

Attachment B:

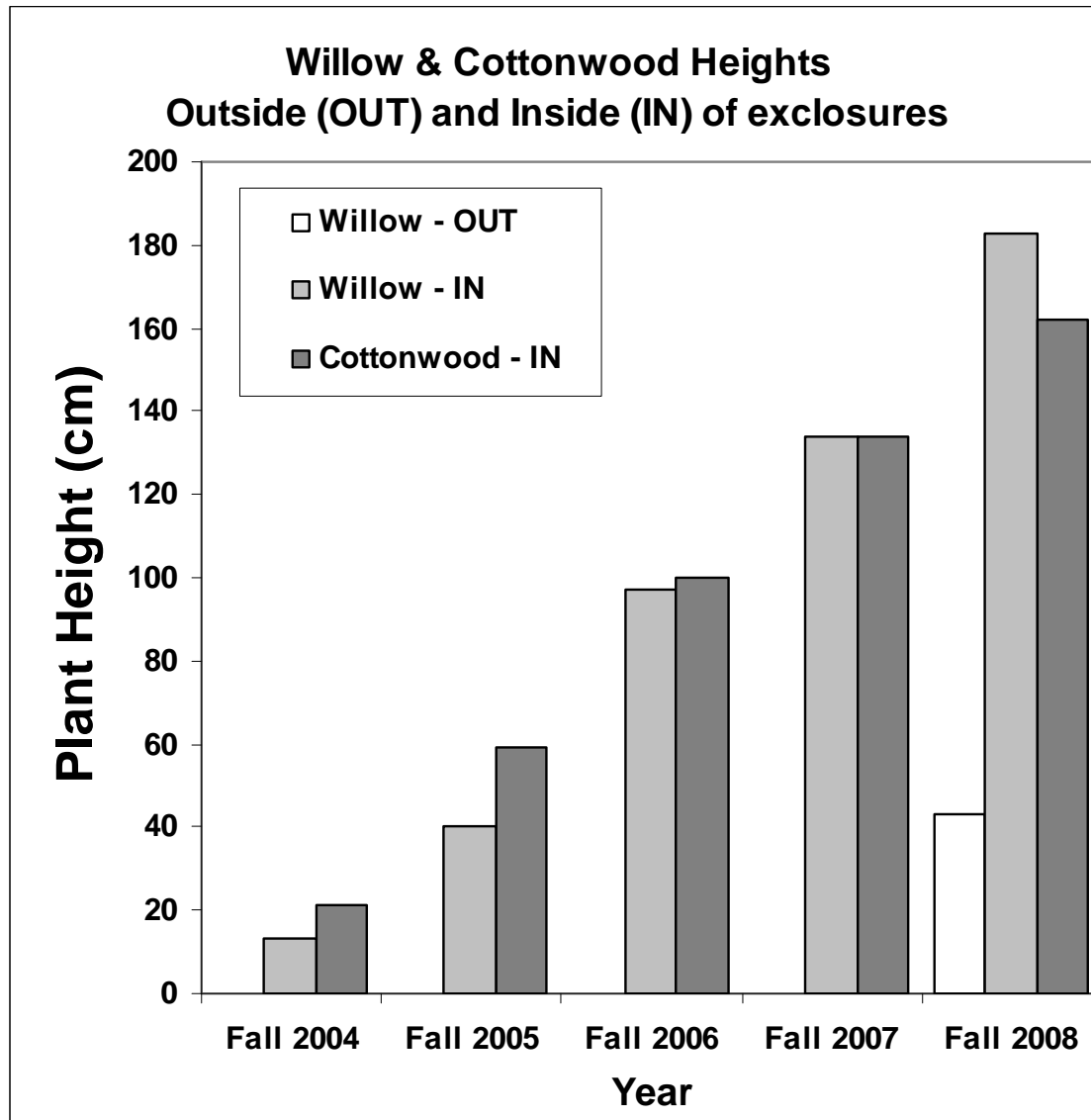
Photographs of riparian woody species and summary of height measurements on the Long Creek Allotment, Malheur National Forest



Example of heavy browsing that normally occurs on woody species growing in riparian areas of grazed allotments. Young plants that have a history of heavy browsing typically have a hedged growth form and are unable to grow above the browse level of cattle. As a result, most of the palatable woody species are unable to sexually reproduce and, eventually, they simply die. Hiyu Unit of the Long Creek Allotment, Malheur National Forest, October 2, 2008.



Example of woody species that have been protected from browsing by 5-ft tall microexclosures that have been placed around a young willow (foreground) and cottonwood (background). After several years of protection from cattle browsing the height of the willow inside the foreground exclosure is ~ 4.6 ft (140 cm) in height while the cottonwood in the background exclosure is ~5.8 ft (177 cm) in height. Hiya unit of the Long Creek Allotment, Malheur National Forest, October 1, 2008.



Measured heights of young willow and cottonwood plants measured outside (OUT) and inside (IN) microexclosures. Outside of the microexclosures, the tallest young willow and cottonwood plants (total $n = 10$) averaged 43 cm. Inside sampled microexclosures, young willow ($n = 10$) and cottonwood ($n = 10$) plants were measured using “plant architecture” (see Beschta and Ripple 2007 for method). Inside these exclosures, young willow and cottonwood were able to attain average heights of 183 cm and 162 cm, respectively, within 4 years. Such results confirm that once woody species are protected from excessive browsing, they are able to rapidly increase in height, eventually exceeding the browse level of cattle. Data collected on October 1 & 2, 2008, Hiya Unit of the Long Creek Allotment, Malheur National Forest.