Oil is in high demand in the United States and oil shale contains plenty of it. Once the oil is obtained the problem becomes dealing with the spent oil shale. Mixing spent oil shale with top soil may have an effect on the amount of plants that sprout as well as the health of the plant. Spent oil shale was mixed with top soil and native grass seeds were planted in soil mixtures. They were then monitored for sixty days and the plant matter was weighed at the end of the sixty days. Native grasses will grow in all mixtures of spent oil shale, including straight oil shale. The more spent oil shale there is, the less healthy the native grasses will be and more water is required. At this point in time to reclaim spent oil shale the spent oil shale must be capped.