Phragmites Treatment Protocol

**Phase One: Phragmites Removal**
- Use serial mowing and local water control to reduce Phragmites, up to 90% of Phragmites in non-grazing season.

**Phase Two: Maintenance and Restoration**
- Mowing remaining Phragmites to maintain 10% cover to prevent new growth.
- Use serial mowing and local water control to reduce Phragmites, up to 90% of Phragmites in non-grazing season.

The following year, water control to flood the block during the growing season and annually, water control to flood the block in the fall after growing season to improve flooding and feeding habitat for birds.

Summer and fall water control to flood the block during the growing season and annually. Phragmites growth may be triggered annually, growth is observed.

Other grasses
- Awned Cattail
- Dead Phragmites
- Duck weed
- Other weeds
- Unknown

Dead Phragmites
- Three square bulrush
- Salicornia
- Alkali bulrush
- Salt grass
- Bare ground
- Other grasses
- Awned Cattail
- Dead Phragmites
- Duck weed
- Other weeds
- Unknown

For Project Areas

**Project Areas**
- FFSL Spray Mow
- FFSL Grazing
- Partner Project Areas
- DWR Waterfowl Mgmt Areas
- TNC Shorelands Preserve

**Treatments**
- Herbicide Spraying
- Water Control
- Flail Mowing
- Trampling
- Grazing
- Revegetation
- Prescribed Fire

**THE PROBLEM**
- Non-native, invasive Common Reed (Phragmites) covers approximately 23,000 acres of Great Salt Lake Wetlands, as of 2021.
- Phragmites disrupts hydrology and sediment transport — reducing water availability for Great Salt Lake wetlands.
- Phragmites converts diverse native habitat of sparse, patchy, low density Phragmites to dense, homogenous, fire-prone 12 foot tall vegetation with no open water — decimating migratory bird habitat.
- Phragmites significantly impedes access for recreation and rescue.

**SUCCESSES**
- DWR Project Successes
- Harold Crane Northwest Unit
- Turpin West Project
  - 1,600 acres adjacent to Division of Wildlife Resources Farrington Bay Watershed Management Area Turpin Unit
  - 2017 Before – 90% Phragmites
  - 2021 After – 90% Desirable Vegetation

- FFSL Project Success
  - Turpin West
  - 1,600 acres adjacent to Division of Wildlife Resources Farrington Bay Watershed Management Area Turpin Unit
  - 2009 Turpin West Project UDAF Monitoring
  - 2017 Before – 90% Phragmites
  - 2021 After – 90% Desirable Vegetation

After 3 years of treatment, the Phragmites cover is 6.8%, on average, in this project area, which exceeds our goal of 10% average cover. Compare this to the untreated control area that has 90% Phragmites cover.

Treatment History
- 2017 August – Aerial Spray
- 2018 March – Flail Mow
- 2018 August – Aerial and Ground Spray
- 2019 February – Flail Mow
- 2019 June – Hydroseed
- 2019 August – Aerial and Ground Spray
- 2020 February – Trample
- 2020 April – Broadcast Seed
- 2020 Summer – Graze
- 2021 Summer – Graze

**PROJECT PARTNERS**
- Utah State University Wetland Ecology Lab
- The Nature Conservancy
- Nation Audubon Society
- Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge
- Utah Dept Of Agriculture And Food
- DNR Watershed Restoration Initiative
- Central Davis Sewer District
- North Davis Sewer District
- Cache County
- Box Elder County
- Weber River Watershed CWMA
- Wasatch Wigeons