



Building a Native Plant Materials Program

Bureau of Land Management

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BLM National Plant Conservation



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Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation

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Plant Conservation

What We Manage



The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public lands, from grasslands to high desert, from coastal areas to alpine forests. An immense diversity of native plant communities, many rare or endangered, define the character of these lands. These plant communities support a diversity of wildlife, fish and vital ecological functions.

Within these lands, the BLM manages more than 57 million acres of sagebrush habitat in the Western United States, which support more than 300 species of birds and other wildlife. The BLM also manages desert, riparian, forest, grassland and alpine ecosystems.

The success of the BLM in meeting its multiple use mandate is closely connected to the diversity and abundance of native plants on the public lands. Native plants form the ecosystems

that support our quality of life and our economic prosperity. They are the source of food and shelter for wildlife; they cycle and clean fresh water, provide soil stability and ultimately provide the oxygen that animals and humans need to survive.

In addition, native plants define many of our iconic American landscapes, reinforcing our sense of place. The stately Douglas-fir of the Northwest, the majestic redwoods of California, expansive prairie grasses of the Midwest, the tall saguaro cacti of the Southwestern desert, the colorful maples of New England – these are our Treasured Landscapes. The BLM's Plant Conservation Program helps ensure that America's native plant communities continue to thrive on the public lands.

http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/more/fish_wildlife_and/plants.html

BLM National Plant Conservation

What We Do

The mission of the BLM's plant conservation and management activities is to ensure that native plants and native plant communities on public lands are managed, conserved, and/or restored for the benefit of present and future generations. The Program works to reduce or eliminate impacts on native plant communities caused by 21st century challenges such as invasive nonnative plants, climate change, increased development or severe fire cycles.

As plant and animal species become threatened or endangered because of loss of habitat, and as climate change alters native plant communities, the BLM is placing a renewed emphasis on native plant conservation programs.

The BLM's work in plant conservation and management is done in partnership with all BLM programs and in cooperation with other federal and state agencies, industry, and the American people to achieve its goals.

Click on the links below for more information.

Note: Case Studies provided in these links represent only a few of the thousands of on-the-ground projects conducted by the BLM and its partners each year. For more information on field-level work, go to www.blm.gov, find the map and click on the state you are interested in. That will take you to the BLM State and Field Office websites.

Native Plant Materials



The Native Plant Materials Development Program coordinates the development of native plants on a national scale. As part of

Native Plant Communities



The BLM conserves and restores native plant communities on public lands, working across all BLM programs as well as with

Rare or of Cultural Value



More than 700 rare plant species are found on BLM lands, 400 of which are found only on BLM lands. In addition, many plants

http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/more/fish_wildlife_and/plants.html

BLM Public Lands



<http://www.blm.gov/nstc/jurisdictions/>

Inhabitants of Public Lands



BLM Wyoming Plant Conservation



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Plant Conservation Program

Wyoming

Wyoming

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Plant Conservation Program Mission: The BLM Wyoming Plant Conservation Program (PCP) strives to protect and sustain native plant communities and the ecosystems in which they are found, and to prevent plant species from becoming rare and threatened with extinction. We work to minimize short- and long-term loss of biological resources on lands that may be subject to development for energy, minerals and recreation, and to facilitate recovery of disturbed lands.



Thank you to all of our 2010 mentors, interns and seasonal employees. They collectively made 243 native seed collections last field season, nearly tripling the amount of collections we have statewide!

The Plant Conservation Program is preparing for the 2011 field season. We are going to be monitoring BLM sensitive plant species, collecting native seeds, identifying plant species and taking herbarium vouchers. Visit our "Get Involved" page if you would like to participate!

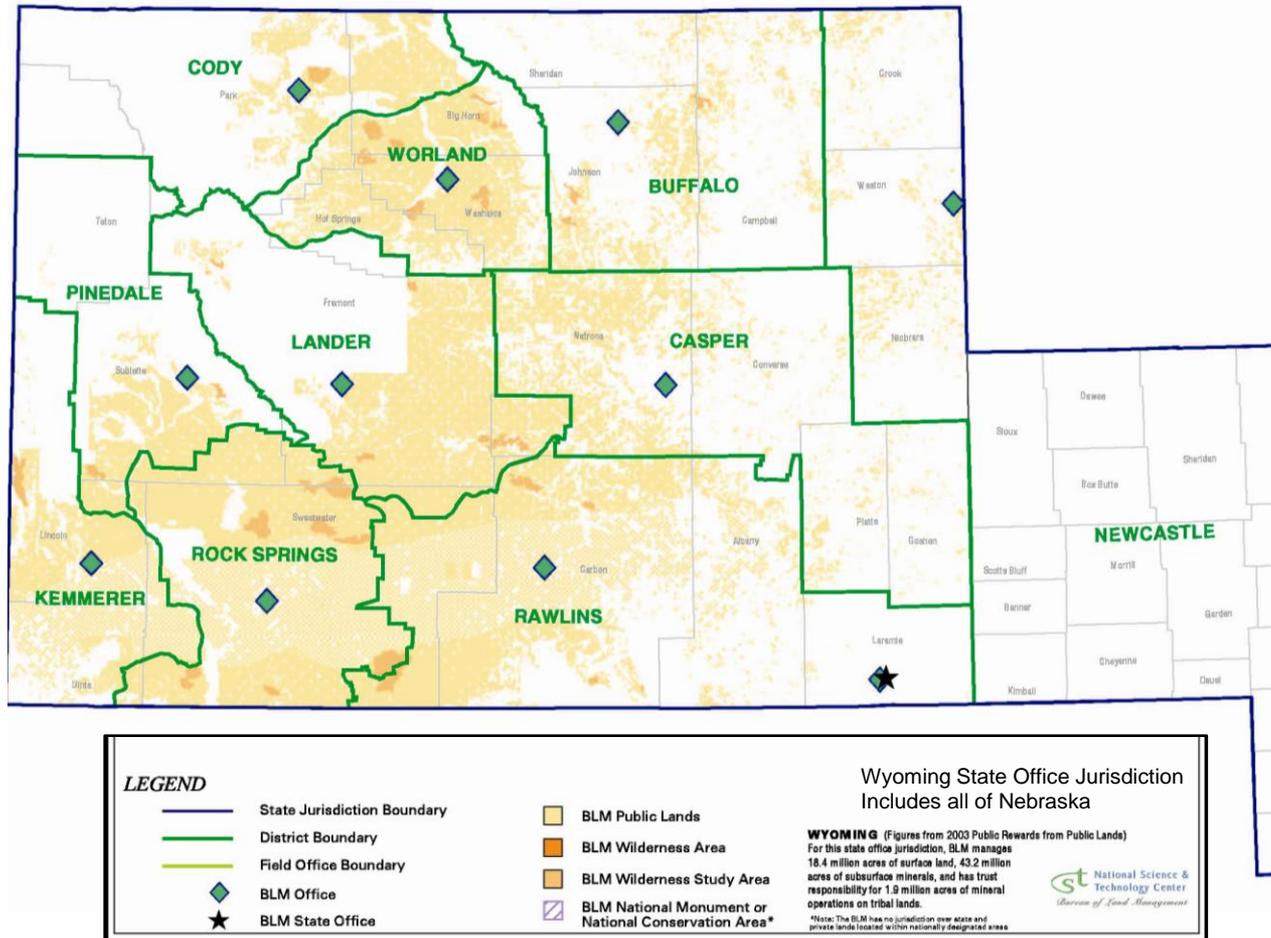
Please explore our website to discover what is currently happening with the Plant Conservation Program!

BLM National Plant Conservation Program

The BLM Wyoming Plant Conservation Program wishes to extend thanks and appreciation to all of our partners! They make our work possible.

<http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/programs/pcp.html>

BLM Wyoming Public Lands



High Plains District includes Buffalo, Casper, and Newcastle Field Offices

<http://www.blm.gov/nstc/jurisdictions/>

BLM Wyoming Plant Conservation

Collection of native seeds is conducted following protocols established by the Seeds of Success Program



Seeds of Success

SEEDS

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OF SUCCESS

[Partners](#)[Resources](#)

Seeds of Success (SOS) was established in 2001 by the [Bureau of Land Management](#) (BLM) in partnership with the [Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew Millennium Seed Bank](#) (MSB) to collect, conserve, and develop native plant materials for stabilizing, rehabilitating and restoring lands in the United States. The initial partnership between BLM and MSB quickly grew to include many additional partners, such as botanic gardens, arboreta, zoos, and municipalities. These [SOS teams](#) share a common protocol and coordinate seed collecting and species targeting efforts. SOS is a vital part of the Native Plant Materials Development Program.

To date, SOS has over [12,000 native seed collections](#) in its National Collection. This material is being used for research such as germination trials, common garden studies, and protocol establishment. Portions of each collection are also being held in long-term storage facilities for conservation.

In June of 2008, a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) was signed by the Bureau of Land Management, Chicago Botanic Garden, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, New England Wild Flower Society, New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, North Carolina Botanical Garden, and the Zoological Society of San Diego. The MOU ratifies Seeds of Success as a national native seed collection program in the United States coordinated by BLM.

If you have questions about the Seeds of Success Program, contact [Megan Haidet](#).



Seeds of Success News

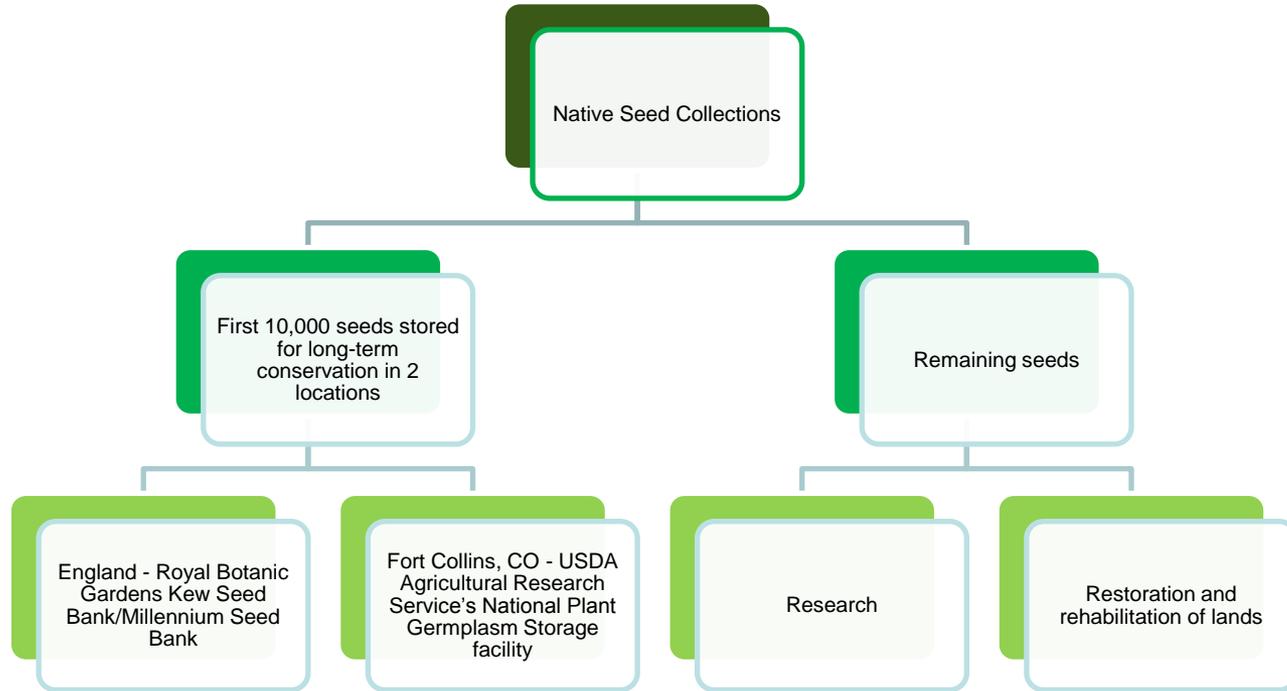
The SOS Technical Protocol has been revamped, [click here to download the new version](#).

Additional documents including quick guides have been added to [Forms & Training](#).

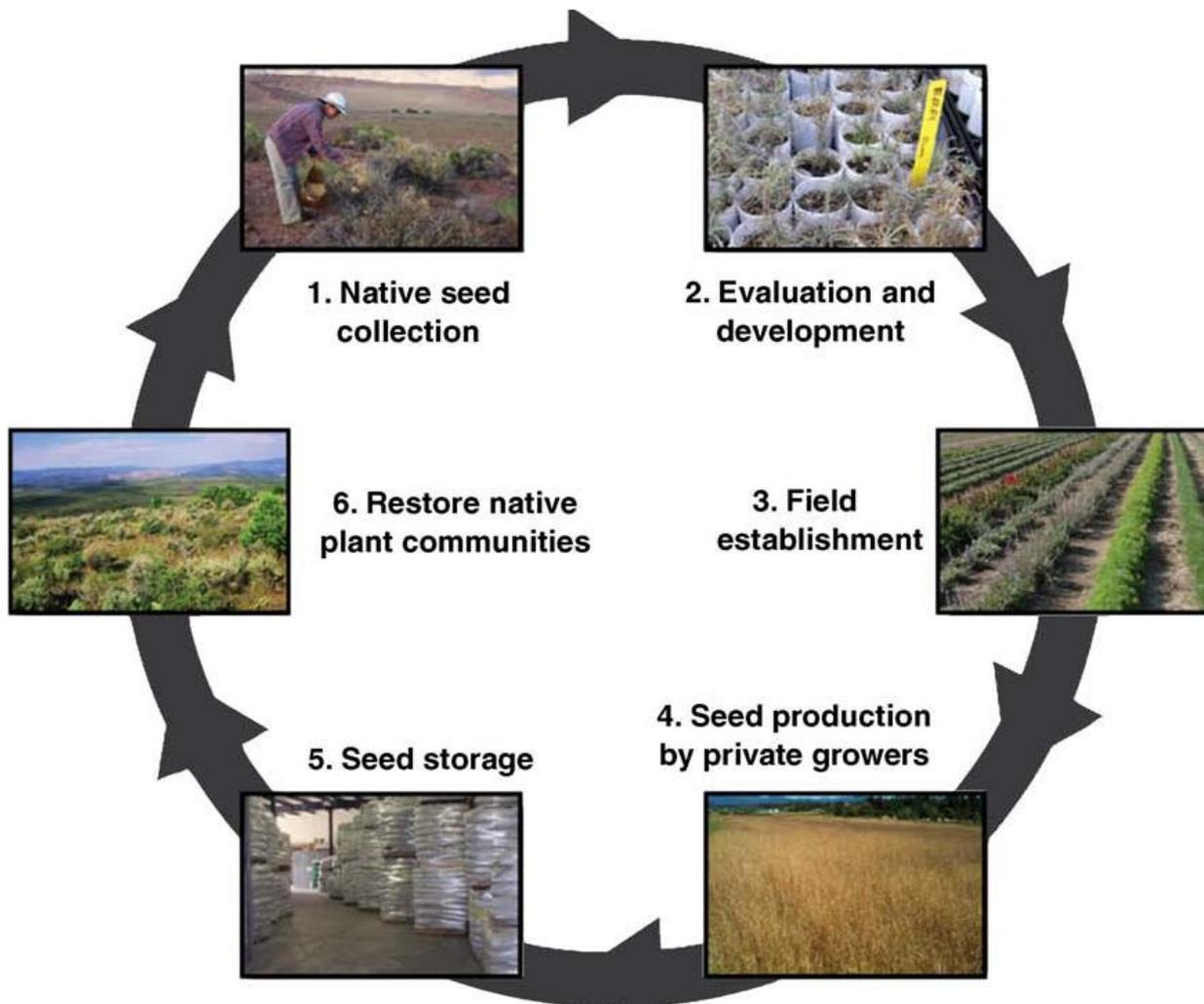
2010 was our biggest year yet with about 2,700 collections and we're looking forward to seeing what is collected in 2011!

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/sos/>

What happens to the seeds?



Native Plant Materials Development Process



BLM WY High Plains District Plant Conservation

Goals

- Support BLM WY National Plant Material Development Program
- Increase availability and use of appropriate native plant materials for use in local reclamation projects





BLM WY High Plains District Plant Conservation

Objectives

- 2011
 - 15 native seed collections of varying species
 - Launch Seeds of Success program in Casper Field Office
- 2012
 - Collect seeds within Buffalo and Newcastle Field Office boundaries
 - Offer 3 plant field identification classes for BLM and non-BLM personnel
 - Recruit volunteers
 - Establish working relationships with local community colleges
 - Two (2) on-the-ground reclamation project using seed collected locally

Networking

Current Participants

- Wyoming Youth Conservation Corp
- BLM/Wind River Indian Reservation Youth Group
- Casper Field Office Personnel



Potential Local Partners

- Industry – coal, oil, gas, wind, uranium
- Existing and emerging plant nurseries (business/hobbyists) willing to increase native seed quantities
- University of Wyoming
- Community colleges
- State of Wyoming (Game and Fish, Department of Transportation, etc.)
- Conservation Districts
- National Resource Conservation Service
- Local Conservation Organizations



Stage of Network Development

Based on the Wyoming Native Plants Material Program:

Visioning - complete

Conceptual - complete

Stages remaining at the High Plains District Level:

Research and Development - ongoing

Implementation Planning - ongoing

Active - work on building relationships with potential partners

Evaluating - working on this winter

Moving forward

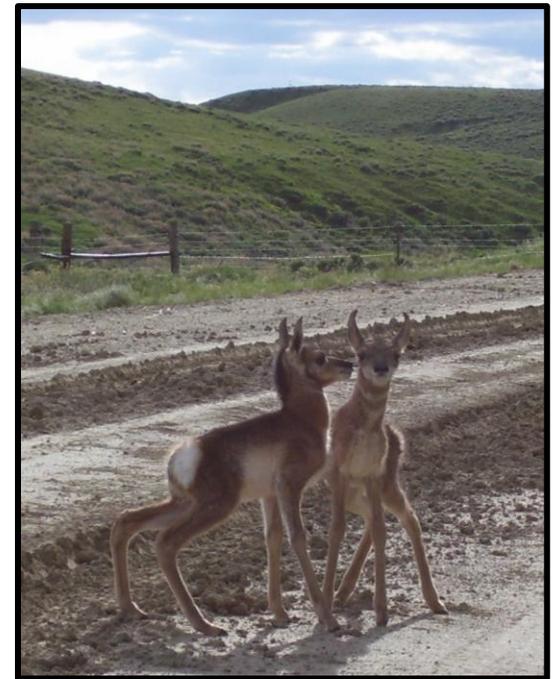
- Developed positive seed collection relationships with youth crews and BLM personnel and will work on building relationships outside of BLM.
- Seed collections were accomplished using established protocols.
- Methods of identifying potential collection sites and monitoring were successful, but could be more time effective. The methodology will be worked on before the next field season.
- Seed collected in 2011 will be used for a trial reclamation project in 2012.



Network Geography and Benefits

The network is currently being developed in the Casper Field Office. Future networking will expand throughout northeastern Wyoming.

Those who use or are interested in the habitats and rangelands of Wyoming will benefit, i.e. landowners, industry, conservation groups, livestock producers, students, etc.



Network Benefits



Evaluating Network Potential and Performance

	Evaluation Criteria	Comments
1	Advance strategic priorities of the agency	Network goals follow those outlined by the BLM Wyoming Native Plant Materials Development Program. Seed collection protocols set up by the Seeds of Success program are followed.
2	Leverages funding	Partnerships will be formed to assist in the seed collection work and increasing amount of native seed for use in restoration projects.
3	Demonstrates big-picture thinking	Emphasis is on working with youth crews and local community colleges to foster relationships and provide an opportunity for students. In addition, the seed collected contributes to the genetic diversity of seed in the seed banks.
4	Demonstrates entrepreneurship	With the challenges of Wyoming's dry and arid climate and the need for native plant materials, the network offers the opportunity to work together and try new methods and partnerships.
5	Management of formal agreements and contracts	Increasing the amount of native seed (nurseries) and reclamation work may be facilitated in the future by the use of contracts.
6	Demonstrates effective external and internal communication	Currently working on getting the internal communication channels to flow before moving on to the external.
7	Demonstrates accountability	Following Seeds of Success and BLM Wyoming protocols for seed collection, processing, and recording of data.
8	Potential as a network management model	To be determined after we begin work in field offices outside of Casper.

Lessons Learned about Network Management

With less than one year of government service, addressing and understanding the significance of rules and regulations requires careful attention and

be open to the possibility of partnerships from many sources!

