## Native Plant Pollinator Garden on the Flathead National Forest

## 2008 Accomplishments

This project was initiated in 2008 to develop and maintain a native plant pollinator garden at the Forest Service Condon Work Center in the Swan Valley. The project involves enhancing the existing native garden, adding additional local native plants, and developing interpretative signs on the relationship between native plants and pollinators.

The project involves numerous partners including the Swan Ecosystem Center (SEC) and their After School Club, the Seeley Swan High School Biology II class, and the Windflower Native Plant Nursery.

Students from the SEC After School Club, students ages 8-12, and students in the Biology class at Seeley Swan High School worked on the two existing garden beds. The younger students transplanted plants into pots and watered and cared for them until beds were completed (Figure 2). Using purchased topsoil and compost, the high school students replaced the soil within the two beds (Figure 1).



Figure 2. After School Club students water native plants.



Project completion: Anticipated completion, 2010

Report number: 1

Expenditures (through 10/08): Total funding -- \$3,000 Travel, topsoil/compost -- \$593 Remaining balance-- \$2407

Partners/Contractors/Coop: Swan Ecosystem Center, Windflower Native Plant Nursery

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Figure 1. Biology students, teacher, and bus driver work to replace soil in existing garden bed.