

USFS Region One WCF Native Plant Materials Seed Cache, Coeur d'Alene Nursery

2008 Accomplishments

The WCF native plant materials seed cache is maintained at the Coeur d'Alene Nursery (Idaho Panhandle National Forest) and provides the Forests/Grasslands in Region One with plant materials suitable for revegetation and restoration purposes following fire or other disturbances on National Forest System lands. The materials are acquired from various sources, primarily commercial growers, and are stored at the nursery until needed. Seed lots are tested for germination, purity and weed seed content including noxious weed species. Seed has to meet **Blue Tag Certified standards** before it will be included in the cache. Seed lots that do not meet the established standards are not purchased from suppliers. The seed is tested at AOSA certified state labs.

The cache was started in 2003. Seed has been purchased to replenish the bank as inventory becomes depleted. In the fall of 2007 availability of plant materials was limited due to high demand from fires. Seed prices reflected the scarce availability of the species we were interested in so the decision was made to wait until the harvest season of 2008 before we replenished the cache. We manage the cache to provide the best seed available at the cheapest price possible.

Purchases in FY 2009 will include mountain brome, bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue and slender wheatgrass.



Figure 1. Idaho fescue plot at the CDA Nursery



Fig 2. Grass seed at the CDA Nursery.

Year Awarded: Initial Award in 2008

Project completion: on going

Report number: 1

Expenditures (through Sept. 2008)

- FY08 funding: \$40,000
- FY08 expenditure:
 - \$0.00. No money was spent in FY 2008 to purchase grass seed for the WCF cache. Contract purchase of selected material will be implemented in the first part of FY 2009. Approximately 8000 pounds of seed will be purchased depending on price and availability.
- Remaining funds: \$40,000.00

Partners/Contractors/Coop: All Forests/Grasslands in Region One

Contact person & phone number:
Aram Eramian 208-765-7372



Coeur d'Alene Nursery
Idaho Panhandle National Forest
3600 Nursery Road
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815