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September 16, 1986

TO: File

FROM: Lynn Kunzler, Reclamation Biologist

RE: Site Visit to U. S. Fuel Company, Hiawatha Complex, ACT/007/011, Folder No. 13 & 14, Carbon County, Utah

On September 9, 1986 I met with Jean Semborski of U. S. Fuel Company to examine interim revegetation efforts and current test plots.

Middle Fork

Test plot was doing well with several species observed. Interim revegetation on Sediment pond embankments was well established.

King VI

Few weeds in upper test plot, but otherwise doing well. Vegetation in the riparian test plot in excellent condition.

Interim revegetation along conveyor had improved significantly from site visit of September 1983 with a noted increase of perenial species and a near complete reduction of annual grains. Vegetation on the sediment pond was dominated by basin wildrye with some plants nearly 8' high. This is also a marked improvement over 1983 when the site was dominated by Kochia. Most of the weeds that occurred in 1983 on the topsoil pile near the Junction had also been replaced by perenial grasses.

Refuse Pile Test plot

This test plot was dominated by cheatgrass. However, the 12" topsoil plot had several perenial grasses established and had the least amount of cheatgrass.

Borrow Area Test plot

Several perenial grasses and forbs were established with Lewis flax was doing extremely well on this site. Rubber rabbitbrush and winterfat were also quite common. On the disturbed area surrounding the test plot, gooseberry leaf/globemallow was very abundant.

Miller Creek Diversion

Only a minor increase in vegetation due to last year's supplemental seeding was evident. However, the willows cottonwood & dogwood plantings along the streambank were doing well. None of the chokecherry plants were observed and may not have survived a frost shortly after planting last spring (April 1986).

jvb
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