

# RESULTS OF INTERSEEDING ON EXISTING SHRUB POPULATIONS, LA PLATA MINE, NEW MEXICO<sup>1</sup>

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**Abstract:** Interseeding of perennial grasses and shrubs was conducted to re-establish a sustaining vegetative cover on a reclaimed stockpile located on the La Plata Mine in northern New Mexico. Periods of low precipitation had led to marginal revegetation results on the McDermott Dump Stockpile. Shrub establishment had occurred on portions of the stockpile; however the herbaceous layer had not established a sustainable community. Rather than reseed the entire area, and destroy the established shrub community, it was determined to interseed additional herbaceous species. This was accomplished by entering the seeded areas applying additional seed. The seed was applied using standard revegetation practices. Concerns regarding the additional traffic in these areas affecting the regeneration of the established shrubs proved to be unwarranted. Shrub establishment both prior to interseeding and after interseeding indicated the interseeding provided no ill effects to the regeneration of the existing shrub population.

Additional Key Words: Revegetation, seeding techniques

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