CORVALLIS PLANT MATERIALS CENTER
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CORVALLIS, OREGON
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### THE 2006 OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK ANNUAL REPORT:

Hurricane Ridge Road Revegetation Project

## I. Brief Background of Project

The Corvallis Plant Materials Center (PMC) entered into a new agreement with Olympic National Park in 2004 to provide native plant materials for revegetation of Hurricane Ridge Road. It was agreed that the PMC would produce a minimum of 255 lbs (PLS) of two lower elevation grasses, 100 lbs (PLS) of two upper elevation grasses, and 45 lbs of three upper elevation forbs. The PMC is also responsible for collecting a minimum of 3.5 lbs of seed of four native forbs. Delivery is planned to occur in fall of 2007.



Figure 1. Eriophyllum lanatum seed increase field at the Corvallis PMC, June 8, 2006.

Activities in 2006 included collecting seed of seven species, cleaning of native seed collected by PMC staff; expansion, maintenance, and harvest of seed production fields including three grasses and three forbs; and containerized stock production. Details are provided below.

#### II. Accessions Involved

NPS staff defined the low elevation collection area to be the roadsides of Hurricane Ridge Rd. from the intersection of Race Rd. north to the "double parking area". High elevation collection area included roadsides from the "Switchbacks" trailhead north to the Visitor's Center parking lot.

Table 1. Accessions involved for Hurricane Ridge Road Cooperative Agreement at the Corvallis Plant Materials Center.

Species	Common Name	Symbol	Accession Number	2005 Activities <sup>1</sup>		
Low elevation						
Elymus glaucus	blue wildrye	ELGL	9079352	sfp,		
Bromus vulgaris	Columbia bromegrass	BRVU	9079353	sfp, col		
Eriophyllum lanatum	common woolly sunflower	ERLA6	9079405	-		
Achillea millefolium	common yarrow	ACMI2	9079407	-		
Anaphalis margaritacea	pearly everlasting	ANMA	9079408	-		
Heracleum maximum	common cow parsnip	HEMA80	9079414	col		
Chamerion angustifolium	fireweed	CHAN9	9079409	-		
High elevation						
Elymus glaucus	blue wildrye	ELGL	9079356	sfp		
Bromus sitchensis	Alaska Brome	BRSI	9079357	sfp, col		
Eriophyllum lanatum	common woolly sunflower	ERLA6	9079358	sfp		
Lupinus latifolius	broadleaf lupine	LULA4	9079351	sfp, col		
Artemisia ludoviciana	Louisiana sage (white sagebrush)	ARLU	9079359	sfp, col		
Achillea millefolium	common yarrow	ACMI2	9079402	col		
Anaphalis margaritacea	pearly everlasting	ANMA	9079403	col		
Heracleum maximum	common cow parsnip	HEMA80	9079413	_		
Chamerion angustifolium	fireweed	CHAN9	9079404	col		

Activity codes: col= collected at Park (by PMC staff); sfp= seed produced at PMC.

## **III. Native Seed and Plant Collections**

PMC staff was responsible for native seed collections. They were performed primarily along the roadsides of Hurricane Ridge Road. Approximately 96 hours were recorded as actual collection time. A total of 9 lbs of clean seed of nine species was collected in 2006.



Figure 2. PMC summer intern, Henri Compaore, collecting seed on Hurricane Ridge, August 7, 2006.

Table 2. Native seed and plant collection for the Hurricane Ridge Road Cooperative Agreement in 2006 at the Corvallis Plant Materials Center.

		Accession	Collection		
Species	Symbol	Number	dates	Amt	
High elevation					
Elymus glaucus	ELGL	9079356	8/22-8/25	100 g	
Bromus sitchensis	BRSI	9079357	8/12-8/22	0	
Eriophyllum lanatum	ERLA6	9079358	8/22-9/6	0.5 lbs	
Lupinus latifolius	LULA4	9079351	8/1-8/22	2 lbs	
Artemisia ludoviciana	ARLU	9079359	9/6-9/8	100 g	
Achillea millefolium	ACMI2	9079402	9/6-9/8	100 g	
Anaphalis margaritacea	ANMA	9079403	9/6-9/8	150 g	
Heracleum maximum	HEMA80	9079413	8/22-9/6	1 lb	
Chamerion angustifolium	CHAN9	9079404	9/6-9/8	240 g	
Low elevation					
Elymus glaucus	ELGL	9079352	8/10-8/25	0	
Bromus vulgaris	BRVU	9079353	8/10-8/25	4 lbs	
Eriophyllum lanatum	ERLA6	9079405	9/6-9/8	0	
Achillea millefolium	ACMI2	9079407	9/6-9/8	0	
Anaphalis margaritacea	ANMA	9079408	9/6-9/8	0	
Heracleum maximum	HEMA80	9079414	8/10-8/25	0	
Chamerion angustifolium	CHAN9	9079409	9/6-9/8	0	

#### III. Field Seed Increase

The winter of 2005/2006 was very wet and cold. Fields often had standing water. *Lupinus latifolius*, *Eriophyllum lanatum*, and *Artemesia ludoviciana* fields were inundated with water for two weeks continuously in December. Even though the plants and seeds were covered with water for at least 30 days during the winter, existing plants survived, and seedlings emerged in the spring with very minimal damage.

As soon as the water receded in the spring, slugs, snails, and cucumber beetles were pests in the *L. latifolius*, and *A. ludoviciana* plantings. "Slug-go" was sprinkled over the plot to control slugs and snails, "Bio-neem" oil & soap was applied as a foliar spray on plants to prevent predation from cucumber beetles. Sulfur dust was applied to plants that exhibited powdery mildew. Weed control in the fields was performed by hand.

All of the grass fields, except the *Bromus vulgaris*, survived the winter. The *B. vulgaris* field was severely damaged. Few plants survived, and those that did were very weak and flowered late.



Figure 3. Lupinus latifolius plant flowering (left) and LULA4 plot, May 30, 2006 (right).

### **IV. Field Production Activities**

Weed control was primarily performed by hand (mainly to remove exotic perennial grasses) and spraying borders and spot-spraying with glyphosate. Broadleaf herbicides (Bison and Banvel) were applied to grass fields in February and May. Forb fields were weeded entirely by hand multiple times throughout the growing season.

Seed was harvested from new and established stands of *B. vulgaris*, *Bromus sitchensis*, and the low ecotype of *Elymus glaucus*. Only the established section of the high elevation of *E. glaucus* flowered in 2006; the new section did not. The *L. latifolius*, *E. lanatum* and *A. ludoviciana* fields that were over one year old (established in the fall of 2004) flowered in 2006. The newer sections of the fields (ones that were seeded the in the fall

of 2005) did not flower. Harvest areas presented in Table 4 (below), include only areas that flowered and do not represent total field sizes.

Table 4. Field production at Corvallis Plant Material Center in 2006 for the Hurricane Ridge Rd. Project.

	Area				
Species	(ac)	Date(s)	Method	Yield	Comments
		July 3/	swath/		
ELGL (LO)	0.25	July 17	combine	106 lbs	Excellent stand, high vigor
BRVU	0.25	10-Jul	hand	152 g	Poor stand, low vigor
BRSI	0.2	26-Jun	moon rover	3 lbs	Good stand, good vigor
			moon		
ELGL (HI)	0.06	7-Jul	rover	9 lbs	Good stand, good vigor
ARLU	0.02	5-Jul	hand	160 g	Fair stand, high vigor
		July5 -			
LULA4	0.04	Aug 3	hand	1 lb	Good stand, good vigor
	•		moon		
ERLA	0.046	18-Jul	rover	8 lbs	Excellent stand, high vigor

A new harvester, informally named the "moon rover" was used this year. It is a hand-built, self propelled swather. It has a conveyer belt that moves all material after it is cut and loads it into bags. Two people operate the machine with one person driving and the other helping feed the material into bags. The machine has all the benefits of hand harvesting without the labor. Once material was bagged it was emptied out on to tarps to dry and cure. It was then fed through a plot thresher, and cleaned as usual.



Figure 4. PMC staff harvesting a seed increase field using the "moon rover."

After harvest, all grass fields were mowed with a Brady flail-chopper to remove post-harvest residue. Forb fields were not mowed. The flail chopper was able to remove most of the residue on the grass fields. Because the fields were quite clean, a new pre-emergent herbicide, Outlook®, was applied to the grass fields. Initial results look very promising. Volunteer seedlings and weed seedlings are very sparse and the crops do not appear any less vigorous.

Seed lots larger than five pounds were sampled and sent to the Oregon State University Seed Laboratory for germination and purity testing. Excess seed was returned by the lab and is being stored at the Corvallis PMC until delivery is requested. Lots that are less than five pounds will be bulked with 2007 production and sent in for testing in the fall of 2007.

Table 5. Test results for seed lots produced in 2006 by the Corvallis Plant Materials Center for the Hurricane Ridge Rd. Project.

	%	%	Bulk	PLS
Species	Germination	Purity	Amt	Amt
ELGL (LO)	97	99.41	106 lbs	102 lbs
$BRVU^1$	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
$BRSI^1$	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ELGL (HI)	91	98.49	9 lbs	8 lbs
ERLA	91 (TZ)	96.31	8 lb	7 lbs

1-seed lot is less than five pounds and was not tested at OSU seed lab.

# **VII. Delivery of Plant Materials**

No deliveries were made in 2006. Current seed in storage is listed below.

Table 6. Current seed inventory for the Hurricane Ridge Rd. Project held by the Corvallis Plant Materials Center

Species (High Elevation)	Accession Number	2005 wild	2005 field	2006 wild	2006 field	Total
Elymus glaucus	9079356	.5 lb	1 lb	0	9 lbs	10.5 lbs
Bromus sitchensis	9079357	46g	1 lb	0	1242g	4 lbs
Eriophyllum lanatum	9079358	64 g	107g	0	8 lbs	8.5 lbs
Lupinus latifolius	9079351	3170g	0	708 g	524g	10 lbs
Artemisia ludoviciana	9079359	11bs	0	100 g	160 g	1.5 lbs
Achillea millefolium	9079402	107g	0	100 g	0	0.5 lbs
Anaphalis margaritacea	9079403	260g	0	150g	0	1 lb
Heracleum maximum	9079413	1700g	0	1 lb	0	4 lbs
Chamerion angustifolium	9079404					
		50g	0	250g	0	0.5 lbs

Table 6. Current seed inventory for the Hurricane Ridge Rd. Project held by the Corvallis Plant Materials Center (Cont')

Species (Low Elevation)	Accession Number	2005 wild	2005 field	2006 wild	2006 field	Total
Elymus glaucus	9079352	53g	13.5	0	106 lbs	119.5lbs
Bromus vulgaris	9079353	292g	7	1956 g	152g	5 lbs
Eriophyllum lanatum	9079405	10g	0	0	0	10 g
Achillea millefolium	9079407	25g	0	0	0	25 g
Anaphalis margaritacea	9079408	50g	0	0	0	50 g
Heracleum maximum	9079414	1450g	0	250g	0	3 lbs
Chamerion angustifolium	9079409					
		40g	0	0	0	40 g