

Weed Department Report

Weed Board Meeting

April 9th, 2026

- I have submitted two grants this year for the UDAF Invasive Species Mitigation grant program. I have sent request for a continuation of our San Juan River Camelthorn and Russian knapweed mitigation project. I have also tried again to receive funding for the continuation of our Spray Days herbicide giveaway and public outreach program. Total funding requested was \$110,000 with \$70k going to the San Juan River project and 40k going to the Spray days project. It has been reported that we should be able to receive funding for both projects as grant funds are at a normal level this year and UDAF is not anticipating any large funding needs that could change this.
- I have already begun spraying county properties this year due to the explosion of Purple (Blue) Mustard. With this week 3 days of freeze we may see some natural die off anyways but the rain we received could very well kick start the weeds again. If it does we may consider trying to bring Don Andrews back earlier than previous seasons.
- I have purchased \$40k of herbicides for this season. I ordered Opensight, High Noon, Milestone, and 41% Glyphosate and all required dyes and adjuvants. This amount should cover this years spraying needs with some left over next year. I am looking forward to trying Highnoon and comparing it Opensight and Milestone. All 3 of these herbicides main ingredient is Aminopyralid but Opensight and Highnoon also include a second herbicide in support of a different range of weeds.
- Now that I have finished submitting this years grants I am switching modes to finishing prepping the spray equipment and starting on patrolling properties to document noxious weed issues. As TJ suggested I am working on an initial lighter toned enforcement letter that we will send Non-Certified and then follow with the normal letter if I do not receive a prompt response. I also intend to use funds from the Spray Days project to spray some non-compliant small properties using our Kubotas this year with a limit of a few acres.