

Nevada Native Seed Partnership: Cultivating Ecosystem Resilience and Economic Growth through Native Seeds

Sarah Kulpa
Restoration Ecologist/Botanist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Why do we need native seed in Nevada?

- Respond after more frequent wildfires
- Battle increasing invasive species
- Build up exhausted native seed banks
- Restore habitat for wildlife (e.g., Greater sage-grouse rely on native forbs for food)



National Scale to Local Scale



VISION



Keep Nevada lands diverse and functioning by using **the right seed in the right place at the right time.**

MISSION



We are a partnership helping Nevada increase the availability of genetically appropriate seed to restore diverse plant communities and sustainable landscapes.



The Four Goals of the Nevada Seed Strategy



Identify seed needs and ensure reliable availability of genetically appropriate seed.

3 Objectives
11 Actions



Identify research needs and facilitate research to improve technology for native seed production and ecosystem restoration.

3 Objectives
9 Actions



Develop and implement tools that enable managers and producers to make decisions about collecting, increasing, and using genetically appropriate seed.

2 Objectives
8 Actions

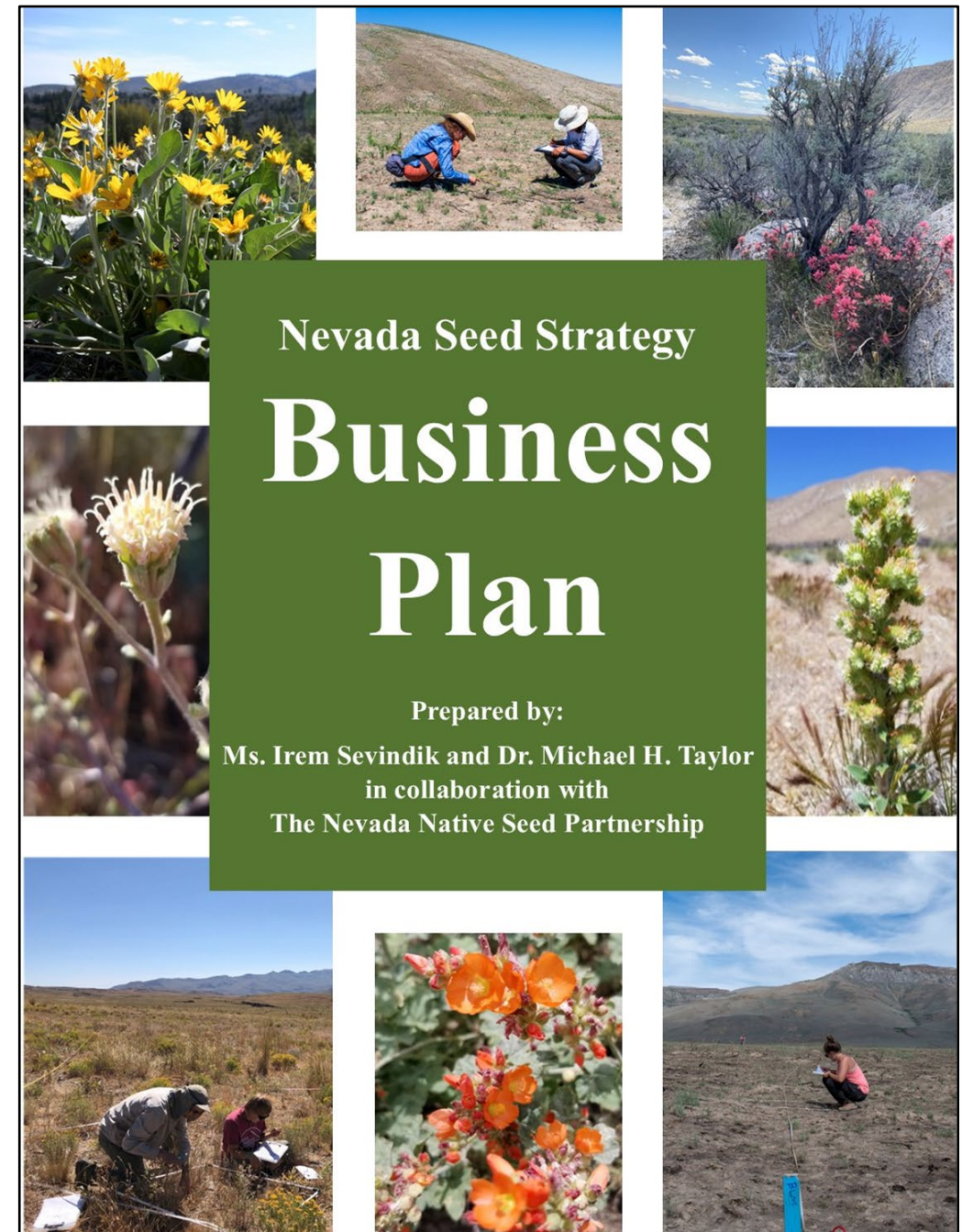


Develop and implement strategies for internal and external communications.

3 Objectives
8 Actions

Strategic funding requests: NV Seed Strategy Business Plan

- Finalized in 2021
- Provides detailed cost estimates of previously unfunded actions associated with the Nevada Seed Strategy
- Structures funding requests
- Funding secured since 2018-2023:
 - Goal 1 (Seed Needs) - \$4,657,042
 - Goal 2 (Research) - \$5,262,626
 - Goal 3 (Decision Tools) - \$1,463,470
 - Goal 4 (Communication) - \$58,883

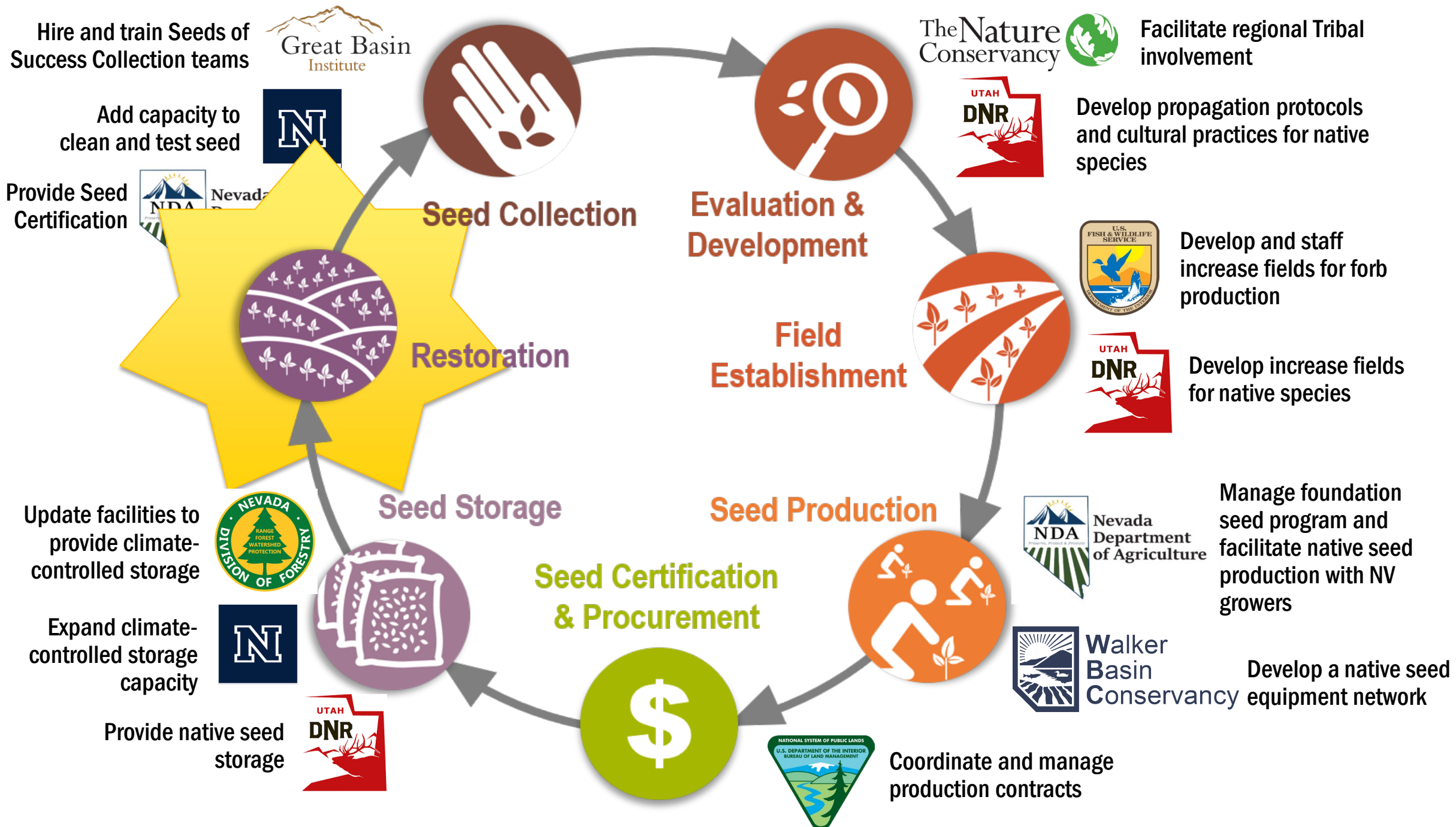




Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - Burned Area Response (BIL BAR) Funding

- Overall goal: Expand capacity for the availability of plant materials necessary to revegetate and rehabilitate lands impacted by wildfires.
 - FY24 - \$29.7 million was awarded
 - FY25 - \$49.9 million was awarded
 - FY26 - Funding available TBD
- NNSP and Great Basin partners secured:
 - FY24 - \$4.1 million was awarded (~ 13% of total funding)
 - FY25 - \$4.7 million was awarded (~ 10% of total funding)
 - **Totaling \$8.9 million!**





Next Steps

- Implement projects awarded under FY2024 and FY2025 BIL BAR funds
- Continue seed collection and increase efforts
- Incorporate and apply recommendations from the NASEM native seed needs assessment to Nevada
- Support Nevada growers so they can grow Nevada native seed
- Expand the native seed workforce and infrastructure in Nevada
- Save Nevada landscapes, one seed at a time





Thank you!
NVNativeSeed@gmail.com

<https://www.partnersinthesage.com/nevada-native-seed-partnership>

