

## Sean Strickland

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**From:** Verquer - DNR, Trent <trent.verquer@state.co.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 5, 2024 5:55 PM  
**To:** Sean Strickland  
**Cc:** Binschus - DNR, Chris; Jennie Hardy; Marette - DNR, Brandon; Peyton Burt - DNR  
**Subject:** Re: CPW approved seed mix (Pronghorn HPH) for Gulf Exploration

I am fine with the revised seed mix.

Thanks,  
Trent

On Fri, Aug 2, 2024 at 10:36 AM Sean Strickland <[SStrickland@gulfexploration.com](mailto:SStrickland@gulfexploration.com)> wrote:

OK thanks. I'll plan to respond once the seed mix is approved.

**From:** Binschus - DNR, Chris <[chris.binschus@state.co.us](mailto:chris.binschus@state.co.us)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 2, 2024 11:34 AM  
**To:** Sean Strickland <[SStrickland@gulfexploration.com](mailto:SStrickland@gulfexploration.com)>  
**Cc:** Jennie Hardy <[jennie@ecopoint-inc.com](mailto:jennie@ecopoint-inc.com)>; Verquer - DNR, Trent <[trent.verquer@state.co.us](mailto:trent.verquer@state.co.us)>; Marette - DNR, Brandon <[brandon.marette@state.co.us](mailto:brandon.marette@state.co.us)>; Peyton Burt - DNR <[peyton.burt@state.co.us](mailto:peyton.burt@state.co.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: CPW approved seed mix (Pronghorn HPH) for Gulf Exploration

Given the ongoing coordination and collaboration, I am fine with the FIRR coming in after August 5th.

**Chris Binschus**  
Northeast Reclamation Specialist  
he/him/his



**COLORADO**  
Energy & Carbon Management  
Commission  
Department of Natural Resources

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On Fri, Aug 2, 2024 at 10:15 AM Sean Strickland <[SStrickland@gulfexploration.com](mailto:SStrickland@gulfexploration.com)> wrote:

Thanks Chris. I believe the response is due this Monday, August 5. If we don't have the approval by then, should I go ahead and attach the latest version?

**From:** Binschus - DNR, Chris <[chris.binschus@state.co.us](mailto:chris.binschus@state.co.us)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 2, 2024 11:08 AM  
**To:** Sean Strickland <[SStrickland@gulfexploration.com](mailto:SStrickland@gulfexploration.com)>  
**Cc:** Jennie Hardy <[jennie@ecopoint-inc.com](mailto:jennie@ecopoint-inc.com)>; Verquer - DNR, Trent <[trent.verquer@state.co.us](mailto:trent.verquer@state.co.us)>; Marette - DNR, Brandon <[brandon.marette@state.co.us](mailto:brandon.marette@state.co.us)>; Peyton Burt - DNR <[peyton.burt@state.co.us](mailto:peyton.burt@state.co.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: CPW approved seed mix (Pronghorn HPH) for Gulf Exploration

Sean,

Once we hear back from CPW on the revised seed mix, yes, please respond to the 7/1/24 field inspection via a Field Inspection Report Resolution Form (FIRR). It would be great to attach the approved CPW seed mix to the FIRR that way it makes it into the Location file and not lost in my email.

Thanks for reaching out with your question.

**Chris Binschus**

Northeast Reclamation Specialist  
he/him/his



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On Fri, Aug 2, 2024 at 8:39 AM Sean Strickland <[SStrickland@gulfexploration.com](mailto:SStrickland@gulfexploration.com)> wrote:

Chris,

Do I need to respond to the Field Inspection Form that we received on 7/1/24 (attached)? Or do I wait and only respond to the follow up FIR?

Thanks,

Sean Strickland

405-840-3371

**From:** Binschus - DNR, Chris <[chris.binschus@state.co.us](mailto:chris.binschus@state.co.us)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 1, 2024 11:14 AM  
**To:** Jennie Hardy <[jennie@ecopoint-inc.com](mailto:jennie@ecopoint-inc.com)>  
**Cc:** Verquer - DNR, Trent <[trent.verquer@state.co.us](mailto:trent.verquer@state.co.us)>; Marette - DNR, Brandon <[brandon.marette@state.co.us](mailto:brandon.marette@state.co.us)>; Peyton Burt - DNR <[peyton.burt@state.co.us](mailto:peyton.burt@state.co.us)>; Sean Strickland <[SStrickland@gulfexploration.com](mailto:SStrickland@gulfexploration.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: CPW approved seed mix (Pronghorn HPH) for Gulf Exploration

Hey everyone,

I agree with Trent on the use of western wheatgrass and replacing it with the suggested species.

Jennie and Sean- Once CPW grants the approval on the revised seed mix, I will follow up with another field inspection report (FIR). In the FIR, I will state that it is ECOMC's expectation that reseeding will occur later this Fall within the recommended NRCS seeding timeframe. Second, I will be asking for a Final Reclamation Plan (Plan) to control, monitor and manage Cereal rye, commonly referred to as feral rye (*Secale cereale*). It likely came in with the straw mulch but it was observed throughout the reclamation areas. This is an aggressive winter annual grass that can easily form a monoculture that out competes and prevents other vegetation from establishing. FYI- I will be asking for this Plan to be submitted by September 16th. There are lots of great resources out there for the management of Cereal rye. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you all for the coordination on this project,

**Chris Binschus**

Northeast Reclamation Specialist

he/him/his



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On Thu, Aug 1, 2024 at 9:34 AM Jennie Hardy <[jennie@ecopoint-inc.com](mailto:jennie@ecopoint-inc.com)> wrote:

Good Morning,

Please see below and attached for the revised seed mix for the Black Powder 2 location for CPW approval.

Black Powder 2 Mix			
Common Name	Scientific Name	% of Seedmix	PLS/Ac
Blue grama	Bouteloua gracilis	18	0.55
<b>Switchgrass</b>	Panicum virgatum	10	0.56
Sand dropseed	Sporobolus cryptandrus	10	0.04
<b>Sand bluestem</b>	Andropogon hallii	15	2.97
Needleandthread	Hesperostipa comata	10	1.36
Slender wheatgrass	Elymus trachycaulus	8	1.09
<b>Prairie sandreed</b>	Calimovilfa longifolia	10	0.80
American vetch	Vicia Americana	5	3.30
Scarlet globemallow	Sphaeralcea coccinea	6	0.26
Sunflower (Maxmilian)	Helianthus maximiliani	3	0.36
Blue flax	Linum perenne	5	0.37

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.  
Thank you!



**Jennie Hardy, CISEC**  
Environmental Project Manager  
Cell: 970-200-4329  
[jennie@ecopoint-inc.com](mailto:jennie@ecopoint-inc.com)

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On Wed, Jul 31, 2024 at 10:24 AM Jennie Hardy <[jennie@ecopoint-inc.com](mailto:jennie@ecopoint-inc.com)> wrote:

Hi Trent,

Thank you for the feedback! It is much appreciated.

I will rework the mix based on your suggestions and send a revised version over for approval. If there are additional questions/concerns after the revisions we can schedule an onsite meeting.



**Jennie Hardy, CISEC**  
Environmental Project Manager  
Cell: 970-200-4329  
[jennie@ecopoint-inc.com](mailto:jennie@ecopoint-inc.com)

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On Wed, Jul 31, 2024 at 9:36 AM Verquer - DNR, Trent <[trent.verquer@state.co.us](mailto:trent.verquer@state.co.us)> wrote:

Hi All,

I am concerned about the amount of western wheatgrass in the suggested mix. In extensive experience in eastern Colorado, western wheatgrass in mixes such as this tends to be very aggressive with the available cultivars and is very likely to result in western wheat monocultures-thus rendering the inclusion of most other species in the proposed mix as questionable as the western wheat, especially at that high rate, is extremely likely to outcompete and eliminate or nearly eliminate the other species in the mix. Additionally, based upon the reference pictures that are sent I would be concerned about western wheat at that rate moving off the planting location and impacting the adjacent habitat, particularly the warm season bunch grasses, which provide superior concealment cover. We have routinely observed western wheatgrass negatively impacting habitat conditions in CRP fields by outcompeting most

other species and resulting in low habitat quality monocultures. Based on the reference photos, sandy soils, and plant list, there appears to be very little or no need to include western wheatgrass in the mix, particularly at that extremely high rate.

I recommend removing western wheatgrass from the mix and including sand bluestem, as I believe that is likely what is present and the site appears better adapted to sand than big bluestem, and adding prairie sandreed and blackwell switchgrass if there are additional species desired or if there are concerns with wanting a more rhizomatous species for erosion purposes in what appears to be a pretty sandy area. It also appears, albeit tough to tell with the pictures, but it sure looks like there is switchgrass present in the reference pictures. If western wheat must remain in the mix for some reason, dropping it to no more than 1 seed per square foot will slow down how quickly it is likely to dominate the site and buy additional time for the site to maintain a more diverse habitat mix. If desired, I am happy to come out and discuss on site as there is only so much I can really tell from the pictures.

Regards,

Trent

On Fri, Jul 26, 2024 at 11:59 AM Jennie Hardy <[jennie@ecopoint-inc.com](mailto:jennie@ecopoint-inc.com)> wrote:

Everyone,

Please see attached and below for information regarding the proposed seed mix for the Black Powder 2 location to be approved by CPW. Species in this seed mix were selected based on species observed in the adjacent/reference areas surrounding the location in addition to consultation with Lone Tree Services who would perform any necessary seeding work. Seed mix will be supplied by Pawnee Buttes Seed.

I have also attached a species inventory based on a recent site visit for your reference.

Black Powder 2 Mix			
Common Name	Scientific Name	% of Seedmix	PLS/Ac
Blue Grama	Bouteloua gracilis	18	0.55
Western Wheatgrass	Pascopyrum smithii	18	3.56
Sand Dropseed	Sporobolus cryptandrus	10	0.04
Big Bluestem	Andropogon gerardii	15	2.04
Needle and Thread	Hesperostipa comata	10	1.36

Slender Wheatgrass	Elymus trachycaulus	10	1.36
Lewis Flax or Blue Flax	Linum perenne	5	0.37
American Vetch	Vicia americana	5	3.30
Scarlet Globe Mallow	Sphaeralcea coccinea	6	0.26
Sunflower (maxamillion)	Helianthus maximiliani	3	0.36

\*Based on seed availability Louis Flax may be used in place of Blue Flax.

Please let me know if this is approved at your earliest convenience and if I can provide any additional information.

Thank you for your time and consideration!



**Jennie Hardy, CISEC**  
 Environmental Project Manager  
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On Thu, Jul 11, 2024 at 10:18 AM Marette - DNR, Brandon <[brandon.marette@state.co.us](mailto:brandon.marette@state.co.us)> wrote:

Hi Jennie,

Yes, please send me and my two cc'd co-workers the proposed revisions and the why, and we'll get back to you.

Regards,

**Brandon B. Marette, CWB<sup>®</sup>**

Northeast Region Energy Liaison



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[6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216](https://www.state.co.us/cpw/6060-Broadway-Denver-CO-80216)

[brandon.marette@state.co.us](mailto:brandon.marette@state.co.us)

[CPW's Energy Webpage](#)

[CPW's Wildlife Movements Webpage](#)



**THINK SAFETY FIRST!**



*(Upcoming days on leave: 7/15-17)*

On Thu, Jul 11, 2024 at 10:02 AM Jennie Hardy <[jennie@ecopoint-inc.com](mailto:jennie@ecopoint-inc.com)> wrote:

Brandon,

Just a quick follow up question.

If we were to propose an alternative seed mix based on site conditions and current species in the surrounding area is there a process for getting that approved by CPW for use?

Thanks!



**Jennie Hardy, CISEC**  
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On Tue, Jul 9, 2024 at 1:00 PM Marette - DNR, Brandon <[brandon.marette@state.co.us](mailto:brandon.marette@state.co.us)> wrote:

Good afternoon Jennie,

Thank you for your call and email.

As discussed, attached are all of CPW's seed mixes, so please use the appropriate mix.

Regards,

**Brandon B. Marette, CWB<sup>®</sup>**

**Northeast Region Energy Liaison**



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[CPW's Energy Webpage](#)



**THINK SAFETY FIRST!**



*(Upcoming days off or in the field: 7/10; 7/15-17)*

On Tue, Jul 9, 2024 at 12:54 PM Jennie Hardy <[jennie@ecopoint-inc.com](mailto:jennie@ecopoint-inc.com)> wrote:

Brandon,

Thank you for returning my call today!

As discussed we are in need of a CPW approved seed mix for Pronghorn Winter Concentration in Weld county. This area is located in a loamy sand soil type.

ECMC Location ID: 456859

Thanks again!



**Jennie Hardy, CISEC**  
Environmental Project Manager  
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