



# Seeds of Success 2010 Annual Report



Seeds of Success (SOS) is the national native seed collection program, led by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in partnership with federal agencies and non-federal organizations. As the wildland seed collecting phase of the BLM's Native Plant Materials Development Program (NPMDP), SOS's mission is to collect wildland native seed for research, development, germplasm conservation, and ecosystem restoration.

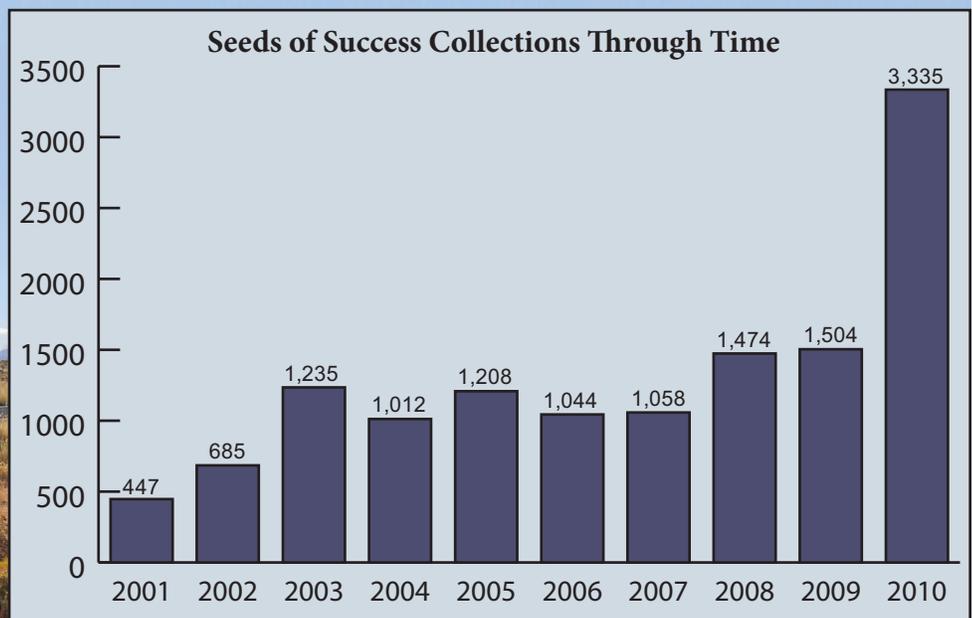
The long-term conservation outcome of the SOS program is to support the NPMDP, whose mission is to increase the quality and quantity of native plant materials available for restoring and supporting resilient ecosystems. Healthy ecosystems provide the essential ecological services upon which all life depends, including our own. Native plant communities provide the foundation for fish and wildlife habitat. These communities support the mandates of federal land managing agencies as wilderness areas, habitat for special status, threatened and endangered species, and as sources of recreational- and extraction-based income, strengthening local economies. Additionally, native seed collecting and the workforce created to make these collections, support the Secretary of the Interior's Initiatives in Climate Change, America's Great Outdoors, and Youth.

## Seeds of Success 2010: An Exemplary Year

Seeds of Success has experienced exponential growth over the last few years. Beginning in 2001, with a handful of Bureau of Land Management collection teams in the western United States, annual collection totals topped out around 1,000 collections. Today, SOS has grown to include more than 65 collecting teams and 13,000 total collections. In 2010, a record setting 3,344 native seed collections were made by BLM and partnering seed collection teams. Recent growth in the National Collection can be attributed to increased interest from new partners, favorable weather conditions and funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

2010 Seeds of Success Collections in Brief	
Total 2010 Seed Collections	3,344
Unique Taxa Collected	1,327
Genera Collected	468
Collectors Trained	100
Ecoregions Represented	52
States Represented	22
New Collection Teams	16

*Photo: Chicago Botanic Garden's Conservation and Land Management Interns collect Soaptree Yucca (Yucca elata) using the "shake it and watch'em fall" method in New Mexico. Photo by Mike Howard, BLM-NM.*



## Recovery Funding: An Opportunity to Expand and Collect

In 2009, BLM's Plant Conservation Program was awarded a \$1.25 million ARRA grant for Seeds of Success. BLM contracted with Chicago Botanic Garden's Conservation and Land Management Internship Program to collect native seed for SOS throughout the BLM National System of Public Lands. This funding resulted in the hiring of fifty-four interns who were trained in the SOS Protocol and placed in BLM and USDA Forest Service offices throughout the west. BLM lands most likely to be impacted by climate change, National Landscape Conservation System landscapes, and renewable energy focal areas were the focus of ARRA seed collections. The goal of 1,000 collections was exceeded, in part due to prime weather conditions, resulting in nearly 2,000 collections made.

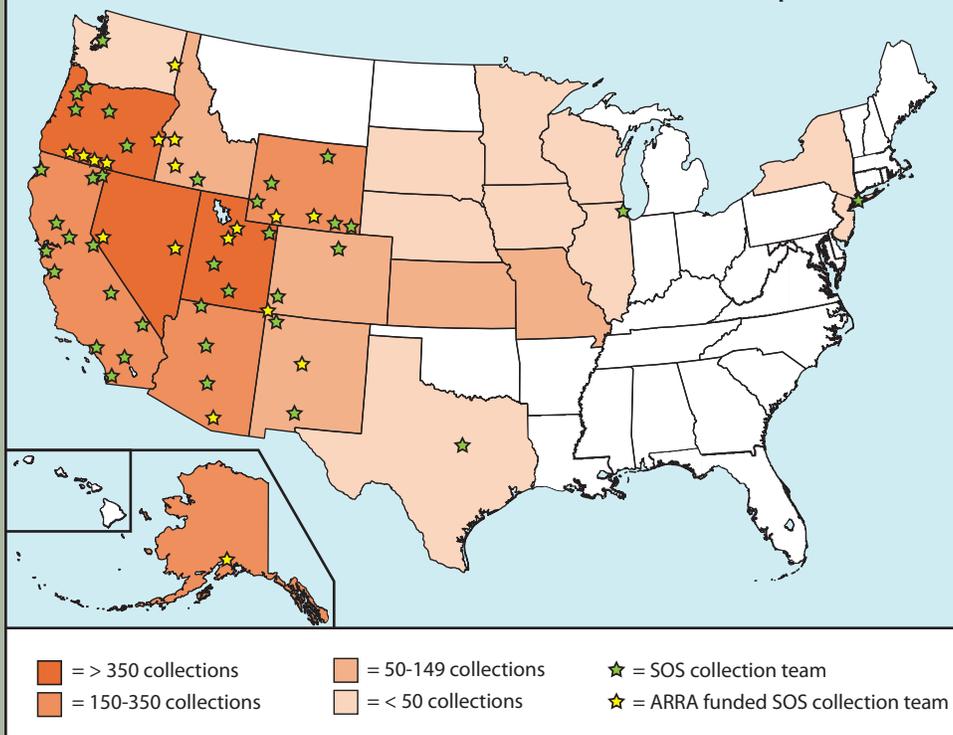


Collecting Fourwing Saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*) with BLM's Idaho State Office.

Not only did SOS exceed collection expectations, but the program expanded by adding the following 16 collection teams.

- The Arboretum at Flagstaff (AZ)
- BLM Buffalo Field Office (WY)
- BLM Kemmerer Field Office (WY)
- BLM New Mexico State Office North (NM)
- BLM Palm Springs Field Office (CA)
- BLM Pinedale Field Office (WY)
- BLM Upper Snake Field Office (ID)
- BLM Wyoming State Office (WY)
- City of Eugene (OR)
- Institute for Applied Ecology (OR)
- Landsward Institute (AZ)
- Northern Arizona University (AZ)
- Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden (CA)
- University of Arizona Herbarium (AZ)
- USDA FS Provo Shrub Sciences Lab (UT)
- USDA NRCS Lockeford Plant Materials Center (CA)
- USDA NRCS Los Lunas Plant Materials Center (NM)

### 2010 Seeds of Success Collections Map



### For more information about Seeds of Success

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