



View of fort from the north, September, 1923, showing dense deciduous growth in pond area. (source National Archives, Record Group 79, reproduced in McKoy 2000)

Actions

Note: PISP staff is presently considering alternatives for the repair of the ponds. The alternatives below consider only vegetation management options.

- 1- Removal and replacement of pond trees, following one of two options
 - 1A Option: Removal of trees within the east, south, and west walls. Outside of all walls (including north), establish some new trees and selectively replace some existing trees.
 - 1B Option: Removal of trees within the east, south and west pond walls at the time of reconstruction/rehabilitation of ponds. Establish new trees within east, south, and west walls. Selective replacement of existing trees outside of all walls, including north wall.
- 2- Rehabilitation of elms west of fort, following one of two options
 - 2A Option: Preservation of elms west of the fort with gradual replacement by undergrowth offspring
 - 2B Option: Removal of elms west of the fort and replacement by adjacent offspring
- 3- Preservation of historic wagon road trace, and West cabin spring outflow with selective removal of vegetation. Any or all of the following actions could be pursued..
 - 3A Action: Clear invasive natural and exotic vegetation from historic road trace.
 - 3B Action: Clear exotic vegetation from West Cabin spring outflow.
- 4- Replacement of trees north of the chicken house
- 5- Selective thinning of shrubs

- 1 Action: Removal and replacement of pond trees following one of two options.** Trees presently surrounding the ponds are dead or dying. Their trunks and root systems penetrate the walls surrounding the ponds, causing leakage and ongoing maintenance issues. The pond walls are slated for reconstruction, with the possible addition of an impermeable pond liner, necessitating action with respect to tree replacement.



1A Option: Removal of trees within the east, south, and west walls. Outside of all walls (including north), establish some new trees and selectively replace some existing trees. An irrigation system will be necessary.

Positive Impacts

A long-term positive impact of removing the trees within the pond walls is the improved structural integrity of the ponds' earthen dam structures and a concurrent reduction in pond maintenance. The removal of dead and dying trees will prevent the root voids and associated rodent burrowing activities that are considered primary contributors to pond leakage. It would thereby reduce water loss, conserving water for beneficial uses elsewhere. The replacement of the trees in a controlled environment outside the pond structures will create the feeling of the historic vegetation pattern that gives this area the quality of an "oasis" and provide important wildlife habitat without compromising the structural integrity of the new pond embankments.