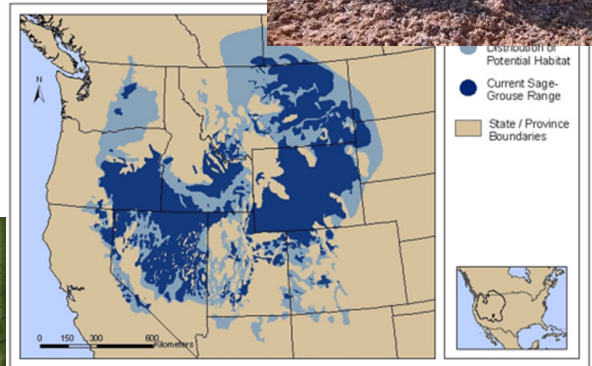


2016 SAGEBRUSH PROGRAM UPDATE

The Sagebrush program at Coyote Ridge is considered part of the Sustainability in Prisons Project (SPP). SPP is a partnership founded by DOC and Evergreen and includes many other partners such as Institute of Applied Ecology (IAE) in this case. In 2015 CRCC grew 20,000 Sagebrush plants for Bureau of Land Management (BLM) out of Wenatchee WA. This project is to help repopulate Greater Sage Grouse in the Columbia Basin Region.



Its going to be a busy year for our Sagebrush crew. This year we plan on increasing our plant production to 40,000 plants and plant 2 different species. Throughout the growing season the crew will attend workshops to learn proper techniques on prepping conetainers, mixing soils, sowing seeds, provide daily care and transplanting plants.

In early April we started filling conetainers with a soil mix of 74% peat, 24% vermiculite, 1% native soil, and 1% compost to grow the sagebrush in.

On April 28th the crew had their first educational workshop. Ms. Boyter from BLM gave an amazing Lecture on a program called Seeds for Success which is a national native seed collection program led by BLM which partners with a variety of federal agencies and non-federal organizations. Their mission is to collect wild seed for research conservation and restoration and were CRCC sagebrush program fits in to the picture. It also gave the crew insight on why seed collection is important to our region, how to collect seed, and the different generations of seeds. After Ms. Boyter presentation we went out the Hoop House for a hands on demonstration taught by Ms. Graber. The crew learned a new planting technique using green seeders and ended the day planting over 75 trays of conetainers. (7350 sagebrush plants)

