

Tincher Openings Native Seed Production And Pollinator Resource Area - Hoosier National Forest

2011 Accomplishments

Background

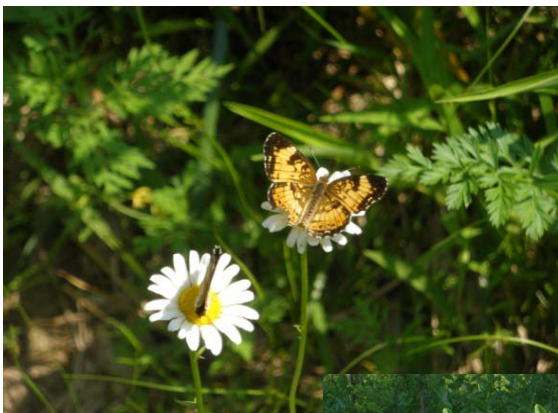
The Hoosier National Forest intends to establish a 10-acre area of native plant seed source to further ecosystem restoration and habitat enhancement. The project site is a complex of several wildlife openings that would provide a valuable resource for native pollinator species in the area where plant diversity is lacking because of surrounding lands planted to agricultural production or pastures of nonnative species.

The intent is to establish approximately 39 forb, 2 grass, and 6 shrub species that will form the foundation of early successional habitat plantings and restorations on the Forest. Native plant focal species, but not limited to, include native forbs such as sunflowers, coneflowers, mints, asters, obedient plant, beardtongue, black-eyed Susan, blazingstar, and coreopsis. Among the species selected for planting are four species of milkweeds to provide habitat for monarch butterflies.

All of the species selected for inclusion in the areas for spring planting and the fall seeding with the seed mixture are native to southern Indiana and readily used by local pollinator species.

FY2011 Accomplishments

- Herbicide application in summer to remove tall fescue, other exotic grasses, and other undesirable species
- Mowed the fields in preparation for planting and seeding
- Purchased plug-sized container stock of various native plant species for spring 2012 planting
- Purchased native seed for fall 2011 planting by seed drill
- Purchased materials for construction of bee habitat structures and interpretive sign



View of southern portion of Tincher Openings following the initial herbicide application to prepare the area for fall 2011 native seeding with seed drill.

Photo by Kirk W. Larson

Year Awarded: FY 2011
Project completion: (2012)
Report number: (1 of 1)

Expenditures:

- FY11 NFN3 funding: \$23,000 (for native seed mixture, native plugs, shrubs, sign, materials for bee habitat structures and kiosk; partial cost of herbicide spraying and mowing/seeding)
- Other NFWW funding: \$3,274 (for partial cost herbicide spraying and mowing/seeding; sign frames)
- Other NFWF funding: \$5,583 (for herbicide spraying)

Contractors:

Roundstone Native Seed
JFNew Native Plant Nursery
Eco Logic, LLC
(herbicide spraying/mowing/seeding)

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Pearly crescentspot butterflies on forest edge and common milkweed on periphery of wildlife opening.
Photos by Kirk W. Larson