

Native Plant Materials Workshop

USDA Forest Service-Region 5

R5 2008 Accomplishments

In an effort to educate and promote opportunities under the new National Native Plant Materials Policy (FSM 2070), the San Bernardino National Forest conducted a workshop in July of 2008. This Forest Service sponsored training was conducted at the Discovery Center and the Big Bear Ranger Station; site of the Mountaintop Native Plant Materials Facility. Forty-two attendees from four National Forests, USFS PSW, Riverside Resource Conservation District, J&J Restoration, San Bernardino National Forest Association Children's Forest and Forest Care, Tree People, and Catalina Conservancy attended the two-day workshop. Breakfast, lunch and drinks were provided both days by SBNFA.

Workshop participants were given materials containing the NPM policy, draft strategy and website, a CD with literature pertaining to genetics, restoration methods, seed collection and storage and a digital document titled "Useful links to Background Materials on NPM, Native Species Information, Ecological Restoration, Species Selection and Choosing Genetically Appropriate materials for Wildland Planting Projects" created by Montalvo (2008). Most participants also received hard copies of Rehabilitation of Disturbed Lands in California, A Manual for Decision Making (Newton and Claassen 2003), and "Genetically Appropriate Choices for Plant Materials to Maintain Biological Diversity" (Rogers and Montalvo 2004).

Seed collection, documentation, cleaning and storage demonstrations were given by Mike Wall, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Seed Program Manager. Participants collected five species of native seed using techniques to protect genetic integrity, observed cultivars and visited ongoing and completed restoration sites. Tours of the SBNF NPM facility included a commercial size greenhouse, planting beds, shade house, and seed storage facilities. Methods of propagation including seeding and collection and sticking of cuttings were demonstrated. Slide shows/discussions of other NPM programs amongst agencies were included along with reviews of decision matrices to determine restoration need and monitoring plans.



Year Awarded: March 2008

Project Completion: July 11, 2008

Report Number: 2

Expenditures (through 9/30/08):

Total funding 6,000, Total expend \$6000, \$0 Remaining

Partners: Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and the San Bernardino National Forest Association's Children's Forest.

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