Weed Department Report Weed Board Meeting October 5th,2023

- For the month of October we intend to spend at least 2 days a week at sites along the San Juan River in support of the San Juan River project. We will spend the other 2 days of the week checking and spraying some of the more remote roads that typically do not have a large amount of noxious weeds on the ROW's. In November, as weather allows, I will spray all guard rails and cattle guards before the snow flies.
- For all of the persons that did not respond to the control letters sent earlier this summer I will send a follow up letter that explains their responsibility to control weeds. I will make it clear that next year they will be the subjects of increased scrutiny for enforcement. Next year I intend to send initial notices of control to everyone that has had a previous weed issue over the last several years.
- This month will be the end of Don Andrews season as his 6 months are up on November 8th. Don's input over the last several seasons has been invaluable to the weed department. I hope he decides to return for many seasons to come.
- This winter I am going to look into writing a grant to fund a new round of Tamarisk beetle release along the San Juan River. It is clear, based on the large amount of old tamarisk skeletons, that previous Tamarisk beetle releases have been very effective. There is plenty of new Tamarisk patched to justify another project in the near future. Our current UDAF ISM grants will fund a biological control project.
- I will seek to obtain grants for both our Spray Days and San Juan River Camelthorn an Russian knapweed projects. I believe the amounts we received last year were adequate to support the projects. I hope to schedule two spray days in the Spring next year to give more people a chance to obtain herbicide.