DUST MITIGATION with local native plants--Stop the dust with a solid cover of native plants--using small-scale test plots, to invent the successful planting methods – www.ecoseeds.com/dust.pdf



<u>Eight Key Points—Inventing successful methods to plant local native plants to mitigate dust problems:</u>

- **1.) Always use <u>local ecotypes</u>** of native seeds, NEVER exotic seeds, or cultivars with the original collection site too far away. Planting non-local native seeds will fade over time, if not locally adapted.
- **2.) Each test plot** treatment should be very small--<u>one by two meter plot</u> is sufficient. If your planting methods or sowing rates do not work on two square meters, it will not work on acres.
- **3.)** Never sow native seeds in a mix--always sow individual species in a mosaic. Natives can fight each other as seedlings. Learn the effects of different plants fighting each other with their allelochemicals.
- **4.) Expect test plots** may initially produce many failures-- there is a 7 in 10 chance of failure when sowing native seeds in the arid West—as the 2017 Pilliod-USGS review of native seeding projects reported.
- **5.) Invent successful methods** in your test plots first, then, larger-scale plantings can work 100% every time. Share what worked and what did not work, the sowing rates and what dormant seeds were found.
- **6.)** Pay close attention to the dormant native seeds in the soil—When they are abundant, you can skip sowing any more seeds. My California projects, are finding 200 pounds of dormant native seeds per acre.
- **7.)** If cows must be permanently removed to end the dust—A rancher's net income on unirrigated Western range, only \$1 per acre per inch of rainfall. Help convert ranchlands to carbon sequestration sites, to produce 10-20x the income for ranchers. Credits needed by States, to become carbon neutral.
- **8.) Consider, you may want to get some licensed Ecological Restoration technologies**, from the private sector restoration professionals, to accelerate the inventing process and the test plot work and results.

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Photo: Sown gas pipeline north of Reno in sagebrush desert, producing 100% native cover in six months.