Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

August 28, 2014, DNR, Boardroom 1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah AGENDA

Thursday, August 28, 2015 – 9:00 am

 Approval of Agenda Jake Albrecht, Chairman 	ACTION
 Approval of Minutes Jake Albrecht, Chairman 	ACTION
 Old Business/Action Log Bill Fenimore, Vice-Chair 	CONTINGENT
4. DWR Update – Greg Sheehan, DWR Director	INFORMATION
 Proposed Fee Schedule FY 2016 Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief 	ACTION
 Cougar Management Plan Revisions and 2015 Recommendations Leslie McFarlane, Mammals Coordinator 	ACTION
7. Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations – Leslie McFarlane, Mammals Coordinator	ACTION
 Turkey Depredation Rule – New Rule R657-69 – Jason Robinson, Upland Game Coordinator 	ACTION
 Additional Turkey Transplant Sites Jason Robinson, Upland Game Coordinator 	ACTION
 Monroe Mtn. Aspen Restoration – Letter of Support – Jason Kling, Forest Service 	ACTION
 CR Deer Management Plans Covy Jones, Regional Big Game Coordinator 	ACTION
12. Antlerless Elk Permit Re-evaluation– Bill Bates, Wildlife Section Chief	INFORMATION
 Convention Permit Audit Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief 	ACTION
14. Convention Permit Allocation– Mike Fowlks, Deputy Director	ACTION
15. CRC - Recommendation – Staci Coons, CRC Chair	ACTION
16. Other Business– Jake Albrecht, Chairman	CONTINGENT

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting August 28, 2014, DNR Auditorium 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah Summary of Motions

1) Approval of Agenda (Action)

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.

2) Approval of Minutes (Action)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the June 5, 2014 Wildlife Board Meeting with corrections to the Turkey Transplant Proposed List – page 1, line item #4 in Summary of Motions and page 6, line item #6 – changing the name of Birchville to Birch Creek.

3) **Proposed Fee Schedule FY2016 (Action)**

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed 5-1; John Bair opposed.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Proposed Fee Schedule FY2016 as presented by the Division.

Calvin Crandall amended the motion which passed 4-2. Mike King and Bill Fenimore opposed.

MOTION: I move that we amend the motion to include an increase to the ewe non-resident fee from \$300 to \$1,000.

4) Cougar Management Plan Revisions and 2015 Recommendations (Action)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 4-2. John Bair and Kirk Woodward voted against the motion.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Cougar Management Plan Revisions and Recommendations as presented by the Division.

5) Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations (Action)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 4-2. Mike King and Bill Fenimore dissented.

MOTION: I move that we extend the bobcat season by one week.

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the remainder of the furbearer and bobcat harvest recommendations as presented.

6) Turkey Depredation Rule – New Rule R657-69 (Action)

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the new Turkey Depredation Rule R657-69 as presented by the Division.

7) Additional Turkey Transplant Sites (Action)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Additional Turkey Transplant Sites as presented.

8) Monroe Mtn. Aspen Restoration – Letter of Support (Action)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we table a motion until the letter has been revised.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we remove the tabled motion.

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the letter of support for the Monroe Mountain Aspen Restoration.

9) CR Deer Management Plans (Action)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously. Mike King left before the presentation.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Central Region Deer Management Plans as presented the Division.

10) Convention Permit Audit (Action)

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed with one abstention by John Bair.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Convention Permit Audit as presented by the Division.

11) Convention Permit Allocation (Action)

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously. John Bair abstained from voting.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Convention Permit Allocation as presented by the Division.

12) CRC Recommendation (Action)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the CRC Recommendation as presented.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

August 28, 2014, DNR Auditorium 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah http://wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings/board_minutes/audio/14-08-28.mp3

Wildlife Board Members Present

Jake Albrecht – Chair Bill Fenimore – Vice-Chair Greg Sheehan – Exec Sec Mike King Calvin Crandall John Bair Kirk Woodward Steve Dalton

RAC Chairs Present

Central – Gary Nielsen Southern – Dave Black Southeastern – Chris Wood Northeastern - Carrie Mae Messerly Northern – Robert Byrnes Mike Fowlks Rory Reynolds Mike Canning Staci Coons Thu Vo-Wood Kenny Johnson Leslie McFarlane Jason Robinson Martin Bushman Kirk I Smith Spencer Dushane Scott White

Public Present

Bryce Pilling Garth Ogden Aaron Johnson, UHA Jerry Carlson, UTA Guy Webster, UHA Troy Justensen, SFW

Division Personnel Present

Karen Caldwell Phil Gray John Fairchild Boyde Blackwell Scott McFarlane Bill Bates Greg Hansen Guy Wallace Teresa Griffin Dax Mangus Randy Wood Robyn Pearson Darren Debloois Lindy Varney Justin Dolling Kevin Bunnell Mark Hadley Anita Candelaria Jordan Nielsen Bryan Christensen Tom Becker Tyler Thompson Cory Noble

Bill Christensen, RMEF Byron Bateman, SFW Bret Selman, UT Wool Growers Lee Tracy, United Wildlife Cooperative Kirk Robinson, Western Wildlife Conservancy Kent Fowden, UT Trappers Association Sterling Brown, Utah Farm Bureau Jason Kling, Forest Service

Chairman Albrecht welcomed the audience and introduced the Wildlife board and RAC Chairs.

1) Approval of Agenda (Action) 00:01:54 – 00:02:21 of 05:11:24

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.

2) Approval of Minutes (Action) 00:02:24 – 00:03:29 of 05:11:24

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the June 5, 2014 Wildlife Board Meeting with corrections to the Turkey Transplant Proposed List – page 1, line item #4 in Summary of Motions and page 6, line item #6 – changing the name of Birchville to Birch Creek.

3) Old Business/Action Log (**Contingent**) 00:03:32 – 00:03:45 of 05:11:24

There were no action log items at this time.

4) DWR Update (**Informational**) **00:03:46 – 00:11:16 of 05:11:24**

Greg Sheehan summarized meetings with federal agencies and other state agencies. He also mentioned DWR's Employee Awards banquet and read the names of winners.

5) Proposed Fee Schedule FY2016 (Action) 00:12:35 – 00:49:50 of 05:11:24

Kenny Johnson presented the FY2016 Proposed Fee Schedule.

Board Questions 00:23:36 – 00:27:55

There were specific questions about monitoring processes and procedures.

Public Questions 00:28:02 – 00:30:06

Public questions were accepted at this time.

RAC Recommendations 00:30:14 – 00:34:38

Southeast, Southern, and Northeast RAC passed the proposed fee schedule with varying opposition. They all requested the bobcat tag fee stay within the \$15 range or less.

Central RAC passed the fee proposal, but recommended the resident bobcat fee increase to \$10 and the nonresident ewe fee be the same as the nonresident ram fee.

Northern RAC unanimously approved the FY2016 Proposed Fee Schedule as presented.

Board Discussion 00:34:49 – 00:49:50

Chairman Albrecht summarized the RAC and asked the Board to consider their concerns.

John Bair reiterated the Central RAC's concerns of the bobcat fee. The Board debated the fee increase to the rate of return.

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed 5-1; John Bair opposed.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Proposed Fee Schedule FY2016 as presented by the Division.

Calvin Crandall amended the motion which passed 4-2. Mike King and Bill Fenimore opposed.

MOTION: I move that we amend the motion to include an increase to the ewe non-resident fee from \$300 to \$1,000.

6) Cougar Management Plan Revisions and 2015 Recommendations (Action) 00:49:56 - 2:50:21 of 05:11:24

Leslie McFarlane presented the Cougar Management Plan Revisions and 2015 Recommendations.

Board Questions 01:10:52 – 01:30:56

Questions were focused on population numbers based on harvest and clarification of proposal's direction and purpose.

Public Questions 01:31:02 – 02:00:24

Public questions were accepted at this time.

RAC Recommendations 02:00:26 - 02:03:31

Southern and Northern RAC unanimously approved the Cougar Management Plan Revisions and Recommendations as presented.

Central, Southeast, and Northeast RAC passed the plan revisions and recommendations with varying opposition. Northeast stipulated a 30% female sub quota, which they amended to 40%. Southeast made a similar request to limit the harvest of female cougars to no more than 40% of all units including predator management plan units except limited entry and bighorn sheep areas. They also added that the female harvest be accounted for in the quota for all units. They also required GPS locations on harvest data.

Public Comments 02:03:35 – 02:26:10

Public comments were accepted at this time.

Board Discussion 02:26:16 – 02:50:11

Chairman Albrecht summarized the RAC votes and summarized a letter from Pine Valley Sportsman's Partners.

The Board discussed the GPS request and female subquota.

There were members of the Board who expressed disappointment that the plan had not improved.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 4-2. John Bair and Kirk Woodward voted against the motion.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Cougar Management Plan Revisions and Recommendations as presented by the Division.

Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations (Action) 02:50:22 – 03:05:30 of 05:11:24

Leslie McFarlane presented the furbearer and bobcat harvest recommendations.

RAC Recommendations 02:55:08 – 02:56:57

Northern RAC unanimously passed the Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest recommendations as presented. Southeast RAC approved the recommendations with one opposing vote.

Central, Southern, and Northeast RAC approved the recommendations with some dissent; however, Southern and Northeast requested a one week extension at the end of the season. Central requested two weeks.

Public Comments 02:57:00 - 02:58:35

Public comments accepted at this time.

Board Discussion 02:58:38 - 03:05:27

Chairman Albrecht summarized the RAC votes.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of extended seasons.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 4-2. Mike King and Bill Fenimore dissented.

MOTION: I move that we extend the bobcat season by one week.

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the remainder of the furbearer and bobcat harvest recommendations as presented.

8) Turkey Depredation Rule – New Rule R657-69 (Action) 03:05:36 – 03:18:20 of 05:11:08

Jason Robinson presented the new Turkey Depredation Rule R657-69.

Board Questions 03:12:42 – 03:15:23

Mike King wondered what recourse landowners had while DWR develops an action plan within the 72 hour period.

RAC Recommendations 03:15:48 – 03:17:29

All RACs unanimously passed the new turkey depredation rule R657-69 as presented. Northern RAC requested that buffer zones exclude public lands.

Board Discussion 03:17:30 – 03:18:20

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the new Turkey Depredation Rule R657-69 as presented by the Division.

9) Additional Turkey Transplant Sites (Action) 03:18:22 – 03:22:05 of 05:11:24

Jason Robinson presented the Additional Turkey Transplant Sites.

Public Questions 03:20:10 - 03:21:06

Public questions were taken at this time.

RAC Recommendations 03:21:08 - 03:21:30

Southern RAC unanimously approved the additional turkey transplant sites as presented by the Division.

Board Discussion 03:21:35 - 03:22:00

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Additional Turkey Transplant Sites as presented.

Monroe Mountain Aspen Restoration – Letter of Support (Action) 03:22:07 –
 04:15:30 of 05:11:24

Kevin Bunnell gave some background for this topic and why it went through this process. Jason Kling from the Forest Service presented the Monroe Mountain Aspen Restoration. He requested an additional sentence referencing support of the Threshold document.

Board Questions 03:41:46 – 03:53:00

The Board asked about the benefits of fencing and water improvement projects. Most questions were centered on the burn process.

RAC Questions 03:53:01 – 04:00:55

Central RAC asked about options besides reducing elk population to meet objectives. Central also asked if logging was permissible in assisting with controlled burns.

Martin Bushman explained how and why the letter was drafted with particular language.

Public Comments 04:01:07 – 04:09:39

Public comments were accepted at this time.

RAC Recommendations 04:09:40 - 04:09:54

Southern RAC unanimously supported the Aspen Restoration plan letter by the Forest Service.

Board Discussion 04:09:54 - 04:15:20

Greg Sheehan read the letter into record.

There was a long discussion about language to include the Threshold document in the letter.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we table a motion until the letter has been revised.

11) CR Deer Management Plans (Action) 04:15:40 – 04:34:12 of 05:11:24

Covy Jones presented the Central Region Deer Management Plans.

Board Questions 04:28:39 – 04:32:46

The Board asked about treatment options for pinyon-juniper removal and assessment for deer numbers.

RAC Recommendations 04:33:07-04:33:36

Central RACs unanimously passed the CR Deer Management Plans as presented.

Board Discussion 04:33:38 – 04:34:10

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously. Mike King left before the presentation.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Central Region Deer Management Plans as presented by the Division.

12) Antlerless Elk Permit Re-evaluation (Informational) 04:34:15 – 04:40:01 of 05:11:24

Bill Bates presented the Antlerless Elk Permit Re-Evaluation.

Board Questions 04:37:36 - 04:40:01

Steve Dalton asked for an update on the BLM wild horse roundup. Calvin Crandall asked for clarification on some issued antlerless permits.

13) Convention Permit Audit (Action) 04:40:05 – 04:56:50 of 05:11:24

Kenny Johnson presented the Convention Permit Audit.

Public Questions/Comments 04:50:04 – 04:54:18

Public questions and comments were accepted at this time.

Board Discussion 04:54:23 – 04:56:50

Chairman Albrecht and Greg Sheehan talked about the convention and the good funding has provided for conservation projects around the state.

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed with one abstention by John Bair.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Convention Permit Audit as presented by the Division.

14) Convention Permit Allocation (Action) 04:56:51 – 04:07:05 of 05:11:24

Mike Fowlks presented the Convention Permit Allocation.

Public Comments 04:59:13 - 05:00:01

Public comments were accepted at this time.

Board Discussion 05:00:04 – 05:00:25

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously. John Bair abstained from voting.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Convention Permit Allocation as presented by the Division.

15) CRC Recommendation (Action) 05:00:28 – 05:07:00 of 05:11:24

Staci Coons presented the CRC recommendation for Shane Richens' commercial and education variance request.

Board Questions/Discussions 05:04:02 - 05:06:51

The Board asked for detailed description of the species under the request.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the CRC recommendation as presented by the Division.

16) Other Business (**Contingent**) **05:07:00 – 05:11:24 of 05:11:24**

The Board returned to item 10 discussion: Monroe Mountain Aspen Restoration – Letter of Support.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we remove the tabled motion.

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the letter of support for the Monroe Mountain Aspen Restoration letter of support.

Meeting adjourned.