Survey of the Lesser Prairie Chicken on Bureau of Land Management Lands

Carlsbad Resource Area, NM

1998

Prepared for Bureau of Land Management, Carlsbad Field Office

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### Introduction

The decline of the Lesser Prairie Chicken (LPCH, *Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*) in New Mexico has been recognized since the 1930's, when hunting of the species was first prohibited (Peterson and Boyd, 1998). The Roswell Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management has documented the presence of LPCH populations on the Caprock Wildlife Habitat Management Area (Caprock WHMA) for 27 years. The LPCH monitoring results of the Caprock WHMA have been used as an index of the species' status in New Mexico. Based on the negative trend in this population, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) discontinued the seasonal hunts of 1996-1998. The NMDGF is expected to rule in 1998 on a petition to list the species as endangered in New Mexico under the New Mexico Wildlife Conservation Act.

The range-wide decline of the species prompted a 1995 petition of the US Fish and Wildlife Service to list the LPCH as threatened (Biodiversity Legal Foundation, 1995). On June 9, 1998, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published a twelve-month finding on the petition to list the LPCH. "Protection of the LPCH under the Federal Endangered Species Act is justified", states the ruling, and this species remains a candidate for future listing (Department of the Interior, 1998). The necessity of reviewing species of higher priority precludes the listing of the LPCH for at least one year.

In 1985 the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Carlsbad Field Office initiated a lekmonitoring program. Four initial leks were counted, and by 1987 twenty active leks were tallied. In the 13-year history of the study, there have been 33 different leks described in Eddy and Lea counties. The purpose of this study was to survey the historic lek sites and known habitat within the Carlsbad Resource Area (CRA) for LPCH activity. The results of this study have strong implications in the landscape management and habitat conservation of the southern high plains grasslands.

#### Methods

### Lek Surveys

The accepted protocol for monitoring LPCH populations is to conduct an inventory of active leks over a large area. This is not an adequate measure of density or habitat association; however, it serves as an index of population trends. In 1998, both BLM and New Mexico Natural Heritage Program (NMNHP) biologists inventoried the CRA. The 29 historic leks of the Querecho Plains Survey Area were visited by NMNHP personnel. Morning surveys were conducted during the four-hour window of highest lek activity. Surveys began as early as first light and were generally concluded by 08:45. Survey effort was concentrated in the first two weeks of April. The NMNHP visits were concluded by 04-23-98. Our most accurate indicator of the peak in booming was from initial visits to the Caprock WHMA, where leks were generally active by the first of the month. Results and weather were recorded on data sheets (Appendix 2). Active leks were approached, when possible, to best determine lek size and sex ratio. Observers recorded noise disturbance in the vicinity of each historic lek, described as none, low, moderate, or high. Leks determined by sound to be inactive were

then investigated on foot. Investigators searched for evidence of lek site occupation (feces, tracks, feathers) to assess whether birds were temporarily absent. This method was the most accurate means of determining occupancy in the areas of high noise disturbance.

### Road Transects

Lek visits were supplemented with roadside surveys. The lek survey protocol was used; however, route selection was narrowed down according to habitat availability. Landscape features and noise sometimes impaired lek detection, but under acceptable conditions we could confidently detect an active lek from within a one-mile radius. Road transects entailed three- to five-minute listening stops at .3 mile intervals. A map supplement to this report, of USGS 7.5 x 15 minute quadrangles, is included. The exact routes taken are indicated on these maps.

### Database

Survey data from historic lek sites were added to the NMNHP Access database. This database includes 14 years of Carlsbad data, in addition to the 27 years of Roswell BLM surveys and three years of NMDGF results. The database was queried to provide population trend information. A lek survey consists of a count of males, females, and birds of unknown sex. The highest single count at each lek was summed by year. This sum is the total number of birds surveyed (Number of LPCHs, Fig. 1). This count will always be a conservative estimate, because of variation in lek attendance, primarily by females. "Leks visited" (Fig. 1) provides a measure of investigator effort. We define average lek attendance (Fig. 2) and percent of leks active (Fig 2) as two separate measures of activity. We include percent of leks active from 1991, because visits to unoccupied leks were not noted in prior years.

### Results

### Surveys

In 1998 we visited 29 of the 33 known leks on CRA land. The results of the Caprock WHMA survey suggest that visits were timed in concordance with the expected peak in booming this year (Johnson and Smith, 1998). There was one active booming ground on the Querecho Plains; otherwise, all remaining historic leks were inactive. Querecho Plains #22 (QP22) was visited four times (Appendix 1). On April 7, the historic site was unoccupied, and booming was heard to the south. When flushed from a lek, either by vehicles or predators, males will often boom off of a lek. These birds were moving north at the time of detection. Later the same morning, John Sherman (BLM) visited QP22 and found the males in the historic location. We regard this activity as localized enough to be attributed to one lek, and thus there were two separate map locations for QP22 (Appendix 1). On March 26 and April 1, QP22 was observed within 200m of the historic site.

The lek counts across the four visits to QP22 never exceeded six known individuals. The flight described on 04-07-98 was estimated to consist of between six and ten individuals. On the morning of 04-01-98 four males and one female were seen on the lek. This was the only definite observation of a female LPCH on CRA-administered land in 1998.

### Road Transects

The road surveys covered 244 road miles of potential LPCH habitat (Table 1). The area of coverage via road survey was >488 square miles (≅ 312,000 acres). Each route was unique. We made no effort to resample negative routes. The results of the roadside surveys were completely negative. Road surveys overlapped with historic lek site surveys. The road survey results thus increase confidence in the lek visit results.

### Pump Noise Level

The noise disturbance levels were significant on the Querecho Plains survey area. Table 2 breaks down the historic lek sites visited by quad and describes the noise level. Sound assessments were made at 29 sites, 21 of which (72%) were impacted by pump noise. Noise level was subjectively rated as none, low, moderate, or high. Thirty-four percent of the historic leks experienced high noise impact, and 45% ranked as at least moderate or high.

Table 1.

1998 Lesser Prairie Chicken Road Surveys

Quad	Date	Time	Mileage (mi)
Henshaw Tank*	4/29/98	0535-0845	31.6
Williams Sink	4/22/98	0545-0805	10.2
Greenwood Lake	4/7/98	0750-0812	27.4
	4/14/98	0635-0800	
	4/22/98	0815-0835	
	4/24/98	0550-0600	
Laguna Gatuna NW	4/3/98	0515-0700	41.2
	4/8/98	0700-0800	
	4/23/98	0545-0800	
Laguna Gatuna	4/21/98	0600-0835	12.8
Bootleg Ridge*	4/30/98	0530-0830	34
	5/1/98	0540-0630	
The Divide*	5/1/98	0630-0830	16.8
Maljamar	4/17/98	0645-0800	39.8
	4/24/98	0605-0800	
	4/28/98	0550-0845	_
Ironhouse Well	4/6/98	0655-0800	17.6
	4/16/98	0640-0735	
Lea	4/15/98	0615-0754	12.8

Table 2.

Pump Noise Level

Quad	Lek	None	Low	Moderate	High
Greenwood Lake	QP8				1
	QP22	✓			
	QP23	,	1		
	QP24				1
	QP27				1
Ironhouse Well	QP16	1			
2	QP17	✓			200
	QP18				1
Laguna Gatuna	QP25				1
Laguna Gatuna NW	QP1				1
	QP2	✓			
	QP3	✓			
	QP4		1		
	QP5	1			
	QP6			✓	
	QP9		✓		
	QP10		1		
	QP11		1 1		
	QP12		1		
	QP13	1			
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	QP15		1		
	QP19 .		1		
	QP20	√			
	QP28				✓
Lea	QP21			1	-
	QP26				1
	QP29				✓
Maljamar	QP7			1	
Total	29 leks	8	8	3	10

### Discussion

### Range Reduction

An appraisal of LPCH management threats reveals over a century of cumulative impacts. Range-wide, the species is reduced to eight percent of its original distribution. Over five states, just three percent of the estimated historic population remains (Gieson, 1998). Historically, crop conversion, drought, and grazing practices have accounted for population declines, yet two sources cite a 78% reduction in occupied range since 1963 (Gieson, 1998, Taylor and Guthery, 1980).

A similar decline in LPCH range has occurred within the state of New Mexico. In the northeast portion of the state the LPCH is considered extirpated from Harding, Quay and Union counties. In east-central and southeast New Mexico the LPCH is believed to occur in only 34% of its historic range (NMDGF, unpublished data). In 1998, the NMDGF prepared a report on the status of LPCH nesting habitat. Of the suitable, historic range identified by J. Bailey and J. Klingel (unpublished data) only 4% of 334 sites (13) were rated as good potential nesting habitat.

### Carlsbad Resource Area

Over the past decade, the LPCH survey effort on the CRA has increased steadily. In 1989 and 1990 fewer than five leks were visited, whereas greater than twenty sites were checked in each of the past five years. In 1998 we observed the continuing trend of greater effort, with fewer results. The addition of road surveys to the annual effort augments our knowledge of LPCH distribution over the given area. In summary, one active lek was observed over the course of visits to thirty historic lek sites and 244 miles of road transects. This population peaked at 160 individuals in 1987, according to records kept by Carlsbad Field Office biologists. This peak may have been an artifact of above average range condition, as the Caprock WHMA population reached a twenty-year high, at over 1,400 counted individuals, in 1986. In any light, the reduction from 160 to six counted individuals in 1998 is serious. These data suggest that the CRA population of prairie chickens is in imminent jeopardy of extirpation. There is evidence of near-zero recruitment between 1997 and 1998, a breeding cycle over which the Caprock WHMA population experienced a 100% increase, and Game and Fish Prairie Chicken Management Area (PCA) counts rebounded by 500% (Johnson et al., 1998).

### Causes of Decline

The Carlsbad population of the Lesser Prairie-Chicken has not been able to sustain the confounding impacts of drought, habitat loss, and disruption of reproductive behavior. The integrity of the sand shinnery grasslands that support the LPCH underlies the conservation of this species. As nesting habitat, the High Plains Bluestem Subtype-1 (HPBS-1), dominated by shinnery oak (*Quercus havardii*) and sand bluestem (*Andropogon hallii*), is critical to nest success (Riley et al. 1992). The Subtype-1 provides nesting cover for hens, protection from uncommonly high predation rates, and buffer to environmental stress, which can influence abandonment. An evaluation of brood foraging sites revealed that LPCH broods were found exclusively in the HPBS, dominated by shinnery oak and three-awn grasses (*Aristida* spp.) (Riley and Davis, 1993). From 1968 to 1993, the BLM has treated 78,376 acres of CRA

shinnery oak communities with the herbicide tebuthiuron. Preliminary results of an ongoing nest habitat study on the Caprock WHMA, which underwent a tebuthiuron application program, show that nesting hens are using untreated pastures (Johnson et al. 1998). In a separate study, hens were found to prefer nesting in uncontrolled shinnery pastures as well (Peterson and Boyd, 1998). Grazing, drought, and herbicide applications have altered the landscape proven optimal for LPCH reproduction.

Oil and gas development is evident throughout LPCH range in New Mexico; however, well density and noise-related impacts on the CRA are particularly significant. We cannot understate the potential severity of sound disturbance on a species that is reliant upon vocal communications. Booming males signal their whereabouts to females and attract hens for copulation through a complex system of vocalizations (Giesen, 1998). The observed high fidelity to display grounds by LPCH means that sound disturbance at traditional lek sites could be devastating to breeding efforts. Perturbance by un-muffled pump jacks is only one form of disturbance attributable to oil and gas development. Habitat fragmentation, road construction, vehicle traffic, and oil-well-wastewater sites may also impact the LPCH of this region.

Across the five state range, population fragmentation and disappearance has been common (Biodiversity Legal Foundation, 1995). Not only is the health of individual populations at risk, but connectivity between gene pools is necessary to maintain overall species viability. Without feasible corridors, neighboring populations experience inbreeding, a symptom of small, isolated populations. This loss of connectivity can lead to "adaptive decline and extinction" (Mills and Allendorf, 1996).

### Research Recommendations

There is little chance of the natural restoration of this LPCH population. 1) The primary research goal at this time should be a close scrutiny of the management practices that led up to this demise. It is critical that the Carlsbad managers communicate the findings of this inquiry to all managers presiding over similar resource development within LPCH habitats. 2) Population genetic studies can aid in determining whether future reintroduction from an extant population might be feasible. 3) The continuation of the effort to evaluate post herbicide- treatment habitats, within nest habitat/success studies will aid in prioritizing the conservation effort. 4) A comprehensive map of the habitat subtypes supporting the LPCH would also streamline management efforts. Such a map would require land satellite imagery refined by remote-sensing techniques; if the subtypes were readily apparent this tool could be widely applied to assess range quality. 5) Further understanding of predator impacts on LPCH populations is necessary. There is evidence of high predation rates on the Caprock WHMA (Davis et al. 1979, Johnson et al. 1998). A further study of mammalian, avian, and reptilian depredation could reveal new management strategies. 6) Continued parasite analysis of the LPCH is recommended.

### Conclusions

The extirpation of the LPCH from the CRA is likely; however, the population decline was foreseeable, and potentially preventable. The CRA needs to be evaluated from an ecosystem

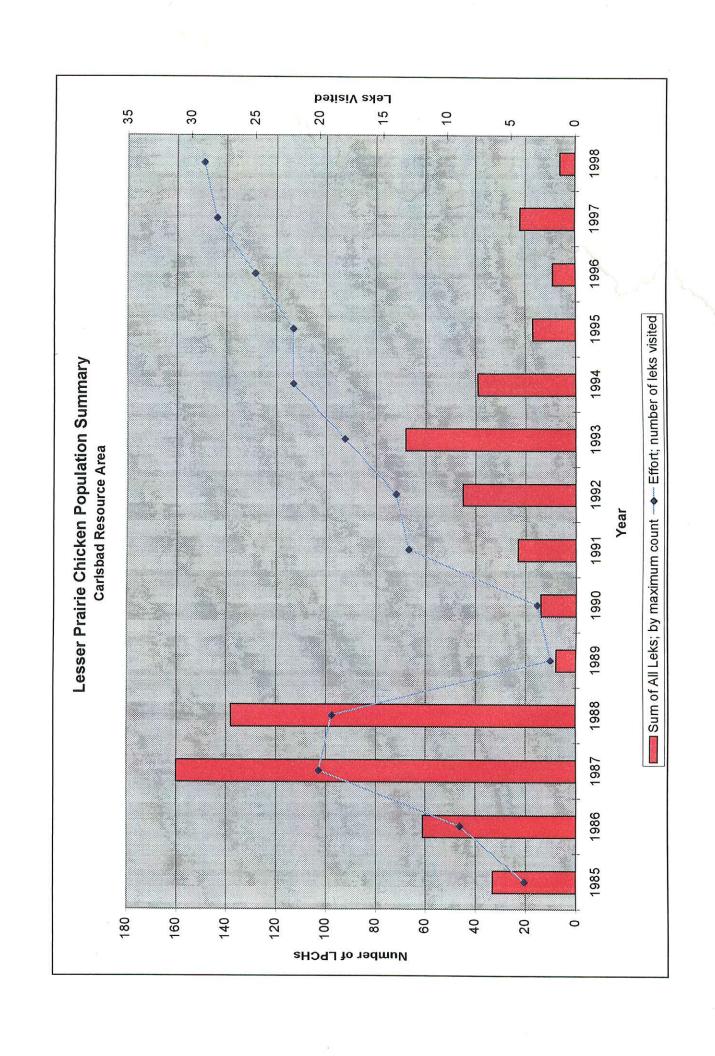
standpoint, and rehabilitated to prevent losses in biodiversity. Measures to salvage this population will benefit the collage of species inhabiting the shinnery oak-bluestem grassland.

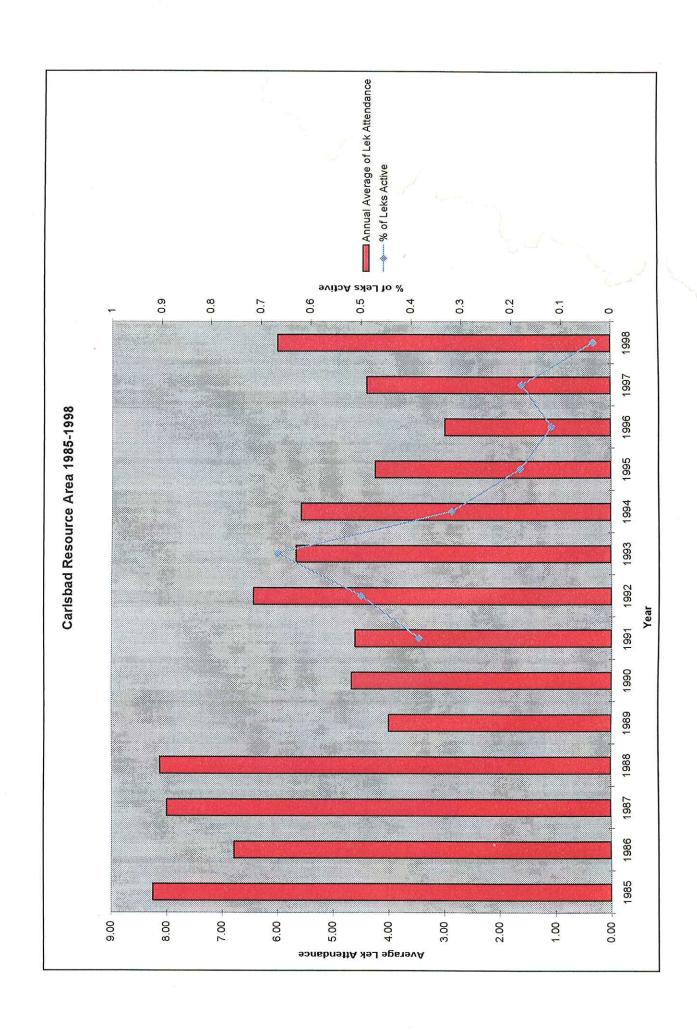
The fate of the LPCH is not sealed on the CRA. The PCA program, managed by the NMDGF, illustrates an effective conservation practice. Land allotments equal to or greater than a section appear to have been successful as breeding exclosures in LPCH nesting habitat. It is possible that non-territorial males, the remaining associates of QP22, and migrant additions to the population could repopulate the CRA. To facilitate such a recovery it would be important to remove noise disturbance and protect remaining habitats.

### Figure Legends

Figure 1. Sums of maximum numbers of LPCH counted at all BLM leks, 1985-1998. The blue line connects points showing the number of lek sites visited.

Figure 2. The annual population count was divided by number of active leks to gather a mean lek attendance figure, 1985-1998. The blue line connects points showing the percent of visited leks which were active, 1991-1998. Prior to 1991, negative survey records were not kept.





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### List of Appendices

Appendix 1. Map locations of QP22.

Appendix 2. Data sheets from 1998 surveys of CRA historic leks.

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	T. (9 (11) R. 32 (12) SEC. / (13)		15) LA	ND STATUS
(X)	WEATHER Clan, cold, 5 mph wu	-ds		
(X)	LEK STATUS	(23) MC	VEMENT	
		(24) NE	EW LOCA	TION
(16)	NO. MALES			
(17)	NO. FEMALES			
(18)	NO. UNIDENT.			
(19)	NO. ESTIMATED			
(20)	TOTAL NO.			
(21)	LEK SITE			
(22)	IMPACT			
(25)	REMARKS Checked Sect. 2 Low-mod noise	(dense level	i list	
(26)	COMMENTS			<b>∞</b>

(2)	SURVEY AREA Carlsbad - Querceho Planos	(8&9)	DATE 17 Mpr 98
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	(X)	TIME 6.00.6:40am
(4)	MAP REFERENCE Maljamal	(X)	OBSERVER(S)
			de
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME		JO

- (6)ALLOTMENT NO.
- PASTURE NAME (7)
- (10) T. 17 (11) R. 31 (12) SEC. 36 (13) QTR. NESW (15) LAND STATUS
- WEATHER MOSTLY Cloudy, calm, ~40's (X)
- (23)MOVEMENT LEK STATUS Machine NEW LOCATION (24)
- NO. MALES O (16)
- NO. FEMALES (17)
- NO. UNIDENT. (18)
- NO. ESTIMATED (19)
- TOTAL NO. 🧈 (20)
- LEK SITE (21)
- IMPACT (22)
- Also looked in section 35 (25)REMARKS noise from highway + nearby refinery moderate level
- (26)COMMENTS

				26	
(2)	SURVEY AREA Carly kind.	(8&9			1 April 78
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	(X	()	TIME	Start = 63
(4)	MAP REFERENCE (Common Lake	( X	()	OBSEF	RVER(S)
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME				TL
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.				
(7)	PASTURE NAME				
(10)	T.195 (11) R. 3 ε (12) SEC. 27 (13) QT	NWN R.	/E	l5) L <i>l</i>	AND STATUS
(X)	WEATHER Clan, colon, los of	UU	Α,	1010	2
(X)	LEK STATUS			VEMEN	
		(24)	NEV	W LOCA	ATION
(16)	NO. MALES				
(17)	NO. FEMALES				
(18)	NO. UNIDENT.				
(19)	NO. ESTIMATED				
(20)	TOTAL NO.				
(21)	LEK SITE				
(22)	IMPACT				

SENOW 22 -> NUSINE 7/5-740 CHIE abandoned pad- Floyd Cil Co. 0-1DP

(26) COMMENTS

(25)

	9			
(2)	SURVEY AREA Coulstonal	(8&9)	DATE	23 Apr 98
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	(X)	TIME	0700-080
(4)	MAP REFERENCE Liquina Condicina NW	(X)	OBSER	RVER(S)
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME			JL
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.			
(7)	PASTURE NAME			
(10)	T. 19 (11) R. 32 (12) SEC. // (13) (	OTR. DWNE	(15) LA	ND STATUS
(X)	WEATHER Colm, clean, warmish			90 8 3 8
(X)	LEK STATUS inchive	(23) M	OVEMENT	•
		(24) N	EW LOCA	TION
(16)	NO. MALES			8
(17)	NO. FEMALES O			9
(18)	NO. UNIDENT.			
(19)	NO. ESTIMATED			¥
(20)	TOTAL NO.			* 2. E
				*(
(21)				
(22)	IMPACT			
(25)	REMARKS (CO 110,50 10 50)			,
	(0(-,00)		. /	1 - 1 - 1
(26)	COMMENTS Search Sect 11; 12,	15,13,	14 (R	const will

(2) SURVEY AREA Callone

(8&9) DATE 3 April 98

(3) SPECIAL PROJ. AREA

(X) TIME 0575

(4) MAP REFERENCE Laguna Gaduna NW

(X) OBSERVER(S) LSD

- (5) ALLOTMENT NAME
- (6) ALLOTMENT NO.
- (7) PASTURE NAME
- (10) T. /8 (11) R. 32 (12) SEC. [3 (13) QTR. F. (15) LAND STATUS
- (X) WEATHER Clean, 45 mph winds, 100/
- (X) LEK STATUS inachre

- (23) MOVEMENT
- (24) NEW LOCATION

- (16) NO. MALES (
- (17) NO. FEMALES
- (18) NO. UNIDENT.
- (19) NO. ESTIMATED O
- (20) TOTAL NO.
- (21) LEK SITE
- (22) IMPACT
- (25) REMARKS

[06] (m. rom

(26) COMMENTS

(2)	SURVEY AREA Carlberd	(0-0)		//
(2)	SURVEY AREA Causherd	(889)	DATE	4/3/58
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	(X)	TIME	0610
(4)	MAP REFERENCE Layuna Catura NW	(X)	OBSER	ver(s)
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME		J	L

(7) PASTURE NAME

ALLOTMENT NO.

- (10) T. 18 (11) R. 32 (12) SEC. 24 (13) QTR. NWNE(15) LAND STATUS
- (X) WEATHER cold, clean, 2mph wind
- (X) LEK STATUS (23) MOVEMENT (24) NEW LOCATION
- (16) NO. MALES
- (17) NO. FEMALES
- (18) NO. UNIDENT.
- (19) NO. ESTIMATED
- (20) TOTAL NO.
- (21) LEK SITE
- (22) IMPACT
- (25) REMARKS
- (26) COMMENTS

(2)	SURVEY AREA Carls Island SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	(8&9) (X)	DATE 4 Apr 98 TIME 520-0540
	MAP REFERENCE	Comments)	(X)	OBSERVER(S)
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME			JL
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.	33		
(7)	PASTURE NAME			

- (10) T. /8 (11) R. 32(12) SEC. 36 (13) QTR. MUNE(15) LAND STATUS
- (X) WEATHER Clear, < 5 ng/
- (X) LEK STATUS machine (23) MOVEMENT
  - (24) NEW LOCATION

- (16) NO. MALES
- (17) NO. FEMALES
- (18) NO. UNIDENT.
- (19) NO. ESTIMATED
- (20) TOTAL NO.
- (21) LEK SITE
- (22) IMPACT
- (25) REMARKS

Also SIMOND ENT. 25 & like (COR)

(26) COMMENTS

	SURVEY		( !	?	[sen ]
(2)	SURVEY	AREA	OK. M.		200

DATE 4Apr 70 (8&9)

SPECIAL PROJ. AREA (3)

TIME 0550 - 0:015 (X)

(4)MAP REFERENCE

OBSERVER(S) (X)

- ALLOTMENT NAME (5)
- (6) ALLOTMENT NO.
- PASTURE NAME (7)
- (10) T./8 (11) R. ≥ (12) SEC. 5 (13) QTR. NUSW(15) LAND STATUS
- (X)

- (23)
- dian, and comp LEK STATUS
- NEW LOCATION (24)

MOVEMENT

- NO. MALES (16)
- NO. FEMALES (17)
- NO. UNIDENT. (18)
- (19)NO. ESTIMATED
- TOTAL NO. (20)
- LEK SITE (21)
- (22)IMPACT
- (25)REMARKS

son and Sect of too. ( ) 5 ( ) 5 ( ) 5 ( )

COMMENTS. (26)

DATE 4/5/91 SURVEY AREA CON ISback (2) (8&9) TIME 6:30-7:00am SPECIAL PROJ. AREA (3) (X) (4)MAP REFERENCE OBSERVER(S) (X) Lagara Galma NW LD (5)ALLOTMENT NAME 11

- (6) ALLOTMENT NO.
- (7) PASTURE NAME
- (10) T. |9| (11) R. 33 (12) SEC. |0| (13) QTR. NWNE (15) LAND STATUS
- (X) WEATHER Calm, clear
- (X) LEK STATUS

  (23) MOVEMENT See below

  (24) NEW LOCATION
- (16) NO. MALES O
- (17) NO. FEMALES O
- (18) NO. UNIDENT.
- (19) NO. ESTIMATED O
- (20) TOTAL NO. 0
- (21) LEK SITE
- (22) IMPACT
- (25) REMARKS two sets of UTM coordinates for QP14
   this particular area has been Ba active
- (26) COMMENTS

Now had a market of

(2) SURVEY AREA Carlsbad

(8&9) DATE 4/5/98

(3) SPECIAL PROJ. AREA

(X) TIME 7:18-7:25an

(4) MAP REFERENCE

(X) OBSERVER(S)

LD

(5) ALLOTMENT NAME

(6) ALLOTMENT NO.

(7) PASTURE NAME

(10) T. 19 (11) R. 33 (12) SEC. 3 (13) QTR. SENW(15) LAND STATUS

(X) WEATHER coum, clear

(X) LEK STATUS inactive

(23) MOVEMENT

(24) NEW LOCATION

(16) NO. MALES 0

(17) NO. FEMALES O

(18) NO. UNIDENT. O

(19) NO. ESTIMATED O

(20) TOTAL NO.

(21) LEK SITE

(22) IMPACT

(25) REMARKS may have moved South recently (See QP1410)

(26) COMMENTS

Revis.t (1) LEK NO. QP14-A

### PRAIRIE CHICKEN SURVEY FORM (See Survey Codes)

			5 · 6	
(2)	SURVEY AREA COLLEGE	(8&9)		23 Npr 98
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	(X)	TIME	0600 - 0620
(4)	MAP REFERENCE ( Care Inc)	(X)	OBSER	VER(S)
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME			· ·
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.			9 W
(7)	PASTURE NAME			
(10)	T. (11) R. (12) SEC. (13) Q	rr. (	(15) LA	ND STATUS
(X)	WEATHER Clian, calm, worms (50)	( ~ z		
(X)	LEK STATUS INC.	(23) MC	OVEMENT	
		(24) NE	EW LOCA	TION
(16)	NO. MALES			
(17)	NO. FEMALES			29 *6
(18)	NO. UNIDENT.			
(19)	NO. ESTIMATED			
(20)	TOTAL NO.			5 A 7 ay
(21)	LEK SITE			Ę
	<b>A</b>			
(22)	impact mod oil well recise.			90 E
000000000000000000000000000000000000000				wa <sup>®</sup>

Sounded roadide section 10, 15, 22 (26) COMMENTS

(25)

REMARKS

(2)	SURVEY AREA COMISSIONAL	(8&9)		3 Apr 7
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	(X)	) TIME	@ 545
(4)	MAP REFERENCE Lagura Catura NL	(X)		ver(s)
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME			TL
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.			
(7)	PASTURE NAME			
(10)	T. 18 (11) R. 32 (12) SEC. 24 (13) Q	otr.5€NS	€(15) L <i>l</i>	AND STATUS
(X)	WEATHER CORN, COMA, 2 mgh was	L		
(X)	LEK STATUS	(23)	MOVEMEN'	r
	Trache	(24)	NEW LOCA	ATION
(16)	NO. MALES			
(17)	NO. FEMALES 6			
(18)	NO. UNIDENT.			
(19)	NO. ESTIMATED			
(20)	TOTAL NO.			
(21)	LEK SITE	ii		
(22)	IMPACT			
(25)	REMARKS			
(26)	2			

(2)	SURVEY AREA Condition	(8&9)	DATE 6 Apr 98
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	(X)	TIME CODO-COZS
(4)	MAP REFERENCE irontque well	(X)	OBSERVER(S)
*			LSD JL
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME		
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.		
(7)	PASTURE NAME		
(10)	T. 19 (11) R. 33 (12) SEC. 17 (13)	QTR.SENE(	15) LAND STATUS
(X)	WEATHER Cline, calm, ~50s?		
(X)	LEK STATUS	(23) MC	OVEMENT
		(24) NE	EW LOCATION
(16)	NO. MALES		
(17)	NO. FEMALES		
(18)	NO. UNIDENT.		
(19)	NO. ESTIMATED O		
(20)	TOTAL NO.		
(01)	TRY CIME		
(21)	and the same of th		
(22)	IMPACT		
(25)	REMARKS SLADECASIET 7 Near	Nembu	ng Rig.
(26)	COMMENTS		*

5%

## PRAIRIE CHICKEN SURVEY FORM (See Survey Codes)

_	<b>c</b> o				
(2)	SURVEY AREA	artshood	(8&9	) DATE	6 Apr 93
	SPECIAL PROJ. A		( X	) TIME	0625-06
(4)	MAP REFERENCE	Troshouse well	( X	) OBSE	RVER(S)
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME		,	Delay	Lessad
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.	а Э			
(7)	PASTURE NAME				
		33 (12) SEC. /		/(15) L	AND STATUS
(X)	WEATHER Cu	u er			
(X)	LEK STATUS			MOVEMEN	T
			(24)	NEW LOC	ATION
(16)	NO. MALES	0	a.		
(17)	NO. FEMALES	0			
(18)	NO. UNIDENT.	0	×		
(19)	NO. ESTIMATED				
(20)	TOTAL NO.	0			
(21)	LEK SITE	f			

(26)COMMENTS

IMPACT

REMARKS

(22)

(25)

Seancher sich. 12 also

(2)	SURVEY AREA	Carlo Lord	(8	<b>&amp;</b> 9)	DATE	GARN	77
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ.	AREA		(X)		0029	
(4)	MAP REFERENCE	100 house of	· /	(X)		VER(S)	J
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME				45	TL	
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.	s.			*	J -	
(7)	PASTURE NAME						
		33 (12) SEC. /		/ <sup>2/2/</sup> (1	.5) LAŅ	ND STATUS	5
(X)	WEATHER Clu	with almay	10-50's				
(X)	LEK STATUS		(23)	MOV	EMENT		
	= x3		(24)	NEW	LOCAT	TION	
(16)	NO. MALES	0					
(17)	NO. FEMALES	0	Sterilon (1997)				
(18)	NO. UNIDENT.						
(19)	NO. ESTIMATED	0	s				
(20)	TOTAL NO.	$\mathcal{O}$					
(21)	LEK SITE						
(22)	IMPACT						
(25)	REMARKS						

Sench part of sit. 2 Sump. oil will now 1996

USDI, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT ROSWELL DISTRICT OFFICE

COMMENTS

(26)

(23)

(24)

MOVEMENT

NEW LOCATION

- SURVEY AREA Car Isbad Querceno Plains (2) DATE 4/16/98 (8&9) SPECIAL PROJ. AREA (3) TIME 6-10-6:45 (X) MAP REFERENCE Lagura Gatura NW (4)(X) OBSERVER(S) (5) ALLOTMENT NAME 10 (6)ALLOTMENT NO. (7) PASTURE NAME (10) T. | (11) R. 3.3 (12) SEC. 35 (13) QTR. NESE (15) LAND STATUS WEATHER Clear, breeze (5-10mpl) (X)
- (16) NO. MALES 0

LEK STATUS mactive

(X)

- (17) NO. FEMALES O
- (18) NO. UNIDENT.
- (19) NO. ESTIMATED C
- (20) TOTAL NO.
- (21) LEK SITE
- (22) IMPACT
- (25) REMARKS
- (26) COMMENTS Listened & looked for lek in Section 25 + in section 36 on 4/6/98
  Some well noise in the distance Low

e	·
	Not a lake Struct
gg as a second	3A (, )
CHICKEN SURVEY FORM	strue Strue
ee Survey Codes)	North
(8&9)	DATE / April 78 + 2 Mail 9
(X)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
(7)	
(X)	OBSERVER(S)
	N
	90

8

(6) ALLOTMENT NO.

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

(7)

(10) T. 19 (11) R. 32 (12) SEC. 3 (13) QTR \$\infty \( \graphi\) \( \epsilon\) LAND STATUS

(X) WEATHER 2 April- very windy (30mph gusts)

SURVEY AREA Cando bow

SPECIAL PROJ. AREA

MAP REFERENCE

ALLOTMENT NAME

PASTURE NAME

(X) LEK STATUS

(23) MOVEMENT

(24) NEW LOCATION

(16) NO. MALES

(17) NO. FEMALES

- (18) NO. UNIDENT.
- (19) NO. ESTIMATED
- (20) TOTAL NO.
- (21) LEK SITE
- (22) IMPACT
- bad census day due to wind will return at later date
- (26) COMMENTS

  1700 Standon ollines No som of

			Yi #8	
(2)	SURVEY AREA Constant	(8&9	) DATE	8 Apr 98
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	(X	) TIME	0620-063
(4)	MAP REFERENCE Lagua Tome	(X	) OBSE	RVER(S)
				CSD
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME			JL
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.			
(7)	PASTURE NAME			
		0.5_0 1050	. )	
(10)	T. 19 (11) R. 33 (12) SEC. 8 (13) QTF	8.5En	JW(15) L	AND STATUS
(X)	WEATHER Clear, cold, \$5mph			
(X)	LEK STATUS	(23)	MOVEMEN	T
		(24)	NEW LOC	ATION
(16)	NO. MALES O			
(17)	NO. FEMALES			
(18)	NO. UNIDENT.			
(19)	NO. ESTIMATED			8
(20)	TOTAL NO.			
(21)	LEK SITE			
(22)	IMPACT			
(25)	REMARKS SEARCH ! listed Seed 7:9:	٠,		
	Sect 739: (V)	all all h		

(26) COMMENTS

- (2) SURVEY AREA Carlsbad Querecho Plains
- (8&9) DATE 1540 98

(3) SPECIAL PROJ. AREA LCA

(X) TIME 1550-415

(4) MAP REFERENCE

(X) OBSERVER(S)

(5) ALLOTMENT NAME

JL SU

- (6) ALLOTMENT NO.
- (7) PASTURE NAME
- (10) T. 205 (11) R. 34E (12) SEC. 9 (13) QTR. NWSE (15) LAND STATUS
- (X) WEATHER Calmiclear & cold (40's)
- (X) LEK STATUS machine

- (23) MOVEMENT
- (24) NEW LOCATION

- (16) NO. MALES (
- (17) NO. FEMALES ()
- (18) NO. UNIDENT.
- (19) NO. ESTIMATED
- (20) TOTAL NO. (
- (21) LEK SITE
- (22) IMPACT
- (25) REMARKS listened for let also in Section 10 noise from oils wells maderate
- (26) COMMENTS

(1) Lek No.

#### PRAIRIE CHICKEN SURVEY FORM (see Survey Codes)

(2) SURVEY AREA Querecho Plaina (869) DATE 3/26/98
(3) SPECIAL PROJ. AREA (X) TIME 6:20 Am

HAP REFERENCE Greenwood Lake (X) OBSERVER Q. Sherms

- ALLOTHER MAME Twin Wells North
- (6) ALLOTMENT NO. 7012
- ( 7) PASTURE

(10) T. 18 (11) R. 32 (12) SEC. 30 (13) & NESW (15) LAND STATUS

(X) WEATHER Clear and calm - dry

Bum

(X) LEK STATUS active

(23)

(24)NEW LOCATION

- (16) NO. MALES
- (17) NO. FEMALES
- NO. UNIDENT. (18)
- (19)NO. ESTIMATED
- TOTAL NO. 6 (20)
- Nature shinnery / blustern-dropseed Let is > / mile from oil i gas disturbance (22)
- (25) REMARKS

(26) COMMENTS

### PRAIRIE CHICKEN SURVEY FORM (See Survey Codes)

	(See Surv	ey codes)
(2)	SURVEY AREA CONTSIDENT	(8&9) DATE /April 78
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	(X) TIME $0520 - 0530$
(4)	MAP REFERENCE Grunwood Lake	(X) OBSERVER(S)
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME	Julie
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.	
(7)	PASTURE NAME	
}		(13) QTR. (15) LAND STATUS
(X)	WEATHER Calm, Clear told	
(X)	LEK STATUS	(23) MOVEMENT Stayed With 10m
		(24) NEW LOCATION
(16)	NO. MALES	
(17)	NO. FEMALES	
(18)	NO. UNIDENT.	
(19)	NO. ESTIMATED 5	,
(20)	TOTAL NO. 5	
(21)	LEK SITE	
(22)	IMPACT	
(25)	REMARKS Determined 1745-1837 ( tuns	et) -No calling / Siddings
(26)	COMMENTS CALLY COMMENTS CALLY COMMENTS  OS 30  GPS UTM 611	of closeruid  for about 20 min.  2nd reading:  UTM 611578.5
	05 30	134.7 NO401124 N 367 (256.7)
JSDI, BUR ROSWELL D	LEAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (NAD78) 36200	18 cuyts. FORM 6611.32-1

ROSWELL DISTRICT OFFICE

			(1) LEK NO. (	P2Z-B
	PRAIRIE CHICKEN SURVEY (See Survey Codes	FORM	Dr parois	
(2)	SURVEY AREA Can's bal	/9001		Annual Walter Land
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	(8&9)	DATE 7 Apr	
(4)	MAP REFERENCE OLIMINATION INC.	(X)	TIME 0610 -	D640
·	.*	(X)	OBSERVER(S)	num surrounding
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME		FL	Cols (18 man)
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.			( We will be
(7)	PASTURE NAME			
(10)	T. (3) (11) R. 32 (12) SEC. 3/ (13) QTR.	€ NW(	15) LAND STATE	US
	WEATHER Clear calm			
(X)	LEK STATUS	3) MO'	UPW Three	
			VEMENT	
(16)	NO. MALES	T) NE	W LOCATION	
(17)	NO. FEMALES NOT VISIBLE			
(18)	NO. UNIDENT.			
(19)	NO. ESTIMATED (Q f / )			
(20)	TOTAL NO.			
J J. 0.1.				
(21)	LEK SITE			
(22)	IMPACT			
(25)	REMARKS			
	(HØ 40712A)3619286.7 1238m			
(26)	COMMENTS		*	
	Sauched road surroundy vor	$n \mid n$		
	Sauched road surroundy voc.  Sond Calls may have been from  Sond Calls = mudich when mean  Strict Office  Sallite like	0(d 1	ocalia.	
USDI, BURE	Some caller Equally when mean	1~	50-100	
.OSWELL DI	STRICT OFFICE Sollite UK?		(30 m) PO	RM 6611.32-1 ARCH 1987

(26)

PRAIRIE	CHICKEN	SURVEY	FORM

( 2) SURVEY Area OF

(869) DATE 4/7/99 (X) TIME 6:45

( 3) SPECIAL PROT. AREA

(4) HAT REFERENCE Green Wood Lake (X) OBSERVER 7,5 Lerma

- (5) ALLOTHER NAME Twin Well's North
- ( 6) ALLOTHERT ID.
- (7) PASTURE

(10) T. 18 (11) R. 32 (12) SEC. 30 (13) & \* NESW(15) LAND STATUS

(X) WEATHER Slight breeze

(X) LEK STATUS Active

(23) HOVEHENT

(24) NEW LOCATION

(16) NO. HALE: (

(17) NO. FEHALES

(18) NO. UNIDENT.

(19) NO. ESTIMATED

(20) TOTAL NO.

(21) LEK SITE PATive Shinnery Blueston Proposed (22) IMPACT LCK is > Imile from active org disturbance

(25) REMARKS

(2)	SURVEY	AREA	Car	15 bar	$\int$
-----	--------	------	-----	--------	--------

DATE 7 Apr 99 (8&9)

SPECIAL PROJ. AREA (3)

TIME 0550-0600 (X)

MAP REFERENCE (4)

(X) OBSERVER(S)

> T29 71

ALLOTMENT NAME (5)

- ALLOTMENT NO. (6)
- (7)PASTURE NAME
- (10) T. /8 (11) R. 3.2 (12) SEC. 29 (13) QTR. SESW (15) LAND STATUS
- WEATHER Cold Clean calm
- (X) LEK STATUS

- (23)MOVEMENT
- (24)NEW LOCATION

- (16)NO. MALES
- 0
- (17)NO. FEMALES
- NO. UNIDENT. (18)
- NO. ESTIMATED (19)
- TOTAL NO. (20)
- LEK SITE (21)
- IMPACT (22)
- (25)REMARKS

& sienced up road (12m (2.00))

(26)COMMENTS

(2) SURVEY AREA Carlstaid - Quercens Plains (8&9) DATE 4/14/98

(3) SPECIAL PROJ. AREA (X) TIME 700-7HOGM

(4) MAP REFERENCE CYCLANDON Lake (X)

(X) OBSERVER(S)

Julie Lessard Jeff Ogburn

(5) ALLOTMENT NAME

(6) ALLOTMENT NO.

(7) PASTURE NAME

(10) T. 85 (11) R. 37E (12) SEC.29 (13) QTR. 85W (15) LAND STATUS

(X) WEATHER Clear, calm (wirds +5priph)

(X) LEK STATUS inactive

(23) MOVEMENT

(24) NEW LOCATION

(16) NO. MALES 6

(17) NO. FEMALES (

(18) NO. UNIDENT. ()

(19) NO. ESTIMATED

(20) TOTAL NO. 0

(21) LEK SITE

(22) IMPACT

(25) REMARKS

Also listened for this lek in Sections 28, 52,33

roise from oil wells low-could hear cars on

(26) COMMENTS Main road
Walked from about

walked from abandoned pack toward lek SHC

(2)	SURVEY	AREA	(au	5
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DATE 7603 (8&9)

(3)SPECIAL PROJ. AREA

(X) TIME 0705-0725

(4)MAP REFERENCE

OBSERVER(S) men in Rd Stanck (X)

Greenwood Lake

ALLOTMENT NAME (5)

- (6)ALLOTMENT NO.
- (7)PASTURE NAME

(10) T. 18 (11) R. 3/ (12) SEC. 35 (13) QTR. SWNW (15) LAND STATUS

- WEATHER Chea, dela (X)
- (X) LEK STATUS

(23)MOVEMENT

(24)NEW LOCATION

- (16)NO. MALES
- (17)NO. FEMALES
- (18)NO. UNIDENT.
- (19)NO. ESTIMATED
- (20) TOTAL NO.
- (21)LEK SITE
- (22)IMPACT
- (25)REMARKS

Surched section 34 Sundicad oil full note ! traffic.

(2) SURVEY AREA Carlsbar.

(8&9) DATE 21 Apr 78

(3) SPECIAL PROJ. AREA

(X) TIME 0545-0600

(4) MAP REFERENCE Lague (X) OBSERVER(S)

(5) ALLOTMENT NAME

(6) ALLOTMENT NO.

(7) PASTURE NAME

(10) T. 20 (11) R. 33 (12) SEC. 3 (13) QTR. NENE (15) LAND STATUS

(X) WEATHER Clear, colm

(X) LEK STATUS

(23) MOVEMENT

(24) NEW LOCATION

(16) NO. MALES O

(17) NO. FEMALES

(18) NO. UNIDENT.

(19) NO. ESTIMATED O

(20) TOTAL NO.

(21) LEK SITE

(22) IMPACT Supplier ) cil fill moize

(25) REMARKS

(26) COMMENTS

- (2) SURVEY AREA Carlstad Quercho Plain (869) DATE 1547198
- (3) SPECIAL PROJ. AREA

(X) TIME 1645-0700

(4) MAP REFERENCE LCA

(X) OBSERVER(S)

(5) ALLOTMENT NAME

10

- (6) ALLOTMENT NO.
- (7) PASTURE NAME
- (10) T. 205 (11) R. 34E (12) SEC. 20 (13) QTR. NUNW(15) LAND STATUS
- (X) WEATHER Clear & calm
- (X) LEK STATUS Machine

- (23) MOVEMENT
- (24) NEW LOCATION

- (16) NO. MALES ()
- (17) NO. FEMALES ()
- (18) NO. UNIDENT. ()
- (19) NO. ESTIMATED (
- (20) TOTAL NO.
- (21) LEK SITE
- (22) IMPACT
- in this area (3 outs signed)
- (26) COMMENTS

GPS 6329516 1190 m 3603498.8 File HOHISISH 30may pts

MOVEMENT

NEW LOCATION

(23)

(24)

### PRAIRIE CHICKEN SURVEY FORM (See Survey Codes)

(2)	SURVEY AREA Carls load	(8&9)	DATE 7 Apr 98
(3)	SPECIAL PROJ. AREA	(X)	TIME 0650-0705
(4)	MAP REFERENCE Corlembood (ale	(X)	OBSERVER(S) mix Rd.
	2.0		250
(5)	ALLOTMENT NAME		JL
(6)	ALLOTMENT NO.		
(7)	PASTURE NAME		
(10)	T. (8 (11) R. 3! (12) SEC. 23 (13) QTE	.ડ્ડાડ્ડડ (	15) LAND STATUS

(16) NO. MALES 0

LEK STATUS

(X)

(X)

WEATHER Clar, War

- (17) NO. FEMALES O
- (18) NO. UNIDENT.
- (19) NO. ESTIMATED O
- (20) TOTAL NO. 6
- (21) LEK SITE
- (22) IMPACT
- (25) REMARKS
  Sunded south 27, 26, 22
  Sunded of fill noise.
- (26) COMMENTS

SURVEY AREA Carlshad (2)

DATE 4/5/9% (8&9)

(3)SPECIAL PROJ. AREA

TIME 6:05 - 6:15am (X)

(4)MAP REFERENCE

(X) OBSERVER(S)

LD

(5) ALLOTMENT NAME 16

- (6)ALLOTMENT NO.
- (7)PASTURE NAME
- (10) T. |9| (11) R. 33 (12) SEC. |8| (13) QTR.  $SEN^{\omega}$ (15) LAND STATUS
- WEATHER Calm, clear (X)
- (X) LEK STATUS inactive

- (23)MOVEMENT
- (24)NEW LOCATION

- NO. MALES (16)
- NO. FEMALES (17)
- NO. UNIDENT. (18)
- NO. ESTIMATED (19)
- (20)TOTAL NO. O
- (21)LEK SITE
- New Of of Rd. nise for (22)
- (25)REMARKS
- (26) COMMENTS

DATE 4/15/18 SURVEY AREA Cailsbad - Queice Plains (8&9) (2)TIME 0640 - 0650 (X) (3) SPECIAL PROJ. AREA MAP REFERENCE LC OBSERVER(S) (4)(X) れ 10 (5) ALLOTMENT NAME

- (6) ALLOTMENT NO.
- (7) PASTURE NAME
- (10) T. 205 (11) R. 34E (12) SEC. 17 (13) QTR. SWWW(15) LAND STATUS
- (X) WEATHER (alm & clear
- (X) LEK STATUS in active (23) MOVEMENT (24) NEW LOCATION
- (16) NO. MALES ()
- (17) NO. FEMALES 3
- (18) NO. UNIDENT. (
- (19) NO. ESTIMATED
- (20) TOTAL NO.
- (21) LEK SITE
- (22) IMPACT ᠪ 😽
- (25) REMARKS Also searched in section 18 for this lek Noisy oil wells rearby
- (26) COMMENTS

(1) Lek No.

E23

# PRAIRIE CHICKEN SURVEY FORM

(2) SURVEY AREA EUNICE.

(869) DATE 4/9 2 4/22

( 3) SPECIAL PROS. AREA

(X) TIME 6:20 6:25

(4) HAY REFERENCE HOBBS SW

(X) OBSERVER J. Sherman

- ( 5) ALLOTHERY PRIME
- ( 6) ALLOTHERT HO.
- ( 7) PASTURE

(10) T. 20 (11) R. 37 (12) SEC. 27 (13) & & SENE (15) LAND STATUS

(X) WEATHER Clear, Calm

(X) LEK STATUS
NOT ACTIVE

(23) HOVEHENT

(24) NEW LOCATION

(16) NO. HALES

-0 -

(17) NO. FEHILES

1

(18) NO. UNIDENT.

(19) NO. ESTIMATED

(20) TOTAL NO. -0 -

(21) LEK SITE - This has been Avery retive kk (22) IMPACT 1997. No birds were observed.

(25) REMARKS I got out and walked the less site to look for tracks. None were observed

(26) COMHENTS