

SCENE... & UNSEEN



February 2013

All of these images are germination of virtually pure native annual forbs, some among perennial grasses, after the initial treatments. All are now manageable by hand. These are a bit grainy for identification, even with a 15 megapixel camera, so you may have to take my word for it, but I wanted to show you the magnitude of this complexity and that it has worked. I don't know how else to get this across without good HD video and better camera support equipment. So I hope this series of photos works for you for now.



Burn Area

February 2013



These photos are the most important in the whole book, because what you are seeing is, to my knowledge, unprecedented. This is what so many who have spent so much public money wanted to achieve, and most didn't even attempt: This is native germination after a burn.



Burn Area



January 2012, monitoring germination after a burn pile

The best time to begin checking is early. This is germination only weeks after burning a brush pile. As long as one can distinguish the weed seedlings from the natives, this is the most productive time to weed because one can remove them with so little damage to the natives. Weeding is usually unpleasant this time of year as it is often wet and cold, but with it and persistence, is immense reward; it buys so much time later on when speed becomes of the essence.



January 2009

This is the real thing.



January 2009



I haven't even weeded it yet.



January 2009



Nearly pure germination of native post-disturbance annual forbs.



January 2009



Complex.



April 2012

Dominant.





March 2009

Dense.



January 2009

Varietal.



January 2009



and productive.



February 2013

I just want you to understand what this means:



April 2010... There's an exotic *Vicia* in there if you can find it.

Achieving high purity native grasslands with small forbs **IS** possible.
Believe me, there has been many an expert who was convinced otherwise.



April 2012

Unaffordable? It turns out, it may not be, although it won't be cheap. Reducing that cost is the next step. Still, to show that it *is* possible is an accomplishment at this point, and an encouragement while we're working on that secondary goal.

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