

## FINAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

**Fire Name:** Lake Walcott 5 Fire (Was listed as Walcott 7 Fire on BAER Plan)

**Fire Number:** 14614-9261-1511

**Fire Control Date:** 6 July 2002

**Agency Acres Burned:** 767 ac

**Start of Plan Implementation:** Fall 2002

Fence repair started shortly after fire. Shrub plantings occurred in fall 2002 and spring 2003. Sage seed dispersal was in spring 2003. Protection for regeneration started in fall 2002 and continues to date. Weed control began in spring 2003 and will finish in spring 2004. Monitoring of shrub plantings and sage seeding occurred in springs 2003 and 2004. Sagebrush seedlings will be planted in spring 2004.

**Final Accomplishment Report Date:** September 2004

**ESR Plan Specifications Completed:**

1. Fences repaired
2. Native shrubs planted
3. Sage seed planted
4. Weed control completed and ongoing

**ESR Specifications Not Completed:**

1. Less sagebrush seed was distributed than planned. We had to gather seed and plant it with Refuge Complex Staff, because the youth conservation group we planned on using was not available at the proper time.

**ESR Plan Specifications Ignored:** none

**Facilities Repaired or Replaced:** none

**Miles of New Fence:** none

**Miles of Fence Rebuilt:** 0.75

**Number of Soil/Watershed Structures Built:** none

**Acres of Watershed Protected by Management Treatments:** none

**Acres of Non-native Invasive Species Monitored:** 767

**Acres of Non-native Invasive Species Treated:** 220 acres spot sprayed (< 10% of area)

actually covered with weeds)

**Acres Reforested:** 24" (area reforested was a narrow riparian strip; trees replanted were native shrubs): about 25 acres seeded with sagebrush.

**Acres of Revegetation:** 49

**Acres of Burned Area Protected for Natural Regeneration:** 696

**Total Acres Rehabilitated:** 745

**Estimated Emergency Rehabilitation Funds Expended First year:** 0

**Estimated Emergency Rehabilitation Funds Expended Second year:** \$17,300

**Estimated Emergency Rehabilitation Funds Expended Third year:** 0

**Total Cost (all funding sources):** \$17,300

**Treatments Successful:** The weed control was successful in reducing invasive noxious weeds. Protecting the area for natural regeneration was successful. The areas protected came back to the original vegetation (with the exception of sagebrush) without much increase of exotic annual plants.

**Treatments Unsuccessful (why):** The shrub planting were largely unsuccessful. Both spring and fall shrub plantings failed because it was too dry. The spring plantings around the reservoir should offer the best opportunity to establish shrubs if they are planted near the reservoir so their roots can tap into the shallow water table before the plants dry up. Spring plantings included these native riparian species skunkbush sumac, chokecherry, red twig dogwood, and blue elderberry. Because of the drought the reservoir levels were lowered earlier in fall than normal and raised later in spring than normal. Fall plantings should be discontinued as there is not enough soil moisture at that time to carry the shrubs through till spring. Fall plantings were tried because an inexpensive supply of native shrubs was available at the time. Fall plantings included the following native riparian species; Wood's rose, coyote willow, skunkbush sumac, blue elderberry, red twig dogwood, black hawthorn, and one native upland species, four-wing saltbush. It should be noted that no shrubs were found during spring monitoring in 2003 or 2004. However, the shrubs planted were quite small and could have been overlooked. In addition several species (Wood's rose and coyote willow) already occurred on the burn site. Both resprout, so some of the plantings could have been overlooked because of natural regeneration. Nevertheless, it is unlikely that may survived.

The sagebrush seeding appeared to be unsuccessful during spring monitoring in 2004. However, sagebrush seedlings could still establish from the planting. Sagebrush has successfully reestablished itself in other burns nearby where there was a local seed source.



**AERIAL VIEW OF FIRE**



**BURNED SHORELINE**



**PLANTING SHRUBS**



**SUMAC PLANTINGS**