

**SECTION: Leases**

**SUBJECT: Pricing**

**POLICY NAME: Cost Sharing of Forage Seed on Public Land**

**POLICY DEPT(S): Property Administration**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: May 12, 2026**

**LAST AMENDED: May 13, 2025**

**BOARD MOTION: 10-5-26**

Cost Sharing Forage Seeding on Grazing Lease Re-grassing Permits Under Motion **10-5-26**, May 12, 2026, the Special Areas Board will continue to cost share with the grazing leaseholders the purchase of forage seed for seeding on re-grassing permits on grazing leases. The Board will reimburse one half of the purchase price for approved seed purchased from a retail marketer to a maximum of \$35.00/ac. To this end the following list of recommended forage varieties, mixtures and seeding rates will set the guidelines for reimbursement rates:

**RECOMMENDED SPECIES, MIXTURES, SEEDING RATES AND COST ESTIMATES**

Species	lb./ac	Ave. \$/lb.	\$/ac.	SAB \$/ac.	2025
Alfalfa- Dryland (creeping rooted)	8	6.12	48.98	24.49	22.69
- Standard	8	5.76	46.05	23.02	21.91
Crested Wheatgrass (tetraploid eg. Kirk)	9	7.33	65.97	32.99	28.48
Crested Wheatgrass (diploid eg. Fairway)	9	7.98	71.78	35.89	31.72
Russian Wildrye Grass	9	10.57	95.13	47.57	37.04
Smooth Brome Grass	9	6.31	56.83	28.41	29.11
Meadow Brome Grass	15	6.35	95.31	47.66	49.62
Northern Wheat Grass	8	17.31	138.51	69.25	64.60
Western Wheat Grass	11	14.85	163.31	81.66	88.83
Slender Wheat Grass	8	5.85	46.77	23.38	22.82
Intermediate Wheat Grass	14	7.28	101.87	50.94	49.86
<b>Mixtures</b>					
Alfalfa* + Crested Wheat Grass <sup>†</sup>	4 + 5		61.14	30.57	27.17
Alfalfa* + Smooth Brome Grass	4 + 5		56.06	28.03	27.52
Alfalfa* + Meadow Brome Grass	4 + 8		75.32	37.66	37.81
Alfalfa* + Smooth Brome + Crested Wheat <sup>†</sup>	3 + 3 + 4		66.63	33.31	30.87
Alfalfa* + Meadow Brome + Crested Wheat <sup>†</sup>	3 + 5 + 4		79.46	39.73	37.70
Alfalfa* + Russian Wildrye Grass	4 + 5		77.34	38.67	31.92
Alfalfa* + Intermediate Wheat Grass	4 + 7		75.42	37.71	36.27
Grass mixtures (three or more varieties)	Maximum 10			Max \$35.00	Max \$30.00

[NOTE: Above based on 2026 prices and subject to change.]

(\*) Dryland (†) Tetraploid

Alfalfa varieties of the dryland (a.k.a. creeping rooted) type are suitable for all parts of the Special Areas. Standard varieties, such as Algonquin, Peace and Beaver, are suitable for the dark brown soil zones in Special Area 4, the north half of Special Area 3 and the northwest portion of Special Area 2. Flemish varieties of alfalfa are not acceptable for dryland use in the Special Areas.

Grass species not acceptable for use in the Special Areas include but are not limited to; timothy, orchard grass, meadow foxtail, creeping foxtail, Italian ryegrass, perennial ryegrass, annual ryegrass and creeping red fescue (except in the extreme north end of Special Area 4).

Other species or varieties not listed here should be checked by the Rangeland Agrologist to determine their appropriateness.

All seed should be of a certified variety. Canada Common No. 1 seed may be used only if there are no certified varieties of that species available. Leaseholders will be reimbursed after they have presented a certificate of analysis for the seed used and an invoice for its purchase. Reimbursement will be made for half of the purchase price of the seed used, up to the level set out in the table. Example calculations of reimbursements are included in Appendix 1.

Reimbursement will not be made if the seed test certificate reveals that a noxious weed was in the seed purchased. Certificates are available for common seed listing purity, germination and weed seed content.

Reimbursement will be made only on claims that are filed during the calendar year in which the forage was seeded.

The variety and mixture recommendations will be reviewed regularly (three years). The average prices will be adjusted annually prior to commencement of seeding (approximately April 1).

A statement outlining the reimbursement policy should be given to each leaseholder when they apply for a re-grassing permit and sent to them, again, when the permit is about to expire.

**APPROVED BY CHAIR:**



*Shaune Kovitch, Chair  
Special Areas Board*

## Appendix 1

**Example 1; Alfalfa + Crested Wheatgrass, low seeding rate, price below our limit**

Seed Purchased; 110 lb. alfalfa @ \$2.30/lb. and 165 lb. CWG @ \$1.55/lb. Total seed cost; \$508.75. Seeding rate; 2 lb./ac alfalfa and 3 lb./ac CWG. Leaseholder's cost per acre; \$9.25. Area seeded; 40 ac. Total cost of seed used; \$370.00. Reimbursement; \$185.00

**Example 2; Alfalfa + Crested Wheatgrass, high seeding rate, price below our limit**

Seed purchased; 165 lb. alfalfa @ \$2.75 /lb. and 275 lb. CWG @ \$1.65/lb. Total seed cost; \$907.50.  
Seeding rate; 3 lb./ac alfalfa and 5 lb./ac CWG. Leaseholder's cost per acre; \$16.50. Area seeded; 40 ac. Our limit for seeding rate; 2 lb./ac alfalfa and 3 lb./ac CWG. Allowable cost per acre; \$10.45. Total allowable cost; \$418.00. Reimbursement; \$209.00.

**Example 3; Alfalfa + Crested Wheatgrass, low seeding rate, price above our limit**

Seed purchased; 110 lb. alfalfa @ \$3.45/lb. and 165 lb. CWG @ \$2.95/lb. Total seed cost; \$866.25. Seeding rate; 2 lb./ac alfalfa and 3 lb./ac CWG. Leaseholder's cost per acre; \$15.75. Area seeded; 40 ac. Our price limit; alfalfa @ \$3.25/lb. and CWG @ \$2.76/lb. Allowable cost per acre; \$14.78. Total allowable cost; \$591.20. Reimbursement; \$295.60.

**Example 4; Alfalfa + Crested Wheatgrass, high seeding rate, price above our limit**

Seed purchased; 165 lb. alfalfa @ \$3.45/lb. and 275 lb. CWG @ \$2.95/lb. Total seed cost; \$1380.50.  
Seeding rate; 3 lb./ac alfalfa and 5 lb./ac CWG. Leaseholder's cost per acre; \$25.10. Area seeded; 40 ac. Our price limit; alfalfa @ \$3.25/lb. and CWG @ \$2.76/lb. Our limit for seeding rate; 2 lb./ac alfalfa and 3 lb./ac CWG. Allowable cost per acre; \$14.78. Total allowable cost; \$591.20. Reimbursement; \$295.60.

**Example 5; Western Wheatgrass + Northern Wheatgrass;**

Seed purchased; 110 lb. western wheatgrass @ \$12.00/lb. and 110 lb. northern wheatgrass @ \$9.00/lb. Total seed cost; \$2,310.00. Seeding rate; 2.5 lb./ac WWG and 2.5 lb./ac NWG. Leaseholder's cost per acre; \$52.50. Maximum reimbursement rate \$20.00/ac. Area seeded; 40 ac. Leaseholder's total cost; \$21,00.00. Reimbursement; \$800.00.