

PROGRESS REPORT

LICHENS AND AIR QUALITY IN THE LYE BROOK WILDERNESS OF GREEN MT. NATIONAL FOREST.

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This project was to assess the air quality of the Lye Brook Wilderness by using lichens as indicators and to prepare a species list of the lichens found in the wilderness area.

Three weeks were spent in the wilderness in August, 1993. Over 550 lichen collections were obtained at 18 localities. These collections will provide the species list and the distributions of the species most sensitive to sulfur dioxide. At four localities additional material of four species was collected for elemental analysis.

Most of the lichens collected have been identified and deposited in the Univ. of Minnesota Herbarium. The preliminary species list includes 127 species. The elemental analysis material has been cleaned and analyzed but the results have not been compiled.

The project will be completed and the report prepared by September, 1994.