

Sage grouse perform one of the most elaborate mating displays in nature

Sage grouse, a type of bird, are found in the western United States. The males perform extravagant mating displays in the spring. Nature photographer Noppadol Paothong captures their behavior through photography.

The dark brown-and-white-striped tails of the sage grouse become stiff and spiked.

The sage grouse utters a series of gentle bubbling sounds.

The sage grouse puffs its chest, and its yellow throat sacs inflate and deflate. This inflation and deflation is what creates the bubbling sound.

The mating display takes place in the prickly strands of sagebrush in an open field. Occasionally, two males may fight for the attention of a female.

The sage grouse's wings flap against the white pouches on its sides.

