

Galena Creek Visitor Center Pollinator Garden, Phase One, Humboldt-Toiyabe NF in Partnership with Washoe County Parks and Great Basin Institute

2011 Accomplishments

The Galena Visitor Center Pollinator Garden will provide an interpretive site demonstrating the use of native plants to attract bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other native pollinators. Both host and nectar plants will be provided at the site. This project moved from a conceptual phase, which entailed meetings between the Carson Ranger District, Washoe County Parks, Washoe Nursery and staff members from Great Basin Institute (GBI), to an implementation phase. This included:

- Washoe County Parks completed tests to determine the ability of the soils at the Visitor Center to drain water (this area was compacted during building construction). GBI organized a team of local volunteers to work on preparing the garden site. In addition, a drip system was installed to water plants efficiently and top soil was purchased and incorporated to supplement the site.

- Garden Shop Nursery brought in large rock and boulders to provide design features in the garden. The landscapers also contributed to the project by lining an active gully with rock to catch sediment and prevent further washouts.

- A local native plant company, Comstock Seed, collected seed from twenty-five different plant species including columbine, milkweeds and various composites. The species included in the collection were selected for their ability to attract pollinators, nativity to the area, and propagation for use in private gardens .

- Washoe Nursery, managed by Nevada Division of Forestry was contracted to provide the containerized plant materials. The garden will be planted in the spring and fall of 2012.

- In addition, a local artist was contracted to provide interpretive panels for the garden.



Humboldt- Toiyabe NF
Carson Ranger District
1536 S. Carson St.
Carson City, NV 89702



Figure 2: Visitor Center Pollinator Garden location before site preparation.



Figure 1: Western Columbine will be planted in the Visitor Center Pollinator Garden in 2012

Year Awarded: initial award in 2011

Project completion: 2012

Report number: 1 of 2

Expenditures (FY10): 13,200 Region 4 award

Partners/Contractors/Coop: Washoe County Parks, Great Basin Institute, Nevada Division of Forestry – Washoe Nursery, Garden Shop Nursery

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