

DOUGLAS CORE AREA RESTORATION TEAM

The Douglas Core Area Restoration Team is a multi-stakeholder team comprised of partners working to advance collective knowledge of sage-grouse habitat conservation. During the past seven years, the team's focus has been developing projects to enhance sage-grouse seasonal habitat, restoring previously disturbed habitat, and implementing projects that target local threats to sage-grouse in northeastern Wyoming.

Since 2012, we have...

 **COLLECTED**
> 50 LBS

of native Wyoming Big Sagebrush seed from the Douglas Core Area (DCA) to grow native sagebrush seedlings. A pound of collected seed may contain as many as 100,000 sagebrush seeds

 **PLANTED**
> 100,000

native sagebrush seedlings to help restore sage-grouse habitat in the DCA

 **TREATED CHEATGRASS ON**
> 3,100 ACRES

of rangeland in Northeast Wyoming including the Douglas and Thunder Basin Core Areas to reduce cheatgrass cover and the threat of wildfire within sage-grouse habitat

 **COLLABORATED WITH THE NATURE CONSERVANCY TO INVESTIGATE SEED PODS AS AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH FOR RE-ESTABLISHING SAGEBRUSH IN POST-WILDFIRE AREAS**

DEVELOPED...

✓ the North Burn Management Plan, a long-term plan to enhance and restore sage-grouse habitat within a **5,000+ acre wildfire burn** in the northern part of the DCA

✓ **recommended practices** for growing sagebrush seedlings and outplanting them into intact rangeland



Conducted **outreach & education** regarding sage-grouse habitat conservation through site field trips, a TV news series, SageWest social media, conservation district newsletters and a Western Confluence article

Provided more than **15 technical presentations** at conferences, university venues and public forums

SUPPORTED...

2 water development projects to mutually benefit grazing management practices and wildlife habitat

2 University of Wyoming graduate students in research projects that evaluated approaches for outplanting sagebrush seedlings into post-wildfire restoration areas

OBTAINED
\$265,000

of outside funding to support research and project implementation

&

FUNDED

data collection to reclassify 182 acres of historic disturbance areas within the DCA as successfully restored to suitable sage-grouse habitat

✓ Established **field research plots** to investigate sagebrush seed germination and recruitment

✓ Collaborated with private landowners to implement **habitat enhancement projects** for sage-grouse and other sagebrush-obligate species



CONDUCTED ANNUAL SURVEYS OF MOSQUITO LARVAE WITHIN WATER BODIES OF THE DCA AND TREATED THEM (AS NECESSARY) TO REDUCE POTENTIAL EXPOSURE OF SAGE-GROUSE TO MOSQUITOES CARRYING WEST NILE VIRUS