



Sage-Grouse

Vocabulary and Comprehension Questions

Name _____

Vocabulary: Radio Telemetry, Prescribed Burning, Riparian Area

Questions

1. What agency sets up the sage-grouse tours?

2. Describe how the male sage-grouse “show-off” for the females?

3. What is the area called that the sage-grouse return to yearly?

4. What area do the dominant males occupy? What area do the less dominant males occupy?

5. How many Western U.S states and Canadian provinces are sage-grouse found in?

6. How many eggs do sage-grouse hens usually lay?

7. Sage-grouse decline is due to many factors, what is the newest factor that is increasing this decline?

8. List one comment that the Borah students said they enjoyed about the sage-grouse.

9. According to Pyron, why does the FWS take students on these tours?

10. What inspired several states to reconnect youth with nature?

11. What did the students learn about on Hoagland's ranch in Reynolds Creek?

12. What is radio telemetry & how does it work?

13. List 2 sage-grouse predators.

14. Why does Hoagland want to see more prescribed burning?

15. What do junipers do to riparian areas?

Vocabulary- write the following vocabulary words into a complete sentence. The sentences should define the vocabulary word. *Ex: Lek: Sage-grouse go to a lek to find a mate.*

1. Radio Telemetry:

2. Riparian area:

3. Prescribed burning:

Answer KEY

Questions:

1. Which agency sets up sage-grouse tours?
Fish and Wildlife Service
2. Describe how the male sage-grouse “show-off” for the females?
They puff up their bright yellow chests and strut around the lek.
3. What is the area called that the sage-grouse return to yearly?
Lek
4. What area do the dominant males occupy? What area do the less dominant males occupy?
The dominant males occupy the inner lek, leaving the less dominant males to work on the edge of his lek.
5. How many Western U.S states and Canadian provinces are sage-grouse found in?
11 western states and 2 Canadian provinces,
6. How many eggs do sage-grouse hens usually lay?
7-8
7. Sage-grouse decline is due to many factors, what is the newest factor that is increasing this decline?
West-Nile virus
8. List one comment that the Borah students said they enjoyed about the sage-grouse.
"I thought it was really cool. I've never seen a sage grouse before"
"I liked how they puffed up their chest, I thought that was cool. ..."
"They reminded me of really big roosters"
"They kind of puffed up their chest and flapped their wings and their tails were up. And they kind of danced around, and it was really cool to watch."
9. According to Pyron, why does the FWS take students on these tours?
To give students an opportunity to be outside and learn about nature.
10. What inspired several states to reconnect youth with nature?
The book by Richard Louv *Last Child in the woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder*. This book raised the concern of how children are losing touch with nature, instead they are inside with electronics.
11. What did the students learn about on Hoagland’s ranch in Reynolds Creek?
Soil, water, and sagebrush steppe ecosystem issues
12. What is radio telemetry & how does it work?
Radio telemetry is used to collar and find sage-grouse.

Once the bird is collared the transceiver beeps; the closer you get to the collar, the stronger and louder the beeps become.

13. List 2 sage-grouse predators.

Crows, ravens, magpies, or hawks

14. Why does Hoagland want to see more prescribed burning?

To reduce the spread of Junipers

15. What do junipers do to riparian areas?

Junipers crowd out other vegetation, erode stream bank soil, soak up a lot of moisture and their needles create a sterile environment killing other plant species.

Vocabulary- write the following vocabulary words into a complete sentence. The sentences should define the vocabulary word. *Ex: Lek: Sage-grouse go to a lek to find a mate.*

1. Radio Telemetry: **Jason Pyron uses radio telemetry to track sage-grouse that have been collared.**
2. Riparian area: **Junipers destroy riparian areas, by enhancing erosion of the soil next to the river.**
3. Prescribed burning: **Prescribed burning helps ranchers decrease the amount of Junipers because they control where the fire goes and what plants it burns.**