

Native Plant Seed Collection and Nursery Stock Production for use in Restoration

2005 Accomplishments

This project started in 2004 to obtain native plant material from local genetic stock on the Chugach National Forest for spot revegetation of slow to regenerate locations in burned areas, rehabilitation of areas where exotic plant species have been removed, and other areas where planting of native plant species is called for to achieve revegetation objectives. The Alaska Plant Materials Center (Palmer, Alaska) has been collecting and processing the plant materials (mostly seeds) under a Sikes Act procurement extending through 9/30/2006. The focus of the seed collection is on early successional pioneers, primarily within the Kenai Peninsula portion of the Chugach National Forest.

In 2005, 5 accessions of seed were collected but not cleaned, so weights on these collections are not yet available. The largest collections this year are of bluejoint reedgrass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*) and Sitka willow (*Salix sitchensis*), while small amounts of Mertens' sedge (*Carex mertensii*), Beauverd spiraea (*Spiraea beauverdiana*), and chocolate lily (*Fritillaria camschatcensis*) were collected.

The most extensive collections of this project will take place in 2006 to include additional early successional pioneers such as: Sitka alder (*Alnus crispa* ssp. *sinuata*), paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*), tall fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*), quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), and Scouler's willow (*Salix scouleriana*).



Dean Davidson harvesting bluejoint reedgrass seeds near Silvertip on the Kenai Peninsula, Chugach National Forest.

Year Awarded: initial award in 2004.

Projected Completion: 2006.

Report Number: 2 of 3.

Expenditures:

- FY04 funding: \$28,000, expenditures \$5,000; \$23,000 remaining.
- FY05 funding: \$19,000, expenditures \$4,000; \$15,000 remaining.
- Total funding \$47,000, total expenditures to date \$9,000 total remaining funds \$38,000.

Partners/Contractors/Coop: Alaska Plant Materials Center (State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Agriculture).

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Seed stripper set-up collecting Lyngbye's sedge (*Carex lyngbyei*) on the Fox River Flats near Homer, Alaska.



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