

**DEVIL'S TOWER NATIONAL MONUMENT  
FY 2006 ANNUAL SUMMARY REPORT**

prepared by

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
PLANT MATERIALS CENTER  
BRIDGER, MONTANA**

**INTRODUCTION:** The Bridger Plant Materials Center (BPMC) initiated a cooperative agreement with Devil's Tower National Monument, Wyoming in 2006 for Fiscal Years 2006 and 2007. The work involves the production and installation of containerized nursery stock of plant materials indigenous to park boundaries. Wildland seed collections were made by Russ Haas, NRCS Revegetation Advisor to the National Park Service, at Devil's Tower and forwarded to the Bridger Plant Materials Center for further cleaning and use in April 2006.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** In 2006, seed lots of fringed sage *Artemisia frigida* and rubber rabbitbrush *Ericameria nauseosa* (formerly *Chrysothamnus nauseosus*) were collected at Devil's Tower National Monument from within Park boundaries and forwarded to the Bridger Plant Materials Center for further processing. Cleaned seed lots were used to sow 40-cubic-inch Deepots<sup>®</sup> on April 17, 2006. Multiple seeds were surface-sown in each container filled with Sunshine Mix #1<sup>®</sup> and then irrigated. All containers of both species were placed directly in a greenhouse maintained at 75<sup>0</sup> to 80<sup>0</sup>F days and 60<sup>0</sup> to 65<sup>0</sup>F nights. Seed of both species germinated very well without any dormancy-breaking treatment. All plants were moved outdoors and stored on wooden benches on June 5, 2006. Plants were fertilized periodically with low levels (approximately 100 to 150 ppm) of Plant Starter<sup>®</sup> (9-45-15 and 8-45-14) over the course of the growing season. Rapid growth of both species required pruning in late July 2006. All plants were moved to a coldframe on October 25, 2006.

A total of 480 fringed sage and 138 rubber rabbitbrush are currently being over-wintered in a coldframe maintained between 35<sup>0</sup> and 45<sup>0</sup>F at the Bridger Plant Materials, Bridger, Montana. Plants are inspected and irrigated as needed while in storage. All surviving plants will be transported to Devil's Tower Monument and installed by BPMC staff sometime in late summer to early fall of 2007 or spring of 2008.

**TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT:** No specific technology development activities were conducted at the Bridger Plant Materials Center on behalf of Devil's Tower National Monument in 2006.