

Planting 40 – Overgrown Prairie Pasture Woods/Hook Larson Prairie Unit – 1999

In January of 1999 we cut and removed trees and brush surrounding a tiny prairie remnant in the middle of this forest of overgrown pasture trees. Tree species were Osage Orange, Eastern Red Cedar, Box Elder, Honey Locust, and Elm. Brush trees were European Honeysuckle, European Buckthorn, Multiflora Rose. We connected the tiny remnant to the remnant under the powerlines to the west and to the agricultural field to the east.

We pulled the trees out whole with the tractor and piled them in the Ag. Field.

We planted a mix of native forb seed in the areas where all natives had disappeared in the dense shade of the cedars, etc. that was east and west of the little remnant. We did not add seed to the remnant where there was grass, etc.

We burned the entire “rough ground” of the Hook Larson Unit on March 22, 1999 in the afternoon on a dry sunny day. It burned very well including the areas we had cleared –remnant and dead zone previously under heavy shade.

Species seen in remnant in the Summer of 1999 were *liatris aspera*, *Solidago nemoralis*, *Kuhnia*, western sunflower, black eyed Susan, little bluestem, Indian grass, *anemone cylindracia* and weedy goldenrods. Lots of white snake root and American bellflower coming up in the areas that were more shaded on the west (lower end). Lots of weeds coming up in the heavily shaded areas, including some brush resprouts.