

LAVA BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT
 1998 Annual Report
 prepared by
 NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
 ABERDEEN IDAHO PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

INTRODUCTION

The Aberdeen Plant Materials Center (PMC) entered into an agreement with Lava Beds National Monument in 1992 to produce seed and plants of native plant species for revegetation purposes and to develop propagation methods. This agreement expired at the end of 1998. Due to delays in road construction, a significant portion of the tasks outlined in the original agreement are on hold indefinitely.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Seed production of sulphurflower buckwheat *Eriogonum umbellatum* accession no. 9067430 was 0.55 pounds cleaned. A severe hailstorm on June 25 damaged the plants during the flowering period significantly reducing seed production. A total of 63.4 pounds is available for revegetation purposes. The plants were destroyed and removed from the field in late August.

The following lists seed which was returned to Lava Beds National Monument in October, 1998 for revegetation purposes:

Pounds			
Bulk			
Bluebunch wheatgrass	<i>Pseudoroegneria spicata</i>	12.60	
Bottlebrush squirreltail	<i>Elymoides elymoides</i>		9.60
Thurbers needlegrass	<i>Stipa thurberiana</i>	7.60	
Big bluegrass	<i>Poa ampla</i> population I	0.52	
	population II	0.88	
	population III	0.24	
	population IV	0.36	
Bittercherry	<i>Prunus emarginata</i>	2.35	
Narrowleaf mahogany	<i>Cercocarpus ledifolius</i>	0.58	
Wax currant	<i>Ribes cereum</i>	0.57	
Antelope bitterbrush	<i>Purshia tridentata</i>		2.00
Sulphurflower buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i>	1997 Harvest (PMC)	19.20
Wyoming sagebrush	<i>Artemisia tridentata</i> var. <i>wyomingensis</i>		23.90 (uncleaned)

TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENTS

The sulphurflower seed production field was the first field at the PMC to have small transplanted plants installed into weed barrier material. The weed barrier was installed to control weeds and to help conserve soil moisture. With the exception of 1995 (which was extremely wet during flower formation) the weed barrier has proven very successful in controlling weeds and conserving soil moisture.

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