

# Public Lands Litigation Under Trump

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# National Direction



# 2015 Land Management Plan Amendments

Sagebrush Focal Areas

Priority Habitat Management Areas

General Habitat Management Areas



Lek buffers

Disturbance caps

# BLM Instruction Memoranda

Sept 2016

Prioritize considering activities outside sage grouse habitat areas for O&G leasing

Oct 2017

NOI to amend sage grouse plans

Accepted public scoping comments

Dec 2017

No prioritization outside sage grouse habitat for O&G leasing

Jan 2018

Streamlines O&G leasing

Leading to more O&G leasing in sage grouse habitat

## “Streamlining” NEPA

Use categorical exclusions (CEs) to avoid NEPA

Vegetation “restoration” activities

Timber harvest for fuels management

Wild horse gathers and sterilization

Range improvements

Certain oil, gas, coal leases

Other infrastructure projects

Rewrite or clarify extraordinary circumstances

## Other ways to avoid or shorten NEPA process

- Use other agency's analysis

- Tier to higher level analysis

- Use DNAs

- Use EAs instead of EISs

- Limits on pages and time for completion of EAs and EISs

- Reduce number of issues considered in analysis

# Changes at Local Level

More nuanced and less dramatic than national changes

Paying less attention to environmental concerns

Catering to industry desire

Choosing policy over science



# Bighorn Sheep





Stopped Risk of Contact Analyses

Site-Specific Decisions

Forest Plan revisions: removing from species of conservation concern

# Oregon Spotted Frog

