

Recent History

Tim and Linda Eisele purchased the land October 9, 1990 from Babb Realty. The parcel includes 80 acres of wooded land and 20 acres of upland in Seneca Township of Crawford County.

The parcel was first described in the abstract conveyed from the United States to Catherine Cullen on September 12, 1850. In 1977 the land became part of the Haltmeyer farm, but in 1983 they went through foreclosure and the land reverted to the Federal Land Bank of Saint Paul. Babb Realty purchased the land in 1986. It then was logged and placed in the Managed Forest Law in 1988.

The Eisele's continued the 80 wooded acres in Managed Forest Law (closed to public access), with the goals of "managing with sound conservation practices that emphasize wildlife management, particularly for ruffed grouse and wild turkey." MFL plans have been updated and renewed in 2012 and 2016.

The 20 acres in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) have been continued with the recent renewal in 2012. The overall plan is to provide diversity for wildlife.

Tim met with DNR Forester Gary Harden and DNR Wildlife Manager Dave Matheys on the land April 11, 1991 to walk the woods and seek advice (used a tape recorder to help remember the advice and still have four pages of typed notes from that meeting).

Four clearcuts (totalling 9.8 acres) were made in the forest (three on the east side of the main ridge and one on the west side) during January and February of 1992. In 2002, TSI was completed in 3 of the 4 compartments.

In August, 2003 Lambert Forest Produces (through consultant Jeff Christie) made 4 aspen clearcuts, to harvest over-mature aspen and attempt to regenerate young aspen.

To establish prairie and warm season grasses, for diversity, we began cutting the white spruce trees during April, 1999, and had the areas sprayed with Round-up on July 29, 1999, July 7, 2000, and September, 2000, obtained seed in July, 2000, did a controlled burn May 8, 2001, followed by a last application of Round-up June 2, 2001, and then had Ron Sutton disk the land on June 15, 2001. We planted seed on June 15 and 16, 2001.

The cabin was built by David Hege and Sons beginning on September 11, 2000. The Hege's actually began the cabin in their yard putting logs up to the top of the walls, then dismantled it and reassembled and finished it on site in September. The cabin was completed and the Eisele's celebrated a finished cabin on October 28, 2000. Tim, Linda and son, Shawn, celebrated the beginning of 2001 on New Year's Eve at the new cabin.

Trees and shrubs have been planted in various locations to provide more diversity and wildlife foods. In 2001, we planted a mixture of 12 high bush cranberry, 11 American hazel, 10 red ozier dogwood and 10 gray dogwood (obtained from Crawford County Land Conservation Dept.) in the "shrub" area northwest of the cabin. Six white cedars were also planted. We also purchased 4 large high bush cranberry, 4 large American hazel, and 2 red berried elder from the UW-Arboretum, now planted around the cabin.

In 2002, we purchased 3 American hazel, 3 highbush cranberry from UW-Madison Arboretum. that are planted northeast of the cabin plus 3 American plum (Great Lakes Nursery Co.). Another 10 highbush cranberry and 25 white spruce (from the Crawford County Land Conservation Dept.). The cranberry went in the shrub area and the spruce east of the trail and in the clearing west of the trail at the entrance.

In 2003 we purchased 25 white spruce and 10 white oak from Crawford Co. Land Cons. and from Great Lakes Nursery 4 American mountain ash (planted west of the clover field north of

cabin), 4 Sargent crab (east and west of cabin), and 4 white cedar.

In 2004, 2 grey dogwood, 2 highbush cranberry, and 2 black chokeberry from UW-Arboretum, and 2 15" white cedar and 4 Sargent crab from Great Lakes Nursery.

In 2005, we purchased 10 white oak, 20 red osier dogwood and 10 highbush cranberry from the County, and 2 American plum, 2 nannyberry, 2 ninebark and 1 grey dogwood from the-UW Arboretum, and 3 red osier dogwood from Great Lakes Nursery. We also bought 4 semi-dwarf apple trees (Liberty) and planted them plus 2 plum to west of cabin.

In 2006, we purchased 3 elderberry, 2 bladdernut from UW-Arboretum and replaced the 2 ninebark that we purchased last year and died and replanted them on the west side (looks like they died as well). In an experiment, we also purchased 25 Frazier firs. We planted 2 3-year old red cedars and 3 5-year old white cedars (and got 6 free Colorado blue spruce – put in on south end of land), from Chief River Nursery.

In September of 2006, we put in 4 chestnut seedlings obtained from Larry Severeid, of LaCrosse.

In 2007 we planted 4 elderberry purchased from UW-Madison Arboretum, and 4 black chokeberry.

Tim and Linda were named Wild Turkey Woodland Owners of the Year by the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation in 2005; received the Crawford County Forestry Award in 2011; and were named the District Tree Farmer of the Year in 2011.

They've hosted field visits for the National Wild Turkey Federation, Bad Axe Chapter of Wisconsin Woodland Owners, Ruffed Grouse Society Landowners Workshop, and Open Houses for local neighbors, friends and conservationists in Crawford County.

Tim and Linda spend much of their time every year trying to reduce, and eliminate, buckthorn, honeysuckle, box elder, Canada thistle and Wild Parsnip. They've also worked to trim oak and walnut marked by the forester as crop trees.

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Trees, shrubs and flowers

List of Prairie seeds received from Madison Audubon Society and planted on June 16, 2001:

Grasses

Big Bluestem (<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>)	15
Canada Wild Rye (<i>Elymus canadensis</i>)	9
Indian Grass (<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>)	15

Forbs

Common milkweed	
Heath aster	
New England aster	
Canada milkvetch (<i>Astragalus canadensis</i>)	7 oz.
White false indigo (<i>Baptisia leucantha</i>)	8
Sweet Indian Plantain (<i>Cacalia suavelolens</i>)	
Prairie coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis palmata</i>)	
Pale Purple coneflower (<i>Echinacea pallida</i>)	6

Rattlesnake master (<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>)	
Showy sunflower (<i>Helianthus laetiflorus</i>)	
Sawtooth sunflower	
Ox-eye sunflower	10
Roundheaded bushclover (<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>)	
Bergamot (<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>)	3
Evening primrose	1/2
Prairie cinquefoil (<i>Potentilla arguta</i>)	
Yellow coneflower (<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>)	
Black-eyed susan (<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>)	7 oz.
Sweet black-eyed susan	
Compass plant (<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>)	
Rosinweed	
Stiff goldenrod (<i>Solidago rigida</i>)	
Showy goldenrod (<i>Solidago speciosa</i>)	
Meadow rue	
ironweed	
Glade mallow	
Canada tick trefoil	1 oz.
Onion	
Culvers root	

Seeds in mix from Prairie Nursery (in front of the log cabin): Wildflowers-Lavender hyssop, butterflyweed, smooth aster, white aster, Canada milk vetch (legume), lanceleaf coreopsis, pale purple coneflower, lupine (legume), beardtongue, purple prairie clover (legume), black eye susan, stiff goldenrod, sweet scented goldenrod, spiderwort and hoary vervain. **Grasses**-side oats grama, prairie dropseed, little bluestem.

Clover in foodplots - White dutch clover (Seneca Seed & Feed)

L.L. Olds Seed in foodplot - Brier Ridge Brand Gobbler Gourmet Wildlife Mixture: 29% hardy brand alfalfa; 24% medium red clover; 20% creeping red fescue; 10% empire birdsfoot trefoil; 9% Kentucky bluegrass, 5% white clover.