



2018 UW-NPS Harlow Summer Seminars

AT THE AMK RANCH NEAR LEEK'S MARINA, NORTH OF COLTER BAY

Open to the public – reservations not required, \$5+ donation

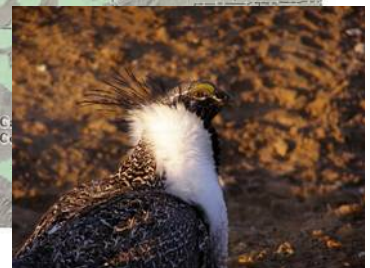
THURSDAY, JUNE 21ST 2018, 5:30 PM

Wyoming's sage-grouse core area strategy: is it effective?

Jeffrey Beck

Professor, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, Univ. of Wyoming

The Wyoming Core Area Strategy was established in 2008 by the Governor's Sage-Grouse Executive Order (SGEO). The intent of the SGEO was to provide greater protections for breeding sage-grouse across the state in response to concerns about listing the greater sage-grouse under the Endangered Species Act and potential impacts to Wyoming's economy. The primary goal of the SGEO was to protect habitat for at least 67% of male sage-grouse attending leks. The SGEO limits timing and amount of surface disturbance from energy and other development within 31 Core Areas that encompass 24% of Wyoming. My lab and colleagues have evaluated the effectiveness of the SGEO using grouse telemetry data following Core Area establishment, as well as lek count and energy development data sets spanning periods before and after implementation of the SGEO. I will present findings about the effectiveness of the Core Area strategy for breeding and wintering grouse. I will further examine spatial and seasonal effects of Core Areas as well as responses of grouse and development following implementation of the Core Area Strategy within the Wyoming and Powder River basins. I will briefly discuss the role of sage-grouse as an umbrella for other species that inhabit Core Areas.



Barbecue starts at 5:30 with hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, chips, salads and dessert for a \$5+ donation. The talk starts at 6:30 in the historic Berol Lodge at the AMK Ranch. Turn right when entering Leek's Marina parking lot in Grand Teton National Park.



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Biography (see attached photos):

Jeff Beck is a Professor in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management at the University of Wyoming. His research interests broadly encompass wildlife habitat ecology and management with a focus on linking resource selection and fitness of wildlife populations in disturbed rangeland systems. Research in his lab has centered on understanding the direct and indirect impacts of anthropogenic disturbance on grouse and ungulates, and evaluating the efficacy of conservation practices and policy for wildlife in sagebrush habitats. Stakeholders he has worked with extensively include private landowners, energy industry, and state and federal wildlife and land management agencies.

Contact information:

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Beck Lab – University of Wyoming Website
<http://www.uwyo.edu/esm/faculty-and-staff/beck/index.html>

Jeffrey L. Beck ResearchGate Website
https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Jeffrey_Beck?ev=hdr_xprf

2017 Reflections Magazine Article on Beck Lab Research on Effectiveness of Wyoming's Sage-Grouse Core Areas (pages 16-21)
<http://www.uwyo.edu/uwexpstn/publications/reflections/reflections-2017.pdf>