

UP Native Plant Program

Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest FY12 Native Plant Material Accomplishments

The Uncompahgre Partnership (UP) Native Plant Program is a cooperative program between the USFS-Regions 2 and 4, BLM - Colorado and Utah State Offices, CO Div. of Parks & Wildlife and Utah Div. of Wildlife Resources. The goal of the program is to develop an adequate supply of key species native to the Colorado Plateau for use in restoration and rehabilitation activities on public and private lands.

Accomplished using NFN3 (old agreement) funds:

- Maintained study plot monitoring attribute, for Comparison Studies on 25 accessions of local ecotypes, regional collections and cultivars with the Upper Colorado Environmental Plant Center. Planting and monitoring was complete in FY 2011 and FY 2012.

- Coordinated with the San Juan NF and CSU, for the Forb & Pioneer Species Cultivation Studies at the Yellow Jacket Research Station. Planting in FY 10 and monitoring in FY 11 and FY 12.

Using partnership funds from BLM, CO DOPW, UT DWR, CSU, commercial growers, outside grant funding sources the following was accomplished:

- Provided seed of 15 native species to commercial growers for seed increase and commercial production purposes & monitoring success.
- 7 native grass and 6 native forb species are now available on the open market. Promoted their purchase and use by agencies, private landowners and companies for use in restoration and rehabilitation efforts.
- Cleaned seed of 2011 collections.
- Promoted the purchase of UP native seed grown by a commercial grower and distributed to federal, state agencies and private landowners for use in restoration and rehabilitation projects in western CO.
- Assisted the CO Parks & Wildlife in the Grand Opening of a native seed warehouse (9,300 sq ft) and distribution center that is located near Delta, CO.
- Identified priority species that are valuable for Gunnison sage grouse habitat. Coordinated with a seed crew from AZ to begin wildland collections of these species.
- Coordinated with Region 4 Forest Service on plantings at several wildland locations in Utah that include UP source seed.
- Wildland seed collection was completed on 12 species and a development strategy planned.
- Planned for a western slope native plant meeting in 2/2013.



Figure 1. Commercial production of 9,500 lbs of mountain brome

Project completion: On Going FY12 Expenditures:

- CFLR Funds: \$ 2,510
- NFN3 Funds: \$ 3,000
- Partner Funds: \$ 26,252
- C P & W warehouse: \$ 1,200,000

Partners/Contractors/Coop: USFS Regions 2 & 4, BLM CO and UT State Offices, CO Div. of Parks & Wildlife, and UT Div. of Wildlife Resources, Public Lands Partnership, Colorado State Univ., Upper Colorado Environmental Plant Materials Center, and commercial.

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Figure 2. UP Seed being flown on the Grammar Fire on the Uncompahgre Plateau.



**Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre
and Gunnison NF**
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