

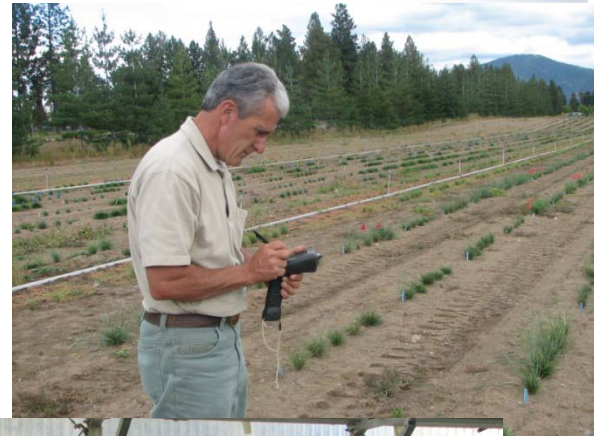
# Development of Seed Transfer Zones for Idaho fescue and bluebunch wheatgrass through Common Garden Studies in Region One

## 2009 Accomplishments

In 2008 Region One initiated a multi-year project to develop seed transfer zones for core native revegetation species. The project utilizes common garden study methodology and will contribute to our understanding of genetic variation in selected revegetation species within their range in Region One. The results of the study will be used to develop seed transfer guidelines for Forest Service System lands in Region One as well as adjacent areas. Results will also be used to compare native genotypes to “restoration cultivars”.

During the 2008 field season, R1 forests and grasslands conducted wildland seed collection for two revegetation species, Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*) and bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*).

**2009 Accomplishments:** Field evaluations for these two species were conducted by the Coeur d’Alene Nursery in 2009. Seedlings were grown out in the greenhouse before being transplanted to field plots. Data collection involving plant morphology and phenology assessments at various plant stages throughout the season.



Lower figure: Grass seedlings in the Coeur d’Alene Nursery greenhouses in early spring.

Upper figure: Aram Eramian collecting data with a PDR at the common garden study plots.

Year awarded: Initial award in 2008

Project completion: 2010

Report number: 2 of 3

Expenditures (through 10/2009):

- FY08 funding \$100,000.
- Expended approximately \$55,000 in FY08.
- Expended approximately \$20,000 in FY09.
- \$25,000 remaining for FY10**

Partners/Contractors/Coop: Coeur d’Alene Nursery and all the Forests and Grasslands in Region One.

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The study is a cooperative venture between the Coeur d’Alene Nursery, the R1 Regional Geneticist, the R1 Native Plant Program Manager, and all the forests and grasslands in Region One.



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