SOUTH SOUND NATIVE PLANT PRODUCTION

Sierra Smith
New Manager in June

Background:
Botanical Gardens
Organic Farms
Field Botany
University of Washington
Regional Focus and Partnership

Production services support local land managers

- Center for Natural Lands Management
- Washington Department of Natural Resources
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Joint Base Lewis-McChord
1. Production of restoration materials
   - Seeds and Plugs
2. Seed processing
3. Seed storage
4. Rare plant conservation
Plant Production Sites

- **Shotwell’s Landing**
  - Plug Production
  - Small lot seed production
  - Seed processing/storage
  - Rare Plant Conservation

- **Webster’s Nursery**
  - Ag scale seed production

- **Stafford Creek Corrections Center**
  - Plug Production

- **Washington Corrections Center for Women**
  - Future Plug Production
Pathway to Production

1. Wild Collection
2. Shotwell’s seed bed started
3. Plugs Sown
4. Seeds used for restoration
5. Webster’s row planted
6. Seeds used for restoration
7A. Plugs used for restoration
7B. Seeds used for restoration
8. Seeds collected
9. Seeds cleaned & inventoried
10. Year 1
   Year 2
   Year 3
   Year 4
Seed Production

Shotwell’s Landing

Small lots

- 62 seed beds (6700 sq. ft. production)
- 67 species in production
- 15 pounds of seed
Scaling up

Webster’s Nursery

Large scale production

- 500 ft. rows
- 95 rows
- 6.5 acres row production
- 2 acres fescue production
- 40 species
- 239 lbs. seed in 2011
Mechanized Harvest

Flail Vac Seed Harvester
- Grasses, Asters, Armeria...more?
- 10 minutes per row
- Only ripe seed
- Pre-cleaned
Plug Production

Sustainability in Prisons Project

-Managed by Carl Elliot and Evergreen College
-Grown by inmates and students

2012 Production at Shotwell’s and Stafford Creek
On target to produce -500,000 plugs - 49 species

Expanding to WCCW at Purdy Creek for 2013
Shotwell’s Landing:
Regional center for cleaning seed
CNLM production
JBLM land and future nursery
UW researchers
WDNR
Wild Collection
Mechanized Cleaning

Clipper
Hammer
Separator
Mill &
Brush
Machine
Seed Storage

Cold Storage Room
- Constant temperature and humidity

Inventory Database
- Production Reports
- Traceability
Rare Plant Conservation

Shotwell’s Landing:
Seed Increase Beds
Ex-situ holding populations

Webster’s Nursery:
Large scale seed increase for reintroductions
The Way Forward

Comprehensive Regional Seed Strategy:
- Compiled annual seed needs
- South sound prairie mix
- Production strategy to reach goals
- Propagation protocols for all target species

- Become resource for native plant producers