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| **Establishment** | **Schedule** | **Responsible Persons** |
| Existing lawn must be dead before seeding. To convert existing lawn, remove existing sod and remove all pieces of roots. Chemical applications may also be used to kill sod. | April-July 1st during establishment |  |
| Prepare a good firm seedbed. When you walk on the surface, you don’t want to sink. You barely want to see your foot print. | April-July 1st during establishment |  |
| Seed as soon as possible after preparing the bed. Seed with a native grass drill. Broadcast seeding is sufficient if seed can be worked into the soil with a harrow or similar tool that ultimately establishes good seed-to-soil contact. It is very important that seed is placed at the proper depth to encourage quick germination/emergence (1/4” or less). | April-July 1st during establishment |  |
| If there are erosion concerns, install erosion control blanket or place straw over seeding. | Immediately after seeding |  |
| If it doesn’t rain, water seed. Water enough to moisten surrounding soil, but water lightly so seedlings are not dislodged. As seedlings emerge and develop, irrigate less frequently but enough to prevent drought stress. | Until established |  |
| If adequate topsoil is not present, consider applying a slow release nitrogen fertilizer at a rate of 1-pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet. | 6 weeks after planting |  |
| Minimize walking on lawn until established. | During establishment |  |
| Persistent attention to weed control is required. Keep weeds cut back. Mow seedlings at a height of 3 inches when the new seedlings have a height of 6 inches. Flat type mowers work best because they chop weeds and prevent clippings from smothering small seedings. Weed-trimmers are excellent for smaller areas. Rotary or bar-sickle mowers may be used but can smother seedlings because they do not chop weeds. Hand weeding may also be necessary.  Do not mow the first year’s growth at the end of the season. This will protect young plants over winter. | One time per month depending on rainfall |  |
| If a cover crop was used, it should also be cut during the first season. Mow cover crop when weeds reach 6 inches tall. | 1 time per month depending on rainfall |  |

**Native Turf Establishment and Maintenance**

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| **First and Second Year Activities** | **Schedule** | **Responsible Persons** |
| Persistent attention to weed control is required. Keep weeds cut back. Mow seedlings at a height of 3 inches when vegetation has a height of 6 inches. Flat type mowers work best because they chop weeds and prevent clippings from smothering small seedings. Weed-trimmers are excellent for smaller areas. Rotary or bar-sickle mowers may be used but can smother seedlings because they do not chop weeds. Hand weeding may also be necessary.  Do not mow the first year’s growth at the end of the season. This will protect young plants over winter. | One time per month depending on rainfall |  |
| Water only enough to maintain growth and prevent dormancy. Buffalo grass and blue grama will survive extended drought but will lose color as it goes dormant. Be careful not to overwater, as this can increase competition with weeds and may increase incidence of disease. | As needed |  |
| Overseed bare patches. Keep overseeded areas moist for first few weeks. | April-July 1st |  |
| Do not use products with 2,4-D during first year of establishment or when temperatures exceed 80 degrees Fahrenheit.  After first year, can spray to kill cool season weeds. Control crabgrass with pre-emergent chemicals suited for native turf. Always read and follow the manufacturer’s label prior to use. | After year 1 |  |

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| **Year 3 and After Activities** | **Schedule** | **Responsible Persons** | |
| Mow buffalo grass/blue grama mix stands to a height of 3 to 4 inches to remove old growth. Mowing in the spring stimulates germination of dormant native seeds and promotes growth of native plants.  Native turf may remain unmown except for an annual spring mowing at a height of 3-4 inches to remove old growth.  If weeds are a problem, mow in mid to late June at a height of 6 inches. | Mow once per week at a height of 2-3 inches for moderate to high quality turf.  Mow every 3 to 4 weeks at a height of 3-4 inches where low maintenance areas are desired. |  | |
| Established stands may need 1-2 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet per year. Select a fertilizer with a N-P-K ratio of 3-1-2 or 4-1-2 and at least 35% slow-release nitrogen. If needed, apply fertilizer at a rate of 1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet in June and again in late July or early August. Avoid overfertilization with nitrogen to avoid weed growth. | Twice in the summer |  | |
| Annual weeds may be controlled with a spring application of pre-emergence herbicide labeled for use with native turf species. Herbicides should be used sparingly. Broadleaf weeds may be controlled by using any of several herbicides labeled for use with native turf species. (Fall applications are preferred for control of broadleaf weeds.) Products containing 2,4-D should be used sparingly as they can cause slight discoloration during spring and summer. Spot treatment applications of these products are most effective in fall.  For control of winter annual weeds and invasive cool-season grasses spray dormant native turf in winter before green-up begins. Always read and follow the manufacturer’s label prior to use. | As needed |  | |
| Water only enough to maintain growth and prevent dormancy. Buffalo grass and blue grama will survive extended drought but will lose color as it goes dormant. Be careful not to overwater, as this can increase competition with weeds and may increase incidence of disease. | As needed |  | |
| Overseed bare patches. Keep overseeded areas moist for first few weeks. | April-July 1st |  |

I certify the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ commits to the specific work elements in this plan for the duration of 10 years from date of the practice certified as completed.

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Signature Title Date