

Francis, Ronald - Salt Lake City, UT

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June 23, 2005

## TRIBAL WEEK AND WATER CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTED

At the request of the Underrepresented Task Force of the National Association of RC&D Councils, the Dinosaurland RC&D recently submitted a success story with the Ute Tribe. Earlier this year a one-day Tribal Weed and Water Conference was held that provided tribal members a better understanding of water conservation practices and noxious weed identification and characteristics. Agenda topics included a weed identification quiz; characteristics and treatment of Russian Knapweed, Russian Olive, Perennial Pepperweed, and Salt Cedar; USDA (NRCS and FSA) funding opportunities; West Nile Virus; plant consumptive water rates; soil moisture; soil fertility; and the effects of drought. All participants received a weed calendar and a copy of "Weeds of the West" at the end of the day.



While the RC&D Council had grant funding to provide workshops to the local communities, Shaun Chapoose of the Ute Tribe took responsibility for recruiting participants and providing lunch through tribal owned services. The Council was very pleased when 50 people attended. They attribute that success to the fact that the tribe did the recruiting, the conference was held in tribal facilities, tribal food services were utilized, and important information was delivered in a timely manner. For more information contact RC&D Coordinator Sue Wight, [sue.wight@ut.usda.gov](mailto:sue.wight@ut.usda.gov).

 Periodic news reports from NRCS Utah

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