

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

2001 Annual Report

Prepared by

UPPER COLORADO ENVIRONMENTAL PLANT CENTER

Meeker, Colorado

INTRODUCTION - Yosemite National Park and the Upper Colorado Environmental Plant Center entered into an agreement which was formally approved in September of 2001. This agreement adds to an agreement which was initiated in 1997, and entails field establishment and seed increase of one grass, blue wildrye, *Elymus glaucus*, for use in park revegetation efforts through 2004. The seed used for establishing the new field was from seed grown in 1999 by UCEPC. The first seed harvest is anticipated the summer of 2003.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS - The blue wildrye field planted in 1997 was managed for seed production in 2001. However, by mid-summer, it was noted that a large amount of non-native Kentucky bluegrass was present in the field. The presence of a non-indigenous park material presented obvious concerns about potential seed contamination. Harvest was attempted through roguing and spot harvest of several row portions within the field. Analysis determined that production potential was between 75 and 100 pounds of seed, but chances for contamination with Kentucky bluegrass was almost certain. As a result, harvest activities stopped, the field was removed, and a new 2.5 acre field was planted on November 20, 2001, with a Tye drill. Harvested seed will continue to be shipped to Yosemite as requested.

TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENTS - Specific information about harvest methods or soil preparation, seeding methods, seeding rates or seedling establishment techniques are available upon request.