

HDC LCD Leadership Team Meeting September 28, 2022 via Zoom

Action Items for the Leadership Team:

- Continue to think about ways in which LCD can help with your current/upcoming projects/grants
- [Please fill out this 2-minute poll](#)

Meeting Summary

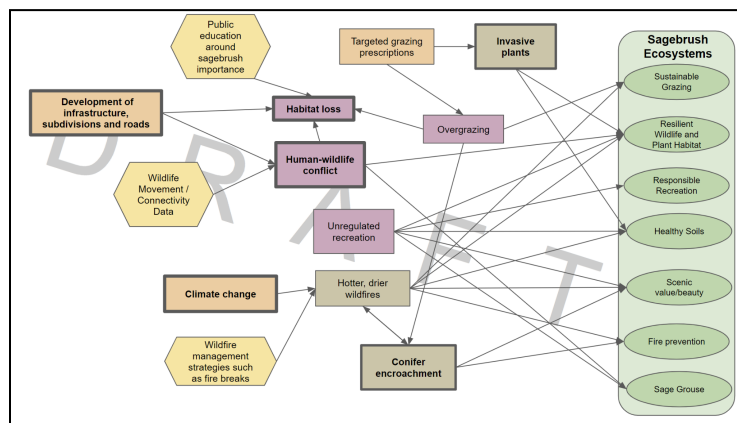
Amy and Sean gave a presentation on Sagebrush ecosystems in the High Divide and on the new Sagebrush Ecological Integrity data that was just published last week. Then the group discussed ways in which we can use and expand on this data, and how it can serve as an example product of LCD moving forward.

Resources

- [Zoom recording](#) Password: %9C9x&uz
 - [Sagebrush Ecological Integrity data explorer](#) - to turn on and off layers, click on the folder icon at the top right hand corner of the map.
 - [Full report on new sagebrush data](#)
 - [Data download](#)
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Sagebrush in the High Divide

- Where are we at in the LCD process and why are we doing this?
 - LCD is a modeling exercise to create a spatial representation of each of our features. To know the most we can about these features, we can use conceptual models combined with research.
 - We have created 8 conceptual models and sagebrush is one of them. We are starting to move into the next step, which is quantifying this information and actually building models. Because this is less concrete, the sagebrush data that already exists can help ground the LT in the process and inspire them to keep moving forward with the other features.
- What has the LT done in terms of sagebrush so far?
 - Completed a first draft of our conceptual model:



- Ecological Integrity Data
 - Quantified full western landscape into three categories: high ecological integrity, growth opportunity areas, and other rangeland areas
 - Used three main threat layers: Human modification (roads, mining, logging, etc.), conifer encroachment, and invasive annual grasses
 - Two main layers to determine sagebrush health: sagebrush cover and perennial grass cover
- Discussion
 - What is the short term step that will keep people engaged in LCD? \$\$ always a path
 - Nick Kolarik: riparian areas are important to us as a space to remove sagebrush/keep sagebrush out, so this would be a potential conflict in this model as it is
 - **Big question for the group is where do you want to go with this? Are there specific features that you would be interested in moving forward with based on individual organizational projects or interests or funding opportunities? How can the LCD moving forward help you out the most?**
 - Daniel Anderson: could we overlay growth models/forecasts? More maps are super useful as well
 - Deb Wambach: makes sense to shift the conversation into what projects people are working on and asking how we can be effective together as a collaborative
 - Zach Owen: a big question that groups have been talking about is how do we balance growth of small towns and conservation easements?? Overlaying growth plans will be super important