

Agency/Organization: EcoCulture

Project Name: Evaluation of Herbivore Deterrent

Project Number: 2021-ECOCULTURE-2050C

Reporting Period: October 1 through December 31, 2024

Project Contact Name and Information:

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**QUESTION 1: What did you accomplish during this reporting period?
How did these accomplishments help you reach the goal of your project?**

- On October 26 we completed the final round of monthly monitoring for 2024 and reapplied Plantskydd and Trico Pro on 20 plots each (40 total plots treated; M17 & M18). These accomplishments were important milestones in the completion of the 2024 contract.
- On November 29 we submitted the Final Report and Final Project Data for the 2024 Season (D07 & D08).
- We helped develop a project extension through 2025 which includes monthly monitoring and Plantskydd reapplication every six weeks from January through August and a single Trico Pro reapplication in May (five monitoring/reapplication visits in total). The 2025 project extension will also incorporate inclusion of wild test plants (e.g. Goodding's willow, screwbean mesquite, seep willow) to the study. This will help to compensate for the high mortality experienced in the test plants from the 2024 planting by bringing sample sizes back up. It will also allow for the efficacy of the herbivore deterrents to be tested on larger plants, which may be of eventual value to the DCP as restoration plantings age.

QUESTION 2: What, if any, problems were encountered? Briefly describe those problems and the manner in which they were dealt.

- The problems identified in the previous quarterly report (high mortality and plots becoming buried in vegetation) are ongoing. During the October monitoring period, plants in the previously described plots were very obscured by vegetation and even harder to find. Mortality progressed from approximately 55% of plants in September to

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approximately 68% in October. There is no solution to these problems and they have been reported in the Final Report submitted in November.

QUESTION 3: What, if any, proposed activities were not completed? Briefly describe those activities, the reasons they were not completed and your plans for carrying them out.

- All proposed activities were completed.

QUESTION 4: What is the calculated percent of work completed?

- With the project extension through 2025, we estimate that 70% of work is completed.

QUESTION 5: Do you foresee any upcoming problems with future project activities? If so, how do you propose to overcome those problems?

- We do not foresee any upcoming problems with project activities.

QUESTION 6: Is there anything else you want to tell the DCP about this project?

- No.

QUESTION 7: What was produced during the reporting period?

- The Final Report and Final Project Data for the 2024 Season were produced (D07 & D08).