Rangeland Restoration on the Crooked River National Grassland

Time: 8:30 am – 1:30 return
Meeting Location: Cascades Hall, COCC campus
Leaders: Steve Gibson, Jim David, Bryan Scholz, Sarah Callaghan, Kristen Mc Bride*
Transportation: Carpool

What we will see and learn!

We will explore the history of the Grassland, from homesteaders’ attempts to grow grains, to the Soil Conservation Service’s crested wheatgrass rangeland improvement seeding trials, and spend the majority of our time examining current management issues.

Our discussions will focus on developing and implementing a rangeland restoration strategy to mitigate fire hazard risk, nonnative invasive annual grasses and native western juniper expansion, within the constraints of past disturbances and within guidelines governing the Grassland’s commitments to the local livestock grazing association and growing recreation uses.

The Crooked River National Grassland is managed to promote the development of grassland agriculture and sustained yield management of the forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, and recreation resources and to demonstrate sound and practical principles of land use. Since the beginning of the land utilization projects of the 1930s, improving range management and the forage resource has been a major goal.

* Steve Gibson, Range Program Manager (Deschutes and Ochoco NF and Crooked River Natl Grassland [CRNG]); Jim David, Forest Soil Scientist, Ochoco NF and CRNG; Bryan Scholz, Asst. Fire Management Officer (retired), Central Oregon Fire Management Services, Prairie Division; Sarah Callaghan, Invasive Plant Program Manager, Ochoco NF and CRNG; Kristen Mc Bride, Natural Resource Staff Officer, Deschutes and Ochoco NF and CRNG