

## Peterson Contract Notes 6/3/25

The weeds department is currently stretched thin and hiring a private contractor to help with roadside weed management is, in my opinion, the best use of un-used funds in the weeds budget. I would suggest pulling \$3,500 from non-capital equipment 227-00-42670, \$5,700 from chemicals 227-00-42019, and 10,800 from salaries 227-00-40200 (seasonal tech budget).

If hired for \$20,000 worth of contract work at a rate of \$105 per hour, Mr. Peterson would be providing approximately 190 hours of labor—equivalent to just under five weeks of work. Having him focus on the north side of the valley while I concentrate on the south side would free up a significant amount of time for other important projects and responsibilities. These include treating highways and state gravel pits for ITD, managing vegetation at Sherman Park for the City of Victor, treating the Ashton-Teton Trail for the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, and collaborating with the City of Teton on several initiatives. It would also allow for more attention to cost-share projects, assisting the public with chemical purchases, developing weed management plans, coordinating backpack sprayer rentals, and dedicating more time to enforcement activities. We would also be able to treat several of our problem roadside a second time.