

## Project Participants

Blue Mt. Ranch– Paulina, Or

Bonnieview Ranch— Post, Or

Hermreck At The Y Ranch– Paulina, Or

Lazy BJ Ranch—Paulina, Or

Sabre Ridge Ranch—Paulina, Or

The Nature Conservancy—Post, Or

Tweedt Ranch— Post, Or

Waibel Ranches, LLC—Paulina, Or



Lazy BJ Ranch: Post Treatment Survey 2016



Tweedt Ranch; Medusahead rye Invading Rangeland

*Crooked River Weed Management Area +  
The Nature Conservancy + Local Producers*

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Sabre Ridge Ranch: Post Treatment Survey 2016

SARE Professional +  
Producer Grant Project

**Crooked River Weed Management Area  
—Principal Investigator**

541-447-9971

*Restoring Rangeland  
Quality with Soil  
Health Enhancement*



Bonnieview Ranch: Medusahead rye Invading Rangeland



Western SARE  
Project # OW16-038

2016-2018 Grant \$44,450

With our “Restoring Rangeland Quality with Soil Health Enhancement” project we defined a geographic region in which landowners have a com-



Waibel Ranches: Post Treatment Survey 2016

mon interest in controlling the future spread of medusahead rye and cheatgrass, which continue to invade the entire landscape. This project is an integrated ongoing effort in Paulina, Oregon area to address medusahead rye in sage-grouse habitat. The project’s goal to restore rangeland health and function for the greater sage-grouse coincides with restoring mule deer habitat and most importantly, increasing livestock forage production. Dryland forage is essential for this ranching community as cattle use rangeland for grazing most of the year. This collaborative effort will evaluate and demonstrate the effective use of soil enhancing bacterium for inhibiting growth on medusahead rye and cheatgrass. to aid in the development of best management guidelines for producers.

## Objectives/Performance Targets:

1. To evaluate and demonstrate the use of soil enhancement bacteria in rangeland in Crook County.
2. To restore rangeland health by reducing annual invasive grasses and increasing native grass production.
3. To inform producers in the community and land managers with a cost analysis of management options on rangeland for long-term production.

**7 Producers/2 Collaborators**  
**2872 acres bacteria/ 3 yrs. monitoring**

## Benefits and Impact to Agriculture

Medusahead rye (unpalatable to wildlife and livestock) and cheatgrass (palatable in the spring), both are prolific seed producers and will out compete native grasses to alter forage quality for livestock grazing. When landowners graze on medusahead rye, increased tooth wear shortens the life of the animal. These two invasive annual grasses have taken over and depleted valuable dryland forage production for livestock production, costing landowners thousands of dollars to



Hermreck At The Y Ranch: Medusahead rye and Cheatgrass Invading Agricultural Lands.

battle. This project will demonstrate how soil bacteria can be applied in rangeland to reduce the competitiveness of annual grasses, enhance forage production for livestock, improve range health for wildlife including

sage-grouse and mule deer, and reduce wildfire threats to landowners. When used in conjunction with herbicide or reseeding, the amount of annual grasses in an area can be reduced, saving landowners in operational costs. By using a soil bacteria, producers and land managers are essentially reducing the amount of herbicide sprayed on the land. This will help with water quality and soil health as a whole.



The Nature Conservancy: Post Treatment Survey 2016



Blue Mt. Ranch; Medusahead rye Invading Rangeland

*Crooked River Weed Management Area +  
The Nature Conservancy + Local Producers*

**Partnering For Better Rangeland**

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