

UTAH COUNTY WEED CONTROL BOARD MEETING

Minutes
November 6, 2023
In Person Meeting
Utah County Commission Conference Room
51 S. University Ave, Provo, Utah 84601

Board Members: Tom Sakievich, (Utah County Commissioner)
Dean Miner, Vice Chairman, (Extension Office)
Rex Larson, (Farm Bureau)
Sid Smart, (Farmer)
Kim Evans, (Farmer)

- Meeting called to order- Tom Sakievich- 1:10 p.m.
- Introduction- Roll Call
 - Tom Sakievich, Utah County Commissioner, Board Member
 - Dean Miner, Vice Chairman, Board Member
 - Kim Evans, Board Member, Farmer
 - Aaron Eagar, Utah Department of Agriculture (U.D.A.F.), State Weed Coordinator
 - Mark Hillier, Utah Department of Agriculture, Compliance Specialist
 - Dakota Durfey, Utah Department of Agriculture, Compliance Specialist
 - Jacob Hadfield, Utah State University (U.S.U.) Extension Agent
 - Ben Stanely, Utah County Deputy Attorney (by phone set on speaker)
 - Jake Johnson, Utah County Weed Control Supervisor
- Approval of Minutes January 9, 2023, meeting
 - No comments
 - Motion to approve: Dean Miner*
 - Seconded by: Kim Evans*
 - Passed unanimously.*
- Update on request to Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (U.D.A.F.) to appropriate and distribute funding to counties to implement weed control programs as mandated by the Noxious Weed Act and request for species specific documents for each State Declared Noxious Weed to specify effective treatment regimen – Aaron Eagar
 - Requests have been made by multiple counties for requests for money to be dedicated to county weed control boards/programs.
 - U.D.A.F. is in support of counties receiving funding to implement county weed control programs and it is a possibility.
 - Question is how best to facilitate the request from the counties; there are two options being discussed.
 - i. For one year of funding, not on-going appropriation.
 - 1. Could be asked for in the governor's budget.
 - 2. The governor's budget is competitive.
 - 3. U.D.A.F. is saying they are willing to ask but it may be cut.
 - ii. For ongoing appropriation of funding
 - 1. This is the direction U.D.A.F. is leaning toward.

2. It would need to be solicited to the legislature.
3. U.D.A.F. is not to solicit to the legislature.
4. Would be helpful to have an association like the Utah Association of County Governments (U.A.C.) or multiple counties to solicit for ongoing appropriation and then U.D.A.F. could support.

iii. Summary Discussion

1. Question: How many counties support this?
Answer: 4 or 5 have discussed it in meetings, expect most counties would support it. U.D.A.F. can also ask all 29 counties if they would be in support of this type of funding.
 2. Question: How much money would there be for Utah County?
Answer: No specific amount has been requested. There has been requests for assistance to U.D.A.F. in the past from \$20,000 to \$30,000 for county weed control programs. It would be something to be discussed with each county. Each county probably has different needs.
 3. It would be good if all weed control boards were asked if they were in support of the on-going appropriation of funding from the state and to get U.A.C support. Ask for appropriation in one voice through U.A.C.
 4. A couple of lobbyist hired this last year, and this would great one to have them help with this process. Would need more information on what the funding would be used for and how much.
 5. U.D.A.F. can reach out to all the weed boards, ask about support, and what funds could be used for.
 - a. Little late to bring up for upcoming state budget but still good to start the conversation.
 6. U.D.A.F. to reach out to U.A.C. contact given during meeting.
- Species Specific Documents are being created by U.S.U. and are funded by U.D.A.F.
 - i. 4 or 5 are done and work is on-going.
 - Request for board to approve Casey Riches as an inspector for the Noxious Weed Free Inspection Process- Jake Johnson
Motion to approve: Dean Miner
Seconded by: Kim Evans
Passed unanimously.
 - Update on Utah State Administrative Rule 68-9- Jake Johnson
 - U.D.A.F. updated their Rule 68-9
 - i. Annual General Notice; no longer needs to be posted in the newspaper or in three physical locations.
 - ii. Utah County individual notices will need to be changed so notice state a named period.
 1. Jake Johnson to work with Ben Stanely to address this.
 - 2023 Report - Jake Johnson
 - Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
 - Attachment A
 - Commissioner had to leave meeting after this business item.
 - Board Conversation on Utah County Weed Control Program
 - Is there a need to declare a Utah County Declared Noxious Weed at this time?
 - i. Answer: No
 - How are noxious weeds being addressed on county roads, farmlands, state highways, cities, railroads, federal lands, state lands, and waterways?
 - i. Answer: All were good except cities (fair) and railroads (poor).

- What are the most critical noxious weed control problems in Utah County?
- Answer: Class 1 & 2 noxious weeds and weed species that Utah County received the most complaints about.
- Other Business
 - No other business
- Scheduling of Future Utah County Weed Control Board Meetings
 - January 22, 2023, at 1:00 pm in the Utah County Commission Conference Room.
- Adjourn- 2:30 p.m.
 - Motion to adjourn: Dean Miner*
 - Seconded by: Kim Evans*
 - Passed unanimously.*

2023 Utah County Weed Control Report

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Attachment A

Organization

- Utah State Code 4-17 a.k.a. Utah Noxious Weed Act
 - 4-17-107- A county weed control board is responsible, under the general direction of the county executive, for the formulation and implementation of a county-wide coordinated noxious weed control program designed to prevent and control noxious weeds within the board's county.
 - 4-17-108 (ii)- Each commission may employ one or more weed control supervisors qualified to direct the weed control program for the county weed control board.
- Weed Control Division is part of the Public Works Department of Utah County Government
 - Weed Control Division is comprised of 6 individuals
 - Weed Control Supervisor
 - 2 empty positions from 4/27/2023 to 10/10/2023
 - 1 empty position filled; started 10/10/2023
 - 1 empty position still open
 - 5 Equipment Operators
 - Weed Control Supervisor reports to Division Manager- Roads and Weeds

What is the Weed Control Program

- Noxious Weed Individual Notices
- Noxious Weed Free Certification inspection for Utah County Land Use Ordinance 14.12.C.9.
- Noxious Weed Control Projects
 - Grant or Agreement based
- B-Road Right of Way Maintenance
 - Mowing and Spraying
- Help with vegetation maintenance on other Utah County Properties
- Help with other Utah County projects when assigned

Individual Noxious Weed Infestation Notices

- ▶ 2023 New noxious Weed Reporting Webpage 2023 (Esri Survey 123; New in 2023)
- ▶ New Esri Field Maps created for Individual Notices (New in 2023)
- ▶ New Esri Survey 123 used for Individual Letter Notice generation (New in 2023)
- ▶ 92 points created.
 - ▶ 40- forwarded to City
 - ▶ 11- County Treated
 - ▶ 10- Verified
 - ▶ 9- Letter Sent to Owner
 - ▶ 3 undelivered; returned to sender
 - ▶ 7- Addressed
 - ▶ 6-Owner will treat
 - ▶ 8- No action to be taken
- ▶ 13- Individual Notice Letter sent for Myrtle Spurge prior to new system in place 2023

6- Noxious Weed Free Certifications

Attachment A

Projects/Agreements Closed out since last meeting

- Utah Lake Shoreline Phragmites Removal and Restoration Project
- Utah County Garlic Mustard ISM
- Southern Utah County Irrigation System ISM
- Forest Service Agreement
- BLM Agreement

Utah Lake Shoreline Phragmites Removal and Restoration Project

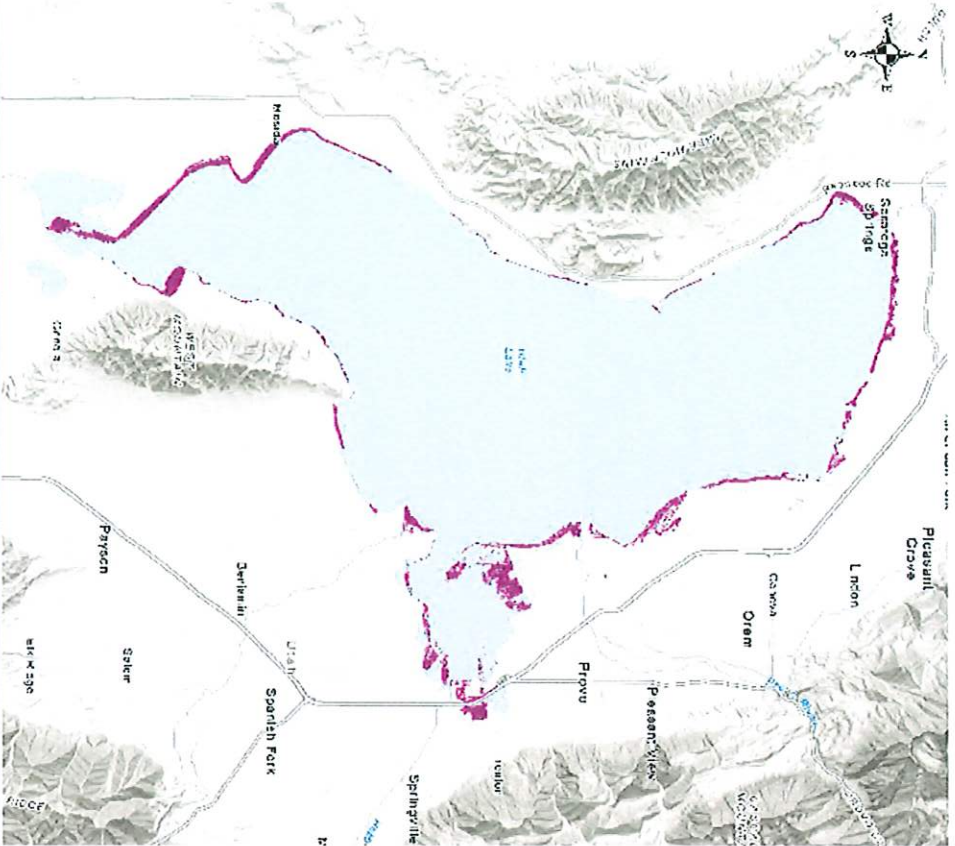
- Funding/Partner: Invasive Species Mitigation Grant (U.D.A.F.), Watershed Restoration Initiative (D.N.R.), Division of Forestry, Fire, & State Lands (D.N.R.), and Utah Lake Authority
- Project Duration: 7/1/2022-6/30/2023
- Work Accomplished:
 - 2,746.15 acres- Aerial Herbicide Treatment
 - 1,134 acres- Ground Herbicide Spot Treatment
 - 1,241.33 acres- Mowed & Smashed by Marsh Masters
 - 136 acres- Broadcast seed treatment
 - 25 acres- Invasive tree removal
 - 40 acres- Follow Up Treatment for invasive tree removal regrowth from previous years treatments
- Acquired new drones purchased for monitoring and herbicide spot treatment
 - WRI grant funded
 - Drone program getting established; plans to have functioning in 2024
- New marsh master and attachments
 - Utah Lake Authority Donated, purchased Using U.L.A. and F.F.S.L. Funds
 - In use now



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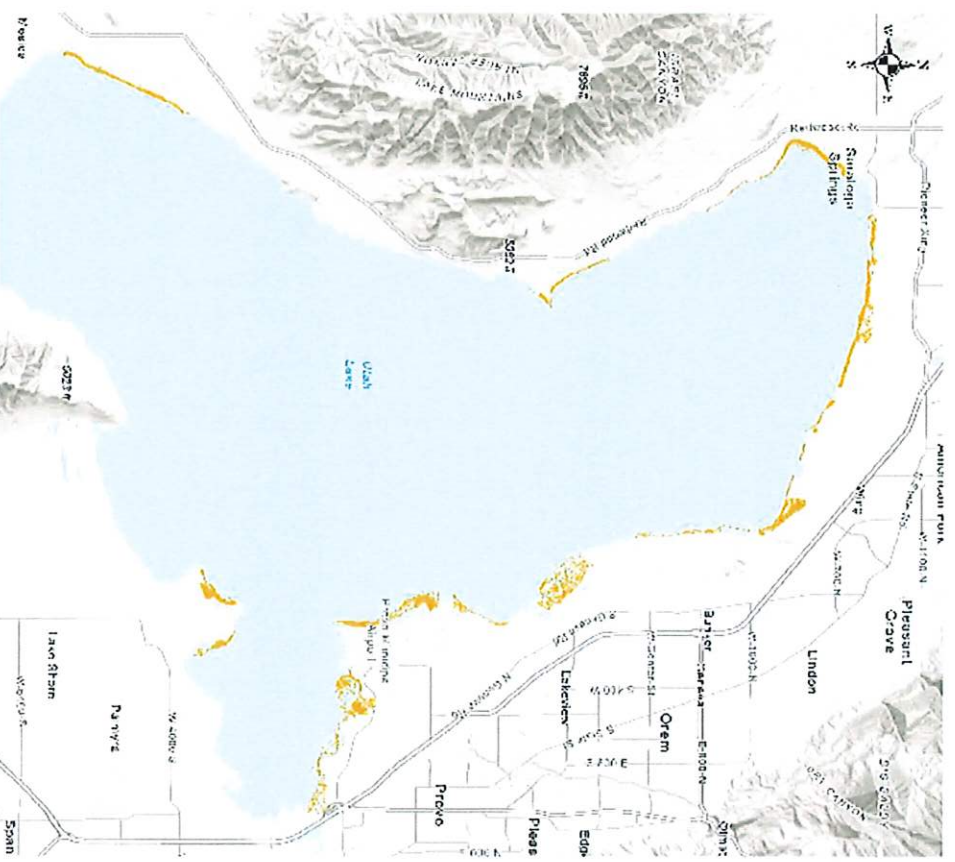




Utah Lake Treatment Project
2022-2023

Legend

2022 Aerial Spry & Mow & Slash Attachment A
3523.08 Acres

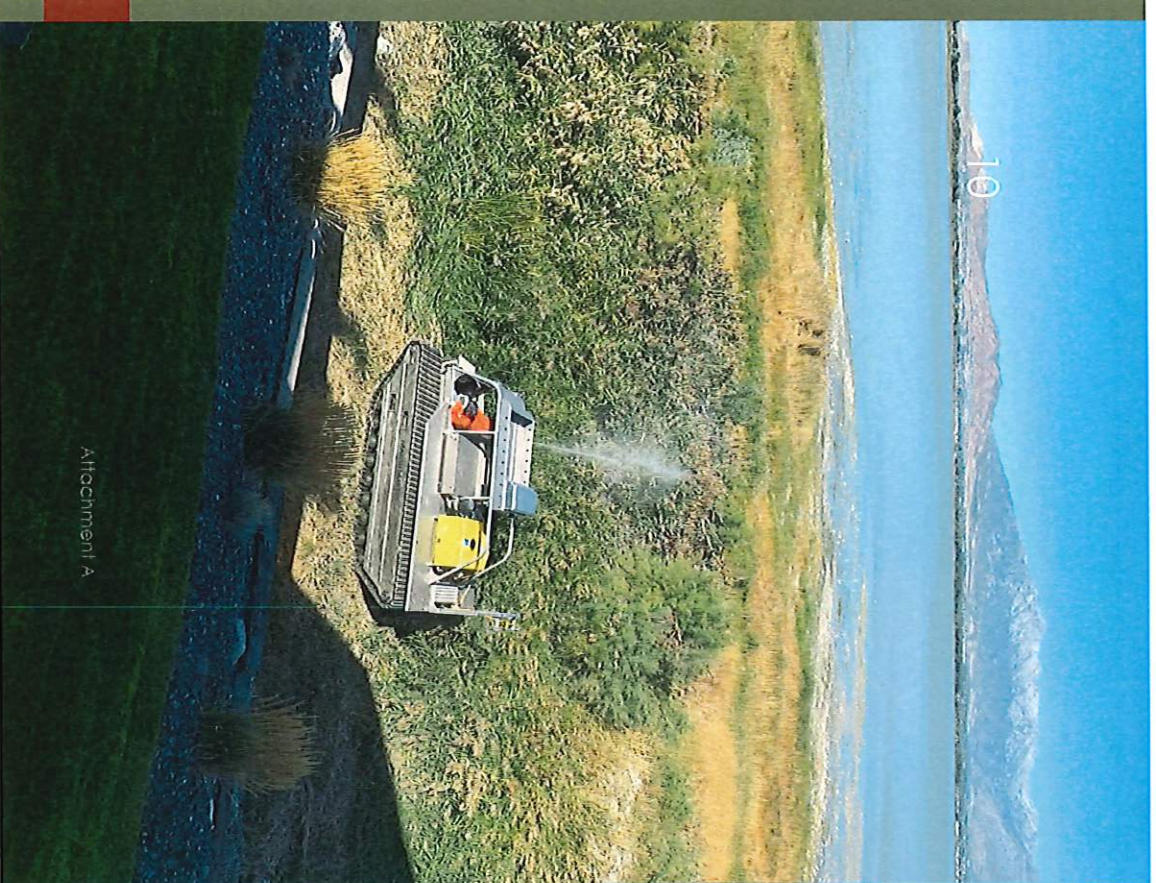


Utah Lake Treatment Project
2022-2023

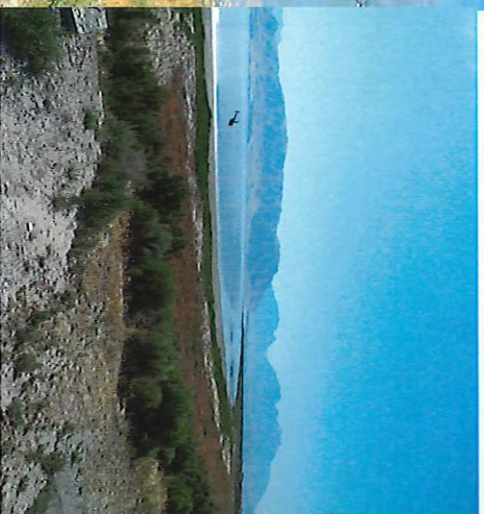
Legend

Mow & Slash I
1,241.34 Acres



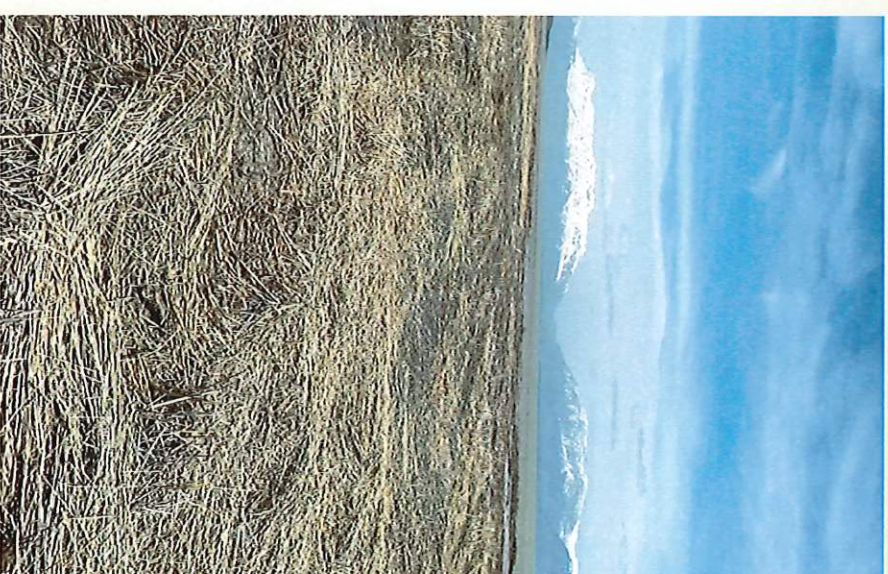
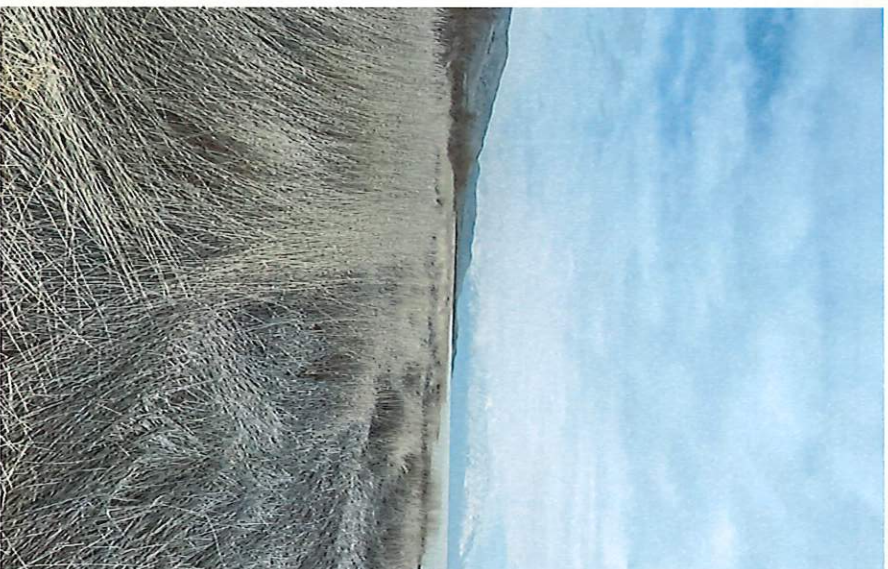


Attachment A



Before/ After

▀ Mosida Bay Area



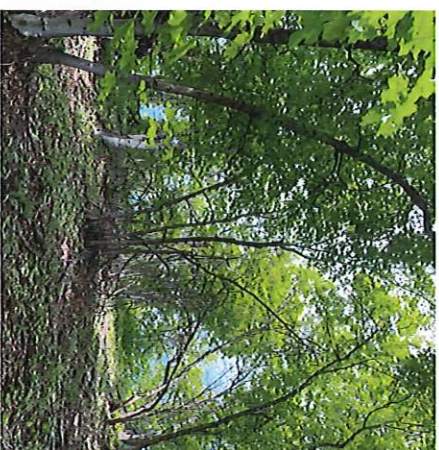
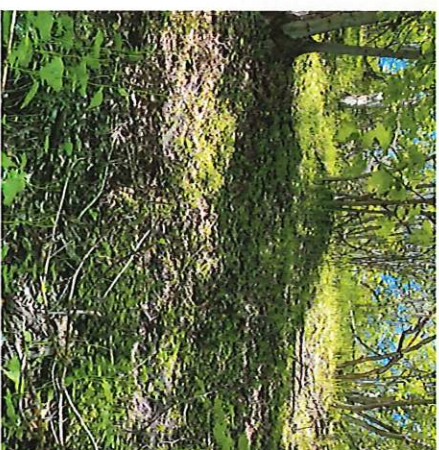
Attachment A

Utah County Garlic Mustard ISM Project

Project Duration: 7/1/2022-6/30/2023

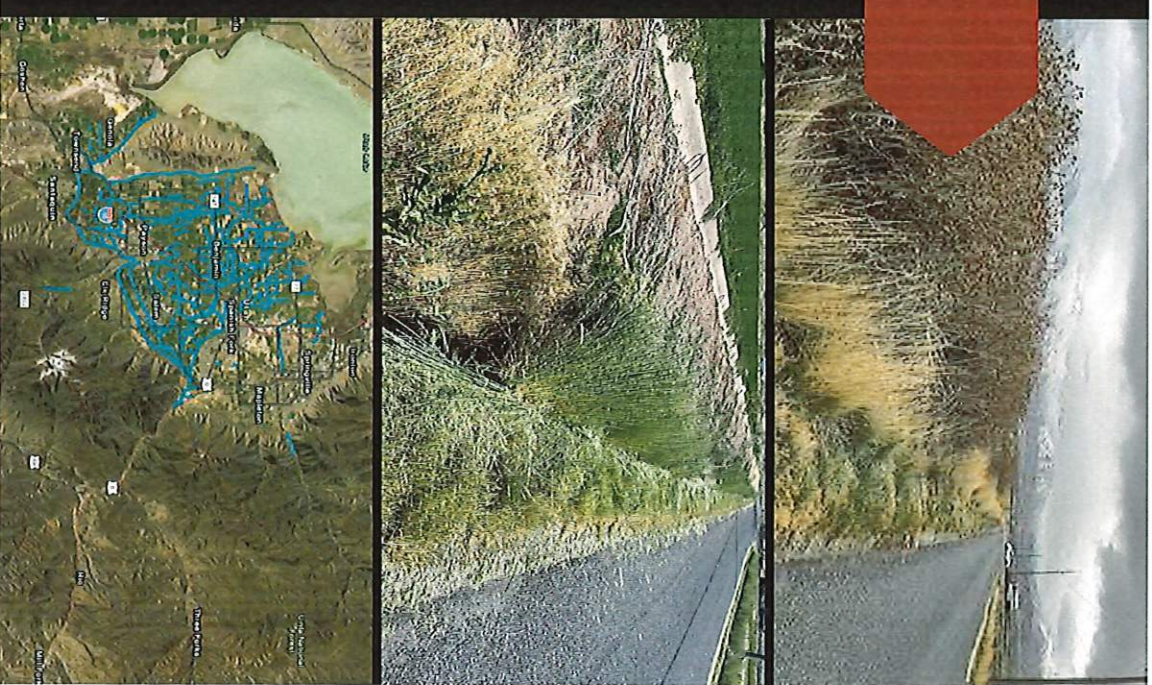
207 acres received herbicide spot
treatment for Garlic Mustard in the Payson
Canyon Area

All herbicide application made with
backpack sprayer



Southern Utah County Irrigation System ISM

- ▶ Project Duration: 7/1/2022-6/30/2023
- ▶ Partners: Strawberry Water Users Association, Highline Canal Company, S.F. South Field Irrigation Company, Lake Shore Irrigation Company, S.F. South East Irrigation Company, S.F. West Field Irrigation Company, Mapleton Irrigation Company, Springville Irrigation Company
- ▶ 800 acres of herbicide distributed to and applied by partners



Forest Service Agreement

- Ended 9/2023
- +/- 798 acres covered and received spot treated for Noxious Weeds
- Treatment made mainly by truck spraying roadsides

Attachment A



BLM Agreement

- Ended 9/2023
- Treatments made mainly with ATV
- +/- 336 acres covered and received herbicide spot treatment

Attachment A



Grant Awarded since last meeting/ work accomplished/Plans

- Utah Lake Shoreline Phragmites Removal and Restoration Project
 - Funding: W.R.I.; I.S.M.; U.L.A.; \$380,769.7
 - Aerial herbicide treatment of 4600 acres
 - Ground herbicide spot treatment covered 1320 miles of lines tracked.
 - Just starting to mow phragmites
 - Invasive Tree Removal treatments to start up this month
- Utah County Garlic Mustard and Dyers Wood ISM Project
 - Funding \$50,905
 - Herbicide Treatments to start in Spring 2024
- Southern Utah County Irrigation System ISM Project
 - Funding \$19,560
 - Herbicide purchased; will be disturbed to partners Spring 2024
- Jordan River
 - Attachment A
 - Awarded but decline to proceed due to time/resource limitations

Other Agreements

- 2024 BLM Agreement
 - \$7,500 (Fully signed)
 - Work to take place next spring/summer
- Forest Service agreement
 - Current agreement ended in 2023. waiting to receive draft agreement for 2024 & 2025
 - Past agreement of \$16,000 over a two-year period; \$8,000 annually. Estimate future agreement to be similar in size
- F.F.S.L.- New ongoing allocation of money approved for the 2023
 - In talks; F.F.S.L. plans contributing \$300,000 toward Utah Lake Annually.
 - 2023; in talks of contracting funds with Utah County to purchase equipment for work on Utah Lake.
 - 2024 and future; in talks with FFSL to fund Utah Lake Project Work replacing need to apply for state grant funds (ISM & WRI). F.F.S.L. to contact with Utah County as they have in years past just at a larger scale.



Right of Way Work accomplished

- ▶ 849 miles of lines recorded while mowing, 5' swath, +/- 514 acres of roadside
- ▶ 152 miles of lines recorded while tree trimming, 5' swath, +/- 92 acres
- ▶ 779 miles of lines recorded while broadcasting herbicide, 10' swath, +/- 944 acres