

Klamath Region Native Perennial Grass Seed Cache

2009 Accomplishments

In response to a dwindling grass seed supply from the late 1990's, the Klamath Region Native Perennial Seed Cache project for Blue Wild Rye, (*Elymus glaucus*)(ELGL) was initiated. We identified local sources of native perennial grass seed for collection and increased for use in restoration and re-vegetation efforts on the west side of the Klamath NF.

E. glaucus was selected because of its previous high performance in production at the nursery, and in-field establishment observed at sites where seed from the 1990's had been planted.

In early 2009, potential collection areas were identified using FACTS activity records to evaluate suitable grass habitat and site accessibility. Eighteen potential sites along with previous collection sites were visited by the Forest Service & the Salmon River Restoration Council. Eight sites were identified as suitable for collection, that varied in exposure and elevations between 3000 to 4000 feet. The ripe seed was collected in July from the eight sites, comprising one seed lot.

Seventeen pounds of seed was collected by volunteers, the Forest Service, and the Salmon River Restoration Council, over approximately 4 acres (see Figures 1 & 2). Cleaned seed will be planted in the fall at J. Herbert Stone Nursery on the Rogue River NF, Medford, Oregon. Our hope is that the seed will plant one acre that will be harvested for two or three seasons, and produce some bales of weed free straw!

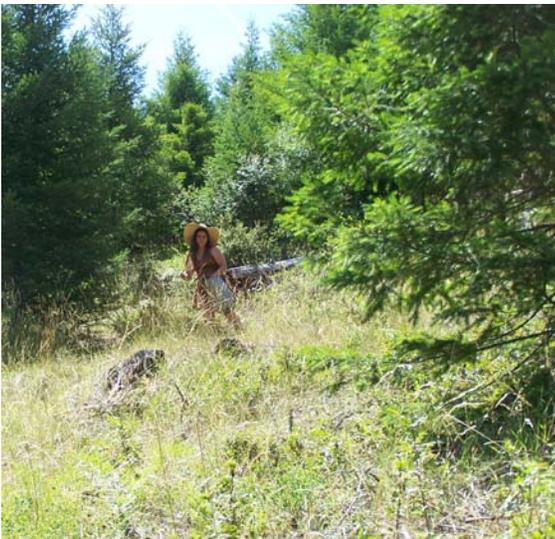


Figure 1. A member of the Salmon River Restoration Council collects grass seed, South Fork of the Salmon River.



Figure 2. Blue Wild Rye (*Elymus glaucus*) collected from Grouse Creek Meadow, Scott River District.



Year Awarded: 2009

Project completion: 2012

Expenditures: 2009: \$37,000

Partners: Salmon River Restoration Council, J. Herbert Stone Nursery – Rogue River NF, Bend Seed Extractory



Klamath National Forest

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