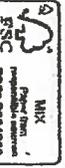


INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Fold the corners in towards the center.
- 2 Fold the top triangle backwards.
- 3 Fold the corners down.
- 4 Pull the inside corners out.
- 5 Flatten both sides down towards the center.
- 6 Fold the corners up.
- 7
- 8
- 9 Fold in half along the center.
- 10 To form the beak, reverse the tip down between the two sides.
- 11 Turn around and stand the bird on its feet!

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 Special thanks to Fumaidi Stegou
 Graphic design by Elizabeth Morales



GREATER SAGE GROUSE
(*Centrocercus urophasianus*)

At a length of 28 inches the Greater Sage Grouse is the largest grouse in North America. In the early 1900's uncontrolled hunting lead to a very alarmingly low population and by the year 1943 all hunting of these birds was ceased. The grouse's numbers recovered and by the 1970's the species had an estimated population of 1,500,000. Presently the Sage Grouse could be in serious trouble again, not from hunting but rather the loss of it's Sagebrush habitat.

Although Sage Grouse can forage in short sagebrush regions, hens need tall more dense stands to nest in. The 7-8 eggs are placed in a well hidden nest when appropriate habitat is available. Females and young depend on their camouflage feather pattern and good habitat to protect them from predators during the time of incubation and brooding.

Every Spring males gather daily in early morning and evening at traditional sites called leks. Its part of a routine, which goes on for several months, used to court and mate with females. This is accomplished by the male dancing and inflating air sacks on the front of the breast. When the air is released it makes a noise that can be heard over a long distance. Hens are hence attracted to the lek which may consist of a few or many males all vying for female attention.

Sage Grouse leks are specific, ancestrally established sites, that are used annually for hundreds of years. When leks get broken up due to development or other disturbances they are GONE forever because new leks are formed from existing leks and are called satellite leks.

The feather pattern used on the back, wings and tail of this origami Sage Grouse is a copy of what John James Audubon painted 200 years ago. He often referred to it as the Pheasant-tailed Grouse.



Pattern developed by V. Arnold Smith for Wasatch Audubon Society in 2015.
<http://www.wasatchaudubon.org>

