

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
Oregon State Office
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208

In Reply Refer to:
6840 (OR-931) P

April 9, 2003

EMS TRANSMISSION 04/10/2003
Information Bulletin No. OR-2003-126

To: District Managers: Burns, Vale, Prineville, Spokane, Lakeview

From: Deputy State Director for Resource Planning, Use and Protection

Subject: Request for Native Plant Materials Development Information

DD: 05/14/2003

The purpose of this Information Bulletin (IB) is to acquire information to assist eastside districts in developing a Native Plant Materials Development Program (NPMDP) for restoration and rehabilitation with native plant materials. Current policy on the use of native plant materials in the OR/WA Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is stated in Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2001-014 (<http://web.or.blm.gov/records/im/2001/im-or-2001-014.htm>).

An Eastern Oregon Native Seed Growing Workshop was held in Burns on January 22-23, 2003. At a meeting with BLM managers following this workshop, the managers requested that a template be developed to help implement a NPMDP strategy for eastern Oregon. The attached questionnaire is the first step in developing this strategy.

The questionnaire is a series of fourteen questions and nine tables asking you to list different types of restoration and rehabilitation projects you have done and will be doing, the types of materials you used and hope to attain, and where you obtained those materials and plan to obtain the materials in the future.

Please send in your completed questionnaires in electronic format. The questionnaire is available in Microsoft Word format for downloading from <ftp://ftpint.or.blm.gov/pub/incoming/Botany>.

Completed questionnaires should be submitted by close of business May 14, 2003, to Joan Seevers, OR/WA BLM State Botanist.

Background: The FY 2002 Interior Appropriations Act directed Department of the Interior and U.S. Department of Agriculture agencies to develop a long-term program to supply and manage native plant materials for restoration and rehabilitation projects on Federal lands. In FY 2001 and FY 2002, the BLM directed about \$5 million and \$4.7 million, respectively, to initiate this effort. Approximately 70 percent of the money was provided to BLM State Offices to fund specific projects that further development of such a program.

2

The goal of the interagency program is to promote partnerships and cooperation among Federal and State agencies to develop a self-sustaining, long-term program to supply and manage native plant materials. Other goals include:

- Development of coordinated and interagency strategies

- Partnerships with local, State, and Federal agencies and the private sector
- Increased seed/plant production of native grasses, forbs, shrubs, and selected trees
- Enhanced native seed/plant production capability at State and Federal facilities
- Expansion of State and Federal seed processing and/or storage facilities
- Development of a native plant materials program that complements rather than competes with private industry
- Research and development of new native plant materials that meet the needs of public land management agencies
- Development of native seed transfer guidelines

Coordination/Contacts: Field offices in eastern Oregon and Washington are requested to share this questionnaire with the interdisciplinary teams working with restoration and rehabilitation projects. Questions should be directed to Joan Seevers or Linda Mazzu, Oregon State Office, at 503-808-6048.

Districts with Unions are reminded to notify their unions of this IB and satisfy any bargaining obligations before implementation. Your servicing Human Resources Office or Labor Relations Specialist can provide you assistance in this matter.

Signed by
Harold J. Belisle
(Acting)

Authenticated by
Mary O'Leary
Management Assistant

2 Attachments

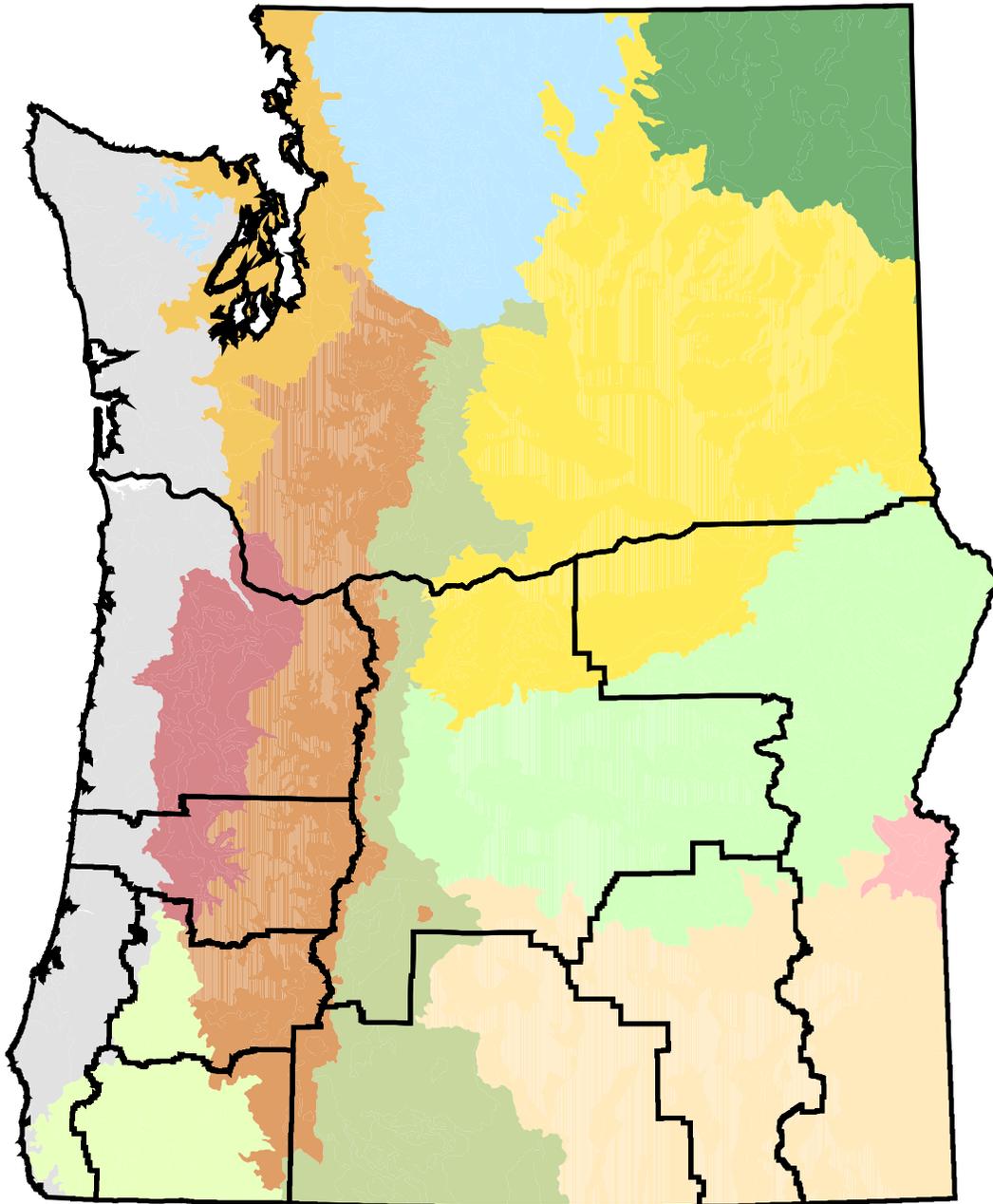
- 1 - [Questionnaire](#) for the OR/WA BLM Native Plant Materials Development Program Strategy (20pp)
- 2 - [Map](#) of OR/WA BLM District Boundaries and EPA Level 3 Ecoregions (1p)

Distribution

WO-230 (204LS)(Steve Caicco) - 1

Oregon/Washington BLM Boundaries with EPA Level 3 Ecoregions

for more Ecoregion information see <http://www.epa.gov/wed/pages/ecoregions/ecoregions.htm>



United States Department of the Interior
 Bureau of Land Management
 Oregon State Office
 P.O. Box 2965
 Portland, Oregon 97208

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.



Legend

Oregon/Washington BLM District Boundaries	Klamath Mountains
Blue Mountains	North Cascades
Cascades	Northern Basin and Range
Coast Range	Northern Rockies
Columbia Plateau	Puget Lowland
Eastern Cascades Slopes and Foothills	Snake River Plain
	Willamette Valley

QUESTIONNAIRE

OREGON AND WASHINGTON BLM NATIVE PLANT MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

INSTRUCTIONS

Fill out each section with as much information as you have. Examples have been provided. Contact Berta Youtie (byoutie@tnc.org; 541-447-7651) if you have questions about how to fill out the form.

A Microsoft Word document version of this questionnaire is available from <ftp://ftpint.or.blm.gov/pub/incoming/Botany>. Please fill out your answers electronically. Your completed questionnaire should be submitted electronically to Joan Seevers (Joan_Seevers@blm.gov) and Berta Youtie (byoutie@tnc.org).

More information about the EPA ecoregion maps is available from <http://www.epa.gov/wed/pages/ecoregions/ecoregions.htm>. The Oregon State Office is obtaining permission to post the Level 3-4 EPA Ecoregion map on the OR/WA BLM GIS web site for your use (<http://www.or.blm.gov/gis>).

INTRODUCTION

An interagency Native Seed Growing Workshop was held at Burns, Oregon, in January, 2003.

One of the objectives agreed upon at the manager's meeting, following the workshop, was to come to an agreement on how we can improve the availability and diversity of native seeds and increase the use of local ecotypes. In talking about the need to develop an eastern Oregon and Washington Native Plant Materials strategy for federal lands restoration and rehabilitation, it was determined that a reasonable first step would be to start at the field level (district) and ask a series of questions in order to see what each office's short and long term needs are and to help focus on the areas where further discussion is needed. This data can then become the basis to develop the strategy for Native Plant Material Development Program for eastern Oregon and Washington. Listed below are the major areas of question.

- Identify objectives for use of locally collected species (what scale of projects?)
- Identify the desired scale of collection for each species.
- Identify opportunities to share collected plant materials and collection areas across administrative boundaries (districts, forests, etc.)
- Identify reasonable targets for building collected seed stocks for different scales of projects in the short-term and long-term
- Identify use of local collections vs. cultivars, given supply and demand (short and long term)
- Identify partnerships with state and local agencies, organizations, and the private sector

Attachment 1-1

The group agreed that a reasonable first step would be to start at the field level to scope potential native plant use. Following this, a small group of district representatives would meet to consolidate an eastside strategy.

The following questionnaire has been developed to help answer these general questions.

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

District	
Name of District Contact	
Phone Number of District Contact	
Names of Individuals Providing Input	

BEGINNING OF QUESTIONNAIRE

Past use of Plant Materials Purchased for your District's Projects

1. Using Table I, estimate the past and present use of plant materials on your District. Include project estimates under the following categories:
 - A. Number of acres treated

		Acres	Local native	Native not local wild-collected	Cultivar native	Non-Native		Project Number
Noxious weeds								
Rehabilitation or Restoration after noxious weed treatments								
Wildlife								
Sage grouse habitat rehabilitation or restoration	<i>Sage grouse Habitat restoration</i>	100		Wy big sage/50 Lbs	Goldar bluebunch/100 lbs		Sage/ \$450 Bluebunch/\$638	1150 1150
T&E species animals/insect								
Wildlife Habitat rehabilitation or restoration other than sage grouse and T&E								
Botany								
T&E species plants								
Timber sale mitigation								
Minerals and Energy								
Mining rehabilitation /gravel pits								
Oil/gas/wind/geothermal								
Other								

Attachment 1-4

2. Using Table II, Identify the Species in Table I using the following 4 categories: Locally Adapted Native, Native not Local, Native cultivar, and Non-Native. We need to know what species have been used in the past.

Table II Species, geographic origin, propagation information and costs for plant materials used in projects described in Table I

IDENTIFY THE SPECIES IN TABLE I USING THE FOLLOWING 4 CATEGORIES: Locally Adapted Native, Native not local, Native cultivar, and Non-Native			
Locally Adapted Native (used on the District or Forest in the past)			
<i>For example: Great Basin wildrye originally collected from the Crooked River drainage and grown out at L&H Seed. Cost \$26.50 lb.</i>			
Species	Origin	Grow Out Location (contracted?)	Contract Price per LB
Native not local- perhaps wild collected			
<i>For example: Wyoming big sage wild collected in Utah and seeded on the Burns BLM District</i>			
Species	Seed Supplier	Contract Price per LB	
Native Cultivar			
<i>For example: Anatone bluebunch wheatgrass purchased from Rainier Seed at \$15/lb</i>			
Species	Seed Supplier	Contract price per LB	

Type of Project	Name of project	Monitoring (X)		Name of project
		Quantitative	Qualitative	
Wildlife				
Sage grouse Habitat rehabilitation or restoration	<i>Sagegrouse Habitat Restoration</i>	X	X	<i>Photo Plots every year and line intercept monitoring pre and post treatment</i>
T&E species animals/insects				
Wildlife habitat rehabilitation or restoration other than sage grouse and T&E				
Botany				
T&E species plants				
Timber sale mitigation				
Minerals and Energy				
Mining rehabilitation /gravel pits				
Oil/gas/wind/geothermal				
Other				

Attachment 1-7

4. For restoration projects that have been completed in your District using locally adapted natives, what are the lessons learned from the project (Successes and Failures)? Please provide the objective and a narrative for your 3 most successful and unsuccessful projects using locally adapted natives. Provide photos if available.

Attachment 1-8

5. For those projects where you used locally-adapted native plant materials in your restoration (as detailed in Table IV), how did you accomplish

the project (i.e. was the project in house or contracted)?

Table IV Project Implementation Information

Example Table

Activity	Within Agency or Private Contract? (Check One)		Name of Employee/ Private Co.	Contact for Private Co. (Address, phone#, etc)
	Agency	Private		
Project Name: <i>Sagegrouse Habitat Restoration</i>				
Project design	X		<i>Nora Taylor</i>	
Plant material purchaser	X		<i>Nora Taylor</i>	
Seed or cuttings collection	X		<i>Seasonal employee</i>	
Seed cleaning/drying	X		<i>Stone Nursery and Lucky peak Nursery</i>	
Seed storage	X		<i>Burns District Storage</i>	
Seed or plant grow out		X	<i>Stone and Lucky Peak Nursery</i>	<i>- J. Herbert Stone Nursery 541-858-6100 Central Point, Oregon - Lucky Peak Nursery 208-343-1977 Boise, Idaho</i>
Project implementation	X		<i>Nora Taylor</i>	
Project monitoring and evaluation	X		<i>Nora Taylor</i>	

Attachment 1-9

Fill out this table IV for each project by copying and pasting this table here into question 5 for each project. (Modify the table as needed if you are referring to plant materials other than seeds)

Activity	Within Agency or Private Contract? (Check One)		Name of Employee/ Private Co.	Contact for Private Co. (Address, phone#, etc)
	Agency	Private		
Project Name: _____				
Project design				
Plant material purchaser				
Seed or cuttings collection				
Seed cleaning/drying				
Seed storage				
Seed or plant grow out				
Project implementation				
Project monitoring and evaluation				

Attachment 1-10

6. For locally-adapted native plant materials used in your restoration(s), what implementation methods did you use? (Feel free to alter Table V to meet your needs)

Table V Implementation Methods

Name of project	Species	Planting Method - Manual, Aerial, Broadcast, etc	Other	Comments (type of equipment)
<i>For example: Sagegrouse Habitat Restoration</i>	<i>Wyoming big sage</i>	<i>Aerial-Broadcast</i>	<i>Snow Fence</i>	<i>Disk fall, Disk spring, Tractor mounted broadcast seeder, Rubber Tire Roller</i>

FUTURE USE OF PLANT MATERIALS ON DISTRICT PROJECTS

7. Review land-use plans and other planning documents to determine restoration projects and needs for the short-term, 2004 through 2009 and the long-term, 2010 through 2015.

Please identify priority of high (H), medium (M), or low (L).

Table VI Short-term projections (2004-2009) for native plant material needs

NATIVE PLANT MATERIAL SHORT-TERM PROJECTED NEEDS 2004-2009									
Type of Project	Name of Project	Priority (H,M,L)	# of Acres	Species and Lbs. of Seed or # of Plants				Seed or Plant Costs	Funding Sources/ BPS Project Number
				Local native	Native not local	Cultivar native	Non-native		
Range Rehabilitation									
Standard and Guides									
Other Allotment Management									
Rehabilitation after sagebrush control									
Rehabilitation after juniper control									
Fish and Hydrology									

Rehabilitation or Restoration of wetlands, riparian or special habitats									
Watershed Management									
Rehab wildland-urban interface									
Reseeding after wild/prescribe fires									
Stabilization (<1year)									
Rehabilitation (<3years)									
Restoration (>3years)									

Attachment 1-12

Type of Project	Name of Project	Priority (H,M,L)	# of Acres	Species and Lbs. of Seed or # of Plants				Seed or Plant Costs	Funding Sources/BPS Project Number
				Local native	Native not local	Cultivar native	Non-native		
Transportation									
Road obliteration									
Road construction, improvements (culverts)									
Erosion control									
Noxious weeds									
Rehabilitation after noxious weed treatments									
Wildlife									
Sage grouse habitat rehabilitation or restoration									
T&E species animals/insects									
Wildlife habitat rehabilitation or restoration other than sage-grouse and T&E									
Botany									
T&E species plants									
Timber sale mitigation									
Minerals and Energy									
Mining rehabilitation /gravel pits									
Oil/gas/wind/geothermal									
Other									

Other									

8. List your target species of locally adapted natives by ecoregion (Map of ecoregions provided) for use on your District. List the species within ecoregion if there are other edaphic or climatic factors to consider. Please describe why you broke out the finer zones to help identify the spatial scale. Prioritize the species on your lists by high (H), medium (M), and low (L). Identify whether you would need an initial collection of 5 to 10 lbs for seed increase (commercial production) or whether you know of an accession already in production and source identified.

Please limit your H species to 5 in each ecoregion that are not already being grown commercially. The process can be costly and we need to limit the program to a select few at a time.

*Districts may have done this work previously for Seeds of Success or other programs. Please just provide lists already developed. Paste in your tables if already developed and add in the extra information.

For example:

Boardman Conservation Area, TNC

Ecoregion: Columbia Basin

- Broken into finer zones than ecoregion because there's a difference by elevation zones and their resultant precipitation zones.

Precipitation zone 6 to 12 inches below 3500 ft.

- Bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*) – H – in production at L&H Seed
- Sandberg's bluegrass (*Poa sandbergii*)– H – in production at L&H Seed
- Bottlebrush squirreltail (*Elymus elymoides*) – H – in production at L&H Seed
- Great basin wildrye (*Leymus cinerius*) – H- in production at L&H Seed
- Needle and thread grass (*Stipa comata*)- M – in production at L&H Seed
- Sanddropseed- (*Sporobolus cryptandrus*)- M- need initial collection
- Western yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)- H- in production at L&H Seed
- woollypod locoweed (*Astragalus purshii*)- M – need initial collection
- tailcup lupine (*Lupinus caudatus*) – M- need initial collection
- hot rock penstemon (*Penstemon deustus*)-M- need initial collection
- longleaf phlox (*Phlox longifolia*)- H- need initial collection
- sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata ssp wyomingensis*) – H- Needs to be directly collected and seeded.
- Antelope bitterbrush (*Purshia tridentata*)- H- I believe this is available?

Precipitation zone 12-20 above 3500 ft

- Bluebunch wheatgrass (*Pseudoroegneria spicata*) – H -
- Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*)- H- in production at BFI Seeds
- Mountain brome (*Bromus carinatus*)- M- in production at Rainier Seed
- Prairie junegrass (*Koeleria cristata*)- M – in production at Rainier seed
- Big squirreltail (*Elymus elymoides*)- H- in production at L&H Seed
- Bigheaded clover (*Trifolium macrocephalum*)- M –need of initial collection
- Tapertip hawsbeard (*Crepis acuminata*)- M- Burns District has this in production
- Silky lupine (*Lupinus sericeus*)- M – need of initial collection

List your answer to question 8 here:

9. Estimate how many pounds of each of the locally-adapted natives identified in question 8 the District would need in the short-term (2004-2009) and long-term 2010-1015.

Table VIII Species from list above short term and long term needs.

Example Table VIII

Ecoregion and Finer Zone	Species	Short-term 2004-2009-#lbs	Long-term 2010 -2015 lbs	Annual needs LBS
<i>Columbia Basin 6 to 12 precipitation</i>	<i>Bluebunch wheatgrass</i>	<i>150,000</i>	<i>250,000</i>	<i>30,000 to 50,000</i>
<i>Columbia Basin 6 to 12 precipitation</i>	<i>Sandberg's bluegrass</i>	<i>300,000</i>	<i>350,000</i>	
<i>Columbia Basin 6 to 12 precipitation</i>	<i>Bottlebrush squirreltail</i>	<i>150,000</i>	<i>200,000</i>	
<i>Columbia Basin 6 to 12 precipitation</i>	<i>Oregon sunshine</i>	<i>6,000</i>	<i>8,000</i>	
<i>Columbia Basin 6 to 12 precipitation</i>	<i>Western yarrow</i>	<i>8,000</i>	<i>10,000</i>	

Please fill out this Table VIII

Ecoregion and Finer Zone	Species	Short-term 2004-2009-#lbs	Long-term 2010 -2015 lbs	Annual needs LBS

10. Who are your District's partners or potential partners in the Native Plant Materials Program (other BLM districts, USFS, non-profit, Tribes, NRCS, ODFW, local seed companies etc)? Are agreements already in place to work with your partners or do we need to develop other agreements?

Table IX Partners and Agreements by Ecoregion.

Example Table IX

Partners	Ecoregion	Current	Potential	Agreement in Place	Need an Agreement?
<i>TNC</i>	<i>Columbia Basin</i>	<i>X</i>		<i>X- MOU and National Assistance Agreement</i>	
<i>NRCS</i>	<i>Columbia Basin</i>		<i>X</i>		<i>X-CMA</i>

<i>Hanford National Monument</i>	<i>Columbia Basin</i>		<i>X</i>		<i>X-</i>
<i>BFI Seed Co</i>	<i>Columbia Basin</i>	<i>X</i>		<i>X - seed contract</i>	

Please fill out this Table IX

Partners	Ecoregion	Current	Potential	Agreement in Place	Need an Agreement?

11. What information or training does your District need in order to embark on a long-term commitment to a Native Plant Materials Program?

Attachment 1-19

12. Are there any other obstacles besides dollars that would assist the District with the development of a Native Plant Materials program?

13. Are there any research needs such as seed dormancy, spatial scale of collections, monitoring etc.?

14. Each District may assign a team to assist with the development of native plant materials for restoration/rehabilitation. Please provide the names of the team members. We realize Districts do not have sufficient funding for this program. We hope that by assessing the needs and developing a program strategy we can make a better case for this important program.

Attachment 1-20