

LINK CANYON MINE PORTAL VEGETATION STUDY

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Photographs were retaken at the Link Canyon Mine Portal area on June 26, 2010. The area received good moisture during the winter months, light moisture during the early spring months and then good moisture during the first part of June. However the overall moisture for the area is still below normal.



Link Canyon West Portal Photo Point

There is no water discharging from this portal and there is no evidence that there has been any this spring. There are numerous new plants now growing on the disturbed area. It is estimated that the site plant density is 30-35 percent plant cover.

The following plants were noted and measured on the site: (1) New Rabbitbrush plants (*Chrysothamnus spp.*) have a new average growth of 6 inches, (2) New sagebrush plants (*Artemisia tridentate*) have a new average growth of 7 inches, (3) New Crested

Wheatgrass plants (*Agropyron desertorum*) have some seed heads and new leaf growth of 6-8 inches, (4) New Great Basin Wildrye plants (*Elymus cinereus*) have some seed heads with new leaf growth of 24-30 inches, (5) New Slender Wheat grass plants (*Elymus trachycaulus*) have some seed heads with new leaf growth of 12-14 inches, (6) New Indian Rice grass plants (*Stipa hymenoides*) have multiple seed heads with new leaf growth of 12-14 inches, (7) Existing willow bush (*Salix spp.*) has some new shoots with new growth of 10-16 inches and has no insect galls, (8) Existing Squaw Bush (*Rhus aralmatica var. trilobata*) which has new growth of 3-4 inches,(9) Existing small Current Bush (*Ribes spp.*) has new growth of 3-4 inches, and (10) Halogeton (*Halogeton glomeratus*). Halogeton is an annual plant and is a noxious plant. There are numerous small plants on the site. These plants should be sprayed with a selective herbicide to control them. Caution should be taken to avoid spraying and getting over-spray onto other broad leaf plant such as the Willow, Sagebrush and Squaw bush. The selective herbicide will not kill the grass plants only the broad leafed plants.



Link Canyon East Portal Photo Point

There is no water discharging from this portal and there is no evidence that there has been any this spring. There are a few scattered Bluegrass plants (*Poa pratensis*) which weren't evident last year. These Bluegrass plants have some seed heads which are 14 inches high and have 4-6 inches of new growth. There is some Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) plants invading the site and these plants have 12 in long seed heads. There is one Indian Ricegrass plant (*Stipa hymenoides*) that has invaded the site. This plant has numerous 14 inches seed heads. The Wiregrass (*Juncus spp.*) is increasing in density and has 12-14 inches of growth. There are some new Rabbitbrush plants (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*) showing up on the site, and these plants have 5-6 inches of new growth. The Dogwood Bush (*Cornus stolonifera*) has a few shoots which are 3-4 inches in length. It appears that this Dogwood Bush is on its last legs. The Clematis Plants (*Clematis liquisticifolia*) has good growth. The existing Willow Bush (*Salix spp.*) has 10-12 inches of new growth. There are no insect galls on this plant.