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"Virgin River Tamarisk Days"

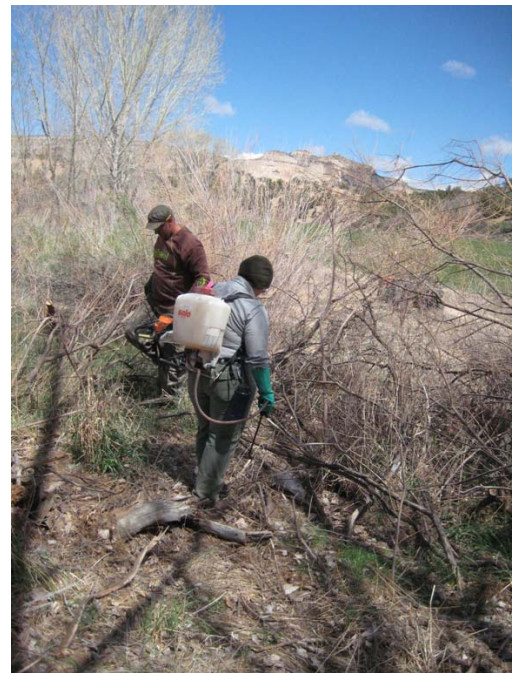
Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) partnerships provide a good opportunity for the Color Country RC&D to work with multiple partners for the completion of many worthwhile projects. This year, the Canyon Country CWMA decided to enhance management of two introduced invasive tree species, saltcedar and Russian olive, along the Virgin River in Southern Utah. Project goals included improved local working relationships between local, state, and federal agencies as well as community members, education of local community members in weed management, and removal of the target weed species. The event was



scheduled for three days spanning a weekend at the end of

April and beginning of May. Outreach was provided in local gathering places.

On the first morning of the event, education in weed identification and management was provided to all the participants by the local University of Utah Extension Agent and county weed personnel. With coordination from the Utah Division of Wildlife, credits were made available to volunteers under the state dedicated hunter program. Participants were paired with local landowners and participants spread out in the project area to cut and treat



saltcedar and Russian olive with chainsaws and herbicide. The entire group was treated to a hearty lunch provided by the local Conservation District, and received a safety message from local law enforcement. Zion National Park was generously able to provide a weed control crew from Lake Mead that worked in the area for two weeks.



Increased goodwill between partners and local citizens as well as nine miles of treated streambank resulted from the project.