Vegetation Management: Lower White River

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Need for the Work

• Increasingly dominated by Russian Olive and Tamarisk with reduction/elimination of native plants resulting in:
  • Reducing plant and insect diversity
  • Lower wildlife habitat diversity
  • Fuel accumulation
  • River narrowing
  • Simplified fish habitat
Objectives

- Decrease stems/acre of Russian Olive and Tamarisk
- Restore natural geomorphic process
- Reduce hazardous fuel loads
- Restore Cottonwood Galleries
- Improve water quality
Methods

- Heavy equipment (limited access on lower White)
- Hand crews (UCC and ACE)
- Cut-stump all invasive under Cottonwood canopy’s
- Frill cut Russian olive not near Cottonwoods
Results 2014

- 50 acres of Russian olive (4 crews 6 weeks)
- 4 acres tamarisk (4 crews 4 weeks)
Results 2015

- Contracted 122 acres Russian Olive heavy equipment removal
- 1 UCC crews for 10 weeks
Results 2016/17

- ACE 21 days Frill cutting Russian Olive
- UCC 70 acres Frill cut Russian Olive
Results 2018

• 6 acres of Cottonwood gallery restoration
Results Spring 2019

- 6 acres of Cottonwood gallery restoration
- 10 acres re-treatment
Results Fall 2019

- 6 acres of Cottonwood gallery restoration
Future Plans

• Funded through Utah WRI for FY 20
• Work across land ownership boundaries
• Monitor fish response
Questions?