

**For Immediate Release:** Contact: Neal A. Patel December 10, 2014 202-224-6244

**Heller Welcomes Delay of Sage-Grouse Provision**

**(Washington, DC)**– United States Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) issued the following statement after the Senate and House Appropriations Committees released the final FY2015 government spending bill, which includes a key rider providing Western States another year to hone and gain approval of their greater sage-grouse conservation plans:

**“There is no more pressing issue facing our public lands than the potential listing of the greater sage-grouse as an endangered species. Should the hen get listed, our rural way of life and our local economies would be devastated by an administrative swipe of the pen.**

**“Governor Sandoval’s Sagebrush Ecosystem Council and many other states in the sage-grouse’s historical range have been working diligently to implement conservation plans preventing a listing, but they are simply running out of time due to the Department of Interior’s court order.  The one-year delay provided by this bill will give states valuable time to complete their plans and to begin showing results.**

**“Congressman Mark Amodei should be commended for his leadership on the House Appropriations Committee regarding this important Nevada issue. I will continue to work diligently with him to ensure the federal government meets its obligation to our state and improves management of critical habitat on public lands in Nevada.”**

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