

PRESENTER BIOS

FIRE IN THE SHRUB-STEPPE



Photo: Kara Karboski, WRCD

Topic: Fire Behavior in the Shrub Steppe



Alison Dean, Fire Effects Monitoring Coordinator, Central Oregon Fire Management and Prineville BLM

Alison has worked for 21 years in the Forest Service and BLM as a soil scientist, watershed specialist, hotshot, helicopter manager, and fire ecologist.

Contact: aedean@blm.gov

Topic: Fire Ecology and Post Fire Restoration



Martha Brabec, Foothills Restoration Specialist, City of Boise

Martha has Master's Degree from Boise State University where she studied the impacts of disturbance and climate change on sagebrush and related planted communities. She has worked in the sagebrush steppe of Idaho since 2010 for Idaho Fish and Game, the Bureau of Land Management, the US Geological Survey, and now the City of Boise.

Contact: mbrabec@cityofboise.org

Webinar 2: Threatened and Endangered Species

November 5, 2020

Topic: Pygmy Rabbits: Not Just Another Small Rabbit!

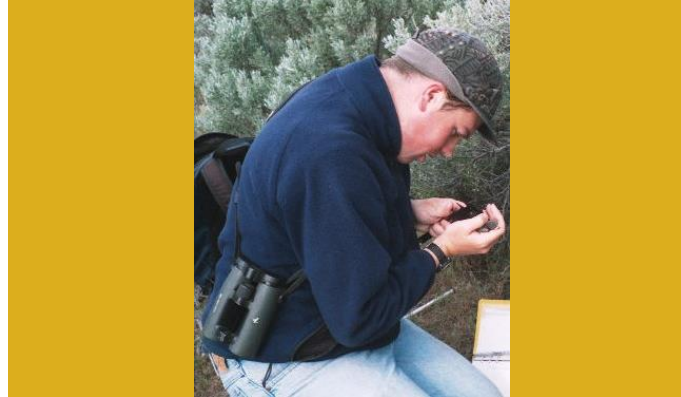


Jon Gallie, Wildlife Biologist, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Jon has a Master's in Science degree from Northern Arizona University and worked on a wide range of species and habitats across Arizona and Washington over the last 20 years. Jon has managed the pygmy rabbit reintroduction effort since 2016.

Contact: Jon.Gallie@dfw.wa.gov

Topic: Greater Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Obligate Songbirds



Scott Downes, Habitat Biologist, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Scott has a Master of Science from Central Washington University studying sage thrashers and has worked in the shrub steppe of eastern Washington and Oregon since 2001.

Contact: Scott.Downes@dfw.wa.gov

Topic: Umtanum Desert Buckwheat



Heidi Newsome, Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wildlife Refuge System

Heidi works at the Central Washington National Wildlife Refuge Complex and has been a biologist for 20 years. She has a Master of Science from OSU. Focus areas: post-wildfire rehabilitation, invasive plant management, and wildlife surveys.

Contact: heidi_newsome@fws.gov

Topic: Livestock Use for Vegetation Management and Reduced Fire Risk



Chris Schachtschneider, Livestock and Range Extension Coordinator, Oregon State University

Chris' work focuses on utilizing livestock to achieve management or ecological goals and challenging current paradigms for both producers and the public.

Contact: Chris.Schacht@oregonstate.edu

Topic: Using Mechanical Treatments for Community Protection



Seth Hulett, Private Lands Biologist, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Seth works with private landowners to create and maintain wildlife habitat in the southern Columbia Basin. Seth's experience includes planning, implementation and monitoring of habitat restoration projects.

Contact: Seth.Hulett@dfw.wa.gov

Webinar 4: Engaging Communities in Fire Adaptation

December 17, 2020

Panelists



Caty Padilla, Executive Director, Nuestra Casa

Caty is the daughter of immigrants who settled in the Lower Yakima Valley in 1990. She was raised like many farm worker's children, migrating along the Yakima River throughout the valley as her parents looked for new job opportunities. Caty really connects with the idea that one can create change in the community by leading with a mindset for business but a heart for the world. In 2017, she accepted the role as Executive Director for Nuestra Casa. Caty looks forward to helping immigrant women in the community prosper and obtain learning opportunities empowering them to battle the inequities in our communities.

Contact: caty@nuestracasawa.org



Jerry McAdams, Senior Captain, Boise Fire Department

Jerry has 19 years of experience in the fire service, in both operations and prevention. Jerry has served on the Board of Directors for the International Association of Wildland Fire (IAWF), is an experienced fire investigator, and holds certifications as a Fire Inspector I, Fire Inspector II and Fire Plans Examiner. He is an instructor for the NFPA Assessing Structure Ignition Potential from Wildfire (ASIP) course.

Contact: JMcAdams@cityofboise.org

Webinar 5: Engaging Communities in Fire Adaptation

December 17, 2020

Panelists



Kirsten Cook, Community Outreach Director, Okanogan Conservation District

Kirsten has over 25 years of conservation education and program management experience. She has been with Okanogan Conservation District since 2011, and is responsible for the District's marketing, education and fire adapted community efforts.

Contact: kirsten@okanogancd.org



Jon Riley, Community Wildfire Liaison, Chelan County Fire District 1

Serving the citizens of Chelan County Fire District #1 and partner organizations to improve wildfire preparedness, response and recovery. Jon Riley holds a bachelor's degree in Natural Resource Management and has 8 years' experience in the fire service.

Contact: jriley@chelancountyfire.com

Panelists

Jerry Benson, Owner, Benson Farms Incorporated / Native Seeds, LLC

Jerry has been involved with resource management in the western United States for nearly 50 years and has managed hundreds of restoration projects for a broad array of wildlife species. He has long term experience as a botanist and in wildlife habitat restoration as well as native grass and wildflower seed production. His work supports the work of state, federal, First Nations, non-profit, and property owners.

Contact: jbenson@bfinativeseeds.com

Mel Asher, Restoration Ecologist, Benson Farms Incorporated / Native Seeds, LLC

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Katherine Fitch, Restoration Ecologist, Benson Farms Incorporated / Native Seeds, LLC

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