**Biology, ecology, and use of forb species in post-fire restoration

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**Topic:** Development and use of native seed in natural areas management
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 **Abstract:**Coauthors: Nancy Shaw, USFS-RMRS; Anne Halford, BLM; Genie Montblanc, University of Nevada, Reno Larger and more frequent fires fueled by nonnative species in the West, especially large portions of the Great Basin, have depleted native seedbanks. In these areas, active revegetation is necessary to restore native plant communities and historic fire regimes. Native forbs have long been overlooked in revegetation but are important to pollinators, wildlife, and ecosystem functioning. For the past 20 years, an extensive, multi-disciplinary research effort involving various institutions and agencies has improved our understanding of the biology and ecology of western forb species and provided guidance for their use in revegetation. Yet, the information and practical knowledge gathered has yet to be compiled and synthesized. An online book, Western Forbs: Biology, Ecology, and Use in Restoration, is synthesizing published data and unpublished protocols necessary for seed collectors, growers, practitioners, and land managers to increase the supply and use of appropriate native forb seed sources for restoration of sagebrush steppe and other western ecosystems. The book is made up of chapters focusing on individual forb species including distribution, biological characteristics, ecosystem importance and function, and knowledge gained through seed harvesting, seed production in agricultural fields, and wildland planting.