



Science in the Sagebrush Steppe



A bit of history...

Number of Campers Over the Years

2011 - 20

2012 - 17

2013 - 19

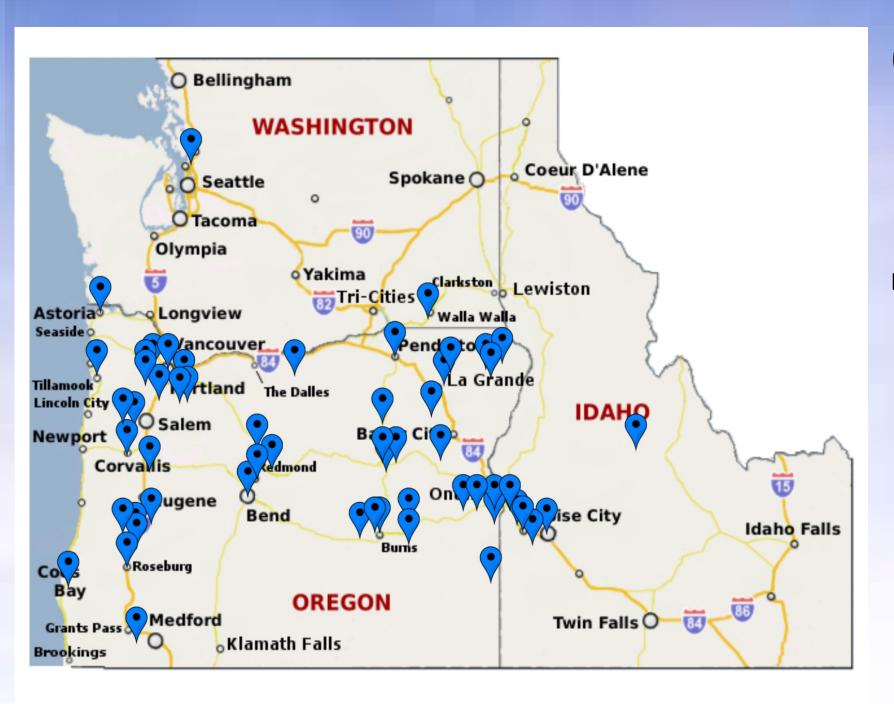
2014 - 19

2015 - 23

2017 - 12

2018 - 15

2019 - 11



We've had Oregon campers from:

Adrian **Astoria Beaverton/Portland/Aloha/Damascus Bend/Redmond/Prineville/Madras Brownsville Burns/Hines** Canyon City/John Day/Prairie City **Cottage Grove** Crane Dallas **Drewsey Enterprise**

Haines

Bellingham WASHINGTON Coeur D'Alene Spokane () Seattle **O** Tacoma 90 Olympia Yakima Clarkston Lewiston Tri-Cities 📍 Longview Astoria Walla Walla Seaside ancouver Pend to La Grande Tillamook rtland The Dalles Lincoln City IDAHO Salem Newport Corvadis dmond ugene ise City Bend Idaho Falls Co Roseburg **OREGON** Grants Pass Medford Twin Falls O Klamath Falls **Brookings**

We've had Oregon campers from:

Herford Imnaha **Jacksonville Jordan Valley** Joseph LaGrande Langlois Lexington **Long Creek** Molalla Monmouth **Mount Vernon** Mulino

Bellingham WASHINGTON Coeur D'Alene Spokane () Seattle **O** Tacoma 90 Olympia Tri-Cities Clarkston Lewiston Yakima Longview Astoria Walla Walla Seaside ancouver Pend to _a Grande Tillamook rtland The Dalles Lincoln City IDAHO Salem Newport Corvadis kedmond ugene Bend ise City Idaho Falls Co Roseburg **OREGON** Grants Pass Medford Twin Falls O Klamath Falls **Brookings**

We've had Oregon campers from:

North Marion Nyssa Oakland Ontario/Vale/Harper **Pendleton Philomath** Riley Roseburg **Summerville** Sutherlin **Tigard Tillamook** Yoncalla



We've also had campers from Idaho:

Boise

Caldwell

Carmen

Kuna

Nampa

New Plymouth

Payette

Timberline

O Bellingham WASHINGTON Coeur D'Alene Spokane 🔿 Seattle O Tacoma 90 Olympia Yakima Clarkston Lewiston Tri-Cities Longview Astoria Walla Walla Seaside ancouver Pend • to .a Grande Tillamook rtland The Dalles Lincoln City IDAHO Salem Newport Corvadis dedmond ugene Bend ise City Idaho Falls Co Roseburg **OREGON** Grants Pass Medford Twin Falls O Klamath Falls **Brookings**

And from Washington:

College Place
Lynwood



What they learn:

A lot about rangeland plants and plant identification

How to use a GPS

Ecosystems

Fire ecology

Rangeland wildlife

Livestock interactions on the land

How to write a management plan

How to cook dessert in a Dutch oven, too!











Some of the positive comments from the campers:

- How has this camp changed any preexisting notions that you held about rangelands and their management (ie: grazing, fire, wildlife, etc)?
 - Wildlife plays a larger role in range health than I thought
 - This camp has broadened my understanding of this complex and necessary ecosystem I thought it was just sagebrush and grass... I couldn't have been less correct. Everything (each issue, fire, cheatgrass, etc) has a range of significance
 - It introduced me to the entire sagebrush ecosystem
 - Yes it has, very much! I learned more about the land I live on and how to manage it, if I
 had to, and the plants which are beneficial and those that are not.
 - I had no idea rangeland was even a thing before this. I thought all wildfires were man made, I didn't know they were natural. Literally everything I knew was changed.
 - Now I know rangeland is not just desert, it should be protected
 - I didn't know that there were so many different types of rangeland and which were the most ideal grazing areas for cattle, and for wildlife
 - I had no idea we had a desert. The desert can be cold. I learned the sage grouse was a thing that existed.

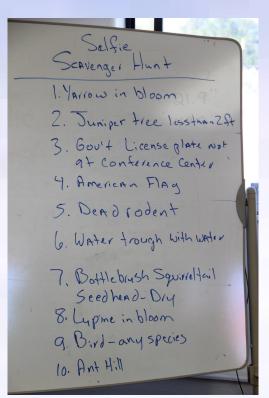




Some of the positive comments from the campers:

- How has this camp changed any preexisting notions that you held about rangelands and their management (ie: grazing, fire, wildlife, etc)?
 - This camp provided me the information on the individual subject to connect the rangeland as a whole
 - Sage isn't as pointless as I thought it was. I didn't realize we had less of a chance to regrow sage and perennials after a fire before annuals come in.
 - I did not previously know how much the rangelands needed to be managed, as well as how and why to manage it.
 - Yes, it helped me understand more about fire and how easily it can start with all the cheat grass we have
 - It has changed my perspective about plant life and how important it is for resources and our economy
 - I kinda already knew a lot about the management and rangelands.
 - I thought ranching would be easy
 - It made me see how often and easily wildlife conservation can benefit everyone involved
 - I learned the impact of annual and perennial species within the ecosystem
 - Nothing really. Did learn a lot more about sage grouse though.





Some of the additional comments from the campers:

- Love camp!
- I loved the team activities! All of the kids and volunteers were super nice! I felt very, very welcome! I would definitely recommend!
- Thank you so much for such an amazing camp! I loved learning about and interacting with rangelands.
- I was unaware of how major the rangeland management theme would be present here. I was told this was a camp based only on enjoying the beauty of the desert, hiking, etc. I did not enjoy all of the management themed stuff we did. Please be more clear on your advertisement!
- This is a great service to those who are interested in rangeland management. I am not that person, however. I will say, I had a great time and I wish them well for next year.





Some of the additional comments from the campers:

- Great people, supervisors and cooks
- I had a great time, thank you for making it an enjoyable time!
- Very impressed with the food! And the camp was amazing.
- This camp was awesome, 10/10, 100%, would camp again! But for real, this was fun, thank you!



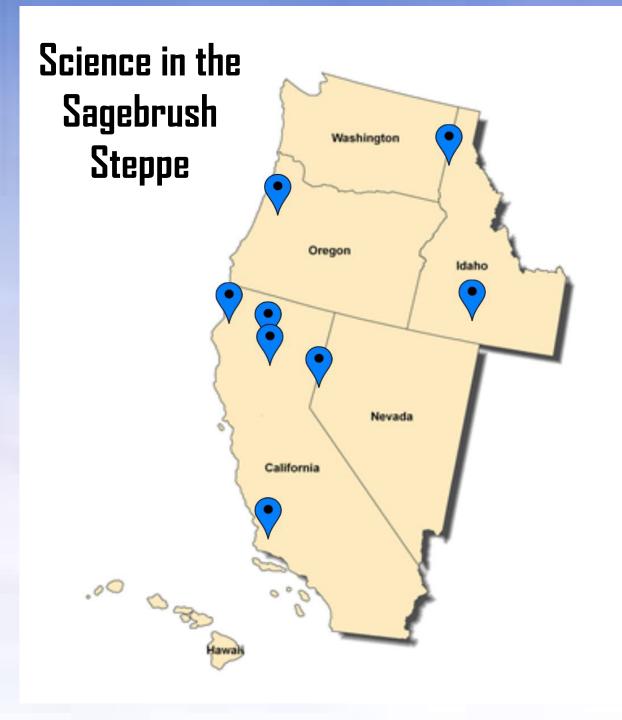




Changes over the years:

Curriculum





A bit of history...

2014 – 21 (3 colleges)

2015 - 25 (3 colleges)

2016 – 62 (6 colleges)

2017 – 47 (6 colleges)

2018 – 27 (5 colleges)

2019 - 38 (8 colleges)

University of Idaho College of Southern Idaho University of Nevada – Reno Chico State **Humboldt State** Shasta College Cal Poly – San Luis Obispo

Oregon State

What they learn:

A lot about rangeland plants and plant identification

How to use a GPS

Ecosystems

Fire ecology

Rangeland wildlife

Livestock interactions on the land

How to write a management plan





Science in the Sagebrush Steppe





Some of the positive comments from the students:

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What was the most helpful part of the SSS program?

- Being able to get in the field and see the sagebrush ecosystem. Also the small size of the group makes it easier to interact with the presenters.
- I really thought that the plant ID and the management plan were helpful. The management plan gave us a taste of working with other people.
- Gaining multiple perspectives.
- All the talks were very helpful and full of good info. Everyone made me feel very
 welcomed and answered all of my questions! It was great to connect with industry
 professionals as well as other schools.
- The hands on instruction where the lecture was conducted in the field was excellent. Seeing the plants or systems in front of you while the instructor talked was extremely beneficial.

Some of the positive comments from the students:

Science in the Sagebrush Steppe

What was the most helpful part of the SSS program?

- Range management plan preparation
- Walking the pasture for the management plan and being able to ask questions.
- Applying what we learn for our management plan
- Not having a strong rangeland background, it was beneficial to be able to learn plant
 ID for this type of habitat. I really liked being able to meet other students and researchers
- All the talks were very helpful because we were able to go out to the field, but the
 management competition definitely pulled it all together and made us apply our
 knowledge.

Some of the additional comments from the students:

- Bring back the soils portion, that was really useful
- This was my first time here and you guys did an amazing job. I am graduating this spring so it was good to "flex" my range knowledge before I continue on into my career. Thank you!
- Thank you for the great food, talks and providing help. Thank you for educating us.
- Being able to meet with our groups the day before the competition was extremely helpful.
- Bring back night time navigation! =) Thought that was a good way to get to know other participants. I liked having an hour to decide on goals for our management plan.
- Will definitely be back next year!
- I will say more group time to work on the management plan.
- I really enjoyed it and I'm coming back next year.
- I had a great time!

Science in the Sagebrush Steppe

Changes over the years:

- Curriculum/activities
- Number of students/schools in attendance





Science in the Sagebrush Steppe



2nd Grade/Rural Schools Annual Field Trip

Morning Session: Approx. 70 Slater 2nd graders

Rotate through 20 minute sessions:

Soil Erosion, GPS Candy Hunt, How a Plant Grows Relay, Soil Textures, Tree Rings, and Holey Cow. Other sessions have included Well-mannered Cows, Soil is Alive, Chromatography

Mission: Learn about what science is, how it interacts with agriculture & nat'l resource management, & career opportunities











2nd Grade/Rural Schools Annual Field Trip

 Afternoon Session – Approx. 25 students K-8 from Rural Schools/ Charter School

 Repeat the same stations but revise the curriculum a bit to engage a broader age group





Other Youth Outreach Programs

- University of Idaho Keren Launchbaugh
- Evergreen College Mike Paros (35 kids)
- OSU/EOU AGRI299 Weekend Class Christina Walsh
- Fair in the Field Hines Middle School 8th graders organized by High
 - Desert Partnership, held at EOARC-Burns
- Crane, Jordan Valley, Burns Science Fairs
- Harney County Fair
- 4-H/FFA Club Presentations

