

## **Wildlife Study: Bird Responses to Woodland Treatments**

- Many sagebrush-associated bird species are declining. In addition, we do not understand the distribution of woodland species across the intermountain West.
- We do not understand how woodland removal management affects bird communities and populations.
- We study bird community responses to woodland removal in western juniper, pinyon pine, and Utah juniper woodlands. Study sites are replicated across a network consisting of 14 sites: 5 sites are located in the western juniper woodland (CA, OR, ID), 4 sites in the pinyon pine woodland (NV), and 4 in the Utah juniper woodland (UT).
- We study bird population responses of 7 species at 4 intensive sites: 5-Creeks in the western juniper woodland, South Ruby and Seven Mile in the pinyon-pine woodland, and Onaqui in the Utah juniper woodland.
- Preliminary analyses of the bird community revealed species common to all woodland sites and distinct bird communities in western juniper and Utah juniper woodlands.
- Preliminary analyses of population data 2-years post fire showed sagebrush species to avoid burned areas at greater distances each year.
- Long-term studies (> 10 years) are needed to fully document the response of bird communities and populations to woodland management.