

*Northwest Scientific Association presents*

## **PRAIRIES OF THE SOUTH SOUND: CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION**

**Meeting Time:** 9:00am – 4:30pm, Friday March 30, 2018

**Meeting Location:** Parking Lot B

**Transportation:** Free transportation using vans provided by NWSA & WA-DNR

**Leaders:** **David Wilderman**  
Ecologist, Natural Areas Program, Washington Department of Natural Resources  
**Sarah Hamman**  
Restoration Ecologist, Center for Natural Lands Management

**Maximum Group Size:** 30 people

The prairies and oak woodlands of western Washington host a wide range of native plants and animals, many of which are rare due to declining habitat availability. Additionally, traditional cultural practices, such as fire and native plant harvesting, have largely been lost. Over the last 15 years the scale and complexity of restoration efforts have grown across this landscape to restore historical disturbances and diversity while considering desired future conditions. On this field trip we will visit a regional native seed farm and two native prairies to learn about seed sourcing and seed production in a restoration context, fire ecology and rare species, and adaptive management in a system with shifting restoration priorities.

**Violet Prairie Seed Farm:** tour from about 9:45 to 11:30am

- Adapting agricultural practices into a restoration context.
- Seed sourcing considerations, including climate change.

**Scatter Creek Wildlife Area:** tour & enjoy a picnic lunch from about 11:45am to 1:30pm

- Fire ecology and butterflies.
- Recovery of rare species, including Taylor's checkerspot and Mazama pocket gopher.

**Mima Mounds Prairie:** tour Mima Mounds

- Shifting restoration targets: How to adapt management to shifting priorities.
- Sharing different available restoration tools.

3:30-4:30pm: Travel back to The Evergreen State College