



For Immediate Release

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**Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. (WEST) and Common Ground Capital
Offer Energy Industry the
The Lesser Prairie-Chicken Habitat Evaluation Platform (LEPC - HELP)**

LPC Conservation, LLC Statement on new Assessment Tool

Laramie, Wyoming and Salt Lake City, Utah – Today, Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. (WEST) of Cheyenne and Common Ground Capital of Salt Lake City have announced a new assessment tool for the energy development and extraction business to determine best practices for managing the threatened and endangered species, the lesser prairie-chicken (LEPC). We hope that renewable energy, oil and gas, transmission, and telecommunication industries will have a strong interest in using the LEPC Habitat Evaluation Platform (HELP).

The LEPC HELP tool and assessment program can be reviewed further at the two company websites, including <https://commongroundcapital.com/lesser-praire-chicken/>

“We are excited about increased interest in both Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs), that will deliver strategic conservation for the LEPC, and participating landowners using the proven benefits of market-based solutions from the private sector,” said Wayne Walker, CEO of Common Ground Capital.

The interactive tool assists developers in analyzing their Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance needs associated with LEPC using either the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approved Renewable or Oil and Gas Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP).

The tool provides a preliminary evaluation of the extent of *potential* LEPC habitat that may be affected by development of projects associated with oil and gas, renewable energy, power lines, and telecommunication towers that occur within the range of the LEPC. Preliminary habitat impacts and potential mitigation requirements can be obtained using the LEPC HELP, increasing efficiency in meeting ESA regulatory requirements or supporting voluntary industry investment in LPC conservation.

Use of the LEPC HELP is optional for energy industries seeking compliance solutions through a Certificate of Inclusion (CI) in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approved HCPs. Common Ground Capital and its LPC Conservation, LLC joint venture does not require use of the LEPC HELP; however, is offering this low cost resource to customers. Parties are encouraged to use their preferred methods, analyses, consultants and contractors, to fully analyze the full potential impacts to LEPC using the process documented in Section 4.4 of both HCPs and the CI application form.

“Based on feedback we received from parties in recent months,” Walker added, “we wanted to develop a tool with WEST that could reduce the amount of time and cost for HCP program applicants to obtain initial and preliminary estimates for their project. As they evaluate options for avoiding, minimizing and mitigating impacts for the LEPC, we wanted to bring our customers HELP.”

“We encourage companies that have relationships with different and sometimes multiple consultants to continue their relationships with these parties as they prepare their certificate of inclusions, should our HCP options be of interest.”

For More Information:

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