

## **Weed Department Report**

### **Weed Board Meeting**

September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025

- Cami Lewis finished her spray season on August 21<sup>st</sup> and returned to college at USU. The rest of the season I will spend most of my time spraying for the next 2 months. We need to spend a significant amount of time spraying along the San Juan River in support of our ISM grant. My goal will be to spend 3 of the 4 days we work on the river. We have been in touch with the BLM and plan to start spraying along the length of their new ADA accessible trail on the East side of Sand Island Petroglyphs.
- We have seen significantly less county road side noxious weeds this year. It is clear that our continued patrolling and spraying have significantly reduced the overall presence of noxious weeds on San Juan County roads. With time this will give us more time to work on new we can seek grant funds for.
- At the UWSA conference it was revealed that the reason so many grant applications were not approved this year is because senior management at UDAF had to reallocate half of the noxious weeds grant money to purchasing a much needed new computer system for UDAF. It was reported that this funding would likely be available for next years grant program. This means that we may be able to receive the spray days funding that we did not receive this grant cycle. This is good news because it shows that it was not the content of the grant submittal but simply a lack of funds from UDAF.
- This year our spraying resulted in basically zero weeds present on the fairgrounds this year during the fair. The county owned field directly North of the fairgrounds only required 1 day of maintenance spraying to keep a handle on what was a field that was blanketed in Field Bindweed. In addition the Public Health buildings gravel yard grows less weeds each year we spray treat it.
- I have began research on a tamarisk beetle release next year and a grant to cover the cost of the project. The beetles are especially effective as they can fly across the river and also benefit the reservation side of the river. With the chance getting our spray days grant funding back we may actually submit three grants to UDAF next year.