

14 April 2000

Field Survey to Determine the Status of the Lesser Prairie Chicken
(*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*) in Southeastern New Mexico:

Sharbro Federal #1 (T23S R32E Sec. 7) and
ANM #7 #8 #6 7/12/00 3134 Federal #2
Sharbro Federal #2 (T23S R32E Sec. 17), Lea County

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Purpose:

To determine if breeding sites (leks) of the lesser prairie chicken (*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*) are present within the vicinity of the following oil and gas operations sites (please see "A" and "B" on the attached map):

A.--MYCO Industries, Inc., Sharbro Federal #1, 660' FSL and 660' FEL, Sec. 7-T23S-R32E, Lea Co., NM;

B.--MYCO Industries, Inc., Sharbro Federal #2, 1980' FSL and 660' FEL, Sec. 17-T23S-R32E, Lea Co., NM.

Methods:

Census transects were evaluated using standard scientific techniques. Beginning 0.5-1 hour before sunrise, an experienced field biologist began the census transect at Site 1 (see below), listened for 3-5 minutes for the calls made by lesser prairie chickens on leks, recorded GPS coordinates, date, time of observation, and weather conditions, the observer proceeded to the next monitoring site, repeated this protocol, and continued this process until no later than 3 hours after sunrise. Census transects were not conducted under adverse weather conditions.