

SEEING IS BELIEVING:

ENGAGING THE
CONSERVATION
COMMUNITY IN A NETWORK
OF NATIVE PLANT
DEMONSTRATION SITES
REGIONALLY AND
THROUGHOUT THE U.S.



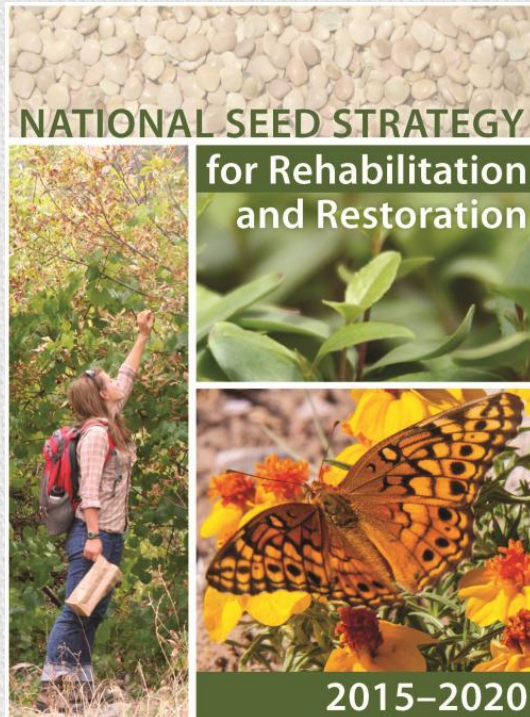
The Dawes Arboretum

Trees, History & Nature Since 1929

Carrie Brown

The Dawes Arboretum

National Seed Strategy for Rehabilitation and Restoration 2015-2020



Developed by the Plant Conservation Alliance Federal Committee, chaired by the Bureau of Land Management in cooperation with Federal and non-Federal partners

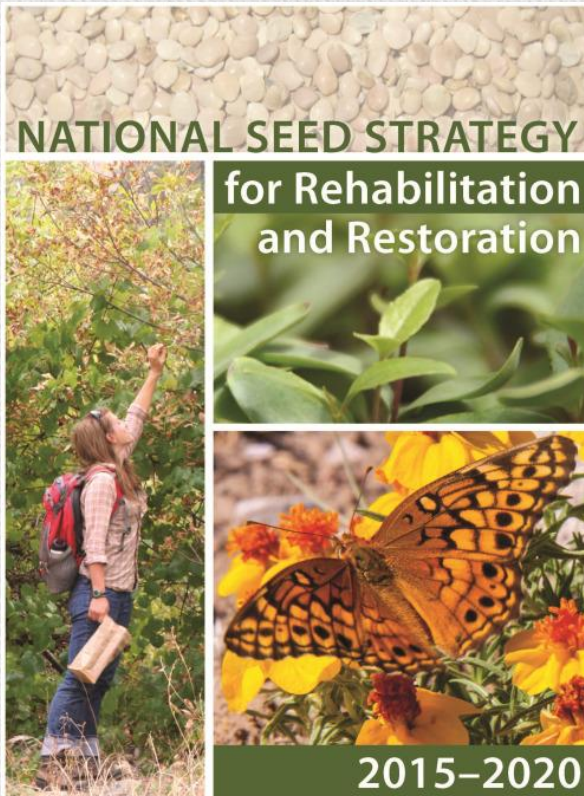
Strategy Mission: To ensure the availability of genetically appropriate seed to restore viable and productive plant communities and sustainable ecosystems.

Strategy Vision: The right seed at the right place at the right time.



Photo by U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Northeast Region

National Seed Strategy for Rehabilitation and Restoration 2015-2020



Establishment of a nationwide network:

- Native seed collectors
- Farmers and growers
- Nurseries
- Seed storage facilities
- Restoration ecologists

National Seed Strategy for Rehabilitation and Restoration 2015-2020

SEED NEEDS



Goal 1: Identify seed needs, and ensure the reliable availability of genetically appropriate seeds.

RESEARCH



Goal 2: Identify research needs and conduct research to provide genetically appropriate seed and to improve technology for native seed production and ecosystem restoration.

TOOLS



Goal 3: Develop tools that enable managers to make timely, informed seeding decisions for ecological restoration.

COMMUNICATE



Goal 4: Develop strategies for internal and external communication.

2017 National Native Seed Conference



**Native Plant Materials
Development,
Production & Use in
Habitat Restoration**

- **WHO?** Research, industry, land management, & restoration professionals
- **WHY?** Develop relationships and share information about the collection, research and development, production, and use of native plant materials

2017 National Native Seed Conference Task Force

Seeing is Believing: Demonstration Sites for Native Plants

Also known as Action 3.1.2 in the National Seed Strategy, this Task Force will plan, implement, and help publicize native plant demonstration sites in different ecoregions across the United States.

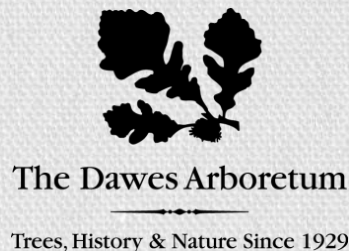
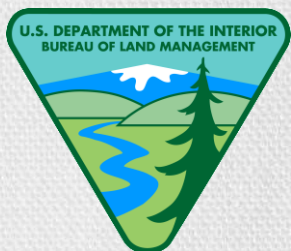


2017 National Native Seed Conference Task Force

Seeing is Believing: Demonstration Sites for Native Plants

**Demonstration sites show how to restore habitat
with native seed and plant materials**

Volunteer team of expert stakeholders from national and
regional organizations



Native Plant Demonstration Case Studies

The Dawes Arboretum, Newark, Ohio

Conservation Sanctuary

- Promote trees, habitats and wildlife
- By enhancing native biodiversity
- And inspiring community involvement



The Dawes Arboretum

Red Barn Reserve: An Anthology of Native Ecosystems



Prairie

Woodlands

Red Barn

Pond

Research

Wetland

Reforestation

Stream



The Dawes Arboretum

Trees, History & Nature Since 1929



- Over 4,500 native trees planted since 2015
- Involvement of hundreds of volunteers
- ~25 native tree & shrub species
- Research

Reforestation



- Most endangered large ecosystem in America
- 99% of original Ohio prairie habitat is gone
- Goal is to conserve habitats for future generations
- Wild collection of seed



Prairie



Woodlands





Wetland



Red Barn

Dutch Fork Wetland: A Wetland Reborn



The Dawes Arboretum

Trees, History & Nature Since 1929

- 10 + Years in recovery
- Natural wetland habitats, Category 3 Restoration



Asclepias incarnata
swamp milkweed

Pontederia cordata
pickerelweed



Cephalanthus occidentalis
common buttonbush



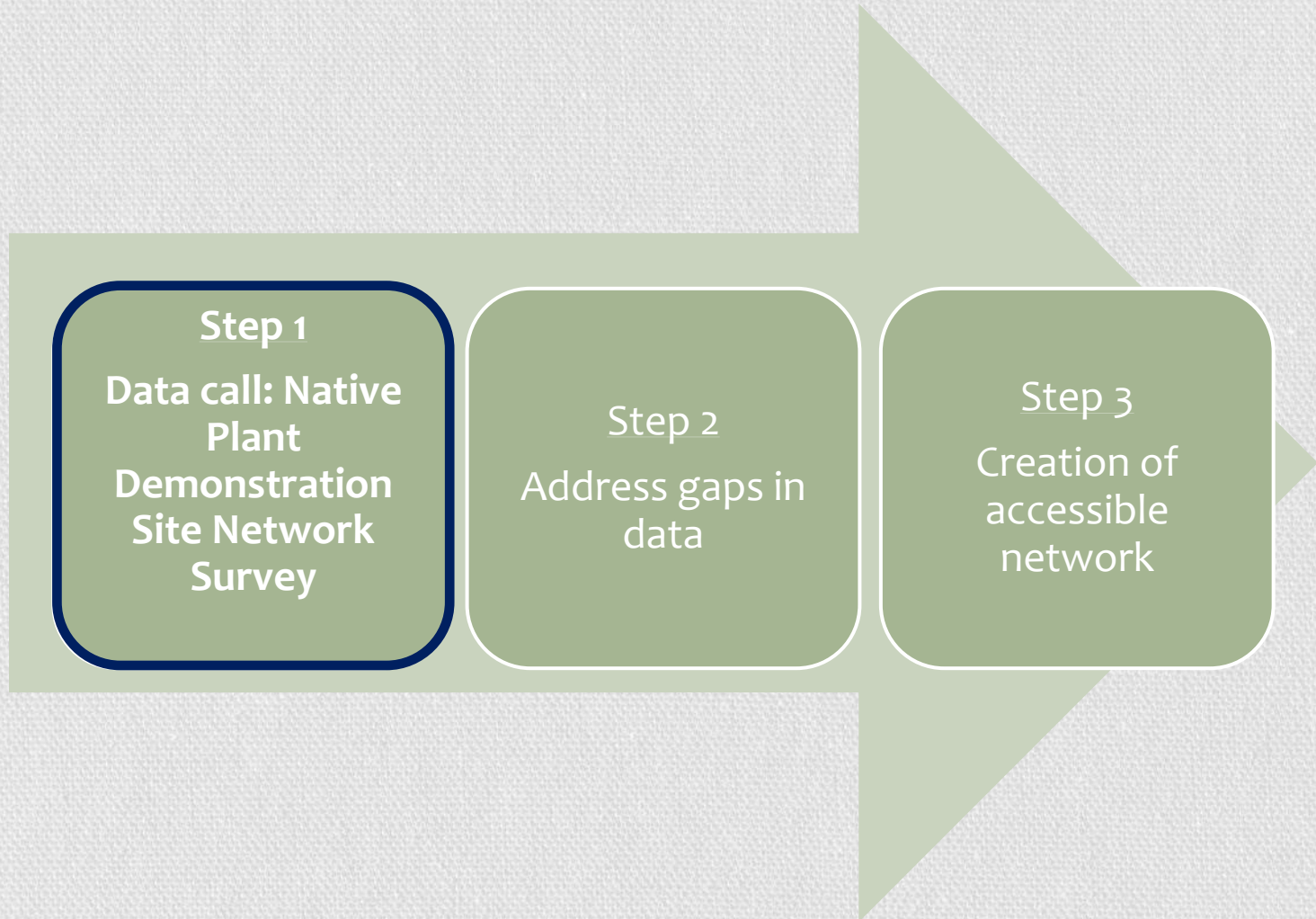
Seeing is Believing: Demonstration Sites for Native Plants

Native plant demonstration sites such as these serve as
living models
for restoration practitioners

- Assist in decision-making
- Show how to restore specific habitats with native seed and plant materials
- Across multiple ecoregions

**How do we get this information to those
who need it?**

Seeing is Believing: Demonstration Sites for Native Plants



Native Plant Demonstration Site Network Survey

Goal: Compile a directory of national, regional, and local organizations that restore and oversee native plant demonstration sites

- Contact information
- Demonstration site description
- **Ecoregion represented**
- Notable flora and fauna
- Acquisition methods of seed (wild collected, commercial sources, garden origin, non-native materials)
- Availability of locally adapted plant material
- Site accessibility and interpretation

Native Plant Demonstration Site Network: Survey

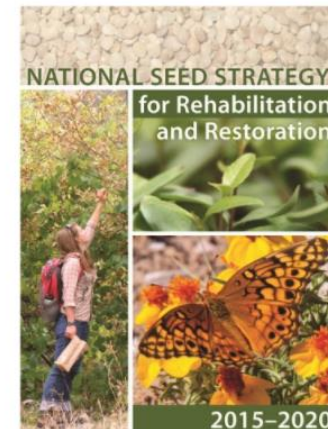
You have received an invitation to complete the Native Plant Demonstration Site Network Survey due to your interest in conserving native plant species and native plant communities. In order to achieve objectives set forth by the National Seed Strategy for Rehabilitation and Restoration, please share details regarding the demonstration of native plants at your organization.

This survey should take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete.

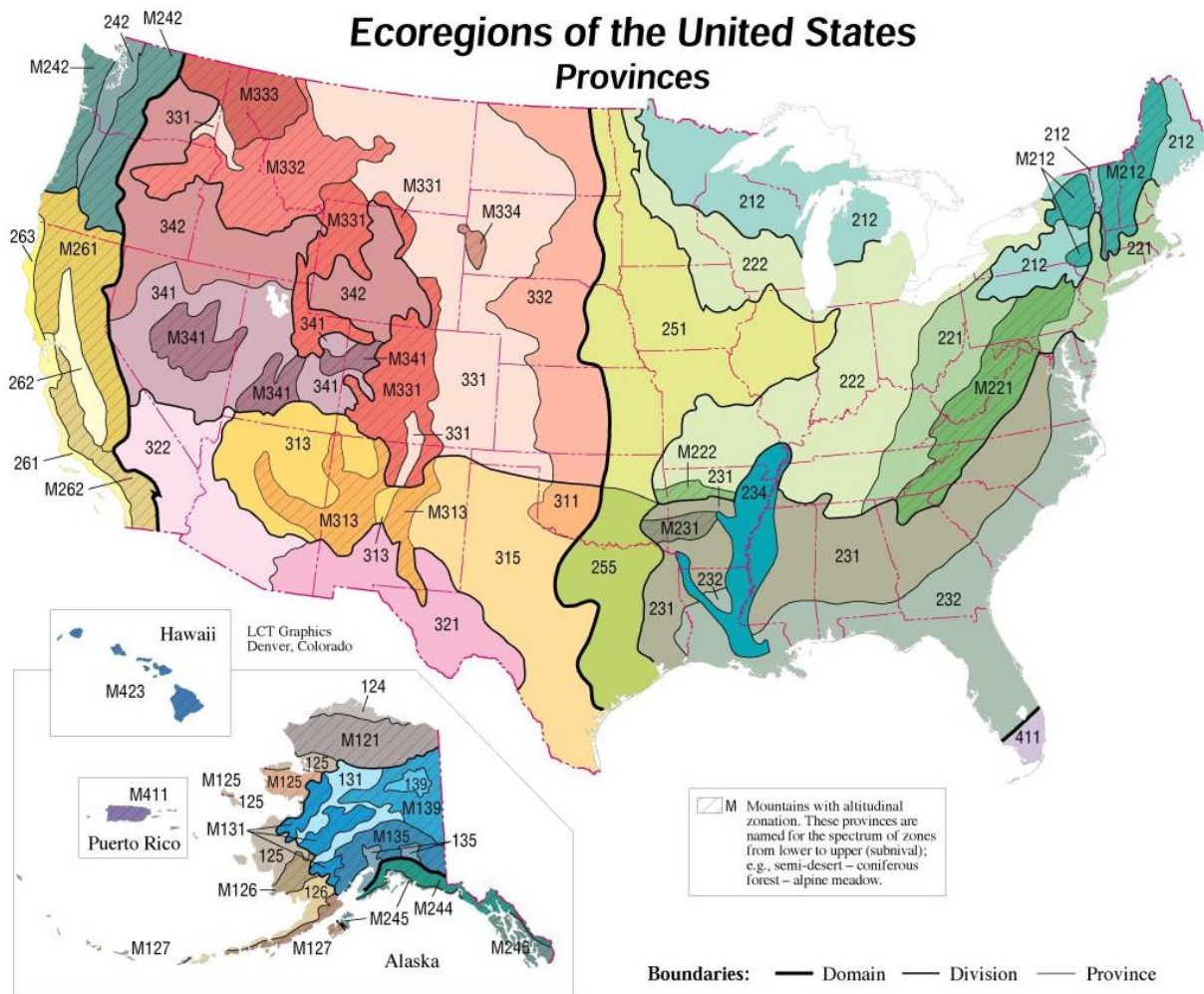
When completing this survey, you are helping to connect land managers by facilitating the sharing of best practice methods for the conversion of land into native displays. The network will also be used to educate the public of the need for native plant materials and where their use can be demonstrated. By entering your site information, you are agreeing to allow your native plant demonstration site to be included in the forthcoming Native Plant Demonstration Site Network Database.

We appreciate your input and interest in furthering the progression of the National Seed Strategy. FEEL FREE TO FORWARD THIS SURVEY LINK TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WHO ALSO MANAGE NATIVE PLANT DISPLAYS. Together we can protect native plants by ensuring that native plant populations and their communities are maintained, enhanced, and restored.

The National Seed Strategy for Rehabilitation and Restoration in its entirety can be viewed at: https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/program_natural%20resources_seed%20strategy_quick%20link_seed%20strategy.pdf



Ecoregions of the United States Provinces



Ecoregions -- large areas of similar climate where ecosystems recur in predictable patterns.

Comprehensive system for classifying ecosystems as an aid to achieving quality land management.

“Identify the ecoregion represented by your demonstration site, according to R. Bailey's Ecoregions of the United States.”

Ecoregions of the United States
Provinces

Map showing the distribution of 33 out of 52 ecoregions across the United States, categorized by provinces. The map includes insets for Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Alaska.

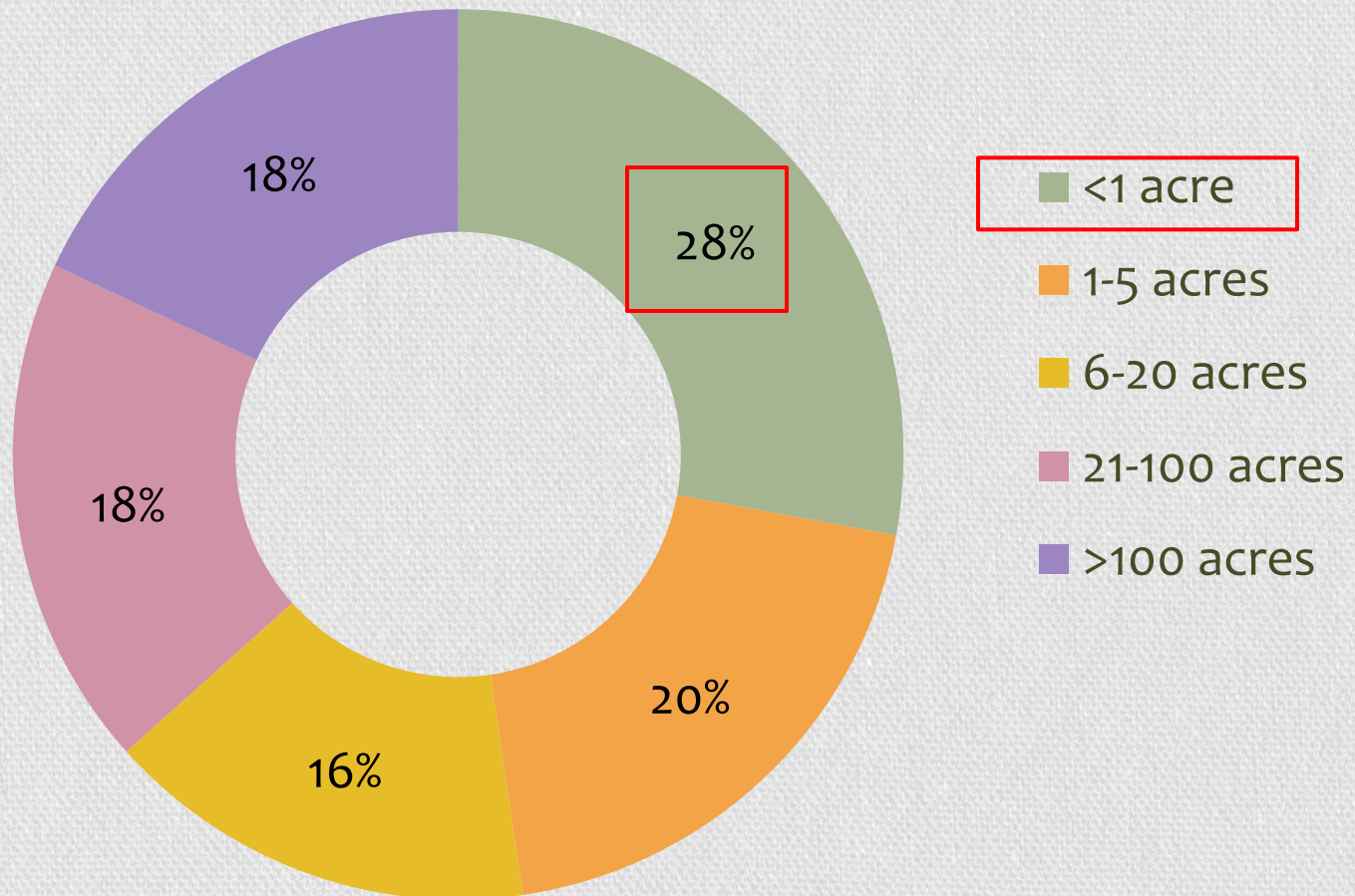
Legend: M Mountains with altitudinal zonation. These provinces are named for the spectrum of zones.

33 out of 52 ecoregion represented

33 out of 52 ecoregions represented

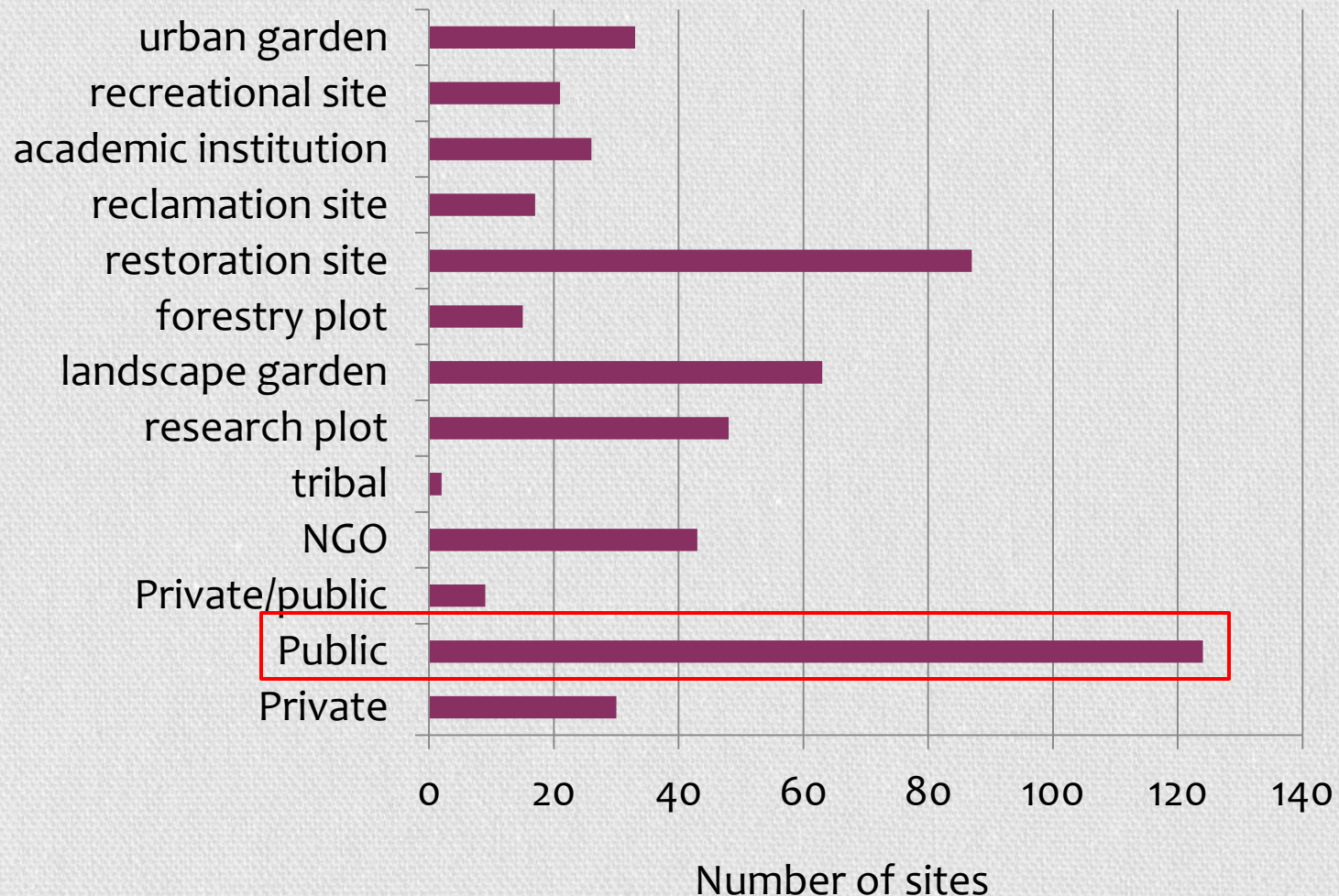
Native Plant Demonstration Site Network Survey

Demonstration Site Size:



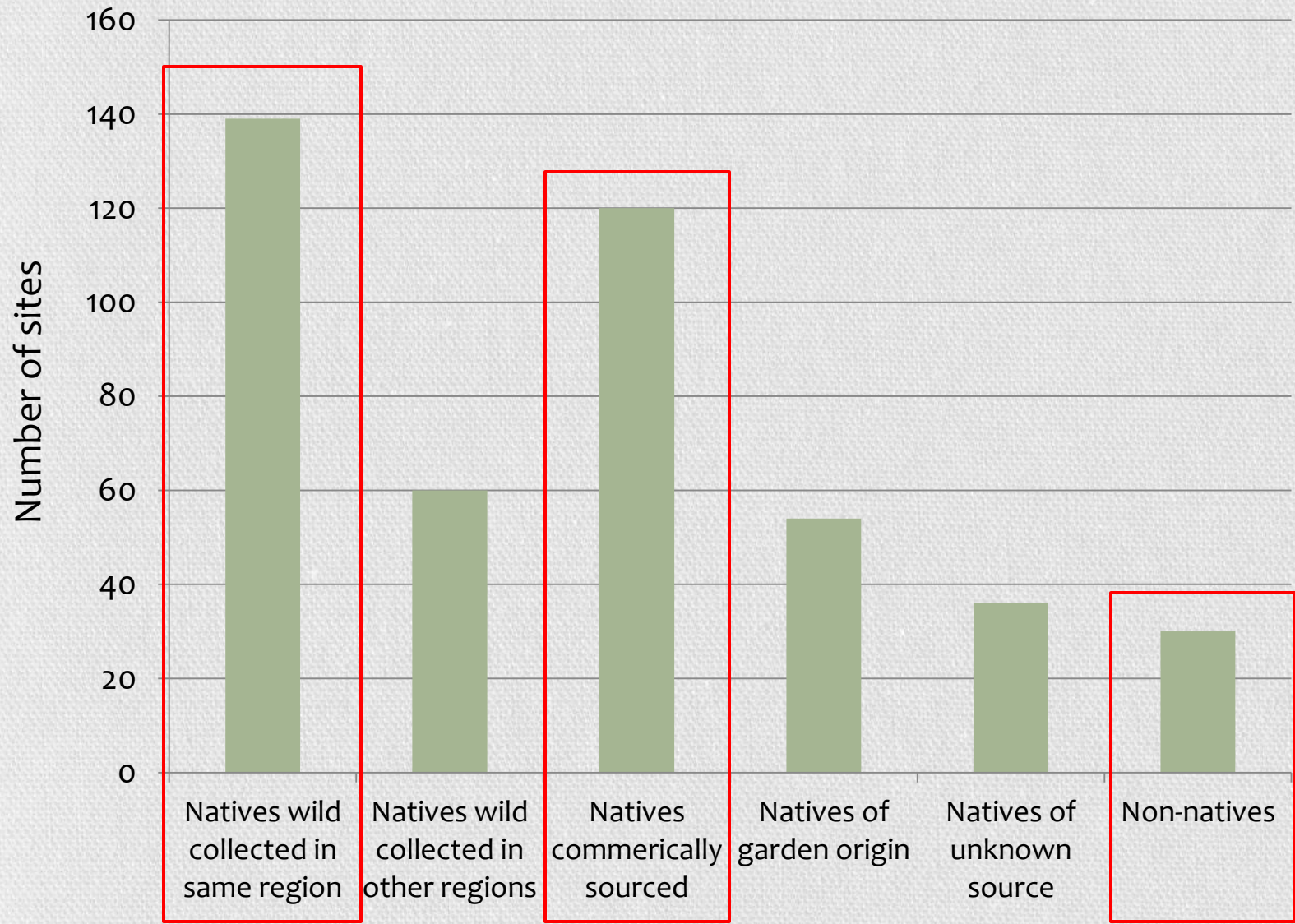
Native Plant Demonstration Site Network Survey

Demonstration Site Type



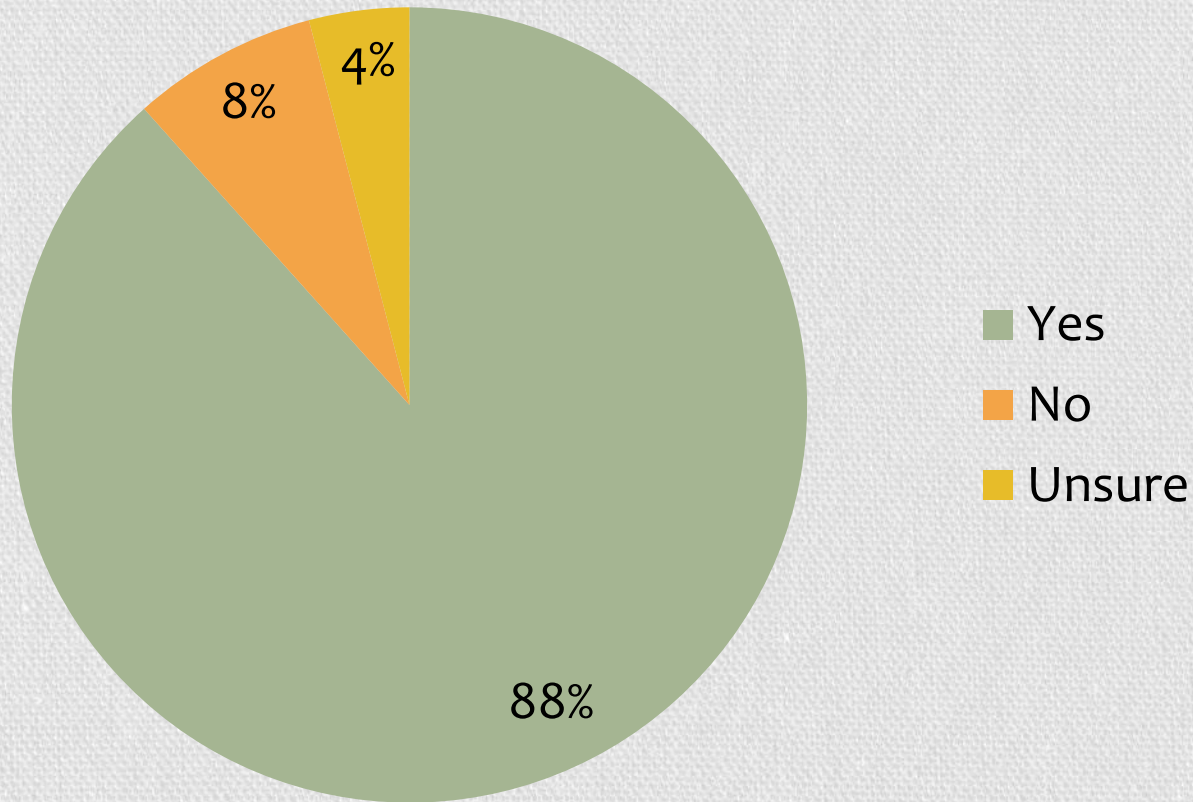
Native Plant Demonstration Site Network Survey

Source(s) of Deliberately Introduced Plant Material



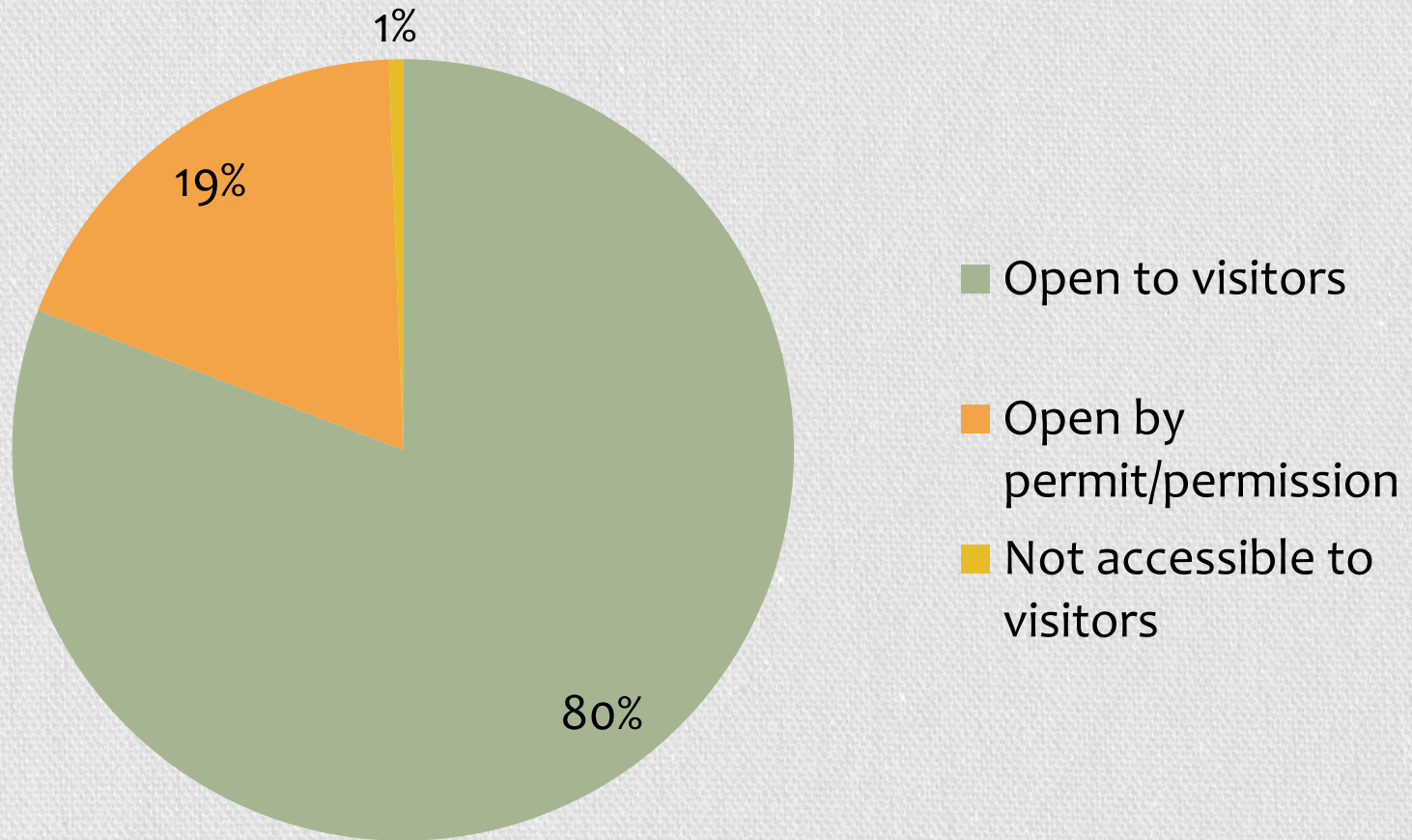
Native Plant Demonstration Site Network Survey

Is plant material adapted to your local eco-region available to you?



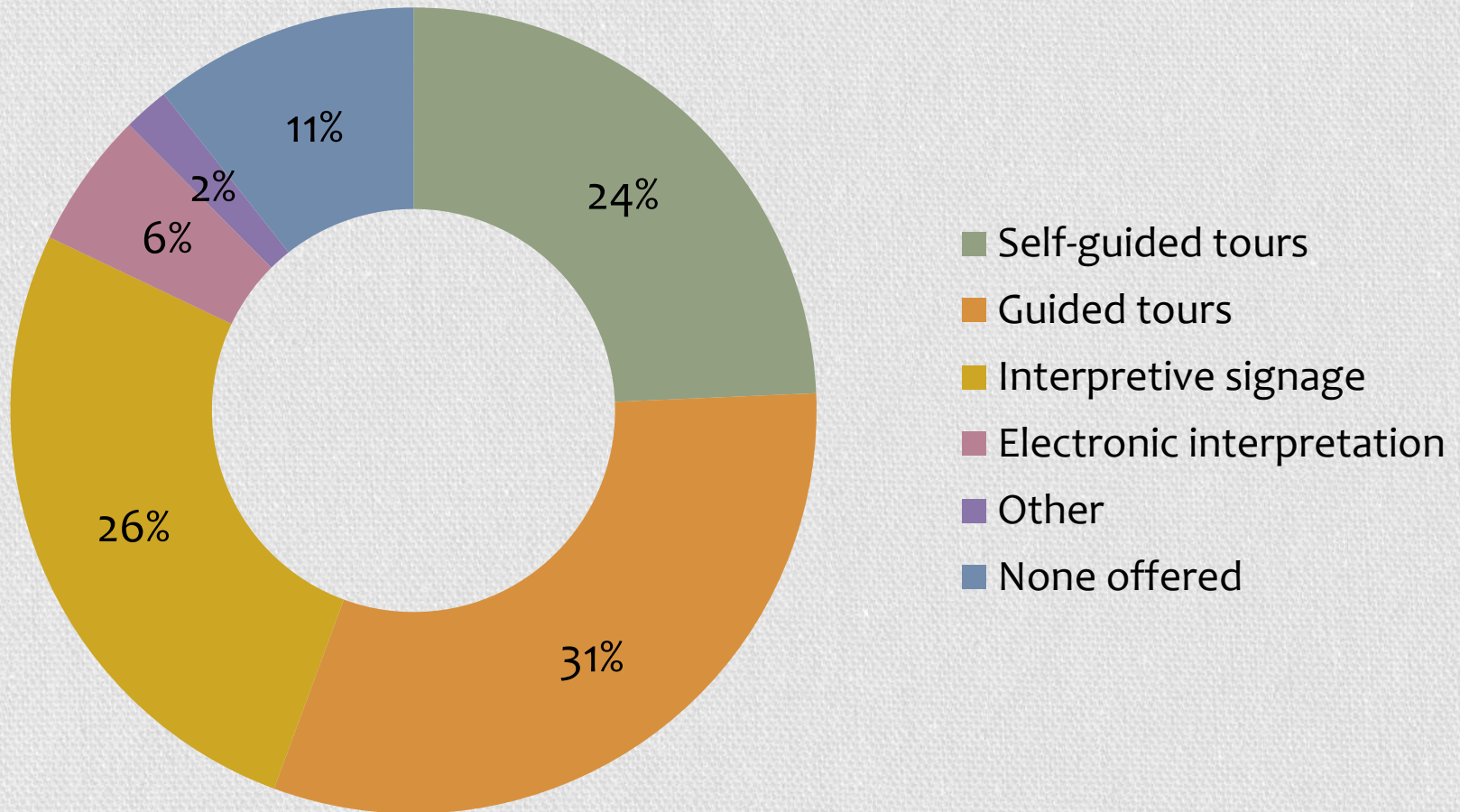
Native Plant Demonstration Site Network Survey

Accessibility of Site

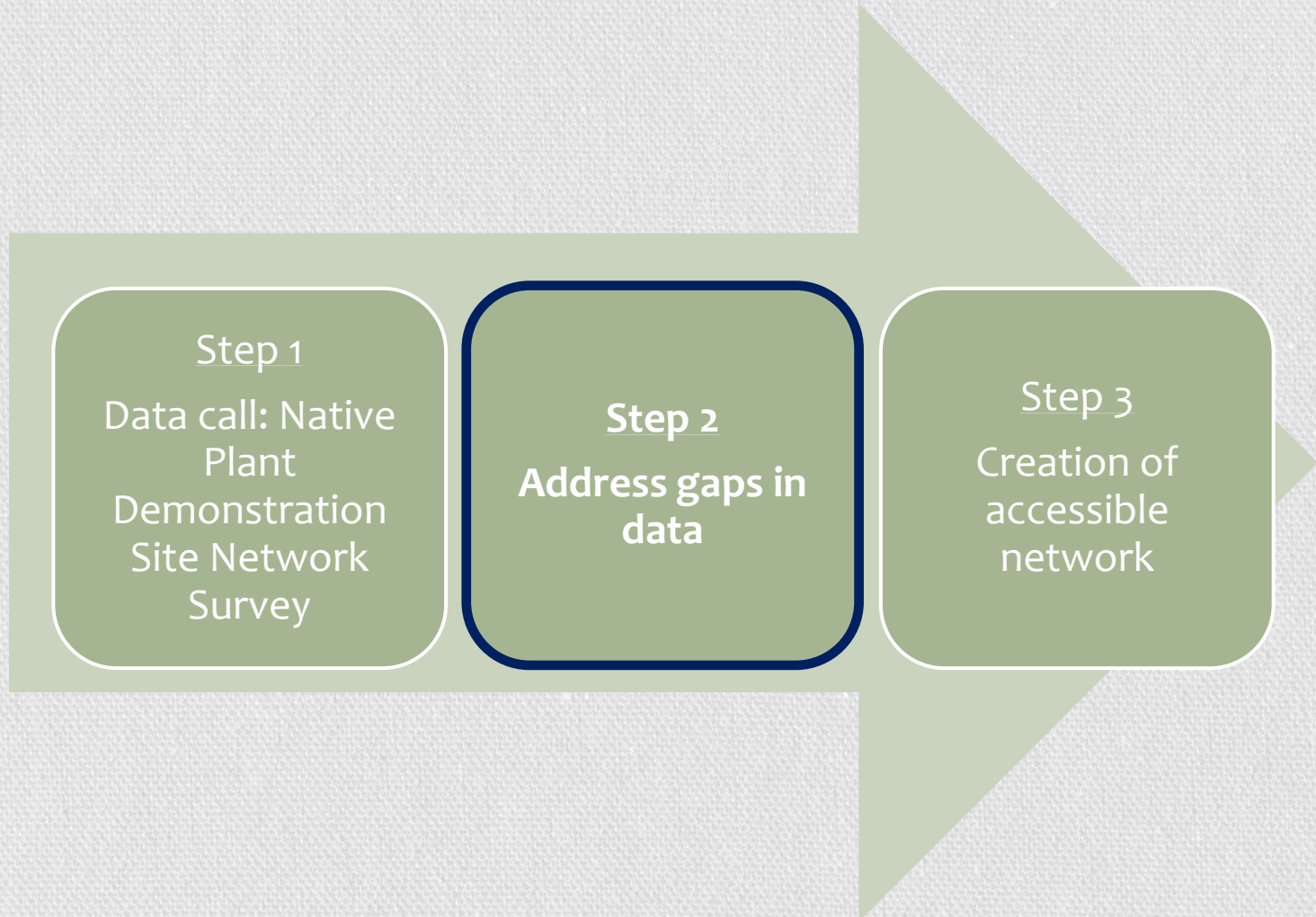


Native Plant Demonstration Site Network Survey

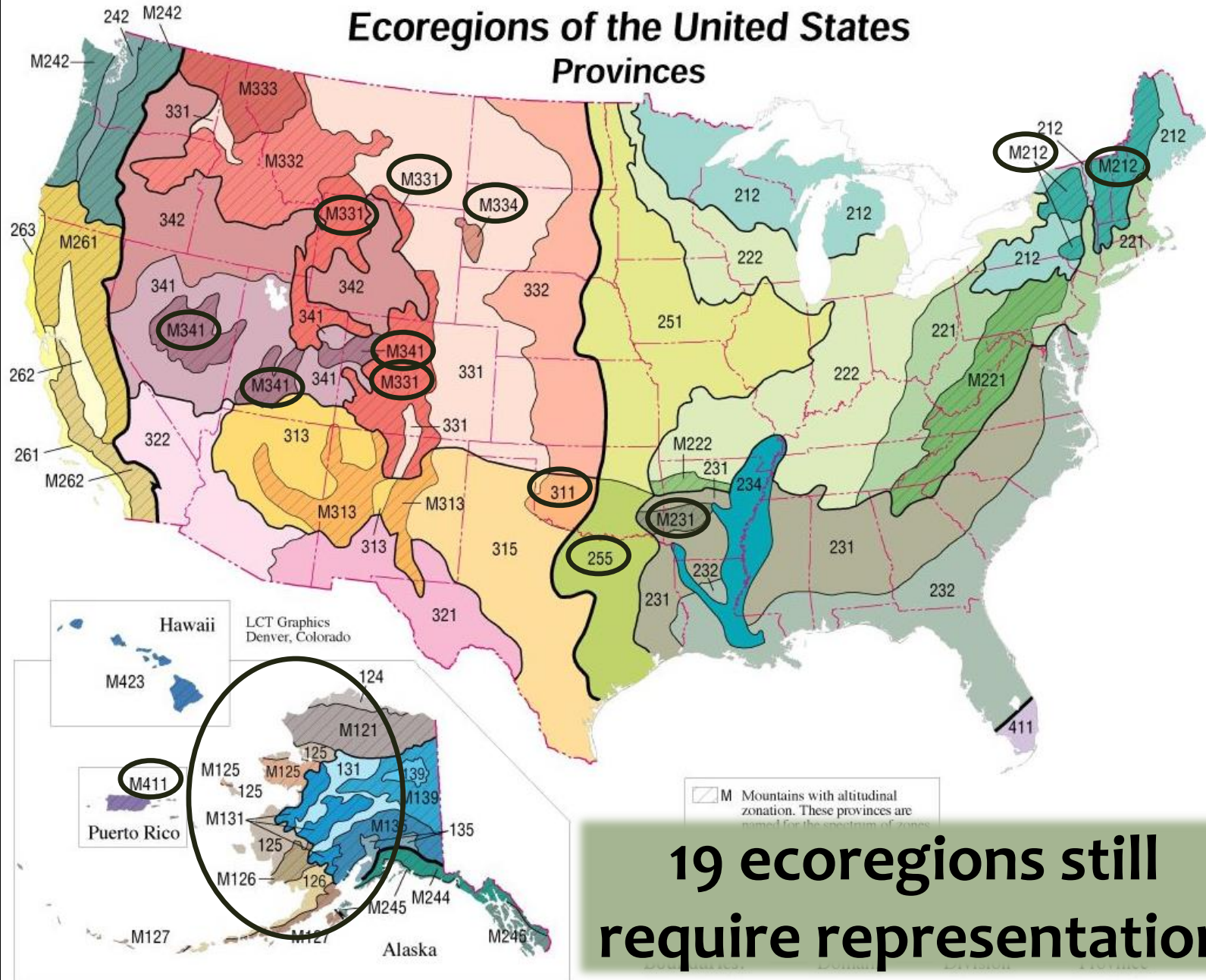
Site Interpretation



Seeing is Believing: Demonstration Sites for Native Plants

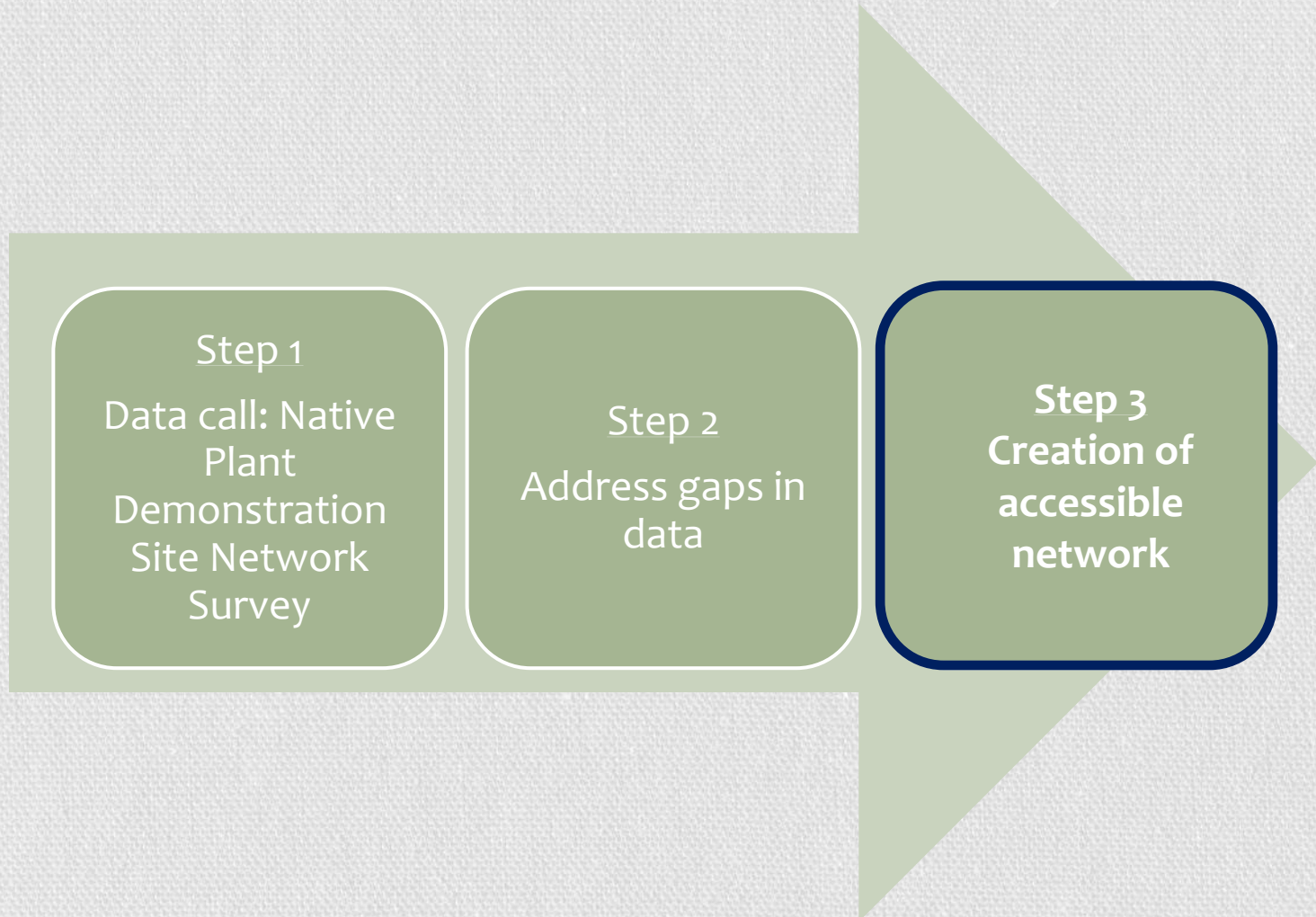


Ecoregions of the United States Provinces



**19 ecoregions still
require representation**

Seeing is Believing: Demonstration Sites for Native Plants



Native Plant Demonstration Site Network

Next Steps

Share the information!

- Native Seed Network website to host the network and eventual online interface – allow organizations to contribute additional information and demo sites.

<http://nativeseednetwork.org/>



Native Plant Demonstration Site Network

How Can You Contribute?

Volunteer operation
with limited resources-

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Carrie Brown clbrown@dawesarb.org



Native Plant Demonstration Site Network

We Need Your Help!

- Complete the survey and pass it along to others

<https://goo.gl/forms/58hOmHlryXjVo8Sl2>

- “Adopt” an underrepresented ecoregion, distributing the survey to land managers
- Data entry in the future

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Native Plant Demonstration Site Network

We Need Your Help!

“No one can whistle a symphony.
It takes a whole orchestra to play it.”

-H.E. Luccock

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Native Plant Demonstration Site Network

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