

Ochoco National Forest and Crooked River National Grassland Native Plant Restoration Program

2014 Accomplishments

The Ochoco National Forest Native Plant Restoration Program continues to focus on developing/planting stock of native grasses, forbs, and shrubs for restoration projects. Funding is also used to test/clean/store seeds, develop contracts, plan revegetation projects, develop/track budgets, develop partnerships, further education about the benefits of using native plants, and training to further our knowledge of native plant restoration.

Seed and Propagule Production/Purchase:

- Purchased 27 lbs. of squirreltail and 34 lbs. of Basin wild rye from Deschutes Basin Native Plant Seedbank.
- Purchased 165 lbs. of prairie junegrass from Benson Farms from stock that originated on the Crooked River National Grassland.

Seed Collection:

- Collected tufted hairgrass seed for future seed production to incorporate into a riparian seed mix.
- Collected seed from 8 forb and shrub species to propagate for McKay Creek and Trout Creek restoration projects.
- Collected seeds and rhizomes from native milkweed (*Asclepias* sp.) populations that are being propagated at Clarno nursery for monarch butterfly conservation.

Restoration Project Implementation:

- Seeded > 1,000 lbs. of native seed on skid roads, landings, grapple piles, stream restoration projects, dozer lines and burned areas.
- Planted > 2,000 plants of willow (6 different species), black cottonwood, thin leaf alder, rose, current, gooseberry, and dogwood in Upper Beaver, Sugar Creek, Trout Creek and Dick's Creek (250 acres).
- Planted 950 bitterbrush plants on 20 acres on Crooked River National Grassland.

Revegetation Project Planning:

- Developed a revegetation plan for Crazy Creek Stream Restoration and Culvert Replacement Project.
- Pulled & mixed 4,000 lbs. of native grass seed from storage to create an upland native plant seed mix for future revegetation projects.



Figure 3. Botanist Krista Lopez collected native milkweed seeds & rhizomes for monarch butterfly conservation. Left: milkweed rhizomes collected for planting at Clarno Nursery; Right: monarch caterpillar on milkweed.



Figure 1. Lori Williams and Sarah Callaghan seed disturbed area with native grass seeds.



Fig. 2. Assisted PNW Research with planting bluebunch wheatgrass on Crooked River National Grassland as part of a reciprocal transplant study.

Year Awarded: 2014

Expenditures: \$29,933 Total Funding

\$ 10,000 NFVW

\$ 20,000 NFTM

Partners: Clearwater Native Nursery, Trout Unlimited, Xerces Society, Crooked River Watershed Council, Benson Farms, Deschutes Basin Native Plant Seedbank, Clarno Hardwood Facility.

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