

Great Basin Sagebrush Rangelands

Research to Prevent **Catastrophic Wildfires**



Sagebrush rangelands in the Great Basin are deteriorating due to the **encroachment** of native pinyon and juniper trees and the **invasion** of exotic plants, like **cheatgrass**. As trees move into new areas and become denser, wildfires become less frequent but more intense. When exotic grasses replace native bunchgrasses and sagebrush, fires become more frequent. **Wildfires** affect air and water quality, economic activities on the landscape, wildlife, private property and much more.

Sagebrush Steppe Treatment Evaluation Project (SageSTEP) is a long-term research project funded by the federal government involving organizations in six states, working together to evaluate **restoration treatments** on these rangelands, including sagebrush mowing, tree mulching using a Bullhog™, prescribed burning and herbicide use. SageSTEP seeks to provide information that will help people manage for healthy rangelands and reduce catastrophic wildfires.



www.sagestep.org