

Ouachita National Forest Native Grass Restoration Project

2009 Accomplishments

Purpose of Proposal

The purpose and need for this project is to establish native seed and plant sources for natural recruitment and anthropogenic restoration efforts. Implementation of this project will help develop techniques and policies for use of native plant materials on the Ouachita National Forest and encourage state and private groups to use native plant materials. This project will also provide opportunities for cooperation and partnerships with state and non-governmental organizations in the restoration of native plant communities.

2009 Accomplished Actions

- Approximately 334 acres of the existing 1,100 acres of native plant restoration plots established in 2006 were prescribed burned.
- Approximately 1,595 acres of prescribed fire were completed in the Black Fork old growth, native plant restoration area.
- 407 acres of mid-story reduction treatments were completed within native grass plots.
- 200 acres of stump grinding and brush hogging were completed within grass plots.
- Harvested and processed 500 pounds of native warm season grass seed and baled 550 bales of native grass hay.
- Completed 60 acres of non-native invasive plant species (NNIS) herbicide treatments within grass plots.
- Used native seed and hay to establish native grasses around the new Oklahoma Ranger District office.
- Used native seed and hay to restore native vegetation along 3 miles of newly constructed OHV trail.
- Used native seed and hay to restore native vegetation at three campsites on the Wild and Scenic Cossatot River.
- Provided native seed and hay to three districts for use in wildlife openings, firelines and for restoration projects.
- Completed engineering drawings for new native seed, hay and equipment storage and seed processing building.

2010 Planned Actions

- Approximately 13,381 acres are scheduled for prescribed burning in Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 within Old Growth units and native grass plots.
- Plan to harvest approximately 1,000 pounds of native grass seed and 1,000 bales of hay.
- Approximately 200 acres of mowing, scarification and disking, stump removal, planting, liming, fertilization and monitoring.
- Approximately 50 acres of NNIS treatments in native plant restoration areas.
- Construction of 2,400 square foot native plant building.



Year Awarded: 2009

Project completion: (in perpetuity)

Report number: 4(09) of Annual Reports

Expenditures:

- FY09 funding \$80,000 (NFN3,)
- Expended – Approx. \$40,000
- Remaining - \$40,000 (Planned for building but left unexpended due to contracting overbids)

Other Funding Expenditures: NFWF \$42,000, NFWV \$12,000, WFHF \$6,680

**Partners/Contractors/Coop
Quail Unlimited, Arkansas Natural
Heritage Commission, Arkansas Game
and Fish Commission**

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