

## August: Oregon Nature News

### STORIES NEAR YOU



© Brady Holden. Oregon Fire Program Manager, Katie Sauerbrey, discusses strategy during the Bootleg Fire.

#### Watch The Film: Through The Fire

In summer of 2021, the Bootleg Fire burned across more than 413,000 acres of southern Oregon, making it the third largest wildfire in Oregon history. Nearly 15,000 of those acres were on The Nature Conservancy's Sycan Marsh Preserve. For two decades, this location has been used for extensive research about fire behavior and forest management. When the Bootleg Fire came to Sycan Marsh, it provided an unprecedented opportunity to examine years worth of work to better understand the results of various proactive tactics. In this newly produced short film, you'll visit Sycan Marsh before, during and after the Bootleg Fire and learn from the many partners, including The Nature Conservancy, The Klamath Tribes, and the U.S. Forest Service, who work to protect and restore this special place.

[Watch the film.](#)



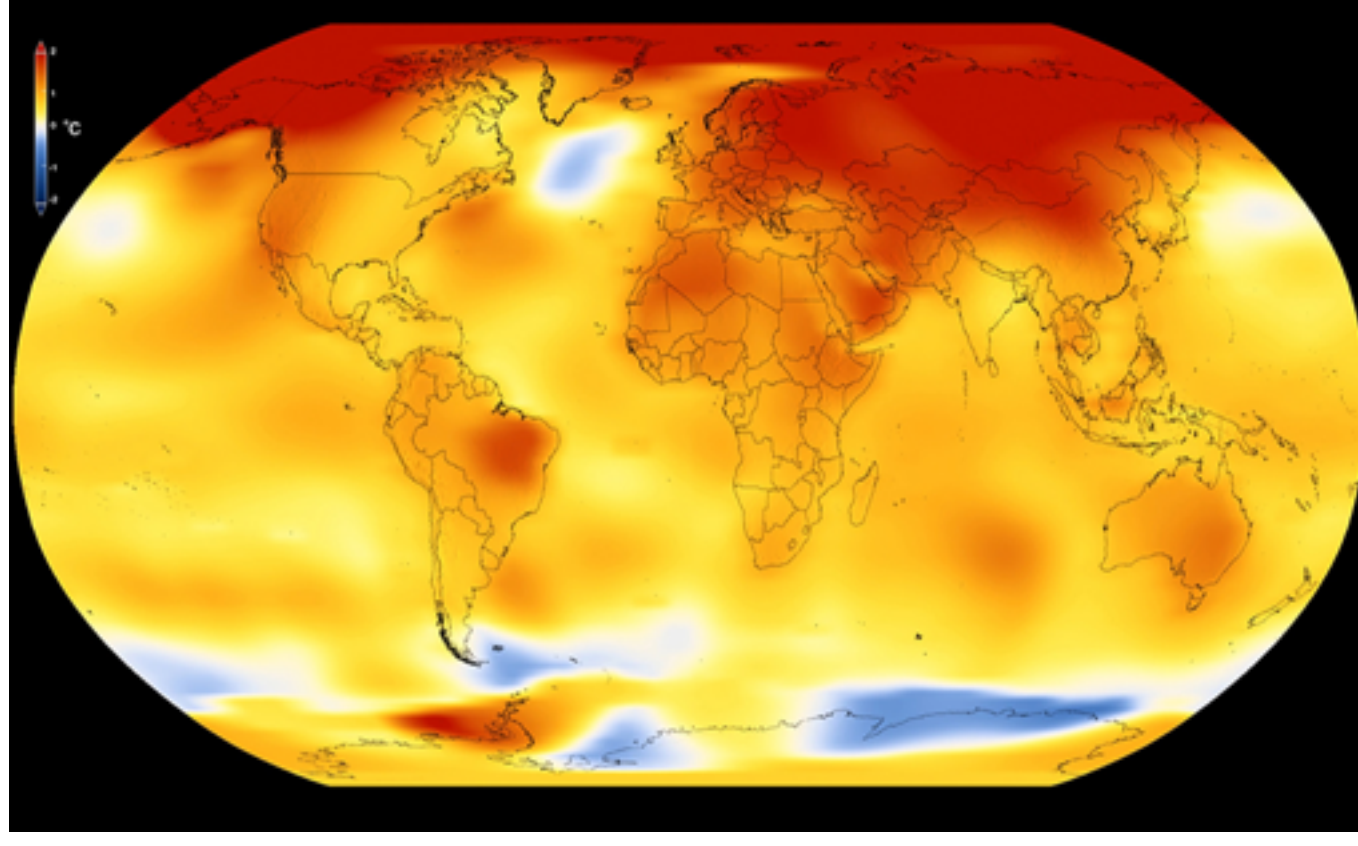
© Carla Axtman. Early summer wildflowers on the Zumwalt Prairie, with the Wallowa Mountains in the distance.

#### A Stunning Summer at Zumwalt Prairie

Northeastern Oregon's Zumwalt Prairie is home to an abundance of wildlife and also a model working landscape. Here, TNC works with its many neighbors to maintain the health of the prairie while also supporting sustainable grazing and the local economy. It is also the sort of place where the beauty can sometimes stop you in your tracks. This summer, there has been an especially vibrant display of wildflowers, as captured in this recent image from photographer Carla Axtman. "Zumwalt Prairie is one of those special Oregon places that's a joy to experience. In the early summer it was bursting with wildflowers, begging to be photographed," Carla said. "I thought it my duty as an Oregon artist to oblige."

[Learn more about the Zumwalt Prairie Preserve.](#)

### STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



© TNC

#### A Historic Opportunity to Address the Climate Crisis

After months of negotiation, Congress is now on the line to pass the single biggest investment to tackle the climate crisis in U.S. history, by far. And we need to make sure it gets across the finish line.

We urge you to send your message to your Senators and Representative now. Call on your elected leaders to support bold funding and policies we need to tackle the climate crisis ASAP.

Now more than ever, we need to put real, concrete action behind U.S. promises to combat the climate crisis.

[Tell Congress: Act Now on Climate](#)



#### The Global Photo Contest is Back!

We're thrilled to announce that the 2022 Global Photo Contest is underway! Now through August 31, 2022, enter your best images for a chance to win some incredible prizes!

This year's categories are Wildlife, People and Nature, Water, Plants and Fungi, Landscape, and Climate.

No professional experience required—every moment captured in nature is special.

[Enter Your Nature Photo Today](#)



#### Restoration Through Tradition in Hawai'i

For a Native Hawaiian scientist, the key to restoring coral is in restoring culture. Working with elders, he's reviving a tradition that uses taro farms and fish ponds to filter water throughout the ecosystem while sustainably growing healthy food.

[Coral Reef Protection Starts on Mountain Ridges](#)



#### Shifting the Tide

A culture of strict gender roles is slowly shifting in the Solomon Islands, where women for the first time have joined the ranks as conservation rangers. The women are collecting data to protect endangered sea turtles, breaking preconceptions one patrol at a time.

[How Rangers Are Protecting Leatherback Sea Turtles](#)



#### Gabon Is Leading the Way

Gabon, determined to protecting 30% of its natural habitats by 2030, is emerging as a conservation leader in Africa and globally. TNC has partnered in Gabon for 9 years and hopes to be a catalyst for durable conservation that benefits people locally.

[Dwarf Crocodiles, Rare Forest Elephants, and Global Ambition](#)

### YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN



#### Creating More Sustainable Seaweed Farms in Zanzibar

Seaweed extracts are found in many household items—everything from ice cream to toothpaste. In Tanzania, where seaweed farming employs more than 25,000 people, most of whom are women, TNC is collaborating with partners to train seaweed farmers on best management practices that will protect the environment while increasing productivity.

[Watch the Video](#)



#### Putting Communities at the Heart of Nature Protection

"Today, the story is not about protecting nature from people, it's about protecting nature for people, and empowering communities who protect nature most effectively." TNC Africa Managing Director Ademola Ajagbe shared his thoughts as conservationists gathered for the first Africa Protected Areas Congress.

[Read The Article](#)

### PHOTO OF THE MONTH



**FLUTTER SPEED MEETS SHUTTER SPEED** Monarch butterflies fill the air around on the mountaintops in the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Michoacán, Mexico. © Luz Angela Velazquez /TNC Photo Contest 2021

The migratory monarch butterfly, a subspecies of the monarch butterfly, was recently added to the IUCN's Red List as an endangered species, due to pressures from habitat loss and climate change.

There are only 11-14 mountaintops left in Mexico where these butterflies can find a safe haven to wait out the harsh winters in temperate climates.

[How We're Working to Protect the Monarch Butterfly](#)

### TRENDING NEWS

#### Before You Fire Up the Grill, an Environmental Scientist Wants You To Consider These 6 Eco-Friendly Tips

Joe Fargione, TNC Science Director for North America, shares tips on your grill set-up, ash disposal and meal planning so you can reduce your impact on the environment—but not on flavor.

[Find Out the Tips in \*Wells+Good\*](#)

### HAPPENING NOW



#### Already Planning Some Online Shopping?

**Reminder:** When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](#), AmazonSmile donates to The Nature Conservancy.

[Learn More](#)



#### Take Action With Us

We all need to work together to solve the climate and biodiversity crises. Get involved by speaking up, volunteering and more.

[How You Can Act Today](#)

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