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March 26, 2024

The Honorable Tracy Stone-Manning,  
Director Bureau of Land Management  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Director Stone-Manning:

I write to you regarding the Greater Sage-Grouse (GRSG) Planning Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft RMPA/EIS), which was introduced on March 15, 2024. Specifically, I express some concerns over the time allotted for public comment. This proposal will have significant impacts on California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, and my home state of Wyoming. It is imperative that the BLM extend the public comment period to a minimum of 180 days, as 90 days is not sufficient for various stakeholders to understand the full scope of the potential impacts of this plan.

This draft EIS considers 77 BLM RMPs across the range of the GRSG, analyzes six alternatives for adjusting GRSG management on BLM land, and impacts both BLM surface estate as well as BLM-administered subsurface mineral rights directly underlaying nonfederal ownership. This RMPA/EIS will influence land management strategies on 69 million acres of land across 9 different western states. The effects on grazing, timber harvesting, recreation, energy production and others that could come with tyrannical designations of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) would be devastating to our local economy.

Because the BLM has asked for comments to be specific, and for commenters to come forward with "suggested changes", it is essential that all impacted stakeholders are given ample time to familiarize themselves with this proposal. For this reason, I respectfully request that the BLM extend the comment period for another 90 days.

Sincerely,

Harriet M. Hageman  
Member of Congress