

POSEY SOLAR PROJECT
MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR VEGETATED SCREENS AND SETBACK AREAS
August 18, 2021

Vegetative screening and vegetated setback areas have been designed within specific locations around the Posey Solar Project. The following items address short-term and long-term maintenance that will be completed by the project owner within the vegetative screening and vegetated setback areas.

Monitoring Plan:

Monitoring of the vegetated screens and setback areas is required three times a year during the first three years (June, July, August) following planting of the designated areas defined as vegetative screening and vegetative setbacks. Monitoring will continue twice a year (June and September) each year following the third year of monitoring to determine maintenance needs beyond those included in the defined maintenance specifications in this plan.

- a. Monitor growth of the native vegetation. Identify locations that may require additional seeding.
- b. Monitor growth of the planted trees. Identify any damaged or dying trees.
- c. Identify locations of invasive species. Invasive species: multiflora rose (*Rosa Multiflora*), autumn olive (*Elaeagnus umbellate*), Bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*), Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), Reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), and Johnson grass (*Sorghum halepense*), will be controlled in vegetated screens and setback areas.

Short-Term Maintenance Plan:

Year 1 Maintenance:

1. Mowing:
 - During the first growing season following planting
 - Native seeded set back areas shall be mowed at an appropriate interval to ensure proper germination of the native seed mix. Mowing too often or too short could damage the new native vegetation. Setback areas are to be mowed with a flail type mower or stalk chopper that will help prevent the smothering of native plant seedlings.
 - Mowing shall occur around and between all planted trees in the areas defined as vegetative screening at an appropriate interval to ensure proper seed germination and to ensure the vegetation does not endanger survivability of the vegetated screen.
 - Handheld trimming equipment may be needed for areas around and between trees if any of the vegetation is determined to be impacting the growth/development of the trees. If used, avoid damaging trees.
2. Inspection/Maintenance Requirements in the Spring:
 - Inspect all trees in the areas defined as vegetative screening and replace all supporting stakes and guy wires used to assist in the growth/development of the trees that have been damaged.

- Inspect all areas defined as vegetative screening and vegetative setbacks for invasive species. Herbicide treatments should be used to control invasive species within the defined areas
 - Spot treat or control invasive species or noxious weeds that are starting to establish in the vegetative screening and vegetative setback areas. In some cases, it may be beneficial to spot mow weeds to prevent them from developing seeds and then treat them with herbicide later in the season after they have a chance to re-grow.
 - Herbicide shall be used as appropriate around trees to control unwanted vegetation.
3. Inspection/Maintenance Requirements in the Fall:
- Inspect all trees within the areas defined as vegetative screening and identify any dying trees for replanting in the Spring during the second-year maintenance period.
 - Replace or repair support stakes and guy wires damaged within the vegetative screening areas.
 - Inspect vegetative setback areas for native vegetation success. Reseed areas that have not achieved 70% density of cover.

Year 2 Maintenance:

1. Mowing
- Mowing of areas defined as vegetative setback areas is not required.
 - Mowing shall occur around and between all planted trees in the areas defined as vegetative screening at an appropriate interval to ensure proper seed germination and to ensure the vegetation does not endanger survivability of the vegetated screen.
 - Handheld trimming equipment may be needed for areas around and between trees if any of the vegetation is determined to be impacting the growth/development of the trees. If used, avoid damaging trees.
2. Inspection/Maintenance Requirements in Spring
- Remove and replace all dead trees identified within the vegetative screening areas.
 - Inspect vegetative screening and vegetative setback areas for success of native grasses and plants. Identify areas that have not achieved 70% density of growth.
 - Spot treat and control invasive species or noxious weeds that are starting to establish in both the vegetative screening and vegetative setback areas. In some cases, it may be beneficial to spot mow weeds to prevent them from developing seed and then treat them with herbicide later in the season after they have a chance to re-grow.
 - Herbicide shall be used as appropriate around trees to control unwanted vegetation.
3. Inspection/Maintenance Requirements in Fall
- Reseed with native seed mix all areas that have not achieved 70% density of vegetative cover in both the vegetative screening and vegetative setback areas.
 - Inspect all trees and identify any dying trees for replanting in the Spring during the third-year maintenance period.

Year 3 Maintenance:

1. Mowing
- During the third year following planting, the vegetative setback areas shall be mowed with a flail mower no sooner than May (or mow by using handheld equipment as needed). Do not

mow earlier than May as mowing may impact pollinators that overwinter in plant stems or at the base of vegetation.

- Mowing shall occur around and between all planted trees in the areas defined as vegetative screening at an appropriate interval to maintain proper plant germination and to ensure the vegetation does not endanger survivability of the vegetated screen.
 - Handheld trimming equipment may be needed for areas around and between trees. If used, avoid damaging trees.
2. Inspection/Maintenance Requirements in Spring
 - Remove and replace all dead trees identified within the vegetative screening areas.
 - Inspect vegetative screening and vegetative setback areas for success of native grasses and plants. Identify areas that have not achieved 70% density of growth.
 - Spot treat or control invasive species or noxious weeds that are starting to establish in the vegetative screening and vegetative setback areas. In some cases, it may be beneficial to spot mow weeds to prevent them from developing seed and then treat them with herbicide later in the season after they have a chance to re-grow.
 - Herbicide shall be used as appropriate around trees to control unwanted vegetation.
 - Remove supporting stakes and guy wires from established planted trees in the vegetative screening areas.
 3. Inspection/Maintenance Requirements in Fall
 - Any areas within the vegetative screening and vegetative setback areas with sparse native seed establishment will require re-seeding using the original seed mixes specified for the project.
 - The seeding will be successfully established when the setback areas have a 90% aerial coverage of native plant species.
 - Vegetative screening areas will be successfully established when the trees have achieved 80% survival of originally planted tree quantity. Openings in the screen greater than 24 feet shall be replanted with tree seedlings following the original planting specification.

Long-Term Management Plan:

Maintenance Requirements After Year Four Following Initial Planting:

1. Mowing
 - Using a flail mower (or mow by using handheld equipment as needed) vegetative setback areas shall be mowed one time in May each season. Do not mow earlier as mowing may impact pollinators that overwinter in plant stems or at the base of vegetation.
 - Throughout the growing season, mowing shall occur around and between all planted trees in the areas defined as vegetative screening at an appropriate interval to ensure proper plant health and to prevent encroachment on the vegetated screen and surrounding properties.
 - Handheld trimming equipment may be needed for areas around and between trees in the vegetative screening areas. If used, avoid damaging trees.
2. Inspection/Maintenance Requirements in Spring
 - Inspect vegetative setback areas for success of native grasses and plants. Identify areas that have not achieved 70% density of growth.

- Spot treat or control invasive species or noxious weeds that are starting to establish within the vegetative screening and vegetative setback areas. In some cases, it may be beneficial to spot mow weeds to prevent them from developing seed and then treat them with herbicide later in the season after they have a chance to re-grow.
- Herbicide shall be used as appropriate to control unwanted vegetation.
- Remove supporting stakes and guy wires from established planted trees in the vegetative screening areas

3. Inspection/Maintenance Requirements in Fall

- Any areas over with sparse native seed establishment within the vegetative setback areas will require re-seeding using the original seed mixes specified for the project.
- The seeding will be successfully established when the vegetative setback areas have a 90% aerial coverage of native plant species.
- Vegetative screens will be successfully established when the trees have achieved 80% survival of originally planted quantity. Openings in the tree screen areas greater than 24 feet shall be replanted following the original planting specification.