

Weed Department Report
Weed Board Meeting
July 13th,2023

- On June 21st and 22nd San Juan County was host to the yearly Utah Weed Supervisors Association (UWSA) meeting and training session. The venue was the USU Arts and Events Center in Blanding. Approximately 45 persons attended. The main factor that led to them coming to San Juan County is the Camelthorn presence along the San Juan River. I let a patch of Camelthorn grow on Guymon ranch and took the entire group to the site to see the infamous Camelthorn. From there they traveled to Moab to see another weed that is only present in Grand County known as an African Rue.
- Don Andrews started the season on May 8th. Kaylin Jones started on May 15th. She spent her first week studying and getting ready to take the UDAF pesticide licensing exam. She passed the test and became licensed. Unfortunately Kaylin will only be able to work until the end of this Month which kind of puts me back in the same position as last year where a large portion of my time will need to be focused on spraying.
- Enforcement is moving along well this year. As expected we are seeing a strong presence of noxious weeds this season. By the time of this meeting I should have approximately 20 control letters sent. We are seeing a large presence of Musk Thistle this year in several fields adjacent to West Summit road. It was refreshing to see that someone has at least partially bladed the 3500 acre plot off of Ucolo road that previously belonged to the Skidmores.
- The golf course is looking just as good as it did last year and we were able to get it sprayed in less than one day this year. We have made a huge difference in the appearance of undergrowth surrounding the grass areas. This year we are also going to spray the runway and aprons at Monticello airport and Monticello has agreed to pay for the herbicide.
- We have seen an increase in the presence of Right-of-way weeds this year. It is taking Don and Kaylin significantly more time to spray the county roads and we are using a lot more herbicide year-to-date. With this dry spell we will hopefully be able to get caught up and get through the roads much quicker later in the summer and fall.