

Weed Department Report

Weed Board Meeting

January 15th, 2025

- Our recent “Notice to Control” that was included with this years tax notices prompted several emails from San Juan County tax payers. Many wanted to know if the weeds on their property are considered noxious weeds. This resulted in my visiting 4 different properties and reporting whether or not they had noxious weeds. Only one of the 4 actually had anything noxious and that was a small amount of dead bindweed. One person wanted to know why he had received a notice and I explained that every tax payer in the county received one. In general the response has been positive.
- In the next week or 2 we will be advertising for 2 open Weed Board positions for Cade and Dennis. Cade and Dennis can apply for a new 5 year term. The remaining board members will need to review any and all applications and make a decision on the 2 members. Next year we will do this again and we will be within compliance with county procedure.
- We need to contract with a commercial sprayer as soon as one is licensed and available in San Juan County. As we have discussed, if we make the decision to proceed with a secondary enforcement on a property, the word would get out and people will take our enforcement efforts more seriously. Ideally we would never need to spray a property or even send an initial letter. That is the end goal of these efforts if that is even possible.
- I have begun to formulate a plan to seek another grant to cover the cost of a Tamarisk beetle release along the San Juan River. I may be able to include this release as a part of our ongoing San Juan River project grant. The goal is to establish a beetle population that will propagate and last for many years. The project will require yearly monitoring and beetle capture and count surveys yearly. I will be able to consult with and purchase bugs from Sara Joe Dickens and Amber Mendenhal (Utah’s Bug Girl) to start a program and get advice and training from these 2 experts in biological weed control. I will consult with both of them at the upcoming Utah Weed Control Association meeting in February.