

Alluvial Scrub Native Plant Materials for the Upper Santa Ana River Watershed

2010 Accomplishments

This project was initiated to develop science-based plant lists and local plant materials for restoration of alluvial scrub habitats within the Santa Ana River watershed. The Santa Ana River watershed and its associated alluvial scrub habitats originate within the Cleveland and San Bernardino National Forests. The project will benefit those Forests and adjacent properties. This is a collaborative project between the U.S. Forest Service, area resource conservation agencies, and a local organic farm. Collaborators will determine which species many need commercial seed production and start to train potential growers on how to minimize genetic erosion and unintentional selection during production.

During spring 2010, vegetation ecologists from the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) trained staff from three National Forests, two Resource Conservation Districts, the California Department of Fish and Game, and volunteers in sampling techniques (Figure 1). Over the next two months, the team sampled plots representing about 400 acres of habitat (e.g., Figure 2). CNPS is currently working on data input and analysis. Potential plant lists for restoration sites and species suitable for seed production will be identified from the analysis results. Seed collection for growout trials is now occurring.



Figure 1. Workshop participants focus on field training led by Riverside-Corona RCD and CNPS in April 2010.



Figure 2. Alluvial scrub reference site at Lytle Creek.

Year Awarded: 2010

Project completion: 2012

Report number: 1

Expenditures: FY2010, \$60,400

Partners: Pacific Southwest Research Station, Riverside Forest Fire Laboratory; Riverside-Corona and Inland Empire Resource Conservation Districts; San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District; California Native Plant Society; Three Sisters Farm; Three Pacific Southwest Region National Forests



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