

THE SAGE GROUSE

Historically, Centrocercus, or the Sage grouse, numbered more than 16 million along the sagebrush steppes in 11 western states and Canada.

Currently there are somewhere between 200,000 and 500,000 believed to live in the U.S. today, none located currently at Fly Ranch. As the sagehen holds significant value to the indiginous peoples of the area, COOPx would serve as a larger initiative in exploring the restoration of landfowl to the area.

*The design team wishes to acknowledge that this proposal is sited upon the ancestral, traditional and contemporary lands of the Northern Paiute peoples.

NATURAL PESTICIDE

SECURITY

The average adult egg-laying hen can eat around nine pound of food per month. If you limit layer rations, hens can biorecycle vegetable matter and insects at an alarming rate: Four hens can power through more than 400 pounds of food waste in a year!

For additional security, a prototype for an outside pen has

attaches to the access door of the COOPx and provides

sufficient area for the chickens to roam, while being

been included. This metal, fenced in chicken run,

protected from preditory animals.

It is noteworthy to mention that chickens love grasshoppers, slugs, snails and beetles. They also eat European mantis, a non native species on site that is located 'everywhere.' Another invasive species,

cheatgrass, can be managed by grazing fowl such as the chicken.

YOUTH EDUCATION

COOPx can serve as a dynamic educational tool for area schools. Classroom visits help local youth learn about the amazing chicken: the natural processes of their eating and fertilizing and the incredible, edible egg!

For schools eager to be more engaged, educational workshops could be provided engaging local youth as summer 'hen helpers' tending the hens while gaining new skills and responsibilities.

COOPx is a great way to teach youth about the environment and how to live in an

eco-friendly way.

REGENERATION

The closed loop cycle of the chicken is exemplary in demonstrating the regeneration and re-composition of the land for zero waste.

While harmful insects and weeds become food for the chickens, the waste from the chickens becomes fertilizer for the soil. Utilizing the mobility of the units, the surrounding landscape can be gently fertilized and aerated naturally by chickens.

Zone identified for locating COOPx mobile hen houses

LIFECYCLE

To inhabit the land is to become one with the land. We are a part of the biodiversity that is the land. Of note is the omission in the materials provided within the "Fly Ranch Species List" – the *Homo sapiens*. As stewards, we are responsible for the remediation and the viability of the land. The tending to the chickens is a daily chore, one that reflects the passing of time, the passing of seasons. Birth, life, and death, and all the joys and lessons that come with it.

FOOD

Through the natural production of eggs, these chickens provide on-site organic and regenerative practices in food production. With the COOPx, local food scraps can be used to offset the diet of the chickens, naturally decomposing food waste for the benefit of creating fresh new food: eggs!

ECONOMIC VIABILITY

COOPx provides exciting economic and educational opportunities. Made available to surrounding community members, the collecting of eggs can be made into a viable small business venture for selling the eggs or used in local baked goods. Well-fed hens can lay up to 250 eggs per year. On average, organic eggs cost \$5 per dozen, well above the conventional egg prices. For every chicken producing at COOPx, you can expect over \$100 in revenue annually. Scaling this up to nearly 40 chickens per COOPx and this becomes a lucrative side-job.

area identified as having "severe" soil quality

