

Establishment of a Native Pollinator Garden on the Hebgen Lake Ranger District, Gallatin National Forest, Montana

2011 Accomplishments

This project involved preparation and planting of 30 species of plants native to southwest Montana at the Hebgen Lake Ranger Station in West Yellowstone, MT. The species list included a wide variety of forbs, grasses, and shrub species totaling 130 individual plants. USFS employees removed turf grass and non-native junipers around the front walkway of the office to prepare area for the garden. A temporary drip irrigation system was installed and native rock materials were collected from the forest to border the garden. Plant materials purchased from Blake Nursery in Big Timber, Montana which also donated plants. Pollinator interpretation signs were also installed.

Accomplishments in 2011 included:

- Purchase and planting of additional native plant species
- Maintenance to ensure establishment
- Weed treatments and spot seeding
- Installation of an interpretative sign to explain importance of pollinators



Garden ready for planting adjacent to ranger station building



Native materials laid out for planting next to ranger station sign

Year awarded: Initial award in 2010

Project completion: ongoing

Report number: 2 of 2

Expenditures through 10/2011: NFN3 funding

•FY10 funding \$4,500, expended \$4,500, \$0 remaining

•FY 11 funding \$1,900, expended \$1,900, \$0 remaining

Special thanks to Blake Nursery for providing plant materials and advice on suitable species; Lauren Turner (District Ranger retired) and Jane Ruchman (Landscape architect), volunteer Virginia Barone, seasonal employee Iris De La O for assisting in development of suitable plant species list, James Norlander, Brian Park, and Joe Montoya for collecting and placing native rock materials; maintenance mechanic Mitchell Adamo for installing a water friendly drip irrigation system and planting vegetation. Funding provided by R1 Native Plant Program.

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