



P. O. Box 176  
Livermore, CO 80536  
970-218-6369  
[www.northforkweedcoop.org](http://www.northforkweedcoop.org)

## **Seed Cost-Share Program 2010**

The North Fork Weed Cooperative (NFWC) encourages members to participate in the 2010 Seed Cost-Share Program to promote restoration and maintenance of natural habitats and healthy ecosystems. Interested landowners can submit an application to the NFWC Council for approval as outlined in the following guidelines:

### Program Guidelines

- Applicant must be a current paid member of the NFWC.
- The NFWC will match up to \$200 toward cost of seed or cost of planting. A paid receipt/invoice must be submitted for reimbursement.
- Applicant must provide a 1:1 (50%) share to match the commitment of the NFWC.
- Applicant must have in place an acceptable weed management plan, which can be facilitated by site visits from Larimer County, CSU extension, NRCS, NFWC, etc.
- Eligible sites may include bare ground and/or ground currently under active weed management with progress demonstrated in weed reduction.
- The NFWC Council will review applications as received and may request a site visit as part of the application and/or review process.
- Applicant must commit to maintaining the site for two growing seasons.

### Attachments

1. Application
2. Recommended seed vendors
3. Seed mix recommendations formulated for different community types within the NFWC area
4. Seeding tips for small areas (hand planting)
5. Seeding tips for larger areas



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Attachment 1

**Seed Cost-Share Program 2010  
Application**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of Request: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of Match: \_\_\_\_\_  
Estimate of total project cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Preference for seed mix [see Attachment 3].

Please explain if proposing something other than recommended mixes.

Description of site (community type, total area to be seeded, etc):

Timing and method of seeding:

Description (or attach copy) of weed management plan, how the proposed seeding compliments this plan, and how the site will be maintained for the following two seasons:



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## Attachment 2

### **Recommended Seed Distributors**

#### **Pawnee Buttes**

PO Box 100  
605 25th Street  
Greeley, CO 80632  
(800) 782-5947  
(970) 356-7002  
Fax (970) 356-7263  
email: [info@pawneebutteseed.com](mailto:info@pawneebutteseed.com)

#### **Sharp Bros. Seed Co.**

104 East 4th Street Road  
Greeley, Colorado 80631  
Toll Free 800-421-4234  
Tele 970-356-4710  
Fax 970-356-1267  
[buffalo.gxy@sharpseed.com](mailto:buffalo.gxy@sharpseed.com)

#### **Poudre Valley Co-op**

225 N W Frontage Rd  
Fort Collins, CO 80524 - 9265  
(970) 221-5300  
[www.pvcoop.com](http://www.pvcoop.com)

#### **Arkansas Valley Seed**

4333 Hwy 66  
Longmont, CO 80504  
877-90-SEEDS  
Fax: 970-535-4522  
Website: <http://www.avseeds.com>  
E-mail: [bgueck@seedsolutions.com](mailto:bgueck@seedsolutions.com)

#### **Western Hydroseed and Landscape LLC**

1704 W. Trilby  
Fort Collins, CO  
Contact: Frank Dowling  
970-226-4538

In general, rates are \$50-\$65/acre depending on size. Services include pasture restoration, hydroseeding, and erosion control.

See also: <http://www.larimer.org/weeds/commapplicators.htm>

## Attachment 3

Seed mix recommendations formulated for different community types within the NFWC area

*The seeding rates have been doubled for hand broadcasting.*

<b>SHALEY FOOTHILL SITES</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Species</b>	<b>Variety</b>	<b>Required PLS rates Per acre (100%)</b>	<b>% of Species in mixture</b>	<b>PLS Seeding Rate per species/Ac</b>	<b>Planned Acres</b>	<b>Total PLS Lbs/Species planned (3) x (4)</b>
Western wheatgrass	Arriba	16	40	6.4	1	6.4
Sideoats grama	Vaughn, Niner	9	30	2.7	1	2.7
Little bluestem	Pastura	7	25	1.75	1	1.75
Blue grama	Hachita, Lovington	3	5	0.15	1	0.15
<b>STEEP TERRAIN W/SCATTERED TREES AND SHALLOW SOILS</b>						
<b>Species</b>	<b>Variety</b>	<b>Required PLS rates Per acre (100%)</b>	<b>% of Species in mixture</b>	<b>PLS Seeding Rate per species/Ac</b>	<b>Planned Acres</b>	<b>Total PLS Lbs/Species planned (3) x (4)</b>
Arizona fescue	Redondo	5	30	1.5	1	1.5
Western wheatgrass	Arriba	16	30	4.8	1	4.8
Slender wheatgrass	San Luis	11	15	1.65	1	1.65
Sandberg bluegrass		1	10	0.1	1	0.1
Mountain bromegrass	Garnet	25	10	2.5	1	2.5
Blue grama	Hachita, Lovington	3	5	0.15	1	0.15
<b>UPLAND AREAS (LOAMY/CLAYEY SOILS)</b>						
<b>Species</b>	<b>Variety</b>	<b>Required PLS rates Per acre (100%)</b>	<b>% of Species in mixture</b>	<b>PLS Seeding Rate per species/Ac</b>	<b>Planned Acres</b>	<b>Total PLS Lbs/Species planned (3) x (4)</b>
Western wheatgrass	Arriba	16	35	5.6	1	5.6
Sideoats grama	Vaughn, Niner	9	30	2.7	1	2.7
Green needlegrass	Lodorm	10	25	2.5	1	2.5
Blue grama	Hachita, Lovington	3	10	0.3	1	0.3
If desired, .5# of Purple prairie clover can be added to this mix.						
<b>RIPARIAN AREAS (SANDY LOAM, LOAM, CLAY LOAM SITES)</b>						
<b>Species</b>	<b>Variety</b>	<b>Required PLS rates Per acre (100%)</b>	<b>% of Species in mixture</b>	<b>PLS Seeding Rate per species/Ac</b>	<b>Planned Acres</b>	<b>Total PLS Lbs/Species planned (3) x (4)</b>
Western wheatgrass	Arriba	16	30	4.8	1	4.8
Slender wheatgrass	Primar, Pryor	11	25	2.74	1	2.74
Green needlegrass	Lodorm	10	20	2	1	2
Switchgrass	Blackwell, Neb. 28	5	10	0.5	1	0.5
Canada wildrye		10	10	1	1	1
Big bluestem	Kaw	11	5	0.55	1	0.55

Attachment 4

**Seeding tips for small areas (hand planting)**

1. Make sure that weeds are controlled. If using a herbicide, be certain that all spray residual is gone before seeding.
2. Roughen surface.
3. Broadcast seed.
4. Rake in about ¼” – 1/2” deep.
5. Roll or tamp down to insure good soil/seed contact. You could also ride over it with an ATV.
6. Spread some weed free hay straw and crimp in with a shovel or a disk (if possible). You could also spray the straw with a tackifier to hold it down or use light weight netting. This will help to keep both soil and seed in place during wind and rain events\*\*\*\*\*
7. Plant between 11/1 and 4/30. For plantings above 7000’ plant between 10/15 and 5/15.
8. Control any weeds as needed by cutting off the flower before it can go to seed.
9. Herbicides for weed control after the grass has germinated can’t be used until the grasses have reached a 5-leaf stage.

\*\*\*\*\* An alternative to this is to use bags of StrawNet (available at the Poudre Valley COOP and Fort Collins Nursery). StrawNet is a pelletized straw mulch that you can broadcast on the ground surface. When rain or snow hits it the pellets swell and rupture and spread out into a protective covering on the soil surface. It comes in 10, 25 and 50 lb. bags. The recommended application rate is 10# / 100 sq. ft.

A 10 # bag costs around \$6.00	
25 #	\$12.00
50 #	\$18.00

PENN MULCH is a similar product available from Pawnee Buttes Seed Inc.

Attachment 5

**Seeding tips for larger areas**

**SEEDBED PREPARATION**

- Smooth, clean relatively weed-free seedbed
- If field is infested with perennials such as bindweed or Canada thistle, you may need to apply a chemical weed control before preparing the seedbed. (A fallow period before seedbed prep is acceptable also).

**COVER CROP ESTABLISHMENT**

Plant a sterile hybrid forage sorghum or Sudangrass between mid-May and mid-June (preferably by June 1).

Cover crop seed should be weed-free. Don't use bin run-seed (i.e. seed the grower harvests and then replants).

Seeding rates and Planting depths:

Forage Sorghum    5-8#/ac    ¾ - 1" deep    harvest in 90 - 100 days

Sudangrass        10-20#/ac    ¾ - 1" deep    harvest in 90 - 110 days

Row spacing should be 7 – 14" apart (the closer the spacing the less weed competition)

Stubble should be left 6 – 10" high.

Should be mowed green to avoid them being knocked down.

Where sorghum and sudangrass are not an option (i.e. in the mountains), Regreen or QuickGuard can be used. Regreen is a sterile wheat x wheatgrass hybrid and QuickGuard is a sterile triticale hybrid that germinates readily and will provide stubble that can be drilled into in the fall. These would be seeded at a rate of 10 -20#/acre

Oats can also be used as a cover crop. Seed the oats during the normal planting period in your area. Clip the oats as needed to prevent seed formation. Control weeds and any volunteer prior to seeding. Drill directly into the stubble. Oats can be planted at a rate of 40-70#/ac.

**IN LIEU OF A COVER CROP**

Broadcast a Certified Weed Free Hay Straw at the rate of 2 tons/acre and crimp it in (after seeding) at a depth of 3-4".

Attachment 5 (con't)

GRASS SEEDING

Use a good grass drill to plant the seed. Make sure that the drill has the following components:

- 1- At least 2 seed boxes, one for finer seed and one for larger seed, with a seed box agitator.
- 2- Picker wheels – wheels with fingers that pull the seed down a tube from the seed box.
- 3- Double disk openers – opens a small trench for seed, seed tubes drop seed between the double disk openers close to the ground.
- 4- Depth bands (on each disk opener) – control the depth of planting.
- 5- Press or packer wheels – firm soil around seed, good soil/seed contact means good germination.

Drill in the same direction as cover crop rows.

Seeding depth  $\frac{1}{4}$  -  $\frac{3}{4}$ "

WEED CONTROL IN THE SEEDING

- Timely mowing works well (prevent any weed from going to seed).
- Use broadleaf herbicides ONLY after seedlings have reached the 5-leaf stage.

STAND MAINTENANCE

Once established and if not grazing or haying, you may need to mow every 2 to 3 years to maintain a strong grass stand.