

Great Basin Landscape Conservation Cooperative



Linda Kelly, Coordinator
Great Basin Consortium Meeting
Boise State University, Jan 2013



The Great Basin

“An Army of Caterpillar's marching towards Mexico”
Clarence Dutton 19th century geologist

- Recognized by John C. Fremont as an area of interior drainage
- 145,546 square miles
- Precipitation, generally 7-12 inches annually



Our Mission

- *Provide leadership and a framework linking science and management to address shared ecological, climate, and social and economic issues across the basin.*
- *Focus science and management actions to sustain natural resources in the context of changing environmental conditions.*
- *Enhance collaboration to integrate science and management among Great Basin LCC partners particularly as related to climate change and other landscape-scale change agents.*
- *Promote communication and education.*



Organizational Operations

- **BLM, USGS and FWS funding to support administrative and technical capacity for the cooperative**
- **BLM asked the cooperative to review Great Basin Rapid Ecological Assessment for the Central Great Basin**
- **Developed communication plan with steering committee members for the cooperative**

Sage Steppe in the Great Basin

- Cheat Grass die-off
- Greater Sage-grouse
- Bi-State Sage-grouse
- Inter-LCC collaboration effort
 - LC Map for Sage Grouse data



Coordination of Climate information

- **Great Basin Climate Forum held in 2012: Spring and Fall in Reno, NV**
 - A discussion of current conditions in the Great Basin
 - In Partnership with:
 - Desert Research Institute
 - California Nevada Applications Program
 - Great Basin LCC
- **Third one held in Klamath Falls, OR Nov 30th**
- **For information: GreatBasinLCC.org**
 - or email: todd_hopkins@usgs.gov



Coordination of Climate Information

- **Forum topics include:**
- **A recap of the summer and early fall climate conditions**
- **Review of summer and early fall wildfire conditions**
- **Hydro-climate effects on rangeland ecosystem soils**
- **Current climate impacts on Great Basin Tribes**

Landscape Conservation and Planning

- ▣ **Currently ramping up to conduct our science prioritization process**
- ▣ **Review of Rapid Ecological Assessment for the Central Great Basin**
- ▣ **Inter-LCC Sage Grouse effort**
- ▣ **LC Map for Sage Grouse**
- ▣ **Engaged in long-term discussions regarding sage-step dependent species, impact of fire and invasive species**

Landscape Conservation Design

- ▣ Engaged with the NFS EPSCOR program in focusing science toward key risk and vulnerability assessments
- ▣ Engaged with several researchers funded by the Climate Science Centers and others in the creation of Decision Support Tools
- ▣ Working with NWCSC and SWCSC on their RFPs for FY 14
 - They set a online process to begin this winter

Contact Information

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