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Western Energy Alliance Reaction to BLM's Notice to Amend Sage Grouse Plans ^[1]

DENVER - [Western Energy Alliance](#) ^[2] issued the following statement today regarding the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) announced notice of intent to amend the Greater Sage-Grouse land management plans issued in 2015. The statements are attributable to Kathleen Sgamma, president of the Alliance:

"We are very pleased BLM is moving forward with amending the sage grouse plans. The plans discouraged on-the-ground, local conservation efforts and ignored state plans, except for Wyoming's, in favor of a top-down, one-size-fits-all approach. The attitude of this Interior Department, which is much more interested in real collaboration with states and counties, is welcome after the prior administration's process that ignored real threats to sage grouse and exaggerated impacts from human activities.

"The oil and natural gas measures in the plans were unnecessarily draconian, and disregarded the hundreds of measures that companies have implemented to protect sage grouse. The plans inflated the impacts from oil and natural gas activities by completely ignoring the technological innovation and best practices implemented over the last decade that have resulted in 70% less habitat fragmentation. Western Energy Alliance will engage in the public scoping process, and we look forward to a more sensible planning process that's based on science and actual conditions on the ground in the West."

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