

In order to reduce erosion and sedimentation during the life of the operation, disturbed areas will be stabilized with an interim revegetation mixture during the first application season after construction is complete. The interim revegetation mixture is shown in **Table 2.05.4-4**. It is comprised of rapidly establishing, drought-tolerant grass species. Soil will not be applied to temporarily revegetated areas. These areas will be seeded directly onto the existing substrate by broadcast seeding. Interim revegetation will be conducted on topsoil stockpiles and portal spoil piles.

Interim seeding accomplishes the stabilization of soils from wind and water erosion using annuals and cool season plants to quickly revegetated and still provide some forage for wildlife and livestock. Final reclamation with warm season and cool season plants, as well as shrubs for some reclamation mixes, will occur upon completion of the operation.

Seeding rates have been designed to total approximately 70 to 80 pure live seeds (PLS) per square foot for drill seeding for native communities; the broadcast rate will be roughly twice that of the drill rate. This seeding rate will be used initially to evaluate germination success and the effects of interspecific competition. Initial evaluation may favor a revised rate for subsequent revegetation efforts. As new releases of commercial species are made, they will be considered for inclusion in the revegetation mixes. Species evaluations will be made on reclaimed sites as part of monitoring activities described in the following sections. Proposed modifications to seed mixtures may be made for the following reasons: limited species availability, poor seed quality, site difference, poor initial performance, or advances in reclamation technology.