Elwha Revegetation: Lake Aldwell Seeding Trials

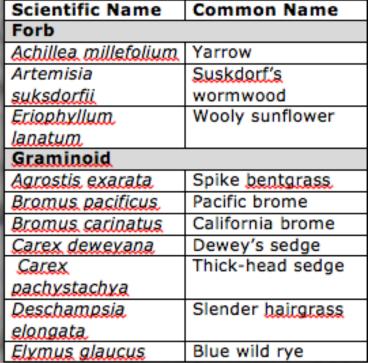
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Background

Deconstruction of the dams began in fall of 2011. 684 acres of bare reservoir sediments exposed. Revegetation efforts are critical to the overall Elwha restoration project.

Questions

- Will native herbs and conifers germinate on silt deposits?
- Will native herbs and conifers survive summer seedling stage on exposed silt?
- Will large wood affect survival of seeded conifers?
- Do some species perform better than others?
- Will application methods affect performance?

Methods and Monitoring

- Site 1 4 herbaceous seed mixes/ 2 application rates.
- Site 2 2 conifer species/ 3 application methods.

Herbs germinated successfully in April. Spring monitoring to begin May 2012. Summer monitoring in August 2012.

Anticipated Results

Aggressive grasses are likely to perform the best. Low density seeding likely better than high density. Nursery stratification and large wood expected to positively effect conifer germination and survival.





