

From: [Joe Pavelko](#)
To: [Heather Koop](#); wjulien@peoplepc.com
Cc: [Sandy Smith](#); [Bill Becker](#)
Subject: RE: Follow-up questions from council meeting
Date: Monday, September 16, 2013 10:45:19 AM

Hi Heather,

Sorry for the tardiness of our response. PF's national team meeting was last week in Estes Park, CO (in the middle of the flooding). We were stranded and did not have any communication. I'm now back in the office and here is the response. Please send to the council members as you see fit. Thanks much!

- **Primary, overarching, long term goal – A sustainable population of sharp-tailed grouse in NE MN that reflects ample, healthy and connected open and brushland habitats.**
 - o Why?
 - To provide environmental benefits which accompany such habitat – biodiversity, C sequestration, water retention and filtration.
 - To help MN DNR reach their goal of an annual average harvest of 40,000 sharptail.
 - To benefit the many other wildlife dependent upon open and brushland habitat, including several listed as SGCN and ETS.
 - To provide recreation opportunity for MN's outdoor enthusiasts
 - To provide economic and ecotourism opportunity for local communities.
 - And primarily to keep this unique, native, grouse species that is a SGCN a part of MN's heritage and ecosystems.
- Goal specifics (measurables)–
 - o Increase quantity and quality of suitable habitat - Protect and enhance existing leks, and nesting and brood rearing habitat surrounding them, and connect those habitats. Restore leks and nesting and brood rearing habitat in priority areas. (Tools such as the sharp-tailed grouse habitat model and connectivity analysis can help strategically target areas for projects. Research underway on nest and brood rearing habitat selection, hen survival and mgt. techniques will improve management.)
 - o Increase the number of leks and number of birds on leks
 - o Increase genetic diversity - Prevent the "extinction vortex" (as explained by geneticist Brad Swanson) by keeping subpopulations sustainable and connected.
 - o Increase harvest

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From: Heather Koop [mailto:heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn]
Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 10:51 AM
To: jpavelko@pheasantsforever.org; wjulien@peoplepc.com
Cc: Sandy Smith; Bill Becker
Subject: Follow-up questions from council meeting
Importance: High

Hi, Joe and Ward,

During the hearings on Northeast Minnesota Sharp-tailed Grouse, Ph. V, council members requested additional information on the long-range goals for the program.

Please provide this information by 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 10. Thanks much.

Heather