# Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

# May 4, 2023 Eccles Wildlife Education Center 1157 South Waterfowl Way, Farmington, Utah

The Board Meeting will stream live at <a href="https://youtube.com/live/pp7z8bodnWw">https://youtube.com/live/pp7z8bodnWw</a> Revised April 4, 2023

#### **AGENDA**

## Thursday, May 4, 2023, 9:00 A.M.

- Kevin Albrecht, Chairman

| <ol> <li>Approval of Agenda</li> <li>Kevin Albrecht, Chairman</li> </ol>   | ACTION        |
|--|---------------|
| Approval of Minutes     – Kevin Albrecht, Chairman   | ACTION        |
| <ul><li>3. Old Business/Action Log</li><li>– Randy Dearth, Vice-Chairman</li></ul>   | CONTINGENT    |
| <ul><li>4. DWR Update</li><li>– J. Shirley, DWR Director</li></ul>   | INFORMATIONAL |
| <ul><li>5. Buck Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023</li><li>- Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator</li></ul>                          | ACTION        |
| <ul><li>6. Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023</li><li>- Rusty Robinson, OIAL Species Coordinator</li></ul>         | ACTION        |
| <ul><li>7. Bull Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023</li><li>- Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator</li></ul>                           | ACTION        |
| Buck Pronghorn Permit Recommendations for 2023     Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator  | ACTION        |
| <ul><li>9. Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023</li><li>- Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator</li></ul>                         | ACTION        |
| <ul><li>10. 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations</li><li>- Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator</li></ul> | ACTION        |
| <ul><li>11. CWMU Rule Amendments</li><li>- Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator</li></ul>                        | ACTION        |
| <ul><li>12. Big Game Rule Amendments – R657-5</li><li>- Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator</li></ul>                                 | ACTION        |
| <ul><li>13. Big Game Rule Amendments – Technology Committee Rec.</li><li>- Derrick Ewell, Wildlife Biologist</li></ul>             | ACTION        |
| 14. Other Business   | CONTINGENT    |

#### Wildlife Board Motions

Following is a summary of Wildlife Board motions directing the Division to take action and the response to date:

Fall 2022 – Target Date – Progress on changes to statute for the poaching of a swan

MOTION: I move that we ask the division to look into changing statute to reflect a 7-year waiting period for poaching a swan and have the division report back. This is to be placed on the action log.

Motion made by: Karl Hirst Assigned to: Wyatt Bubak

Action: Update given to the board on December 1, 2022

Placed on Action Log: December 2, 2021

<u>Fall 2022 – Target Date – Possibility of a 3-year season structure for Big Game seasons and hunter orange regulation reforms</u>

MOTION: I move that we ask the division to look into a 3-year season structure for big game season dates and the possibilities of hunter orange regulation reforms (including amount required, what other states allow etc.) This is to be placed on the action log.

Motion made by: Bryce Thurgood

Assigned to: Covy Jones and Wyatt Bubak

Action: Update given to the board on December 1, 2022

Placed on Action Log: December 2, 2021

<u>Fall 2022 – Target Date – Possibility of issuing 2 pt. or smaller buck deer tags to youth hunters</u>

MOTION: I move that we direct the division through the action log, to look at issuing 2pt. or smaller buck deer tags to youth hunters. That in the four-year period, between 14-18, they would have the potential to be guaranteed at least one hunt for a 2pt. buck and that those tags would not take away from any of the other tag allotments but be in addition to the tags already issued. We would ask the division to look at the impact that it would have on licensing and the herds as well as future youth hunters. Kevin Albrecht included with the action log item that the addition of a survey be used to see what that need is.

Motion made by: Karl Hirst

Assigned to: Lindy Varney and Covy Jones

Action: Under Study

Placed on Action Log: January 4, 2022

Fall 2023 - Target Date - Youth Only deer permit program

MOTION: I move that we ask the division to look into a Youth Only dedicated hunter type program, for youth ages 12-17 that would allow yearly participation with a harvest restriction (2 deer in a 3-year period). This is to be placed on the Action Log.

Motion made by: Bryce Thurgood

Assigned to: Lindy Varney, Covy Jones and Bryan Christensen

Action: Under Study

Placed on Action Log: June 2, 2022

## Fall 2023 - Target Date - Special Use Permits on WMA's - Guides and Outfitters - Nonconsumptive user fee

MOTION: I move that we ask the division to look into Guides and Outfitters obtaining special use permits on WMA's and to look at implementing a fee for non-consumptive users. This is to be placed on the Action Log.

Motion made by: Randy Dearth Assigned to: Blair Stringham

Action: Under Study

Placed on Action Log: August 25, 2022

#### <u>Fall 2023 – Target Date – Guiding Document for the Selection of Committees</u>

MOTION: I move that the Division formulate a guiding document for the formation of committees that would include final approval coming from the Wildlife Board. This is to be placed on the Action Log.

Motion made by: Wade Heaton Assigned to: Ashley Greene Action: Under Study

Placed on Action Log: September 29, 2022

#### Fall 2024 – Target Date – Increase Trapping Fee for Non-residents

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to look into a trap fee increase for non-residents for 2024. This is to be placed on the Action Log.

Motion made by: Karl Hirst Assigned to: Darren DeBloois

Action: Under Study

Placed on Action Log: January 3, 2023

# **Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**

# January 3, 2023, Eccles Wildlife Education Center 1157 South Waterfowl Way, Farmington, UT 84025

The meeting will stream live at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=000ZmJ3A5zQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=000ZmJ3A5zQ</a>

#### Tuesday, January 3, 2023 - 9:00 am

| Approval of Agenda     – Kevin Albrecht, Chairman  | ACTION               |
|--|----------------------|
| Approval of Minutes     – Kevin Albrecht, Chairman   | ACTION               |
| <ul><li>3. Old Business/Action Log</li><li>– Randy Dearth, Vice-Chairman</li></ul>   | CONTINGENT           |
| <ul><li>4. DWR Update</li><li>– J. Shirley, DWR Director</li></ul>   | INFORMATIONAL        |
| <ul><li>5. Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy</li><li>R657-19 Rule Amendments</li><li>Kim Hersey, Wildlife Coordinator</li></ul>                         | INFORMATIONAL ACTION |
| <ul> <li>Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments and 2023</li> <li>Recommendations</li> <li>Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator</li> </ul> | ACTION               |
| 7. 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates - Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator   | ACTION               |
| Cougar Update     Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator   | ACTION               |
| 9. Other Business  – Kevin Albrecht, Chairman  | CONTINGENT           |

#### Wildlife Board Motions

Following is a summary of Wildlife Board motions directing the Division to take action and the response to date:

Fall 2022 – Target Date – Progress on changes to statute for the poaching of swan

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to look into changing statute to reflect a 7-year waiting period for poaching swan, and have the Division report back. This is to be placed on the action log.

Motion made by: Karl Hirst Assigned to: Wyatt Bubak

Action: Update given to the Board on December 1, 2022

Placed on Action Log: December 2, 2021

<u>Fall 2022 – Target Date – Possibility of a 3-year season structure for Big Game seasons and</u> hunter orange regulation reforms

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to look into a 3-year season structure for big game season dates, and the possibilities of hunter orange regulation reforms (including amount required, what other states allow, etc.). This is to be placed on the action log.

Motion made by: Bryce Thurgood

Assigned to: Covy Jones and Wyatt Bubak

Action: Update given to the Board on December 1, 2022

Placed on Action Log: December 2, 2021

Fall 2022 – Target Date – Possibility of issuing 2-pt. or smaller buck deer tags to youth hunters

MOTION: I move that we direct the Division through the action log, to look at issuing 2-pt. or smaller buck deer tags to youth hunters; that, in the four-year period between 14-18, they would have the potential to be guaranteed at least one hunt for a 2-pt. buck, and that those tags would not take away from any of the other tag allotments, but be in addition to the tags already issued. We would ask the Division to look at the impact that it would have on licensing and the herds, as well as future youth hunters. Kevin Albrecht included with the action log item that the addition of a survey be used to see what the need is.

Motion made by: Karl Hirst

Assigned to: Lindy Varney and Covy Jones

Action: Under Study

Placed on Action Log: January 4, 2022

Fall 2023 – Target Date – Youth Only deer permit program

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to look into a Youth Only dedicated hunter type program for youth ages 12-17 that would allow yearly participation with a harvest restriction (2 deer in a 3-year period). This is to be placed on the action log.

Motion made by: Bryce Thurgood

Assigned to: Lindy Varney, Covy Jones and Bryan Christensen

Action: Under Study

Placed on Action Log: June 2, 2022

<u>Fall 2023 – Target Date – Special Use Permits on WMAs – Guides and Outfitters – Non-consumptive user fee</u>

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to look into Guides and Outfitters obtaining special use permits on WMAs, and to look at implementing a fee for non-consumptive users. This is to be places on the action log.

Motion made by: Randy Dearth Assigned to: Blair Stringham

Action: Under Study

Placed on Action Log: August 25, 2022

#### Fall 2023 – Target Date – Guiding Document for the Selection of Committees

MOTION: I move that the Division formulate a guiding document for the formation of committees that would include final approval coming from the Wildlife Board. This is to be placed on the action log.

Motion made by: Wade Heaton Assigned to: Ashley Green Action: Under Study

Placed on Action Log: September 29, 2022

#### Fall 2023 – Target Date – Non-resident Trap fee increase

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to look into a trap fee increase for non-residents for 2024. This is to be placed on the Action Log.

Motion made by: Karl Hirst Assigned to: Kenny Johnson

Action: Under Study

Placed on Action Log: January 3, 2023

#### **Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**

January 3, 2023, Eccles Wildlife Education Center 1157 South Waterfowl Way, Farmington, UT 84025 Summary of Motions

1) Approval of Agenda (Action)

The following motion was made by Gary Nielson, seconded by Randy Dearth and passes unanimously.

**MOTION:** I move that we approve the agenda.

2) Approval of Minutes (Action)

The following motion was made by Bryce Thurgood, seconded by Gary Nielson and passes unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the December 1, 2022 Wildlife Board Meeting as submitted.

3) Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy and Rule R657-19 (Action)

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Bret Selman and passes unanimously.

**MOTION:** I move that we approve the Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy and Rule R657-19 amendments as presented by the division.

4) Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments (Action)

The following motion was made by Bryce Thurgood, seconded by Karl Hirst and passes unanimously with Wade Heaton excused.

MOTION: I move that we ask the division to remove the mandatory orientation course to apply and instead make it mandatory for those who draw a permit – similar to the archery ethics coarse – and that this should become effective in 2024.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passes unanimously with Wade Heaton excused.

MOTION: I move that we remove the barrel allowance and ask the division to work with the land agencies.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Gary Nielson and passes unanimously with Wade Heaton excused.

MOTION: I move that we ask Kyle Maynard to work with the division to strengthen the rule language and bring the new language back through the RAC/Board process.

The following motion was made by Bryce Thurgood, seconded by Randy Dearth and passes unanimously with Wade Heaton excused.

MOTION: I move that we accept the remaining recommendations as presented with the inclusion of a mid-plan review.

5) 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates (Action)

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Bryce Thurgood, and passes unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we ask the division to look into a trap fee increase for non-residents for 2024. This is to be placed on the Action Log.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth, and passes unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates as presented.

6) Cougar Update (Action)

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Gary Nielson, and passes unanimously.

**MOTION:** I move that we accept the Cougar Update as presented.

7) Other Business (Contingent)



## **Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**

January 3, 2023, Eccles Wildlife Education Center 1157 South Waterfowl Way, Farmington, UT 84025

#### Attendance

#### Wildlife Board RAC Chairs

Kevin Albrecht – ChairmanKarl HirstCentral – Brock McMillanRandy Dearth – Vice-ChairmanGary NielsonSouthern – Brayden RichmondJ. Shirley – Executive SecretaryBryce ThurgoodSoutheastern – Kent Johnson

Wade Heaton Northeastern – Danny Bret Selman Northern – Justin Oliver

#### **Online and In-Person Division Personnel**

Justin Shannon Paul Gedge Kim Hersey Ashley Green Mike Christensen Danielle Finlayson Mike Canning Staci Coons Chad Wilson Miles Hanberg Sydney Lamb Paige Wiren Kevin Bunnell Kyle Maynard Mark Martinez Ben Nadolski Lindy Varney

Jason Vernon Riley Peck
Wyatt Bubak Jim Christensen
Dax Mangus Covy Jones

Kenny Johnson Dallon Christensen

Public Present

Trent Nielson Kevin Norman
Cory Huntsman Ross Worthington
Daniel Davis Walter Szarek

Cody Bassett

Sierra Nelson

#### **Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**

January 3, 2023, DNR Auditorium 1157 South Waterfowl Way, Farmington, UT 84025 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0O0ZmJ3A5zQ

#### 00:00:01

Chairman Albrecht called the meeting to order, welcomed the audience, and asked the Board and RAC chairs to introduce themselves. Wade Heaton attended the meeting virtually.

#### 00:01:41 1) Approval of Agenda (Action)

The following motion was made by Gary Nielson, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** I move that we approve the agenda.

#### 00:02:04 2) Approval of Minutes (Action)

The following motion was made by Bryce Thurgood, seconded by Gary Nielson and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the December 1, 2022 Wildlife Board Meeting as submitted.

#### 00:02:24 3) Old Business/Action Log (Contingent)

There was no old business or action log items to review at this time.

#### **00:02:34 4) DWR Update** (Informational)

Director J. Shirley gave updates on all the Division sections: Administrative Services, Aquatic, Conservation Outreach, Habitat, Law Enforcement and Wildlife.

The Board asked by what date the 2023 big game draw results will be posted.

#### **5) Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy (Action)**

Wildlife Coordinator Kim Hersey outlined the background for the need for a Utah prairie dog management and administrative rule amendment.

#### 00:16:43 Board/RAC Questions

There were no questions from the Board or RACs.

#### **00:17:01 Public Input**

Director Shirley summarized the online public input on this agenda item.

#### **00:17:37 RAC Summaries**

All RACs moved to accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

Wade Heaton praised the efforts of those who wrote the management strategy.

#### 00:21:08 Public Comments

Public comments were accepted at this time.

#### 00:22:03 RAC Summaries

Chairman Albrecht further summarized the RAC motions on this agenda item.

#### 00:22:22 Board Discussion

The Board expressed appreciation for the work that was put into forming the strategy. The Board noted that it is significant to get a species delisted.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Brett Selman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy and Rule R657-19 amendments as presented by the Division.

# 6) Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments and 2023 Recommendations (Action)

Mammals Coordinator Darren DeBloois thanked those who sat on the Bear Committee.

#### 00:25:05 Board/RAC Questions

There were no questions from the Board or the RAC

#### **00:25:30 Public Input**

Director Shirley summarized the online public input on this agenda item.

#### **00:27:45 RAC Summaries**

All RACs passed the Division's recommendations with varying stipulations.

Chairman Albrecht asked Darren about the bait placement issue that was discussed in the Northeastern Region RAC meeting.

#### 00:35:50 Public Comments/Division Clarification

Public comments were accepted at this time. Clarification on the use of a metal container was given at this time.

#### 00:44:23 Board Discussion and Questions

The Board shared what was discussed during Bear Committee meetings regarding the number of dogs on a bear chase.

The Board asked if the Bear Committee discussed the proposed mandatory

orientation course, and asked if verification of having taken a course could be incorporated in the process of printing of a bear permit.

The Board asked if, after implementing a mandatory orientation course, the Division has seen a decrease in the take of female bear.

The Board spoke in favor of requiring the mandatory course only if someone drew a bear permit.

The Division noted that anyone who takes the orientation course is issued an authorization number.

Chairman Albrecht summarized the RAC motions.

The Board advocated for the mandatory orientation course being fulfilled prior to putting in for a bear permit

The Board asked about the impact of reducing the number of dogs each hunter is allowed to have in pursuit on a hunt.

Chairman Albrecht shared an anecdote about having a bear on his personal property, and advocated for the Houndsmen Association being able to respond to nuisance incidents with their dogs.

The Board suggested removing the barrel suggestion from the proposal until the Division could discuss with land management partners the impacts of using barrels.

The Board asked Assistant Attorney General Kyle Maynard if there were rule amendment language changes that the Board needs to address during the meeting.

Chairman Albrecht asked the Board to address removing the use of barrels from the plan, and two other things.

The Board asked about the bear spot-and-stalk permit.

The following motion was made by Bryce Thurgood, seconded by Karl Hirst and passed unanimously with one abstention. Wade Heaton was unavailable to vote on the motion.

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to remove the mandatory orientation course to apply, and instead make it mandatory for those who draw a permit—similar to the archery ethics course—and that this should become effective in 2024.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously with one abstention. Wade Heaton was excused from voting on this motion.

MOTION: I move that we remove the barrel allowance, and ask the Division work with land agency partners.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Gary Nielson and passed unanimously with one abstention. Wade Heaton was excused from voting on this motion.

MOTION: I move that we ask Kyle Maynard to work with the Division to strengthen the rule language and bring the new language back through the RAC/Board process.

The following motion was made by Bryce Thurgood, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously one abstention. Wade Heaton was excused from voting on this motion.

MOTION: I move that we accept the remaining recommendations as presented with the inclusion of a mid-plan review.

#### 01:19:33 7) 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates (Action)

#### 01:20:03 Board/RAC Questions

The Board asked about the number of bobcats harvested thus far this season, and what the current price is for bobcat pelts.

The RACs asked about the possible creation of a non-resident furbearer license.

Director Shirley asked if the trap registration fee could be made higher for non-resident trappers.

Wildlife Chief Covy Jones noted that coyotes are not a protected species in Utah, so no agency manages their numbers.

Lindy Varney noted that a fee change requires legislative approval.

The RACs asked how many non-resident trappers operate in Utah, and asked if restricting the take of coyotes has ever been discussed.

#### **01:30:43 Public Input**

Director Shirley summarized the online public input on this agenda item.

#### 01:31:00 RAC Summaries

All RACs passed the Division's recommendations with one stipulation in the Northern Region's motions.

#### 01:32:29 Public Comments/Division Clarification

Public comments were accepted at this time. No clarification was given at this time.

#### 01:36:42 Board Discussion

The Board noted the law enforcement aspect of possible illegal take of protected species by non-residents trapping for coyotes in Utah.

Director Shirley noted that the legislature could address a fee adjustment in the upcoming legislative session, and also commented on the law enforcement benefit of Utah's trap license and trap registration requirements.

The Board voiced support for a non-resident trapping license fee increase.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Bryce Thurgood and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to look into a trap fee increase for non-residents for 2024. This is to be placed on the Action Log.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates as presented.

#### 01:45:38 8) Cougar Update (Action)

Game Mammals Coordinator Darren DeBloois reviewed the cougar recommendations presentation that was posted on the Division's website.

#### 01:47:28 Board/RAC Questions

There were no questions from the Board or RACs.

#### 01:47:39 Public Comments/Division Clarification

Public comments were accepted at this time. No clarification was given at this time.

#### 01:48:31 Board Discussion/Questions

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Gary Nielson and passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** I move that we approve the Cougar Update as presented.

#### 01:49:14 9) Other Business (Contingent)

Chairman Albrecht touted the benefits of participating in the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) organization. Director Shirley noted the Division's participation in both the WAFWA and the American Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) organizations.

Both Director Shirley and Chairman Albrecht mentioned that the Wildlife Board recruitment application period is open, and Staci Coons noted the Wildlife Board application requirements.

#### **01:55:30** Meeting Adjourned

# Wildlife Board Work Session Eccles Wildlife Education Center, Farmington UT April 11, 2023 9:00 am

https://youtu.be/X8P9hJSgos8

- 1. Legislative Session Update Riley Peck, Legislative Liaison
  - Present an update on the recently completed legislative session and resulting impacts to wildlife and management.
- 2. External Committees Guiding Document Update Ashley Green, Deputy Director
- 3. Mule Deer
  - Statewide Mule Deer Update Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator; Kent Hersey,

    O Present current survival rates of adults and fawns, winter effects by region, and feeding.
- 4. Once-in-a-Lifetime Species and Research Updates
  - Status updates for all OIL species Rusty Robinson
    - o Present current population levels, trends, challenges and future plans.
  - Bighorn sheep disease status update Dr. Virginia Stout, Wildlife Veterinarian
  - Disentangling factors contributing to Zion bighorn population performance Ian Montgomery
  - Effects of winter ticks on moose reproduction in Utah Sam Robertson,
  - Monitoring of mountain goats and rare alpine plants in Tushar and La Sal Mountains Loreen Alphin
- 5. Use of DWR Surveys Matt Bartley, Social Science Coordinator
- 6. Utah Hunt Planner Update Phil Gray, Licensing
  - Using the Utah Hunt Planner as a resource to get information and insight.

#### **Utah Wildlife Board Working Meeting**

Eccles Wildlife Education Center 1157 South Waterfowl Way Farmington, Utah 84025 Attendance

#### Wildlife Board

Kevin Albrecht – Chair Br Randy Dearth – Vice-Chair Ga J. Shirley – Exec Secretary Ka

Bryce Thurgood Gary Nielson Karl Hirst Wade Heaton

#### **Division Personnel**

Riley Peck Staci Coons Mike Christensen Kenny Johnson Ben Nadolski Dax Mangus Wyatt Bubak Justin Shannon Jim Christensen Chris Wood Sydney Lamb Kent Hersey Covy Jones Kevin Bunnell Paul Gedge Lindy Varney Matt Bartley Dallon Christensen Rusty Robinson Miles Hanberg Phil Gray Chris Wood Teresa Griffin Ginger Stout Paige Wiren **Brad Crompton** Darren DeBloois

Sam Robertson Randall Thacker David Smedley Ian Montgomery

#### **BYU Research Professors**

Dr. Brock McMillan

Dr. Randy Larsen

Dr. Loreen Allphin

#### **Utah Wildlife Board Working Meeting**

April 11, 2023, Eccles Wildlife Education Center 1157 South Waterfowl Way Farmington, Utah 84025 https://youtu.be/X8P9hJSgos8

# 00:10:28 Chairman Albrecht called the meeting to order, and board members introduced themselves. Wade Heaton attended online. Bret Selman was excused from the meeting.

Chairman Albrecht expressed appreciation for the efforts that the Division has put forth in response to the extreme weather conditions this past winter, and thanked statewide conservation officers for the time they have devoted to responding to the statewide shed antler gathering closure.

Secretary Shirley recognized and thanked Division employees for their collective hard work this past winter.

## 00:14:52 1) Legislative Session Update

Legislative Liaison Riley Peck gave a presentation on what took place with regards to wildlife-related bills during the 2023 legislative session, and how the bills that passed will impact wildlife and management.

#### 00:35:30 Board Questions & Discussion

The Board asked about the bill that pertained to the hunter mentor program, and the Wildlife Land and Water Acquisition bill.

#### 00:39:27 2) External Committees Guiding Document Update

Deputy Director Ashley Green gave a presentation on the drafting of the guiding document for the formation and use of external committees.

#### 00:50:04 Board Questions & Discussion

The Board agreed that Wildlife Board Members should not have a vote on committees, but asked why the Division gets a vote on a committee. Chairman Albrecht voiced appreciation for having a board member sit on a committee, and suggested that the Division not have a vote in committees.

The Board commented on the role of committees versus the role of governing bodies, and the perception that committees guide decision-making rather than the Wildlife Board. The Board stressed that the role of committees should be to make recommendations, and further shared a perception that whoever is choosing the committee members and setting the sideboards for the committee becomes the decision-maker. The Board questioned why the Wildlife Board does not choose who sits on a committee.

The Board remarked that there is an element of the public process lost when relying on committees, noted that board members gets asked how committee members are chosen, and suggested adding an element of randomness to committee selection. The Board voiced the need to come up with a more transparent process for committee member selection.

Deputy Director Green stated the Division's intention of committee selection.

The Board expressed concern about committee members' who may receive financial gain from decisions made by committees, recognized the value of committees, and also commented that the Division sometimes steers committee meetings based on the agency's agenda.

The Board said the guiding document should state that there are times when the Division can just give recommendations without having to form a committee, and discussed the role of the Division's input in committees.

Deputy Director Green voiced appreciation for the Board's feedback, and publically thanked those who have sat on previous committees over the years.

## 01:19:30 3) Mule Deer

Big Game Coordinator Dax Mangus gave a presentation on the statewide status of mule deer.

Kent Hersey gave a presentation titled, "Rich County Mule Deer Feeding Study."

#### 02:17:09 Board Questions & Discussion

The Board asked about buck to doe ratio management. The Board commented on how the Division and the Board might respond to the social aspect of upcoming big game permit recommendations.

The Board asked if there is historic data on wildlife management strategies implemented in response to extreme weather conditions such as this past winter.

The Board asked the Division to explain critical management strategies and projections during the upcoming public RAC meetings.

The Board asked how many tons of food the Division fed deer and elk over the course of the winter, and whether or not the effort was successful.

The Board asked if CWMU permit numbers were going to be decreased in proportion to anticipated cuts of general population permits, and suggested that the Division try and manage hunters' expectations for 2023-2024 CWMU hunts.

The Board suggested that, throughout the upcoming RAC tour, the Division explain how permit recommendations are arrived at using buck to doe ratio data.

The Board discussed CWMU operators voluntarily relinquishing permits allocated to their CWMU, and the possibility of adjusting previously approved CWMU permit numbers.

The Board asked if any big game were given hay by local residents, and commented on the value of being able to gather data throughout the winter feeding process.

#### 02:44:17 4) Once-in-a-Lifetime Species and Research Updates

Once-in-a-Lifetime Coordinator Rusty Robinson gave a presentation on the

statewide status of all OIL species.

#### 02:59:08 Board Questions & Discussion

The Board commented on the importance of studying bison, asked about the status of the Antelope Island bighorn sheep herd, and asked about potentially introducing bighorn sheep to hunt units that currently do not have bighorn sheep.

#### Lunch

**03:53:44** State Wildlife Veterinarian Dr. Virginia Stout gave a presentation on the statewide status of bighorn sheep diseases.

#### 04:11:46 Board Ouestions & Discussion

The Board asked if domestic goats can transmit diseases that affect bighorn sheep, and asked if sheep captures negatively affect an individual animal's health.

**04:15:15** Dr. Loreen Allphin gave a presentation on the impact mountain goats may have on rare alpine plants in the Tushar and La Sal Mountains.

#### 04:35:46 Board Questions & Discussion

The Board asked when research conclusions might be shared.

**04:38:59** Graduate intern biologist Ian Montgomery gave a presentation on the Zion bighorn sheep population.

#### 04:55:12 Board Questions & Discussion

The Board asked about the mortality statistics, and about the deer mortality rate versus the bighorn sheep mortality rate by mountain lion predation,

**04:59:31** Biologist Sam Robertson gave a presentation on the effects of winter ticks on moose reproduction in Utah.

#### 05:26:00 Board Ouestions & Discussion

The Board asked if medication can be effective in treating ticks on moose, and also asked how researchers were able to get physically close to the moose.

#### **05:29:42 5)** Use of **DWR** Surveys

Social Science Coordinator Matt Bartley gave a presentation on the use of Division of Wildlife Resources surveys.

#### 05:50:56 Board Ouestions & Discussion

There were no questions from the Board.

#### 05:52:10 6) Utah Hunt Planner Update

Phil Gray gave a presentation on updates to the online Utah Hunt Planner tool.

#### 06:23:50 Board Questions & Discussion

The Board congratulated the Division on the quality of the online hunt planner tool.

The Board asked if the planner listed all the cougar hunts, and voiced appreciation for the tool having a CWMU tradelands map layer.

#### 06:27:23 Other Business

Wildlife Section Chief Covy Jones gave the Board an update on Utah condors and the negative effect lead ammunition has had on the population.

#### 06:32:20 Board Questions & Discussion

The Board suggested asking the Division to bring before the Board what strategies might be used to encourage hunters to use non-lead ammunition, and asked if lead ammunition is used by those hunting a variety of species, not just big game. The Board also asked about the direct correlation between dying condors and lead poisoning.

The Board referenced an email all board members had received that raised an issue with the sportsman tag draw impacting the regular draw. Licensing Coordinator Lindy Varney responded to the issue in question.

**06:38:58** Meeting adjourned.

## Regional Advisory Council Meeting Summary of Passed Motions

#### **Buck Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)**

NR MOTION: I move that we accept the Buck Deer Permit Recommendations for

2023 as presented, but with the expectation the Division will adjust permits

downward as more data becomes available.

VOTE: Passed Unanimous

CR MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendations as presented

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

SR MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's Limited Entry Buck Deer permit

recommendations as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's General Season Buck Deer permit recommendations as presented with the exception of no permit increases on the Mt.

Dutton, Beaver, Fillmore, Southwest Desert and Zion units.

VOTE: Passed 9-1

MOTION: Move that we accept the remainder of the Division's recommendations as presented, but ask the Wildlife Board to instruct the Mule Deer Committee to add an option for antler restrictions, to have a single deer draw that includes Dedicated Hunter, Limited Entry, and General Season Deer into a single draw and allow the use of restricted weapons on general season units.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

SER MOTION: Move to accept SFW's buck deer recommendation as it pertains to the

Oak Creeks and the Central Mountains Manti units

VOTE: Passed 6-4

MOTION: To accept the remaining buck deer recommendations as presented by

the Division.

VOTE: Passed Unanimous

NER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

VOTE: Passed 10-1

#### Once –in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

NR MOTION: I move we accept Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for

2023 as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

CR MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendations as presented

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

SR MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's OIAL permits recommendations as presented, direct the DWR to never recommend less than two (2) resident permits per hunt code for Limited Entry and OIAL units, and direct the DWR to look at the

timing and sequence when Expo permits are accounted for so that they do not

come out of the public draw recommendation.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

SER MOTION: To have the Board ask the Division to work with the tribe and look at

opportunities and strategies to control the bison population in the Book Cliffs,

specifically the Little Creek South unit.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

MOTION: To add one more permit to the Henry Mountain archery bison hunt.

VOTE: 8-2

MOTION: To approve the remainder of the Division's proposal as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

NER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

#### **Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)**

NR MOTION: I move we accept the Division's recommendations as presented, but

increase the youth limited entry any bull permits from 500 to 750 permits.

VOTE: Passed Unanimous

CR MOTION: To add 250 youth bull permits to the recommendation

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

MOTION: Accept the remainder of the Division's recommendations as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

SR MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations for Bull Elk

permits for 2023 as presented, but add 250 permits to the Youth Any Bull hunt.

VOTE: Passed 9-1

SER MOTION: To implement mandatory tooth return on Limited Entry bull elk hunts.

VOTE: Passed 9-1

MOTION: To accept SFW's proposal that increases the any bull youth elk draw

permits from 500 to 750 VOTE: Passed Unanimous

MOTION: To accept the remainder of the Division's proposal as presented.

**VOTE:** Passed Unanimous

NER MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division with the exception to increase

Youth Limited Entry Elk hunt permits from 500 to 750.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

#### **Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)**

NR MOTION: I move we accept Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 as

presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

CR MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendations as presented

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

SR MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

SER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

VOTE: Passed Unanimous

NER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

#### **Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)**

NR MOTION: I move we accept Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023

as Presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

CR MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendations as presented

VOTE: Passed Unanimous

SR MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

VOTE: Passed 9-1

SER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

VOTE: Passed Unanimous

NER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

#### **2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations (Action)**

NR MOTION: I move we accept the North Peak variance request as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

MOTION: I move we approve the variance request for Avintaquin Canyon.

VOTE: Passed 8-1

MOTION: I move to approve recommendations as presented, with a request the Division bring back a proposal for more options for CWMU's to harvest more elk.

VOTE: Passed Unanimous

MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendations as presented

VOTE: Passed Unanimous

MOTION: To repeal the previous motion and revisit the CWMU antlerless permit

recommendation as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

MOTION: Accept the Division's CWMU antlerless permit recommendations as

presented.

CR

VOTE: Passed 8-1

MOTION: Accept the Division's CWMU variance recommendation as presented.

VOTE: Passed 6-3

SR MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

SER MOTION: Ask the Wildlife Board to give the Division direction to revisit the

CWMU rule, clean it up, and look for opportunities to increase public hunting

opportunities for all species. VOTE: Passed Unanimous

MOTION: To request that the Division accept the proposal by Summit Point

CWMU which grants 6 cow elk permits (3 public, 3 private)

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

MOTION: To accept the remainder of the Division's recommendations as

presented.

VOTE: Passed Unanimous

NER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

#### **CWMU Rule Amendments (Action)**

NR MOTION: I move we approve CWMU Rule Amendments as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

CR MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendations as presented

VOTE: Passed 8 in favor with one abstention

SR MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

SER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

VOTE: Passed Unanimous

NER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

#### **Big Game Rule Amendments-R657-5 (Action)**

NR MOTION: I move we accept Big Game Rule Amendments-R657-5 as

presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

CR MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendations as presented

VOTE: Passed 8-1

SR MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

VOTE: 6-4

SER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

VOTE: Passed 8-1

NER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

#### **Big Game Rule Amendments- Technology Committee Recs. (Action)**

NR MOTION: I move we accept the definition of restricted weapons, with the addition of the term match lock as an ignition system to the definition of

restricted muzzleloaders. VOTE: Passed Unanimous

MOTION: I move to include an additional restriction to the definition of scopes to exclude scopes with any built in electronic functionalities besides an illuminated reticle.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

MOTION: I move to accept the balance of the recommendations as presented.

VOTE: Passed 6-3

CR MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendations as presented with an amendment to the motion to include the removal of cameras on archery tackle

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

SR MOTION: Move that we approve the regular weapons definition as presented in

the memorandum

VOTE: 8-2

MOTION: Move that we approve the HAMS weapons definitions by weapon type

as presented in the memorandum.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

MOTION: Move that we accept the restricted weapons definition as presented in

the memorandum

**VOTE: 8-2** 

MOTION: Move that we approve the remainder of the proposal with the

exception of the restriction on 2-way communication.

VOTE: 6-5

SER MOTION: Move that we accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

VOTE: Passed 8-1

MOTION: Move that we ask the Wildlife Board to have the Division spread out

the agenda items to other meetings.

**VOTE: Passed Unanimous** 

NER MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division with the exception of the 2

Way Radio and Cell Phone to be removed.

AMENDED MOTION amendment to include clarifiers on Archery Tackle and to restrict to single power magnification on all muzzleloader hunts when scopes are allowed.

VOTE: Failed 3-7

AMENDED MOTION to include clarifiers on Archery Tackle.

VOTE: Passed 6-5 with the Chairman breaking the tie

MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division with the exception of the 2 Way Radio and Cell Phone to be removed.

VOTE: Passed Unanimous

#### RAC AGENDA April 12, 2023

The meeting will stream live at https://youtube.com/live/b7qk6-c1p4s

| 1.  | Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure - RAC Chair  |               |
|-----|---|---------------|
| 2.  | Approval of Agenda and Minutes - RAC Chair  | ACTION        |
| 3.  | Wildlife Board Meeting Update - RAC Chair   | INFORMATIONAL |
| 4.  | Regional Update - DWR Regional Supervisor   | INFORMATIONAL |
| 5.  | Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023 - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager                       | ACTION        |
| 6.  | Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023 - Rusty Robinson, OIAL Species Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager | ACTION        |
| 7.  | Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023 - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager                        | ACTION        |
| 8.  | Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager                   | ACTION        |
| 9.  | Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023 - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager                 | ACTION        |
| 10. | 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations - Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator                        | ACTION        |
| 11. | Big Game Rule Amendments-R657-5 - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager                            | ACTION        |
| 12. | Big Game Rule Amendments-Technology Committee Recs Derrick Ewell, Wildlife Biologist  | ACTION        |
|     |   |               |

#### **Meeting Locations**

NR RAC – April 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM Weber County Commission Chambers 2380 Washington Blvd. Suite #240, Ogden https://youtube.com/live/b7qk6-c1p4s

CR RAC – Thursday, April 13th 6:00 PM Wildlife Resources Conference Room 1115. N. Main Street, Springville <a href="https://youtube.com/live/ObUUajH1uuA">https://youtube.com/live/ObUUajH1uuA</a>

SR RAC – April 18th 6:00 PM Location TBD https://youtube.com/live/wt5iaj2CMFk SER RAC – April 19th 6:30 PM John Wesley Powell Museum 1765 E. Main St., Green River https://youtube.com/live/TMdzifc0dsg

NER RAC- April 20<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM Wildlife Resources NER Office 318 N. Vernal Ave., Vernal https://youtube.com/live/4vmEyNiLbN0

**Board Meeting-** May 4<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM Eccles Wildlife Education Center, Farmington Bay https://youtube.com/live/pp7z8bodnWw

# Regional Advisory Council Meeting Summary of Motions

1) Approval of Agenda and Minutes (Action)

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Mike Laughter and passed unanimous.

**MOTION:** I move that we approve the Agenda and Minutes.

2) Buck Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

The following motion was made by Matt Klar, seconded by Emily Jensco and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Buck Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023 as presented, but with the expectation the Division will adjust permits downward as more data becomes available.

3) Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Brad Buchanan and passed unanimous.

\*Emily Jensco was not present for the vote.

**MOTION:** I move we accept Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023 as presented.

4) Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

The following motion was made by Brad Buchanan, seconded by Mike Laughter and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move we accept the Division's recommendations as presented, but increase the youth limited entry any bull permits from 500 to 750 permits.

5) Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Ryan Brown and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move we accept Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 as presented.

6) Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

The following motion was made by Ryan Brown, seconded by Brad Buchanan and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move we accept Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023 as Presented.

7) 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations (Action)

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Brad Buchanan and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move we accept the North Peak variance request as presented.

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison. Motion failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: To deny the Avintaquin Canyon CWMU variance request.

The following motion was made by Brad Buchanan, seconded by Mike Laughter and passed For: 8 Against: 1 Randy Hutchison- Variance upon variance. Doesn't make sense to run business that way.

MOTION: I move we approve the variance request for Avintaquin Canyon.

The following motion was made by Brad Buchanan, seconded by Mike Laughter and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move to approve recommendations as presented, with a request the Division bring back a proposal for more options for CWMUs to harvest more elk.

## 8) CWMU Rule Amendments (Action)

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Kevin McLeod and passed unanimous.

#### MOTION: I move we approve CWMU Rule Amendments as presented.

9) Big Game Rule Amendments-R657-5 (Action)

The following motion was made by Kevin McLeod, seconded by Ryan Brown and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move we accept Big Game Rule Amendments-R657-5 as presented.

\* Emily Jensco was not present for the vote.

10) Big Game Rule Amendments - Technology Committee Recs. (Action)

The following motion was made by Ryan Brown, seconded by Randy Hutchison and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move we accept the definition of restricted weapons, with the addition of the term match lock as an ignition system to the definition of restricted muzzleloaders.

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Ryan Brown and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move to include an additional restriction to the definition of scopes to exclude scopes with any built in electronic functionalities besides an illuminated reticle.

The following motion was made by Kevin McLeod, seconded by Randy Hutchison and passed For: 6 Against: 3. Brad Buchanan - Not on board with the way two-way radios were presented. Some of the verbiage with drones could have been written better. Mike Laughter - Bow sights don't increase harvest. Matt Klar - Need to do everything we can to finish off wounded game. CWMU harvesting cows. This doesn't allow for that.

MOTION: I move to accept the balance of the recommendations as presented.



# Northern Regional Advisory Council Meeting

April 12, 2023 Attendance

#### **RAC Members**

| Justin Oliver – Chair         |
|-------------------------------|
| Kevin McLeod – Vice-Chair     |
| Ben Nadolski – Exec Secretary |

| Ryan Brown    |  |
|---------------|--|
| Brad Buchanan |  |
| Jaimi Butler  |  |
| Paul Chase    |  |

Randy Hutchison Emily Jensco Matt Klar Mike Laughter

# **Board Member** Bryce Thurgood

# **RAC Excused**

David Earl Junior Goring Darren Parry Casey Snider Nikki Wayment

# **Division Personnel**

|                 | DIVISIO           |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Jodie Anderson  | Mike Christensen  |
| Jim Christensen | Brock Thornley    |
| Chad Wilson     | David Beveridge   |
| Sam Robertson   | Brooklyn Evans    |
| Daniel Sallee   | Blair Stringham   |
| Xaela Walden    | Mike Kinghorn     |
| Dax Mangus      | Devin Christensen |
| Gabe Patterson  | Daniel Olson      |
| David Smedley   | Kyle Maynard      |
| Covy Jones      |                   |
|                 |                   |

Lindy Varney Wyatt Buback

#### **Regional Advisory County Meeting**

April 12, 2023 Attendance

\*\*\* Opening Statement not audible due to technical difficulties. \*\*\*

1) Chairman Justin Oliver called the meeting to order, welcomed the audience and reviewed the meeting procedures.

Delay in meeting due to technical difficulties.

#### 00:41:46 2) Approval of Agenda and Minutes (Action)

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Mike Laughter and passed unanimous.

**MOTION:** I move that we approve the Agenda and Minutes.

#### 00:42:35 3) Update from past Wildlife Board Meeting by Ben Nadolski

Link on website to view.

#### 4) Regional Update - Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor (Informational)

Ben Nadolski updated the RAC on all regional activities.

#### 01:01:24 5) Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

Dax Mangus said the Division needed to move forward and make recommendations before the public process started. This winter has been very unusual. The Division does not want to diminish the input or role of the RACs. The Division wants to continue to monitor survival. If we see that survival is worse than anticipated, the Division plans to go to the Wildlife Board with adjusted recommendations to meet the objectives of the management plans.

#### 01:04:06 Questions from RAC Members/Public

Modeling parameters used for making recommendations. Body condition of the does and fetus viability. Collared animals and mortality. Money spent on feeding deer and the effectiveness of feeding. Comparison of snowpack between units. Correlation of elk units over objective versus other units that aren't. Adjusting permit numbers at the Wildlife Board meeting.

#### **Public Questions**

Ross Worthington - Discrepancy of permits allocated verses posted draw odds.

#### 01:32:14 Electronic/ Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor

Ben Nadolski summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

#### **Public Comment**

Gary Webb, CWMU Association - Supports the Division's recommendation. Concerned about the permits. Mindful of the impact this winter is having. Some CWMUs are voluntarily cutting permits back this year, based on what they are seeing on the ground.

Kevin Norman, Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife - Support the Division's recommendations with two exceptions. Would like to see a total of 8,000 deer permits on the Manti Unit and an increase of 5 permits on the Oak Creek Limited Entry Unit. Complete confidence in what the Division does. The Division truly cares. Appreciate all they do.

#### 01:37:00 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

Adjust permit numbers as data comes in. Online presentations were very clear. Appreciate the amount of dedication it's taken to feed deer this winter. Collar data and how it really works. Err on the conservative side with permit numbers. There's a social aspect to everything. Mortality on Morgan/South Rich units. Over objective on some elk units. Limited hunter access. Competition between deer and elk for food.

The following motion was made by Matt Klar, seconded by Emily Jensco and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Buck Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023 as presented, but with the expectation the Division will adjust permits downward as more data becomes available.

Ben Nadolski wanted to thank the public and the RAC for the positive comments about the work DWR employees do. Huge thank you to the volunteers that are helping with the deer feeding.

#### 01:46:10 6) Once-in-a Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023(Action)

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 01:46:53 Questions from RAC Members/Public

Mountain goats on Willard Peak.

#### **Public Ouestions**

None

#### 01:51:06 Electronic/ Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor

Ben Nadolski summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

#### **Public Comment**

Kevin Norman, Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife - Supports the Division's proposal.

Cody Rhees, Youth Hunters Voice – Wants to generate awareness and understanding that our youth are being overlooked, and not enough is being done in the hunting industry to help them maintain any interest in the outdoors. We are talking about the tag quotas and management numbers, but all of this has very little to do with the allocation of tags to certain age classes. Please consider whose hands these tags are getting into. The hands of the youth are being overlooked. We are advocating for the youth to have increased opportunities and meaningful hunting opportunities. Recommend to allocate fair and equal opportunities for the youth to enjoy multiple hunting opportunities. Need to make adjustments to the bonus point system. Need to allocate a minimum of 30% of all limited entry permits to youth. Youth hunting and fishing licenses need to be free.

#### 01:56:42 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Brad Buchanan and passed unanimous.

\*Emily Jensco was not present for the vote.

# MOTION: I move we accept Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023 as presented.

#### 01:57:54 7) Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 01:58:19 **Ouestions from RAC Members/Public**

Late archery tags. Youth any weapon any bull permits. General season any bull hunts. Elk units over objective and issuing enough permits. Depredation requests from landowners who are not allowing access.

#### **Public Questions**

Ross Worthington - If youth draw the any bull permit, they can hunt only that season.

#### 02:07:17 Electronic/ Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor

Ben Nadolski summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

#### **Public Comment**

Randy Sessions, Morgan County Farm Bureau - Statewide elk plan revision. Need to look at habitat strategies. There needs to be a different way of looking at things. Population management strategies. Need to encourage the CWMUs to hunt more cow elk. Recommend to the Wildlife Board the Statewide Elk Committee meet again to

consider two things, 1) The weather and what the winter has done to wildlife. 2) Ways to encourage CWMUs to hunt more cow elk.

Cody Rhees, Youth Hunters Voice - Put more youth on private property. Allow youth to obtain more premium elk tags.

Kevin Norman, Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife - Supports the Division's recommendations with the exception of wanting to see youth any bull draw permits increased to 700 permits.

Ross Worthington - Increase the number of youth any bull permits. Would like to see youth allowed to hunt all three elk seasons.

Sakia White, Utah Farm Bureau – Just to clarify, Randy Sessions was addressing the desires of the Morgan County Farm Bureau. He was not speaking on behalf of the Utah Farm Bureau.

#### 02:13:58 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

Jaimi Butler - The Division has been super responsive in removing dead elk and helping with lots of issues.

Brad Buchanan - Likes the recommendations that have come through for elk and the permit structure for limited entry permits. It would be easier if units were given numbers instead of names. Youth permits.

Mike Laughter - Flexibility in the plan, to add 250 permits to the youth any bull hunt, is acceptable to ask for.

Justin Oliver – It's pretty fair to say that youth I have known are hunting some of the areas that are over objective. I think Laughter's idea is a great one.

Randy Hutchison - To the gentleman from Morgan, the CWMU rules are up for review, but hopefully you will see some movement in that regard.

The following motion was made by Brad Buchanan, seconded by Mike Laughter and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move we accept the Division's recommendations as presented, but increase the youth limited entry any bull permits from 500 to 750 permits.

#### **8)** Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

Dax Mangus said the Division manages pronghorn hunting so the average age of harvested bucks is two to three years old. He said the Division recommends keeping buck pronghorn permits stable and possibly increasing them in some areas in the state. An exception is the Cache/Rich Unit, where the Division is recommending a decrease, due to winter kill. There is also a pronghorn disease issue in western Wyoming, but Utah has not documented it yet. The Division is recommending a slight decrease in permits for the Cache/Rich unit as well as the San Rafael Unit, where long term drought has had an effect on pronghorn numbers.

#### 02:20:40 Questions from RAC Members/Public

Most of the disease issues in Wyoming has been in the Pinedale region. The disease is expected to cross over into Utah. Health of pronghorn versus mule deer through the winter. Collared pronghorn.

#### **Public Questions**

None

#### 02:23:10 Electronic/ Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor

Ben Nadolski summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

#### **Public Comment**

Kevin Norman, Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife - Supports the Division's recommendations.

#### 02:24:18 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Ryan Brown and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move we accept Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 as presented.

Dax Mangus said Wyoming is the last stronghold for pronghorn in North America, and they're seeing devastating mortality in south central and western Wyoming. They are

seeing up to 70% mortality, which is very concerning.

Matt Klar asked how transmissible the micro plasma is. Dax recommended getting in touch with DWR veterinarian Virginia Stout.

Cache Biologist Sam Robertson said a few pronghorn have died in Rich County. After collecting samples from the animals, he took them to the state lab for testing.

#### **9) Antierless Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)**

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 02:29:35 Questions from RAC Members/Public

Big increase in antlerless permits. Increase in permits targeting migrating elk on the south end of Cache Valley. Condition of elk on the Henefer-Echo WMA. Late season cow elk hunts in January. Cow moose permit numbers. Antlerless depredation deer hunts versus public draw hunts. Inconsistency in permit increases or decreases from unit to unit. High bull elk mortality on Henefer-Echo. Age of the bull elk that are dying.

#### **Public Ouestions**

None

#### 02:38:39 Electronic/Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor

Ben Nadolski summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

#### **Public Comment**

Kevin Norman, Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife - Supports the Division's recommendations. On a personal note, he'd like to thank the Division for the hunt strategy changes. Hunting elk that come down to lower elevations in the winter has presented some serious safety hazards.

#### 02:40:55 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

Justin Oliver - Think about the number of elk that are on the WMAs.

Brad Buchanan - Seeing comments asking why we are having doe hunts. We're getting more surgical with our hunt strategies. It can be a little frustrating from year to year to see changes all the time, but that is probably one of the better things to do for elk. I like the ability to make changes from year to year.

Justin Oliver - I'm getting a lot of emails regarding the late season hunts. People are asking why we closed shed hunting, but we still have late season hunts. I think those late season hunts did exactly what we were hoping they would do.

The following motion was made by Ryan Brown, seconded by Brad Buchanan and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move we accept Antlerless Permit Recommendations as presented for 2023.

#### 02:44:26 10) 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 02:45:00 Questions from RAC Members/Public

Distance between North Peaks and Avintaquin. Request for variance because of posted land. Public permits. CWMU granted variance not having contiguous ground. Variances come by the recommendations of the biologists. Property size parameters. Opening of CWMU rules. Contiguous versus non-contiguous ground. CWMU giving one extra public permit. CWMU Committee and boundary changes. 90/10 split with permits. CWMU operator requirements to kill cow elk. Guideline on fees a CWMU operator can charge for a cow elk hunt. Unit objectives. Other tools to help with units being over objective. Elk migration and CWMUs being over objective. Cooperation between the Division and CWMUs. Land acreages differences among CWMUs. Parameters put on CWMUs for killing elk. Allowing CWMU operators to choose who harvests cow elk. Division's expectation on who can kill cow elk and when. Time frame when cow elk hunts take place. Mechanism in place to call hunters on an alternate draw list to kill cow elk.

#### **Public Questions**

Travis Hobbs - CWMU permit splits.

#### 03:49:00 Electronic/ Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor

Ben Nadolski summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

#### **Public Comment**

Randy Sessions - Compensation for his crops. Needs to have an incentive program. Elk numbers have increased.

Travis Hobbs - There has to be some rule changes regarding CWMUs. Give them permits if they're over objective. Make the program work for everyone.

#### 03:54:39 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

Matt Klar - No parameters on how to make this decision. We need more guidance on how to make these decisions.

Justin Oliver - I would hate to see it get out of hand and we added another 4,000 acres. It needs to be addressed.

Mike Laughter - It is not taken lightly. The CWMU committee doesn't work that way.

Brad Buchanan - The balance between being consistent. Not always a one size fits all. Still need tweaks to the program to make it more successful.

Justin Oliver - Travis Hobbs has commented about giving someone an opportunity, who has a bull or buck tag, to give a permit or voucher.

Covy Jones, Wildlife Section Chief - I don't know if it happened, but there was probably a point in time where it legally could have happened. It is currently against rule, and there would need to be some modifications. There needs to be tools to address this issue. We can't keep doing the same thing we are doing and expecting different results. There is a lot of give and take between the Division and the CWMUs. If we don't do something, we run the risk of permanently hurting deer. Deer populations always oscillate. We need to look at some modification tools.

Justin Oliver - I really like the idea of a person who has drawn a bull permit also being allowed to have a cow permit. The CWMU operator is trying to provide a good experience for all of them.

Randy Hutchison - The North Peaks CWMU doesn't give me any heartburn. I don't like that big space, but they already qualified for everything. The Avintaquin Canyon CWMU, I don't get it. They didn't qualify for elk to begin with, and now they are asking for a second variance. That doesn't make sense. We have rules for a reason.

Chad Wilson - The second one is a variance. There isn't a rule saying you can't have non-contiguous land. One variance allows them to be an elk CWMU, but the second one -- if they were just a deer CWMU -- then we would grant that without it going against the rule, so to speak.

Randy Hutchison - We have rules and parameters we've set up; that's the only reason this is being considered. It is variance on top of variance. That is my problem.

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Brad Buchanan and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move to accept North Peak CWMU as presented.

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, motion failed due to lack of a second.

MOTION: To deny the Avintaquin Canyon CWMU variance request.

The following motion was made by Brad Buchanan, second from Mike Laughter Motion Passed For: 8 Against: 1 Randy Hutchison - Variance upon variance. Doesn't make sense to run a business that way.

MOTION: I move we approve the variance request for Avintaquin Canyon.

The following motion was made by Brad Buchanan, second from Mike Laughter, motion passes unanimous.

MOTION: Move to accept the recommendations as presented, with a request the division bring back a proposal for more options for CWMUs to harvest more elk.

#### 04:18:24 11) CWMU Rule Amendments

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 04:18:37 Questions from RAC Members/Public

None

04:19:00 Electronic/Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor

Ben Nadolski summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

#### **Public Comment**

Gary Webb, CWMU Association - Agree with the Division's recommendations.

Andrew Blonquist - Buck deer permit allocations, other concerns.

#### 04:20:31 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Kevin McLeod and passed unanimous.

MOTION: I move we accept CWMU Rule Amendments –R657-5 as presented.

### 04:21:14 12) Big Game Rule Amendments-R657-5

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 04:21:34 Questions from RAC Members/Public

None

# 04:21:46 Electronic/Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor Ben Nadolski summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

#### **Public Comment**

None

#### 04:22:16 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

Randy Hutchison - Love the change in big game hunting and having to check the location. It is going to be difficult to enforce. Really appreciate that change.

Matt Klar - Meat salvage a problem to try to solve.

Kevin McLeod - Like to thank Covy Jones and Dave Beveridge. I brought this up a couple of years ago. I really appreciate you getting this through.

The following motion was made by Kevin McLeod, seconded by Ryan Brown and passes unanimous.

\*Emily Jensco was not present for the vote.

MOTION: I move we accept Big Game Rule Amendments – R657-5 as presented.

## 04:25:27 13) Big Game Rule Amendments - Technology Committee Recs.

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 04:26:11 Questions from RAC Members/Public

Illuminated sight pins. Projectiles that have been altered or electronically tracked. Bluetooth knocks. Prohibiting the use of any type of aircraft or drones. Use of radios and cellphones. Use of the word "restricted." Huge misunderstanding on restricted class of weapons and additional seasons. Define electronics. Lighted pins. Cameras on bows. Cameras on shotguns. E-calls. Muzzleloaders and matchlocks. Use of adilaterals. Contacting hunting party by radio or phone to alert them of game. Mission of the Technology Committee. Time table for introduction of new primitive weapon hunts.

#### **Public Questions**

Ross Worthington - Scopes that are bluetooth compatible. If you see someone push an animal out that they're pursing, can the hunting party notify that individual that the animal is gone?

Kyle Maynard - AG office - Tried to harvest, and the animal may be injured and running away.

James Higley - Electronic bow sights, Garmin type sights. I still have to get close. This electronic bow sight is more restrictive. Aid in the recovery.

Cooper Smith - Scientific studies to prove that taking game has increased since electronic sights were introduced.

# 04:56:21 Electronic/Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor Ben Nadolski summarized the public comments received from the online presentation

#### **Public Comment**

Daniel Richins - Use of radios to harvest cow elk. Our harvest is going to go down even more than it is.

Tom Land, Deseret Land CWMU - Technology. Need radios as part of the management tool to harvest more cow elk.

Cooper Smith - Looked over the last 10 years at archery rates across Utah for the general season deer hunts. From 2013 to 2018, the general archery success rate across Utah was 21.69%. When Garmin was introduced in 2018, the success rate actually declined to 19.33%. Don't throw around wide-sweeping laws and regulations that already restrict our already toughest sport and primitive weapon to harvest with just to protect against the unknown.

Kevin Norman, Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife - Supports the Division's proposal. Speaking for myself, I sat on this committee and feel really good about where we landed on everything. We put in a lot of time. Because of the lens we tried to look at everything through, I think we checked all the boxes. At some point, we have to draw the line. Daniel, I know you can still have your radios and all the grandkids can still talk trash and have a good time, but when it's time to hunt, it's time to hunt.

Ross Worthington - Like to thank the committee. It's hard to find a good balance. Technology is going to be a hot button item. There's a social aspect to hunting. Are we making criminals out of good, honest people? More clarification is needed on certain things and more specifics on some of the electronics.

Travis Hobbs - To maintain quality, something has to be given up. Need to limit technology more. Some of these CWMU operators bring up a good point on when we are trying to control cow elk numbers on antlerless harvest. Maybe there should be some exemptions on some of these rules.

#### 05:09:27 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

Ryan Brown - Still hung up on the restricted aspect, but it's the hunter's choice if they want to use a more restrictive weapon system. I feel like making a weapon expressly permitted would limit a guy from using some of these other ones.

Wyatt Buback, Chief of Law Enforcement - The question that was originally posed was restricted muzzleloader, and specifically, the matchlock. If I recall correctly, the matchlock is in the definition of a restricted muzzleloader. The wheel lock is something the committee did not discuss. probably because it's a more antiquated version and would be something we are willing to put into rule to clarify. It would be to limit those types of weapon types. For the ones listed

there, we could certainly add the wheel lock to address that type of restricted primitive weapon.

Randy Hutchison - For enforcement reasons, be practical and put in language saying a more primitive form of muzzleloader.

Wyatt Buback - Having the definition rather than calling out specific types.

Randy Hutchison - Leave the wording the way it is now, but in a more primitive version of muzzleloader where muzzleloader is already defined.

Wyatt Buback - That is something that can be discussed. Hesitate to say yes here, because I'd want to make sure that there isn't something that falls through the cracks that I am not thinking about right off the top of my head.

Randy Hutchison - I would plant a seed and maybe try to think along those lines for when it gets to the board.

Matt Klar - Going back to Daniel Richins comment, would it be fair to make this restriction for antlered game hunts and exempt antlerless hunts? How would that work to help them?

Gabe Patterson, Conservation Officer - That would be kind of messy because right now we are allowing people to hunt. If you have a Fish Lake deer tag and a Fish Lake cow elk tag, and you are inside your cow elk unit, you can harvest your cow during your deer hunt. That could create problems with that.

Justin Oliver - Could you specify it being an over objective unit and the hunt being used as a management tool?

Gabe Patterson - I guess if you are talking about radios and sound being effective at killing animals.

Justin Oliver - There is no doubt.

Gabe Patterson - You can kill cow elk without radios. I'm on the Johnson CWMU a lot. I take a lot of kids hunting that I pack on my back, and we kill elk without radios. This isn't a make or break thing. If we don't allow it, we are still killing cow elk. If we do allow it, we are still killing cow elk.

Ryan Brown - Commented how excited he is. This technology has progressed away from a traditional or primitive type hunt. The prospect of recognizing subsets of those groups of weapons, and the potential use of that as a tool to manage our wildlife in the future, is incredibly exhilarating. It is a win for those who have the modern inline muzzleloaders. They can still hunt with those -- with the exception of this issue of electronics on a compound bow -- they can still hunt

with those weapon systems. Very refreshing, and the prospect of someday having restricted or primitive weapon hunts restored in the state of Utah is wonderful. I appreciate everything the committee has done. I really hope this passes.

Brad Buchanan - The discussion can go so far. What is more ethical? What is more effective in killing animals? I like most of what is in there. What I don't like to see is most of this is pointed towards the take of game until we get to drones and then all of a sudden everybody's illegal. So if it's a hunter, we understand this rule exists. If it's not, people are going to be breaking the rule in ignorance, because they don't even know it exists. I would rather see verbiage in here directed to the take or attempt to take big game if that is what the focus is going to be. Increasing opportunity while protecting quality. We have gotten very effective taking the cream of the crop. But then you flip this over to an antlerless hunt, it's a population control hunt. I'm not sure what quality we are protecting there. It is not the same purpose as what we see in a limited entry hunt. Don't agree with the sentiment of someone having an archery deer permit and elk permit on the same hunt, and it makes it a little bit confusing or ambiguous. That is already there in the law. I'm not opposed to the idea of exempting antlerless hunts from the use of radios. I think we can still try to address it. I feel the purpose of the committee was going towards and trying to protect quality, but that is going to be on an antlered or horned game.

Ryan Brown - I think a precedent to that would be the hunter orange requirement. You would have to wear hunter orange as long as a centerfire rifle hunt is not happening. To Gabe's point about overlap between buck deer and cow elk: if another hunt isn't happening, as long as you are hunting for cow elk, then you can use your two-way radio.

Randy Hutchison - 90% of this is social. I agree there has to be a line drawn in the sand somewhere. I'm not concerned. The point of this is hunting. It is not killing. That is what I am going to fall back on. The only thing that gives me pause is the wounded animal, but I don't know how you get around that. Because every animal has been wounded. If you put that clause in there, it will be used for everything. I think it is not perfect, but I like it, and it has to be established somewhere. To say these technologies aren't being used because they make us more efficient killers is silly. Of course it is. We put scopes on rifles because I can now shoot 800 yards, which I will never do. I wish you guys had gone one step further and changed this ruling on scopes for muzzleloaders. Muzzleloaders now are a 500-yard weapon, and kill rates have gone up. In the definition of the scope, is the definition clear enough that it will not allow a scope with a rangefinder built into it?

Gabe Patterson - To me, it is. Electronics is electronics. If the item is speaking to anything, or if it takes a battery other than an illuminate reticle, it is to find a high quality scope without an illuminate reticle.

Randy Hutchison - That is my concern. Those type of scopes are going to become very common.

Gabe Patterson - They are very common.

Randy Hutchison - I don't know what the definition is on that, but that would be my one concern.

Gabe Patterson - The one thing that might be better on that is the definition of electronics. Electronics has to take a battery and communicates with something other than a scope. That's a law enforcement thing.

Justin Oliver - What if a CWMU that wants to use radios to kill more elk could apply for a COR that allows them to do that? Doing that would prevent radio use from happening all across the board.

Ryan Brown - It could be a variance.

Justin Oliver – It's something that could be monitored for effectiveness. Let's help them out.

Gabe Patterson - Someone mentioned turreted scopes. Every scope is turreted, whether it's exposed or not. That was the problem regulating a turreted scope. You have a BDC reticle. I can do that in my muzzleloader. I can tell you which line is 100, which line is 380. How do you get across that? So with the turreted scope, those are the obstacles we discussed and had to overcome.

Kevin McLeod - I remember the last meeting where we told you to go back to the committee and try to clean things up. I think you have done that. We need to control hunting and make it hunting. I get that we are trying to control cow elk on CWMUs, but I am with you. I've hunted Deseret. The guide they put me with said, 'Kevin, what do you want? Are you after an old cow?' I said I wanted a trophy cow. That is one right next to the road. We killed one right next to the road. I had my two sons in law and my son with me. We all killed elk, and we didn't need radios other than to have someone say, 'We have elk in this canyon.' None of the technology helps the animal. It is making the hunter lazier and hunting easier for the hunter. It is about time we changed that. I think you guys have done a great job. I hope we head that direction.

Brad Buchanan - I think sometimes with the technology discussion, we get wrapped up into how much of an effect each one of these things is having. The truth is, most of them are probably having small effects, but together -- in combination -- is where we see the effect. The flip side of this -- and it all goes back to permit numbers -- at the end of the day, it was the weather that killed more animals this winter than any technology has in the past 20 years. What we are discussing has an effect; each one does to a certain extent. What I hope we

don't have in our minds is if we put restrictions on technology, we've saved the herds. That isn't necessarily going to be the case.

Ryan Brown – They are kind of subsets. We have this part about restricted weapons, and then we have the rest of the proposal, two-way radios and different parts. The restricted weapons don't really have immediate bearing on the other parts.

The following motion was made by Ryan Brown, seconded by Randy Hutchison and passes unanimous.

MOTION: I move we accept the definition of restricted weapons, with the addition of the term match lock as an ignition system to the definition of restricted muzzleloaders.

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Ryan Brown and passes unanimous.

MOTION: I move to include an additional restriction to the definition of scopes to exclude scopes with any built in electronic functionalities besides an illuminated reticle.

The following motion was made by Kevin McLeod, seconded by Randy Hutchison and passed For: 6 Against: 3. Brad Buchanann - Not on board with the way two-way radios were presented. Some of the verbiage about drones could have been written better. Mike Laughter - Bow sights don't increase harvest. Matt Klar - Need to do everything we can to finish off wounded game. Harvesting cow elk on CWMUs. This doesn't allow for that.

MOTION: I move to accept the remained of Big Game Rule Amendments-Technology Committee Recs as presented.

05:40:45 Motion to adjourn: Ryan Brown.

# Central Region RAC Meeting April 13, 2023

| 1. Approval of Agenda                                    | ACTION        |
|--|---------------|
| - Ben Lowder, RAC vice chair                             |               |
| 2. Approval of Minutes                                   | ACTION        |
| - Ben Lowder, RAC vice chair                             |               |
| 3. Wildlife Board Meeting Update                         | INFORMATIONAL |
| - Ben Lowder, RAC vice chair                             |               |
| 4. Regional Update                                       | INFORMATIONAL |
| - Jason Vernon, Regional Supervisor                      |               |
| 5. Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023                  | ACTION        |
| - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator                       |               |
| 6. Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023    | ACTION        |
| - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator                       |               |
| 7. Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023                   | ACTION        |
| - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator                       |               |
| 8. Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023              | ACTION        |
| - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator                       |               |
| 9. Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023            | ACTION        |
| - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator                       |               |
| 10. 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations          | ACTION        |
| - Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator |               |
| 11. 2023 CWMU Rule Change                                | ACTION        |
| - Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator |               |
| 12. Big Game Rule Amendments - R657-5                    | ACTION        |
| <ul> <li>Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator</li> </ul>     |               |
| 13. 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations          | ACTION        |
| - Gabe Patterson, Conservation Officer                   |               |

## Central Region RAC Meeting Summary of Motions

April 13, 2023 Springville, Utah

1) Approval of Agenda

The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Mike Christensen and passes unanimously.

MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.

2) Approval of November 29, 2022 RAC Meeting Minutes

The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Mike Christensen and passes unanimously.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the November 29<sup>th</sup> Central Region RAC meeting as transcribed.

3) Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023

The following motion was made by Josh Lenart, seconded by Eric Reid and passed unanimously.

MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented.

4) Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023

The following motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Braden Sheppard and passed unanimously.

MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented.

5) Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023

The following motion was made by Ken Strong, seconded by Danny Potts and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To add 250 youth bull permits to the recommendation

The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Eric Reid and passed unanimously.

# MOTION: Accept the remainder of the Division's recommendation as presented

6) Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023

The following motion was made by Braden Sheppard, seconded by Ken Strong and passed unanimously.

#### MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented

7) Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023

The following motion was made by Eric Reid, seconded by Ken Strong and passed unanimously.

#### MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented

8) 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations

The following motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Jim Shuler and passed 8 in favor and 1 opposed (Scott).

#### MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented

The following motion was made by Danny Potts, seconded by Scott Jensen and passed unanimously.

# MOTION: To repeal the previous motion and revisit the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations

The following motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Jim Shuler and passed 8 in favor and 1 opposed (Scott).

MOTION: Accept the Division's CWMU antierless permit recommendation as presented

The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Eric Reid and passed 6 in favor and 3 opposed (Scott, Brock, Danny).

# MOTION: Accept the Division's CWMU variance recommendation as presented

9) 2023 CWMU Rule Change

The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Mike Christensen and passed 8 in favor and 1 abstention (Braden).

### MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented

10) Big Game Rule Amendments - R657-5

The following motion was made by Danny Potts and failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented with the exception of the requirement to follow up on a shot

The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Braden Christensen and passed 8 in favor and 1 opposed (Danny).

#### MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented

11) Big Game Rule Amendments - Technology Committee Recommendations

The following motion was made by Brock McMillan, seconded by Eric Reid and passed unanimously.

MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented with an AMENDMENT to the motion to include the removal of cameras on archery tackle

#### **Central Region RAC Meeting**

Attendance April 13, 2023 Springville, Utah

#### **RAC Members**

**Attending** 

Brock McMillan - online

Braden Sheppard

Eric Reid Josh Lenart Ken Strong Danny Potts

Scott Jensen - online

Ben Lowder - Vice chair

Mike Christensen

Jim Shuler

Wildlife Board

Kevin Albrecht

Gary Nielson - online

**DWR Personnel** 

Jason Vernon

Matt Briggs Scott Root

Sydney Lamb

Dax Mangus

Gabe Patterson Mike Christensen

Dale Liechty

Kyle Maynard-online

Greg Baird

Absent

Steve Lund

Luke Decker

AJ Mower

Amos Murphy-excused

Chris Rhea Wes Alexander

Jason Robinson

Chad Wilson

Jason Anderson

Rod Nielson

Josee Seamons

Ashley Green

Total members of the public in attendance: 17

# **Central Region RAC Meeting**

April 13, 2023 Springville, Utah

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ObUUajH1uuA

| 06:01:53 | Vice RAC Chair Ben Lowder called the meeting to order. He called the roll of RAC members and indicated which UDWR personnel were present on the broadcast. He explained the process that there will be no live presentations and public comments will be taken during the meeting.   |
|----------|--|
| 06:06:50 | 1) Approval of Agenda (Action)   |
|          | The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Mike Christensen and passed unanimously.  |
|          | MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.  |
| 06:06:50 | 2) Approval of Minutes (Action)  |
|          | The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Mike Christensen and passed unanimously.  |
|          | MOTION: To approve the November 29, 2022 Central Region RAC minutes as transcribed.  |
| 06:07:33 | 3) Wildlife Board Meeting (Informational)  |
|          | RAC Chair Ben Lowder updated the RAC.  |
| 06:11:15 | 4) DWR Update (Informational) Jason Vernon updated the RAC on all regional activities.   |
| 06:27:20 | 5) Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023  |
|          | A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>  |
| 06:30:00 | RAC Questions  |
|          | RAC members asked questions about survival rates through the winter this year and if that lead to increased and/or decreased recommendations, what the plan is to communicate additional changes after further review, what percent of permits are allocated to non-residents, which portions of the state that are seeing higher die offs, survivability on Wasatch and Manti (why are they combined), minimal permits reductions on Wasatch, buck to doe ration on Oak Creek, and consideration for private land only buck permits in northern region. |
|          | Public Questions   |
|          | None   |

| 00-47-40 | Ouline Bublic Comments   |
|----------|--|
| 06:47:49 | Online Public Comments   |
|          | Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.   |
|          | Public Comments  |
|          | Troy Justensen – SFW – Support Division recommendations with the exception of the Manti, and Oak Creek.  |
|          | Dave Freiss – CWMU Association – Agree with Division recommendations. Have been working with CWMU to limit take. Applaud the Division for feeding deer in northern Utah. Appreciate all the partners within the Division.  |
|          | Lonnie Rasmussen – Youth Hunter's Voice – Wanted to introduce our new group. Our goal is to be a voice for youth hunters. No specific recommendations at this time. Would like to earmark permits in the future for youth. Thank you.  |
| 06:54:34 | RAC Discussion   |
|          | The RAC members discussed winter loss in specific areas, Fillmore Oak Creek unit (increase permit recommendation), additional permit reductions for Wasatch, permit increase on Nebo, providing the most opportunity available, confidence in process and deer data, importance of collar data, and members supportive of the Division will revisiting numbers before the board meeting. |
| 07:12:35 | Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023   |
|          | MOTIONS  |
|          | The following motion was made by Josh Lenart, seconded by Eric Reid and passed unanimously   |
|          | MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented.   |
| 07:15:53 | 6) Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023  |
|          | A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>  |
| 07:16:15 | RAC Questions  |
|          | RAC members asked about winter mortality for mountain goats and moose.   |
|          | Public Questions   |
|          | None   |
| 07:18:37 | Online Public Comments   |
|          | Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.   |
|          |  |
|          |  |

|          | Public Comments   |
|----------|---|
|          | Troy Justensen – SFW – Support Division recommendations as proposed with some concern about sheep on the Dirty Devil unit.  |
| 07:20:50 | RAC Discussion  |
|          | The RAC members discussed the harvest success for bison on the Henry's and permit increase, archery specific OIAL permits and harvest success rates, and separating the Wasatch/Manti moose units.  |
| 07:26:43 | Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023  |
|          | MOTION  |
|          | The following motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Braden Sheppard and passed unanimously.  |
|          | MOTION: To accept the DWR recommendations as presented.   |
| 07:27:41 | 7) Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023  |
|          | A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>   |
| 07:27:51 | RAC Questions   |
|          | RAC members asked questions regarding elk survival rates this winter, were losses seen in similar areas as deer.  |
|          | Public Questions  |
|          | None  |
| 07:32:12 | Online Public Comments  |
|          | Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.  Public Comments   |
|          | Troy Justensen – SFW – Support recommendations as proposed with the exception of the youth early hunt, would like to see that increase from 500 permits to 750 permits. Explanation for archery only OIAL permits, those hunts were meant to be designed to be more difficult with lower success rates. |
| 07:35:00 | RAC Discussion  |
|          | RAC members discussed new elk plan changes reflected in recommendations, using a steady approach to reach objectives, support for SFW youth permit increase, Beaver working group/committee, and briefly mentioned elk winter mortality.  |
| 07:39:21 | Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023   |
|          |   |

|          | MOTIONS   |
|----------|---|
|          | The following motion was made by Ken Strong, seconded by Danny Potts and passed unanimously.  |
|          | MOTION: To add 250 youth bull permits to the recommendation   |
|          | The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Eric Reid and passed unanimously.  |
|          | MOTION: Accept the remainder of the Division's recommendation as presented  |
| 07:40:58 | 8) Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023   |
|          | A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a> |
| 07:41:05 | RAC Questions   |
|          | None  |
|          | Public Questions  |
|          | None  |
| 07:41:16 | Online Public Comments  |
|          | Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.  |
|          | Public Comments   |
|          | Troy Justensen – SFW – Question about disease in pronghorn, is it the same we are seeing in Big Horns? Supports the antelope recommendations as presented.  |
| 07:42:10 | RAC Discussion  |
|          | RAC members discussed possible disease issues in northern Utah in Antelope similar to what Wyoming is seeing and mortality levels on the Myton unit.  |
| 07:45:14 | Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023  |
|          | MOTION  |
|          | The following motion was made by Braden Sheppard, seconded by Ken Strong and passed unanimously.  |
|          | MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented   |
| 07:46:15 | 9) Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023   |
|          | A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a> |
| 07:46:22 | RAC Questions   |

|          | RAC members asked questions about cow moose permit numbers, West Desert and La Sal antlerless elk permit recommendations when under objective, success rates on antlerless elk hunts on the West Desert, the possibility of more HAMS hunts adjacent to urban areas to address wildlife in town, the availability of population information (cow/calf ratios, projected increase), and confidence in current population estimates.  Public Questions  None |
|----------|--|
| 07.50.40 |  |
| 07:58:42 | Online Public Comments   |
|          | Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.  Public Comments  |
|          |  |
|          | Troy Justensen – SFW – Supports Division recommendations.  |
|          | Dan'l Anselmo – Agree with online comments, should not be harvesting antlerless deer, would rather relocate deer.  |
| 08:02:00 | RAC Discussion   |
|          | None   |
| 08:02:13 | Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023   |
|          | The following motion was made by Eric Reid, seconded by Ken Strong and passed unanimously.   |
|          | MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented  |
| 08:02:44 | 10) 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations  |
|          | A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>  |
| 08:03:06 | RAC Questions  |
|          | RAC members asked questions about the process to set permit numbers on CWMUs, if it is a collaborative effort why are there not fluctuations similar to other limited entry units, why not issue more permits even if it pushes elk off CWMUs and give other hunters a chance to hunt them rather than have the elk die off in the winter, why not require CWMUs to manage to objective, and what changes are CWMUs asking for.                            |
|          | Public Questions   |
|          | Ethan Hallows – Is there an estimate of winterkill in areas that are over objective?   |
| 08:11:08 | Online Public Comments   |
|          | Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.   |
|          | Public Comments  |
|          | None   |

| 08:12:22 | RAC Discussion  |
|----------|---|
|          | RAC members discussed specific changes CWMUs are asking for, the possibility of making requirements for antlerless harvest on CWMUs, when will the rule be open for amendments, the need for CWMUs to decide to be partners in managing wildlife on CWMUs and addressing antlerless harvest to work toward meeting objectives, public access to antlerless permits on CWMUs, when the rule is open antlerless harvest needs to be addressed, recent legislation and how that effected CWMUs, can we make CWMUs take more antlerless permits, recognition that some CWMUs do make an effort to harvest antlerless elk, and variance requests from CWMUs. |
| 08:25:09 | 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations   |
|          | MOTION  |
|          | The following motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Jim Shuler and passed 8 in favor and 1 opposed (Scott).  |
|          | MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented   |
|          | The following motion was made by Danny Potts, seconded by Scott Jensen and passed unanimously.  |
|          | MOTION: To repeal the previous motion and revisit the CWMU antierless permit recommendations  |
|          | The following motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Jim Shuler and passed 8 in favor and 1 opposed (Scott).  |
|          | MOTION: Accept the Division's CWMU antlerless permit recommendation as presented  |
|          | The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Eric Reid and passed 6 in favor and 3 opposed (Scott, Brock, Danny).   |
|          | MOTION: Accept the Division's CWMU variance recommendation as presented   |
| 09:09:55 | 11) CWMU Rule Amendments  |
|          | A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>   |
| 09:11:19 | RAC Questions   |
|          | None  |
|          | None  |

|          | Public Questions  |
|----------|---|
|          | None  |
| 09:12:29 | Online Public Comments  |
|          | Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.  |
|          | Public Comments   |
|          | Kevin Albrecht – Really appreciate all the RAC members. We have the best public input process. We do listen to all our input. Thank you.  |
|          | David Freiss – CWMU – We agree with the proposal from the Division.   |
| 09:13:55 | RAC Discussion  |
|          | RAC members commented on how well run the CWMU banquet was.   |
| 09:14:20 | CWMU Rule Amendments  |
|          | MOTION  |
|          | The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Mike Christensen and passed 8 in favor and 1 abstention (Braden).  |
|          | MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented   |
| 09:15:54 | 12) Big Game Rule Amendments R657-5   |
|          | A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>                                 |
| 09:18:39 | RAC Questions   |
|          | RAC members asked questions about tanned hides and if they are included in the rule change, and how will we be able to enforce the rule change requiring hunters to follow up on a shot in the field.   |
|          | Public Questions  |
|          | Dan'l Anselmo – With mandatory harvest reporting can we get an electronic tag put in place?   |
| 09:24:05 | Online Public Comments  |
|          | Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.  |
|          | Public Comments   |
|          | None  |
| 09:25:42 | RAC Discussion  |
|          | RAC members discussed support for changes to rule including the requirement to check after a shot, possibly increasing the fine for not completing harvest survey, not allowing hunters to apply for any species if they don't complete a harvest survey (not |

|          | just the same type of hunts), the retrieval law change, the difficulty of regulating ethics, the increased eyes on the mountain means people will be watching if hunters don't follow up on a shot people will report it, self-policing, hunters watching hunters.  |
|----------|---|
|          | Big Game Rule Amendments R657-5   |
|          | MOTION  |
|          | The following motion was made by Danny Potts and failed for lack of a second.   |
|          | MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented with the exception of the requirement to follow up on a shot  |
| 09:33:27 | The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Braden Christensen and passed 8 in favor and 1 opposed (Danny).  |
|          | MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented   |
| 09:34:08 | 13) Big Game Rule Amendments – Technology Recommendations   |
|          | A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>   |
| 09:35:15 | RAC Questions   |
|          | RAC members asked questions about sight lights on archery sights, restricted muzzleloader definition and a flint lock percussion cap, two-way radios, allowing electronics on a bow but not on other weapon types, exception for camera on a bow, drone regulations, regulation to require visible ignition system, and were members of the committee familiar with muzzleloaders.  |
|          | Public Questions  |
|          | Dan'l Anselmo – Was it discussed that the Garmin sight helps you take more ethical shots? Were the benefits of the Garmin sight considered?   |
|          | Andrew Wike – Is there any data to support the contention that the Garmin sight increases take?   |
|          | Dan'l Anselmo – Was it discussed that technology might be what brings the youth into the sport and keeps it alive? I think that should be considered.   |
| 10:05:36 | Online Public Comments  |
|          | Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.  |
|          | Public Comments   |
|          | Andrew Wike – Have been hunting with the Garmin bow sight since 2018. The proposed changes seem to ban this sight despite the fact that it is currently legal and relatively common use. It combines two legal technologies, a laser rangefinder and multi-pin sight. In the recommendations section three says nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting laser range finding devices or illuminated sight pins for |
|          |   |

archery equipment. In the archery portion the rule says that a bow does not have any electronic device other than illuminated sight pins. The language is confusing and unclear. I paid a premium price for the Garmin sight based on the fact that it is legal and has been legal. The sight allows me to make a more accurate and lethal shot and there is not data to suggest this is leading to unsustainable archery harvest. I have no issue with the Division wanting to get out in front of technology but this sight, as stated, has been on the marked for six year. This is not emerging technology. There is a huge difference between updating rules to address new technology and telling hunters they are no longer allowed to use a piece of gear they have used legally for the last five years. This is fundamentally unfair, and inflicts a substantial financial penalty on those who invested in this technology in an effort to be as accurate and ethical as possible. Thanks.

Dan'l Anselmo – I agree that the purpose behind the Garmin is make an ethical shot. The other language about archery tackle it all seems to ensure ethical hunting, the size of broadhead, the minimum poundage. All those things are trying to make sure that we make an ethical and clean kill when we shoot an animal. This is the next step. New technologies will bring people into the sport. On the comment of more opportunity, generally as a Division we should push people to archery because success rates are so much lower. You still have to get within your effective bow range, draw your bow, and make a shot. If you can't get rid of the torque in a Garmin sight you can't range it effectively. If you range something beyond your effective range the sight will tell you. It limits your range and makes you make a cleaner, more ethical shot. It does aid you in taking an animal because it does range at full draw. But it does make you better. If all the rifle hunters were archery hunters, how many more tags could we give in the state? If we are talking about opportunity we should promote archery, not restrict it. I'm okay with technology restrictions like the radios, I agree with that. Restrictions for technology should be looked at on a specific basis and I would like to see data that supports we are effecting the success rates. It is expensive enough and there is a small enough portion of archers using it and they wounding less deer, I wouldn't be surprised if we actually killed fewer deer overall. If success rates doubled because of this technology I would support limiting. It won't. I've used it for five years. I am in support of keeping that existing technology on our archery tackle. Thank you.

Troy Justensen – Thanks to the committee who tackled this. It was a diverse committee and I appreciate the time and effort they put into it. They had to make some hard decisions. I can see where people are coming from with the Garmin sight, but you could also say an inline muzzleloader helps make a more ethical shot. Somewhere a line has to be drawn. The same could be said about thermals. A lot of people spent a lot of money on thermals and now they are no longer legal. At some point we have to put technology on the back shelf in order to maintain quality and increase opportunity. One thing that was brought up in the northern RAC concerning the radios. A few people like Deseret Land and Livestock felt the radio ban would greatly affect their ability to manage those cow elk. We would recommend possibly a COR or variance specifically for late season cow harvest on some of these CWMUs to help them achieve that cow harvest and get those elk numbers down to objective. We support the recommendations from the Division on the technology. Thank you.

|          | Chavis Lunskog – Extend a genuine expression of gratitude to all the RAC members and volunteers who spend so much time and effort which benefits people like me who are local hunters. What is going on with this technology committee is not just good it is great. It makes me excited about what the future could hold for hunting. Not just now, but future generations. The reason we are all here is because of hunting. It is part of who we are, part of our story, it is sacred. Technology takes away from that. It replaces skills and knowledge. We can argue technology makes killing an animal easier and have less wounding loss. That may sound great but in the end I see that killing hunting. I was to preserve that. It has cultural value to the non-hunting community to preserve something that is important in history to human culture. I am grateful for this. No one likes having things taken away, we are Americans and hunters are the most American Americans. We kick and scream when we hear things are going to get taken away. But there are a lot of hunters out there like me who hear this and are excited. This is a good direction to be going. There are hunters who want to hunt every year and live a hunting lifestyle. This is a huge step forward for the hunting community. |
|----------|--|
| 10:17:32 | RAC Discussion  RAC members discussed range finding sights on bows and rifles and the advantage they provide, not allowing technology that has been legal, the possibility of the Division paying someone for their equipment if it is not legal to use anymore, it is not uncommon to make changes to now allow something that has been legal in the past, public support for not making two way radios illegal, changes are widespread, not one group is targeted with changes, is it necessary to ban cameras on guns, less technology instead of more, clarification needed for range finders on archery in the rule, cameras on rifles and bows, and the possibility of exceptions for people with disabilities.  |
| 10:36:05 | Big Game Rule Amendments – Technology Recommendations  MOTION  The following motion was made by Brock McMillan, seconded by Eric Reid and passed unanimously.  MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented with an AMENDMENT to the motion to include the removal of cameras on archery tackle   |
| 10:37:50 | Meeting Adjourned  |

### **Southern Regional RAC Meeting**

## April 18, 2023 6:00 PM, Cedar City, UT

#### **RAC Members**

<u>Attending</u> <u>Absent</u>

Brayden Richmond
Austin Atkinson
Bart Battista (Virtual)
Craig Laub
Verland King
Chuck Chamberlain
Riley Roberts
Tammy Pearson
Dan Fletcher
Gene Boardman
Chad Utley

#### **Wildlife Board**

Wade Heaton

#### **DWR Personnel**

Kevin Bunnell
Denise Gilgen
Lindy Varney
Kyle Christensen
Jason Nicholes
Danielle Finlayson
Chad Wilson
Adam Kavalunas
Rusty Robinson
Phil Tuttle
Jeremy Butler
lan Montgomery

Alyssa Jackson
Teresa Griffin
Morgan Hinton
Vance Mumford
Mike Wardle
Dax Mangus
Mike Christensen
Derrick Ewell
Covy Jones
Paul Washburn
Jordan Ence

### Public invited to join online: https://youtube.com/live/wt5iaj2CMFk

# **Southern Region RAC Meeting**

April 18, 2022

## Cedar City, Utah

https://youtube.com/live/wt5iaj2CMFk

| 1) RAC Chair Brayden Richmond called the meeting to order. He called the roll of RAC members and indicated which UDWR personnel were present. He explained the process that there will be no live presentations or public comments taken during the meeting.                                       |  |
|--|--|
| 2) Approval Of Agenda and Minutes (Action)   |  |
|  |  |
| RAC Chair Brayden Richmond   |  |
| The following motion was made by Chuck Chamberlain, seconded by Riley  |  |
| Roberts.   |  |
| <b>MOTION:</b> I move that we approved the Agenda and Minutes as presented.  |  |
| Passed unanimously.  |  |
| 3) Wildlife Board Meeting (Informational)  |  |
| RAC Chair Brayden Richmond   |  |
| RAC Chair Brayden Richmond   |  |
| 4) DWR Update (Informational)  |  |
| - Kevin Bunnell, DWR Regional Supervisor updated the RAC on all regional   |  |
| activities.  |  |
| RAC Questions:   |  |
| Verland King: I have a question. What possessed you to put in a parking lot on that side there at Bicknell bottoms? What are you going to do about the flooding on that parking lot you've got there below my place?  Kevin: We received cultural clearance, but we didn't get up to the top where |  |
| cultural clearance might be needed?  |  |
| 5) Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action) - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager  |  |
| Presented his recommendation and answered questions.   |  |
| RAC Questions:   |  |
| <b>Brayden Richmond</b> : Asked for clarification. We have an overwhelming amount of emails to not increase the number of permits. Would our units still be inside of the Mule Deer plan if we did one year or would that put us outside of the plan?  |  |
|  |  |

**Dax Mangus**: Explained we would be outside the parameters of buck to doe ratio. If drought came back it would hurt the productivity, fewer permits available, which means fewer hunting opportunities.

**Austin Atkinson**: Does a higher buck to doe ratio mean a higher overall population?

- Would you say there's a minimum population threshold where the buck to doe ratio does not work?
- Did we mess up the Henry Mountains in your opinion?
- Can you tell me when you collar a fawn? What time of year do you collar them, what age do you call them a fawn?
- Buck to doe ration. Trying to understand how many of those does are pregnant? (90 percent per Dax). You're not going to collar them until December when they're most vulnerable.
- When you say fawn survival, of these 14,000 deer that are having babies, where are they going? We aren't killing more than 1,000 bucks per year, how does this population stay at this level?
- Are the deer disappearing or is our population objectives completely wrong?
- Seasons on Henry Mountains and Book Cliffs were closed for a while.
   Why were these units shut down for buck hunting outside of the fire?
- Is there any data to suggest when you have a really low buck to doe ration meaning you're taking off a lot of buck off the landscape a ylelar. younger buck

**Bart Battista:** When do we finish the population assessment? December, January timeframe?

- We have had a lot of snowfall this year. Since the How does that compare to previous years?
- My question isn't about projecting mortality. Are we seeing more mortality now than we saw last year at this time? Higher than normal survival rate this year than last year in Southern Utah.
- It appears you're basically shifting your decrease in tags in Northern Utah to Southern Utah. Is that financially driven? It does contribute to conspiracy theories.
- Do we have a plan to address hunter dissatisfaction if we are going to increase the amount of hunters in some units this year, specifically in Southern Utah?

**Tammy Pearson**: Is death loss only counted by collared fawns?

- Obviously that's going to be a very thin slice of the population right?
   Can you tell me what the percentage of the population is that you would have collared? And if you have adults and fawns collared?
- Would you be specific to the Beaver unit? What percentage of collared animals and what the death ratios is? Not a firm believer in buck to doe

•

ratio. The landscape is completely opposite of what we had 40 years ago.

What is the survival rate of the 38 collared deer on the Beaver unit?

**Kevin Bunnell**: What adult doe survival and fawn survival where do we need to be to stay level for a year? (60 percent or above per Dax).

**Chuck Chamberlain:** Three year average of 15 bucks per doe on the Beaver unit. What are you seeing that makes you comfortable with an increase in permits?

• What is the doe/fawn survival rate? (79 percent per Mike)

**Mike Wardle:** Good fawn survival. The buck to doe ratio is below objective, but is trending up. Increase is fairly conservative.

#### 07:06:49 Public Questions:

**Curtis Barney:** 39 does on the beaver, that's a .004 percent. Do you tag those deer in different parts of the Beaver or all in one area?

**Steve Monk:** When you have a sample size you have a population size. Do you know what the margin of error is?

#### 07:09:48 | Public Comments:

#### **Kevin Bunnell: Online Comments**

- Strongly agree: 4 (8.3%)
- Somewhat agree: 8 (17%)
- Neither agree nor disagree: 1 (2.1%)
- Somewhat disagree: 3 (6.3%)
- Strongly disagree: 32 (67%)
- Total votes: 48
- Weighted average: [ ( 32 \* 1) + (3 \* 2) + (1 \* 3) + (8 \* 4) + (4 \* 5) ] / 48 = 1.94
- Garth Carter: Only talking about fawn survival after they gone through the vast mortality period. It's not a good indicator of what the fawns are producing. The last 40 years, the deer numbers have dropped. I recommend 4 point or better to protect those valuable does from being accidentally shot. Five years later the Book Cliffs were the most hunter unit in the State. Recommend that on one unit we do something different. Pine Valley 4 point or better, 90 percent then we saved 600 and something yearling bucks that go on the landscape. If your herd isn't increasing with bucks only..... Feels insulted 4 pt or better we would save 400

- **Dusty White:** The beaver unit it is 14.4 or 14.5 somewhere around there, we are under objective, why are we increasing tags? The SWD has a low density of deer and can be difficult to see at any point in time. I don't understand how we can recommend increasing permits. Hopes the wildlife board will not support increasing permits.
- **Garth Jensen:** My issue is consistency. Some units are definitely on the rebound. Would like to see more consistency when we are increasing permits on some units and decreasing on other units based on projected outcome.
- Steve Monk: Supports the Division's recommendation to increase permits. Maybe take a vote on the 4 points or better on the Pine Valley unit to see if it works. We need a higher buck to doe ratio in Southern Utah.
- **Aaron Ward:** New to RAC meetings, but not new to hunting. Believes the new numbers are very far off, it's insulting. He did not see any bucks last year the deer are just not there.
- **Kevin Norman:** Representing SFW. Supports the Division's recommendation with the exception of recommending 8,000 permits on the Manti. Loves the process of the RAC meetings, has seen good things coming from these meeting. Encourage everyone to work with RAC, appreciates their work and efforts.
- **Ben Lowder**: Representing Utah Archery Association. Best data we've had in history. Biologists can recommend proactively rather than reactively.
- Travis Murphy: Represents the CWMU Board and is an Operator in this unit. Wants to make sure the CWMU's are part of the process. Supports the Division's recommendations. CWMU's represent a large piece of the health of our wildlife. Would like to see the deer harvest stay status quo on the buck harvest in that unit.
- Curtis Barney: 50 year hunter on the Beaver unit. Appreciates the Division bringing out the permit recommendations. 3 year average of 15 bucks per 100 does. He'd like to see the ratio at 20. Something on the Beaver unit is not working because the population did not grow, it's dropping. How can we stockpile anything we don't have? Does not want to see an increase in permits on the Beaver unit.
- **Tom Hatch**: Representing himself hasn't seen many deer, feels they are not there. Representing himself. Opposed to increasing deer permits in the Southern Region. Weather, drought, predation,

highways, trail cameras, high performance weapons. He'd like to see a complete closure of a unit – any unit to see what impact it has on increasing numbers. Urges the RAC to consider this recommendation.

- **Tyson Canyon:** Supports the Division's recommendations. Perspective on what kind of bucks you are seeing.
- Steve Carroll: Local sportsman. Division does a great job making decisions with what information they have. Has never seen the Zion unit in such dire conditions. Buck to doe ratio on private lands versus the sands area. Struggles with the recommendation of increasing permits on the Zion unit.

#### 07:41:36 RAC Discussion

- Brayden Richmond: Appreciates comments and concerns from the public. He won't be voting today. He has received a lot of feedback indicating there is not support for increasing permits.
- Gene Boardman: The hunters that don't show up to this meeting are saying that the general season and the antlerless are the new limited entry hunts. The limited entry are once in a lifetime hunts. We are going to implode at this rate. Supports the Division's recommendations. The division historically increases cautiously and decreases drastically. Happy the deer in Southern Utah came through the winter as well as they did. Supports 11 permits for the Oak Creek limited entry unit.
- Austin Atkinson: Doesn't believe the Division's plan is very transparent. We see population and buck to doe ratios. Wants to see more information online.
- We are almost 75 percent that disagree. So how do we break this out?
   Can't sit here and say that he votes for it as a public representative, that's not right.
- Craig Laub: Agrees with Gene a little bit. I feel bad for my grandchildren who don't have the opportunities to hunt that I've had. Like to see something different done.
- Tammy Pearson: I am drawing for a permit as a Landowner as well it doesn't benefit you a lot to be a landowner. She is not seeing the deer. Appreciates the Division and their work, but expects them to listen to the public and to what they are seeing. Cattle on summer range on the Beaver unit June 1 October 15, probably saw 15 deer total. Big burns, beautiful reseeds, but the deer are not there. They

have been replaced by elk and pronghorn. Doesn't support any permit increase in Southern Utah.

- Verland King: Supports what Tammy said. There aren't the deer population. There's a difference between the objective and count – you can't always get an accurate count. We need to do something different. We need to think outside the box, maybe a four point or better. Take a different approach, there just aren't deer out there.
- Riley Roberts: We live in a society now where everything is so
  polarized. Gives a lot of props to the Division, they have a difficult job.
  Based on the feedback he's received, he has a hard time supporting
  the Division's recommendations as is. Appreciates hearing ideas that
  are outside the box. Supports the five permit increase on the Oak
  Creek limited entry unit.
- Thanks and shows appreciation for the division and their hard work.
- Bart Battista: I recommend to not make any increases.

#### 08:07:03

#### **MOTIONS:**

The following motion was made by Austin Atkinson, seconded by Tammy Pearson.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's recommendation for Limited Entry Deer permit as presented.

#### Passed unanimously.

The following motion was made by Austin Atkinson, seconded by Verland King.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's General Season Buck Deer Permit recommendations as presented with the exception of no permit increases on Mt. Dutton Beaver, Fillmore, Southwest Desert and Zion units.

Passed 9-1 (Opposed: Gene Boardman)

The following motion to amend was made by Bart Battista, seconded by Tammy Pearson.

MOTION: I move to amend the motion to include the Pine Valley unit without increased permits.

**Failed 3-7** (Opposed: Austin Atkinson, Verland King, Craig Laub, Chuck Chamberlain, Riley Peck, Gene Boardman, Dan Fletcher)

|          | The following motion to amend was made by Bart Battista, seconded by Chuck Chamberlain.   |
|----------|---|
|          | MOTION: I move that we amend the motion to include the Monroe to the list of units without increased permits.  Fails 5-6 (Opposed: Austin Atkinson, Verland King, Craig Laub, Riley Peck, Gene Boardman)  |
|          | The following motion was made by Austin Atkinson, seconded by Riley Roberts.  |
|          | MOTION: I move that we accept the remainder of the Division's recommendations as presented, but ask the Wildlife Board to instruct the Mule Deer Committee to add an option for the antler restrictions, to have a single deer draw that includes Dedicated Hunter, Limited Entry, and General Season Deer into a single draw and allow the use of restricted weapon seasons on general season units. |
|          | Passed unanimously.   |
| 08:36:38 | 6) Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action) - Rusty Robinson, OIAL Species Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager   |
|          | Presented his recommendation and answered questions.  |
| 05:38:00 | RAC Questions:  |
|          |   |
|          | <b>Tammy Pearson:</b> What kind of head count do you have for sheep on the mineral mountains? What was your death loss that first few months?   |
|          | <b>Austin Atkinson:</b> When we increase the rifle permits, can we not increase the archery? How does archery fit into the plan?  |
|          | <b>Brayden Richmond:</b> Would there be a reason we wouldn't want to do it every other year so we can have two tags so a point holder could get one and one would go random?  |
| 08:44:20 | Public Questions: None.   |
|          |   |
|          |   |
| 08:44:35 | Public Comments: Kevin Bunnell: Online Comments   |
|          | • Strongly agree: 5 (31%)   |
|          |   |

- Somewhat agree: 5 (31%)
- Neither agree nor disagree: 2 (13%)
- Somewhat disagree: 0 (0%)
- Strongly disagree: 4 (25%)
- Total votes: 16
- Weighted average: [ (4 \* 1) + (0 \* 2) + (2 \* 3) + (5 \* 4) + (5 \* 5) ] / 16 = 3 44

**Troy Justensen:** We support the division's recommendations and want to say thanks to the RAC for not cutting my bull tag.

Ben Lowder: We support the recommendation as presented.

#### 08:46:18

#### **RAC Discussion:**

**Brayden Richmond:** I think we need to encourage to have two permits on these Once-In-A-Lifetime's.

**Austin Atkinson:** Does not know how we would set a permit aside where we are already setting permits numbers so much later. This would not work for non-residents as well.

**Tammy Pearson:** Is tickled that the bighorn sheep are doing well and has enjoyed seeing them with my family. Is also glad to see them thriving but it was concerning to see the herd go from 51 to 22 in the matter of a couple months.

**Austin Atkinson:** Has a problem with the fact the expo permits are not accounted for and are deducted from the public draw.

**Verland King:** Thinks it is good to see that the expo permits are coming out of the public draw, even if Austin doesn't like it.

**Craig Laub:** Do we want to add the expo permits to that?

### 09:00:23

#### **MOTIONS:**

The following motion was made by Austin Atkinson, seconded by Tammy Pearson.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's 2023 Once-In-A-Lifetime Permit recommendations as presented, direct the DWR to never recommend less than two (2) resident permits per hunt code for Limited Entry and Once-In-A-Lifetime units, and direct the DWR to look at the timing and sequence when Expo permits are accounted for so that they do not come out of the public draw recommendations.

Passed unanimously.

| 09:04:45 | 7) Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action) - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager  |  |  |  |
|----------|---|--|--|--|
|          | Presented his recommendation and answered questions.  |  |  |  |
| 09:05:09 | RAC Questions:  |  |  |  |
|          | Austin Atkinson: No crowding on that?   |  |  |  |
|          | <b>Tammy Pearson:</b> What is the success rate on the HAMS hunt on the Southwest Desert?  |  |  |  |
| 00.00.45 | Austin Atkinson: Public Questions:  |  |  |  |
| 09:09:15 | Public Questions:   |  |  |  |
|          | <b>Kevin Norman:</b> Can we stand to biologically increase to more youth any bull draw tags?  |  |  |  |
|          | <b>Steven Yardley:</b> Can we please print out packets with past years permit recommendations,  |  |  |  |
|          | Public: Can you put in for youth and any bull?  |  |  |  |
| 00:00:00 | Public Comments:  |  |  |  |
|          | Kevin Bunnell: Online Comments  |  |  |  |
|          | • Strongly agree: 7 (30%)   |  |  |  |
|          | <ul><li>Somewhat agree: 6 (26%)</li><li>Neither agree nor disagree: 0 (0%)</li></ul>  |  |  |  |
|          | • Somewhat disagree: 4 (17%)  |  |  |  |
|          | <ul><li>Strongly disagree: 6 (26%)</li><li>Total votes: 23</li></ul>  |  |  |  |
|          | • Weighted average: [ (6 * 1) + (4 * 2) + (0 * 3) + (6 * 4) + (7 * 5) ] / 23 = 3.17   |  |  |  |
|          | <b>Ben Louder:</b> Representing Utah Archery Association. We are excited and support the recommendations and presented.   |  |  |  |
|          | <b>Cory Rasmussen:</b> Representing youth hunter's voice. We support the recommendations presented but would like to see the number of tags for youth hunters increase substantially.   |  |  |  |
|          | <b>Kevin Norman:</b> Representing SFW. We support the recommendations but we would like to recommend increasing those permits for the youth any bull draw hunt from 500 to 750 permits. |  |  |  |

|          | <b>Steve Monk:</b> Success rates are low and we should slowly increase tags to see what happens.   |  |  |  |
|----------|--|--|--|--|
| 09:15:47 | RAC Comments:  |  |  |  |
|          | Kevin Bunnell: Online Comments   |  |  |  |
|          | <ul> <li>Strongly agree: 7 (30%)</li> <li>Somewhat agree: 6 (26%)</li> <li>Neither agree nor disagree: 0 (0%)</li> <li>Somewhat disagree: 4 (17%)</li> <li>Strongly disagree: 6 (26%)</li> <li>Total votes: 23</li> <li>Weighted average: [ (6 * 1) + (4 * 2) + (0 * 3) + (6 * 4) + (7 * 5) ] / 23 = 3.17</li> </ul> |  |  |  |
|          | Tammy Pearson: Agrees with increasing youth permits.   |  |  |  |
|          | Gene Boardman: Wish there wasn't so much favor in cutting tags.  |  |  |  |
|          | <b>Austin Atkinson:</b> Wants to know if there is a way that the youth any bull draw permits could also be valid as an unlimited youth general permits or if that would be crossing.   |  |  |  |
| 09:18:31 | MOTIONS:   |  |  |  |
|          | The following motion was made by Austin Atkinson, seconded by Tammy Pearson.   |  |  |  |
|          | MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's recommendations for Bull Elk Permits for 2023 as presented, but add 250 permits to the Youth Any Bull hunt.   |  |  |  |
|          | Passes 9-1 (Opposed: Gene Boardman)  |  |  |  |
| 09:20:17 | 8) Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action) - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager  |  |  |  |
|          | Presented his recommendation and answered questions.   |  |  |  |
| 09:21:04 | RAC Questions: None.   |  |  |  |
| 09:21:06 | Public Questions:  |  |  |  |
|          | <b>Public:</b> On the Plateau Unit, I was under the impression that it was to push the antelope back onto the Plateau, was that a success?   |  |  |  |
|          | Gib Yardley:   |  |  |  |

| 09:23:17 | Public Comments:  |
|----------|---|
| 00.20.17 | Kevin Bunnell: Online Comments  |
|          | • Strongly agree: 5 (50%)   |
|          | • Somewhat agree: 1 (10%)   |
|          | Neither agree nor disagree: 2 (20%)  Somewhat disagrees 0 (0%)  |
|          | <ul><li>Somewhat disagree: 0 (0%)</li><li>Strongly disagree: 2 (20%)</li></ul>  |
|          | • Total votes: 10   |
|          | • Weighted average: [ (2 * 1) + (0 * 2) + (2 * 3) + (1 * 4) + (5 * 5) ] / 10 = 3.7  |
|          | <b>Gib Yardley:</b> Thinks we need to harvest more pronghorn because we have too many.  |
|          | Steve Yardley: Agrees with Gib. Elk and pronghorn compete and the   |
|          | pronghorn population has exploded. If we want to increase the deer population we need to decrease the pronghorn and elk population. |
|          | population we need to decrease the prolighorn and elk population.   |
|          | <b>Kevin Norman:</b> Representing SFW, we support the recommendations and the antierless recommendations as well.                   |
| 09:29:05 | RAC Discussion: None.   |
|          |   |
|          |   |
| 09:29:15 | MOTIONS: The following motion was made by Gene Boardman, seconded by Tammy  |
|          | Pearson.  |
|          | MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's 2023 Antelope Permit   |
|          | recommendations as presented.   |
|          | Passes unanimously.   |
| 09:29:36 | 9) Antierless Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action) - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager             |
|          | Presented his recommendation and answered questions.  |
| L        | ı · · ·   |

| 09:29:46 | RAC Questions: None.   |
|----------|--|
|          |  |
| 09:29:54 | Public Questions:  |
| 09.29.54 | Tubile Questions.  |
|          | <b>Steve Yardley:</b> What was the old population objective for 2020 vs. now? Specifically for Southwest Desert, Beaver and Panguitch. When did the objective last changed? Where the drastic change occurred for the objective over the years? Why not issue more tags when the numbers are sitting pretty constant and elk don't winter kill or die off? |
| 09:36:00 | Public Comments:<br>Kevin Bunnell: Online Comments   |
|          | <ul> <li>Strongly agree: 7 (33%)</li> <li>Somewhat agree: 5 (24%)</li> <li>Neither agree nor disagree: 0 (0%)</li> <li>Somewhat disagree: 2 (9.5%)</li> <li>Strongly disagree: 7 (33%)</li> <li>Total votes: 21</li> </ul>   |
|          | • Weighted average: [ (7 * 1) + (2 * 2) + (0 * 3) + (5 * 4) + (7 * 5) ] / 21 = 3.14  |
|          | <b>Steven Yardley:</b> Mule deer populations are suffering so there needs to be a way to reduce elk populations specifically during drought years or extremities to protect their energy source.   |
|          | <b>Gib Yardley:</b> Really wants the division to publicize these permit number recommendations on paper and recommends they take 200 antlerless permits off the Southwest Desert and 400 cows off the Panguitch Lake unit.   |
|          | <b>Ben Lowder:</b> Representing Utah Archery Association. Supports the recommendations as presented. On a personal note, there's a big love for elk hunting and thinks it is fantastic to give opportunity.  |
| 09:43:07 | RAC Discussion:  |
|          | <b>Gene Boardman:</b> Nothing has been said about hunting for sport and making opportunity for the public. Lately we have cut back on that. We need to have more opportunity on the elk for the public.  |
| 09:44:40 | MOTIONS: The following motion was made by Chuck Chamberlain, seconded by Riley Atkinson.   |
|          | MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's 2023 Antlerless Permit recommendations as presented.  |

|          | Passes 9-1 (Opposed: Gene Boardman)   |
|----------|---|
| 09:45:30 | 10) Big Game Rule Amendments –R657-5 (Action) - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager  |
|          | Presented his recommendation and answered questions.  |
| 09:45:36 | RAC Questions:  |
|          | <b>Gene Boardman:</b> What percent of hunters do you think could find tenderloins unless it was labeled in the meat market?   |
|          | <b>Austin Atkinson:</b> Meat salvage, it's so different across every state. Is this something that's even discussed or is it just whatever your state wants to do? Do we have a definition for "area" when it comes to locating a big game animal after shooting at it?       |
|          | <ul> <li>Tammy Pearson: How are you going to regulate this?</li> <li>Response by Paul Washburn: We do rely on the public to turn people in because we can't be everywhere at once and we hope our officer's will make great decisions when it comes to this issue.</li> </ul> |
| 09:50:58 | Public Questions: None.   |
| 09:50:04 | Public Comments:<br>Kevin Bunnell: Online Comments  |
|          | <ul> <li>Strongly agree: 1 (14%)</li> <li>Somewhat agree: 1 (14%)</li> <li>Neither agree nor disagree: 3 (43%)</li> <li>Somewhat disagree: 0 (0%)</li> </ul>  |
|          | <ul> <li>Strongly disagree: 2 (29%)</li> <li>Total votes: 7</li> <li>Weighted average: [ (2 * 1) + (0 * 2) + (3 * 3) + (1 * 4) + (1 * 5) ] / 7 = 2.86</li> </ul>  |
| 09:52:38 | RAC Discussion:   |
|          | Austin Atkinson: I want harvest reporting on general season deer hunts, we've been told it is coming so let's do it.  |
|          | Chuck Chamberlain: Most of the laws we have in this whole entire country is based on compliance of the 90% that are going to be good and if we say we're  |

|          | not going to do it because the other 10% of those bad apples aren't going to do it, then we can throw most of the laws out of this country. So, I think it's worth doing. |
|----------|---|
|          | <b>Gene Boardman:</b> I think it's an ethic that everyone should follow but I am not big on more regulation.  |
|          | <b>Verland King:</b> I am with Gene. I don't see why we need another law to enforce when you learn these things in hunter education. I don't like another regulation.     |
| 09:54:44 | MÖTIONS:  |
|          | The following motion was made by Austin Atkinson, seconded by Riley Roberts.  |
|          | MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's 2023 Big Game Rule Amendments R657-5 and presented.  |
|          | Passed 6-4. (Opposed: Craig Laub, Verland King, Gene Boardman, and Tammy Pearson)   |
| 09:55:34 | 11) Big Game Rule Amendments – Technology Committee Recommendations (Action) - Derrick Ewell, Wildlife Biologist (Presented by Gabe Patterson)                            |
|          | Presented his recommendation and answered questions.  |
| 09:56:40 | RAC Questions:  |
|          | <b>Craig Laub:</b> Wants clarification on the restricted weapons. Is there any hunts that we use that on right now?   |
|          | <b>Brayden Richmond:</b> Have we gone back to see if we can clarify the name of the muzzleloader described, given it no longer exists?                                    |
| 09:58:42 | Public Questions:   |
|          | <b>Tyson Cannon:</b> Is there a reason scopes on muzzleloaders was not addressed on the technology?   |
|          | Public: What is the recommendation on scopes?   |
| 10:01:29 | Public Comments: Kevin Bunnell: Online Comments   |
|          | <ul><li>Strongly agree: 3 (75%)</li><li>Somewhat agree: 0 (0%)</li></ul>  |

- Neither agree nor disagree: 1 (25%)
- Somewhat disagree: 0 (0%)
- Strongly disagree: 0 (0%)
- Total votes: 4
- Weighted average: [ (0 \* 1) + (0 \* 2) + (1 \* 3) + (0 \* 4) + (3 \* 5) ] / 4 = 4.5

**Ben Louder:** Representing Utah Archery Association. The wording is "Flintlock percussion cap". Is in support of the recommendation as presented and stay neutral on the definition.

**Kevin Norman:** Representing SFW. In support of the recommendations presented and think we have gone far enough on technology. It was fun to be a part of this committee and see that everyone was on the same page on these items.

**Doyle Moss:** It is not anyone's job to police the public, the conservation officer's do. Our conservation officer's need to be paid more for what they do. These meetings are frustrating. People need to realize limited entry has now become once-in-a-lifetime. If you want more animals killed in the state, issue less permits.

**Jim McConnell:** Wants to encourage the RAC's and the board to set up areas where primitive hunts can be administered, prime example, the bumble bee area (Pine Valley).

**Steve Stout:** Thinks this is going to be the most incredible tool for the wildlife to put some sanity back into this and to be able to have everybody be able to get out and hunt. It will help restore our hunting heritage. Wishes to see an additional season specifically for restricted hunts.

**Tyson Cannon:** Thinks we missed the boat on scopes on muzzleloaders.

**Dustin:** Not in agreeance with more regulations and rules. Doesn't believe it is reasonable to create regulations that we don't have the capacity nor are able to enforce.

Steve Monk: Radios and phones are unfair, so is GPS collars on dogs.

#### 10:18:35

### **RAC Discussion**

**Brayden Richmond:** I ask the board to consider the fact that it needs to be interpretable. Needs to be very clear what is being enforced.

**Tammy Pearson:** I love the idea of the primitive hunts. Has a hard time with the recommendations on this and sees this being impossible to enforce. In support of part of it but not all of it.

**Craig Laub:** Muzzleloaders on scopes has gotten out of hand and has basically become a rifle. It is diminishing opportunity. I agree that radio's and phones are not enforceable.

**Austin Atkinson:** Being on this committee you have to look at everything objectively. Doesn't like more regulations but it comes down to the guy who can only afford to go hunt once a year compared to the guy that hunts all the time. He has the same right as anyone else and will preserve some of those trophy animals.

#### 10:28:54

#### **MOTIONS:**

The following motion was made by Riley Roberts, seconded by Bart Battista.

MOTION: I move that we pass the Division's Technology Committees recommendations as presented.

**Fails 4-6.** (Opposed: Craig Laub, Verland King, Chuck Chamberlain, Tammy Pearson, Dan Fletcher and Gene Boardman)

The following motion was made by Bart Battista, seconded by Chuck Chamberlain.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's Technology Committee recommendations with the exception of the two-way radio communications.

**Fails 3-7** (Opposed: Austin Atkinson, Craig Laub, Verland King, Riley Roberts, Tammy Pearson, Chad Utley and Gene Boardman)

The following motion was made by Verland King, seconded by Gene Boardman.

MOTION: I move that we reject the Division's Technology Committee Recommendations as presented.

**Fails 3-7** (Opposed: Austin Atkinson, Chuck Chamberlain, Riley Roberts, Tammy Pearson, Dan Fletcher, Bart Battista and Chad Utley)

The following motion was made by Bart Battista, seconded by Chad Utley.

MOTION: I move that we approve the restricted weapons definition as presented in the memorandum.

Passes 8-2 (Opposed: Verland King and Craig Laub)

The following motion was made by Bart Battista, seconded by Chad Utley.

|          | MOTION: I move that we approve the HAMS weapons definition by weapon type as presented in the memorandum. Passes unanimously.  |
|----------|--|
|          | The following motion was made by Bart Battista, seconded by Chuck Chamberlain.   |
|          | MOTION: I move that we approve the remainder of the proposal with the exception of the restrictions on two-way communication.  |
|          | Passes 6-5 (Opposed: Chad Utley, Riley Roberts)  |
| 10:41:15 | 12) 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations (Action) - Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator  |
|          | Presented his recommendation and answered questions.   |
| 10:41:23 | RAC Questions:   |
|          | <b>Austin Atkinson:</b> Up north, is over-objective. We can't kill elk on all those northern unit Is that a CWMU problem or just a private land that have elk, not in the CWMU, issue generally?   |
|          | <b>Brayden Richmond:</b> The following motion was made by Bart Battista , seconded by .  |
| 10:42:23 | Public Questions: None.  |
| 10:42:23 | Public Comments: Kevin Bunnell: Online Comments  |
|          | <ul> <li>Strongly agree: 9 (69%)</li> <li>Somewhat agree: 4 (31%)</li> <li>Neither agree nor disagree: 0 (0%)</li> <li>Somewhat disagree: 0 (0%)</li> <li>Strongly disagree: 0 (0%)</li> <li>Total votes: 13</li> <li>Weighted average: [ (0 * 1) + (0 * 2) + (0 * 3) + (4 * 4) + (9 * 5) ] / 13 = 4.69</li> </ul> |
|          | None.  |
| 10:42:23 | RAC Discussion: None.  |
|          |  |

| 10:42:50 | MOTIONS: The following motion was made by Gene Boardman, seconded by Craig Laub.   |
|----------|--|
|          | MOTION: I move that we approve the antierless permit recommendations as proposed.  Passes unanimous.   |
| 10:43:05 | 13) CWMU Rule Amendments - Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator  (Action)  |
|          | Presented his recommendation and answered questions.   |
| 10:44:02 | RAC Questions:   |
|          | <b>Brayden Richmond:</b> Wasn't there a problem with a piece they traded for the public land included in the allotment?  |
| 10:44:47 | Public Questions: None.  |
| 10:44:50 | Public Comments: Kevin Bunnell: Online Comments  |
|          | <ul> <li>Strongly agree: 6 (18%)</li> <li>Somewhat agree: 7 (21%)</li> <li>Neither agree nor disagree: 2 (5.9%)</li> <li>Somewhat disagree: 4 (12%)</li> <li>Strongly disagree: 15 (44%)</li> <li>Total votes: 34</li> <li>Weighted average: [ (15 * 1) + (4 * 2) + (2 * 3) + (7 * 4) + (6 * 5) ] / 34 = 2.56</li> </ul> |
|          | None.  |
| 10:44:55 | RAC Discussion:  |
| 10:44:57 | MOTIONS: The following motion was made by Craig Laub, seconded by Tammy Pearson.   |
|          | MOTION: I move that we accept the recommendations as presented.  Passes unanimously.   |

| 10:45:19 | Meeting adjourned. |
|----------|--------------------|
|          |                    |
|          |                    |
|          |                    |

#### RAC AGENDA April 19, 2023

The meeting was streamed live at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMdzifc0dsg&t=11176s

Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure 1. - RAC Chair 2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes ACTION - RAC Chair INFORMATIONAL 3. Wildlife Board Meeting Update - RAC Chair INFORMATIONAL 4. Regional Update - DWR Regional Supervisor 5. Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023 ACTION - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023 **ACTION** 6. - Rusty Robinson, OIAL Species Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager 7. Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023 ACTION - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 ACTION 8. - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager 9. Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023 ACTION - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager 10. 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations **ACTION** - Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator 11. Big Game Rule Amendments-R657-5 ACTION - Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator and Regional Wildlife Manager Big Game Rule Amendments-Technology Committee Recs. ACTION - Derrick Ewell, Wildlife Biologist

#### **Meeting Locations**

NR RAC – April 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM Weber County Commission Chambers 2380 Washington Blvd. Suite #240, Ogden https://youtube.com/live/b7qk6-c1p4s

CR RAC – Thursday, April 13th 6:00 PM Wildlife Resources Conference Room 1115. N. Main Street, Springville <a href="https://youtube.com/live/ObUUajH1uuA">https://youtube.com/live/ObUUajH1uuA</a>

SR RAC – April 18th 6:00 PM Location TBD https://youtube.com/live/wt5iaj2CMFk SER RAC – April 19th 6:30 PM John Wesley Powell Museum 1765 E. Main St., Green River https://youtube.com/live/TMdzifc0dsg

NER RAC- April 20<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM Wildlife Resources NER Office 318 N. Vernal Ave., Vernal https://youtube.com/live/4vmEyNiLbN0

**Board Meeting-** May 4<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM Eccles Wildlife Education Center, Farmington Bay <a href="https://youtube.com/live/pp7z8bodnWw">https://youtube.com/live/pp7z8bodnWw</a>

# Southeastern Regional Advisory Council Meeting April 19, 2023 Summary of Motions

1) Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Charles Fischer and passed 6-4.

MOTION: I move to accept SFW's buck deer recommendation as it pertains to the Oak Creeks and the Central Mountains Manti units.

The following motion was made by Dana Truman, seconded by Sunshine Brosi and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept the remaining buck deer recommendations as presented by the Division.

2) Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Darren Olsen and passed unanimous.

MOTION: To have the Board ask the Division to work with the tribe and look at opportunities and strategies to control the bison population in the Book Cliffs, specifically the Little Creek South unit.

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Lynn Sitterud and passed 8-2.

MOTION: To add one more permit to the Henry Mountain archery bison hunt.

The following motion was made by Scoot Flannery, seconded by Charles Fischer and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To approve the remainder of the Division's proposal as presented.

3) Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Lynn Sitterud and passed 9-1.

**MOTION:** To implement mandatory tooth return on Limited Entry bull elk hunts.

The following motion was made by Scoot Flannery, seconded by Kirk Player, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept SFW's proposal that increases the any bull youth elk draw permits from 500 to 750.

The following motion was made by Charles Fischer, seconded by Darren Olsen, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept the remainder of the Division's proposal as presented.

4) Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

The following motion was made by Dana Truman, seconded by Eric Luke and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move we accept Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 as presented.

5) Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

The following motion was made by Charles Fischer, seconded by Steve Duke and passed unanimously

MOTION: I move we accept Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023 as presented.

6) 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations (Action)

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Darren Olsen and passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ask the Wildlife Board to give the Division direction to revisit the CWMU rule, clean it up, and look for opportunities to increase public hunting opportunities for all species.

The following motion was made by Steve Duke, seconded by Scoot Flannery and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To request that the Division accept the proposal by Summit Point CWMU which grants 6 cow elk permits (3 public, 3 private)

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Charles Fischer and passed unanimously

MOTION: To accept the remainder of the Division's recommendations as presented.

7) CWMU Rule Amendments (Action)

The following motion was made by Dana Truman, seconded by Charles Fischer and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move we approve CWMU Rule Amendments as presented.

8) Big Game Rule Amendments-R657-5 (Action)

The following motion was made by Dana Truman, seconded by Eric Luke and passed 8-1.

MOTION: I move we accept Big Game Rule Amendments-R657-5 as presented.

9) Big Game Rule Amendments- Technology Committee Recs. (Action)

The following motion was made by Scoot Flannery but failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: I move that we removed 2-way communications from the restricted technology list.

The following motion was made by Charles Fischer, seconded by Eric Luke and passed 8-1

MOTION: I move to accept the technology committee recommendations as presented.

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Charles Fischer and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we ask the Wildlife Board to have the Division spread out the agenda items to other meetings.

# Southeastern Regional Advisory Council Meeting

April 19, 2023 Attendance

#### **RAC Members**

Kent Johnson – Chair Scoot Flannery – Vice-Chair Chris Wood – Exec Secretary Eric Luke
Dana Truman
Darren Olsen
Joe Sacco
Charles Fischer

Sunshine Brosi Lynn Sitterud Steve Duke Kirk Player

**Board Member** Kevin Albrecht

RAC Excused Brad Richman

## **Division Personnel**

Aiden Hueton Jim Christensen Dax Mangus Gabe Patterson Brad Crompton JD Abbott Mike Christensen
Guy Wallace
Wade Paskett
Joseph Christensen
Dustin Mitchell
Walt Maldanado
Makeda Hansen
Ashley Green
Rusty Robinson

Lindy Varney
Chad Wilson

# **Regional Advisory County Meeting**

April 19, 2023 Attendance

| 00:00:04 | 1) Chairman Kent Johnson called the meeting to order, welcomed the audience and reviewed the meeting procedures.   |
|----------|--|
| 00:03:09 | 3) Update from past Wildlife Board Meeting by Kent Johnson   |
| 00:05:33 | 4) Regional Update – Chris Wood, Regional Supervisor (Informational)   |
|          | Chris Wood updated the RAC on all regional activities.   |
| 00:09:22 | 5) Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)   |
|          | Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a> |
| 00:12:10 | Questions from RAC Members/Public  |
|          |  |
| 00:21:44 | Electronic Comment Report/ Public Comment  |
|          | Chris Wood summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.   |
|          | Comments from the public   |
| 00:27:27 | RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions  |
|          | The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Charles Fischer and passed   |

MOTION: I move to accept SFW's buck deer recommendation as it pertains to the Oak Creeks and the Central Mountains Manti units.

The following motion was made by Dana Truman, seconded by Sunshine Brosi and passed unanimously

6-4.

MOTION: To accept the remaining buck deer recommendations as presented by the Division.

#### **6) Once-in-a Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023**(Action)

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 00:45:53 Questions from RAC Members/Public

#### 00:53:24 Electronic Comment Report/ Public Comment

Chris Wood summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

Comments from the public

#### 00:56:46 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Darren Olsen and passed unanimous.

MOTION: To have the Board ask the Division to work with the tribe and look at opportunities and strategies to control the bison population in the Book Cliffs, specifically the Little Creek South unit.

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Lynn Sitterud and passed 8-2.

MOTION: To add one more permit to the Henry Mountain archery bison hunt.

The following motion was made by Scoot Flannery, seconded by Charles Fischer and passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** To approve the remainder of the Division's proposal as presented.

# 01:17:23 7) Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

## 01:18:33 Questions from RAC Members/Public

## 01:21:42 Electronic/ Public Comment Report

Chris Wood summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

Comments from the public

#### 01:50:50 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Lynn Sitterud and passed 9-1.

**MOTION:** To implement mandatory tooth return on Limited Entry bull elk hunts.

The following motion was made by Scoot Flannery, seconded by Kirk Player, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept SFW's proposal that increases the any bull youth elk draw permits from 500 to 750.

The following motion was made by Charles Fischer, seconded by Darren Olsen, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept the remainder of the Division's proposal as presented.

# 01:55:15 8) Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 01:57:29 Questions from RAC Members/Public

# **Public Questions**

None

#### 02:01:10 Electronic/ Public Comment Report by Chris Wood, Regional Supervisor

Chris Wood summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

### Comments from the public

#### 02:02:05 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

The following motion was made by Dana Truman, seconded by Eric Luke and passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** I move we accept Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023 as presented

#### **9) Antierless Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)**

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 02:20:32 Questions from RAC Members/Public

#### 02:48:02 Electronic/Public Comment Report

Chris Wood summarized the public comments received from the online presentation. Public comments

#### 03:05:10 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

The following motion was made by Charles Fischer, seconded by Steve Duke and passed unanimously

**MOTION:** I move we accept Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023 as presented.

#### 03:07:25 10) 2023 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

### 03:08:16 Questions from RAC Members/Public

#### 03:11:04 Electronic/ Public Comment

Chris Wood summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

**Public Comment** 

#### 03:21:38 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Darren Olsen and passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ask the Wildlife Board to give the Division direction to revisit the CWMU rule, clean it up, and look for opportunities to increase public hunting opportunities for all species.

The following motion was made by Steve Duke, seconded by Scoot Flannery and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To request that the Division accept the proposal by Summit Point CWMU which grants 6 cow elk permits (3 public, 3 private)

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Charles Fischer and passed unanimously

MOTION: To accept the remainder of the Division's recommendations as presented.

## 03:35:20 11) CWMU Rule Amendments

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 03:36:37 Questions from RAC Members/Public

None

#### 03:37:00 Electronic Comment Report/Public Comment

Chris Wood summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

No Public Comment

#### 03:37:39 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

The following motion was made by Dana Truman, seconded by Charles Fischer and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move we approve CWMU Rule Amendments as presented.

## 03:39:26 12) Big Game Rule Amendments-R657-5

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 03:40:40 Questions from RAC Members/Public

None

## 03:40:58 Electronic Comment Report/Public Comment

Chris Wood summarized the public comments received from the online presentation.

Public Comment- none

#### 03:41:28 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

The following motion was made by Dana Truman, seconded by Eric Luke and passed 8-1.

MOTION: I move we accept Big Game Rule Amendments-R657-5 as presented.

# 03:50:34 13) Big Game Rule Amendments - Technology Committee Recs.

Presentations could be viewed at <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a>

#### 03:54:48 Ouestions from RAC Members/Public

#### 04:18:36 Electronic Comment Report/Public Comment

Chris Wood summarized the public comments received from the online

presentation

Public comment

#### 04:23:24 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions

The following motion was made by Scoot Flannery but failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: I move that we removed 2-way communications from the restricted technology list.

The following motion was made by Charles Fischer, seconded by Eric Luke and passed 8-1

MOTION: I move to accept the technology committee recommendations as presented.

The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Charles Fischer and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we ask the Wildlife Board to have the Division spread out the agenda items to other meetings.

**04:38:52** The following motion was made by Eric Luke, seconded by Charles Fischer and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we ask the Wildlife Board to have the Division spread out the agenda items to other meetings.

#### 04:41:39 Meeting adjourns

# **Northeastern Region RAC Meeting**

April 20, 2023

#### **RAC Members**

**Attending** Absent

Dusty Carpenter
Bob Christensen
Malarik Harrison
Eric Major
Brad Horrocks
Rebekah Jones
Brett Prevedel-chair
Joe Arnold-remote
Daniel Davis
Jeff Taniguchi

**Ute Tribe Present** 

Ritchie Anderson

Wildlife Board Members Present Randy Dearth

#### **DWR Personnel Present**

Miles Hanberg
Torrey Christophersen
Tonya Selby
Dallon Christensen
Dax Mangus
Bryan Clyde
Pat Rainbolt
Jake Greenwood
Rusty Robinson
Anthony Christianson
Randall Thacker
Matt Fackrell

Rose Fedelleck-Remote

# **Northeast Region RAC Meeting**

April 20, 2023 Vernal, Utah Summary of Motions

# **Approval of Agenda**

The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks, seconded by Malarik Harrison, and passed unanimously:

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda as presented.

# **Approval of Minutes**

The following motion was made by Daniel Davis, seconded by Jeff Taniguchi, and passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda as presented.

# **Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023**

The following motion was made by Daniel Davis, seconded by Jeff Taniguchi, and passed 10-1

MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division.

# **Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2023**

The following motion was made by Jeff Taniguchi seconded by Eric Major and passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** To accept as presented by the Division.

# **Elk Permit Recommendations for 2023**

The following motion was made by Daniel Davis and seconded by Eric Major and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division with the exception to increase Youth Limited Entry Elk hunt permits from 500 to 750.

# **Antelope Permit Recommendations for 2023**

The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks and seconded by Malarik Harrison

Northeastern Region RAC Meeting April 20, 2023

And passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division.

**Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023** 

The following motion was made by Daniel Davis and seconded by Bob Christensen And passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** To accept as presented by the Division.

**CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2023** 

The following motion was made by Rebekah Jones and seconded by Brad Horrocks

And passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division.

**CWMU Rule Amendments** 

The following motion was made by Malarik Harrison and seconded by Jeff Taniguchi

And passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division.

**Big Game Rule Amendments R657-5** 

The following motion was made by Eric Major and seconded by Daniel Davis

And passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division.

Big Game Rule Amendments-Technology Committee Recs.

The following motion was made by Ritchie Andersen and seconded by Brad Horrocks.

2

# MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division with the exception of the 2 Way Radio and Cell Phone to be removed.

The following amended motion was made by Daniel Davis and seconded by Malarik Harrison

And failed 3-7.

Motion amendment to include clarifiers on Archery Tackle and to restrict to single power magnification on all muzzleloader hunts when scopes are allowed.

The following amended motion was made by Eric Major and seconded by Daniel Davis And passed with a tiebreaker by Chairman 6-5.

## Motion amendment to include clarifiers on Archery Tackle.

The following motion was made by Ritchie Andersen and seconded by Brad Horrocks. And passes unanimously.

# MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division with the exception of the 2 Way Radio and Cell Phone to be removed.

The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks and seconded by Eric Major And passed unanimously.

#### Motion to Adjourn.

| 06:35:00 | RAC Chair Brett Prevedel called the meeting to order. He called the roll of RAC members and indicated which UDWR personnel was present. He explained the process that there will be no live presentations. Public comments are .to be kept at 3 min Introduced new RAC Members. Welcomed public. |
|----------|--|
| 06:36:56 | 1) Approval of Agenda (Action)   |
|          | The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks, seconded by Malarik Harrison, and passed unanimously.  |
|          | MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.  |
| 6:34:34  | 2) Approval of Minutes (Action)  |
|          | The following motion was made by Daniel Davis, seconded by Jeff Taniguchi, and passed unanimously.   |
|          | MOTION: To approve the Minutes as presented.   |

| 6:35:02  | 3) Wildlife Board Meeting Update (Informational)   |
|----------|--|
| 0.03.02  | Daniel Davis updated the RAC.  |
| 6:39:01  | 4) DWR Regional update (Informational)   |
|          | Miles Hanberg updated the RAC on all regional activities.  |
| 6:47:00  | RAC comments about Mountain Lions  |
| 6:53:09  | 5) Deer Permit Recommendations for 2023 (Action)   |
|          | Presented by Dax Mangus  |
| 6:57:04  | RAC Questions & comments   |
|          | How does highway mortality fit in?   |
|          | Dax Mangus and Randall Thacker elaborate   |
| 7:01:00  | <b>Public comments:</b> Tyrell Abbeglen- How do you manage Deer population objectives? Glad for the cut in permits   |
| 7:04:01  | Miles Hanberg read Online Public Comment   |
|          | Concern about harsh winter conditions and reduce permits. Except for the Zion unit that should increase.             |
| 7: 09:01 | Public comments:   |
|          | Travis Adams-CWMU Association Board Member:  |
|          | Mindful of loss of herd, we agree with proposals by DWR,   |
|          | Tanner Carlson-SFW: Would like to see an increase of tags on Fillmore Oak Creek and Manti units.                     |
| 07:10:23 | RAC Discussion & Questions Fawn's survival concerns. Would like to see cutbacks on Permits on the whole South Slope. |
|          | .Jeff Taniguchi-More surveys to come?  |
|          | Comfortable with recommendations Shed Antler gathering issues  |
|          |  |
| 07:24:55 | <b>5)</b> The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks, seconded by Jeff Taniguchi, and passed 10-1.               |
|          | MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division.  |

| 07:26:22 | 6) Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations 2023  |
|----------|--|
|          | Presented by Rusty Robinson and Randall Thacker  |
| 7:30     | RAC Questions and comments:  |
|          | Will you re-look at the permit numbers   |
| 7:32:00  | Public Questions and Comments Tanner Carlson-SFW agrees  |
| 7:32:15  | Miles read online comments. 38 % strongly agree, 17% somewhat agree Concerns of Moose Mortality in the North Slope . |
| 07:32:30 |  |
| 7:33:20  | 6) The following motion was made by Jeff Taniguchi seconded by Eric Major and passed unanimously.                    |
|          | MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division   |
| 7:38:39  | 7) Elk Permit Recommendations 2023 Presented by Dax Mangus Presented by Dax Mangus                                   |
| 7:43:14  | RAC Comments   |
|          | Daniel Davis-Multi season question/how many were for youth?  |
|          | Joe Arnold does not like rounding permit numbers on Delores unit   |
| 7:47:00  | Public Comments  |
|          | Miles read the online comment  |
|          | 27 % Strongly agreed   |
|          | 17% Somewhat agreed  |
|          | 3.5 Disagreed  |
|          | 4 strongly disagreed   |
| 7:48:11  | Public Comments  |

|                     | Tyrell Abeggelen disagrees with selling 70% of tags on a limited entry unit. seems like the DWR is trying to get away from the Anthro unit  |
|---------------------|---|
|                     | Cory Rasmussen-Youth Hunters Boys NPO   |
|                     | Permit numbers could go up for more opportunity   |
|                     | Tanner Dusty Carlson-SFW supports increasing youth Elk permits  |
| 8:03:56             | RAC Comments on permit numbers  |
|                     | Support youth permit increases. Looking for more quality opportunities for youth  |
|                     | Can you revise Elk plan   |
|                     | Youth hunter pressure in the Northeast Region   |
|                     | Concerns of youth being able to draw.   |
|                     | 7)The following motion was made by Daniel Davis and seconded by Bob Christensen and passed unanimously  |
|                     | MOTION: To accept the DWR recommendations as presented with the exception of Youth Elk permits to increase from 500 to 750 permits  |
| 8:14:20             |   |
| 8:20:00             | 8) Antelope Permit Recommendations 2023   |
|                     | Presented by Dax Mangus   |
| 8:23:45             | RAC Comments Drought issues and population/winter kill/Disease  |
|                     | If drought, can we call for extra n\hunts   |
|                     | New hunt issues due to drought? Opportunity for youth for Pronghorn   |
| 8:25:29             | Public Comments   |
| 0:23:29             | Dominic Swain-High School student poaching issues with Pronghorn  |
|                     | Archery Manti discussion  |
| 8:27:35             | Online Comments   |
|                     | Online Comments 40% agree/ 60 % disagree  |
| 8::28:34            |   |
| 8::28:34            | 40% agree/ 60 % disagree  8) The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks seconded by Malarik Harrison and passed unanimously.  |
| 8::28:34<br>8:30:00 | 40% agree/ 60 % disagree  8) The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks seconded by Malarik Harrison  |
|                     | 40% agree/ 60 % disagree  8) The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks seconded by Malarik Harrison and passed unanimously.  MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division  9) Antlerless Permit Recommendations 2023   |
|                     | 40% agree/ 60 % disagree  8) The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks seconded by Malarik Harrison and passed unanimously.  MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division  |
| 8:30:00             | 40% agree/ 60 % disagree  8) The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks seconded by Malarik Harrison and passed unanimously.  MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division  9) Antlerless Permit Recommendations 2023  Presented by Dax Mangus/Dallon Christensen/Derrick Ewell |

|         | Are Elk moving to Anthro from other units?   |
|---------|--|
|         |  |
| 8:39:01 | Public Comments Robbie Smith-Total number of Elk this year? Questioning of Ariel species counts          |
| 8:47:51 | Online Comments  |
|         | 29% and 29% balance/suggest cutting cow tags   |
| 8:48:10 | 9) The following motion was made by Daniel Davis seconded by Brad Horrocks.  And passed unanimously.     |
|         | MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division   |
| 8:51:00 | 10) CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations 2023  |
|         | Presented by Chad Wilson   |
|         |  |
|         | RAC Comments/q.  |
|         | Acreage and COR clarification on Trade Lands   |
| 8:54:37 | Public Comments  |
|         | none   |
| 8:59:01 | Online Comments  |
|         | 67% agree 33% disagree   |
| 8:58:25 | 10) The following motion was made by Rebekah Jones seconded by Brad Horrocks and passed unanimously.     |
|         | MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division   |
|         | 11) CWMU Rule Amendments   |
|         | Presented by Chad Wilson   |
|         | RAC Comments/q.  |
|         | none   |
| 9:00:12 | Public Comments  |
|         | none   |
| 9:00:28 | Online Comments  |
|         | 67% agree 33 disagree  |
| 9:01:00 | 11) The following motion was made by Malarik Harrison seconded by Jeff Taniguchi and passed unanimously. |

|                | MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division   |
|----------------|--|
| 9:04:00        | 12) Big Game Rule Amendments   |
|                | Presented by Dax Mangus  |
| 9:05:00        | RAC Comments/q.  |
|                | How will online harvest reporting work?  |
|                | How will tooth data be taken on new reporting requirements?  |
| 9:09:08        | Public Comments  |
|                | 67 % agree 33% disagree  |
| 9:09:43        | <b>12)</b> The following motion was made by Erik Major seconded by Daniel Davis and passed unanimously.                          |
|                | MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division   |
| 9:11:01        | 13) Big Game Rule Amendments-Technology Committee Recs.  |
|                | Presented by Derrick Ewell   |
| 9:28:10        | RAC comments Clarifiers-peep discussion  |
| 9:44:00        | 2-way radio/cell phone/Camera- Apply to guides and private lands   |
| 9:41:00        | Spotting scope/sending photos/ violations  |
| <b>7111100</b> | Success rates  |
|                | Law Enforcement aspects of new rules   |
| 9:32:01        | RAC discussion on Optics and why Radios now?   |
|                | Unconstitutional law imposition of privacy on communications systems   |
|                | 2Way Radios are not acceptable in court- needs to be taken out of the rule   |
| 9:33:55        | Public comments: Tyrell Abggeglen  |
| 9:35:01        | Online comments read by Miles Hanberg Varied on objective  |
| 9:46:27        | Tanner Carlson, SFW supports.  |
|                | Cory Rasmussen  13) The following motion was made by Erik Major seconded by Daniel Davis and                                     |
| <b>9:48:01</b> | passed unanimously   |
|                | MOTION: To accept the DWR recommendations as presented with the exception of removing Cellphones and 2-way radios from the rule. |
| 0.55.30        | RAC Discussion on communications and scenarios and laws-murky.   |
| 9:55:30        |  |
| 10:00:00       | Welcome Randy Dearth-Wildlife Board  |

| 10:02:57 | The following amended motion was made by Daniel Davis and seconded by            |
|----------|--|
|          | Malarik Harrison And failed 3-7.   |
|          | Motion amendment to include clarifiers on Archery Tackle and to restrict         |
|          | to single power magnification on all muzzleloader hunts when scopes are allowed. |
|          |  |
|          |  |
| 10:04:14 |  |
|          | The following amended motion was made by Eric Major and seconded by              |
|          | Daniel Davis And passed with a tiebreaker by Chairman 6-5.                       |
|          | And passed with a theoreaker by Chamman 6-3.                                     |
|          | Motion amendment to include clarifiers on Archery Tackle.                        |
| 10:06:00 |  |
| 10:06:00 |  |
|          | Motion amendment to include clarifiers on Archery Tackle.                        |
|          | The following motion was made by Ritchie Andersen and seconded by Brad           |
|          | Horrocks.  |
|          | And passes unanimously.  |
|          | MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division with the exception of the         |
|          | 2 Way Radio and Cell Phone to be removed.  |
|          | The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks and seconded by Eric Major        |
|          | And passed unanimously.  |
|          |  |
|          | Motion to Adjourn.   |
|          |  |