

Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Facilitating WAFWA population level monitoring and analyses

Type of Project: Technical Assistance

Discipline: Natural Resources

Funding Agency: US Fish and Wildlife Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: University of Montana

Student Involvement: No

Effective Dates: 7/31/2017 - 6/30/2022

Funding Amount: \$30,000

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: Modern statistical analyses are quickly outpacing the ability of many agency biologist to implement. Developing interfaces which make assessing the power of these models easier is critical to having robust analytical methods as the foundation of agency population monitoring and reporting. The PopR interface is a hosted web application run on servers at the University of Montana. PopR provides an easy-to-use menu that enables biologists to run complicated statistical models with little effort. PopR was developed collaboratively with State Wildlife Agencies to allow a secure and consistent way for state biologists to analyze population data. The Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in conjunction with the US Fish and Wildlife Service funded Dr. Lukacs at the University of Montana to develop a sage-grouse module for PopR. The sage-grouse module allows biologists analyze lek and demographic data. The purpose of this grant is to add new analyses modules that will aid in monitoring of wildlife populations within the sagebrush ecosystem.

Keywords: sage grouse, PopR, wildlife, sagebrush ecosystems, US Fish and Wildlife Service, University of Montana, The Avian Science Center