



# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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Photo Credit: Braden Bonser



Photo Credit: Allie Pace

## 2025 - A Year in Review

Hello All,

Let us just say 2025 started out with challenges. Uinta County does work for the cattlemen on the Bear River Divide and have had a CWMA (Coordinated Weed Management Association) for twenty plus years and BLM has partnered with federal funds being a contributor to the weed effort. BLM also has been a driving force in treatment of cheatgrass in Uinta County. The BLM along with WWNRT have been instrumental in invasive species management of the Blacks Fork Drainage. Uinta Counties federal agreements were completed January 1, 2025. I started to apply for federal funding for weed control of federal government lands, and the government had a stop spending moratorium and no funding was going to be available for Uinta County's weed management programs. Also, with the property tax cuts that will be going to affect these next few years UCWP programs may look different. Luckily UCWP received Pesticide Registration Grant and Wyoming Wildlife Natural Trust funding to continue projects. Without the grants programs that have been key to Uinta counties efforts to manage noxious weeds would not have occurred in 2025.

On the brighter side of things, UCWP was able to find employees in both Evanston and Bridger Valley. Crew members and staff are the backbone of the program. Seasonal crews in Evanston consisted of Jim Saxton , Allie Pace, Jaydon Welling and Shiane Day. Bridger Valley had five return employees Dustin Rees, Logan Lupher, Craig Hysell, Braden Bonser, and Cash Henrie. New seasonal employees in Bridger Valley consisted of Cathy Piekkola, Charlee Porter, Will Anderson, Brock Aimone, and Aubrey Reger. Lauren McCoy, the office administrator, kept daily work tickets in check, answered phone calls, kept track of all the grant money and kept the checks going to crews making them incredibly happy and working, and is the glue helping us hold together. I am so thankful for such an excellent group of people that are enthusiastic about invasive species and take pride in Uinta County.

Uinta County received the Pesticide Registration Grants through the Wyoming Department of Agriculture. These grants enabled Uinta County Weed and Pest to continue treatments.

- The Ox-eye Daisy and Cinquefoil Grant funding finalized this year and provided weed treatment Hilliard Flat, Mill Creek and locations in the Bridger Valley at a reduced cost to the landowners.
- Blacks Fork Drainage Project allow for noxious weed work and Salt cedar treatment on the drainages that feed into the Blacks Fork as it is a contributing tributary of the Colorado River.
- 4 River Grant provided financial assistance on the BRD and areas adjacent to major streams treat noxious weeds and assist landowners with the cost of invasive species management.
- EDRR Grant allowed UCWP to provide early detection rapid response on our tier one weeds to prevent spread of Leafy spurge, Dyes woad, knapweed and others at little to no cost to the landowners as UCWP's objective is to minimize loss of valuable habitat to the Tier One weeds.

Uinta County Weed and Pest had continued funding to treat noxious weeds on the National Forest. Crews found Spotted knapweed and Dyers woad on UTV trails and roads in the National Forest. Early detection will be critical with the increased use of roadways. Education will also need to be a critical component to reduce the spread of invasive weeds in the National Forest.

WWNRT provided funding for cheatgrass management and continued work on the Blacks Fork Salt Cedar and Noxious weeds. This program is a multi-district project with Lincoln and Sweetwater County to provide weed and Salt cedar control on the Blacks Fork Drainage. Without cooperators UCWP and Uinta County would not have the weed control that we currently do and yes there is always going to be more weeds. However, through management and programming we can try to hold our head above water. Prime examples are our neighbors' to the west on the loss of productive habitat invasive species cause.

The district would like to recognize all our cooperators in controlling invasive species. Wyoming Game and Fish, WWNRT, US Forestry, WYDOT and Wyoming Department of Agriculture all have assisted in special projects. Grasshopper counts were collected in areas throughout Uinta County with the assistance of USDA APHIS. Depending on the weather and hatching, Uinta County is anticipating areas where grasshopper treatments may be necessary in 2026.

Uinta County Weed and Pest look forward to another safe and productive season in 2026.

Sincerely,  
Chris Aimone

**UCWP Total Budget  
for 25-26  
\$1,210,721**

**Total acres of Weeds Treated by UCWP  
Crews:  
1644.64**

**UCWP Total Cost Share  
\$125,976.72**

**Total acres of Weeds Treated  
on Salt Cedar:  
100.08 acres**

**# of New Invasive  
Species Found  
0**

**Total acres of Weeds Treated  
by helicopter on Noxious Weeds:  
795 acres**

**# of on-site  
Landowner Consultations  
with supervisor  
150 minimum**

**Total acres of  
Cheatgrass Treated:  
0 acres**

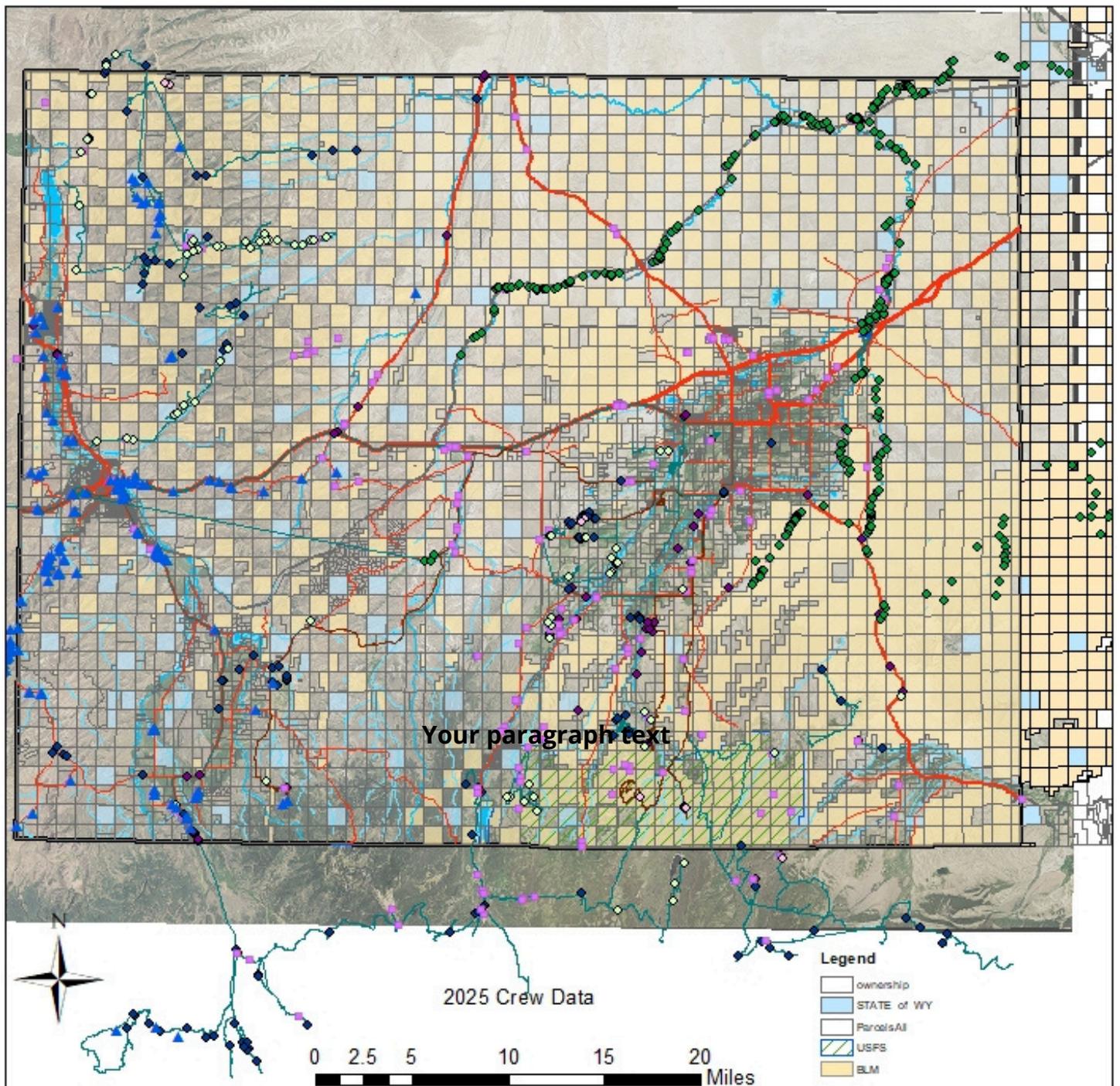
**# of Hay/Gravel  
Certifications  
7**

**Acres Treated for  
Grasshoppers/Alfalfa Weevil:  
44 acres**

**# UCWP Seasonal Staff  
14**

**# UCWP Full-time Staff  
2**

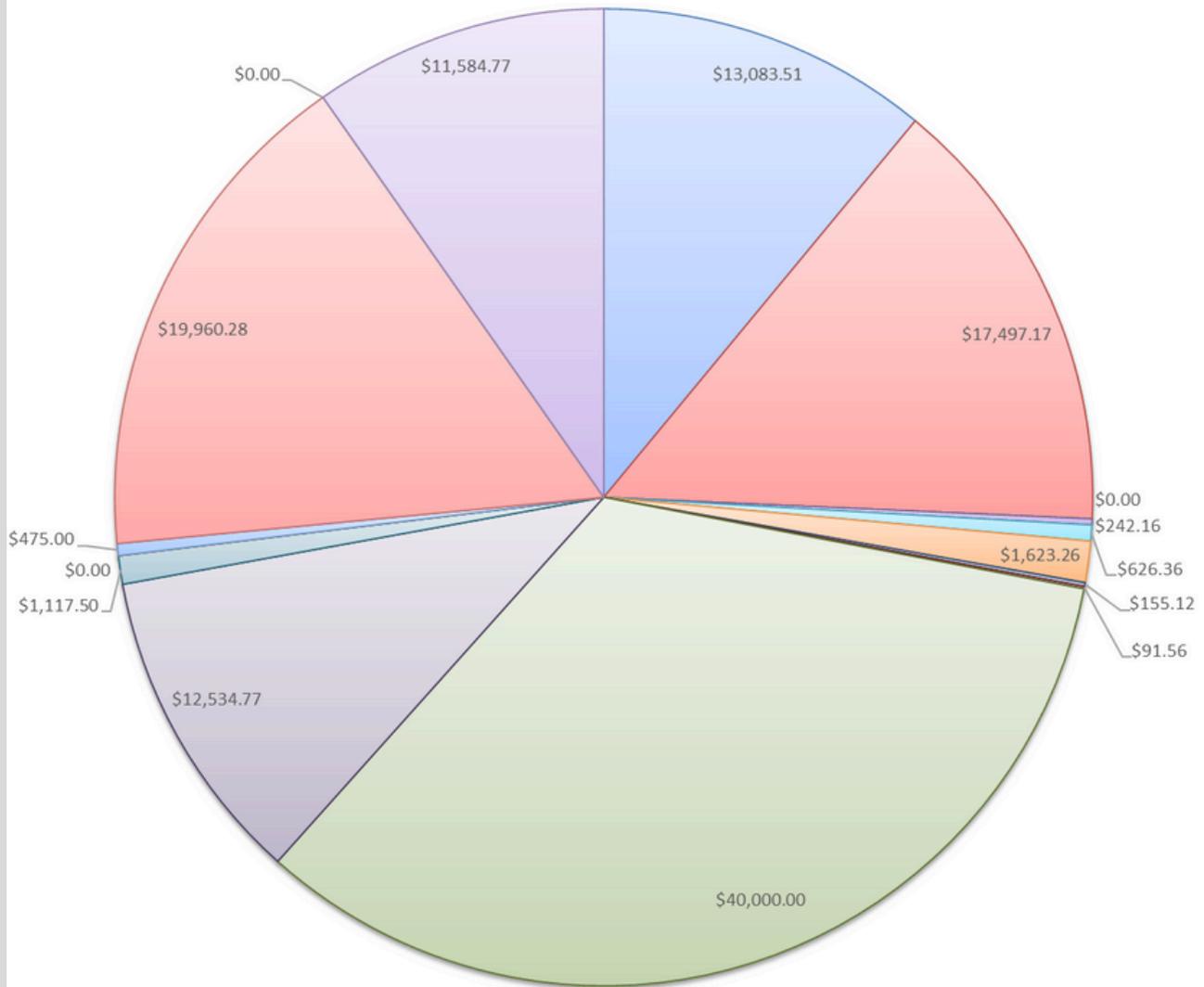
Photo Credit: Dustin Rees



**Total acres of Weeds Treated by UCWP Crews:**

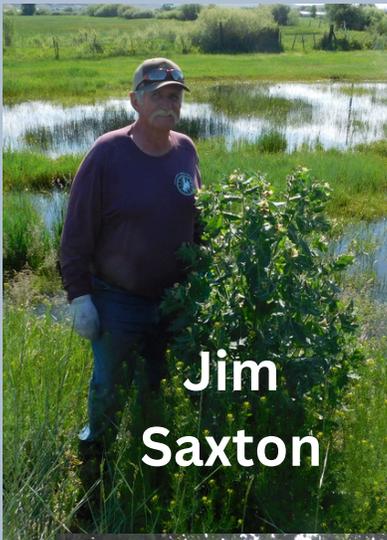
**1644.64. Survey points collected where weeds were identified. Areas outside Uinta County funding was provided by special grants from USFS and WWNRT. Weeds do not understand county boundaries so treatment of surrounding areas are necessary to limit infestations in the county. Increased use of trails and disturbance has provided more avenues of infestation of invasive species.**

Costshare Program  
is directly from UCWP operation budget



- Road & Bridge East - \$13,083.51
- Road & Bridge West - \$17,497.17
- Youth Camp - \$0.00
- Ft. Bridger Airport - \$242.16
- County Grounds - \$626.36
- County Landfill - \$1,623.26
- County Sheriff - \$155.12
- County Maintenance - \$91.56
- Mosquito Program - \$40,000.00
- City of Evanston - \$12,534.77
- Town of Lyman - \$1,117.50
- Town of Mt. View - \$0.00
- Town of Bear River - \$475.00
- EDRR Program & special projects - \$19,960.28
- Saltcedar Program- Blacks Fork - \$0.00
- Chemical Cost Share - \$11,584.77

Total for Costshare Program - \$118,991.46



**Jim  
Saxton**



**Charlee  
Porter**



**Braden  
Bonser**



**Aubrey  
Reger**



**Allie  
Pace**

**Crews**



**Cathy  
Piekolla**



**Dustin  
Rees**



**Will  
Anderson**



**Jaydon  
Welling**



**Craig  
Hysell**



**Shiane  
Day**



**Brock  
Aimone**



**Cash  
Henrie**

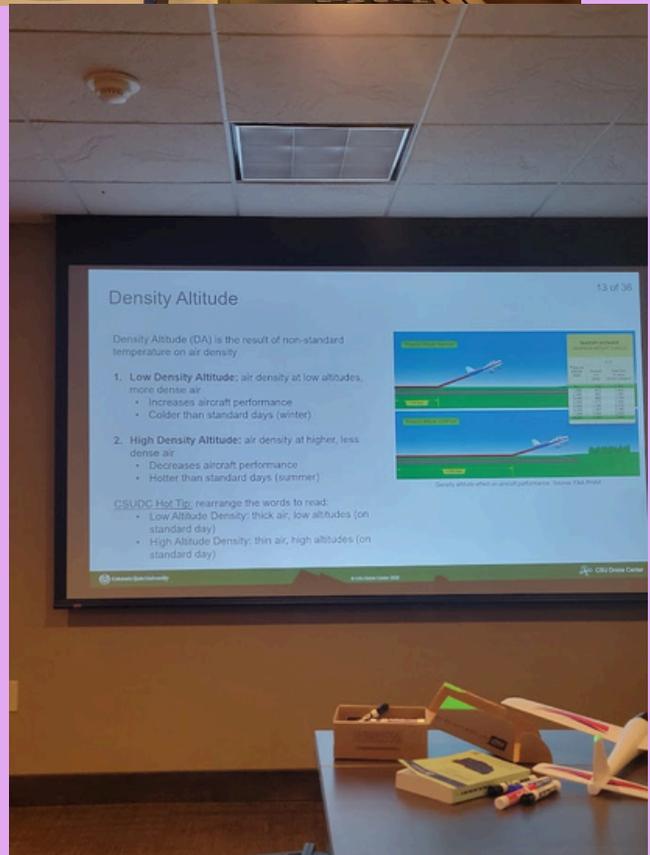


**Logan  
Luper**

**14 Crew members for the 2025 season**

# Crews Continued





# Drone Training February Rawlins, WY



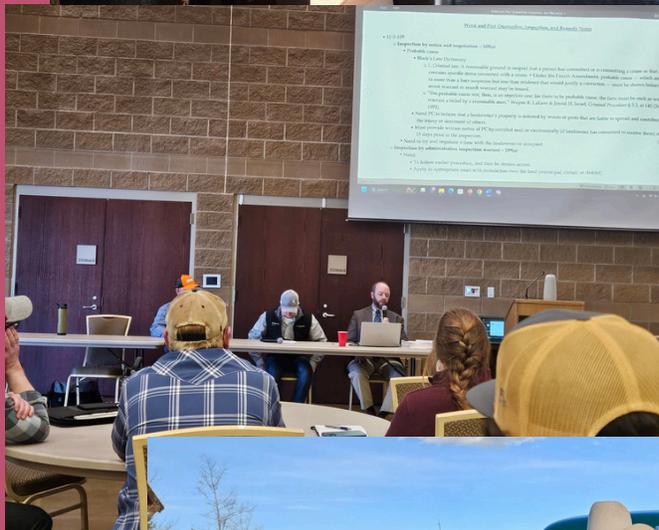
Southwest Ag Days  
February 20, 2025

**UCWP Booth in 2025**

# Spring Workshop

March 11-13, 2025

Saratoga, WY



# 2025 Training

**Commercial Applicator  
June 11, 2025**



**CPR  
BOCES Various dates**



**Workplace Harassment/  
Substance Abuse  
Defensive Driving/Sexual  
Harassment/Conflict Resolution  
June 25, 2025**

# 23rd Bear River

## Weed Pull

June 28, 2025



**125**

**people/groups  
from the  
community  
participated**



**Cooperative project - Uinta County  
Weed & Pest, 4-H, Evanston Parks  
and Recreation, Bear Board**

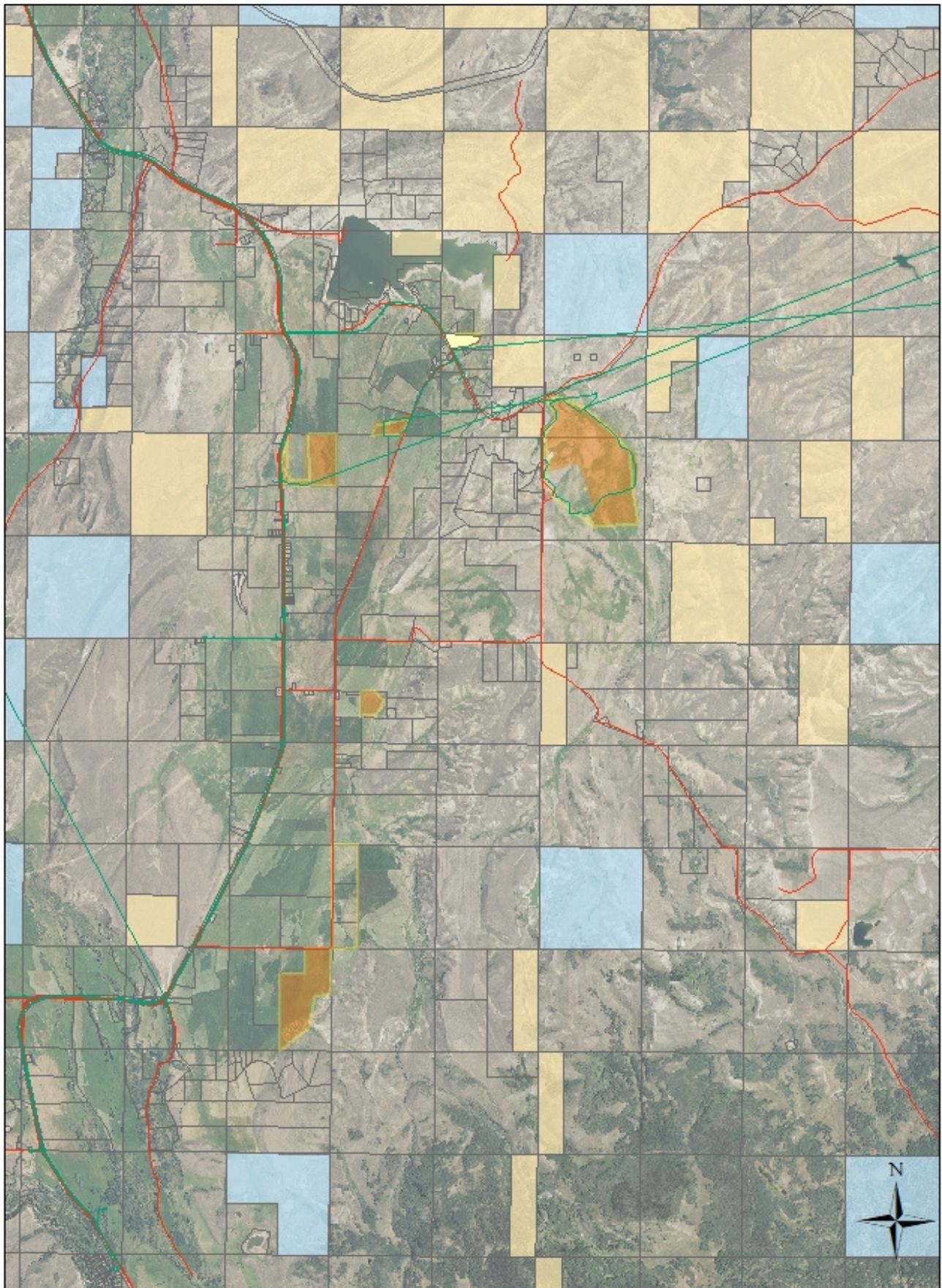
# Oxeye daisy & Cinquefoil Project



**Project has been a three year project with funding assistance from the State Allocation Committee.**

**897 acres were treated this year.**

**Landowners and UCWP provided funding through in-kind or cash match of \$17,514. SAC grant funding was \$19,650. Landowners in Evanston and Bridger Valley have benefited from the program and would not have been able to treat without the grant and assistance from UCWP**



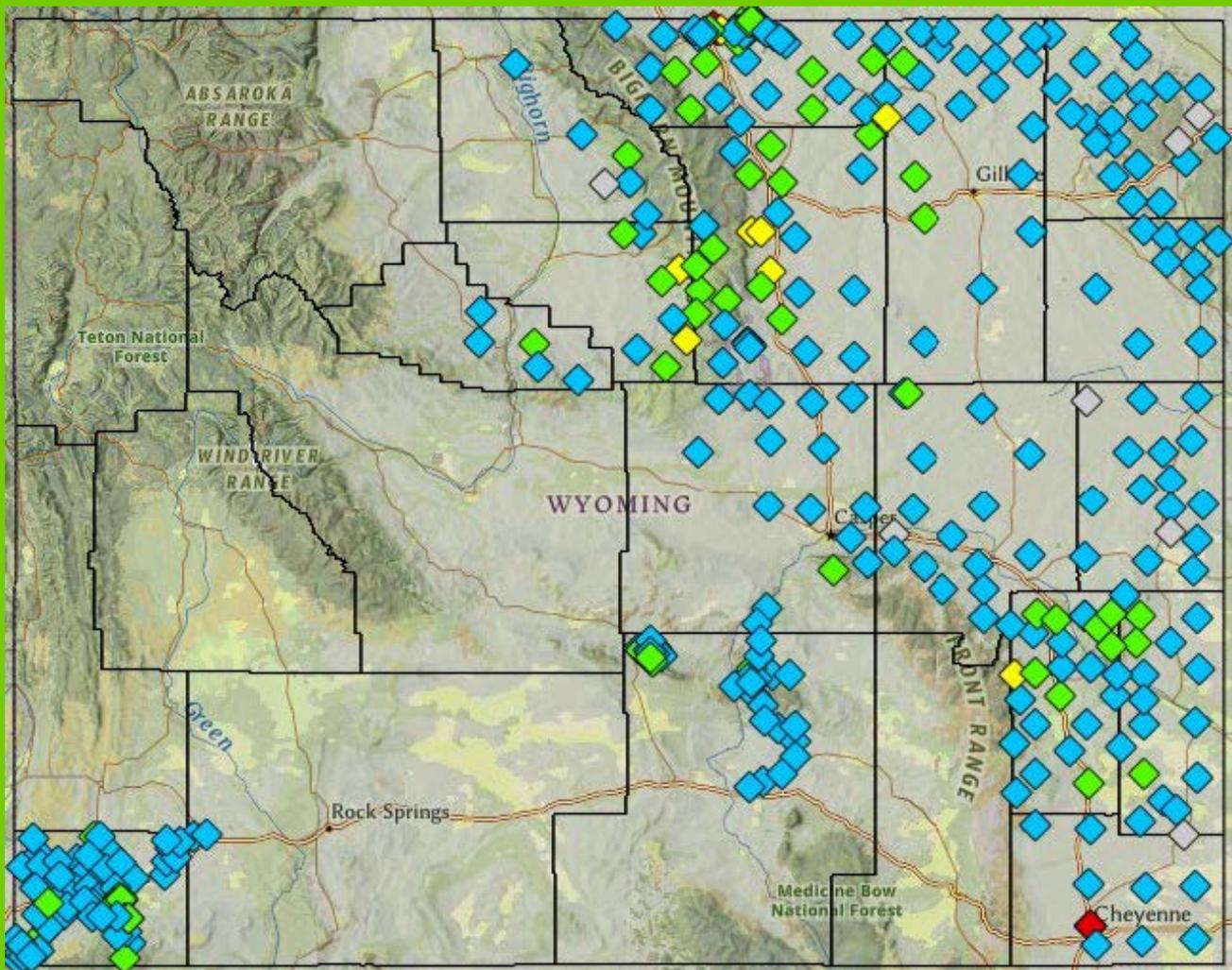
**Legend**

-  USFS
-  Unita\_StateLand
-  BLM
-  County\_Outline

Aerial application for Cinquefoil and Ox-eye Daisy 2025

# Grasshoppers

Chris and APHIS surveyed for grasshopper nymphs in June. Findings were high counts in Milburne, three to seven-per-square yard and eight to fourteen in Lonetree as they were hard to find due to being nymphs. Count on Yellowcreek and other areas in the county did not see significant numbers yet. Adult surveying was completed in August.



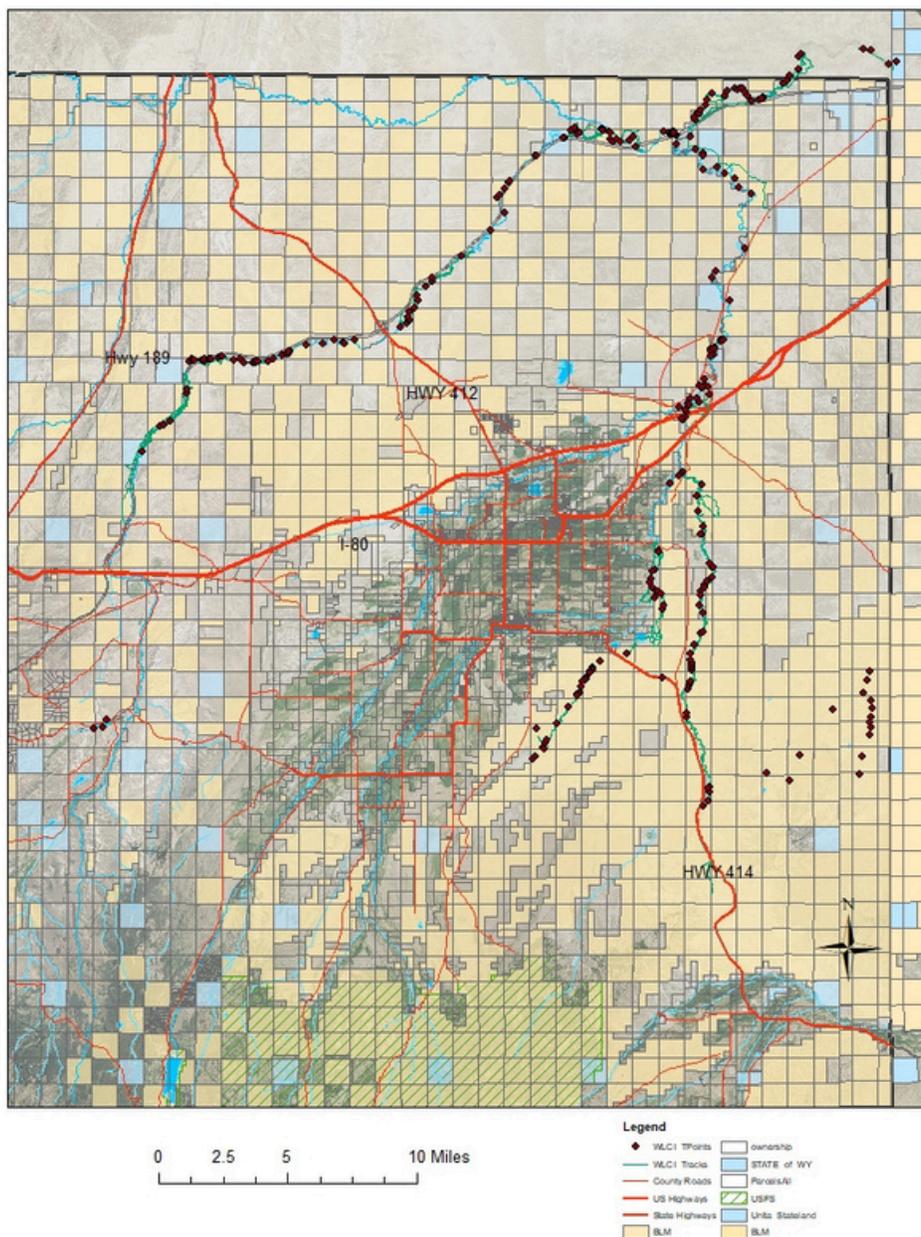
# Blacks Fork WLCI Project



Photos by Jim Saxton  
and Braden Bonser

# Blacks Fork WLCI Project

2025 Uinta County Salt cedar and Noxious Weed Treatment by County Crews



Project is a headwater of the Colorado River Drainage focusing on Salt Cedar (Tamarix) and invasive species.

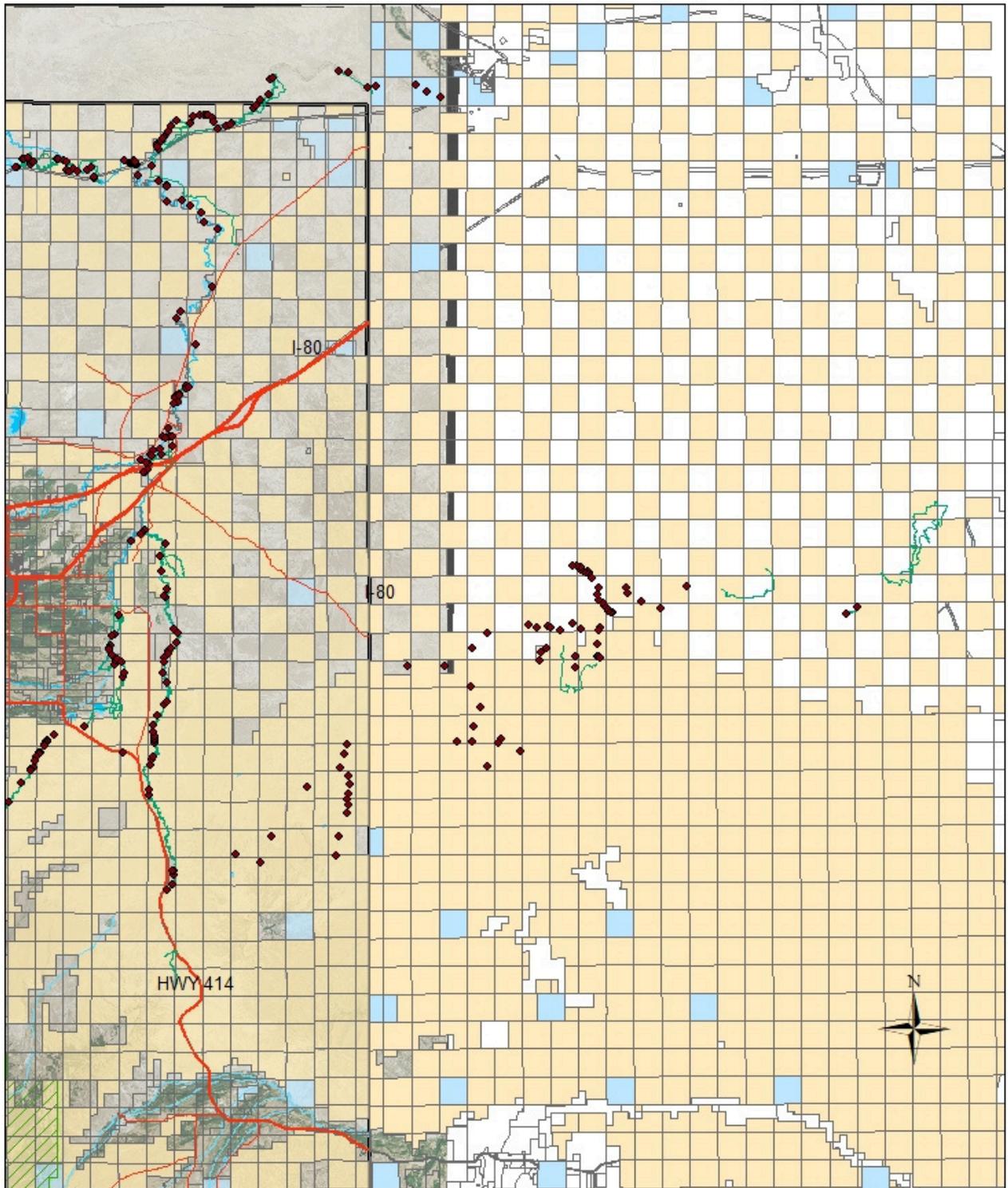
Funding sources were WWNRT and SAC grants.

152 Acres treated

Treatment area 10,114 Acres

# Blacks Fork WLCI Project

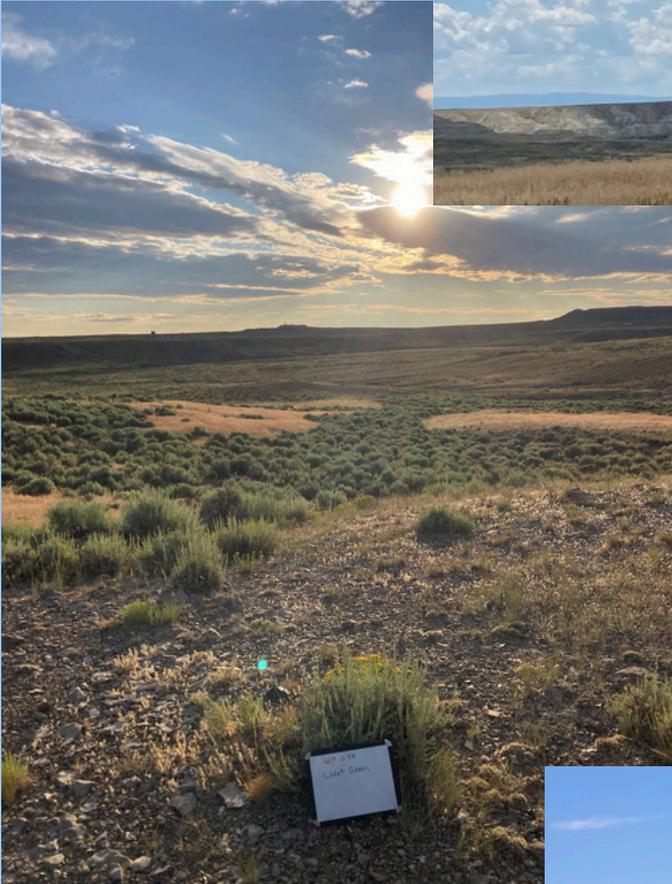
2025 Blacks Fork Drainage Salt cedar and Noxious Weed Funding WWNRT and PRF Grants



0 2.5 5 10 Miles

### Legend

- ◆ WLCI TPoints
- WLCI Tracks
- County Roads
- US Highways
- State Highways
- BLM
- ownership
- STATE of WY
- Private/All
- USFS
- Unla. State/land
- BLM



# Cheatgrass



All Photos Credit:  
Chris Aimone



Photo Credit  
Steve Brill

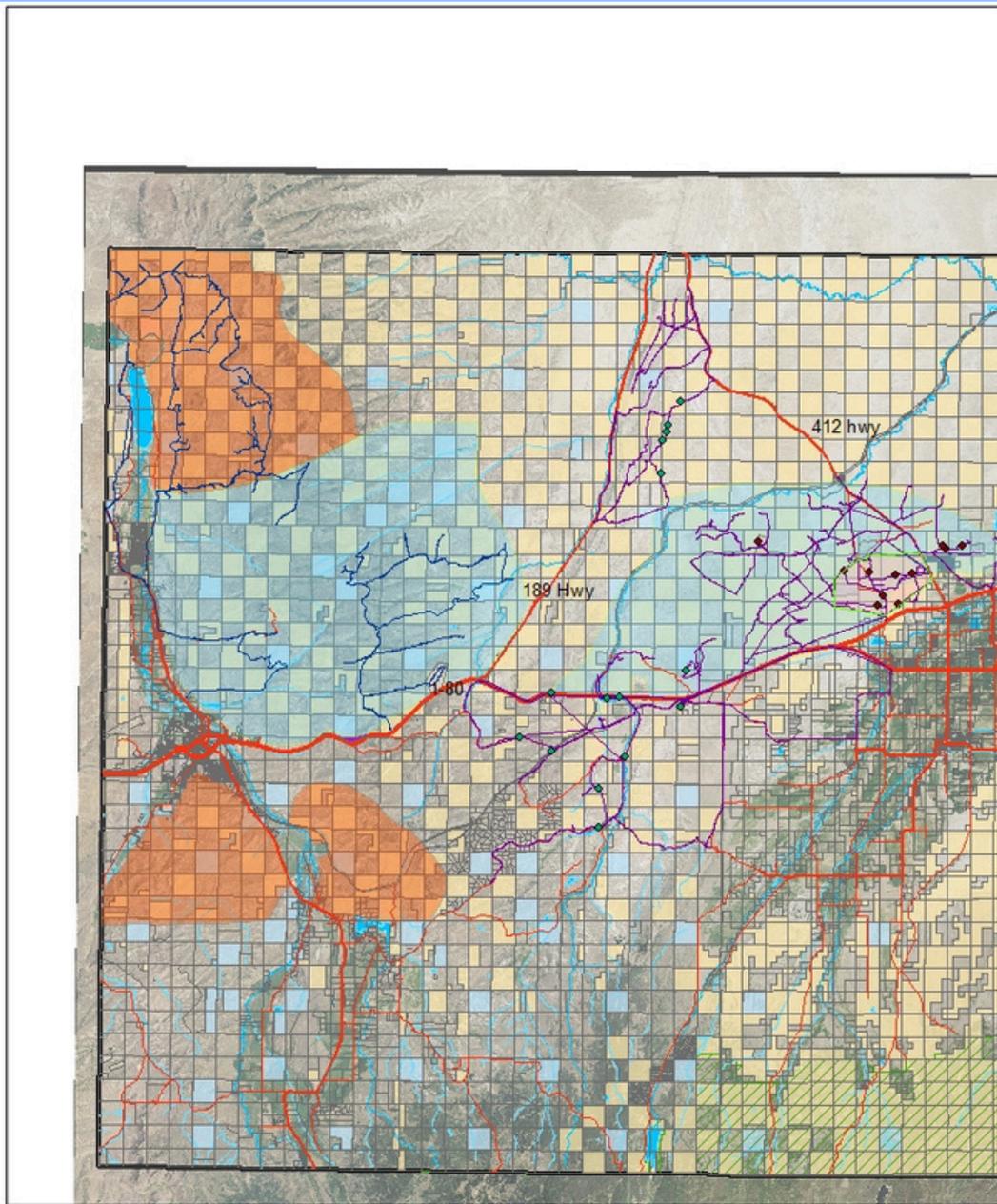
# Cheatgrass Mapping

Cheatgrass was prevalent, but I did see small spots of Musk thistle, Canada thistle, Dyers woad, Black henbane, and Spotted knapweed. Over 4,000 acres of Cheatgrass can be sprayed this fall and many areas that were treated will again be surveyed next season to see the effects of Rejuvra and Plateau on Cheatgrass control. Spray blocks from 2021 and 2022 have questionable results. Next inspection to tell a better story if herbicides are showing good results. All areas inspected were in the Carter areas north of I-80. Railroad rights-of-way, trails, main roads, wet and dry ponds, sheep herder camps, hunter camps, creeks and draws were mapped for noxious weeds. Wildlife, cattle, sheep and human activities all contributed to the spread of noxious/invasive plants and all areas showed continuous Cheatgrass coverage.

~Steve Brill

# Cheatgrass Survey

## Steve Brill 2025



Cheatgrass Survey 2025 - Completed by Steve Brill for Uinta County Weed and Pest

- Legend**
- ◆ WP.SB.7.24.25
  - ◆ WP.SB.7.29.25
  - TRK.SB.8.8.25
  - TRK.SB.7.29.25
  - TRK.SB.7.24.25
  - UintaModeratePriority
  - cg25 treatment
  - UintaHighPriority
  - ParcelsAll
  - USFS
  - Uinta\_StateLand
  - BLM



# WWPC Fall Conference

October 28-30, 2025  
Jackson, WY



# UCWP Seasonal Employee

## Award

### ALLIE PACE

was awarded the seasonal employee award for the 2025 season.



## AUBREY REGER

was awarded the seasonal employee award for the 2025 season.



# UCWP Years of Service Awards

Chad received his 20 year service award



Lauren received her 10 year service award