

# Basics of Native Grass Seed Collection

December 5, 2009



For many native species, collection of wildland seed is the first step in a lengthy process of making plant materials available for restoration projects. Successful seed collection involves planning ahead and monitoring for maturity. Suitable donor populations must be located and seeds must be collected at the appropriate time once they are mature. The window for collection is highly variable among species, ranging from only a few days to several weeks or longer. If the window is missed, collection must wait until the next year or growing season, at a minimum. (From the Forest Service web site [www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/nativeplantmaterials/collecting.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/nativeplantmaterials/collecting.shtml))

This workshop will provide an overview of techniques and equipment associated with native grass seed collection, processing, and storage. There will be hands on demonstrations of field collection techniques for native grass seed. Participants will learn how to develop seed lot documentation. An introduction to seed transfer guidelines and use of locally adapted native plant materials will also be discussed.



Susan Erwin is the Westside Botanist for the Shasta Trinity National Forest in Weaverville, California. She has been actively collecting native grass seed since 1997. Linnea Hanson is the Ecosystem Manager for the Feather River Ranger District and has been a botanist on the Plumas National Forest in Oroville, California for many years. She has been involved with the Plumas Native Grass Seed Zone Study and Sierra Nevada Seed Zone Study since 1996 to develop seed transfer guidelines.



The workshop will meet Saturday, December 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Holt Hall room 129 at CSU Chico. The registration fee is \$100.00 personal, \$125.00 business (\$90.00 for members of Friends of the Herbarium). Please register in advance; class size is limited to 24 participants (class cancelled without a minimum of 8 participants). For more information about workshop content please contact Linnea Hanson at [lhanson@fs.fed.us](mailto:lhanson@fs.fed.us) or (530) 532-7425. For more information about workshop registration please contact the Chico State Herbarium office at (530) 898-3511 or [NS@csuchico.edu](mailto:NS@csuchico.edu).

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