

Executing the National Seed Strategy

Native Seed Development and Use

Successful restoration of arid lands in the Southwest is challenging and one factor contributing to the low success rate is the lack of appropriate seeds. In the last decade, the Bureau of Land Management has used the National Native Seed Strategy as a framework to increase the supply of seed from species and sources that are better suited to their environments. This native plant materials project work will help inform where and how best to use seed, identify windows to optimize seed germination, and develop best management practices for seed-based restoration specific to New Mexico. Together, this increase in regionally appropriate seed and supplemental planning tools will facilitate a restoration process that results in native plant communities that are more resilient to future disturbances and climate change.



*Seed production field of prairie coneflower (*Ratibida columnifera*) with local grower in Isleta, NM, producing native seeds to be used in restoration projects.*

 **Seeds are vital to the restoration of lands impacted by damage from fire, drought, and human activities**

 **Seed collection benefits not only BLM, but other Federal, State, Tribal, and Local Governments**

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