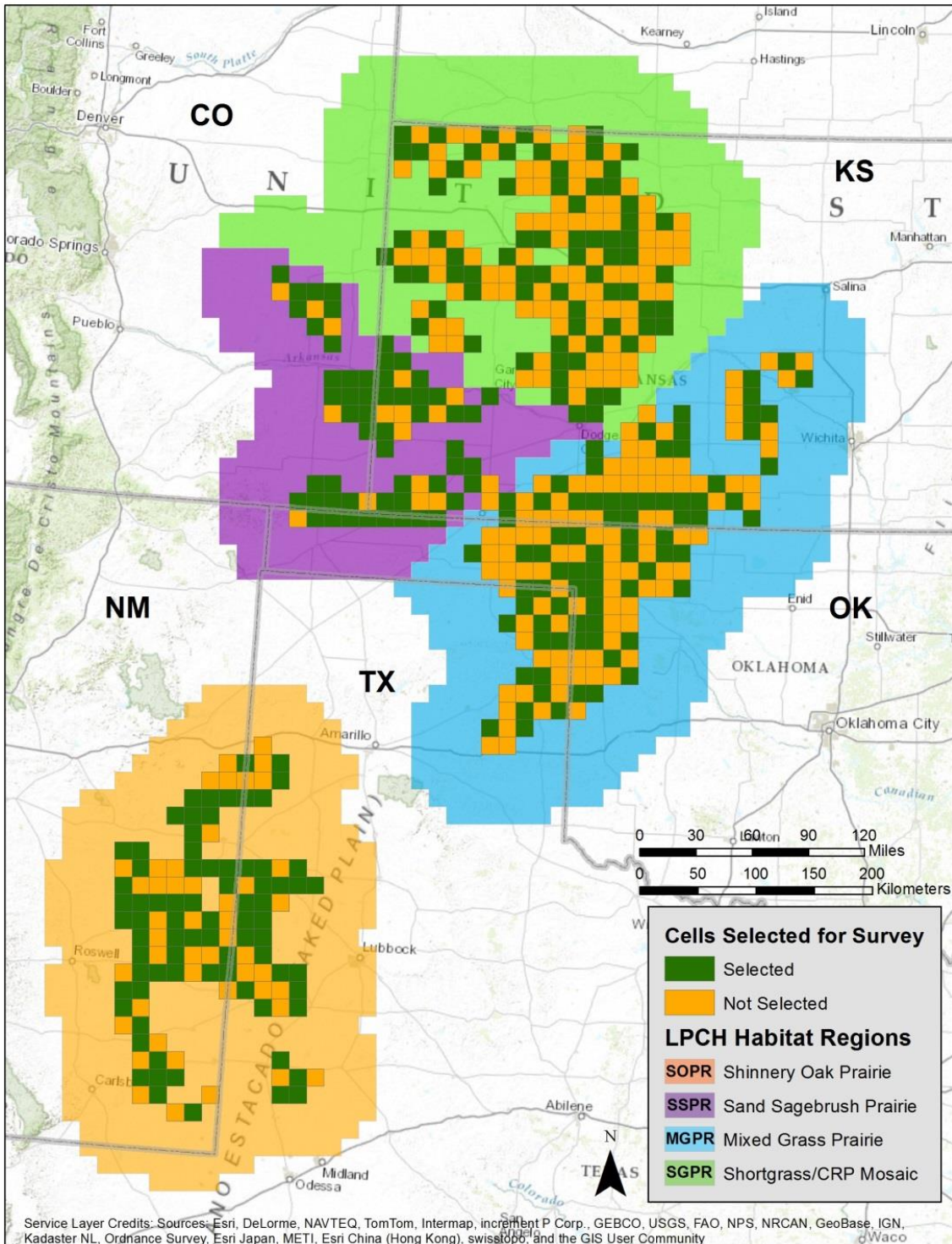
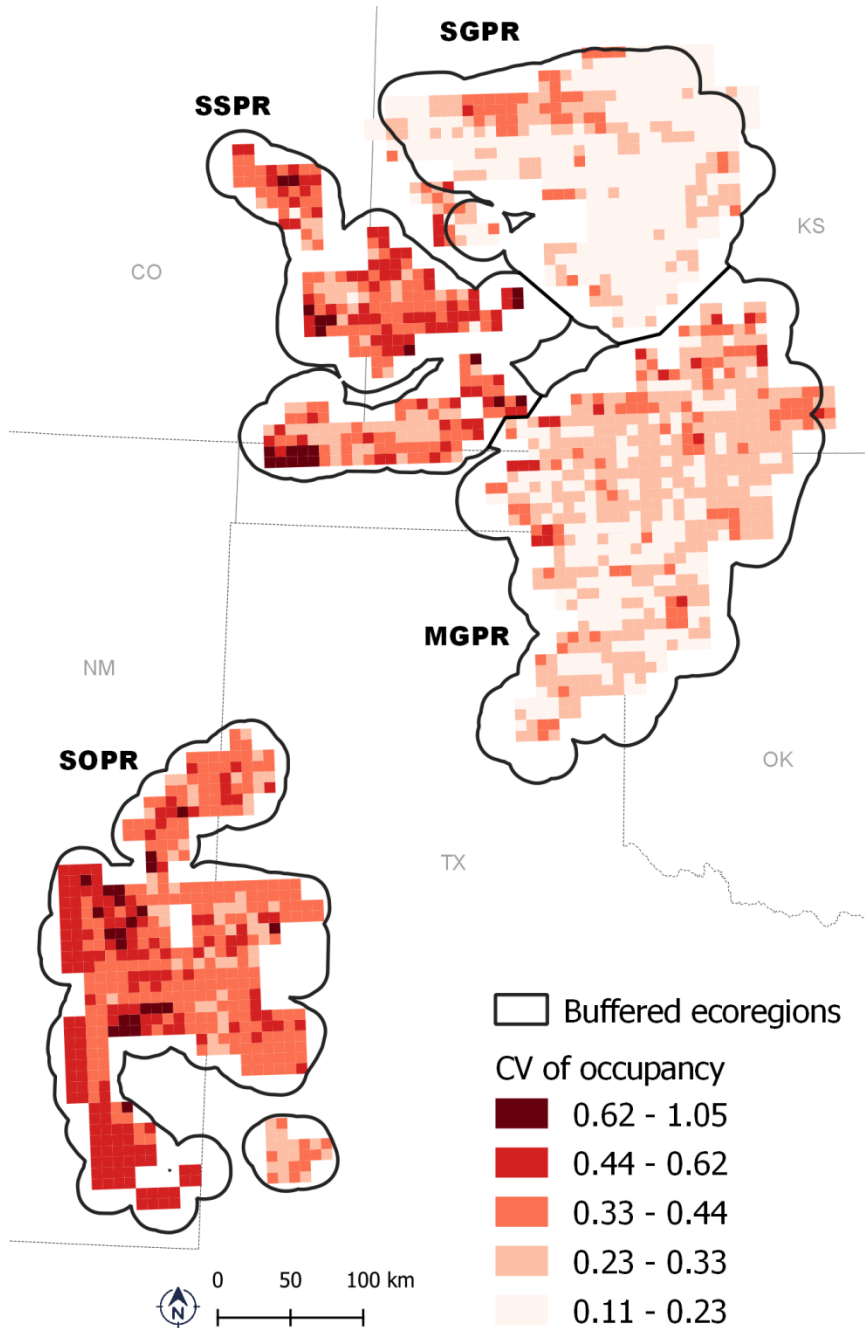


Appendix 1. Supplementary materials.



**Fig. A1.1.** Study area map showing 15-km × 15-km grid cells surveyed for lesser prairie-chickens, 2016. The colored areas surrounding each ecoregion indicate an approximate 77.7-km (30-mi) buffer into which the survey may be expanded in the future.



**Fig. A1.2.** Coefficient of variation (CV) of model-averaged predictions of unconditional small-scale occupancy probability ( $\psi^*\theta$ ) for the lesser prairie-chicken at 7.5-km  $\times$  7.5-km quadrants. Black polygons represent the occupied range of the LEPC plus a 16-km buffer, divided into four ecoregions used in conservation planning (SGPR = Shortgrass/CRP Mosaic, SSPR = Sand Sagebrush Prairie, MGPR = Mixed Grass Prairie, SOPR = Shinnery Oak Prairie).

**Table A1.1.** Model selection for the large-scale occupancy ( $\psi$ ), small-scale occupancy ( $\theta$ ), and detection ( $p$ ) of the lesser prairie-chicken from the range-wide monitoring program, 2012–2016. The model-selection metrics are the value of the minimized  $-2 \log$ -likelihood function [ $-2\log_e(\mathcal{L})$ ], parameter number ( $K$ ), Akaike’s Information Criterion adjusted for sample size ( $AIC_c$ ), difference between model and minimum  $AIC_c$  value ( $\Delta AIC_c$ ) and  $AIC_c$  weight ( $w_i$ ). Models with  $\Delta AIC_c < 4$  are shown.

Model	$K$	$-2\log(\mathcal{L})$	$AIC_c$	$\Delta AIC_c$	$w_i$
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Trend})$	12	2651.69	2675.91	0.00	0.075
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Observer} + \text{Time} + \text{Trend})$	9	2657.88	2676.01	0.10	0.071
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Time} + \text{Trend})$	13	2649.87	2676.14	0.23	0.067
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Observer} + \text{Trend})$	8	2660.30	2676.40	0.49	0.058
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Time} + \text{Trend})$	10	2656.42	2676.57	0.66	0.054
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Observer} + \text{Time})$	8	2660.69	2676.79	0.88	0.048
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Trend})$	9	2658.92	2677.05	1.14	0.042
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Observer} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Trend})$	11	2655.67	2677.86	1.95	0.028
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Year}) p(\text{Observer} + \text{Time} + \text{Trend})$	13	2651.70	2677.96	2.05	0.027
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Observer})$	7	2663.96	2678.04	2.13	0.026
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Observer} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Time} + \text{Trend})$	12	2653.85	2678.08	2.17	0.025
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Year}) p(\text{Observer} + \text{Time})$	12	2653.91	2678.14	2.23	0.024
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Time})$	9	2660.32	2678.45	2.54	0.021
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Year}) p(\text{Observer} + \text{Trend})$	12	2654.39	2678.61	2.70	0.019
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Year}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Time} + \text{Trend})$	17	2644.43	2678.87	2.96	0.017
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Year}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Time} + \text{Trend})$	14	2650.60	2678.91	3.00	0.017
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Year}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Trend})$	16	2646.59	2678.98	3.08	0.016
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Observer} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Time})$	11	2656.95	2679.14	3.23	0.015
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Observer} + \text{Ecoregion})$	10	2659.52	2679.68	3.77	0.011
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Year}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Trend})$	13	2653.43	2679.69	3.78	0.011
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Year}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Time})$	13	2653.52	2679.78	3.87	0.011
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Year}) p(\text{Observer})$	11	2657.62	2679.81	3.90	0.011
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Time})$	12	2655.63	2679.85	3.94	0.010
$\psi(\cdot) \theta(\text{Ecoregion}) p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer})$	8	2663.75	2679.85	3.94	0.010

**Table A1.2.** Parameter estimates, Standard Errors (SE), and Lower and Upper 90% Confidence Limits (LCL and UCL, respectively) for the detection ( $p$ ) of the lesser prairie-chicken from the best and second best model and range-wide monitoring program, 2012–2016.

Model	Parameter	Estimate	SE	LCL	UCL
Model 1					
	$p$ (intercept)	-3.185	1.393	-5.476	-0.893
	$p$ (MGPR)	-0.648	0.330	-1.191	-0.105
	$p$ (SSPR)	0.445	0.452	-0.299	1.189
	$p$ (SOPR)	-0.549	0.363	-1.146	0.048
	$p$ (Date)	0.026	0.013	0.004	0.048
	$p$ (Observer)	1.017	0.170	0.737	1.298
	$p$ (Trend)	0.221	0.085	0.080	0.361
Model 2					
	$p$ (intercept)	-0.871	0.315	-1.390	-0.352
	$p$ (Time)	0.288	0.185	-0.017	0.593
	$p$ (Observer)	1.027	0.171	0.745	1.309
	$p$ (Trend)	0.129	0.077	0.002	0.257

**Table A1.3.** Plausible combinations model selection for large-scale occupancy ( $\psi$ ) of the lesser prairie-chicken from the range-wide monitoring program, 2012–2016. The model-selection metrics are the value of the minimized  $-2 \log$ -likelihood function  $-2\log_e(\mathcal{L})$ , parameter number ( $K$ ), Akaike’s Information Criterion adjusted for sample size ( $AIC_c$ ), difference between model and minimum  $AIC_c$  value ( $\Delta AIC_c$ ) and  $AIC_c$  weight ( $w_i$ ). High-weight submodels with  $w_i < 0.001$  and high likelihood submodels with  $-2\log(\mathcal{L}) < \text{maximum } -2\log(\mathcal{L})$  of high weight models are shown.

Model <sup>a</sup>	$K$	$-2\log(L)$	$AIC_c$	$\Delta AIC_c$	$w_i$
$\psi$ (CRP + GrassPatch + Shrub)	17	2545.03	2579.48	0.00	0.697
$\psi$ (CRP + CRP <sup>2</sup> + GrassPatch + Shrub)	18	2544.67	2581.17	1.69	0.299

**Table A1.4.** Plausible combinations model selection for small-scale occupancy ( $\theta$ ) of the lesser prairie-chicken from the range-wide monitoring program, 2012–2016. The model-selection metrics are the value of the minimized  $-2 \log$ -likelihood function  $-2\log_e(\mathcal{L})$ , parameter number ( $K$ ), Akaike’s Information Criterion adjusted for sample size ( $AIC_c$ ), difference between model and minimum  $AIC_c$  value ( $\Delta AIC_c$ ) and  $AIC_c$  weight ( $w_i$ ). High-weight submodels with  $w_i < 0.001$  and high-likelihood submodels with  $-2\log(\mathcal{L}) < \text{maximum } -2\log(\mathcal{L})$  of high weight models are shown.

Model <sup>a</sup>	$K$	$-2\log(\mathcal{L})$	$AIC_c$	$\Delta AIC_c$	$w_i$
$\theta(\text{CRP} + \text{Grass} + \text{Grass}^2 + \text{Shrub} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Ecoregion}*\text{CRP} + \text{Ecoregion}*\text{Grass}^2)$	28	2494.53	2551.71	0.00	0.803
$\theta(\text{CRP} + \text{Grass} + \text{Shrub} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Ecoregion}*\text{CRP} + \text{Ecoregion}*\text{Grass})$	27	2500.13	2555.23	3.52	0.138
$\theta(\text{CRP} + \text{Grass} + \text{Grass}^2 + \text{Shrub} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Ecoregion}*\text{CRP} + \text{Ecoregion}*\text{Grass})$	28	2500.13	2557.31	5.60	0.049

<sup>a</sup> All models include  $p(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Year} + \text{Observer})$  and  $\psi(\text{Year})$ .

**Table A1.5.** Plausible combinations model selection for detection ( $p$ ) of the lesser prairie-chicken from the range-wide monitoring program, 2012–2016. The model-selection metrics are the value of the minimized  $-2 \log$ -likelihood function  $-2\log_e(\mathcal{L})$ , parameter number ( $K$ ), Akaike’s Information Criterion adjusted for sample size ( $AIC_c$ ), difference between model and minimum  $AIC_c$  value ( $\Delta AIC_c$ ) and  $AIC_c$  weight ( $w_i$ ). High-weight submodels with  $w_i < 0.001$  and high likelihood submodels with  $-2\log(\mathcal{L}) < \text{maximum } -2\log(\mathcal{L})$  of high weight models are shown.

Model <sup>a</sup>	$K$	$-2\log(\mathcal{L})$	$AIC_c$	$\Delta AIC_c$	$w_i$
$p(\text{Time} + \text{Observer} + \text{Trend})$	13	2654.00	2680.26	0.00	0.140
$p(\text{Observer} + \text{Trend})$	12	2656.36	2680.59	0.33	0.119
$p(\text{Time} + \text{Observer})$	12	2656.69	2680.91	0.65	0.101
$p(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Trend})$	16	2648.70	2681.10	0.84	0.092
$p(\text{Date} + \text{Time} + \text{Observer} + \text{Trend})$	14	2652.98	2681.29	1.03	0.084
$p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer} + \text{Trend})$	13	2655.46	2681.72	1.46	0.068
$p(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Observer} + \text{Trend})$	15	2651.69	2682.03	1.77	0.058
$p(\text{Observer})$	11	2660.06	2682.25	1.99	0.052
$p(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Time} + \text{Observer} + \text{Trend})$	16	2649.94	2682.33	2.07	0.050
$p(\text{Date} + \text{Time} + \text{Observer})$	13	2656.44	2682.71	2.45	0.041
$p(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Time} + \text{Observer})$	15	2652.94	2683.28	3.02	0.031
$p(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Observer})$	14	2655.61	2683.92	3.66	0.023
$p(\text{Year} + \text{Ecoregion} + \text{Date} + \text{Observer})$	19	2645.61	2684.16	3.90	0.020
$p(\text{Date} + \text{Observer})$	12	2659.95	2684.18	3.92	0.020
$p(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Date} + \text{Time} + \text{Observer})$	16	2651.91	2684.30	4.05	0.019
$p(\text{Year} + \text{Time} + \text{Observer})$	16	2651.92	2684.31	4.06	0.018
$p(\text{Year} + \text{Observer})$	15	2654.19	2684.54	4.28	0.016
$p(\text{Year} + \text{Date} + \text{Time} + \text{Observer})$	17	2650.55	2684.99	4.73	0.013
$p(\text{Ecoregion} + \text{Date} + \text{Observer})$	15	2654.83	2685.18	4.92	0.012
$p(\text{Year} + \text{Date} + \text{Observer})$	16	2653.13	2685.52	5.27	0.010

<sup>a</sup> All models include  $\theta(\text{Ecoregion})$  and  $\psi(\text{Year})$ .