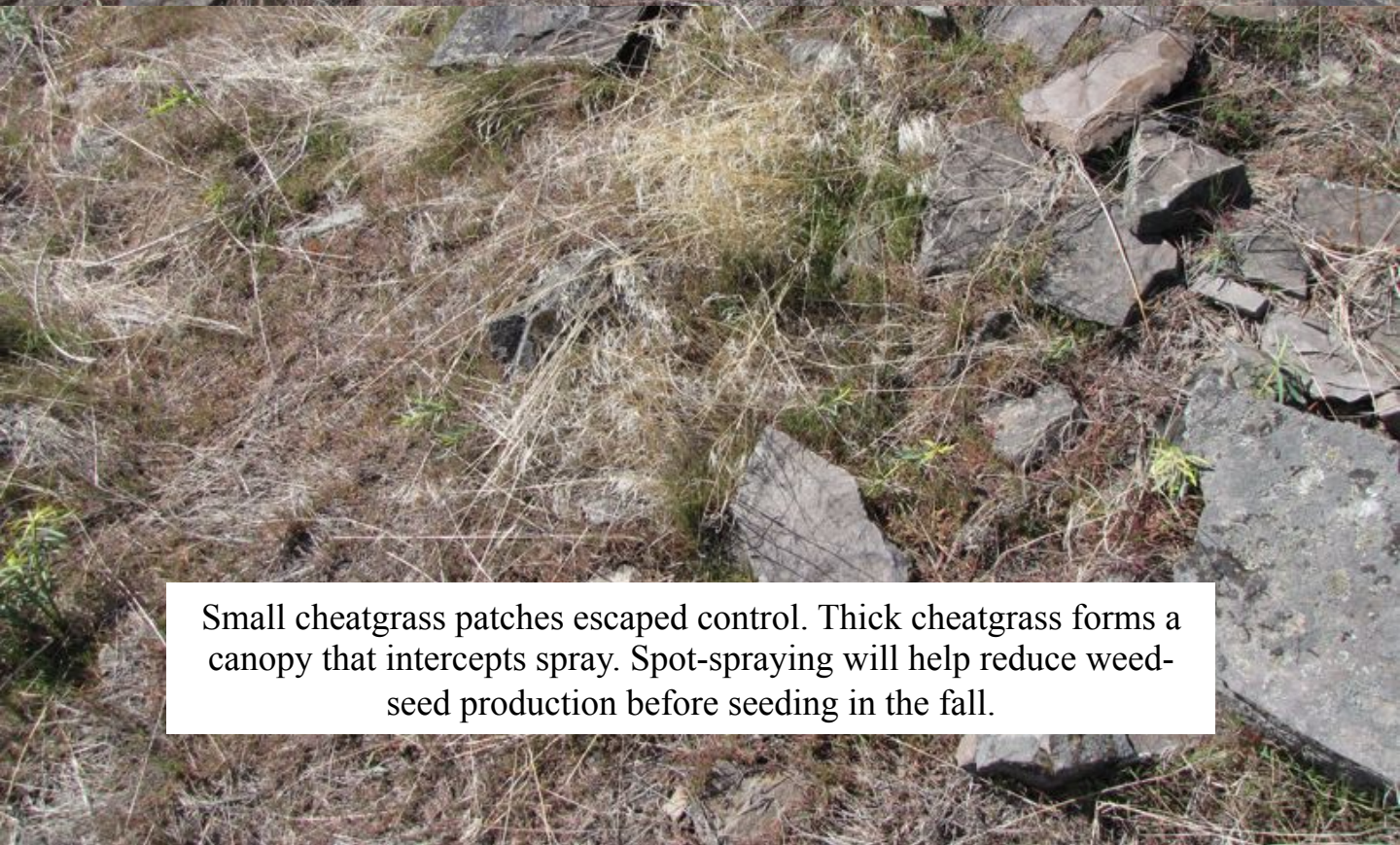


A photograph of a dry, open landscape featuring numerous clumps of tall, yellowish-brown grasses growing in a sparse, brownish soil. The grasses are clumped together, with significant bare ground visible between them. A white rectangular text box is positioned in the upper center of the image.

Restoration Report 05-06-13

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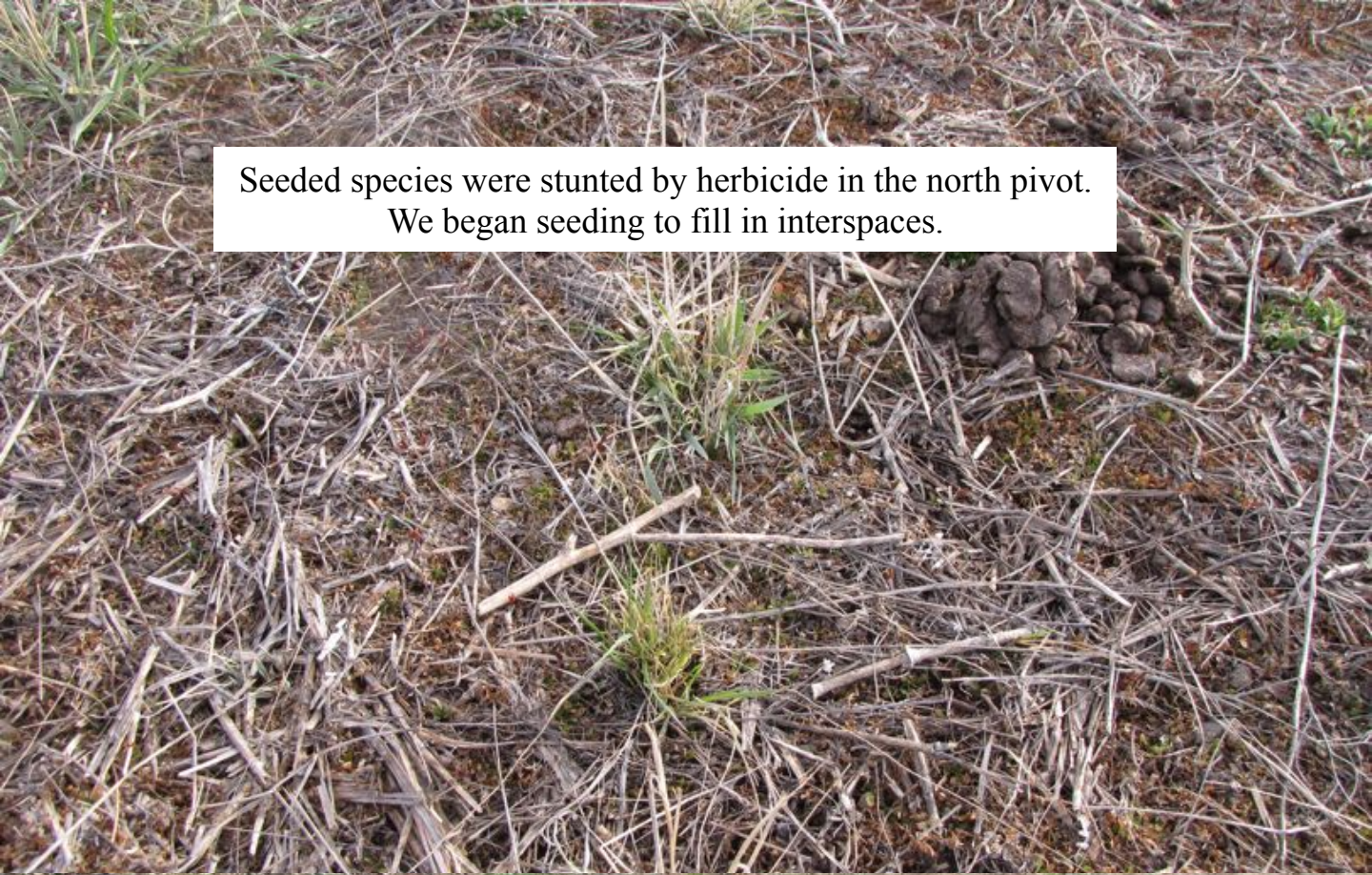
Annual weed control with glyphosate this spring opened up space between bunchgrasses on Indian Ridge.




Small cheatgrass patches escaped control. Thick cheatgrass forms a canopy that intercepts spray. Spot-spraying will help reduce weed-seed production before seeding in the fall.

Leafy spurge is abundant on Indian Ridge and will require separate treatment. Native forb diversity and abundance are low.






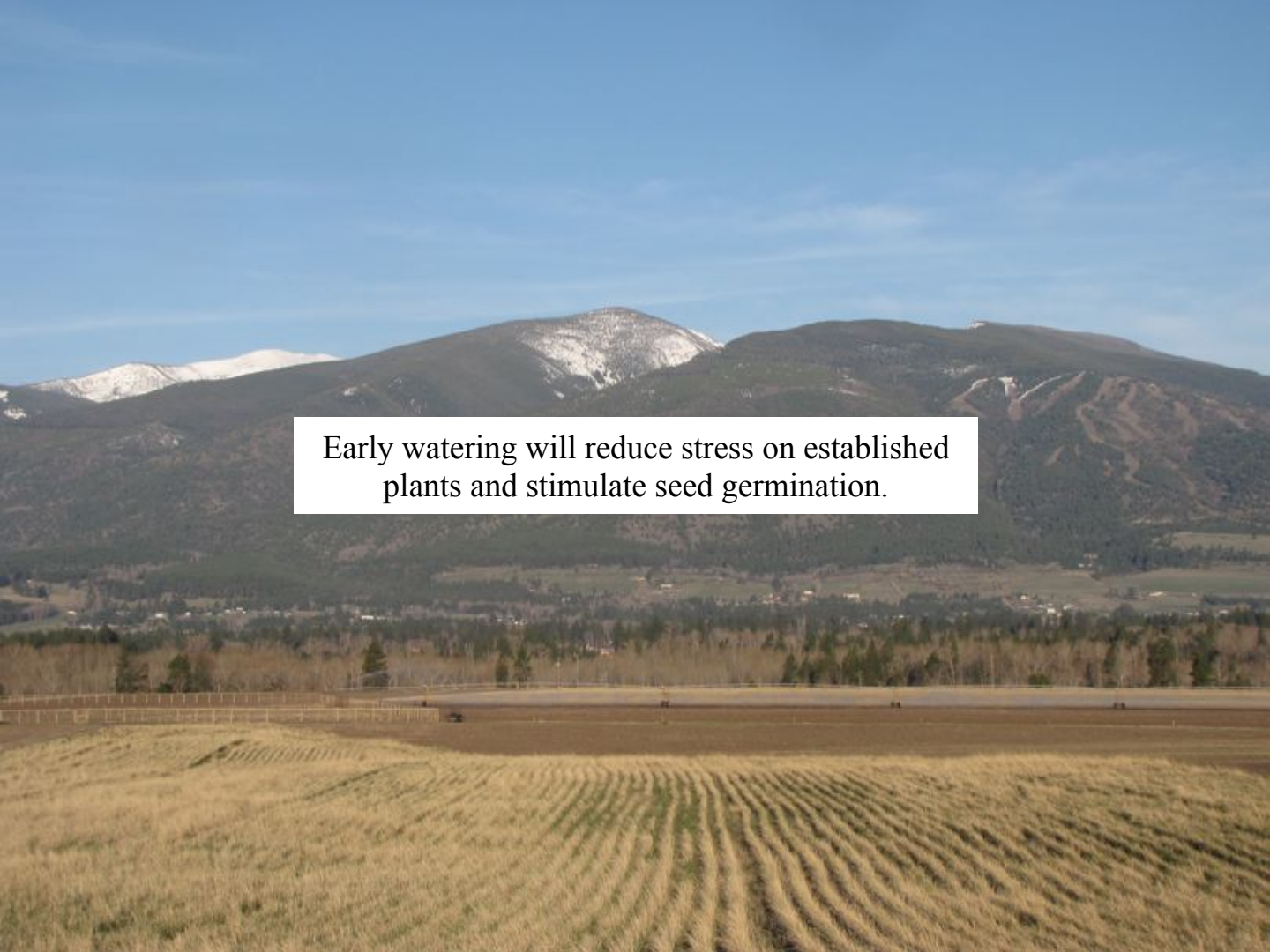
Seeded species were stunted by herbicide in the north pivot.
We began seeding to fill in interspaces.



Many stunted plants are recovering and should grow well with
little competition.

A close-up photograph of a dry, brown, and tangled field of dead grass and twigs. Several small, green, grass-like plants are growing in patches, indicating recovery. A small white plastic ring is visible on the ground near one of the green plants.

Plant recovery under the north center-pivot.

A wide-angle landscape photograph showing a large, flat, brown field in the foreground, likely a center-pivot irrigation system. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains, some with patches of snow. The sky is clear and blue.

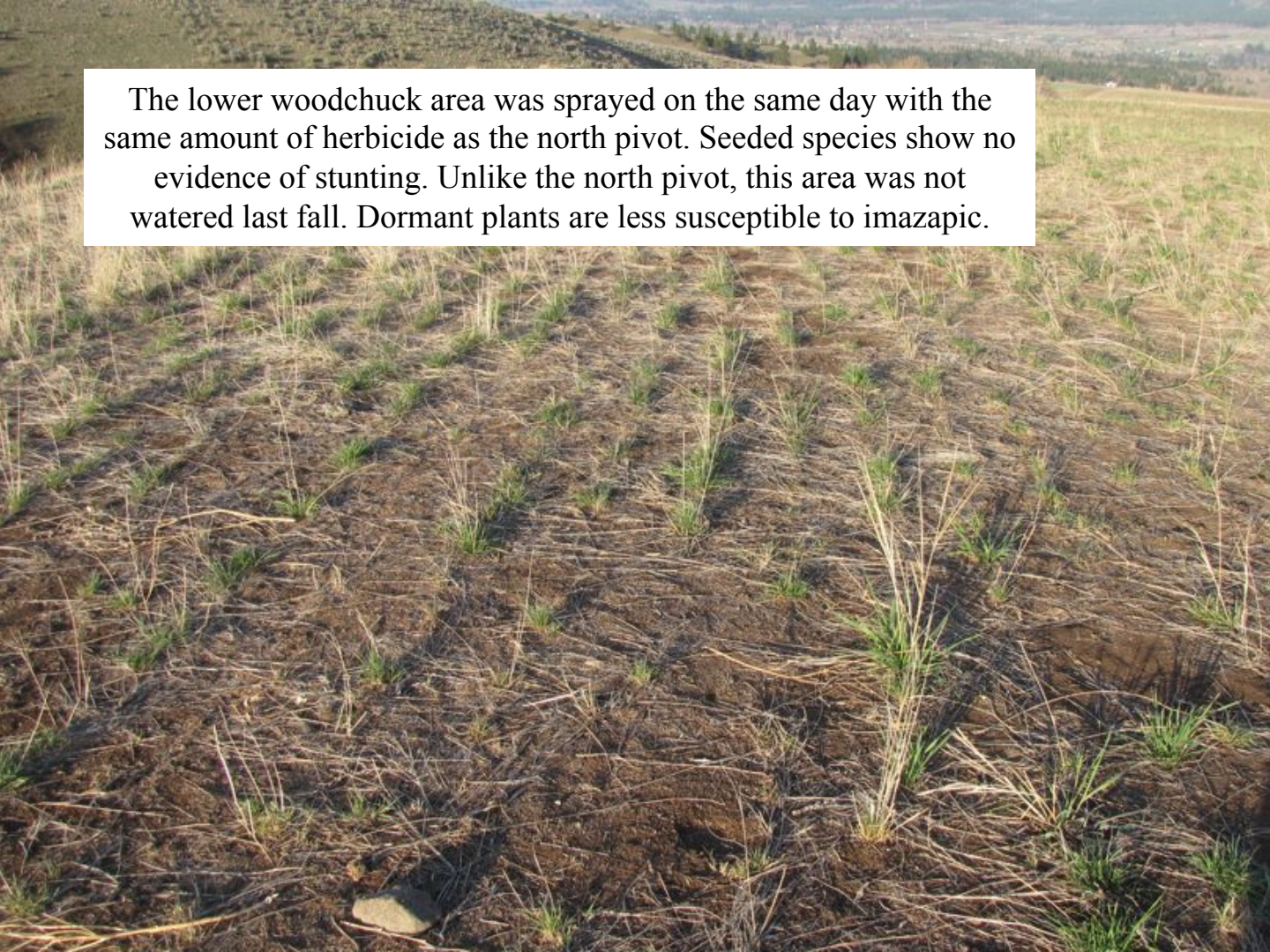
Early watering will reduce stress on established plants and stimulate seed germination.

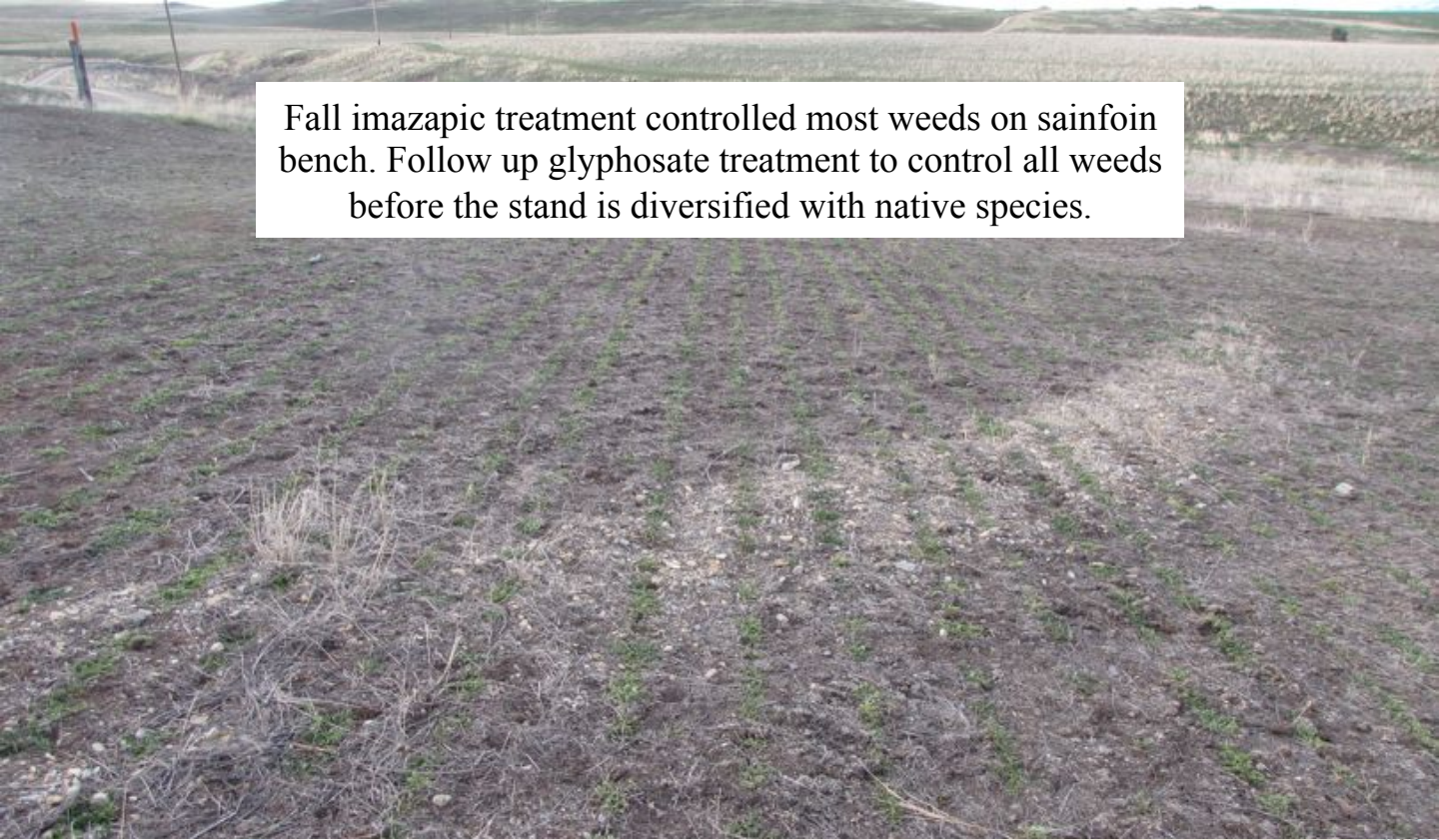
Seeded rows under the south center-pivot. This area wasn't treated with imazapic last fall and ruderal species fill interspaces between seeded species.





The lower woodchuck area was sprayed on the same day with the same amount of herbicide as the north pivot. Seeded species show no evidence of stunting. Unlike the north pivot, this area was not watered last fall. Dormant plants are less susceptible to imazapic.





Fall imazapic treatment controlled most weeds on sainfoin bench. Follow up glyphosate treatment to control all weeds before the stand is diversified with native species.



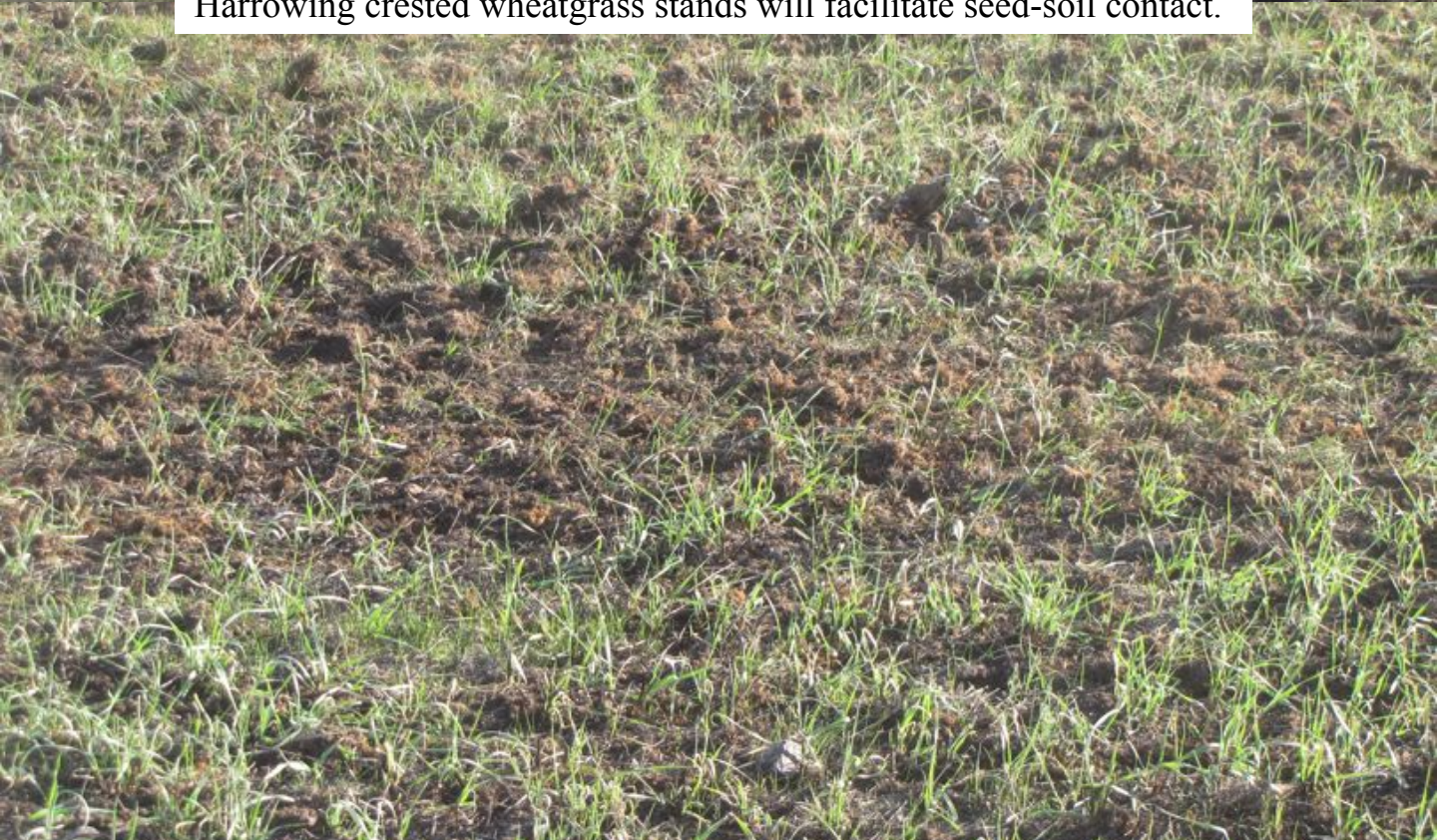
The south pivot hay field was clumpy after fall tillage. The field was disked to create a seedbed for soy, corn, and sunflowers.

These sagebrush plants were grown from stem cuttings treated with root hormones. They really took off this year! Although labor intensive, the method is a good way to transfer ranch sagebrush genotypes to new areas.





Harrowing crested wheatgrass stands will facilitate seed-soil contact.



Curlew Habitat

Four curlews and a nest (yellow star) were spotted in areas proposed for crested wheatgrass conversion. Kate Stone thinks that breeding pairs driven off nests this year may never return. We propose waiting until next year to begin restoration of the area enclosed in red. Surrounding areas will be seeded with low-statured species that curlews favor.

