



JUNE, 2014

## A Hearty Thank you to the Table Rock Hike Leaders and Assistants...Especially Kathy!



**The Table Rocks** are iconic landmarks of local natural and cultural history in the Rogue Valley. This spring 15 amazing hike leaders and 13 wonderful hike assistants shared their knowledge and time with over 170 hikers as part of The Nature Conservancy's and Bureau of Land Management's annual weekend hike series. Topics on the 14 hikes included wildflowers, bees, birds, oaks, Native American traditional knowledge, stars, geology and climate change. After 28 years, this hike series still hasn't lost its relevance and value, thanks to the support of talented volunteers like botanist Barbara Mumblo who has led 18 hikes! But it was volunteer Kathy Kudo who really made this year "rock" with her detailed behind-the-scenes coordination, outreach and new ideas. From

organizing a pre-season training for leaders and assistants, creating hike kits, getting the word out through posters and websites, and giving leaders a friendly reminder email or call, Kathy ensured that the season was enjoyable and safe for everyone. Thank you all! Photo: Molly Morison

## Yellow Starthistle Wrangling

Saturday, June 28, 8:30 a.m. to noon  
The Table Rocks Preserve, Family Friendly



Rising dramatically 800 feet above the Rogue River Valley, the **Table Rocks** are remnants of lava flows that filled the canyons of an ancient, meandering Rogue River over 7 million years ago. Atop these mesas are a mosaic of grassy mounds, stony flats and vernal, or seasonal, ponds. This beautiful area is threatened by an invasive plant known as yellow starthistle, a noxious weed that diminishes native plant and animal diversity.

Help us to remove this invasive species from the top of Upper Table Rock (12 person limit for carpool to the top).

Photo: Molly Morison

[» Email Molly to Attend](#)

## Trouble with Teasel

Saturday, July 12, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Popcorn Swale Preserve, Family Friendly - Drop in Anytime



The **Popcorn Swale Preserve** is one of the Umpqua Valley's best remaining wet prairie sites. Located just north of Roseburg, this preserve is home to one of the few remaining populations of the endangered rough popcorn flower and many other native wildflowers, grasses and sedges.

Help The Nature Conservancy continue with its successful removal of teasel, an invasive weed that takes over the prairie and crowds out native plants.

Photo: Molly Morison

[» Email Molly to Attend](#)

## Fences, Wetlands and Wildlife Weekend

Saturday-Sunday, August 9-10  
Sycan Marsh Preserve



The **Sycan Marsh Preserve** is a vast, verdant wetland in the upper reaches of the Klamath Basin. It is a key site for wetland research, restoration, and is home to thousands of nesting and migrating birds, threatened fish and newly discovered aquatic creatures.

Join us to help protect this natural treasure by removing fences and rebuilding spring enclosures (knee boots or hip waders are needed).

In a cooperative agreement with ZX Ranch, The Nature Conservancy is working to restore the natural water flows and wildlife habitat, while compatible grazing and

forestry practices are being tested. The goal is a model of landscape restoration that both revitalizes wetlands for wildlife and helps to sustain the local economy.

**NOTE:** This is an overnight work party. We typically leave late afternoon on Friday, end work at about noon on Sunday, and return to Medford by 5pm-ish. Bring your sleeping bag and we'll provide the food and fun. Limited to 12 people. Volunteers will have the option of camping or sleeping in a screened porch. You'll have access to a kitchen and bathroom/shower facilities. All the details will be sent when you sign up. If you have any questions [email Molly](#) or call: 541-770-7933 Ext. 2#

Photo: Teresa Fernandez

[» Email Molly to Attend](#)

## VOLUNTEER CLASSIFIEDS

**You can help nature with your knowledge and skills.** Current opportunities are listed:

### FOREST CREW ASSISTANTS, JUNE-SEPTEMBER

Support The Nature Conservancy's **Forest Initiative** and help conduct a study of the fire regimes, structure, and composition of historical forests in the Illinois and Applegate watersheds in southwest Oregon. Volunteers are needed to support the Forest Crew with field data collection including tree measurements and habitat classifications. The work requires good physical fitness and the ability to commit to a minimum of five 10 hour days between June and September. Volunteers will gain skills and knowledge in forest ecology and have the opportunity to visit unique and beautiful forest landscapes.

### DONATION SOLICITATION VOLUNTEER

Our volunteers work hard at the preserves and within the office throughout the year; they appreciate delicious snacks to keep them fueled, plus a little something extra every now and then! Help support our volunteer program by soliciting donations of food and gift items from local businesses and individuals. Fundraising experience is helpful but not necessary. Volunteers should enjoy community outreach and be able to clearly communicate with people about The Nature Conservancy's mission. Hours are flexible.

### THURSDAY CREW

The Thursday Crew meets every week at our local preserves to help with current projects including weed removal, rare species monitoring, fencing and more. New faces are always welcome - join us!.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Let's Pull Together** is a noxious weed eradication event hosted by local community weed partners. Join us for a hands-on experience to promote awareness of weeds and how they damage our environment and native plant communities. This event will inspire volunteers to roll up their sleeves and pull weeds that are invading some of the Rogue Valley's special places. Participants will then meet up for a special volunteer "weed warrior" appreciation event. Each weed warrior will earn a special event t-shirt and raffle prizes, enjoy a free picnic, and meet other people who are passionate about making a difference!

È Saturday, June 7th, **Let's Pull Together**, Josephine Co. Tom Pearce Park, Grants Pass, Oregon

È Saturday, June 21st, **Let's Pull Together**, Josephine County, Coyote Trails' Nature Center, Medford, Oregon