



CAN YOU HEAR US NOW?!

SAMPLE SCRIPTS FOR YOUR VIDEO

Use these as much as you would like, but don't be afraid to be creative and be yourself. Just remember to say your name, where you live, why you care and close with "can you hear us now!?" Thanks!

1

NATIVE/LONGTIME WESTERNER

Hi, my name is XX and my family has been in STATE for XX years. Over time our sage lands and the wildlife that rely on them have been slowly disappearing. I have been urging the Department of Interior to work with folks in the West to come up with plans to save this irreplaceable landscape and get on with sage-grouse conservation. I have emailed. I have signed postcards. I have sent comments via all kinds of portals. I have even tried to reach you on Twitter. All of that writing hasn't worked, so now I am recording this video to say, loud and clear, I join Westerners in calling on the Department of Interior to allow the sage-grouse plans agreed upon in 2015 to work. Secretary Zinke, can you hear us now?

2

PARENT/NEXT GENERATION

My name is XX and I live in XX and I'm sending you this video because, let's be honest, all that writing hasn't exactly worked. I hear people talk about preserving our world for the "next generation." For me the next generation are my (children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews). My (child, children, grandchild, niece, nephew) deserve to have the same opportunities I have. The opportunity to visit the sagebrush sea and witness a funny, strutting bird, mule deer and pronghorns among the sagebrush and desert flowers. I, like so many Americans, have spoken out multiple times for the bird and the ecosystem to be protected today and well into the future. Please, leave plans to protect the bird and this irreplaceable ecosystem in-tact for my children and for many generations to come. Secretary Zinke, can you hear us now?

3

SOMEONE WHO HAS SUBMITTED MULTIPLE COMMENTS

Hey Secretary Zinke, it's me NAME here in STATE. I feel like we know each other after with all the messages I've sent. I need to get a message to you about sage-grouse. I have written emails. I have written comments. I have signed petitions and postcards. I've tweeted and even tried to break out the fax machine. I'm recording this video today to let you know, as I have many times before, I stand with the hundreds of thousands of Americans who have said time and again, please, leave the sage-grouse plans alone. I do not want to see any changes to the plans to conserve the sage-grouse and the sagebrush steppe. I've spent years sending the same message to two administrations: sage-grouse conservation is important to me and people across this country. Secretary Zinke, can you hear us now?

4

SAGEBRUSH VISITOR

The first time I visited the sagebrush steppe I was -XnumberOfYearsAgo - in -STATE. I have since enjoyed (camping, hiking, exploring, hunting, bird watching) in the sage steppe. During this time I encountered wildlife from elk to pronghorn to golden eagles and on rare days even a sage-grouse. My love for that funny little bird, and the hundreds of wildlife species that rely on this ecosystem has moved me to support the collaborative plans to conserve the sage-grouse and avoid an Endangered Species listing. I went to public meetings. I emailed my comments. I called my governor. And when the plans were announced I celebrated. Since then I have commented, emailed, tweeted, to get my message to you, I want the sage-grouse plans to work. It's exhausting, but I'm not too tired to try a new approach. Today I am recording this video to join Americans across the country to say, "Secretary Zinke, can you hear us now?"

5

SAGEBRUSH HUNTER

My name is XX and I live in XX and have been a public lands hunter my entire life. I have joined other hunters across the West to voice my support for the sage-grouse conservation plans. As a hunter, I know that sagebrush lands are also important winter range and migration corridors for big game like mule deer, elk and pronghorn. The benefits to big game are one of the main reasons why I have supported sage-grouse conservation. The sagebrush sea is vitally important to the future health of big game habitat. I followed the huge effort to develop a compromise to protect sage-grouse that involved Western hunters and Westerners from diverse backgrounds. I've attended meetings, sent emails numerous times, all in support of the sage-grouse plans. I'm afraid that you just aren't getting the message. Which is why I recorded this video. Secretary Zinke, can you hear us now?

6

INTEGRITY

Secretary Zinke I was always taught when a man/woman/person gives their word they ought to honor it. I have watched with great disappointment as the Department of Interior unravels the sage-grouse conservation plans, in (home state) and across the West. These plans weren't easy to come by. Avoiding the need for an Endangered Species Act listing took hunters, bird watchers, landowners, ranchers, conservationists, representatives from the oil and gas industry and governors from both parties. They set their differences aside to solve a serious problem, and did so believing the Department of Interior would honor the deal made with westerners. If the Department of Interior walks back this deal why would westerners ever have trust in the process again? Since Interior started the do-over on sage-grouse I have made my voice heard in every way I know how, and honestly I don't feel heard. In the West a handshake means something. Please honor the deal and leave the sage-grouse plans alone. Today I am trying to reach you again with my voice. Secretary Zinke, can you hear us now?

Visit: savethegrouse.org to sign the petition and learn more about the campaign