

Problems with Invasive Species

The spread of invasive species is one of the most serious threats to biodiversity, undermining the ecological integrity of many native habitats. Invasives are the second largest cause of plant extinction. With most of the Willamette Valley dominated by non-native vegetation, WRP prioritizes areas of high ecological significance and works with community partners to design site specific protocols for invasive plant removal and re-vegetation.



Vanishing Ecosystems

Prior to European settlement, the Willamette Valley was a mosaic of oak savanna, upland prairie, and riparian woodlands. The coniferous forests atypical of the Pacific Northwest were not readily found on the valley floor. Over time, human disturbances have fragmented valley floor habitats to varying degrees. Walama Restoration Project believes that habitat rehabilitation and education is the only way to preserve and restore some of the remaining fragments of our region's native ecology.

WRP Mission:

Walama Restoration Project is dedicated to environmental stewardship & biological diversity through education & habitat restoration.



Walama Restoration Project

PO Box 894

Eugene, OR 97440

541.484.3939

www.walamarestoration.org

info@walamarestoration.org

Board of Directors

Howard Bonnett Rachel Foster Evelyn Hess

Katie MacKendrick Emma Froh

Malia Schulthesis Stuart Perlmeter

Michael Robert

Operations Director

Yotokko Kilpatrick

Name:

Donation Amount:

Date:

Tax ID#: 93-1321979

WALAMA RESTORATION PROJECT



Restoring
Biodiversity

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Improving
Native Habitat

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Programs & Accomplishments

- 2 year native plant propagation programs with over seven local schools & youth programs in the Southern Willamette Valley.
- Innovative weed removal & planting techniques to establish & maintain native prairie habitat in the Whilamut Natural Area, along the Walterville Tailrace, & The Fisher Butte wildlife management area in West Eugene.
- The establishment of a native plant nursery sites for the production of locally collected riparian and upland seeds.
- The continuation of three community-organized restoration stewardship projects along the Willamette River and in the West Eugene Wetlands.
- Sustained partnerships with regional Watershed Councils to restore riparian habitat within the Willamette and McKenzie watersheds.
- Collaboration with the City of Eugene, Eugene BLM, and The Nature Conservancy to selectively weed invasive vegetation on over 60 acres of wetland habitat.
- Collaboration with community residents to grow out native upland and riparian species in backyards.
- Through a partnership with Oregon Toxics Alliance, Oregon Department of Transportation & concerned residents in the Siuslaw watershed, WRP is working to provide manual as opposed to chemical vegetation controls along an 8 mile stretch of Hwy. 36. This portion of the road is adjacent to private residencies, public schools, and salmon fisheries.

From Seed to Habitat Ecological Education Program

WRP educational programs provide students with hands-on experience in conducting ecosystem restoration in local open spaces. Students are engaged in the propagation, planting, monitoring, & maintenance of critically imperiled prairie plant communities over a two year span.



WNA Butterfly Meadow

WRP conducts on-going prairie education workshops & service learning projects within the Whilamut Natural Area Butterfly Meadow in Eugene, Oregon.

Walterville Seed Banking Project

The Lower McKenzie Wildflower Prairie Seed Banking Program engages students at Walterville Middle School in establishing a small nursery that will grow more than 20 species of native upland plants on school grounds. The nursery supports an upland prairie restoration site adjacent to EWEB's hydroelectric power plant along Camp Creek road.

Cascade Mountains Community Restoration (Marion Lake Recreation Site Restoration & Huckleberry Flats OHV Site Restoration)

In 2010, Walama initiated a project in partnership with the Willamette National Forest to restore an overused area near a popular middle-elevation lake within the Mt. Jefferson Wilderness. In 2011, Walama will begin work on another project in the Cascades, this time in a summer motorized recreation area of Santiam Pass, to revegetate high elevation pumice soil habitat. Both projects will engage youth and adults in seed collection, propagation, planting, and long-term stewardship.

Activities & Services

- Noxious Weed Removal
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- Oak Savanna & Upland Prairie Rehabilitation
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- Riparian & Wetland Enhancement
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- Landslide/Slope Stabilization
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- Native Re-vegetation & Site Design
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- Native Seed Collection
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- Avian Inventory & Monitoring
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- Plant Surveying
- ~
- Native Plant Salvage



Educational Workshops Offered

- Water Quality Testing & Monitoring
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- Native seed collection and processing
- ~
- Plant Propagation
- ~
- Riparian, Wetland, & Upland Ecology
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- Native Shrub & Tree Planting
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- Native Plant Identification & Biodiversity
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- Native Plant Demonstration Gardens