

Apalachicola National Forest Native Groundcover Seed Bank

FY10 Project Updated with final accomplishments

In 2010, the Apalachicola National Forest (ANF) was funded to continue a native groundcover seed bank for use in restoration projects on the forest and to provide seed collection areas for nearby partners. The Florida Division of Forestry, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida State Parks, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Northwest Florida Water Management District all manage land within 50 miles of ANF. The Seed Bank will house native groundcover seed collected from each of the three major community types on the Forest (Sandhill, Flatwoods, and Savannah). The native seed mix will be used as a ready seed source to re-seed wildfire control lines, forest roads that are being decommissioned and other restoration projects.

This report is a follow-up from last year to show the final accomplishments of this project. The seed collection contract yielded 1080 pounds of native seed mix collected from a flatwoods site on the forest. A total of 54 acres were seeded at a rate of 20 pounds per acre before longleaf tree seedlings were planted. In the following table items in bold were paid for by this project. The prescribed burning was paid for out of District Fuel Reduction funds (WFHF), and the remaining costs were paid for out of Reforestation Funds (RTRT).

The timeline of the Longleaf restoration activities was as follows:

| <u>Work Item</u> | <u>Date Complete</u> | <u>Cost/Ac</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Order Longleaf Seedlings | Feb 2010 | \$ 76/Ac |
| Burn Seed Collection Area | May 2010 | \$ 34/Ac |
| Chop non-stocked stands | July 2010 | \$ 65/Ac |
| Prescribe Burn | Nov 2010 | \$ 34/Ac |
| Collect Native Seed | Nov 2010 | \$ 700/Ac |
| Sow Native seed mix | Jan 2011 | \$ 120/Ac |
| Plant Longleaf Seedlings | Feb 2011 | \$ 120/Ac |
| Total | | \$1149/Ac |

We burned a total of 47,000 acres during the growing season with 2,412 acres where seed was actually collected.

When surveying burned areas for seed collection we also identified 60 acres that could be used by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to collect seed needed to restore the groundcover on a 10 acre parcel of NW Florida Water Management District land. They reported a collection of 231 pounds of native seed mix from that parcel. They were very happy with the collection site we designated for them.



*Area Seeded in Compartment 321
Chopped 07/2010 Burned 12/2010 Seeded 01/2011*

Year Awarded: 2010
Project completion: 2011

Report number: 2 of 2

Expenditures:

For 54 Ac of Longleaf Restoration

| | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| FY10 NFN3 | \$ 38,081 |
| FY10 WFHF | \$ 82,008 |
| FY10 RTRT | \$ 14,094 |
| Total | \$ 134,183 |

Partners/Contractors/Coop:

The Nature Conservancy, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Project Contact:

Gary Hegg (850) 926-3561 x 6508



Apalachicola National Forest
57 Taff Drive
Crawfordville, FL 32327

