



# RINKER ROCK CREEK RANCH

*A sustainable rangeland research and education facility in the heart of Idaho where ranching, recreation and conservation intersect.*




## THE RANCH

Rinker Rock Creek Ranch is located in the Wood River Valley of central Idaho. The ranch encompasses about 20,000 acres in the Rock Creek watershed, including 10,400 acres of deeded meadows and rangeland surrounded by Bureau of Land Management and state grazing allotments. The property has supported ranching families who have lived and worked on Idaho's rangelands for over a hundred years. It is home to an abundance of wildlife such as: greater sage-grouse, pygmy rabbits, song birds, golden eagles and other raptors, pronghorn, badger, beaver, elk and moose.



## THE VISION

In 2014, Harry and Diane Rinker sold Rock Creek Ranch to the Wood River Land Trust (WRLT) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) at a generous price to support conservation. WRLT and TNC worked with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to secure long-term protections of the ranch's grasslands and wildlife habitat.



The University of Idaho later joined as a third partner to expand research, education, and public outreach. In 2019, U of I acquired Rinker Rock Creek Ranch. It is jointly managed by the College of Natural Resources, the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and reports to an advisory committee that ensures a collaborative approach to landscape-scale conservation and sustainable ranching practices.



# THE FUTURE

While providing for public access, the ranch also serves as an outdoor laboratory. Discoveries made here will help land managers make informed decisions in addressing the significant challenges facing Western rangelands.

The ranch is host to riparian and stream restoration projects, water quality enhancements, grazing cattle, vegetation and fire studies and outdoor education programs. Students also have the opportunity to gain professional development on site through seasonal internships.

# AND YOU

Rinker Rock Creek Ranch supports U of I's land-grant mission to deliver knowledge and research to the people of Idaho. In a state classified as 54% rangeland, it is vital for Idahoans to understand the ecology and management of these lands. To experience the ranch for yourself, attend one of the many workshops or enjoy recreational activities such as hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, or cross-country skiing. Visit [uidaho.edu/rinkerrockcreek](http://uidaho.edu/rinkerrockcreek) for directions and upcoming events.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Wood River Land Trust
- The Nature Conservancy
- Idaho Cattle Association
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Central Idaho Rangeland Network
- Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
- Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission
- Idaho Department of Fish and Game
- Idaho Office of Species Conservation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Trout Unlimited
- Bureau of Land Management

## USER GUIDELINES

- No bathroom facilities or potable water on-site
- Park in existing pullouts, do not drive over grass
- Leave gates as found
- No overnight camping and no fires permitted
- Hunting is permitted with access by foot and on designated motorized roads
- Roads are not maintained in winter and motorized access is prohibited

# LEARN MORE AT

[www.uidaho.edu/rinkerrockcreek](http://www.uidaho.edu/rinkerrockcreek)

