Sawtooth National Forest Native Plant Program for Restoration and Rehabilitation

2007 Accomplishments

The Sawtooth Forest Plan (revised 2003) provides solid direction for using native plant materials. In 2005, the Sawtooth NF contracted with Idaho Conservation Data Center (Idaho CDC) to begin preliminary delineation of seed zones, elevational bands, and collection protocols.

With the help of the Native Plant Materials funding, the Sawtooth National Forest was able to expand the original contract with Idaho CDC for seed and plant material collection and Lucky Peak Nursery for seed cleaning, storage and increase. Additionally, the Forest has a participating special use agreement with Conservation Seeding and Restoration in which 10 percent of all certified seed they collect on the Forest is given to the Native Plant Program.

To date, the Idaho CDC has collected over 400 lbs of native seed from 20 species. Collecting will continue over one more growing season and Idaho CDC will provide at least 150 lbs of native seed and plant materials. CSR, Inc. has collected and provided the Sawtooth NF over 15 lbs of bitterbrush and sticky geranium seed for increase.

Lucky Peak Nursery has cleaned and stored all materials collected. In 2006, 1 acre of Bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho Fescue and Sulfur buckwheat was planted for seed increase. Although seed production did not occur in 2007, the NFN3 funding allowed for the planted beds to be maintained and seed production for all 3 species is anticipated in 2008.



Bluebunch wheatgrass collected in 2006 and planted at Lucky Peak Nursery. No seed production in the first year (2007).



At each seed collection site, Idaho CDC collects environmental relations and associated species data on a 0.1 acre plot using standard ecology methods.

Year Awarded: 2006

Project completion: ongoing -2008

Report number: 2 of 3

Expenditures:

FY06 funding: \$47,490, contract: \$35,000 for collection for 3 collecting seasons; \$10,000 for seed cleaning, storage and planting acres for seed increase at Lucky Peak Nursery

Partners/Contractors/Coop:

Idaho Conservation Data Center Conservation Seeding and Restoration Lucky Peak Nursery

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