

# ROLE OF THE PLOT-SIZED FARM IN NATIVE SEED PRODUCTION



Sierra Smith

Center for Natural Lands Management

[ssmith@cnlm.org](mailto:ssmith@cnlm.org)





**DO WE  
NEED  
TO KEEP  
DOING  
THIS?**





# WHAT WE DO





# MOSTLY (YELLOW) FORBS







# WHO WE SERVE\*

DOD

USFWS

DNR

JBLM

WDFW

NPS

NWR

USFS

**\*Notice:**

No acronym,

No seed



# VISION:

Thriving native plant  
communities across the  
breadth of our landscapes

Public access to regionally  
native seed



Photo credit: Kristin Cassidy, Brooklyn Bridge Park



# WHAT IF?

Instead of weeds “Wildflower”  
mixes consisted of locally-  
sourced native plants



Photo Credit: [valleygardencenterphx.org](http://valleygardencenterphx.org)



# WHAT IF?

Pastures had significant native forbs and provided connectivity to pollinators



Photo Credit: Sarah Hamman, CNLM



# WHAT IF?

Seeding for erosion control contributed to the re-establishment of native seed banks



Photo Credit: Heaviland Landscape Management



# WHAT IF?

Tribes had access to the seed necessary to re-establish the local populations of traditional use plants.



Photo Credit: Patti Hart, MagoGuide



Photo Credit: Klamath-Salmon Media Collaborative



# WHAT IF?

Local farmers fallowed their fields with regionally adapted native species



Photo Credit: Xerces Society



# WHAT IF?

Housing developments retained their namesakes after the signs were put up.





# WHAT IF?

The public commons  
reconnected people with  
their landscape and  
provided a true sense of  
place.



Photo Credit: Prairie Restorations Inc.



# WHAT IF?

I could reseed my property with the native plant community that once existed there?



Photo Credit: East Coast Farmer, YouTube





**PRICE OF OUR SEED**



# APPETITE STILL EXISTS





# LISTED SPECIES RECOVERY





# RARE PLANT POPULATIONS





# Seed Production Eco-Regions



# REGIONAL NEXUS





# DIVERSIFIED LANDSCAPE-SCALE SEEDING





# MITIGATION





# NATIVE LANDSCAPING





# NURSERY TRADE





# NEW SPECIES TRIALS





# BUT HOW DO YOU FUND IT?





# COMMERCIAL GROWERS?





# THE PLOT-SCALE ROLE





# QUESTIONS

