



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

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# Inflation Reduction Act – Red Cliffs NCA Projects

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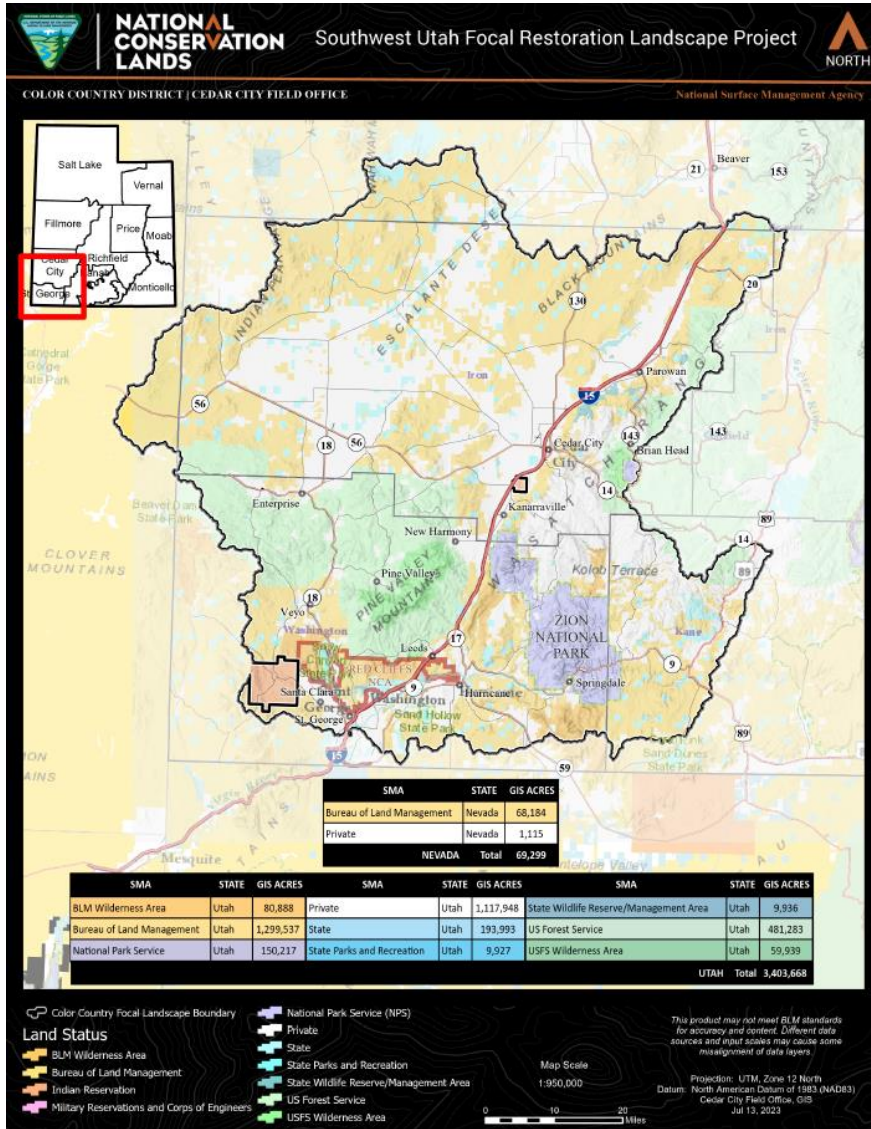
## Desert Tortoise Fencing Project and Invasive Annual Grass Treatment Project

Presentation for Washington County Habitat Advisory Committee

Melanie Oberhelman, BLM Project Manager  
5/28/2024



# Color Country Converging Restoration Landscape



Two adjacent watersheds:  
Escalante Desert and  
Upper Virgin River

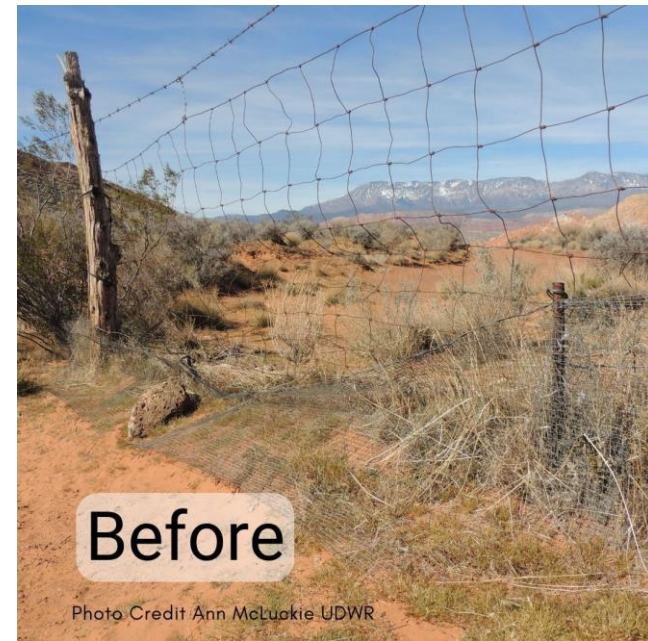






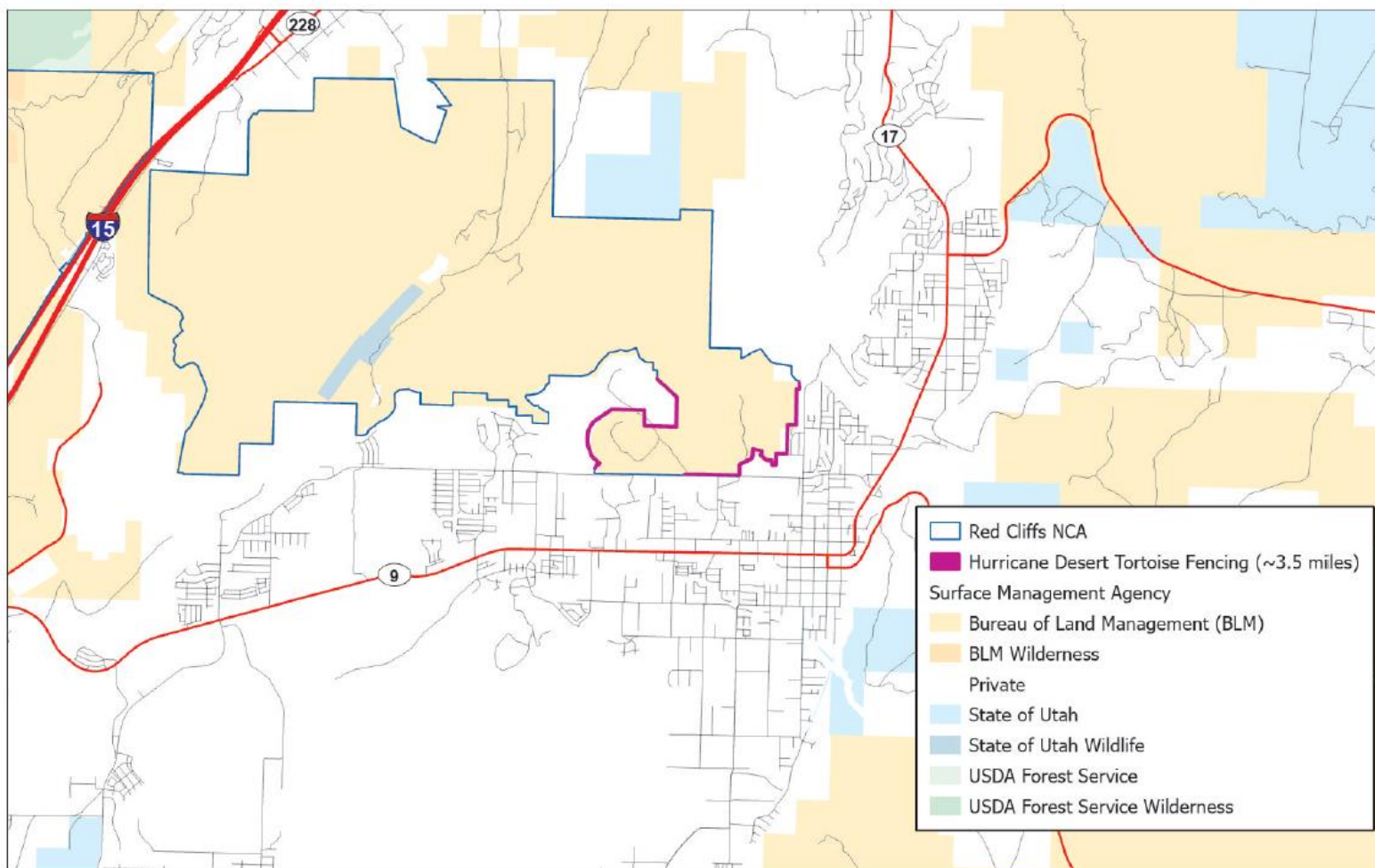
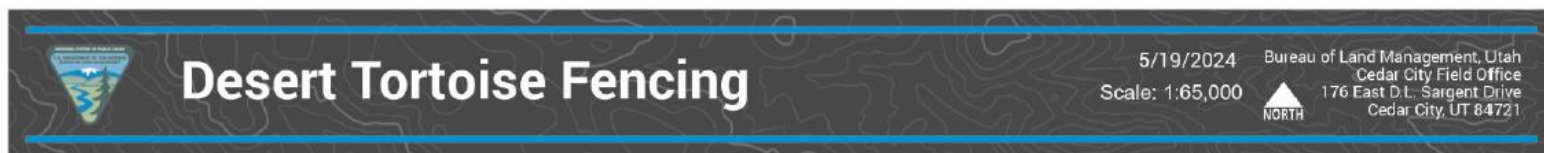
# Desert Tortoise (DT) Fencing Project

- Project is partnered with the Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative and UDWR (WRI project number 7043).
- BLM plans to provide funding to contract the installation of approximately 3.5 miles of DT fencing on federal lands through our WRI partnership.
- BLM has already started the process of purchasing the needed materials for the 3.5 miles.





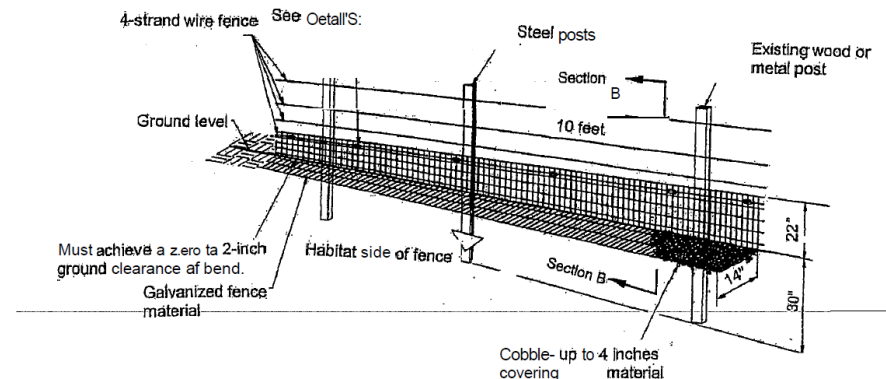
# Desert Tortoise Fencing Project Map





# USFWS DT Fencing Specifications

- 6' t-posts
- Barbless wire
- 1"x2" galvanized wire mesh 36" width. This mesh will be buried a minimum of 12 inches with 22-24 inches above ground.
- Some fencing will be retrofitted to existing livestock fencing.







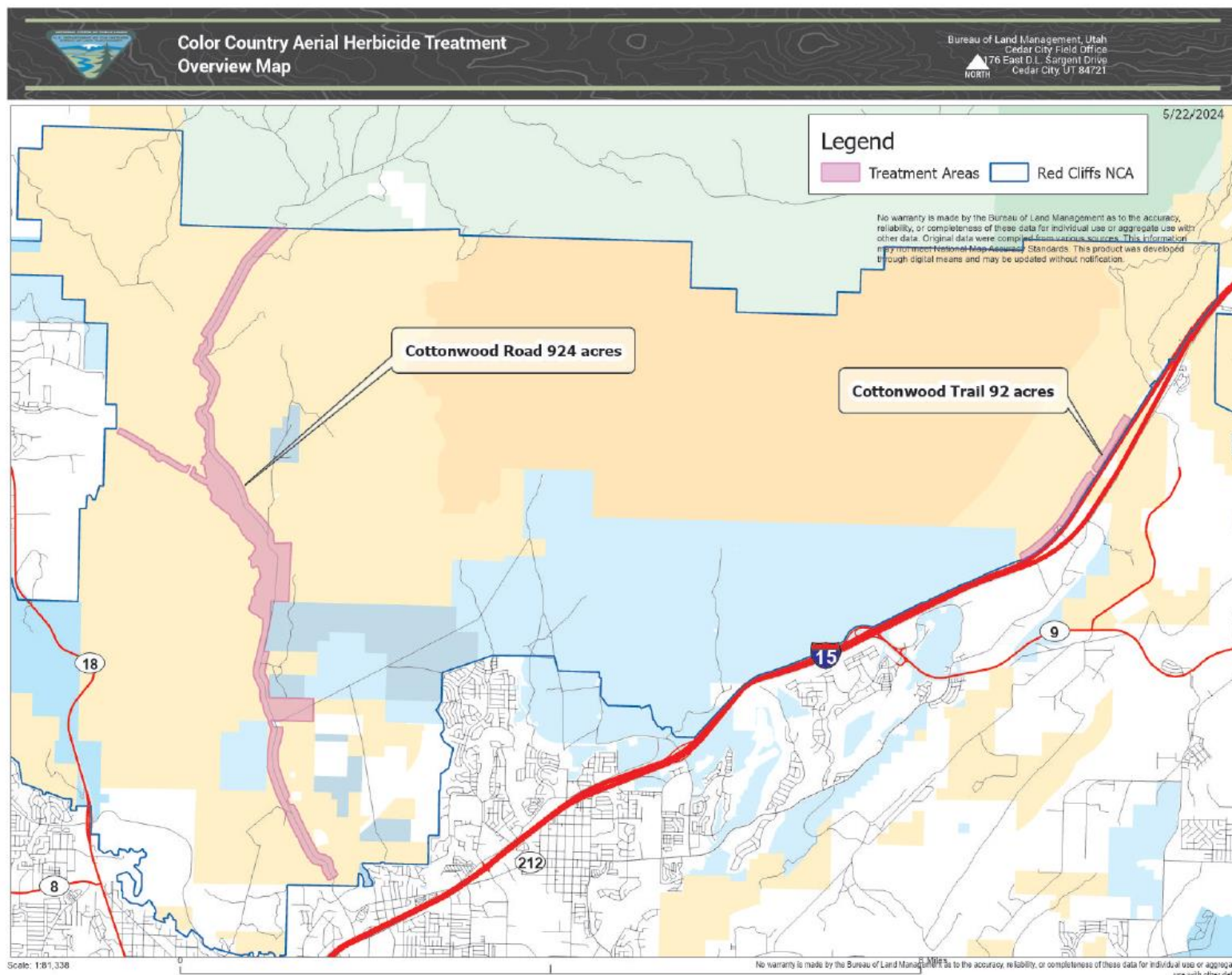
# Invasive Annual Grass Treatment

- Project is partnered with the Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative and UDWR (WRI project number 6995).
- Total treatment area is 1,016 acres.
- Pre-emergent herbicide, Plateau will be applied at 6 ounce per acre.
- Target species are annual grasses (cheat grass and red brome) as well as Sahara mustard.





# Invasive Annual Grass Treatment Map





# Assessment Inventory and Monitoring (AIM) data within the Invasive annual grass treatment

- AIM data collected in 2019 at one site sampled was 30.67% non-native annual grass cover
- Additional sites have been established prior to treatment and that data will be used to monitor post treatment







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# **Thank you!**

# **Questions?**