



landscapes

CONSERVING AND CARING FOR THE LANDS AND WATERS THAT SUSTAIN CENTRAL OREGON.

DESCHUTES LAND TRUST NEIGHBOR NEWS {SPRING 2021}

DESCHUTESLANDTRUST.ORG/NEIGHBOR-NEWS

RIMROCK RANCH RESTORATION

Restoration plans for the multi-year stream restoration project at Rimrock Ranch are moving forward. After a COVID-19 delay, we will begin implementing the restoration this summer and wanted to share more details on how the restoration will unfold.

Rimrock Ranch was first conserved by the Land Trust in 2006 and then purchased by the Land Trust in 2020. This year's restoration effort will focus on the southernmost portion of Whychus Creek that runs through Rimrock Ranch. Over the years, Whychus Creek was straightened and bermed to keep it in place which diminished fish and wildlife habitat in and along the creek. Our goal with the restoration is to increase the variety of habitats both in and along the creek, to reconnect Whychus Creek to surrounding meadows, and to make the entire creek system stronger.

Similar to the restoration work we completed in 2016 at Whychus Canyon Preserve, bulldozers and diggers will move a lot of dirt in order to allow Whychus Creek to move across the valley floor once again. We will improve habitat for salmon and steelhead in Whychus Creek by creating more deep pools for refuge, side channels for young fish to rear, and adding woody debris for cover. The surrounding meadow will also be transformed. Creekside vegetation will provide cover for wildlife and help maintain cool water temperatures. New wetlands and oxbows will soon be home to amphibians and songbirds, and the entire meadow will once again act like a sponge, helping store and keep creek water clean and cold in warm summer months. In the fall, we will add 37,000 new native plants to the restoration area. The project area will then be left alone to rest, recover, and naturally evolve and grow.

We will begin restoration efforts in July with 4-6 weeks of active construction. While the portion of the creek being restored will not be visible for most neighbors, some may notice increased vehicle activity on Wilt Road. Rimrock Ranch will remain closed to the public during the restoration. We appreciate your patience as we work to make Whychus Creek healthier for us all! —

Learn more about this exciting project: deschuteslandtrust.org/wc-restoration



THE PORTION OF WHYCHUS CREEK AT RIMROCK RANCH THAT WILL BE RESTORED THIS SUMMER. PHOTO: LAND TRUST.



JOHN WILLIAMS

RIMROCK RESTORATION TOURS

As pandemic conditions improve, we hope to offer tours of the Rimrock Ranch restoration. Check our website, join our e-newsletter, and follow us on social media for updates on the project and tour dates!

Learn more: deschuteslandtrust.org/hikes



DESCHUTES LAND TRUST NEIGHBOR NEWS {SPRING 2021}

TYLER ROEMER

WILDFLOWERS OF WHYCHUS CANYON PRESERVE

Central Oregon, with its deserts and high mountain meadows, is chock-full of wildflowers. Whychus Canyon Preserve offers a stunning introduction to some of the best wildflowers of Central Oregon. Here are a few of our spring favorites:



TIM COTTER

Threadleaf phacelia, Phacelia linearis.

Dense cluster of small purple flowers that grow on a stem up to 20" tall. Found in dry sandy soils in our sagebrush meadows. Flowers are ½-¾" across with 5 petals. Leaves are alternate and linear.

BLOOMS: MAY-JUNE



TIM COTTER

Tidy tips, Layia glandulosa.

Small white aster with yellow center, on stalks 3" long. Ray-like flowers that are three-lobed at the tip. Grows in open and sandy soils in forest or grasslands.

BLOOMS: MAY-JUNE



TYLER ROEMER

Arrowleaf balsamroot, Balsamorhiza sagittata.

One of our showiest wildflowers lighting up hillsides with sunny, disk-like faces. Grows in clumps with large, widely triangular leaves that have heart-shaped bases. Yellow flowers are 2 ½-4" wide on 1-3' stems.

BLOOMS: MAY-JUNE



JAY MATHER

Columbia puccoon, Lithospermum ruderule.

Pale yellow flower that blooms on the end of multiple, erect stems with narrow linear leaves. Overall 8-20" tall and is widespread in grasslands, forests, and rocky areas.

BLOOMS: MAY-JUNE

Learn more wildflowers of Whychus Canyon Preserve: deschuteslandtrust.org/wc-wildflowers



LAND TRUST

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY HEALTHY!

Thank you for masking up, staying 6 feet apart, and limiting your group size at Whychus Canyon Preserve. We know it is a different experience than normal, but together we can protect our neighbors and help keep our community healthy. Keep up the good work!

Learn more: deschuteslandtrust.org/covid



THE DESCHUTES LAND TRUST IS PROUD OF OUR GENEROUS FAMILY OF SUPPORTERS. JOIN US TODAY: [DESCHUTESLANDTRUST.ORG/JOIN](https://deschuteslandtrust.org/join)

LANDS IN TRUST PROTECTED FOREVER

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