

Idaho Panhandle National Forests Sandpoint Ranger District Native Plant Pollinator Garden & Interpretive Site

2010 Accomplishments

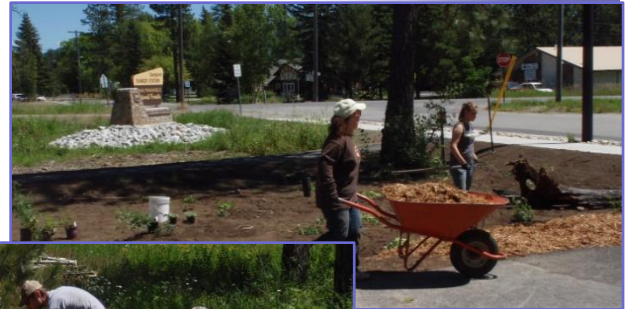
In conjunction with construction of the new Sandpoint Ranger District office, a gold-certified LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) building, District personnel incorporated a native plant pollinator garden into the front office landscaping.

The nearly ½-acre native plant pollinator garden (NPPG) incorporates interpretive literature with multiple landscape features and a variety of native plants that provide food sources or other habitat elements for pollinators. This design should encourage the public to not only gain understanding of the association between pollinators and native plants, but will also encourage future use of similar designs in local landscapes and gardens.

District personnel, along with volunteers from the local Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society and Bonner County Master Gardeners, contributed over 300 hours to amend the site with topsoil and mulch, incorporate native rock and woody materials (as both design features, as well as pollinator habitat), and plant over fifty species of native plants! The plants are arranged within five different habitat models in the garden to better educate the public about how and where to use different native species within our local habitat types.

The plants in the pollinator garden will provide a variety of color, landscape texture and form, as well as habitat for pollinators and other wildlife, from early spring through late fall. Some of the more “showy” species include Canada goldenrod, fireweed, lupine, monkeyflower, sticky geranium, penstemon, skyrocket, columbine, and wild hollyhock.

In 2011, installation of interpretive signs, plant markers, and a self-guided tour pamphlet should complete the project.



Forest Service crew preparing the site for planting, July 14, 2010.



Two months later... perennial natives beginning to root and flower!
September 27, 2010



Bumblebee resting/feeding on aster in our garden! September 16, 2010

<i>Year Project Initiated:</i>	2010
<i>Project completion:</i>	2011
<i>Report number:</i>	1 of 2
<i>Expenditures (through 09/2010):</i>	~ \$4500.00
<i>FY 2010 Partners/Collaborators:</i>	Region 1 Native Plants and Pollinators Initiative Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society
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