

Planting 13 – West Dot & Doug Unit Planting – Spring 1994

This long planting along the Dahlberg pines was planted sparsely in the spring of 1994 (the prior year it was in corn). It was mowed two or three times the summer of 1994. We have in subsequent years mowed and pulled weeds selectively (especially thistle and sweet clovers) and tried burning in 1996? and 1998?

The natives are very sparse and the weeds are many including box elder, European honey suckle, queen Anne's lace, white and yellow sweet clover, Canada thistle, bull thistle, nodding thistle, and many non-native grasses.

Seed has been added here and there by Gene St. Louis.

We tried burning on in the spring of 1999, but it burned very, very sparsely. Then we mowed the entire planting which made it look good and easier to see weeds in the summer. It seems there is a thicker cover of plants (weed grasses and forbs) so it may burn better in 2000.

We again mowed Canada thistle and cut sweet clovers in summer of 1999.

We mowed for wood species again in 2001. Some areas in the middle and south of the two-track lane were not mowed (nesting birds).

Still a poor planting.

Gene St. Louis did cut out the large boxelders on the Dahlberg fence line to prevent further seeds dropped on the planting.

July 7, 2009 Bill Kleiman update:

This planting was put back to corn with Colwells in about 2004. It was always a poor planting that did not recover from its initial weak seeding. We were mowing hundreds of thousands of box elders in there, and the native plant cover was a joke. After two or three years of corn with Colwells, Al and Mary Meier planted a series of restorations (see Plantings #69, #77, #95, #106, #109, #110, and #115 for histories).