Gray Vireo

The following measures will be used to avoid/minimize impacts to the gray vireo on WSMR:

- Conduct pre-treatment and long-term post-treatment monitoring for vireo presence/absence, habitat use, and reproductive success. Treatments that occur immediately prior to vireo nesting season (such as prescribed fires in March or early April) must rely on previous-year survey results to inform planning.

- Evaluate each proposed treatment via the environmental review process to ensure that measures are incorporated to avoid/minimize impacts to gray vireos.

- Conduct prescribed burns prior to April or after July, outside of gray vireo nesting season

- Include a mosaic of treated and untreated habitat, and conduct post-treatment assessments (e.g., number and size of junipers killed) to inform future treatments. Size of untreated habitat should consider gray vireo territory size.

- Target the elimination of small/young junipers and retain a portion of taller junipers preferred for nesting. Consider that vireos also use areas with higher tree densities compared to surrounding habitat.

- Buffer areas around known vireo nest trees from treatments. Buffer distances are determined with input from NMDGF and USFWS.

- Consider vireo densities across the landscape.

- Where treatments negatively affect the vireo population, adjust methods in future projects to avoid and minimize impacts to the species.

- Coordinate review of monitoring and treatment plans with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NMDGF, IAW the Sikes Act, WSMR IPMP, WSMR INRMP, and EO 13186 Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds (Bumgarner and WSMR 2019).

Pinyon Jay

Conservation measures for the Pinyon Jay at WSMR are primarily adapted from the multi-agency Conservation Strategy for the Pinyon jay maintained here: https://partnersinflight.org/resources/conservation-strategy-for-pinyon-jay/ and the New Mexico Bird Conservation Plan Pinyon Jay species account (NMACP 2020). Primary measures include 500m nest site buffers, avoidance of treatments during the nest season (generally March through May), retention of the most productive pinon trees, and the inclusion of a mosaic of untreated and treated areas.