



SAGE GROUSE INITIATIVE

Wildlife Conservation Through Sustainable Ranching.

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Photo: Todd Black

[New SGI Webinar: Unraveling Sagebrush Community Change to Manage for Resilient Sage Grouse Habitats](#)

November 25, 2014

The [Sage Grouse Initiative](#) partnered with the [Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center](#) to unravel the secrets of sagebrush plant community change in this 23-minute instructional video designed to help conservationists and landowners manage for more resilient sage grouse habitats. The video uses small plots in a field demonstration to recreate sagebrush community responses to disturbance through time pre- and post-cheatgrass, introduce ecological state and transition concepts, and illustrate how this information can inform management strategies.

[Watch the Webinar](#)



[Masini family Preserves Lush Oasis for Bi-State Sage Grouse](#)

November 18, 2014

Bi-State (Nevada/California) sage grouse thrive on the Masini family's ranch. Their property is literally an oasis in the desert, surrounded by hundreds of square miles of rangeland, meaning it's a big draw for wildlife and sage grouse.

In recent years, the Masini family has taken big strides to protect and preserve sage grouse habitat on more than 4,150 acres via conservation easements, pinyon and juniper removal, fencing improvements and range management through the [Sage Grouse Initiative \(SGI\)](#).

[Read the SGI Story](#)

[Download the printable PDF](#)

Thanks to writer [Steve Stuebner](#) and to the Masini family and to [Nevada NRCS](#) for the photos used in this story.



NRCS Chief Jason Weller Gives Keynote at International Sage Grouse Forum, Utah

November 17, 2014

[Natural Resources Conservation Service \(NRCS\)](#) Chief Jason Weller gave the keynote address at the recent [International Sage Grouse Forum](#) in Salt Lake City, organized by [Utah State University's Community Based Conservation Program](#). Weller reminded participants that the NRCS "has your back," and is committed to make the investment necessary to preserve the sage grouse and maintain sustainable ranching in America.

Weller complimented [SGI staffers](#) Tim Griffiths and Dave Naugle for their tireless work over the past four years. He also recognized the ranchers who have stepped up in an extraordinary way. "This collaborative, voluntary approach to sage grouse conservation is incredible," he said.

[Read the SGI Story](#)

Thanks to Ron Francis, Utah NRCS Public Affairs Specialist, for photo. Jason Weller (left) shakes hands with Dr. Terry Messmer in front of the SGI booth.

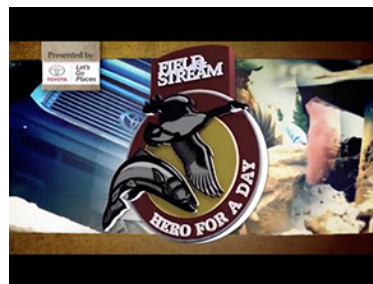


New Video! Hero for a Day: How tiny pieces of plastic can save hundreds of sage grouse

November 17, 2014

In Billings, Montana, volunteers with the [Sage Grouse Initiative](#) hung visibility markers on three miles of fencing to help prevent the low-flying birds from colliding with the wires, a major cause of mortality for sage grouse. Volunteers also planted sagebrush to provide nesting habitat, food, and cover to help the dwindling species rebound. A [Field and Stream](#) project. Read the [SGI story](#) about the event.

[Watch the video](#)



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