

Zumwalt Prairie Preserve – Public Access Information

Welcome to the Zumwalt Prairie Preserve! The Preserve encompasses 33,000 acres with elevations ranging from 2,000 feet in the lower canyons to 5,500 feet at the top of Harsin butte. It is part of the largest remaining intact Pacific Northwest bunchgrass prairie in North America. Our activities include collaborative research projects, controlled fires, managed grazing and wildlife habitat enhancement, and various public uses. You are welcome to enjoy beautiful views of the prairie and canyons through the hiking trails and the driving route listed below.

Access to the hiking trails is day use, by foot only. Trail routes are lightly marked with blue topped wooden posts/rock jacks. Please do not collect anything from the Preserve, and do not disturb markers or monuments placed for management and research purposes. The Preserve is managed as part of a working landscape where activities including elk hunting (late August-December) and cattle grazing occur near the trails. Livestock grazing schedules are different year to year and cattle may be in pastures where you are hiking. Please do not disturb animals. Check the information kiosk at the Duckett barn (see map) for current information about Preserve activities around trails. Dogs, horses and bicycles are permitted on open public roads within the Preserve, but not on the hiking trails or closed private roads.

Directions to the Zumwalt Prairie Preserve (from Enterprise, OR): Take Hwy 82 towards Joseph approximately 3 miles. Turn left on Crow Creek Road. Go 5 miles and turn right on Zumwalt / Buckhorn Road. After approximately 14 miles, you will find yourself at the junction of Zumwalt / Buckhorn Road (697 Road) and Duckett Road (716 Road). Continue on Duckett Road 1.5 mile to the info kiosk at the Duckett barn.

Note: if you search for directions to Zumwalt Prairie from Enterprise or Joseph on web-based map applications, they will usually give directions via the Old Imnaha Road (676 Road). This route is <u>not</u> suitable for low-clearance passenger or 2WD vehicles.

➤ Horned Lark Trail – 1.9 mile loop

Stay on Zumwalt/Buckhorn Rd. for another 3.1 miles. The trailhead is on the west side of the road and is marked with a Trailhead sign. Park on the shoulder of the road. This trail begins on the divide between the Grande Ronde and Imnaha river basins, and loops through the Pine creek riparian area and diverse native prairie.

> Patti's Trail -- 2.3 mile loop

Turn right on Duckett Rd. and go 1.4 miles to the Duckett Barn. Park in the lot at the Information Kiosk. The trailhead is marked with a trailhead sign north of the road. This trail leads visitors into the headwaters of Camp creek across a variety of terrain including old homesteader's fields and native prairie.

> Harsin Butte Trail -- 0.8 mile in-and-out

Turn right on Duckett Rd. and go 3.1 miles until you reach a road junction at the top of the hill. At the junction take a right on the 676 Road and proceed 1/4 mile; park near the trailhead sign, taking care to not block the road. This trail gains about 700 feet in elevation and skirts a small stand of pine trees. It is a bit of a scramble, but the spectacular views are worth the effort!

> Canyon Vista Trail -- 1.8 mile in-and-out

Turn right on Duckett Rd. and go 3.1 miles until you reach the junction with the 676 Road at the top of the hill. At the junction, turn left and continue 1.8 miles down the 676 Road. Park near the Trailhead sign at the green metal gate on your right. This trail begins in a wooded draw near the head of Trail Creek, and opens onto beautiful canyon vistas.

> Prairie to Canyon Driving Tour -- about 10 road miles within the Preserve

Turn right on Duckett Road. Continue past the Duckett barn and turn left at the junction with the 676 Road at the top of the hill. The 676 Road follows Trail Creek into the canyons and continues to the Little Sheep Creek Road near the town of Imnaha. Higher clearance vehicles with good tires are strongly recommended for this route. The Driving Tour passes through a 3,000 foot elevation difference. It will take about 1 hour of driving time to cover the 10 miles.

The Nature Conservancy's office in Enterprise can be reached at (541) 426-3458.

Please don't block gates or roads, and leave gates as you find them!

