

Vegetation Management Updates for the Jordan River

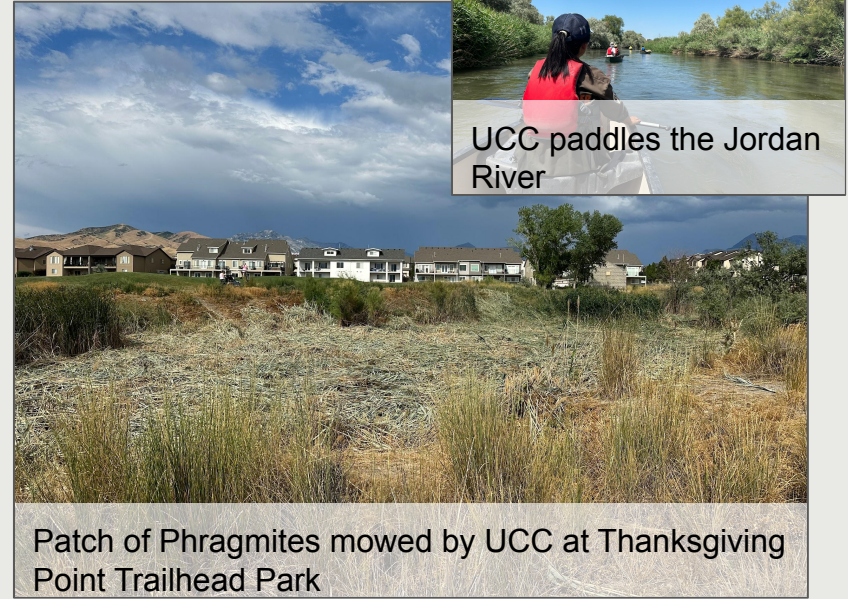
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Jordan River Commission
Governing Board Meeting
October 5, 2023



Utah Conservation Corps control invasive species on the Jordan River

- 5 weeks of UCC work June–August 2023
 - **Jordan River Migratory Bird Refuge:** Tamarisk and Russian olive cut stump, Phragmites brush cutting, thistle control, seeding
 - **Thanksgiving Point Trailhead Park and Pioneer Crossing Park:** Phragmites brush cutting
 - **Galena Soo'nkahni Preserve:** Tamarisk cut stump, thistle control
- More invasive species control and restoration planned for UCC in October



Pilot project: drone spraying to control Phragmites along the Jordan River

- 8 acres sprayed by drone at Thanksgiving Point Trailhead Park in mid-September
- 6 acres sprayed at the Galena Soo'nkahni Preserve
- A viable option for some sites along Jordan River
 - Ideal in areas with limited foot or vehicle access
 - High vantage points are necessary



2,380 pounds of puncturevine pulled along the Jordan River Parkway in summer 2023

- 2023 puncturevine season stats:
 - 227 volunteers
 - 11 organizations
 - 6 events hosted by JRC staff
 - \$5,950 bounty to be awarded
- Ideas for the future:
 - Develop best practices for vegetation management along the Parkway
 - Find and target areas with small puncturevine populations
 - Cultivate a volunteer base to steward a section of the Parkway



Latinos in Action students (Granite School District) pull puncturevine along the Parkway in West Valley City

Native tree planting opportunities for the Jordan River in October 2023 – February 2024

- ~200 “tall pot” Fremont cottonwood and peachleaf willow trees sourced from the Jordan River
 - [Tree planting application open](#)
 - Public and private landowners and managers on the Jordan River can apply
 - Site visits and survival data to inform future efforts
- Planting events
 - October 28 planting event at Pioneer Crossing Park
 - More to come!
- Expand species list and plant materials in the future



Jordan River Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Program funding available for FY 2024

- CWMA funding for vegetation improvement projects
 - Invasive species removal
 - Restoration
 - On or adjacent to sovereign lands of the Jordan River
- \$82,000 awarded for FY 2024 to
 - Thanksgiving Point
 - Riverton City
 - Volo
 - Lehi City
 - Salt Lake County Fish and Game Association
- Additional funding available for FY 2024
 - Accepting proposals until October 27
 - Grant-funded work must be completed by June 30, 2024



Jordan River Cooperative Weed Management Area future directions

- Restart Phragmites working group
 - Guide development of best practices for controlling Phragmites on the River
- Develop contract(s) for Phragmites specific work on the River
 - Drone spraying
 - Boat spraying
 - Enable work on **sovereign and adjacent lands**
- Create and use framework for prioritizing sites/projects on the River



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