

# Rare Native Plant Restoration

## 2005 Accomplishments

Wild fires in Pearl Creek on the Payette National Forest destroyed three population of Tobias' saxifrage, a rare plant in Idaho. With Burned Area Earmark funding these populations were re-established by transplanting young plants from another site into the burned-over area.

Approximately 120 plugs of Tobias' saxifrage were harvested from the one surviving population in Pearl Creek and reintroduced into remaining habitat. Monitoring and photo points were established and will be continued for two years.

*Red Butte Garden & Arboretum*, a cooperator, is conducting experimental propagation of Tobias' saxifrage in the greenhouse. Successful propagation techniques could be invaluable should future restoration be necessary.

Tobias' saxifrage, a rare and Sensitive Region 4 plant, occurs only on Forest Service lands on the Payette National Forest. Past genetic studies and reintroduction trials were done in cooperation with *Idaho Fish and Game*.



*Pearl Creek burned area and habitat for the rare plant Tobias' saxifrage.*

**Total Project Cost:** \$12,500

**Cooperators:** Red Butte Gardens

**Contracts:** One awarded to a local contractor.

**Type of Project:** Rare plant propagation and restoration following wildfires. This project also helped implement the Conservation Strategy for Tobias' saxifrage and restore a rare native plant population.



*Transplant site for Tobias' Saxifrage restoration.*



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For more information about the Payette National Forest see:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r4/payette>