

Native Grass Seed Collection and Propagation for Habitat Restoration in Idaho

FY2008 Accomplishments

The Boise National Forest continues to develop and expand its Native Plant Materials Program with the goal of providing locally collected, ecologically appropriate native plant materials for the restoration and rehabilitation needs of the Forest and its partners.

Original Proposal: Funding was received in FY07 for native grass seed collection within 3 watersheds (Boise, Salmon, and Payette), subsequent processing and seed increase (1 acre). This was originally to be a 4 year project, with the intent of seed being ready to outplant in 2010.

Results: 2007 was a year of extreme drought, heat and large scale wildfires across these watersheds. Although 62 pounds of raw seed (representing 22 species of grasses and forbs) was collected that summer, the resulting amount of seed after cleaning and processing was not enough to use in the seed increase program. Much of the seed was not filled or had suffered insect damage.

Funding intended for seed increase of the 2007 collection, was used for expenses of grass and forb seed increase from prior year collections, seed cleaning, testing and storage, and propagation of seedlings for other Forest restoration projects.

All viable seed from the 2007 collection has been banked at the Lucky Peak Nursery. It will be combined with seed collected in 2008 (with other funding sources), and used for seed increase or seedling propagation. Over 200 lbs of raw seed was collected in 2008, following a winter of adequate moisture and a summer of milder temperatures.



Native seed increase beds.

Year Awarded: FY2007

Project completion: 2008

Report number: Final

Expenditures (through 10/2008):

- FY07 funding \$18,000 ;
Expenditures: 18,000, \$0 remaining
- FY08 funding:\$0
- **Total funding \$18,000, total expend \$18,000**
- **\$0 total remaining**

Partners/Contractors/Coop:

Idaho CDC Center
IDFG Volunteers
Lucky Peak Nursery



Seed processing at Lucky Peak Nursery.



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