

Press Release

For Immediate Release Liz Hammond 866-270-4833

FDC Enterprises, Inc. Partners with Pheasants Forever, BLM and NRCS on 32,000 acre Sage-Grouse Habitat Restoration Project in Idaho

Springfield, OH – December 4, 2012- Pheasants Forever recently awarded FDC Enterprises, Inc. a contract to restore nearly 32,000 acres of Greater sage-grouse habitat in southern Idaho. Work on the Burley Landscape Sage-Grouse Habitat Restoration project began December 1, 2102 in Cassia County and is focused on the removal of Utah juniper which has encroached on key sage grouse habitat. FDC Enterprises, Inc. was selected for the mechanical removal (mastication) portion of this project through a request for proposal process that evaluated past experience, capacity, quality of work and price.

Pheasants Forever is sponsoring the project and coordinating with numerous partners including the Bureau of Land Management, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, US Fish and Wildlife Services, East and West Cassia Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the South Magic Valley Sage-Grouse Local Working Group.

At the center of the partnership is the Sage-Grouse Initiative, a program administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The Initiative promotes sage-grouse habitat improvement on private lands. However, a special provision in the Initiative allows NRCS to contract with grazing allotment permit holders on projects that specifically improve sage-grouse habitat on public lands. In 2012, NRCS approved over \$1.8 million for conservation work associated with the Burley Landscape Sage-Grouse Habitat Restoration Project.

According to project agreements, Pheasants Forever will oversee the work done by FDC Enterprises, Inc. "Since the project partnership was conceived at the local level, it will be great to see it come together," said Jeffrey Reese, Pheasants Forever's Sage-Grouse Initiative Range Conservationist who works closely with NRCS, "Pheasants Forever hopes this partnership will serve as an example for other western states with sage-grouse range to develop public land restoration opportunities."

"We are very excited to provide services on such an important initiative," said Fred Circle, FDC Enterprises' President and CEO. "We have dedicated a large amount of our human and capital resources into this project to ensure the goals of the partnership are met. We hope with demonstrated success this concept can expand to other regions in need of the same restoration efforts."

For more information on FDC Enterprises, Inc. please contact Tom Schwartz at (217) 725-7550 or E-mail tom@fdcenterprises.com. For more information on this project or Pheasants Forever, please contact Sam Lawry at (406) 552-5052.

For more information about FDC Enterprise visit <u>www.fdcenterprises.com</u>