

Eastern Oregon Ag Research Center USDA-Agricultural Research Service 2020 Update



Burns ARS

Mission: Provide the scientific basis for sound land and livestock management

**RESTORE annual grass-
invaded
communities**



**RESTORE juniper-
encroached
communities**



**CONSERVE relatively
intact
communities and adapt
management to variable
environments**



Unit Structure

- Burns location operates under two different National Programs
 - NP 215 (5.7 FTE): Pasture, Forage and Rangeland Systems
 - NP 304 (2.3 FTE): Crop Protection and Quarantine

ARS Staff

- Scientists

- Chad Boyd (Research Leader)
- Roger Sheley (Weeds Program Lead Scientist)
- Kirk Davies (Range Program Lead Scientist)
- Jon Bates
- Erik Hamerlynck
- Stella Copeland
- Rory O'Connor
- Roxanne Rios (Support scientist)
- Lauren Svejcar (Post-doc)

- Research Technicians

- Lori Ziegenhagen
- Stephanie Falk
- Tony Runnels
- Woody Strachan
- Michelle Mattocks
- Elsie Denton
- Samantha Wolfe

- Administrative Staff

- Dawnetta Hauth (Administrative Officer)
- Elizabeth Alberta (PSA)
- Office Secretary (in process)

Position Vacancies

- Science Vacancies
 - Category 1 Scientist: Vice Boyd (Landscape Ecologist)
 - Technician x 2
 - Post-doc x 2
 - Support Scientist for NP304 (Weeds Program)
- Admin Vacancy
 - Office Secretary

ARS Budget

<u>Category</u>	<u>FY 2019</u>	<u>FY 2020</u>	<u>Change</u>
Salaries and expenses	1,303,266,000	1,414,366,000	111,100,000
Buildings and facilities	381,200,000	192,700,000	-188,500,000

- President's Budget for 2021
 - Salaries and expenses = 3% decrease
 - Buildings and facilities= 75% decrease
 - Flat budget for Burns location

Facilities - NGBER



















Outreach Happenings

- Kendra Hutchinson, Youth Forum Candidate
- Science in the Sagebrush Steppe (April)
- 2nd Grade Field Trip (May)
- High School Range Camp (June 2018)
- Range Field Day (June 30)

Awards



Awards

- SRM Outstanding Achievement Award for Land Stewardship.



OCA Off-Season Grazing Symposium

- Meaningful influence over fire amount and impact
- Players:
 - Agency
 - Science
 - Producers
- November 21 Symposium
 - What does success look like?
 - Why aren't we successful now?
 - What needs to change?
 - How do we change it?
- Report = playbook for success

Off-Season Grazing for Fuels Management: What does success look like and how do we get there?

November 21, 1:30 – 5:00PM

Introduction: 1:30 – 1:40 Welcome and Overview (Chad Boyd)

Part 1: Getting on the Same Page: What does success look like and where are we at now?

This portion of the program will focus on summarizing the current status of off season grazing relative to what it could be from 3 different perspectives, followed by input from the audience.

1:40 – 1:55 Science Perspective: What is the current state of our knowledge and what additional knowledge is needed? (Kirk Davies)

1:55 – 2:10 Agency Perspective: How is off-season grazing used for fuels management vs. to what extent could it be used? (Jeff Rose)

2:10 – 2:25 Producer Perspective: How is off-season grazing used for fuels management vs. to what extent could it be used? (Mark Mackenzie)

2:25 – 2:35 Audience input on where we are at and what “success” might look like (Matt McElligott)

2:35 – 2:45 BREAK

Part 2: 2:45 – 3:45 Defining the Challenges: What’s keeping us from being where we want to be? (Matt McElligott facilitates discussion with audience input)

This portion of the program will focus on defining what needs to change in order for off-season grazing for fuels management to realize its potential as a management tool (as defined in Part 1). How we meet these “challenges” will be the subject of Part 3.

3:45 – 3:55 BREAK

Part 3: 3:55 – 4:55 Thinking About Solutions: How do we get there? (Matt McElligott facilitates discussion with audience input)

This portion of the program will focus on defining the specific tools and actions that can be used to foster needed change as defined in Part 2.