



# Seeds of Success

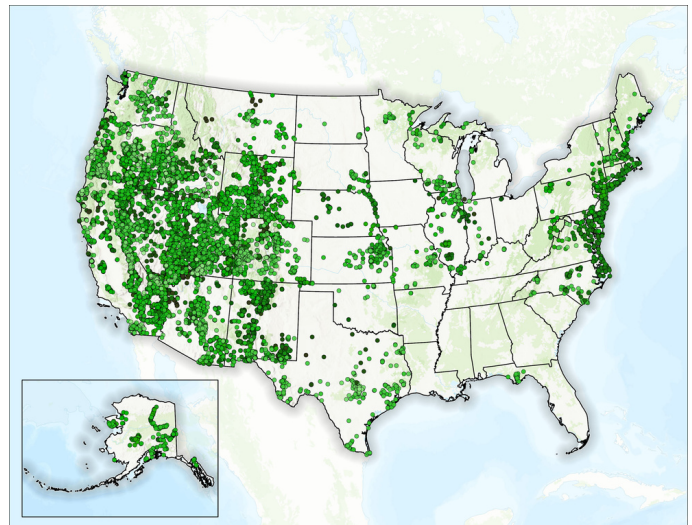
Seeds of Success (SOS) is the national native seed collection program, led by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in partnership with the USDA Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Agricultural Research Service, National Park Service, and many non-federal partners. Seed collection is the first step of the native plant materials development process (NPMDP) through which the BLM Plant Conservation & Restoration Program increases the quality and quantity of native seeds and plants available for restoring and supporting resilient ecosystems. Thus, efforts like SOS are critical to accomplishing Goal 1 of the National Seed Strategy for Restoration and Rehabilitation: *Increase the Supply and Reliable Availability of Genetically Appropriate Seed.*

**Program history:** SOS was established in 2001 by the BLM in response to a lack of native seeds needed to restore lands after devastating wildfires. All SOS teams share a common protocol for seed and data collection. The SOS Technical Protocol is continually updated to follow the best science available, ensuring seed collections are ethically and sustainably made.

To date, SOS has made more than **27,000 native seed** collections comprising over **5,800 unique taxa** and from **44 states across the U.S.** This material is used for native plant materials development projects such as germination trials, common garden studies, as well as seed production and increase. Portions of each collection are also held in long-term storage facilities for conservation.

In 2015, BLM received a \$3.5 million award from the Sandy Supplemental Mitigation Fund for seed collection in coastal habitats from Virginia to Maine. Current SOS priorities include ecoregional programs in the Great Basin, Colorado Plateau, and Mojave Desert. SOS has also recently expanded partnerships in the Southeastern U.S. and is developing an interagency Memorandum of Understanding between the BLM, National Park Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

## SOS COLLECTIONS 2001-2022



## SOS BY THE NUMBERS



**27,000 + TOTAL  
SEED COLLECTIONS**  
5,800 Unique Taxa



**2,600 + COLLECTORS  
TRAINED**  
Over 150 collecting teams



**44 STATES REPRESENTED**  
94 Ecoregions

[blm.gov/sos](https://blm.gov/sos)

[blm.gov/nativeplants](https://blm.gov/nativeplants)

