Utah Wildlife Board Meeting September 28, 2017, DNR Auditorium 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

The meeting can be viewed live at https://youtu.be/Zb2YAO7ORBk REVISED September 26, 2017

AGENDA

Thursday, September 28, 2017, Board Meeting 9:00 am

 Approval of Agenda Kirk Woodward, Chairman 	ACTION
 2. Approval of Minutes Kirk Woodward, Chairman 	ACTION
 3. Old Business/Action Log Byron Bateman, Vice-Chair Early Rifle Deer Hunt LE Deer Hunts on GS units Velvet only deer hunts Mt. Goats on Deep Creeks Mt. Goat Transplants End cow elk hunts by December 31 Shed Antler Gathering 	CONTINGENT
4. DWR Update – Mike Fowlks, DWR Director	INFORMATION
5. Conservation Permit Annual Report- Justin Shannon, Wildlife Section Chief	ACTION
6. Conservation Permit Audit- Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief	ACTION
7. 2018 RAC/Board Dates- Staci Coons, Wildlife Board Coordinator	ACTION
 Proposal to create Furbearer/Trapping Rule Working Group Darren DeBloois, Mammals Program Coordinator 	ACTION
 9. Other Business – Kirk Woodward, Chairman Winter WAFWA 	CONTINGENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act - Persons needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) for this meeting, should contact Staci Coons at 801-538-4718, giving her at least five working days notice.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting September 28, 2017, 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 Calvin Crandall 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 Kevin Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the August 31, 2017 Wildlife Board Meeting with corrections.

3) Old Business/Action Log (**Contingent**)

7 Action Log Items were addressed:

Early Rifle Deer Hunt

Limited Entry Deer Hunts on General Season units

Velvet only deer hunts

End cow elk hunt by December 31

Shed Antler Gathering

Mt. Goats on Deep Creek

Mt. Goat Transplants

4) Conservation Permit Annual Report (Action)

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Kevin Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the findings of the Conservation Permit Annual Report as presented by the Division.

5) Conservation Permit Audit (Action)

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the findings of the Conservation Permit Audit as presented.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Kevin Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we add to the action log a review of the conservation permit audit process that could include a rule change.

6) 2018 RAC/Board Dates (Action)

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the 2018 RAC/Board Dates as presented by the Division.

7) Proposal to create Furbearer/Trapping Rule Working Group (Action)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the proposal to create Furbearer/Trapping Rule Working Group as presented by the Division.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

September 28, 2017, DNR Auditorium 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah Attendance

Wildlife BoardKirk Woodward – ChairByron Bateman – Vice-ChairMike Fowlks – Exec SecKevin AlbrechtCalvin CrandallDonnie HunterKarl HirstSteve Dalton

Mike Canning Rick Olson Darren DeBloois Kent Hersey Teresa Griffin Covy Jones Drew Cushing Chris Wood Justin Shannon Kenny Johnson

J Shirley Lindy Varney Rusty Robinson Martin Bushman Greg Hansen Mike Christensen Paul Gedge Staci Coons Thu Vo-Wood

Division Personnel

Public Present

Miles Moretti – MDF Lee Howard Melissa Whitaker Allison Jones Aaron Johnson Nile Wilkey Greg Bird Sterling Brown – UT Farm Bureau Troy Justensen – SFW Kyle Witherspoon – SCI Al Robb – UT Trappers Assoc. Bailey Bannon

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

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- **00:00:23** Chairman Woodward called the meeting to order and welcomed the audience. Board members introduced themselves.
- **00:02:34 1)** Approval of Agenda (Action)

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda as presented.

00:03:15 2) Approval of Minutes (Action)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Kevin Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the August 31, 2017 meeting with corrections.

00:04:01 3) Old Business/Action Log (Contingent)

Seven Action Log Items were addressed. Justin Shannon addressed the first four items. Covy Jones addressed shed antler gathering and Rusty Robinson addressed the last two items.

00:05:08 Early Rifle Deer Hunt Action Log Item

To reduce crowding and lower buck-to-doe ratios on units that are consistently over objective the Division plans to recommend early rifle deer hunts this November on nine units with season dates overlapping general season spike/any bull hunts and include a weekend.

00:09:40 Limited Entry Deer Hunts on General Season Units Action Log Item

This November DWR plans to recommend limited entry hunts on all general season units that are meeting the minimum buck-to-doe ratio objectives.

00:16:13 Velvet Only Deer Hunts Action Log Item

The DWR plans to recommend a cactus buck hunt on the Paunsaugunt unit this November. Cactus buck will be defined under R657-5. This will provide additional limited entry deer hunting opportunities and reduce cactus bucks on the unit. The proposed season dates would be early to mid-November 2018.

00:22:00 End Cow Elk Hunts by December 31 Action Log Item

Late season elk hunts serve a management purpose: population objectives, proper distribution, reduce depredation and conflicts. The

hunts also allow for more public harvest and reduce the need for removals from DWR. The Division will commit to remove or reduce late season hunts that are not fulfilling a management purpose.

00:31:41 Shed Antler Gathering Action Log Item

The severe winter conditions in 2017 led to emergency feedings and closure of shed antler gathering. The closure was to protect the mule deer population and their winter habitat.

DWR recommends continuing to allow shed antler gathering along with the Antler Gathering Ethics course certificate, and closing affected areas during severe winters to protect deer and their habitat.

00:50:58 Mountain Goat on Deep Creeks Action Log Item

A committee was formed to consider the transplanting of sheep and/or goats. They supported the transplanting of goats and drafted a unit management plan. The Division will continue to work with stakeholders, gather and compile data, and refine the plan. A field trip is planned for this fall. DWR will report to the board with options.

00:53:40 Mountain Goat Transplants Action Log Item

After evaluating the viability of proposed areas and considering the social issues, habitat availability, and ability for populations to establish on their own, DWR created a list of potential transplant sites and areas where goats could establish naturally. Some transplant sites may require changes to statewide plan.

01:00:20 4) DWR Update (Informational)

Mike Fowlks talked about the AFWA Conference, the NRCC tour – Brian Head fire, the Pacific Flyway, staff changes, hunting season, and furbearer.

01:05:20 5) Conservation Permit Annual Report (Action)

Justin Shannon presented the annual report.

01:13:12 Board Questions

The board asked about documentation for funds used, 5% rule, limitations of projects without funds.

01:16:28 Public Questions

Public questions were taken at this time.

01:21:14 Board Discussion

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Kevin Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the findings of the Conservation Permit Annual Report as presented by the Division.

01:22:05 6) Conservation Permit Audit (Action)

Kenny Johnson presented the audit.

Byron Bateman expressed concern about the discrepancies presented in the audit. Karl Hirst pushed the issue on documentation of funds.

01:43:40 Board Questions

The board continued to express and address concerns about discrepancies and documentation.

01:50:20 Public Comments

Public comments were accepted at this time.

01:57:18 Board Discussion

The board expressed concern about the discrepancies presented in the audit. Karl Hirst pushed the issue on documentation of funds.

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the findings of the Conservation Permit Audit as presented.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Kevin Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we add to the action log a review of the Conservation Permit Audit process that could include a rule change.

02:04:36 7) **2018 RAC/Board Dates** (Action)

Staci Coons presented the 2018 RAC/Board dates.

02:05:54 Board Questions/Discussion

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the RAC/Board Dates as presented by the Division.

02:06:40 8) Proposal to create Furbearer/Trapping Rule Working Group (Action)

Darren DeBloois presented the working group proposal.

02:07:42 Public Comments

Public comments were accepted at this time.

02:10:14 Board Discussion

The board mentioned many people expressed concerns about this issue. They discussed details of the working group.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Donnie

Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the proposal to create Furbearer/Trapping Rule Working Group as presented by the Division.

02:15:24 9) Other Business (Contingent)

The Board discussed the upcoming winter WAFWA in San Diego, CA and decided that Byron Bateman should attend. The conference runs January 3-8, 2018.

02:21:05 Meeting adjourned.

