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Greater Sage Grouse Conservation in Jackson Hole

John Stephenson
Grand Teton National Park

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**University of Wyoming – National Park Service
2015 Harlow Summer Seminars at the AMK Ranch**

THURSDAY, August 20TH, 5:30pm

“Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation in Jackson Hole”

**John Stephenson
Wildlife Biologist
Grand Teton National Park**

The greater sage-grouse has been increasingly in the news as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is expected to make a decision on listing the species under the Endangered Species Act by September 30th. Jackson Hole is home to a small, isolated population of sage-grouse which faces serious but different threats than the rest of the state. Despite large tracts of protected public lands, the local sage-grouse population declined considerably from historic highs recorded in the late-1940s before rebounding in the last 15 years. Concerns for the Jackson Hole sage-grouse population include its isolation and the presence of a major airport in the heart of its range. In this seminar, John Stephenson, a biologist with Grand Teton National Park, will talk about the history and status of sage-grouse conservation in the valley and ongoing collaborative efforts to protect and preserve the species. Discussion will cover the development and eventual implementation of a Wildlife Hazard Management Plan in cooperation with the Jackson Hole Airport.

John Stephenson is a wildlife biologist at Grand Teton National Park who has worked on a variety of wildlife subjects in the park since 2008 including a bighorn sheep genetics study, a wolf predation study, and avian productivity monitoring. He has been a member of the Upper Snake River Basin Sage-Grouse Working Group since 2012. John graduated from Middlebury College in 1998 with a degree in Biology and received his M.S. from the University of Idaho in 2008.



Photo by Craighead Beringia South

Barbecue at 5:30 with hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, chips, salads and dessert for a \$5 donation. The talk starts at 6:30 in the historic Berol Lodge at the AMK Ranch. Turn right when entering Leek's Marina parking lot in Grand Teton National Park. Reservations not required.