

Workhorse Native Species on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest

2010 Accomplishments

Project Goal:

The term “workhorse species” describes locally-adapted native plant species that have broad ecological amplitude, are abundant, propagate easily, and survive well. The MBRTB has developed native seed revegetation guidelines for five seed mixes that include several workhorse species. This project proposes collection and increase of five workhorse species: prairie junegrass (KOMA), bluebunch wheatgrass (PSSM), western wheatgrass (PASM), Idaho fescue (FEID) and bottlebrush squirreltail (ELEL). Collections will occur during the 2010 & 2011 field seasons. Increases will occur in 2010, 2011, and 2012.

Seed Collections:

An unusually late spring delayed seed set, and resulted in collection of additional species. The Steamboat Springs Community Youth Corps collected 4.32 lbs of squirreltail, 2.64 lbs of bluebunch wheatgrass, and 3.54 mountain brome. Wildland Restoration volunteers collected 1.11 lbs of mountain brome, and 1.07 lbs of prairie junegrass.



Figure 1. Steamboat Springs Community Youth Corps collecting native seed.



Figure 2. Wildland Restoration Volunteers collecting seed.

Seed Increase:

The collections of the bluebunch wheatgrass and prairie junegrass were planted at Lucky Peak Nursery in fall of 2010. Collections of other species were not large enough for planting this year. We plan to supplement seed lots with 2011 collections for planting in fall 2011.

Year Awarded: 2010

Project completion: 2012

Report number: 1 of 3

Expenditures:

- FY10 funds received \$75,000
- FY10 obligated \$75,000

Partners/Contractors/Coop:

- Steamboat Springs Community Youth Corps
- Upper Colorado Environmental Plant Center
- Wildland Restoration Volunteers

Contact Person & phone number:

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