

Stillion Tract Native Seed Production and Pollinator Resource Area – Hoosier National Forest

2010 Accomplishments

Background

The Hoosier National Forest intends to establish an area of native plant forb production to further ecosystem restoration and habitat enhancement on the Hoosier National Forest. Establishment of the 30-acre site would provide a valuable resource for native pollinator species in the area where plant diversity is lacking because of surrounding lands planted to agricultural production or pastures of nonnative species.

The intent is to establish approximately 30 forbs and 5-10 shrubs that will form the foundation of early successional habitat plantings and restorations on the Forest. Native plant focal species, but not limited to, include native forbs such as sunflowers, coneflowers, mints, asters, obedient plant, beardtongue, prairie dock, blazingstar, and coreopsis. Among the species selected for planting are five species of milkweeds to provide habitat for monarch butterflies.

All of the species selected for inclusion in areas planted in riparian ravines or swales, and the seed mixture for the establishment of a native seed production area are native to southern Indiana and readily used by local pollinator species.

FY2010 Accomplishments

- Herbicide application in summer to remove tall fescue, other exotic grasses, and other undesirable species
- Tilled the field in preparation for planting and seeding
- Forest personnel planted plug-sized container stock of various native plant species in unsprayed ravines
- Purchased native seed for later fall planting by seed drill



View of the Stillion Tract following the initial herbicide application to prepare the area for fall 2010 native seeding with seed drill. *Photo by Kirk W. Larson*

Year Awarded: FY 2010
Project completion: (2010)
Report number: (1 of 1)

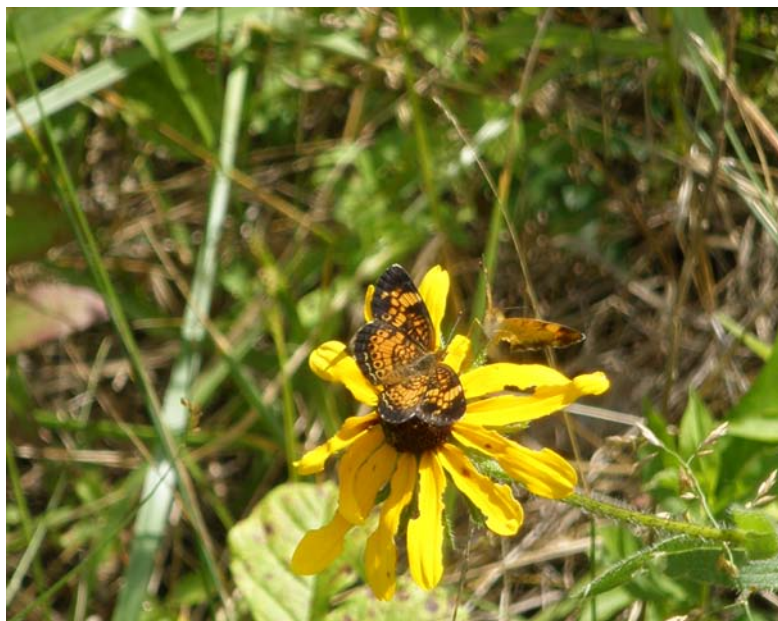
Expenditures:

- FY10 NFN3 funding: \$27,000 (for native seed mixture)
- Other NFWW and NFWF funding: \$9,200 (for native plugs, shrubs, tilling, seeding)

Contractors:

Roundstone Native Seed
JFNew Native Plant Nursery
Spence Restoration Nursery
Knight Construction-Taylor Spray Service
Beiser Excavation and Management
(tilling/seeding)

Contact Person & phone number:
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Black-eyed Susan and pearly crescent spot butterflies in an unsprayed ravine portion of the Stillion Tract.

Photo by Kirk W. Larson