

Palouse Prairie Flyer

Newsletter of the Palouse Prairie Foundation

Photo by Matthew Dolkas

Summer Solstice and Fall Equinox 2015

Respect your roots

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Upcoming Program

November 12, 2015, 7:00 pm

James Riser, Ph.D., Palouse Conservation District Botanist

Results of this Season's Survey of Palouse Prairie Remnants in Whitman County

1912 Center, Great Room, 412 East Third Street, Moscow, Idaho.

INPS White Pine Chapter and Palouse Prairie Foundation

Very little native Palouse prairie grassland is left in Whitman County, and most is on private land. The Palouse Conservation District has initiated a project to access and characterize as many of these remnants as possible. The project's goal is to determine where the remnants are and then, if possible, botanically survey them to get some idea of their condition. Come hear what was found in this first survey season, and what is planned for next summer.

Along with his overall interest in regional native plants, Dr. Riser has researched the unusual structures, strategies and population genetics of the milkweeds and orchids.

Alternative Giving Market of the Palouse

The Palouse Prairie Foundation will be a part of the Alternative Giving Market of the Palouse for the first time this year. Thirty-two Latah County non-profit organizations, representing the Arts, Animals, Civic Engagement, Environment, Health and Human Services, and Youth/ Education, will be represented at the event on December 3. Shoppers can visit and learn about the organizations, and donate money to any number of them in lieu of physical gifts to friends, family members, or anyone else.

In person: Thursday **December 3, 2015**, 4:00 to 8:00 pm at the **1912 Center** Great Room

Winter Markets: Saturdays **December 5 and 12** from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the **1912 Center**

Online: Friday **November 27** - **Saturday December 12** at agmpalouse.org

See page 3 for gift selections.

Palouse Prairie Foundation Annual Meeting and Social

Our Annual Meeting and Party will be **December 5, 2015 from 7:00 to 10:00 pm** in the Arts Room of the 1912 Center in Moscow. There will be a short presentation followed by socializing and a finger-food potluck and no-host beer and wine by donation.



The Palouse Prairie Foundation promotes preservation and restoration of the Palouse Prairie ecosystem.

Palouse Prairie Foundation
P.O. Box 8952
Moscow, ID 83843

Board of Directors election

The following Palouse Prairie Foundation members are running for the Board of Directors for 2016.

[] Eric Anderson – Eric is volunteering his time managing the weeds at Whelan Cemetery. Eric works at the UI Career Center and is a recent graduate of the UI Restoration Ecology certificate program, and is currently enrolled in the Env. Water Science certificate program.

[] Jo Bohna – Jo is interested in restoring native food plants and habitats in our western states. She believes the Palouse Prairie Foundation is an integral part of the process. Jo currently serves as treasurer for the Palouse Prairie Foundation.

[] Joan Folwell – Joan moved to the Palouse in 1968 from the prairies of Illinois. She is trained as a zoologist and is an enthusiastic, but undisciplined and naive, gardener. Joan currently serves as vice-president of the Palouse Prairie Foundation.

[] David Hall – David is a retired computer scientist. He has lived in Latah County at several locations just outside Moscow since first grade. David has been involved with the Palouse Prairie Foundation since its founding. He currently serves as president of the Palouse Prairie Foundation.

[] James Riser – James is a WSU post-graduate student with a Ph.D. in Botany. He is working as the botanist for Palouse Conservation District on the Whitman County Palouse Prairie inventory.

[] David Skinner – Dave Skinner is the fifth generation of his family to live on the Palouse. He has retired from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Plant Materials Center, where he worked with native grass seed since 1978. Dave would like to see the Palouse Prairie Foundation continue to encourage preservation of the little prairie that remains and work to restore more of the vanishing ecosystem. Dave currently serves on the board of the Palouse Prairie Foundation.

PPF members may vote until noon December 5.

US 95 Realignment Update

Submitted by David Hall, PPF Board Member

The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the proposed Moscow to Thorn Creek revision of U.S. Highway 95 was released on August 14. The FEIS again offered the Eastern, E-2, alignment as the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) preferred alternative, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) signed off on that alternative.

Government agencies and the public were given 30 days to comment on the lengthy document. The Palouse Prairie Foundation again provided comment to ITD stating its continued strong objection to the E-2 alignment.

ITD/FHWA will issue a Record of Decision (ROD). ITD's web site for the project (us95thorncreek.com) states that release of the ROD may be expected at the end of the year.

After the ROD is issued, ITD will have to apply to the Army Corps of Engineers for a Clean Water Act permit that will allow ITD to dredge and fill the wetlands that are under the Corps' jurisdiction. The Corps will issue a public notice announcing the application.

We will be watching for the Corps' decision on the Clean Water Act permit application.



Frame from Idaho Transportation Department E-2 fly-over video

PPF's Alternative Giving Market of the Palouse Gift Selections



A donation to the Palouse Prairie Foundation to **protect and enhance the habitat of the Giant Palouse Earthworm (*Driloleirus americanus*)** has been made in your honor by

Palouse Prairie Foundation
PalousePrairie.org



With less than 1% of its early extent remaining, the Palouse Prairie is one of the most endangered terrestrial ecosystems in the U.S.



A donation to the Palouse Prairie Foundation to **support community conservation project mini-grants** has been made in your honor by

Palouse Prairie Foundation
PalousePrairie.org



With less than 1% of its early extent remaining, the Palouse Prairie is one of the most endangered terrestrial ecosystems in the U.S.



A donation to the Palouse Prairie Foundation to **maintain the Palouse Prairie habitat at Whelan Cemetery** has been made in your honor by

Palouse Prairie Foundation
PalousePrairie.org



With less than 1% of its early extent remaining, the Palouse Prairie is one of the most endangered terrestrial ecosystems in the U.S.



A donation to the Palouse Prairie Foundation to **support ongoing inventorying and botanical surveying of Palouse Prairie remnants** has been made in your honor by

Palouse Prairie Foundation
PalousePrairie.org



With less than 1% of its early extent remaining, the Palouse Prairie is one of the most endangered terrestrial ecosystems in the U.S.

Miscellanea

Notecards

PPF has created a series of note cards depicting flowers and landscapes of the Palouse. These would make great gifts, or get them for yourself! They are available in packets of 5 cards and 5 envelopes for \$5. All funds directly benefit the Palouse Prairie Foundation. If you are interested in purchasing cards, please contact us. We generally bring them to meetings and presentations.

Book

"**Finding the Palouse Prairie: Images of a Vanishing Grassland**" by Matthew Dolkas can be purchased online at www.dolkas.com or www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/2768591. All proceeds from the sale of this book benefit the Palouse Prairie Foundation.

Newsletters

Copies of past issues of the Newsletter of the Palouse Prairie Foundation are available online on the PPF website at palouseprairie.org/pppubs.html

Renew your PPF membership

PPF membership dues for the calendar year are:

Student membership —	\$10.00
Regular membership —	\$20.00
Family membership —	\$35.00
Sustaining membership —	\$50.00
Patron membership —	\$100.00
Lifetime membership —	\$250.00
Other, or additional donation —	\$_____

Name _____
Street/P.O. Box _____
City, State, ZIP _____
E-mail _____

The Palouse Prairie Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.