

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is eligible for the fund?

This fund is available only to private landowners or long-term lessees in Idaho.

Are my lands suitable for restoration under this program?

Any privately owned land within existing sage grouse habitat that can be improved for sage grouse use potentially qualifies.

Who does the restoration?

The landowner or the landowner's contractor. The landowner is either provided with the seed or reimbursed for the cost of it.

How does the NAGP decide which projects are of highest priority?

Other considerations being equal, priority will be given to projects that: 1) fulfill an important habitat need; 2) conserve or restore natural communities; 3) require minimal maintenance; 4) have longer duration agreements; 5) involve other partners and/or cost sharing; and 6) are the most cost effective.



sagebrush sego lily
by Janet Skirrow

Sponsored by the
NORTH AMERICAN GROUSE PARTNERSHIP
 A private, nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the conservation of grouse and the habitats necessary for their survival and reproduction.



Contact a North American Grouse Partnership representative to start the process and put the Grouse Habitat Restoration Fund to work on your land:

David Skinner, 208-764-3224,
dskinner@fs.fed.us
Alan Sands, 208-343-8826,
asands@tnc.org
Kent Christopher, 208-356-0079,
grouse@fretel.com

GROUSE HABITAT RESTORATION FUND



toothed balsamroot and sage grouse chick
by Dawn Davis

Helping landowners restore or improve sage grouse habitat



seeding ground by Scott Jensen

PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

The Grouse Habitat Restoration Fund provides landowners with financial assistance, seed, or plants to enhance sage grouse habitat by planting forbs.

Forbs, broad-leaved herbaceous plants, are a critical food resource for sage grouse. Forbs provide nourishment for hens during egg development. Forbs attract insects, which provide sustenance during the first two weeks of a chick's life. Forb leaves, buds, and flowers are favorite foods throughout chick growth and development. Help keep grouse healthy. Plant forbs!



sage grouse brood group
by Kent Christopher

HOW IT WORKS

The Grouse Habitat Restoration Fund is a supplement to other conservation programs sponsored by federal or state agencies or private organizations. These programs include but are not limited to the following:

Natural Resource Conservation Service

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP)
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Habitat Improvement Program (HIP)
Landowner Incentive Program (LIP)

Pheasants Forever

While these programs assist landowners with the costs of undertaking conservation practices, all of them are cost-share and require the landowner to provide some match. Moreover, there is generally a cost/acre limit that agencies and organizations will agree to fund. This limitation frequently reduces the variety of plants that can be included in a seeding mix. Generally, it is the more expensive forb seed that is not included.

The Grouse Habitat Restoration Fund will provide the landowner with additional financial assistance to help cover their share of the costs for a multi-species seeding mixture that

will benefit sage grouse.



prairie star
by Ann DeBolt

OBTAINING ASSISTANCE

1. If your land is appropriate for the Grouse Habitat Restoration Fund, then contact one of the North American Grouse Partnership representatives listed in this brochure.

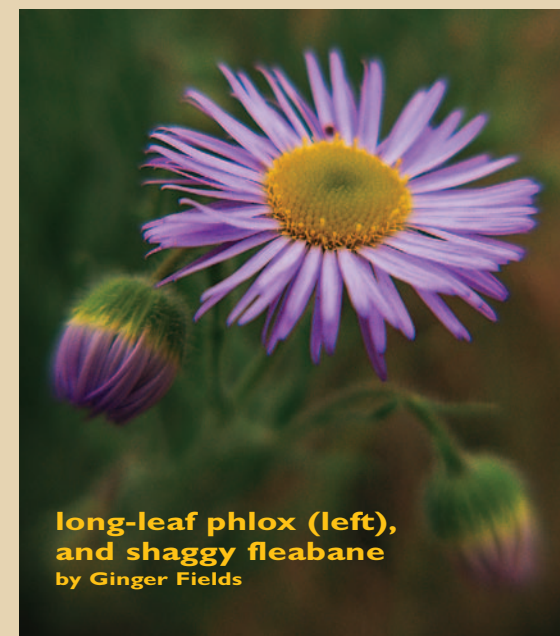
2. A grouse habitat specialist will meet with the landowner, evaluate the site, and verbally establish an agreed upon project proposal.

3. The landowner will then submit a written project proposal and/or plan (it may be the same as required by the other participating organization or agency).

4. A statewide committee, familiar with sage grouse biology and habitat needs, will evaluate the project proposal.

5. With project approval by the committee, an Agreement is sent to the landowner. After the landowner signs the Agreement, the project can begin.

6. The landowner will either be reimbursed for all project-approved seed costs as identified in the Agreement or be provided with the actual seed needed for the project.



long-leaf phlox (left),
and shaggy fleabane
by Ginger Fields