

The Permian Basin-Panhandle Native Seed Project

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The *Permian Basin-Panhandle Native Seed Project* (PBPNSP) began operating in November 2017. PBPNSP's mission is to develop commercially available native plant seed sources for use in the Permian Basin and Panhandle regions and to engage the energy industry in the use of native plant seed in restoration and reclamation projects.

Recent objectives include obtaining wild seed collections from native grasses and wildflowers of interest. Roughly 400 collections have been made from private and public lands. The collections are being planted for evaluation and selection at the Railway Ranch near Odessa, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's Knox City Plant Materials Center, and Texas Tech University's Quaker Avenue Research Farm in Lubbock.

Other objectives include educational and community outreach and developing partnerships with the energy industry and landowners in the Permian Basin. Concho Resources, Inc. has participated with PBPNSP in research plantings, developing a demonstration plot in Midland, as well as restoration study trials at their ranches. The Railway Ranch is another important partner whose owner and staff have worked with us to install two series of 5-acre restoration plantings, the first in fall 2018 and the second in spring 2019. We have also had the opportunity to provide native plant seed mix specifications to various oil and gas, renewable energy, and pipeline companies who have impacted thousands of acres in the region.

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