UINTAH COUNTY

STATE OF UTAH

Our past is the nation's future

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January 30, 2006

Brian Amme, Project Manager
BLM
PO Box 12000
Reno, NV 89520-0006

Re: Comments for Draft Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides on BLM Lands in 17 Western States, Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Mr. Amme,

1 The Uintah County Weed Board is concerned about the spread of noxious weeds and we would like to see the BLM adopt Alternative B. Expand Herbicide Use and Allow For Use of New Herbicides.

2 We have talked to many private landowners who border BLM ground who would like to see herbicides used as set forth in Alternative B . When noxious weeds aren't controlled, they spread onto private land. Weed Board members are aware of numerous examples where private owners and County weed sprayers have treated private ground next to BLM ground that had become infested with Perennial pepperweed, Russian knapweed, and other noxious weeds. The BLM land becomes totally useless when noxious weeds are allowed to go unchecked.

3 Cheatgrass is a known fire hazard problem on BLM administrered lands. In the local Snake John area it has completely taken over native vegetation, and if a lightning strike occurs the whole area would go up in smoke.

4 BLM needs herbicides to help control some of these widespread problems; therefore we strongly urge you to adopt Alternative B.

UINTAH COUNTY WEED BOARD:

Commsissioner Michael J McKee

Mark Kettle

Milton Billings, Weed Supervisor

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