

7D Action: Consider the addition of a nursery to grow replacement stock in part of the area currently occupied by orchard.

The dedication of a small area to the propagation and the growth of new plants was common practice on 19th C farmsteads. An on-site nursery would provide acclimatized plant material ready for immediate transplant should existing plants need replacement. It would also provide the opportunity for experimentation with heritage plants.

Positive Impacts

Growing replacement stock on-site would guarantee a steady supply of acclimatized plant material. Heirloom cultivars of fruit could be propagated to ensure viability of potentially historic stock, particularly the historic Concord grape and Pottawatomie plum. As indicated by the Woolley 1886 description of the site, the area recommended below the ponds was under intensive cultivation for currants, garden, and orchard. Placement of a nursery here would reinforce the agrarian focus of that area, and utilize spring water from the ponds.

Negative Impacts

The rabbit herbivory would have to be controlled either by constructing a fenced enclosure around the nursery area, protecting individualized plants, and/or reducing the rabbit population to levels found outside the monument. These measures would need to be permanent to protect young plants.

8 Action: Widen all concrete walks in the VZ from visitor center to the fort

Positive Impacts

The widened walk would better accommodate visitor movement, meet accessibility standards and reduce the occurrence of off-trail walking which compacts soil and damages plants. In addition, the widened walk surface would help facilitate interpretive activities.

Negative Impacts

Widening the walkway will result in the disturbance of the soil surface and increase the square footage of impervious surface in the monument. Construction may impact the root zone of aged plants and some currants may have difficulty with the stress that would occur.

9 Action: Phased removal of the cottonwood tree line on the west side of the flood ditch.

Pinion pine previously established along the tree-line would be conserved and augmented with additional pinion and juniper as necessary to create a naturalized clumping pattern, as the cottonwoods are allowed to die off and are removed over time. Drip irrigation may be necessary as an interim measure to establish the pine.



Positive Impacts

The removal of the irrigated tree line would eliminate a dominant visual line that does not support the landscape character of the historical period. Indeed it detracts from the historic oasis quality of the fort and pond. Removal of the irrigation system and elimination of significant water use for cottonwoods would free up water for more beneficial (historically relevant) uses in PISP.

Negative Impacts

Removal of the tree line (originally planted to presumably screen Red Hills Housing development on the Kaibab Paiute Reservation) would reduce the carbon sequestering capacity of the monument. It will also eliminate important foraging and roosting habitat for both neo-tropical migrators and resident breeding birds, although some cottonwood habitat will eventually be replaced with juniper or pinion habitat. Soil disturbance, noise and dust associated with tree and irrigation system removal would occur as described elsewhere. Some limited and inadequate screening would be lost.

10 Action: Consider relocation of demonstration garden to historically accurate location below ponds.

Early historical documentation refers to vegetable gardens on the site, and has been noted by others, these gardens would logically have occurred down-slope of the springs and ponds to take advantage of gravity fed furrow irrigation. As noted