



454

Approximate number of students registered

493

Students and teachers participated in Livestream events

76

Additional views of recorded Livestream events

2,451

Ideas brainstormed

62

Solutions submitted for review

The Montana WILD and Inspired Classroom Sage Grouse Distance Learning Program is an interactive virtual platform that teaches the process of problem solving by presenting students with real world Sage Grouse conservation/management and connecting them to experts during virtual live events. The platform and interactive distance learning events engage 4th-12th grade students in critical thinking, solution finding, and action planning.

Students and teachers work in teams to collaborate with classmates, and sage grouse biologists on plotting and analyzing simulated sage grouse data points. The program requires them to think critically and creatively while researching, brainstorming problems, analyzing their work, and ultimately providing solutions to sage grouse conservation and management.



Above: Studio Live Event

Below: Vanna Boccadori & Lorelle Berkley, FWP Biologists, at Bannack State Park Live Event



Live, interactive distance learning events

- Live from the Studio with Ryan Schmaltz, FWP Education Specialist
- Live from Bannack State Park with FWP Biologists, Vanna Boccadori and Lorelle Berkley
Vanna and Lorelle taught Montana FWP’s process of capturing, tracking and evaluating sage-grouse data, including showing the students the equipment and technology used in sage grouse management. They also shared their unique experiences and what they have learned about grouse in different parts of Montana.

Registered schools and teachers

- Lodge Grass | Joe Chargualaf
- Montana City | Francis Reishus
- Stevensville | Terri Murphy
- Utterback | Jennifer Schlepp
- Laurel H.S. | Blake Pierce
- Glacier H.S. | Jacob Dietz
- Fort Benton | Cassie Pimperton/Cassaday Guinnane
- Billings West H.S. | Kimberly Walter
- St. Joseph School | April Feeley
- Lewistown | Jill Reed
- Charles M. Russell | Josy McLean
- Ronan H.S. | Chris Briske
- Willow Creek | Joyce Pollastro
- Plains | Rheanna Fultz
- Hardin H.S. | Tim Kadahl
- Aspire | Annie Graham
- Conrad H.S. | Carson Schmidt

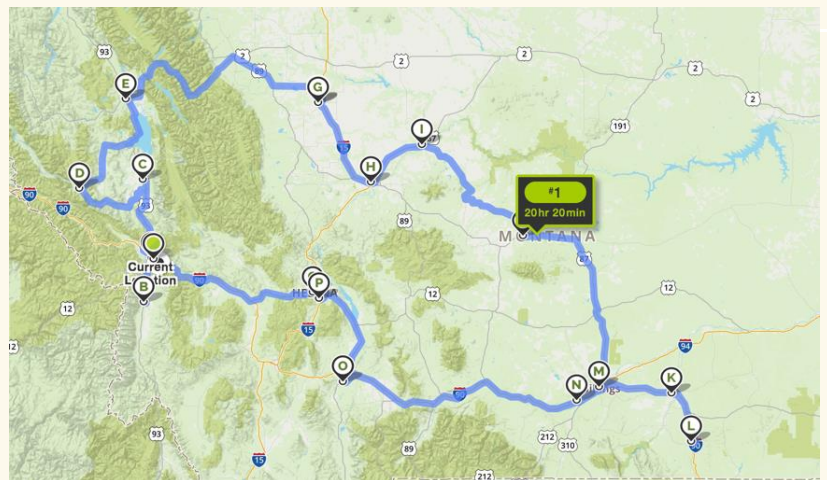
Travel statistics

To visit each school in-person once, FWP education staff would travel:

1,281
Miles

20
Hours to Travel Distance in Car

2 – 3
Number of times schools virtually connected with FWP staff





TEACHER FEEDBACK

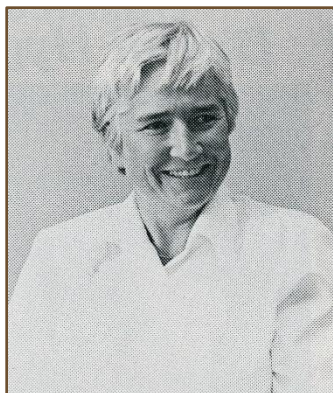
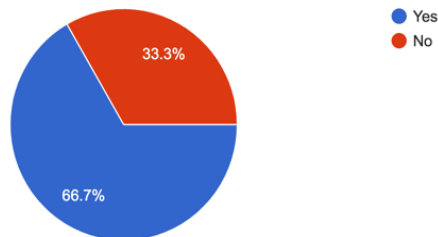
Good morning! My 6th graders are wrapping up their presentations and have presented to their classmates. We did presentations for a few reasons; to see what other groups were discussing, to make sure that our work was of good quality for evaluation, and so I could hear their ideas too! Thank you for such a great project. I look forward to joining next year! --April Feeley, St. Joseph's School

Outstanding, gave a better understanding and preservation especially in this Reservation. Continue with the live presentation. Joe Charualaf, Lodge Grass

I didn't have time to complete the challenge. I ended up supplementing the challenge with a more relevant ethogram and videoing a live cam of a sage grouse lek. We watched the patterned behavior in line with our curriculum. Josy McLean

Did you use the lesson plans provided?

3 responses



The Sage Grouse Distance Learning Program was funded through a generous donation from the Jean Smith Estate