII. SIGNATURES OF PARTICIPANTS

Private Sector and Individual Signature Page

"Signatories to this Plan have participated and concur with the Plan development. They support the mission of the Plan to conserve and enhance the Greater Sage-Grouse populations and habitats in Garfield, Mesa, and Rio Blanco Counties in ways that are compatible with existing and future land uses, thereby insuring the opportunity for people to enjoy this wildlife resource in perpetuity. Any actions undertaken by the signatories are strictly voluntary. Signing this Plan shall in no way be construed to reduce or deprive the signatories of any rights, privileges they enjoy. Any party to this agreement can terminate with a written notice to the Workgroup via the Colorado Division of Wildlife offices in Grand Junction or Meeker, CO. If the species is listed under the Endangered Species Act it is the signatories' option to withdraw from this agreement at anytime."

| Name | Affiliation |
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| Spolder Callany | Colo- Dil + Las Conservation Commission |
| India Bredis | White River Electric Draw Inc. |
| They per ser | CO DOW |
| The state of the s | West Water Engineering Co. |
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Private Sector and Individual Signature Page

Signatories to this plan have participated and concur with the plan development. They support the mission of the Plan to conserve and enhance the Greater Sage-Grouse population and habitats in Parachute, Piceance and Roan Creek areas of Colorado in ways that are compatible with existing and future land uses, thereby insuring the opportunity for people to enjoy this wildlife resource in perpetuity. Any actions undertaken by the signatories are strictly voluntary. Signing this plan shall in no way be construed to reduce or deprive the signatories of any rights or privileges they enjoy. Any party to this agreement can terminate with a written notice to the Workgroup via the Colorado Division of Wildlife Office in Grand Junction CO. If the species is listed, it is the signatories' option to withdraw from this agreement at anytime.

| Name 2/1/V:0 | Affiliation Williams Production RMT |
|--|---|
| Durk & Louds | HRL COMPLIANCE SOLUTIONS INC. |
| Eleen Dey Dee Dunder | CONOCOPHILIPS COMPANY. WESTWATER ENGINEERING |
| Bile Brennan | Ranches Ranches |
| Tin Eggh. Chris Clerk | 21- |
| Must m. Byrns | Pleins BXDLO retion of Production Chevron a.S.A. Inc. Co Working Group Member |
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Colorado Rural Electric Association 5400 North Washington Street Denver, Colorado 80216 (303) 455-2700 FAX: (303) 455-2807

> To: Greater Sage-grouse Steering Committee CC: Cathy Neelan, North American Mediation Associates, LLC John Toolen Bureau of Land Management Lori Nielsen EDM International, Inc. Brad Petch Colorado Division of Wildlife

Re: Comments regarding the review of listing status decisions prior to the April 29th signing of the local Parachute, Piceance and Roan Creek (PPR) Conservation Plan

The Colorado electric utilities do work in close cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) when planning and permitting is conducted to locate new utility corridors outside documented Greater Sage-grouse leks. We would like to continue working with the BLM and CDOW to preserve all potentially sensitive species including sage-grouse. We appreciate that over the past years the BLM and CDOW have allowed the electric utilities to comment on conservation actions.

In regard to the Parachute, Piceance and Roan Creek (PPR) Working Plan and the Greater Sage-grouse Statewide Conservation Plan as they relate to Electrical Structures, Rights-of-Way, and Power Lines, the Colorado Rural Electric Association would like to take this opportunity to comment on the PPR Plan, particularly as it relates to the Statewide GrSG Plan. The electric cooperatives have a valid concern that the "recommended 4-mile buffer zone", can be calculated as an 8-mile diameter potential exclusion area for suitable habitat as described in Appendix B of the GRSG Conservation Plan and can be easily misinterpreted as a recommended practice by permit applicants and land management

We are currently reviewing the Statewide Plan independently, as it pertains to power lines and electric utilities. Overall, we believe that the correlation and cross referencing of the PPR Plan with the Statewide Plan should be more consistent. A recent insertion into the Greater Sage-grouse PPR plan appendices refers to a Best Management Practice proposing that CDOW be consulted prior to surface occupancy within 4 miles of a lek.

Although we understand that 1) the PPR Plan is strictly voluntary, 2) the 4-mile radial distance buffer targets specific areas in the Piceance Basin, 3) the 4-mile buffer is not a "No Surface Occupancy" (NSO) area, and 4) the Statewide plan mentioned "it [the 4-mile buffer] is an area of consideration where the disturbance guidelines should be applied when, and if, possible" we are still concerned over the associated language. The language regarding the buffer zone refers to a request for consultation with the CDOW, which is an unknown. However, our major concern is that the land management agencies, such as the BLM may incorporate a 4-mile buffer into their permitting policy for power line right-of-way, particularly in the Piceance Basin based on how the PPR Plan is worded. If this became policy for permitting right-of-way, we feel this measure would be excessive and is beyond what was previously agreed upon by the PPR working group. Both documents should have clearer outlines of what is proposed.

The electric cooperatives have a valid concern that the "recommended 4-mile buffer zone", can be calculated as an 8-mile diameter potential exclusion area for suitable habitat as described in Appendix B of the GRSG Conservation Plan and can be easily misinterpreted as a recommended practice by permit applicants and land management agencies.

Your Touchstone Energy* Partner





Colorado Rural Electric Association 5400 North Washington Street Denver, Colorado 80216 (303) 455-2700 FAX: (303) 455-2807

> When power lines are within the area of a Greater Sage-grouse lek we agree that electrical structures can be retrofitted with modern perching deterrents to dissuade birds of prey from using the electrical structure as an unfair advantage. However; this should also be evaluated on a case-by-case

> The concept of burying the high-voltage power lines should be evaluated on a project specific basis. An electrical pole has a very small footprint, and the equipment used to place the pole and string the overhead conductor do very little damage to the environment as compared to burying lines and the associated linear disturbance. A trench to bury the same power line will disturb an area at least 10 feet wide and for the entire length of the right-of-way. Trenching eliminates the existing and desired vegetation, while disturbed soil encourages unwanted vegetation, requires continual maintenance in seeding and weed prevention, and of course a buried power line is much more expensive to install than overhead lines.

> As stated on Pages 83-84 of the Final PPR Plan, paragraph 3a verbiage such as, "Actions for power lines in order to reposition new power lines and install raptor deterrents when applicable and feasible" and the term "Conservation Actions" allow too much room for interpretation and could easily be construed to propose a variety of actions. It is our concern that plans containing "Conservation Actions" and "Best Management Practices" can more easily transcend into rules and laws than if the plans would plainly state that the CDOW and the BLM will work with all affected parties when sagegrouse leks are a viable concern.

> To reiterate previous communications, the electric cooperatives are not-for-profit and we have to pas: all increases in construction and operation costs on to the consumers.

> CREA, with all intents and purposes will try to comply with the PPR Plan. However; CREA does not have the authority to sign and bind on the content of this plan on behalf of the cooperative members that may directly or indirectly be affected by the plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the Colorado Rural Electric Association.

Ray Clifton **Executive Director** Colorado Rural Electric Association rclifton@coloradorea.org 303-455-2700 ext. 104

Jim Thate Director of Safety Training and Loss Control Colorado Rural Electric Association jthate@coloradorea.org 303-455-2700 ext. 109

Your Touchstone Energy Partner The power of human connections





370 17th Street Suite 1700 Denver, CO 80202 tel: (303) 623-2300 fax: (303) 623-2400 www.encana.com

EnCana Oil &Gas (USA) Inc. Signature Page

EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc. participated in the development of the Parachute-Piceance-Roan Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Plan. We support the mission of the local working group to conserve and enhance this Greater Sage Grouse population and associated habitats through cooperative multi-party efforts, adaptive management, and private land stewardship, in ways that are compatible with our existing and future activities in the geologic Piceance Basin. EnCana may assist with and participate in the implementation of the Plan. Any actions undertaken by EnCana are strictly voluntary. This signature letter shall in no way be construed to reduce or deprive EnCana of rights or privileges. Signing this Plan shows EnCana's support but does not commit us to any particular action.

Byron R. Gale, North Piceance Team Lead

July 24, 2008 Date