

Planting 38 – Big Woods – Fall 1999

Burn history: April 5, 1988, April 7, 1990, April 2, 1994, Fall 1995 or Spring 1996 (most likely), Spring 1998, March 23, 1999.

(I think some little bluestem combine seed or some savanna seed was planted in the big woods in _spring 1996 after a burn.)

These woods burned very hot in the Fall of 1999 due to the late summer and fall drought we had. Seed was planted in mid-December just before a snowfall.

The species planted were from the Dry Savanna and the Woodland Mixes that we made in the Fall of 1999 from seed harvested in 1999. There was also Lupine seed from Genesis (spring 1999 order) , hazelnuts from the powerline on Dahlberg's, and kittentail and alum root seed from Kittentail knob.

The dry savanna seed was planted thickly, especially in the more open areas over the wooded knobs where we had girdled many cherries in 1994. Also some lupine seed was planted there. These are the knobs that are north of the little finger of wetland and west of the open area next to the ditch, basically the areas in a broad skirt around the "which-way oak." Seed was planted by hand scattering.

A little more of the Dry Savanna mix seed was planted under the oaks on the more northern knob near the Dahlberg boundary. There we also planted Kittentail and Alum root seed, collected from Kittentail knobs in 1999. And much of the lupine was planted around the big oak.

Hazelnuts were planted on the edge of the little finger of wetland on the this "Big Woods" unit.

The Woodland seed mix (slightly more mesic species than the dry savanna mix), was planted in the deeper shade and where we have opened up the boundary on the west boundary line with Dahlberg's property. Also planted was a lot of spiderwort seed, especially on the most open corner of the boundary with Dahlberg where we have cleared a lot and the boundary first heads south in this "Big Woods" Unit.

Fall 1999 was very dry and the woods burned very hot. We planted more seed in the most open areas. By 2001 you can see many of the smaller oaks have died (from the hot fire of 1999?).