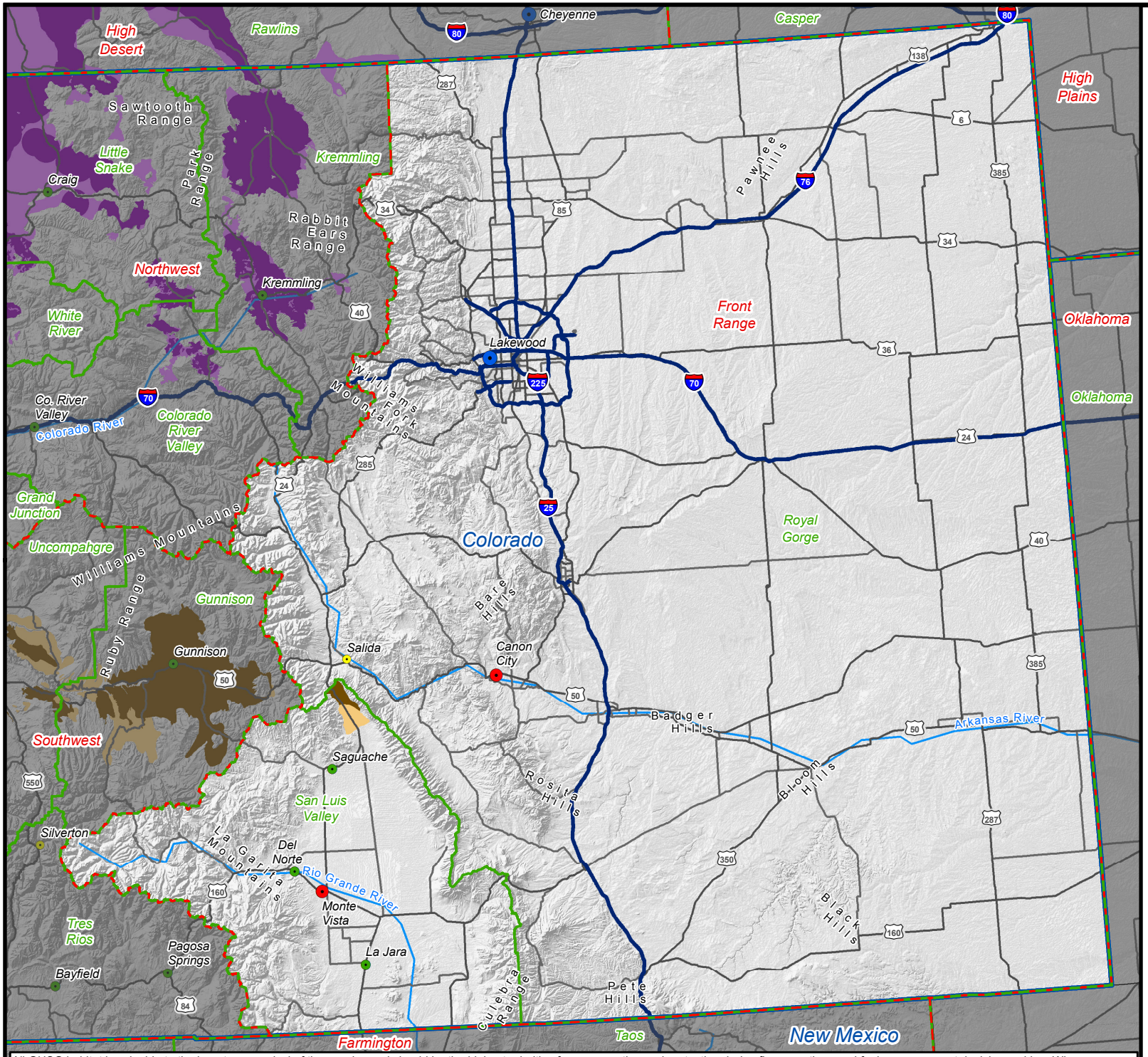

Front Range Greater Sage-Grouse and Gunnison Sage-Grouse Habitat 2012 - 2015

Legend

- Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH)
- Preliminary General Habitat (PGH)
- GUSG Occupied Habitat
- GUSG Unoccuppied Habitat
- BLM State Office Boundaries
- BLM District Office Boundaries
- BLM Field Office Boundaries
- Administrative State Office
- Administrative District Office
- Administrative Field Office
- Field Stations, Monuments, and Other Administrative Types

Description:

Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH) and Preliminary General Habitat (PGH):
Habitat designations developed by BLM and state agency biologists for all populations of GRSG (except the Bi-State and Columbia populations) which have been widely used since 2012. PPH is a higher value to protect, conserve and restore than PGH, and PGH is higher than other sagebrush vegetation.

PPH: Areas offering the highest quality GRSG habitat based upon bird density, lek location, community composition, intactness, or other variables.

PGH: Areas of relatively intact sagebrush communities which provide certain habitat requirements for GRSG.

GUSG Occupied Habitat:
Areas of suitable habitat known to be used by GUSG at the time of the ESA listing decision. This includes areas of suitable habitat contiguous with areas of known use, which do not have effective barriers to sage-grouse movement from known use areas, unless specific information exists that documents the lack of sage-grouse use. Areas designated by the FWS as occupied habitat should be assumed to be incorporated into this description.

GUSG Unoccupied Habitat:
Areas which are either: 1. Currently suitable habitat, but not contiguous with occupied habitat and a) has not been adequately inventoried, or b) has not had documentation of grouse presence in the past 10 years, OR 2. Capable of supporting sagebrush communities based on soils or other site characteristics but may need practical restoration activities applied. Areas designated by FWS as unoccupied habitat should be assumed to be incorporated into this description.

Data Sources:
BLM Administrative Boundaries and Office Locations: Downloaded from GeoSpatial Gateway, 05/20/2015.
GRSG PPH/PGH: Current as of 08/07/2013. For detailed source information and to access the data, please visit: http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/more/sagegrouse/documents_and_resources.html.
Gunnison SG (GUSG) Occupied/Unoccupied Habitat: Acquired from the BLM CO State Office on 06/22/2015.

Miles
0 10 20 40

N W E S

All GUSG habitat is valuable to the long-term survival of the species and should be the highest priorities for conservation and protection during fire operations and fuels management decision making. When suppression resources are widely available, maximum efforts should be placed on limiting fire growth in these polygons. When suppression resources are not widely available, the GUSG occupied habitat may be viewed as more valuable than GUSG unoccupied when priorities are established. Because GUSG is a federally listed species under the Endangered Species Act, emergency consultation will have to be conducted for all wildland fire for the bird and its habitats.