

Stool Bed Production of Native Shrubs to Meet Region-wide Needs for Rooted Cuttings

2008 Accomplishments

This is the second year of the USFS Coeur d'Alene Nursery's Stool Bed Project that will produce vegetative material for the propagation of core native shrub species including willow, dogwood, snowberry, and kinnikinnick. This was the first year that cuttings were collected from the stool bed. The stool bed produced approximately 5000 rooted cuttings for planting in restoration projects on the Flathead National Forest. Rooted cuttings were also produced for the Bitterroot National Forest.

The Flathead NF collected snowberry and kinnikinnick species this past spring for rooting and placement in the stooling beds. The cuttings were collected from the major watersheds on the Flathead and grouped by elevation zones where anticipated native shrub plantings will be needed in future restoration work. The cuttings were rooted and grown during the spring and summer months in the greenhouse complex at the nursery and transplanted to the stooling beds in September of this year. Each species was planted in row plots with 20-30 individuals representing each elevation band and watershed. The snowberry plants were spaced 2' on center and the kinnikinnick 1' on center to allow room for vigorous growth and abundant shoot production.

The Bitterroot and Idaho Panhandle NFs will be collecting these species this coming FY for inclusion in the project.



Figure 1. Rooted snowberry planted in Fall 2008



Figure 2. Stool beds of dogwood and willow species at the Coeur d'Alene Nursery

Year awarded: Initial award in 2007

Project completion: 2011

Report number: 2

Expenditures (through Sept. 2008)

- FY07 funding: \$80,000
- FY08 expenditure:
 - \$19,702.65 for maintaining existing plots of willow and dogwood and for site preparation, layout, and planting of 660 snowberry rooted cuttings and 800 kinnikinnick rooted cuttings.
- Remaining funds: \$60,297.35

Partners/Contractors/Coop: Flathead NF, Bitterroot NF, Idaho Panhandle NF

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