



*The mission of the North American Grouse Partnership  
is to promote the conservation of grouse and  
the habitat necessary for their survival  
and reproduction.*

# **Grouse are in trouble throughout North America**

**Lesser Prairie-chicken – ESA Candidate**

**Greater Prairie-chicken – species of concern**

**Attwater's Prairie-chicken – ESA listed**

**Sharp-tailed Grouse – sub-species and  
populations petitioned for ESA listing**

**Gunnison Sage Grouse – ESA candidate\***

**GREATER SAGE GROUSE . . . . .**

# Greater Sage Grouse







# North American Grouse

## Management Plan

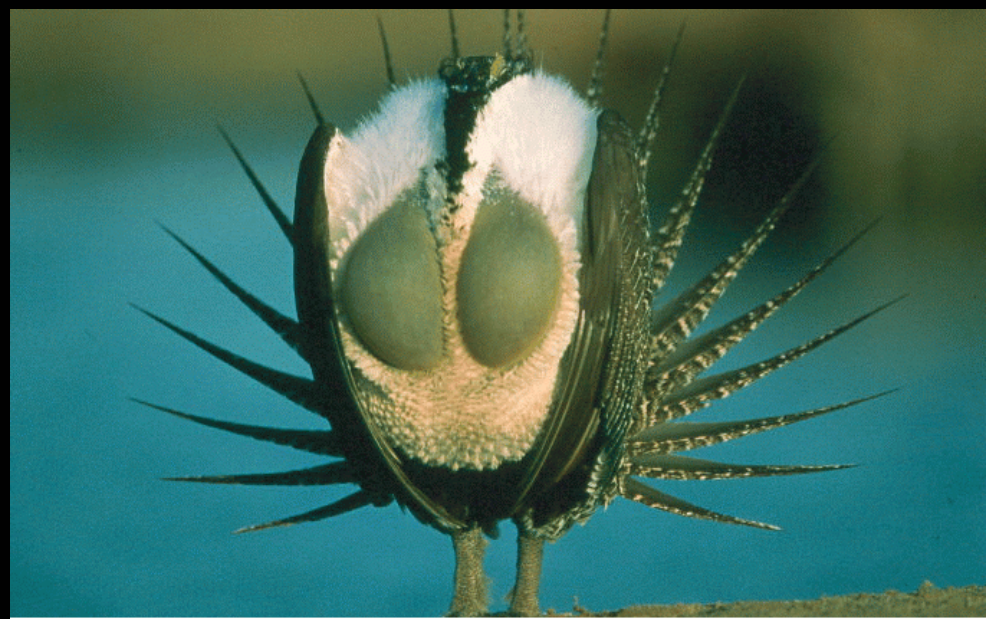
**The N. A. Grouse Management Plan will be a policy document developed in partnership by agencies, private organizations, and individuals to conserve the habitats necessary to support self-sustaining and harvestable populations of **ALL** grouse throughout North America.**

# **COMPONENT EFFORTS . . . . .**

- **A range-wide plan for ruffed grouse is being developed by Ruffed Grouse Soc.**
- **A range-wide status assessment for sage grouse is being funded by WAFWA.**
- **A spruce grouse conservation strategy is being initiated by WMI.**
- **A recovery plan and CCAA is being written for the Gunnison Sage Grouse**



# But what about the Prairie Grouse?



# THE NEEDS...

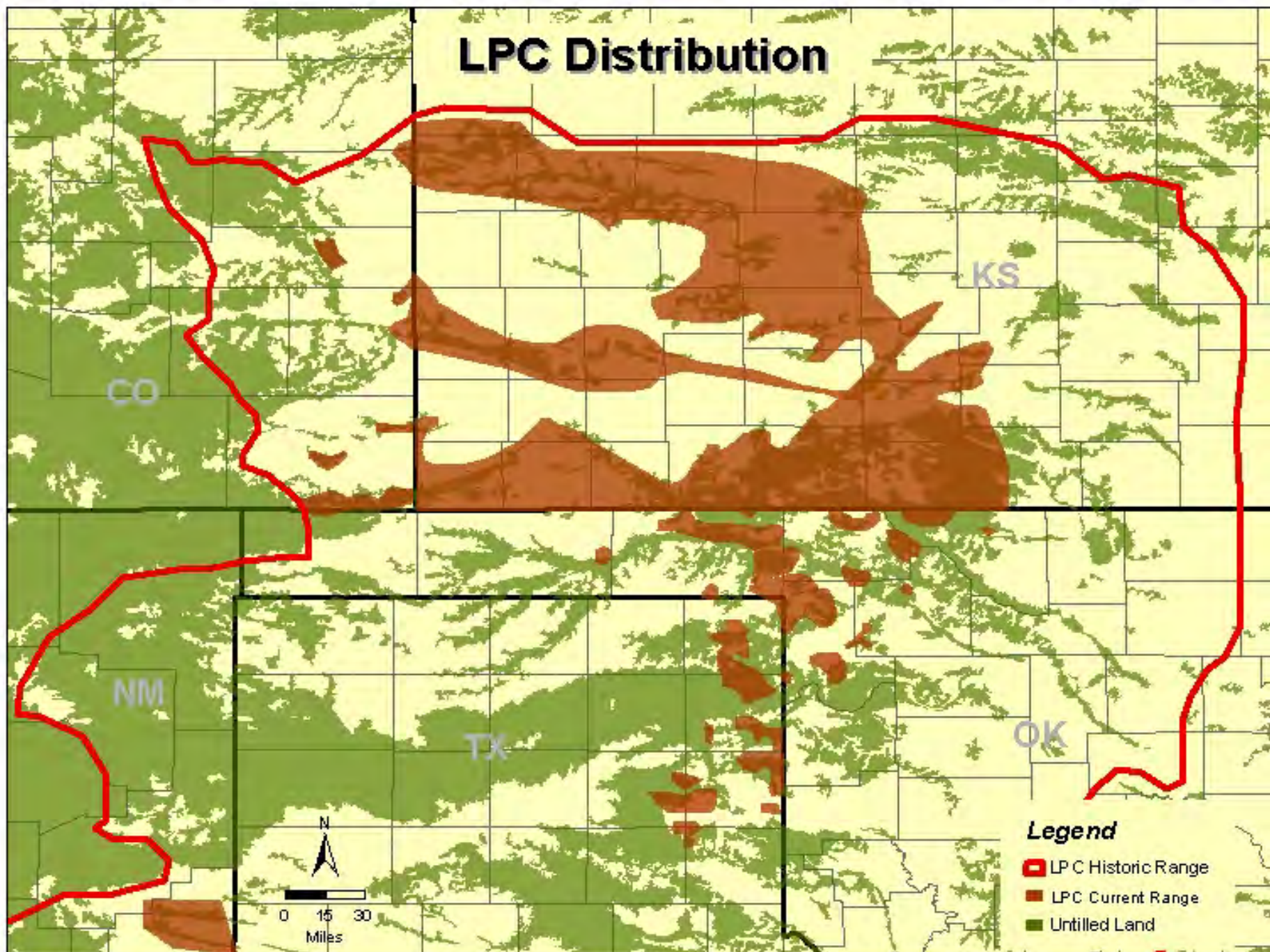
- **Prairie grouse need vast landscapes to persist**
- **Grouse conservation requires cross-jurisdictional coordination**
  - **facilitated by a plan like the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.**
- **The Plan must support (and be supported by) all-bird conservation.**
- **The Plan must help coordinate existing state, federal, provincial, and private efforts, including Farm Bill conservation programs.**
- **Other grassland species will benefit from grouse conservation**



# **Essential Elements of Range-wide Planning**

- **Continental Grassland Inventory Database**

# LPC Distribution





A photograph of a dry, hilly landscape. The foreground is filled with tall, dry, reddish-brown grass. In the middle ground, there are several small, dark green evergreen trees scattered across the slope. The background shows rolling hills under a clear sky, with more sparse vegetation and small trees.

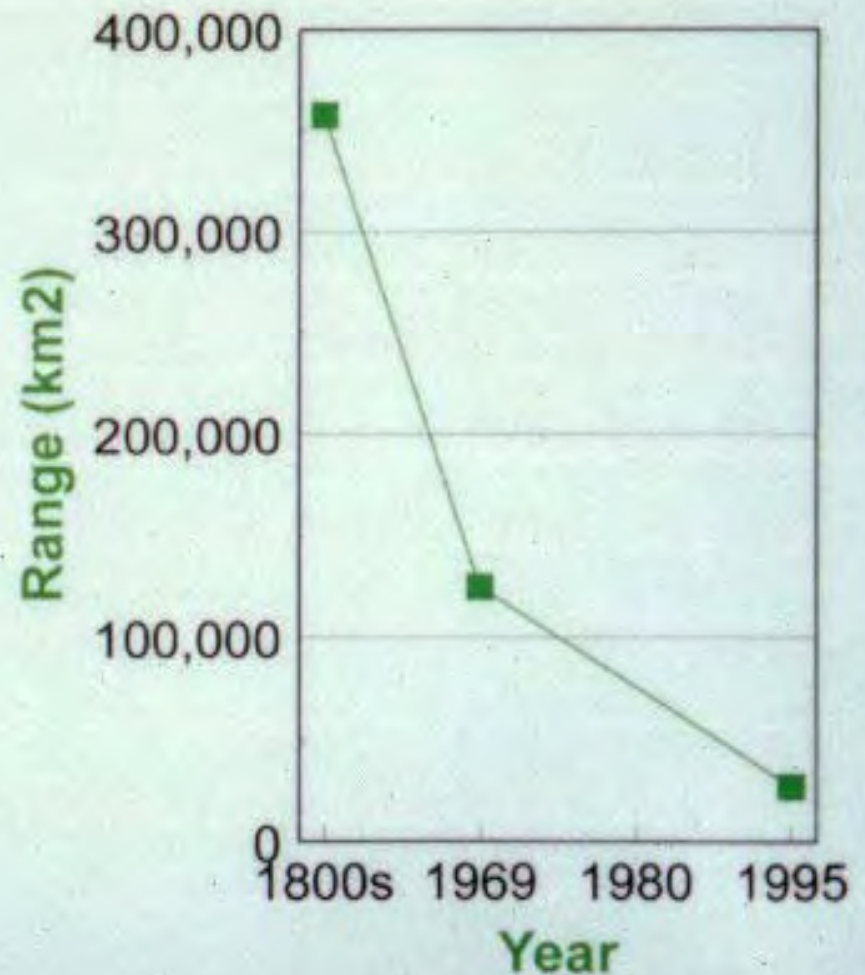
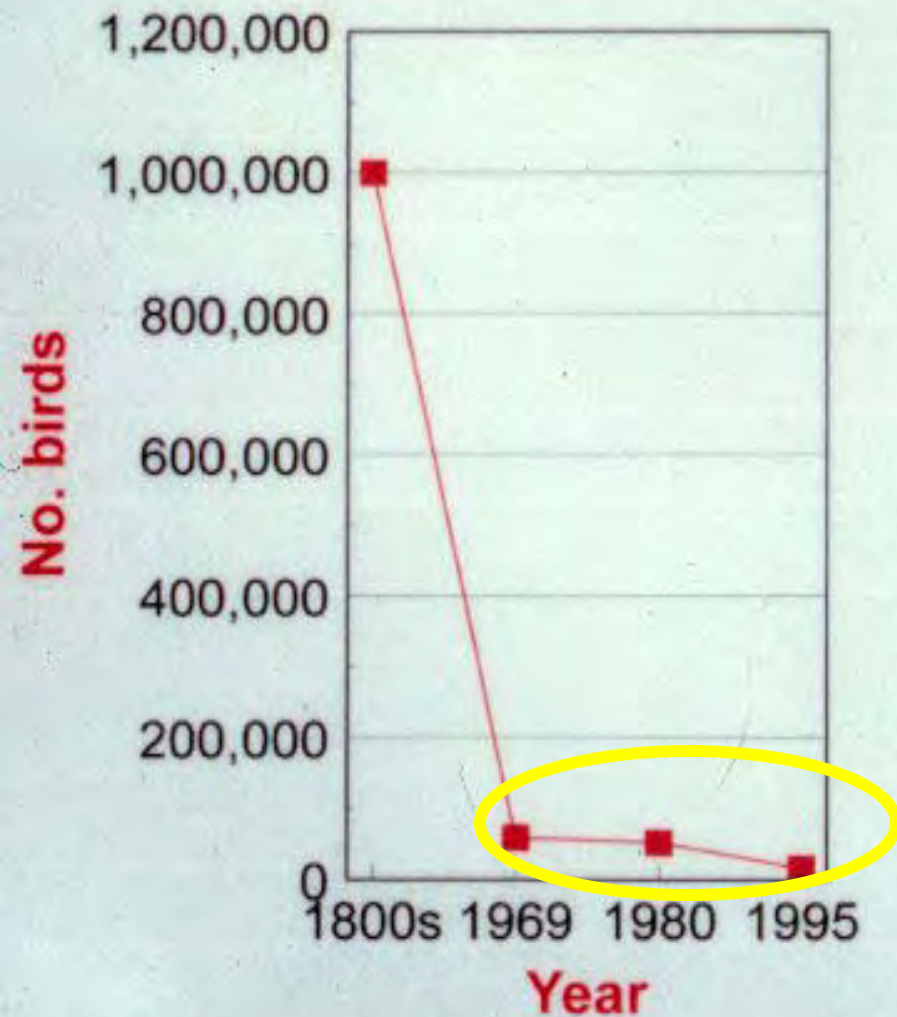
**Quality of Remaining Rangelands**  
**UNKNOWN**



# Essential Elements of Range-wide Planning

- Continental Population and Grassland Inventory Database
- Funding for comprehensive, long-term grouse population monitoring

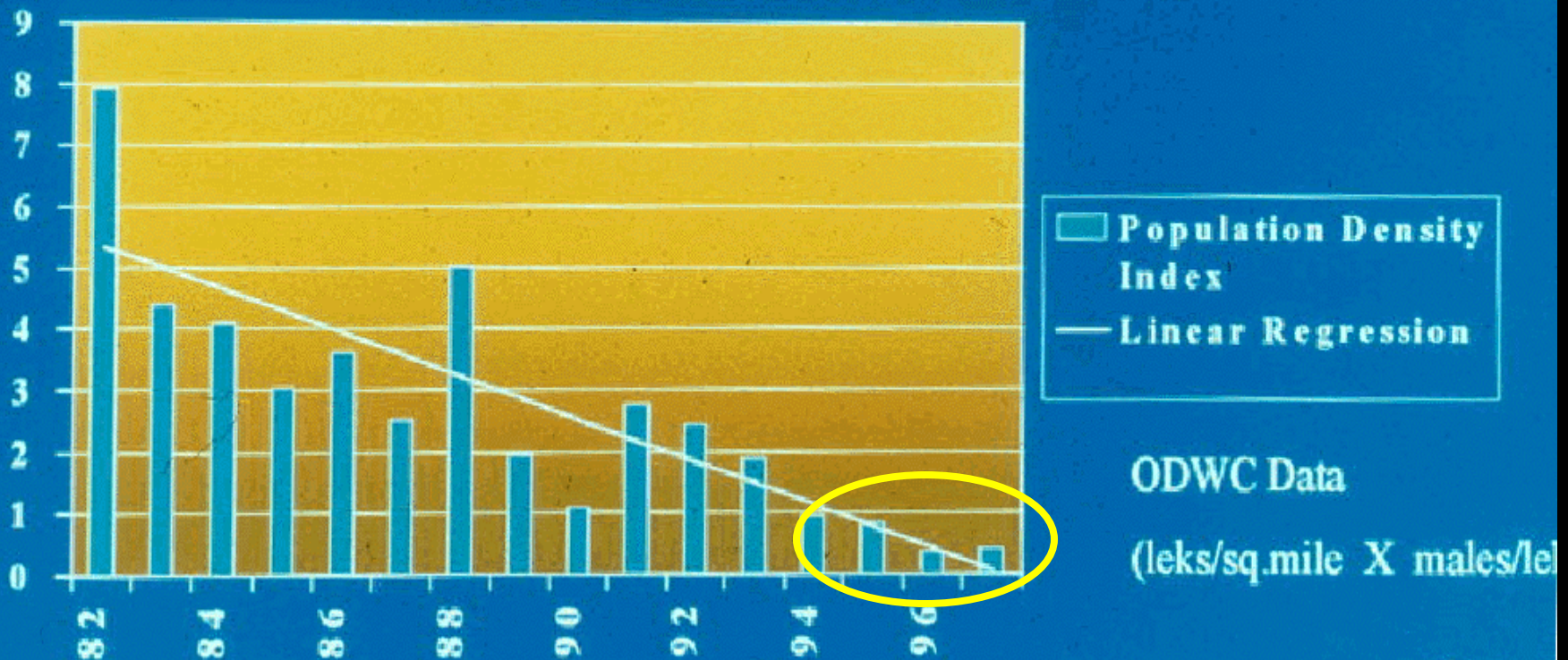
# Trends in Lesser Prairie-chicken Numbers and Range Size





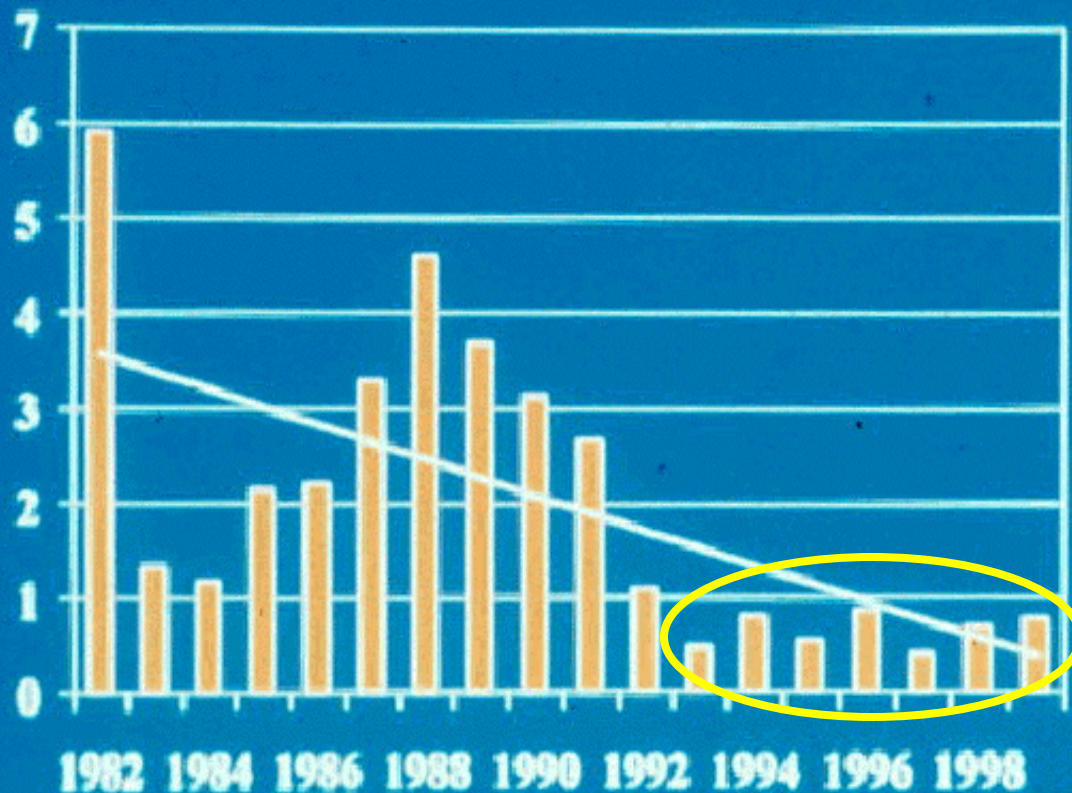
# Trend in Oklahoma

## Greater Prairie-Chicken





# Population Density Index for LPCH in Oklahoma (ODWC Data)



## TREND

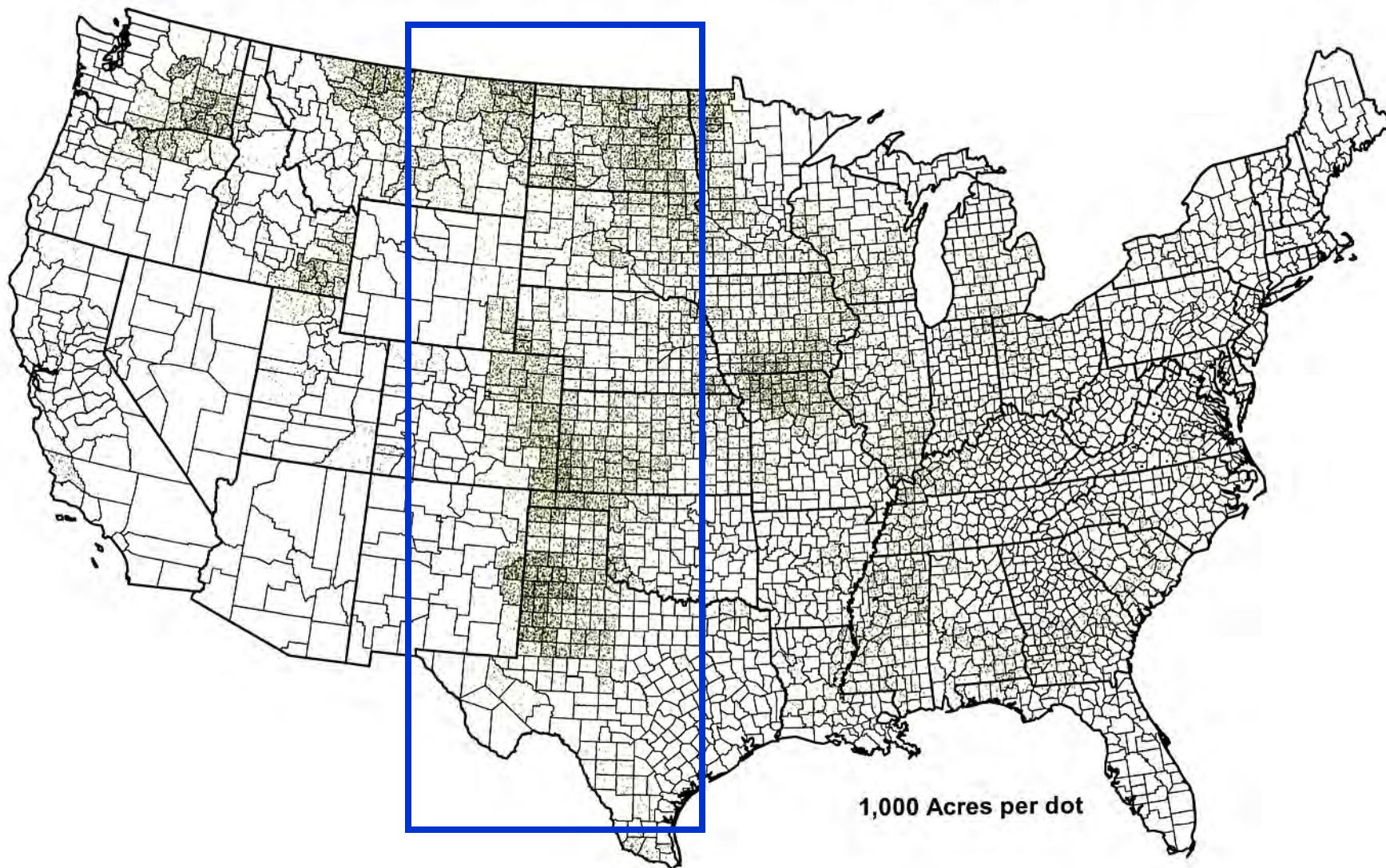
doesn't tell us  
much when  
populations  
have hit  
bottom.

# Essential Elements of Range-wide Planning

- Continental Population and Grassland Inventory Database
- Funding for comprehensive, long-term grouse population monitoring
- Coordinated adaptive management through application of existing conservation programs

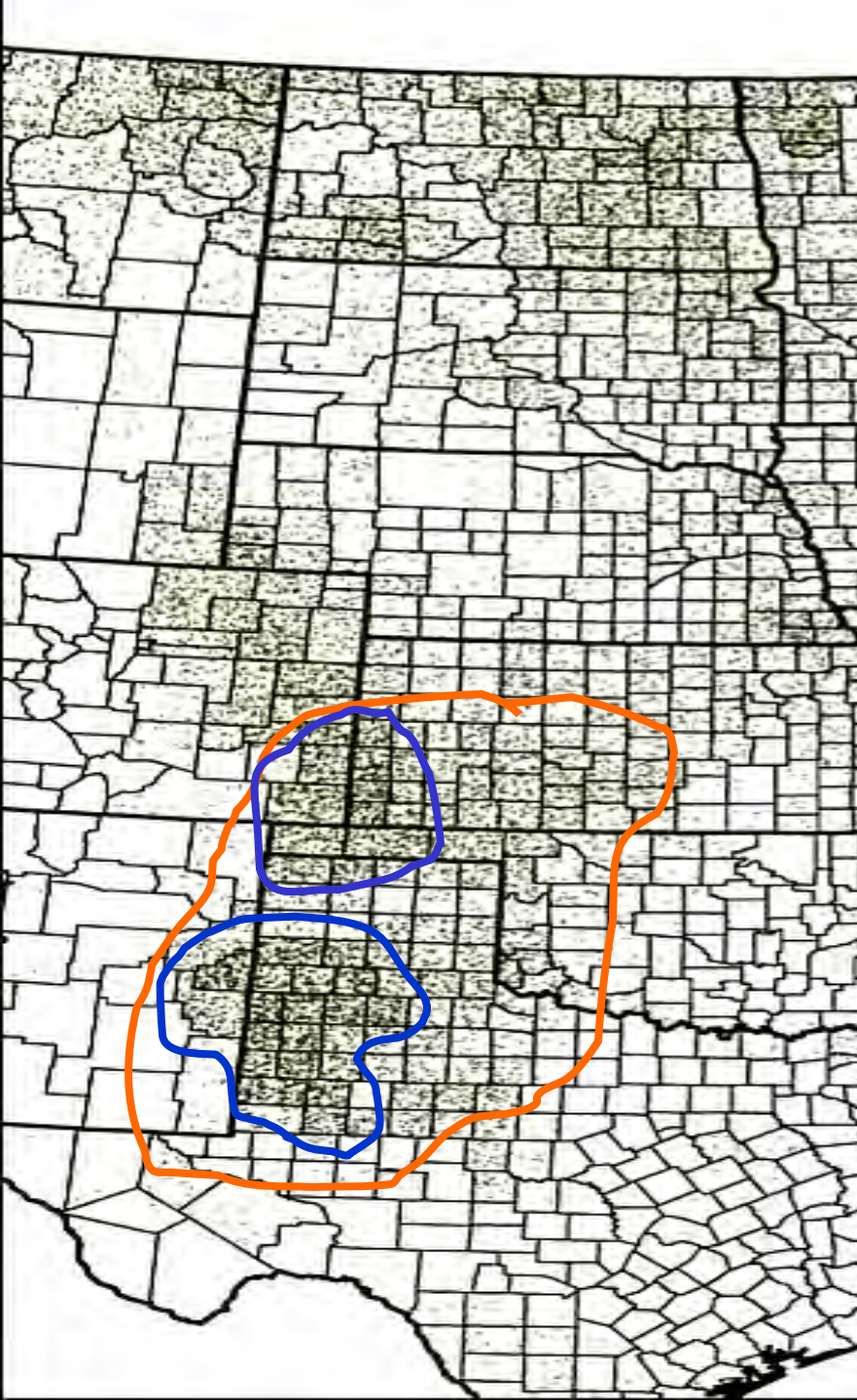


# CRP Acreage as of October 1, 2000





CRP can easily recover  
prairie grouse,  
*if implemented wisely*



———— Historic Lesser  
Prairie-chicken range

———— Obvious CRP  
Recovery Zones

● = 1,000 ac of CRP

VIRGINIA MALLORY LIVING SNOW FENCE  
TREE ROWS ESTABLISHED WITH THE EFFORT  
FROM THESE COOPERATORS:  
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION  
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
BLAINE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

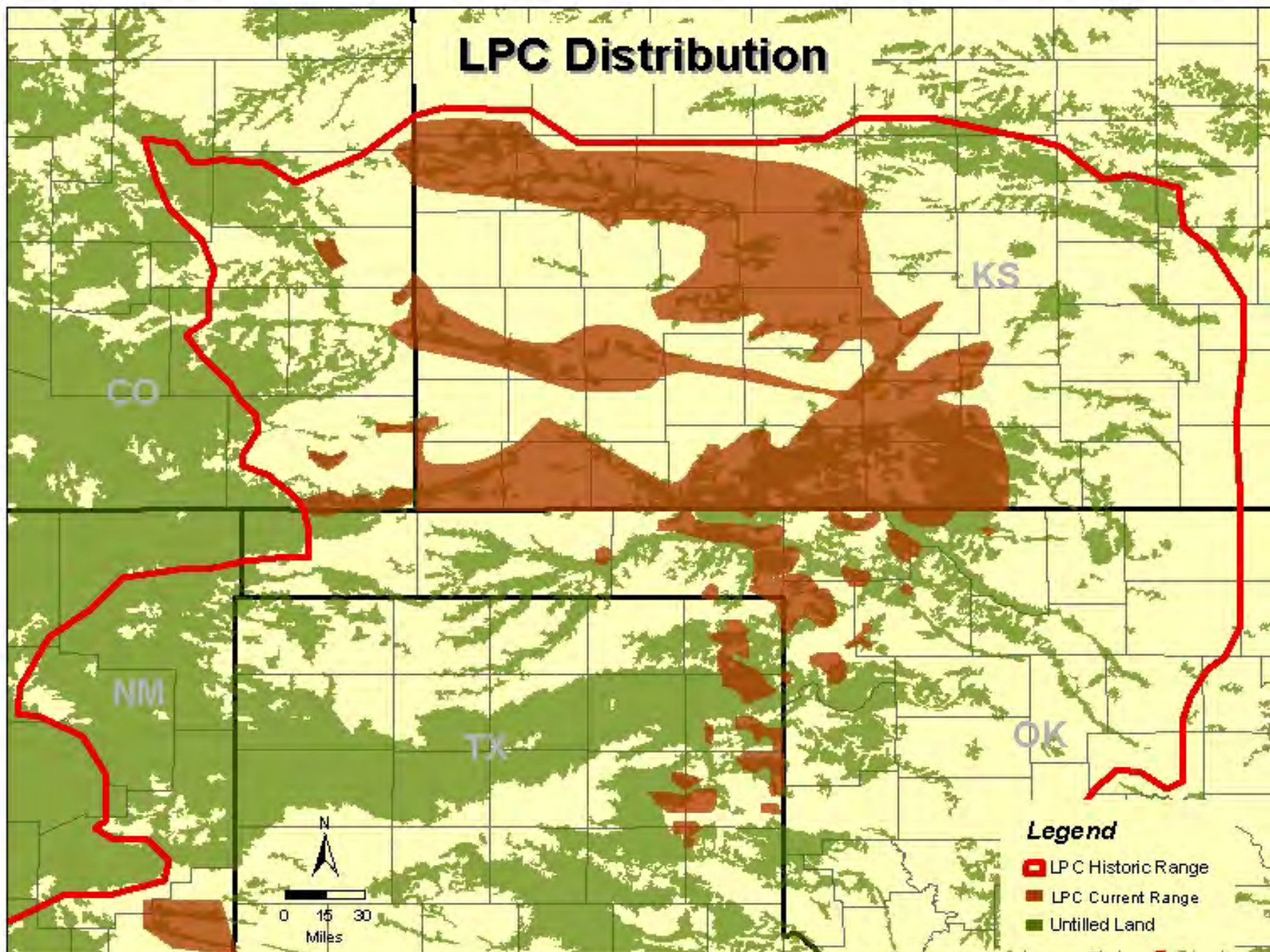


# Essential Elements of Range-wide Planning

- Continental Population and Grassland Inventory Database
- Funding for comprehensive, long-term grouse population monitoring
- Coordinated adaptive management through application of existing programs
- Political and regulatory authority to protect and enhance essential grouse habitat

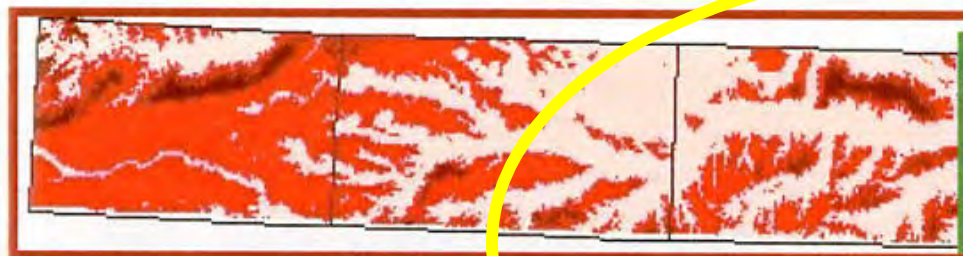


# LPC Distribution





# Wind Resource Model A



## Wind Power Class

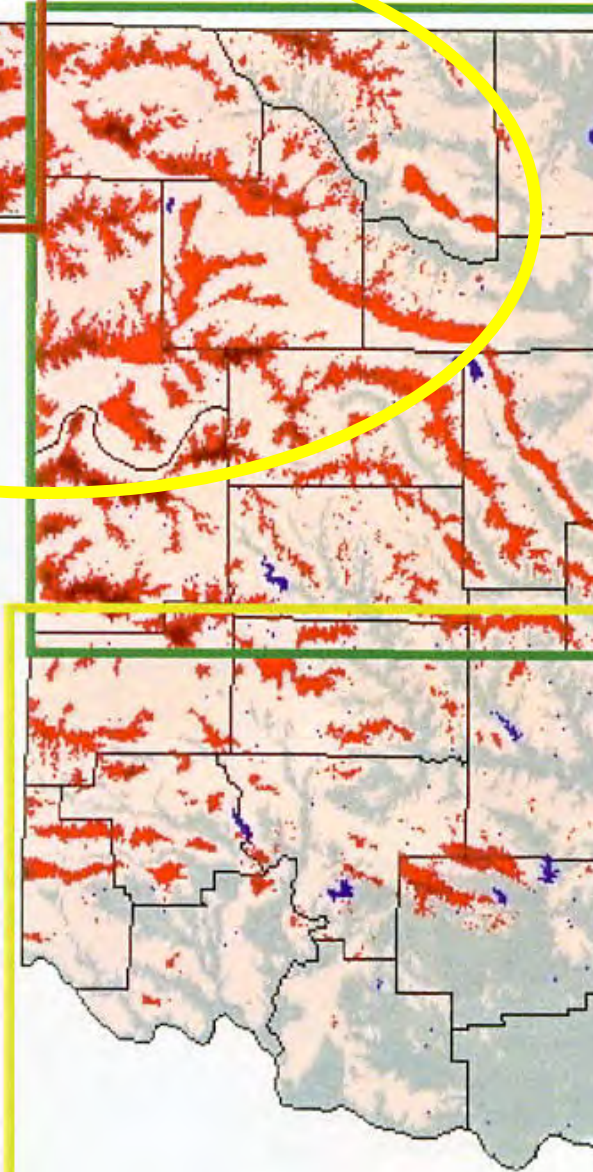
1  
2  
3  
4  
5



## Resource Potential

Poor  
Marginal  
Fair  
Good  
Excellent  
  
Lakes/Ponds

Oklahoma  
*owpi* Wind  
Power  
Initiative



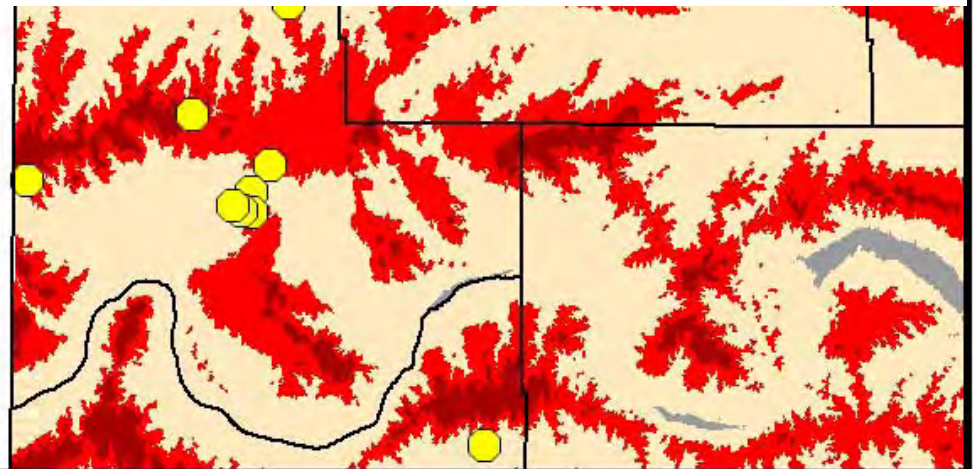


## Lesser Prairie Chickens & Wind Resources

Oklahoma Wind Power Assessment Initiative - Neural Network Model

**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE THIS**  
**MAP!**

***Remove text box prior to  
presentation.***





**Without more easement incentives, this may be the future of our remaining prairies.**



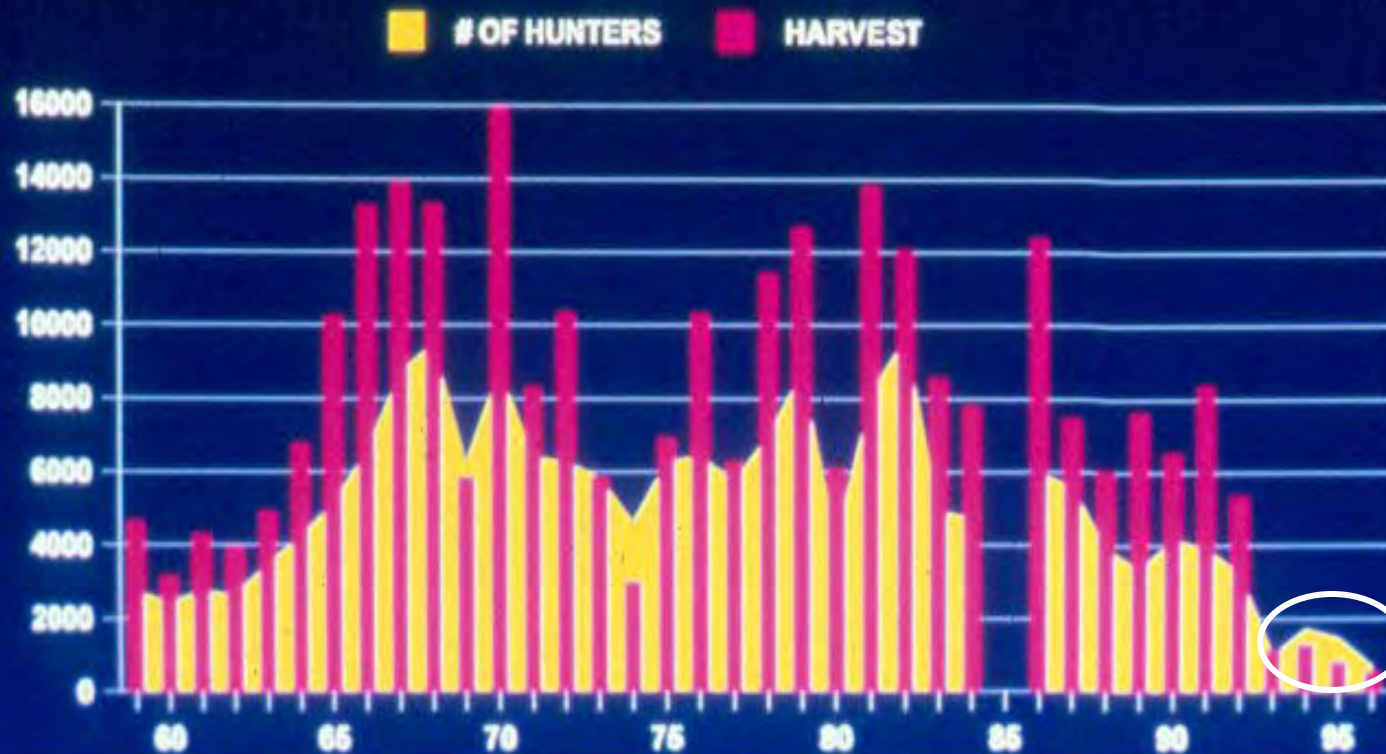
# Essential Elements of Range-wide Planning

- Continental Population and Grassland Inventory Database
- Funding for comprehensive, long-term grouse population monitoring
- Coordinated adaptive management through application of existing programs
- Political and regulatory authority to protect and enhance essential grouse habitat
- Conservation incentive funding to adequately conserve grouse habitat\*

Sportsmen want to hunt grouse.

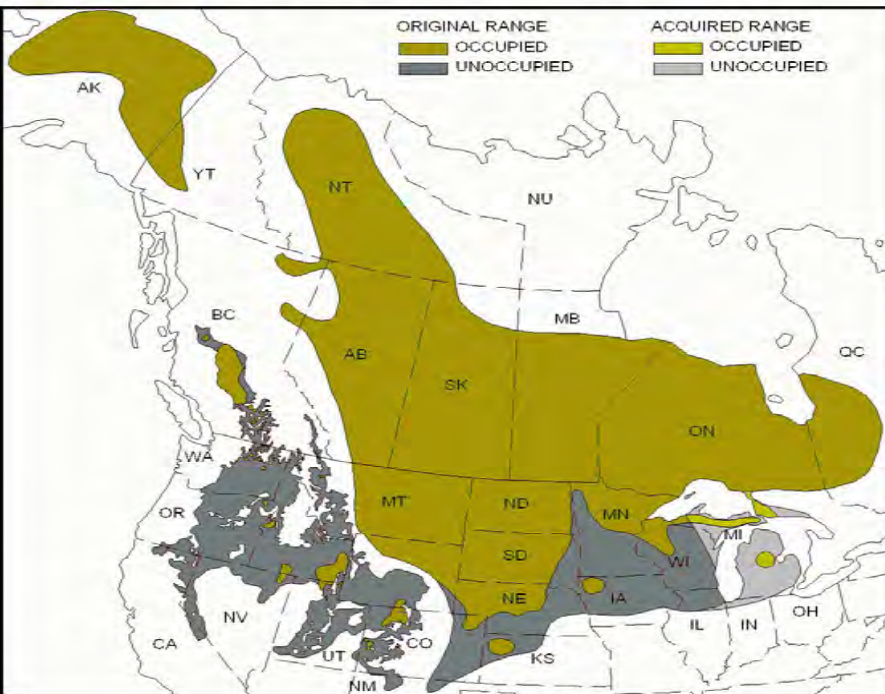
# Hunter Harvest

1959 - 1996

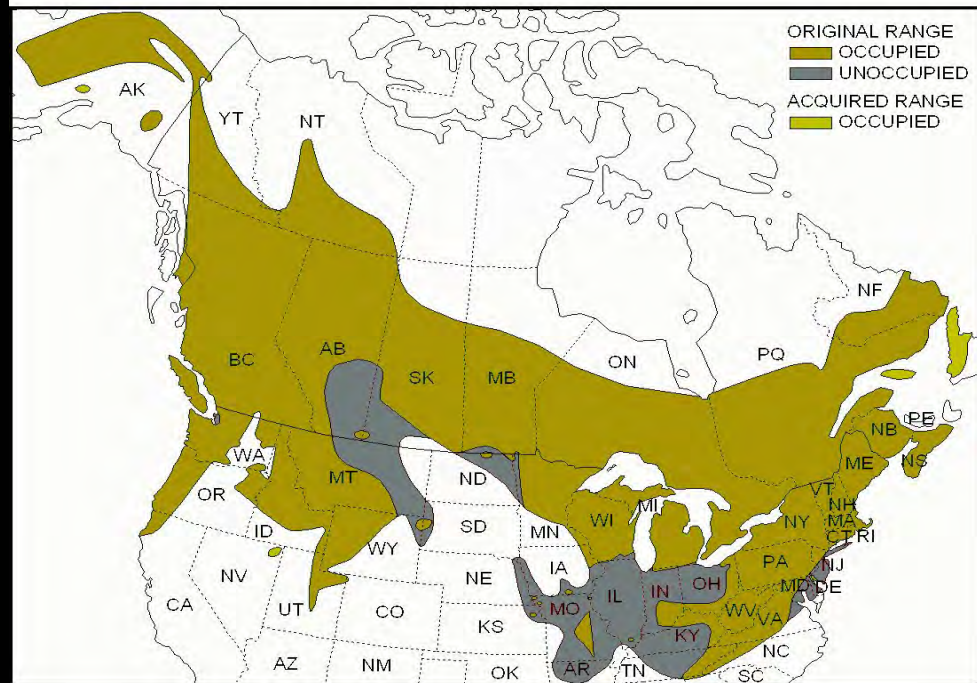




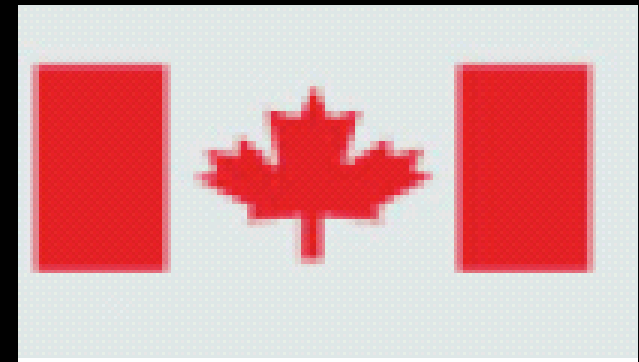
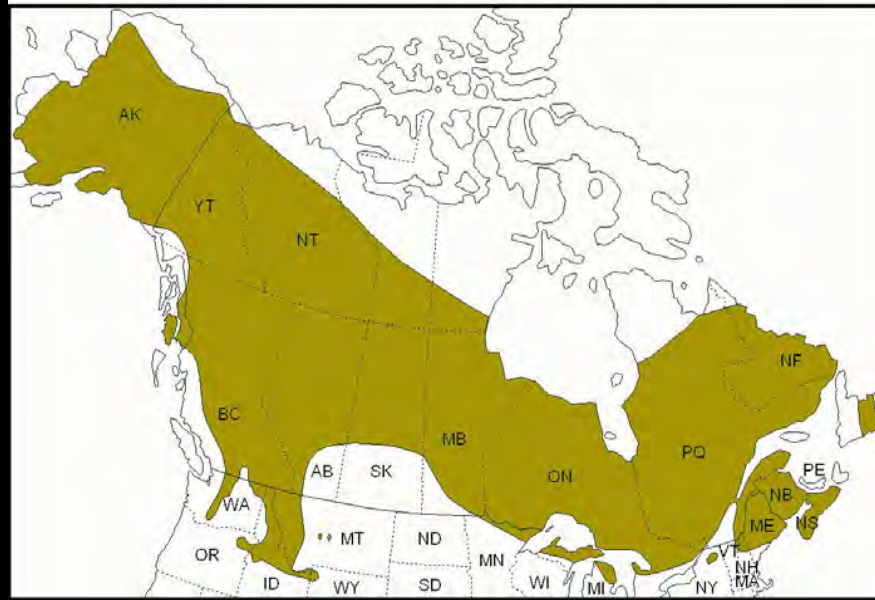
## SHARP-TAILED GROUSE



## RUFFED GROUSE



## SPRUCE GROUSE



# **Reasons Canada Supports the NAGMP**

- **Finally an effort to coordinate Provincial plans and initiatives**
- **Prairie restoration complements NAWMP programs (PHJV) and Trilateral Grassland Strategy**
- **Forestry and Mining interests are encouraged by having a place at the table**
- **Sharptails Plus and other sporting groups have rallied behind the effort**



# **Canadian Interests for the Plan**

- **Restoration and management of populations**
- **Ecosystem-based habitat management strategies**
- **Development of Grouse Management Partnerships (GMP's)**
- **Standardized protocols for range-wide monitoring**
- **Landscape level planning in association with existing frameworks (JVs, Trilateral, and BCRs)**
- **Population and habitat research**

# Population Recommendations

- Standardize and upgrade surveys
- Consistent harvest monitoring
- Establish key linkages between habitat and population variables
- Research



# Habitat Recommendations

- Ecosystem-based, large landscape approach
- Restoration, enhancement, conservation, and protection
- Inventory and monitoring programs
- Research



[www.grousepartners.org/plandraft](http://www.grousepartners.org/plandraft)