A break in the weather allowed a determined group from the Deer River Ranger District to establish a butterfly garden at the Cutfoot Visitor Information Center. Over 15 different varieties of hardy perennial flowers known to be favorites of butterflies were planted, with plans to continue to diversify the garden in the future. The plants are all labeled, and a display inside the visitor center will explain how the garden was built. A favorite stopping place for local children, this summer’s visitors will have a chance to build their own stepping stones to create pathways inside the garden.

As is so often the case with gardens, it was a community of folks who contributed in various ways to the effort, from removing an overgrown tangle of weeds last fall, to hauling in and spreading new soil to getting the plants in the ground. The eclectic crew of people included SCSEP’s, fire crew personnel rained out from other work, a resort naturalist, an administrative assistant, an information assistant, a wildlife biologist, a local volunteer, and even a member of the visiting Schenk Job Corps initial attack fire crew.

Year Project Initiated: 2010

Project completion: 2012

Report number: 2 of 2

Expenditures (through 10/2010):
FY10funding
Partners/Contractors/Coop:

Contact: Kelly Barrett (218) 246-3450

Figure 1 Garden planting crew