

Contact: Jonathan Haufler
Executive Director
P.O. Box 717
Seeley Lake, MT 59868
Phone 406-677-0247
www.emri.org



Press Release

Local non-profit research institute produces plan for restoring native prairies

Seeley Lake, MT, March 23, 2009: On March 12, 2009 the North American Grouse Partnership joined with Pheasants Forever, the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership and the Mule Deer Foundation to launch the Prairie Grouse Partners, a new conservation partnership with an aggressive goal of restoring 20 percent of North America's native grasslands. This effort would result in 60 million acres of improved habitat for a wide range of wildlife, including three species of prairie grouse (sharp-tailed grouse, greater prairie chicken and lesser prairie chicken), considered primary indicators of healthy grassland ecosystems. The announcement was made at the 74th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, a gathering of the nation's top state, federal, and nonprofit wildlife and natural resource professionals.

The conservation work of the Prairie Grouse Partners will be guided by the Grassland Conservation Plan for Prairie Grouse, a landscape-scale, ecologically based plan developed by the Ecosystem Management Research Institute (EMRI), based out of Seeley Lake, MT. The plan was produced by EMRI in cooperation with the North American Grouse Partnership, state natural resource agencies and adopted by the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies.

See the following Associated Press article for more details. <http://www.wtop.com/?nid=111&sid=1627080>

Grassland Conservation Plan for Prairie Grouse – http://www.grousepartners.org/Conservation_Plan-2007.htm
