

CRATERS OF THE MOON NATIONAL MONUMENT
1995 Annual Report
prepared by
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
ABERDEEN IDAHO PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

INTRODUCTION

The Aberdeen Plant Materials Center (PMC) entered into an agreement with Craters of the Moon National Monument in 1993 to produce seed and plants of native plant species for revegetation purposes and to develop propagation methods. This agreement is in effect through 1996.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Due to delays in beginning road construction in 1995, plant propagation was curtailed in mid-March. In early February, propagation of rubber rabbitbrush *Chrysothamnus nauseosus* accession no. 9067522 and antelope bitterbrush *Purshia tridentata* accession no. 9067521 began in the greenhouse. The plants were maintained in the greenhouse until mid-September when they were moved outside to a temporary lathhouse to overwinter. 1956 Rubber Rabbitbrush and 340 Bitterbrush plants are being stored in the lathhouse.

Needleandthread *Stipa comata* accession no. 9067516 seed was harvested from Field 3 in July and personnel from Craters NM also collected additional seed to augment seed produced at the PMC. 0.5 pounds (clean weight) were produced. Craters personnel also collected 5 pounds (uncleaned weight) of rubber rabbitbrush to augment previous collections in case of loss of seed viability from earlier collections.

TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENTS

Work continues in preparation of a manuscript "Phenology Tracking Leading to Seed Development of *Mimulus nanus*, *Eriogonum ovalifolium*, and *Phacelia hastata*" which are important plants found at the Monument. This study will provide guidance for future seed collection of these species.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write the USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenues, SW. Washington, D.C., 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.