

Hornaday Award Project Summary

Project Category: Forest Management

Willow Stakes, Trees and Shrubs at Dry Creek Reservoir

Plan: My plan was to enhance the current state of the ecology at the newly created Dry Creek Reservoir by planting willow stakes in the reservoir spill way, as well as planting trees and shrubs around parts of the reservoir in order to create more vegetation in the rather desolate landscape. I obtained financial aid by my sponsoring non-profit organization to buy the trees and shrubs. Then willow stakes were cut from a nearby pond and transplanted into the spillway and planted in the mud in the hopes they would take root.

Leadership: I organized several teams of volunteers to plant and cut all of the vegetation for the project. In all there were 3 different teams which I organized for specific purposes. Originally there were two teams to plant the two sections of trees (25 trees and 25 bushes), and as members of each of those teams finished planting their plants, I took a few members to cut the willow stakes. As soon as the tree planting groups were finished with their planting, they walked to the area to plant the willow stakes. Soon the willow stakes arrived piled on the back of a flat bed pickup. All volunteers were then directed to plant the willows along a 150 foot stretch of the spillway. For this project I mostly used the delegation technique, but I also used participation and directing.

Result: The result of this project is ongoing, but as of now, many of the trees and bushes have died due to lack of maintenance in the hot summer months. There are a number of surviving trees and bushes, and as long as the weather is not too harsh on the plants they may survive long enough to take a firm hold on the earth and create new vegetation, habitat and enhance the ecology of the area. The willow stakes, for unknown reasons, failed to take root at all. The result of this project was partial success.

Date Completed: 05/28/10

Number of People Involved: 90

