

Uncompahgre Plateau Project



FY2009 Program of Work



Mission Statement

to improve the ecosystem health and natural functions of the landscape through active restoration projects backed by best science, community input and adaptive management.



Landscape –Scale Project Planning

A. Uncompahgre Mesas Project

Goal: to enhance the resiliency, diversity and productivity of the native ecosystem in the Uncompahgre Mesas area of the Uncompahgre Plateau, CO using best available science and collaboration.

Major 2009 UP Activities and Deliverables: Bi-monthly workgroup meetings, summer field tour to collect pre-treatment data, fall field trip to mark treatment areas, draft Community Wildfire Protection Plan, complete interim grant report (due March 30) and final report (due Nov 09).

Anticipated Agency 2009 Activities: February –begin NEPA process; Summer –pre-treatment monitoring and surveys; Fall –mark treatment areas and begin implementation.

Current Outside Funding Sources: National Forest Foundation Grant (Oct 2008 - Oct 2009): \$20,000

B. Ironhorse/Powerline Project

Goal: to reduce the risk of wildfires while improving habitat and enhancing the resiliency and diversity of the forest in Wildland-Urban Interface areas near the community of Sandborn Park and along the WAPA and Tri-State powerlines within and outside of the Ironhorse Analysis Area.

Major 2009 UP Activities and Deliverables: Coordinate the inventory of invasive species in the Ironhorse Analysis Area, support pretreatment monitoring and implementation, and provide outreach and education. Complete Fiscal Year Grant Report (due Oct. 30).

Anticipated Agency 2009 Activities: The U.S. Forest Service anticipates having a NEPA decision signed in March on approximately 5,000 acres of treatments. The proposed treatment is almost exclusively *po derosa* pine. The project has been divided into two stages for cultural clearance purposes. Work is anticipated to continue on the upper WAPA and Tri-State powerlines.

Current Outside Funding Sources: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (Nov 2007 - Nov 2010): \$150,000

C. North Rim Landscape Strategy

Goal: to work at a landscape scale to build a shared science and knowledge base to inform decision-making across jurisdictional boundaries and to develop strategies for land use management in the North Rim Strategy Landscape Area.

Major 2009 UP Activities and Deliverables: Organize and facilitate two workgroup meetings and a possible field tour in spring or summer. Draft, reproduce and distribute strategy document.

Invasive Species Management

Goal: To facilitate cooperation among all land managers and private landowners for the mapping, monitoring, control, and prevention of weeds within the area. Coordinated efforts

replace jurisdictional boundaries that can be barriers to proper weed management with natural and more logical boundaries.

A. Coordinated Weed Management Areas: Paradox, Tabeguache and Horsefly

Major 2009 UP Activities and Deliverables: Organize and facilitate partner meetings, draft 2009 Annual Operating Plans, assist with the cost share program, coordinate treatment programs, create outreach materials and signage, and summarize total treatment efforts within the WMAs by all partners. Final report for NFWF grant due Sept 30, 2009.

Current Outside Funding Sources: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Pulling Together Grant for the Paradox WMA (Sept 2007 – Sept 2009): \$43,000

B. Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area

Major 2009 UP Activities and Deliverables: Organize and facilitate partner meetings, coordinate 2009 treatment efforts, create outreach materials and signage, summarize total treatment efforts within the WMAs by all partners, and prepare grant report.

Current Outside Funding Sources: Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the National Association of Counties (1 year – agreement pending) : \$40,000.

C. Ute Area

Major 2009 UP Activities and Deliverables: Coordinate 2009 treatment efforts, summarize total treatment efforts by all partners, and prepare grant report.

Current Outside Funding Sources: NRCS-EQIP grant (2007 -2009): \$37,000

D. Individual Invasive Species Management Projects

As needed: Coordinate multi-ownership treatment programs for priority areas targeted by land managers requesting a collaborative approach.

Native Plant Program

Program Goal: To develop an adequate supply of native plant materials for use in restoration and rehabilitation activities in the Colorado Plateau region.

UP Staff Goal: Provide support to the Native Plant Program in the form of: organizing and facilitating meetings, overseeing program focus areas, developing contracts with cooperators, providing education and outreach, attending scientific conferences, documenting the program, creating reports, and pursuing grant opportunities.

A. UP Staff Support of Main Program

For more information, see the **UP Native Plant Program 2009 Program of Work**

2009 General Program Focus Areas:

- 1) Seed Production – Coordination with growers, develop buy-back program,
- 2) Science Studies –Complete, summarize and disseminate necessary studies,
- 3) Maintain Seed Inventory –Develop a seed utilization methodology,
- 4) Program Administration –Maintain a successful and efficient program. Colorado Plateau Native Plant Initiative (CPNPI): Pursue the creation of a CPNPI. Meet with current BLM coordinator of the CPNPI effort in Spring 09. The upper Colorado Plateau Native Seed Demand Survey: Summarize and disseminate the results of survey.

Outreach and Education

A. Lecture Series

Major 2009 UP Activities and Deliverables: Coordinate and host four lectures in 2009

Current Outside Funding Sources: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (Nov 2007 - Nov 2010): \$150,000

B. General Outreach

Major 2009 UP Activities and Deliverables: Continue to create and update the UP website, newsletters, flyers, executive summaries and public presentations. Attend public meetings and conferences as requested.

General Administration

Major 2009 UP Activities and Deliverables:

- Activities:
 - Host monthly UP Technical Committee meetings.
 - Host annual meeting with UP Executive Committee.
 - Manage partnership agreements, MOU's, and personnel service agreements in coordination with Unc/Com.
 - Pursue grant opportunities.
 - Grant/Funds Administration - prepare required reports, monitor status of funds, give direction and approvals to Unc/Com, Inc. on allocations and the authorization to receive and disburse funds.
- Deliverables: Prepare an annual program of work, summary report of past year's accomplishments, financial reports, budgets, and grant activity reports.