Region 5 is in the process of developing a seed increase contract to allow for native grass seed increase by commercial growers in the State of California, to be made available to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management work units.

Development of this contract will work toward increasing partnerships with the private sector, consistency in contract specifications for native grass growout, and employment in local and rural communities.

Ultimately the contract will result in increased availability of native plant materials for restoration purposes such as post-wildfire revegetation, watershed restoration, and noxious weed control.

Potential grass seed growers were identified in 2007 and site visits were made to inspect facilities. The contract will be written and growers selected in the fall of 2007 and winter of 2008. We are hoping for a final product in spring of 2008.

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