

STRATEGY YEAR 1

STRATEGY YEAR 2

STRATEGY YEAR 3 + Beyond

FALL + WINTER –OCTOBER– EARLY MARCH

PLANT PLUGS + SEEDS

- DIRECT SOW**– Bunchgrass, annuals +Perennial seeds. Mix with equal parts sand and broadcast by hand/broadcast or drill
- Ensure soil is moist before sowing
 - Time your planting with rain or snow fall.
 - Sow 1/2 the seeds to start, then 2-3 weeks later sow the remaining seeds

Note what species did well over the course of the first year.

Continue to overseed areas with native Bunchgrasses, Annuals + Perennials
Optional:
Plant plugs of desired perennials to enhance establishment

Perennial species sown from seed should start appearing this year.

Note any disturbed areas on site and re-seed with native Bunchgrasses + Annuals
Optional:
Plant more plugs of desired perennials to enhance establishment

SPRING—Late MARCH—JUNE

TARGETED WEED MANAGEMENT

If irrigation is available, water planting area occasionally to help new planting establish.

Water new plugs 1x week deeply

TARGETED WEED MANAGEMENT

If irrigation is available, water planting area occasionally to help new planting establish.

Water new plugs 2x month deeply

Collect seed from spring blooms

Targeted grazing or low impact mowing
Mow Late June after most plants have reseeded. Mow no shorter than 4"

Limit soil disturbance
Soil disturbance = Invitation for Weeds

Collect seed from spring blooms

SUMMER— JUNE-SEPTEMBER

SITE PREP + WEED MANAGEMENT

Weed management early on in your planting will help mitigate problems further along. Eradicate undesirable species– if dealing with noxious weeds species, connect with your noxious weed control board

Water new plugs 1x month deeply

TARGETED WEED MANAGEMENT

Continue to identify and eradicate undesirable species from your site.

Note areas that would benefit from another round of seeding

Collect seed from late spring blooms

TARGETED WEED MANAGEMENT

Continue to identify and eradicate undesirable species from your site.

Note areas that would benefit from another round of seeding

Collect seed from late spring blooms

CREATING A CUSTOM SEED + PLANT MIX

Use the plants in this guide to create a custom seed mix for your site, or check with native seed suppliers near you to see what pre-made mixes are available.*

Suggested seed mix components by volume

BUNCHGRASSES— 60-100%

ANNUALS + BIENNIALS— 20-40%

PERENNIALS - 20-30%

SHRUBS (Optional) —10%

How Much Seed Do I Need?

The amount of seed needed will depend on the size of your site and the species in your mix. Generally, for mid-large scale restoration projects, bunchgrasses are the easiest and most cost effective to source at higher volumes. Start with the grasses and supplement with smaller quantities of wildflowers + shrubs.

Suggested Seeding Rate

5 lbs grass seed per .25 Acres (10,890 sq ft)

*See attached vendor list for native seed and plant suppliers in our region.

SITE PREP

SITE PREP + WEED MANAGEMENT

Site prep is a crucial aspect in any restoration project.

Knowing what species exist on your site is crucial to creating an effecting management strategy.

Consult with your local conservation district and/or Noxious Weed Control Board to learn more about troublesome species.

Once you know what exists on your site, Eradicate undesirable species

WEED MANAGEMENT

Ground disturbance is an invitation for weeds. If your site has intact natural areas, try to limit disturbance as much as possible. No space will ever be zero maintenance but a strong community of native plants and a well timed management schedule that works with the plant lifecycles will help keep the space looking its best. If opting for herbicides in the prep stage, allow enough time for residuals to leave the site before planting.

RESOURCES

[WA Noxious Weed Board](http://www.nwcb.wa.gov) — www.nwcb.wa.gov

[WA State Conservation Commission](http://www.scc.wa.gov/) —

www.scc.wa.gov/

PLANTING STRATEGIES

WHEN TO SOW

OCTOBER-EARLY MARCH

Fall and Winter will yield a more successful and cost effective planting— this works with the natural rhythm of the plants and takes advantage of the winter precipitation meaning less inputs from you.

TIME YOUR SEEDING WITH RAIN or SNOW

For best sowing results ensure the ground is moist. — This allows for good seed to soil contact. Before, after or during rainfall or before snowfall is a wonderful time to sow.

DIVIDE + CONQUER

Seeds are up against many factors—critters, weather, wind, etc. Plan to seed your site multiple times to help hedge your bets against the elements.

Divide your seed in half and sow a few weeks apart within the sowing season.

BULK UP YOUR SEED

Mix your seeds with equal parts sand and/or vermiculite before broadcasting. This makes the seeds easier to broadcast evenly over large areas.