

# Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Santa Rosa Ranger District, Winnemucca

## 2005 Interim Accomplishment Report

The Santa Rosa district was funded to establish a native and local seed bank. The native seed bank will supply the district with affordable, locally adapted seed and will be available through our partners at Lucky Peak Nursery on the Boise National Forest. The district uses seed for areas affected by fire and herbicide application.

The Santa Rosa District has a history of frequent, severe wildfires. Lands surrounding this district are typically low elevation rangelands that are heavily infested with cheatgrass, noxious weeds, and other annuals. Fires quickly spread from these volatile fuels onto Forest lands.

Invasive species on the Santa Rosa range and surrounding lands include Scotch thistle, Canada thistle, cheatgrass, medusa head, short white-top, musk thistle, Russian knapweed and tall white-top. Species replacement is a concern after application of herbicide and biological control methods. Restoration of native species is an important part of an integrated weed control program.

The following grasses and forbs were collected in the summer and sown by Lucky Peak Nursery in the fall of 2005:

- Needle-and-thread grass (*Hesperostipa comata*)
- Squirrel tail grass (*Elymus elymoides*)
- Indian rice grass (*Achnatherum hymenoides*)
- Great basin wildrye (*Leymus cinereus*)
- Blue bunch wheat grass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*)
- Western wheatgrass (*Agropyron smithii*)
- Desert globemallow (*Sphaeralcea* spp.)
- Sulfur buckwheat (*Eriogonum umbellatum*)

The need for a native seed bank grows larger every year. Restoring and maintaining native plant communities is very important to support many other resources.

We look forward to restoring natives back into the landscape.

For more information about the Native Plants Program on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, email Joanne Baggs, Forest Botanist, at [jbaggs@fs.fed.us](mailto:jbaggs@fs.fed.us).



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Table Mountain, Santa Rosa Ranger District



One of the native seed collection sites



North Road Fire, 12,000 acres, 2005