OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2026 Plant Conservation Symposium - Agenda

Session	Time	Speaker	Title
Registration Opens	8:00 AM		
Welcome	8:45 AM		
Plenary talk	**9:00 AM**	**David Thomson**	**Missing the forest for the trees**
Session 1 The Native Seed Pipeline: Growing What Restoration Needs	9:45 AM	Alexis Larsen	From supply chain to supply network: Strengthening native seed systems through partnerships
	10:00 AM	Kathryn Prive & Mara Friddle	Implementing the Oregon Native Seed Strategy: Building regional capacity for climate-ready restoration
	10:15 AM	Matt Shinderman	Phased native seed amplification in the high desert: A case study in private-public partnerships
	10:30 AM	15-min Bio Break	
Session 2 Recovering Oregon's Listed Plants: Case Studies from the Field	10:45 AM	Ann Kercher	Managing *Plagiobothrys hirtus* in the I-5 corridor
	11:00 AM	Laura Estrada	An exploration into introducing silvery phacelia to Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area
	11:15 AM	Teresa Bird	A holistic approach to western lily restoration (integrating ITEK and western science)
	11:30 AM	Denise Giles & Anna Merzenich	Success in restoration of Kincaid's lupine - increasing native diversity and lupine cover through restoration
	11:45 AM	Susan Kephart	Resolving and protecting the status of the rare *Silene douglasii* var. *oraria*, Cascade Head catchfly, based on new data
	12:00 PM	1-hr lunch	
Plenary talk	**1:00 PM**	**Tom Kaye**	**Looking up, down, backward, and forward: Lessons learned and unanswered questions in western Oregon grassland restoration**
Session 3 Restoration at Landscape Scale: Prioritizing, Planning, Implementing	1:45 PM	Hilary Doulos	Lower Deschutes rangeland restoration
	2:00 PM	Andy Neill	Wood chips, hidden seeds, and other surprises: Lessons we have learned so you won't have to
	2:15 PM	Lauren Berger	Ecological legacies shape floral community response to high severity wildfire across managed forests
	2:30 PM	TBD	TBD

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	2:45 PM	15-min Bio Break	
Session 4 Tools for Conservation and Management	3:00 PM	Linda Hardison	The role of plant diversity data in informing management and conservation efforts
	3:15 PM	Roxy Olsson	The future is now: Why seed banks have never been so important
	3:30 PM	Rory O'Connor	Rangeland seeding suitability soil map layer for management planning
	3:45 PM	Tyson Wepprich & Jason Reinhardt	Opportunities for monitoring native and nonnative plants in forestlands using Forest Inventory and Analysis plots
Special Presentation	4:00 PM	Barbara Ertter	The west's vanishing wildflowers
Wrap Up	4:30 PM		