

### The Project: Range-Wide Lesser Prairie-Chicken Conservation Efforts

The Lesser Prairie-Chicken (LEPC) was listed as threatened in May of 2014. SandRidge Energy (SD) took a proactive approach by preemptively enrolling in the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA). SD assembled a multidisciplinary team to evaluate each new location in LEPC habitat to ensure optimal placement and design of well pad and infrastructure to minimize impacts on the species. This involves siting well pads next to preexisting developments, avoiding pristine habitat, avoiding wetlands and streams, concealing placement of pads, installing high efficiency covered flares on Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC) property, and optimal coloration of production facilities to ensure minimal disruption to the species.

In an effort to heighten employee and contractor awareness, SD developed informational brochures and prominent signage to indicate locations that are in close proximity to birds. SD also conducted an extensive training program for all field employees on topics including, but not limited to, WAFWA, LEPC life history, and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Finally, SD has continuously contributed to public LEPC surveys which identify areas where birds are present. In 2014 and 2015, SD assisted with both monetary donations and field surveys in order to better focus conservation efforts.



### Commitment to the Lesser-Prairie Chicken / Purpose of the Project

At SD, we take our participation in the Lesser Prairie-Chicken Range-wide Plan (RWP) very seriously and expect all employees, agents, and contractors to comply with all requirements of the plan. Over the last year, SD has gone above and beyond the requirements of the LEPC RWP to ensure that our impacts are minimized from an overall ecosystem perspective. This is important because species like the LEPC, and its decline, are indicators of a larger problem involving the deterioration of the entire ecosystem. SD continually strives to be the premier environmental steward in our operational area of the mid-continent.

### Process Taken in Commitment to the Project / Contributions to Environment

SD has participated in the listing process of the LEPC from day one, working closely with regulators in an attempt to preclude the LEPC from being listed as threatened or endangered. Our involvement included actively participating in discussions and providing comments on the development of the LEPC RWP Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) to ensure conservation for the LEPC. SD preemptively enrolled in the LEPC RWP and hired a biologist to work with the multidisciplinary team to plan development.

The multidisciplinary team includes company representatives from geology, reservoir, environmental, health, safety and regulatory, drilling, completions, and facilities to scope every project location. Close cooperation and communication with the ODWC was important in several of the projects. The processes developed by the team allowed SD to ensure optimal placement and design of the well pads and infrastructure to minimize impacts on both the species and the environment from a landscape perspective. SD's multidisciplinary team strives, in all instances, to site well pads close to preexisting developments, avoid pristine habitat, avoid wetlands and streams, conceal the placement of disturbances, install covered flares (on ODWC property) that operate at an efficiency beyond what is required, and ensure optimal coloration of facilities to provide minimal disruption to the birds.

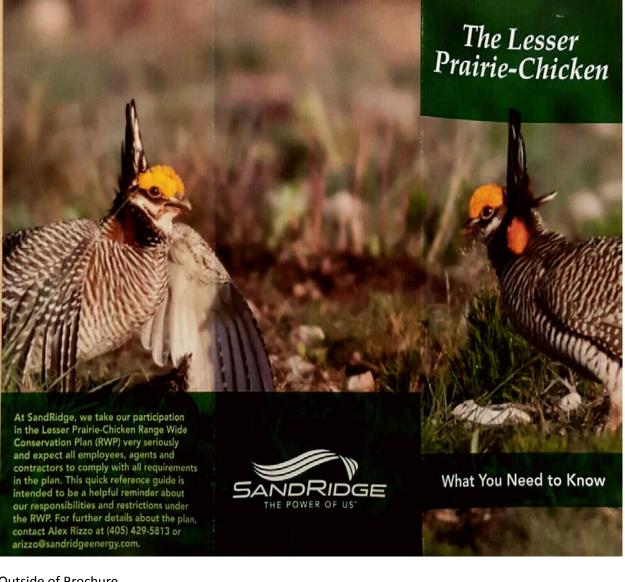


SD developed signs to place at appropriate well locations, indicating proximity to LEPC breeding grounds to employees and contractors. These signs also include a bulleted list of the increased requirements on these locations. In addition to the signs, brochures and an extensive training program were developed for employees and contractors. The training program included LEPC life history, a background on WAFWA and the CCAA, and an overview of the ESA. Additionally, SD has continuously contributed to the improvement of LEPC survey data. Improving this data not only ensures that conservation can be targeted to optimally benefit the species, but it also assists companies in development planning to avoid sensitive LEPC habitat. In 2014, SD paid a third-party contractor \$195,000.00 to conduct surveys. In 2015, SD donated \$40,000.00 to OIPA to facilitate a \$250,000.00 contribution to the WAFWA survey effort. SD's biologist also conducted surveys over nine (9) townships in two (2) counties. Once analyzed and uploaded to WAFWA's survey layers, these surveys will be available to the public for use in conservation and development planning.

### **Summary of Accomplishments**

- To date, 115 locations have been individually analyzed and located to ensure development has minimal impact on LEPC and environment.
- During this process, all streams and wetlands have been avoided, contributing to the overall betterment of the entire ecosystem.
- Several hundred miles of surveys have been completed to assist in conservation and site development planning, as well as research projects involving LEPC.
- SD's high-efficiency covered flares have resulted in zero bat mortality.
- Optimal siting of well pads and coloration of production facilities has minimized impacts to LEPC and the ecosystem as a whole.





**Outside of Brochure** 





On May 12, 2014 the Lesser Prairie- Chicken (LEPC) was listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Habitat loss and fragmentation are primary threats to the LEPC. Impact activities (construction of oil and gas pads, compressor stations, private roads, distribution lines and industrial buildings) may contribute to habitat loss and fragmentation. The following conservation measures apply:

## Plan development to avoid impacts to habitat.

Utilize available options to avoid development impacting habitat in or near undeveloped native grasses, or within 1.25 miles of a known lek!

· Focus development on lands already altered or cultivated away from undeveloped native grasses.

Utilize common rights-of-way for infrastructure.

Utilize directional drilling where possible.

Minimize use of herbicide treatments, especially broadband.

- When absolutely necessary, utilize herbicide targeted for specific use and spot treatments.
- Apply in conditions that minimize drift and keep application on-site.

Disruption of courtship displays and nesting hens through construction and maintenance activities, or equipment and infrastructure that emit loud noises may impact LEPC reproductive output. In order to minimize risk, please adhere to the following:

### Within 1.25 miles of a known lek:

Bury new distribution lines, unless approved variance is obtained.

## From March 1 – July 15:

Avoid non-emergency\* operations, construction and maintenance activities where people are present.

If non-emergency, and must occur, avoid activities between 3:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

If emergency occurs, report all emergency operations within three (3) working days to Alex Rizzo at (405) 429-5813 or arizzo@sandridgeenergy.com. Emergency report needs to include:

- Location
- Date and Time Duration

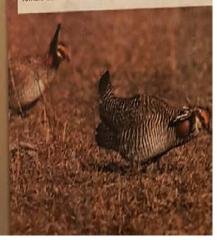
New facility noise shall not exceed 75db at any point greater than 30 feet from the facility boundary.

\*Emergency operations are those activities unexpectedly and urgently required to prevent or address immediate threats to human health, safety or property; the environment; or national defense or security.

Lesser Prairie-Chickens (LEPC) have been Lesser manne-Sinckens (car of mare been and shown to collide with fences, power lines and snown to contra with rencess power times and cars. It is also possible for LEPC to get caught cars. It is also possible for LET G to get congrit and drown in man-made water sources. In order to help minimize this:

- 1. Provide escape ramps, rafts or ladders in exposed, man-made water containment sources.
- 2. Install fence markings along new fences under control of the participant within 1/4
- mile of a lek.
- 3. During the LEPC breeding season (March 1 - July 15), minimize traffic volume and speed, and avoid off-road travel.

A lek is an area where male Lesser Prairie-Chickens LEPC gather during the mating season and engage in competitive displays to attract female LEPCs for mating.



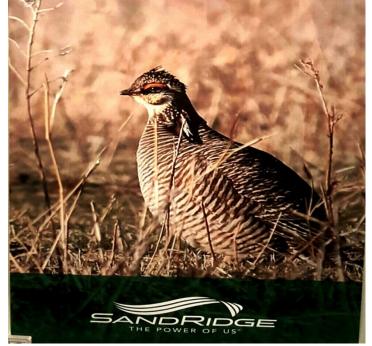
Inside of Brochure



# The Lesser Prairie-Chicken

At SandRidge, we take our participation in the Lesser Prairie-Chicken Range Wide Conservation Plan (RWP) very seriously and expect all employees, agents and contractors to comply with all requirements in the plan.

For more information regarding the Lesser Prairie Chicken, please attend one of the August safety meetings. The corporate safety meeting will be held on August 11th at 11 a.m. in the auditorium.



**Corporate Poster** 





Location Signs