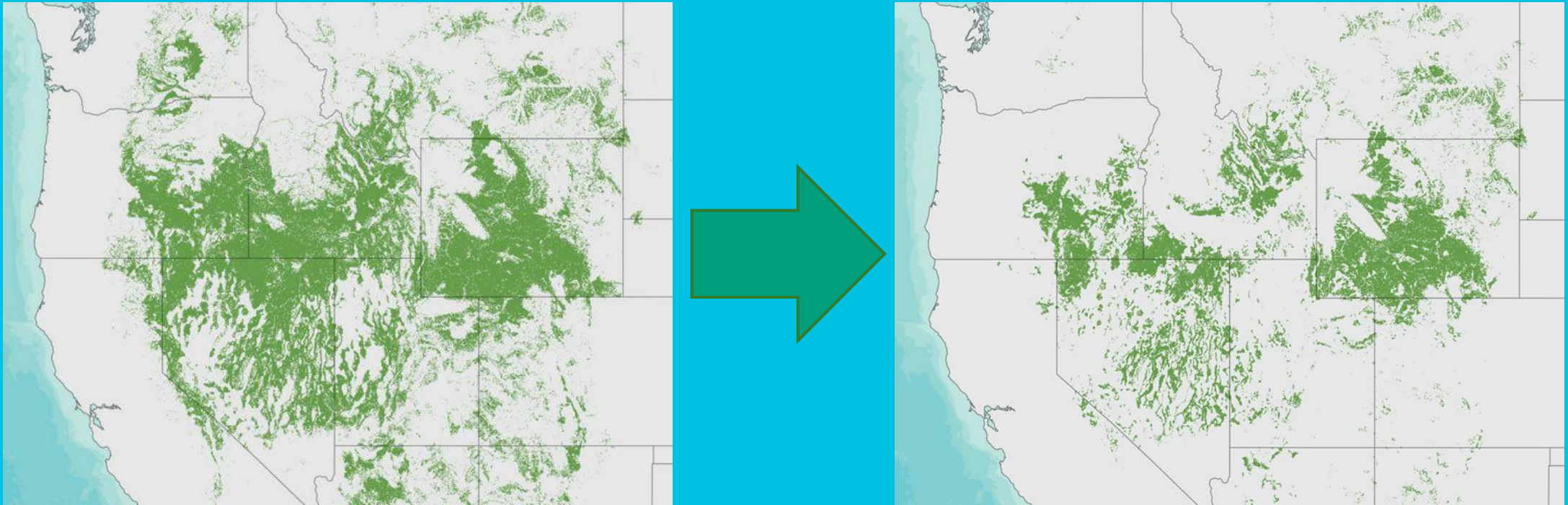


# Increasing native seed availability for restoration through the Wyoming Seed Partnership



# Sagebrush steppe: an ecosystem in decline



# What is the problem?

## Top Barriers

- Lack of availability (37%)
- Cost (30%)
- Lack of expertise and capacity (22%)

## Opportunities

- \$3.9 M spent annually
- Most restoration projects use native seed
- Preemptive planning



**WYOMING** Native Seed Survey Report

# What is a seed partnership?

A collaborative arrangement among two or more stakeholders to produce, source, develop, or distribute seed resources for reclamation and restoration by sharing expertise, infrastructure, and financial risk



# Partners:

- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- Department of Environmental Quality, Abandoned Mine Land Division (DEQ-AML)
- Institute for Applied Ecology (IAE)
- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

## Vision:

A seed market in Wyoming that provides readily available, affordable, and ecologically appropriate native seed for practitioners while seed producers are supported and thriving

## Mission statement:

Increase the availability and affordability of diverse and locally sourced native plant materials



# Goals

- 1** Facilitate seed increase and development of new species or ecotypes for restoration and reclamation that can be supplied to both private and public entities.
- 2** Reduce barriers and risks to new growers in Wyoming and support them to enter the native seed market.

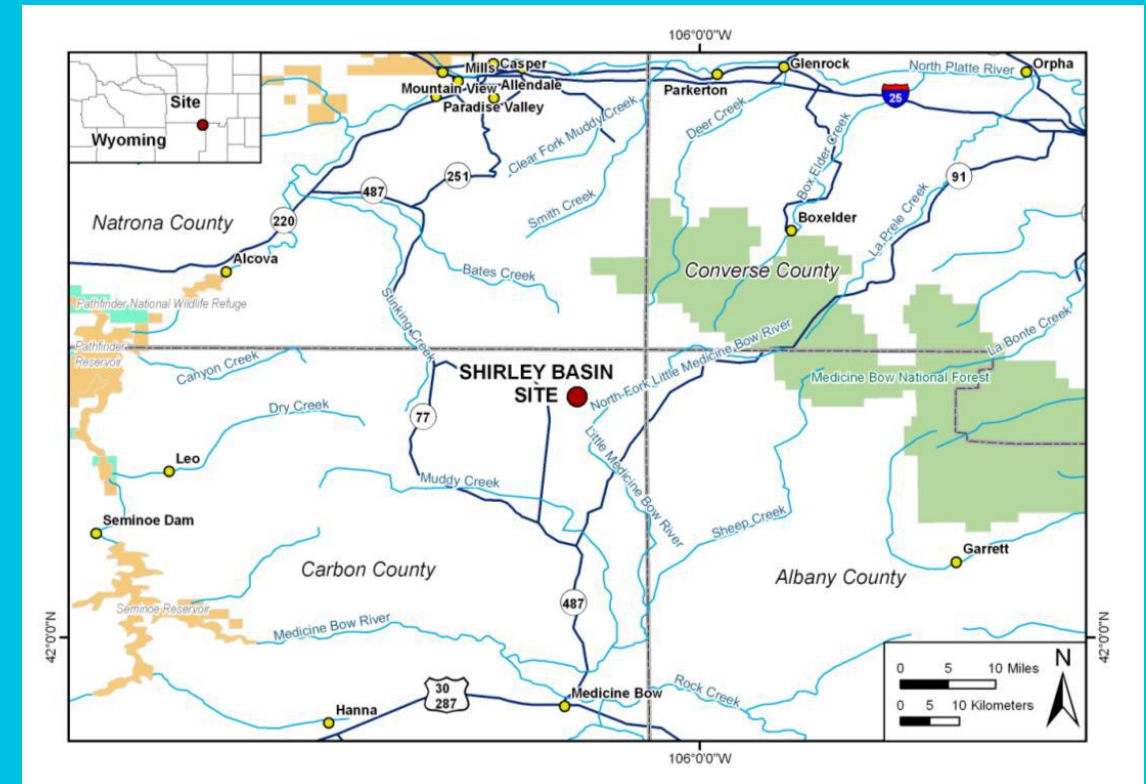
# WYSP History

- Established in 2024
- Convened by DEQ-AML
- Background interviews with seed producers and users
- First production contract executed in 2025



# Project 86, Shirley Basin 500 & 600 Pile Master Plan

- Multi-phase effort to restore sagebrush-steppe, ~800 acres
- Forward contracting mechanism used
- Priority species selected for wild collections
- 3 species collected in 2025
  - Mountain dandelion, *Agoseris glauca*
  - Taperip hawksbeard, *Crepis acuminata*
  - Larchleaf penstemon, *Penstemon laricifolius*





# Seed increase: Upper Colorado Environmental Plant Center

- 0.2 acre fields for tapertip hawksbeard and mountain dandelion
- 0.1 acre field for larchleaf penstemon
- Funding for three years
- All seed will go to Shirley Basin



# Goals

- 1** Facilitate seed increase and development of new species or ecotypes for restoration and reclamation that can be supplied to both private and public entities.
- 2** Reduce barriers and risks to new growers in Wyoming and support them to enter the native seed market.

# Goals

- 1 Facilitate seed increase and development of new species or ecotypes for restoration and reclamation that can be supplied to both private and public entities.**

**We are looking for seed users who are interested in contracting with seed producers for their projects.**

# What we offer

- Contract facilitation and execution
- Species selection
- Seed collection
- Better vegetation outcomes for your projects





# Thank you.

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