

# Lesser Prairie-Chicken

Oil & Gas Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances

*Biologically-based*

## MITIGATION FRAMEWORK

The Oil & Gas Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) for the Lesser Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*) is a voluntary conservation strategy that establishes a biologically-based mitigation program administered by WAFWA and permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Established in 2014, the CCAA is a partnership between the states of New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, the oil and gas industry and private landowners.



Industry's Commitment  
Avoid, Minimize & Mitigate Impacts on

**5.7 million**

*Acres*

## 10-Years of Accomplishments

Avoided Impacts  
**27,536**  
Habitat Acres

### I. **Avoid** Habitat Impacts

Oil & gas projects have an impressive 58% collocation rate with existing development to avoid new impacts to habitat.

High Quality Habitat  
**76%**  
Avoidance Rate

### II. **Minimize** Impacts to High Quality Habitat

When avoidance is not possible, projects are strategically located in low-quality habitat to minimize the effect on high-quality habitat.

Mitigated  
**19,953**  
Habitat Acres

### III. **Mitigate** Habitat Impacts

Remaining impacts are offset (mitigated) by the CCAA's conservation efforts at a 2:1 ratio to ensure a conservation benefit.

## Landscape-Level

Uniquely addresses impacts to habitat quality and quantity across the species range

## Collaborative

Partnership of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, WAFWA, oil & gas companies and private landowners

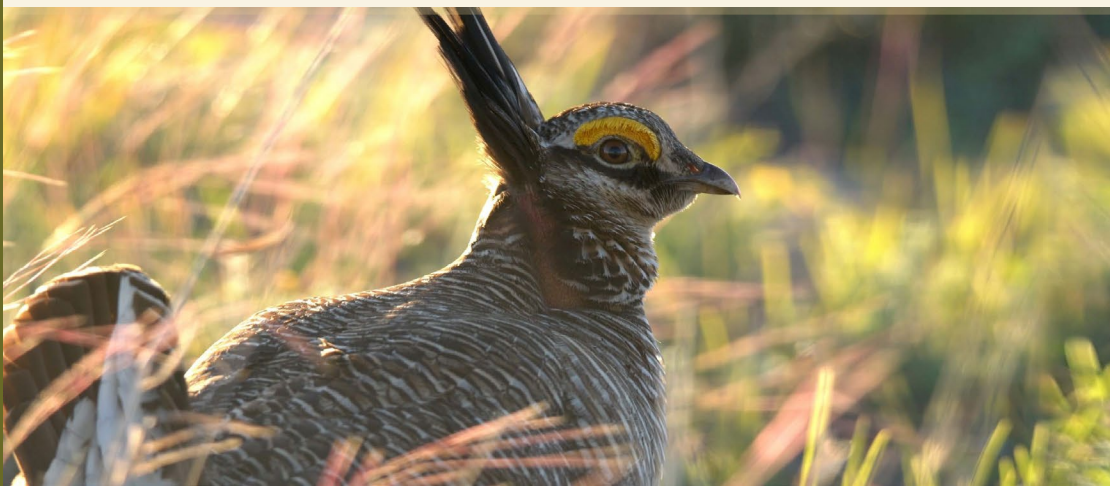
## Habitat Conservation

Addresses the effects of oil & gas activities on lesser prairie-chicken and its habitat

**45%**  
Permanent  
Easements

**55%**  
10-Year  
Agreements

**10,404** Habitat Acres Restored



# INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

WAFWA's Oil & Gas CCAA is a 30-year agreement in which participating companies voluntarily agree to undertake management activities on enrolled non-federal lands to conserve the lesser prairie-chicken, prior to the species becoming federally listed.

In exchange for proactive conservation actions, the agreement provides its participants with assurance that if the species becomes listed then their permitted oil & gas activities may continue without further regulation, provided the company continues to implement the agreed-to management activities and follows the terms of their CCAA agreement.



## Conservation Measures

Designed to promote avoidance and minimization of impacts to lesser prairie-chicken and its habitat, as well as mitigate any remaining habitat impacts

## Biologically-Based

Incorporates habitat quality to quantify the impacts and improvements to habitat

## 2:1 Mitigation Ratio

Ensures 1 acre impact is offset by at least 2 acres of quality habitat conserved

2025

### MITIGATED IMPACTS

**19,953 Habitat Acres Impacted**  
(cumulative since the start of the program)

#### Habitat Quality = LOW

Habitat Quality Score: 0.34 (range 0.0-1.0)  
with a stable trend of habitat quality

Majority (76%) of impacts occur in  
low quality habitat (CHAT 3-4)

Percentage of leks observed within 1.25 miles: 4%  
(64% of the habitat was surveyed)

**12,859 Debit Units**

Credits Exceed Debits

by  
**65%**

### CONSERVATION OFFSET

**39,354 Habitat Acres Conserved**  
(provided in 2025)

#### Habitat Quality = HIGH

Habitat Quality Score: 0.75 (range 0.0-1.0)  
with a trend of increased habitat quality

Majority (98%) of conservation occurs in  
high quality habitat (CHAT 1-2)

Percentage of leks observed within 1.25 miles: 80%  
(99% of the habitat was surveyed)

**36,626 Credit Units**

*Conservation Efforts are  
Greater than Impacts*