

Feds plan announcement on protections for imperiled bird

September 21 2015

U.S. officials plan to make a major announcement Tuesday on efforts to protect an imperiled bird that could have implications for the energy and ranching industries.

The Interior Department says governors of Colorado, Montana, Nevada and Wyoming are among those who plan to join Secretary Sally Jewell and other [federal officials](#) for the announcement about greater sage grouse at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge outside Denver.

The government faces a Sept. 30 court-imposed deadline to decide whether it should list the chicken-sized birds as a threatened or endangered species.

Greater sage grouse range from California to the Dakotas. They've dwindled from millions to no more than 500,000 amid loss of their sagebrush habitat.

A listing could restrict oil and [gas development](#) and grazing across much of the West, though Congress has withheld funding to implement any such decision.

© 2015 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: Feds plan announcement on protections for imperiled bird (2015, September 21) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2015-09-feds-imperiled-bird.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.