RAC AGENDA – November 2016

1. Approval of Agenda - RAC Chair 2. Approval of Minutes - RAC Chair 3. Old Business WILDLIFE RESOURCES - RAC Chair 4. Regional Update **INFORMATIONAL** - DWR Regional Supervisor 5. Elk Unit Management Plan Revisions ACTION - Justin Shannon, Big Game Coordinator 6. Bucks, Bulls & OIAL 2017 Season Dates, Application Timeline ACTION - Justin Shannon, Big Game Coordinator 7. Preference Point System Amendments ACTION - Lindy Varney, Licensing Specialist 8. **NER Deer Management Plans** ACTION - Randall Thacker, Northeastern Region Asst. Wildlife Manager CWMU Management Plans and Permit Numbers for 2017 9. ACTION - Covy Jones, Public Wildlife/Private Lands Coordinator 10. Landowner Association Permit Numbers for 2017 ACTION - Covy Jones, Public Wildlife/Private Lands Coordinator

Meeting Locations

NR RAC - Nov. 9th 6:00 PM SER RAC -Nov. 16th 6:30 PM Weber State Univ. Room 404 John Wesley Powell Museum 1765 E. Main St, Green River Shepherd Union Bldg, Ogden CR RAC - Nov. 10th 6:30 PM (Thursday) NER RAC - Nov. 17th 6:30 PM Springville Junior High School Wildlife Resources NER Office 189 S. 1470 E, Springville 318 North Vernal Ave., Vernal SR RAC – Nov. 15th 5:00 PM Board Meeting – Dec. 9 - 9:00 AM (Friday) Cedar City Middle School DNR Boardroom 1594 West North Temple, SLC 2215 W. Royal Hunte Dr, Cedar



State of Utah

MICHAEL R. STYLER Executive Director

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

GARY R. HERBERT Governor SPENCER J. COX Lieutenant Governor

Division of Wildlife Resources GREGORY J. SHEEHAN Division Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 20, 2016

To: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

From: Justin Shannon, Big Game Coordinator

SUBJECT: 2017 BBOIAL Season Dates, Boundary Changes, and 2016 Elk Unit Management Plans

The attached documents summarize the Division's recommended changes to the current big game guidebook.

BBOIAL season dates:

See attached tables for details.

Big Game Guidebook Recommendations:

Statewide Changes

- We recommend adding 3 additional limited entry muzzleloader deer hunts. These hunts would occur on general season units that are exceeding management objectives of 18-20 bucks per 100 does. They include 1) Mt Dutton, 2) Ogden, and 3) Plateau, Fishlake units. We recommend discontinuing this hunt on the Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits unit.
- 2. We recommend adding a limited entry bull elk hunt that overlaps the general season spike elk hunt in early-mid October on the Central Mtns, Manti and Wasatch Mtns units.
- 3. We recommend adding 7 days to the end of Once-in-a-Lifetime hunts for archery only hunting.

Southern Region Changes

- 1. We recommend adding a mountain goat hunt on the Mt Dutton unit.
- 2. We recommend adding an archery pronghorn hunt on the Panguitch Lake/Zion, North unit.
- 3. We recommend issuing a non-resident permit on the Kaiparowits, West bighorn sheep unit (the Kaiparowits, East non-resident permit holder may hunt the Escalante and East sub-units).

Southeast Region Changes

- 1. We recommend splitting the Nine Mile, Range Creek hunt into the Gray Canyon and Jack Creek hunts. Season dates will run from November 1 30.
- 2. We recommend altering the San Juan, South bighorn sheep boundary to include the San Juan River.
- 3. We recommend adding an archery and muzzleloader management buck hunt on the Henry Mtns.
- 4. We recommend adding a pronghorn archery hunt to the San Rafael, Desert and Nine Mile, Range Creek units, and we propose adding a pronghorn muzzleloader hunt to the San Rafael, North unit.

Northern Region Changes

1. We recommend discontinuing the Pilot Mtn bighorn sheep hunt.



Central Region Changes

1. We recommend discontinuing the Stansbury Mtns bighorn sheep hunt.

Northeast Region Changes

- 1. We recommend adding the Nine Mile unit to the Book Cliffs, Wild Horse Bench bison hunt, and having season dates run from August 1 January 31.
- 2. We recommend adding a cow only bison hunt to the Book Cliffs unit.
- We recommend altering the season dates on the Book Cliffs bison hunt (hunter's choice) to October 14 December 1.
- 4. We recommend altering the season dates on the North Slope, Three Corners elk hunt to October 7-19.
- 5. We recommend combining the North Slope, Three Corners-Bare Top and West Daggett bighorn sheep units into one hunt unit.

Boundary description for new hunts or boundary changes on existing hunts are attached in the packet

Elk Unit Management Plans:

See attached plans for details.

- 1. We recommend updating all elk unit management plans. Unit plans fall under the umbrella of the statewide management plan goals, which are to 1) improve management of Utah's elk populations, 2) conserve and improve elk habitat throughout the state, and 3) enhance recreational opportunities for hunting and viewing elk.
- 2. The purposes of the unit plans are to 1) outline unit boundaries, 2) define management goals, objectives, and strategies, and 3) address issues and concerns of elk and their habitats.
- 3. We recommend population increases on the following units: 1) Ogden, 2) Morgan-South Rich, 3) East Canyon, 4) Chalk Creek, 5) North Slope, Three Corners, 6) Nine Mile, Range Creek, 7) Wasatch Mtns (Currant Creek, Avintaquin, and West), 9) Oquirrh-Stansbury, and 10) Panguitch Lake. Advisory committee meetings were held on each unit where a population increase is being proposed.
- 4. Habitat projects, management strategies, and biological and social considerations are highlighted in unit management plans.

Sept. 16-Nov. 30

General Season Buck Deer

General Season Archery Hunts

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1500	Beaver	22	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1501	Box Elder	1	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1502	Cache	2	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1503	Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	12/16B	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1504	Central Mtns, Nebo	16A	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1505	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	4/5/6	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1506	Fillmore	21	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1508	Kamas	7	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1509	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	13A	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1510	Monroe	23	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1511	Mt Dutton	24	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1512	Nine Mile	11	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1513	North Slope	8	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1514	Ogden	3	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1515	Oquirrh-Stansbury	18	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1516	Panguitch Lake	28	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1517	Pine Valley	30	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1518	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	25C/26	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1519	Plateau, Fishlake	25A	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1520	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	25B	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1521	San Juan, Abajo Mtns	14A	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1522	South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	9B/9D	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1523	South Slope, Yellowstone	9A	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	Large Areas of Tribal Land
DB1524	Southwest Desert	20	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1525	Wasatch Mtns, East	17B/17C	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1526	Wasatch Mtns, West	17A	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1527	West Desert, Tintic	19C	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1528	West Desert, West	19A	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1529	Zion	29	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	

General Season Any Legal Weapon Hunts

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1530	Beaver	22	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1531	Box Elder	1	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1532	Cache	2	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1533	Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	12/16B	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1534	Central Mtns, Nebo	16A	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1535	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	4/5/6	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1536	Fillmore	21	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1538	Kamas	7	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1539	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	13A	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1540	Monroe	23	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1541	Mt Dutton	24	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1542	Nine Mile	11	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1543	North Slope	8	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1544	Ogden	3	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1545	Oquirrh-Stansbury	18	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1546	Panguitch Lake	28	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1547	Pine Valley	30	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1548	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	25C/26	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1549	Plateau, Fishlake	25A	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1550	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	25B	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1551	San Juan, Abajo Mtns	14A	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1552	South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	9B/9D	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1553	South Slope, Yellowstone	9A	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	Large Areas of Tribal Land
DB1554	Southwest Desert	20	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1555	Wasatch Mtns, East	17B/17C	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1556	Wasatch Mtns, West	17A	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	

DB1557	West Desert, Tintic	19C	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	У	
DB1558	West Desert, West	19A	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1559	Zion	29	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	

General Season Muzzleloader Hunts

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1560	Beaver	22	Sept. 27-Oct. 5	у	
DB1561	Box Elder	1	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1562	Cache	2	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1563	Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	12/16B	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1564	Central Mtns, Nebo	16A	Sept. 27-Oct. 5	у	
DB1565	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	4/5/6	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1566	Fillmore	21	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1568	Kamas	7	Sept. 27-Oct. 5	у	
DB1569	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	13A	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1570	Monroe	23	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1571	Mt Dutton	24	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1572	Nine Mile	11	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1573	North Slope	8	Sept. 27-Oct. 5	у	
DB1574	Ogden	3	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1575	Oquirrh-Stansbury	18	Sept. 27-Oct. 5	у	
DB1576	Panguitch Lake	28	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1577	Pine Valley	30	Sept. 27-Oct. 5	у	
DB1578	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	25C/26	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1579	Plateau, Fishlake	25A	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1580	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	25B	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1581	San Juan, Abajo Mtns	14A	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1582	South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	9B/9D	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1583	South Slope, Yellowstone	9A	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	Large Areas of Tribal Land
DB1584	Southwest Desert	20	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1585	Wasatch Mtns, East	17B/17C	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1586	Wasatch Mtns, West	17A	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1587	West Desert, Tintic	19C	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1588	West Desert, West	19A	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1589	Zion	29	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	

Premium Limited Entry Buck Deer

Premium Archery Hunts

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1000	Henry Mtns	15	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1001	Paunsaugunt	27	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	

Premium Any Legal Weapon Hunts

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1002	Antelope Island	1	Nov. 15–Nov. 22	n	
DB1003	Henry Mtns	15	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	У	
DB1004	Paunsaugunt	27	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	

Premium Muzzleloader Hunts

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1005	Henry Mtns	15	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1006	Paunsaugunt	27	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	

Management Buck Hunt

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1009	Henry Mtns (any weapon)	15	Oct. 30–Nov. 3	у	
	Henry Mtns (archery)	15	Aug. 26–Sept. 15	У	New Hunt
	Henry Mtns (muzzleloader)	15	Sept. 30-Oct. 5	у	New Hunt
DB1010	Paunsaugunt	27	Nov. 1–Nov. 5	у	

Multi-Season

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes

DB1007	Henry Mtns	15	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
DB1008	Paunsaugunt	27	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	

Limited Entry Buck Deer

Limited Entry Archery Hunts

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1011	Book Cliffs	10A/10B/10C	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1012	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	21C	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
DB1013	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	13B	Nov. 4–Nov. 17	n	
DB1014	San Juan, Elk Ridge	14B	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1015	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	9C	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
DB1016	West Desert, Vernon	19B	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	

Limited Entry Any Legal Weapon Hunts

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1017	Book Cliffs, North	10A/10C	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1018	Book Cliffs, South	10B	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1019	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	21C	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1020	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	13B	Nov. 18–Nov. 26	у	
DB1021	North Slope, Summit	8A	Oct. 7–Oct. 19	у	
DB1022	San Juan, Elk Ridge	14B	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1023	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	9C	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	
DB1024	West Desert, Vernon	19B	Oct. 21–Oct. 29	у	

Limited Entry Muzzleloader Hunts

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1025	Book Cliffs	10A/10B/10C	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1026	Cache, Crawford Mtn	2D	Nov. 18–Dec. 3	у	
DB1029	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	21C	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1031	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	13B	Nov 29.–Dec. 7	n	
DB1037	San Juan, Elk Ridge	14B	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1038	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	9C	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	
DB1042	West Desert, Vernon	19B	Sept. 27–Oct. 5	у	

Multi-Season

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1044	Book Cliffs	10A/10B/10C	All Limited Entry Seasons	У	
DB1045	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	21C	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
DB1046	San Juan, Elk Ridge	14B	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
DB1047	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	9C	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
DB1048	West Desert, Vernon	19B	All Limited Entry Seasons	У	

Limited Entry Late Season Muzzleloader

			2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
DB1027	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	4/5/6	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	
DB1028	Fillmore	21	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	
DB1030	Kamas	7	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	
DB1032	Monroe	23	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	
	Mt Dutton	24	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	New Hunt
DB1033	Nine Mile	11	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	
	Ogden	3	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	New Hunt
DB1034	Pine Valley	30	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	
	Plateau, Fishlake	25A	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	New Hunt
DB1036	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	25B	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	
DB1039	South Slope, Yellowstone	9A	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	Large Areas of Tribal Land
DB1040	Southwest Desert	20	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	
DB1041	Wasatch Mtns, East	17B/17C	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	
DB1043	Zion	29	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	у	

(y) At least one nonresident permit in 2017

(n) No nonresident permit in 2017

NOTE: Permit numbers will be determined in May 2017

The 2017 DWR General Season E	Ik Dates Recommendation
Archery Spike	Aug. 19–Sep. 8
Archery Any Bull	Aug. 19–Sep. 15
Muzzleloader	Nov. 1–Nov. 9
Rifle	Oct. 7–Oct. 19
Extended Archery Elk	
Uintah Basin	Sept. 16–Dec. 15
Wasatch Front	Aug. 19–Dec. 15

Limited Entry Bull Elk

Archery Hunts

		2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
EB3000	Beaver, East	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3001	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3002	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3003	Cache, Meadowville †	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3004	Cache, North	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3005	Cache, South	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3006	Central Mtns, Manti	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3007	Central Mtns, Nebo	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3008	Fillmore, Pahvant	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3009	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3010	Monroe	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3011	Mt Dutton	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3012	Nine Mile, Anthro	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3013	North Slope, Three Corners	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3014	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3015	Panguitch Lake	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3016	Paunsaugunt	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3017	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3018	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3019	San Juan (bull elk)	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
EB3020	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	
EB3021	Southwest Desert	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3022	Wasatch Mtns	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
EB3023	West Desert, Deep Creek	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	

Any legal weapon hunts (early rifle)

		2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
EB3024	Beaver, East	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3026	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3028	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3029	Box Elder, Grouse Creek	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
EB3031	Box Elder, Pilot Mtn	Sept. 9-Sept. 29	Y	
EB3032	Cache, Meadowville †	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
EB3034	Cache, North	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
EB3036	Cache, South	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3038	Central Mtns, Manti	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3040	Central Mtns, Nebo	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3042	Fillmore, Pahvant	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3045	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3047	Monroe	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
EB3049	Mt Dutton	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
EB3051	Nine Mile, Anthro	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	

EB3054	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3056	Panguitch Lake	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3058	Paunsaugunt	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3061	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3063	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3066	San Juan (bull elk)	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3068	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	У	
EB3070	Southwest Desert	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3072	Wasatch Mtns	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	
EB3074	West Desert, Deep Creek	Sept. 16–Sept. 24	у	

Any legal weapon hunts (mid rifle)

		2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
EB3030	Box Elder, Grouse Creek	Oct. 7-Oct. 29	у	
	Central Mtns, Manti	Oct. 7–Oct. 19	у	New Hunt
EB3053	North Slope, Three Corners	Oct. 7–Oct. 19	у	Tri-State Agreement / Date Change
EB3059	Paunsaugunt	Oct. 7–Oct. 19	у	
EB3064	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Oct. 7–Oct. 19	у	
EB3069	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Oct. 7–Oct. 19	у	
	Wasatch Mtns	Oct. 7–Oct. 19	у	New Hunt
EB3075	West Desert, Deep Creek	Oct. 7–Oct. 19	n	

Any legal weapon hunts (late rifle)

		2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
EB3025	Beaver, East	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3027	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3033	Cache, Meadowville †	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3035	Cache, North	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3037	Cache, South	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3039	Central Mtns, Manti	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3041	Central Mtns, Nebo	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3043	Fillmore, Pahvant	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3044	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	Dec. 9 2017–Jan. 31 2018	n	
EB3046	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3048	Monroe	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3050	Mt Dutton	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3052	Nine Mile, Anthro	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3055	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3057	Panguitch Lake	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3060	Paunsaugunt	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3062	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3065	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3067	San Juan (bull elk)	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3071	Southwest Desert	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3073	Wasatch Mtns	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	у	
EB3076	West Desert, Deep Creek	Nov. 11–Nov. 19	n	

Muzzleloader Hunts

		2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
EB3077	Beaver, East	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	n	
EB3078	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	у	
EB3079	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	у	
EB3080	Box Elder, Grouse Creek	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	у	
EB3081	Cache, Meadowville †	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	у	
EB3082	Cache, North	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	у	

EB3083	Cache, South	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	у	
EB3084	Central Mtns, Manti	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3085	Central Mtns, Nebo	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3086	Fillmore, Pahvant	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	у	
EB3087	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3088	Monroe	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3089	Mt Dutton	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3090	Nine Mile, Anthro	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	n	
EB3091	North Slope, Three Corners	Nov. 1–Nov. 9	У	Tri-State Agreement
EB3092	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	n	
EB3093	Panguitch Lake	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3094	Paunsaugunt	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3095	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3096	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3097	San Juan (bull elk)	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3098	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3099	Southwest Desert	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3100	Wasatch Mtns	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	У	
EB3101	West Desert, Deep Creek	Sept. 25–Oct. 6	n	

Multi-Season

		2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
EB3102	Beaver, East	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3103	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	All Limited Entry Seasons	У	
EB3104	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3105	Cache, Meadowville †	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3106	Cache, North	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3107	Cache, South	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3108	Central Mtns, Manti	All Limited Entry Seasons	У	
EB3109	Central Mtns, Nebo	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3110	Fillmore, Pahvant	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3111	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3112	Monroe	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3113	Mt Dutton	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3114	Nine Mile, Anthro	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3115	North Slope, Three Corners	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3116	Oquirrh-Stansbury	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3117	Panguitch Lake	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3118	Paunsaugunt	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3119	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3120	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	All Limited Entry Seasons	У	
EB3121	San Juan (bull elk)	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3122	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3123	Southwest Desert	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	
EB3124	Wasatch Mtns	All Limited Entry Seasons	у	
EB3125	West Desert, Deep Creek	All Limited Entry Seasons	n	

†This unit is composed of all or largely private property. Hunters should acquire written permission from the landowner before applying for this hunt.

Youth Any Bull Hunts

		2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
EB1004	Youth General Any Bull Elk	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	

(y) At least one nonresident permit in 2017

(n) No nonresident permit in 2017

NOTE: Permit numbers will be determined in May 2017

Limited Entry Pronghorn

Archery Hunts

		2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
PB5000	Beaver	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5001	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5002	Book Cliffs, South	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
PB5003	Box Elder, Promontory	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5004	Box Elder, Puddle Valley	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5005	Box Elder, Snowville	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5006	Box Elder, West	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5007	Cache/Morgan-South Rich/Ogden	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
PB5008	Fillmore, Oak Creek	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5009	La Sal, Potash/South Cisco	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5010	Mt Dutton/Paunsaugunt, Johns Valley	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
PB5011	Nine Mile, Anthro-Myton Bench	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
	Nine Mile, Range Creek	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	New Hunt
PB5012	North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
	Panguitch Lake/Zion, North	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	New Hunt
PB5013	Pine Valley	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
PB5014	Plateau, Parker Mtn	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
	San Rafael, Desert	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	New Hunt
PB5015	San Rafael, North	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
PB5016	South Slope, Bonanza/Diamond Mtn	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5017	South Slope, Vernal	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5018	Southwest Desert	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	У	
PB5019	West Desert, Riverbed	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5020	West Desert, Rush Valley	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	n	
PB5021	West Desert, Snake Valley	Aug. 19–Sept. 15	у	

Muzzleloader hunts

		2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
PB5022	Cache/Morgan-South Rich/Ogden	Sept. 27-Oct. 5	У	
PB5023	Plateau, Parker Mtn	Sept. 27-Oct. 5	У	
	San Rafael, North	Sept. 27-Oct. 5	У	New Hunt
PB5024	Southwest Desert	Sept. 27-Oct. 5	у	

Any Legal Weapon Hunts

		2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits	Notes
PB5025	Beaver	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5026	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5027	Book Cliffs, South	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5028	Box Elder, Promontory	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5029	Box Elder, Puddle Valley	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5030	Box Elder, Snowville	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5031	Box Elder, West	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5032	Cache/Morgan-South Rich/Ogden	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5033	Fillmore, Oak Creek	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5034	Kaiparowits	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	n	
PB5035	La Sal, Potash/South Cisco	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5036	Mt Dutton/Paunsaugunt, Johns Valley	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5037	Nine Mile, Anthro-Myton Bench	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5038	Nine Mile, Range Creek	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5039	North Slope, Summit	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	n	
PB5040	North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5041	Panguitch Lake/Zion, North	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5042	Pine Valley	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5043	Plateau, Parker Mtn	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5044	San Juan, Hatch Point	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	n	
PB5045	San Rafael, Desert	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5046	San Rafael, North	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5047	South Slope, Bonanza/Diamond Mtn	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5048	South Slope, Vernal	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5049	Southwest Desert	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5050	West Desert, Riverbed	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5051	West Desert, Rush Valley	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	
PB5052	West Desert, Snake Valley	Sept. 16-Sept. 24	у	

(y) At least one nonresident permit in 2017

(n) No nonresident permit in 2017

NOTE: Permit numbers will be determined in May 2017

ONCE IN A LIFETIME SPECIES

Bull Moose		2017	2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Archery Only	Nonres Permits	Notes
MB6000	Cache	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	у	
MB6001	Chalk Creek †	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	n	
MB6002	East Canyon †	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	n	
MB6003	East Canyon, Morgan-Summit †	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	n	
MB6004	Kamas	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	n	
MB6005	Morgan-South Rich †	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	n	
MB6006	North Slope, Summit	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	у	
MB6007	North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	n	
MB6008	Ogden †	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	n	
MB6009	South Slope, Diamond Mtn/Vernal	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	n	
MB6010	South Slope, Yellowstone	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	n	
MB6011	Wasatch Mtns/Central Mtns	Sept. 16-Oct. 19	Oct. 20-Oct. 26	у	

†This unit is composed of all or largely private property. Hunters should acquire written permission from the landowner before applying for this hunt.

Bison		2017	2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Archery Only	Nonres Permits	Notes
BI6500	Antelope Island	Dec. 4–Dec. 6	None	у	
BI6501	Book Cliffs (hunter's choice)	Oct. 14–Dec. 1	Dec. 2-Dec. 8	у	Date Change
	Book Cliffs, Wild Horse Bench/Nine Mile (hunter's choice)	Aug. 1 2017–Jan. 31 2018	None	у	New Hunt
	Book Cliffs (cow only)	Nov. 11–Dec. 1	Dec. 2-Dec. 8	у	New Hunt
BI6503	Henry Mtns (hunter's choice)	Nov. 4–Nov. 16	Jan. 1–Jan. 7 2018	у	
BI6504	Henry Mtns (hunter's choice)	Nov. 18–Nov. 30	Jan. 1–Jan. 7 2018	у	
BI6505	Henry Mtns (cow only)	Dec. 2–Dec. 15	Jan. 1–Jan. 7 2018	у	
BI6506	Henry Mtns (cow only)	Dec. 16–Dec. 31	Jan. 1–Jan. 7 2018	у	

Desert Bighorn Sheep		2017	2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Archery Only	Nonres Permits	Notes
DS6600	Henry Mtns	Sept. 16-Nov.10	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	n	
DS6601	Kaiparowits, East*	Sept. 16-Nov.10	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	у	
DS6602	Kaiparowits, Escalante	Sept. 16-Nov.10	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	n	
DS6603	Kaiparowits, West	Sept. 16-Nov.10	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	у	
DS6604	La Sal, Potash/South Cisco	Sept. 16-Nov.10	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	n	
DS6605	Pine Valley	Oct. 28–Dec. 30	Dec. 31 2017–Jan. 6 2018	n	
DS6606	San Juan, Lockhart	Sept. 16-Nov.10	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	n	
DS6607	San Juan, South	Sept. 16-Nov.10	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	n	Boundary Change
DS6608	San Rafael, Dirty Devil	Sept. 16-Nov.10	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	n	
DS6609	San Rafael, North	Sept. 16-Nov.10	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	n	
DS6610	San Rafael, South †	Sept. 16-Nov.10	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	у	
DS6611	Zion^	Sept. 16-Oct. 13	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	у	
DS6612	Zion	Oct. 14–Nov. 10	Nov. 11–Nov. 17	n	

* Nonresidents may only hunt the Kaiparowits East and Escalante subunits

† Nonresidents may hunt both the San Rafael, North and San Rafael, South subunits

^ Nonresidents may hunt both the early and late season of the Zion unit

Rocky N	Iountain Bighorn Sheep	2017	2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Archery Only	Nonres Permits	Notes
RS6700	Antelope Island	Nov. 15–Nov. 22	None	n	
RS6701	Book Cliffs, South	Nov. 1–Nov. 30	Dec. 1–Dec. 7	у	
RS6703	Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn	Oct. 28–Nov. 17	Dec. 11–Dec. 17	n	
RS6704	Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn	Nov. 18–Dec. 10	Dec. 11–Dec. 17	у	
RS6705	Central Mtns, Nebo/Wasatch Mtns, West*	Nov. 1–Nov. 30	Dec. 1–Dec. 7	n	
	Nine Mile, Gray Canyon	Nov. 1–Nov. 30	Dec. 1–Dec. 7	у	New Hunt, Formerly Nine Mile, Ran
	Nine Mile, Jack Creek	Nov. 1–Nov. 30	Dec. 1–Dec. 7	n	New Hunt, Difficult Access
	North Slope, Bare Top/West Daggett	Nov. 1–Nov. 30	Dec. 1–Dec. 7	n	New Hunt
RS6711	Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin*	Nov. 1–Nov. 30	Dec. 1–Dec. 7	n	

*Sportsmans permit holder may only hunt these units during even years, statewide conservation permit holder may only hunt these units during odd years

Mountai	n Goat	2017	2017	2017	2017
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Archery Only	Nonres Permits	Notes
GO6800	Beaver	Sept. 9-Sept. 24	Nov. 16–Nov. 22	у	
GO6801	Beaver	Sept. 25-Nov. 15	Nov. 16-Nov. 22	n	
GO6803	Central Mtns, Nebo	Sept. 11–Nov. 30	Dec. 1–Dec. 7	n	
GO6804	Chalk Creek/Kamas, Uintas	Sept. 16-Oct. 31	Nov. 1–Nov. 7	у	
	Mt Dutton	Sept 11–Nov. 30	Dec. 1–Dec. 7	n	New Hunt
GO6805	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas Central	Sept. 11-Oct. 31	Nov. 1–Nov. 7	у	
GO6806	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas East	Sept. 11-Oct. 31	Nov. 1–Nov. 7	n	
GO6807	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas Leidy Peak	Sept. 11-Oct. 31	Nov. 1–Nov. 7	n	
GO6808	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas West	Sept. 11-Oct. 31	Nov. 1–Nov. 7	у	
GO6809	Ogden, Willard Peak	Sept. 11-Sept. 24	Nov. 16–Nov. 22	у	
GO6810	Ogden, Willard Peak	Sept. 25–Nov. 15	Nov. 16–Nov. 22	у	
GO6811	Ogden, Willard Peak (female goat only)	Oct. 9–Nov. 15	Nov. 16-Nov. 22	у	
GO6812	Wasatch Mtns, Box Elder Peak/Lone Peak/Timpanogos*	Sept. 11–Nov. 30	Dec. 1–Dec. 7	у	
GO6813	Wasatch Mtns, Provo Peak	Sept. 11–Nov. 30	Dec. 1–Dec. 7	n	

*Nonresidents may hunt all Wasatch Mtns subunits apply for hunt GO6812

(y) At least one nonresident permit in 2017

(n) No nonresident permit in 2017

NOTE: Permit numbers will be determined in May 2017



State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources GREGORY J. SHEEHAN Division Director

MEMORANDUM

- **DATE:** October 21, 2016
- TO: Utah Wildlife Board/Regional RAC Members
- FROM: Lindy Varney Wildlife Licensing Specialist
- SUBJECT: Amendment to the Preference Point system

The Wildlife Board has requested to review the way general season applications are evaluated. The Division is presenting an option, which if approved, would evaluate everyone's first hunt choice first, beginning with the applications with the greatest number of preference points, then everyone's second hunt choice, and so forth. In addition, a person would lose their preference points if they draw out for a general season buck deer permit regardless of the hunt choice drawn out on $(1^{st}-5^{th})$. If this option is selected, the Division would standardize this methodology for all of our preference point drawings.

The data shows that if we run the preference point draw system to evaluate everyone's first hunt choice first, beginning with the applications with the greatest number of preference points, then everyone's second hunt choice and so forth, more hunters (57%) will draw out on their first hunt choice compared to the current way we conduct the draw (54%). Also, fewer applicants will draw out on their second through fifth hunt choice (5.5%) compared to the current draw system (8.8%).



R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources.

R657-62. Drawing Application Procedures.

R657-62-1. Purpose and Authority.

(1) Under authority of Sections 23-14-18 and 23-14-19, the Wildlife Board has established this rule for drawing applications and procedures.

(2) Specific season dates, bag and possession limits, areas open, number of permits and other administrative details that may change annually are published in the respective guidebooks of the Wildlife Board.

R657-62-9. Preference Points.

(1) Preference points are used in the applicable drawings to ensure that applicants who are unsuccessful in the drawing will have first preference in the next year's drawing.

(2)(a) A preference point is awarded for:

(i) each valid, unsuccessful application[-of the first-choice hunt when] applying for a general buck deer[-permit; or][(ii) each valid unsuccessful application when applying for an], antlerless deer, antlerless elk, doe pronghorn, Sandhill Crane, Sharp-tailed grouse, Greater sage grouse or Swan permit; or

([iii]ii) each valid application when applying only for a preference point in the applicable drawings.

(b) Preference points are awarded by species for:

(i) general buck deer;

(ii) antlerless deer;

(iii) antlerless elk;

(iv) doe pronghorn;

(v) Sandhill Crane;

(vi) Sharp-tailed Grouse;

(vii) Greater sage grouse; and

(viii) Swan.

(3)(a) A person may not apply in the drawing for both a preference point and a permit for the species listed in (2)(b).

(b) A person may not apply for a preference point if that person is ineligible to apply for a permit.

(c) Preference points shall not be used when obtaining remaining permits.

(4) Preference points <u>for the applicable species</u> are forfeited if[+][(a)] a person obtains a[<u>first-choice hunt</u>] general buck deer[<u>permit through the drawing</u>;][(b) a person obtains an]. antlerless deer, antlerless elk, doe pronghorn, Sandhill Crane, Sharp-tailed grouse, Greater sage grouse or Swan permit through the drawing[+].

(5) Preference points are not transferable.

(6) Preference points are averaged and rounded down when two or more applicants apply together on a group application.

(7)(a) Preference points are tracked using social security numbers or division-issued customer identification numbers.

(b) The division shall retain copies of electronic applications from 2000 to the current applicable drawings for the purpose of researching preference point records.

(c) Any requests for researching an applicant's preference point records must be submitted within the time frames provided in Subsection (b).

(d) Any preference points on the division's records shall not be researched beyond the time frames provided in Subsection (b).

(e) The division may eliminate any preference point obtained by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or in violation of law.

KEY: wildlife, permits Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: March 16, 2015 Notice of Continuation: April 14, 2014 Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 23-14-18; 23-14-19



SPENCER J. COX Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

GARY R. HERBERT Governor Division of Wildlife B

Division of Wildlife Resources GREGORY J. SHEEHAN Division Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 21, 2016

To: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

From: Dax Mangus, Northeastern Regional Wildlife Manager

SUBJECT: 2016 Deer Unit Management Plan updates for the Northeastern and Southeastern Regions.

The attached documents are the Divisions recommended updates for Deer Unit Management Plans for units in the Northeastern Region. Subunits in the Southeastern and Northern Regions are also included in one or more of these plans.

Deer Unit Management Plan updates and recommended changes:

Nine Mile

1. No changes are recommended to population or buck-doe ratio management objectives.

Book Cliffs

1. No changes are recommended to population or buck-doe ratio management objectives.

North Slope

1. Recommend increasing population management objective from 6,200 to 10,000 deer. The population estimate is currently near the recommended management objective and both production and survival continue to be good. Range trend monitoring indicates that habitat is in stable or improving condition.

2. No changes are recommended to the buck-doe ratio management objectives for the North Slope.

South Slope

1. No changes are recommended to population or buck-doe ratio management objectives for (9A) South Slope, Yellowstone subunit.

2. Recommend increasing population management objective for (9B,C,D) South Slope, Vernal/Diamond Mtn./Bonanza subunit from 13,000 to 15,000 deer. The population estimate for this subunit is currently above the management objective and both production and survival continues to be good. No changes are recommended to the buck-doe ratio management objective for (9B,C,D) South Slope, Vernal/Diamond Mtn./Bonanza subunit.

Wasatch Mountains, East

1. No changes are recommended to the buck-doe ratio management objectives for any of the Wasatch Mountains subunits.

2. No changes are recommended to population management objectives for (17A) Wasatch Mountains, West subunit.

3. Recommend increasing the population management objective on (17B) Wasatch Mountains, Currant Creek subunit from 15,000 to 20,000 deer. The population estimate is currently well above the management objective and both production and survival continue to be good. Range trend monitoring indicates that habitat is in stable or improving condition.

3. Recommend increasing the population management objective on (17C) Wasatch Mountains, Avintaquin subunit from 3,500 to 5,000 deer. The population estimate is currently at the management objective and both production and survival continue to be good. Range trend monitoring indicates that habitat is in stable **DNR** improving condition.



DEER HERD UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN Deer Herd Unit # 8 North Slope October 2016

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Daggett and Summit counties--Boundary begins SR-150 and the Summit-Duchesne county line at Hayden Pass (summit of the Uinta Mountains); north on SR-150 to the Utah-Wyoming state line; east on this state line to the Utah-Colorado state line; south on this state line to the Green River; west along this river to Flaming Gorge Reservoir; west along the south shoreline of this reservoir to Cart Creek; south along this creek to US-191; south on US-191 to the Uintah-Daggett County line (summit of the Uinta Mountains); west along the summit of the Uinta mountains to SR-150 at Hayden Pass.

LAND OWNERSHIP

	Yearlong range		Summer Range		Winter Range	
Ownership	Area (acres)	%	Area (acres)	%	Area (acres)	%
Forest Service	4780	65	494914	87	76070	42
Bureau of Land Management	0	0	20033	4	43202	24
Utah State Institutional Trust Lands	302	4	7819	1	19276	11
Native American Trust Lands	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private	2249	31	45825	8	37188	21
Department of Defense	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utah State Parks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utah Department of Transportation	0	0	0	0	9	<1
Utah Forestry, Fire & State Lands	0	0	0	0	2	<1
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	7	<1	989	<1	4627	2
TOTAL	7338	100	569580	100	180374	100

RANGE AREA AND	ΔΡΡΡΟΧΙΜΑΤΕ	OWNERSHIP -	August 2016
RANGE AREA AND	AFFROMINATE	OWNERSHIF -	August 2010

UNIT MANAGEMENT GOALS

- Manage for a population of healthy animals capable of providing a broad range of recreational opportunities, including hunting and viewing.
- Expand and improve mule deer populations within the carrying capacity of available habitats and in consideration of other land uses.
- Conserve and improve mule deer habitat throughout the unit with emphasis on crucial ranges.

POPULATION MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- Long Term Target Winter Herd Size The long-term objective is 10,000 wintering deer (modeled number), which is an increase from the previous management plan. The increase is recommended due to a change in population models since the last management plan update. Range trend ratings have remained stable in the "Good" category over the past 5 years with the increasing deer herd size.
- < Short Term Objective No short term objective is needed for this unit.
- < <u>Herd Composition</u> Buck:doe ratios will follow the statewide mule deer management plan, which is currently set at 18 to 20 bucks per 100 does for the North Slope Unit.
- Harvest Continue general season unit by unit buck deer hunt management, using archery, any weapon, and muzzleloader hunts. There is also an early season limited entry buck hunting opportunity on the Summit Subunit that allows for hunting of deer and elk simultaneously and takes advantage of bucks that may migrate out of the unit before the regular late October rifle season. Buck permits will be adjusted to maintain buck:doe ratio objectives.

POPULATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Monitoring

<u>Population Size</u> - A model will be used to estimate the wintering population size, by utilizing harvest data, postseason and spring classifications, and radio collar based survival estimates.

- <u>Harvest</u> The primary means of monitoring harvest will be through the statewide uniform harvest survey. Achieve the target population size by use of antlerless harvest using a variety of harvest methods and seasons. Antlerless hunts will be used to reduce deer densities in areas where habitat damage is occurring due to overpopulation and in areas where depredation is an issue. Buck harvest strategies will be developed through the RAC and Wildlife Board process to achieve management objectives for buck to doe ratios.
- <u>Migration</u> There currently isn't much data, other than anecdotal, on migration routes or the percentage of mule deer that leave the unit, and even the state, during the winter. The DWR would like to radio collar does as funding opportunities allow to determine migration routes between summer and winter ranges and to determine percentage of deer that overwinter out of state or on other units to allow for more accurate population modeling. Knowing when the deer migrate can also help to better manage hunts for the North Slope subunits.

Strategies to address Limiting Factors:

- < <u>Crop Depredation</u> Take all steps necessary to minimize depredation as prescribed by state law and DWR policy.
- < <u>Deer Distribution</u> Targeted anterless hunts, mitigation permits/vouchers, and agency removal and/or trap and cull operations may be used to address unnaturally high concentrations of deer in the city of Manilla. DWR will continue to work with Manilla city leadership to address this issue.
- < <u>Habitat</u> Winter range forage conditions, public land range availability and landowner acceptance will determine herd size. Excessive habitat utilization will be addressed with antlerless hunting.
- < <u>Predation</u> DWR will follow the strategies outlined in the predator management policy.

- <u>Highway Mortality</u> Highway mortality is a significant factor in reduced population growth in deer. DWR will work with UDOT, Summit and Daggett counties, Universities, local conservation groups, and landowners to minimize highway mortality by identifying locations of high deer-vehicle collisions and erecting sufficient wildlife crossing structures in those locations. DWR will evaluate the effectiveness of the crossing structures over time and implement new technologies to improve future wildlife crossing structures.
- <u>Disease</u> The impact of disease on deer herds is difficult to assess. Monitoring will continue for diseases that have been found in the state including bluetongue, epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD), pneumonia, enterotoxemia, and chronic wasting disease (CWD). CWD has been documented on the North Slope Unit. Since 2002 when CWD monitoring was initiated, 7 samples from deer have tested positive for CWD out of 4790 samples tested from across the North Slope unit since and South Slope units. No elk samples have tested positive on the North Slope unit since sampling began in 2002.
- < <u>Illegal Harvest</u> Support law enforcement efforts to educate the public concerning poaching and reduce illegal taking of deer.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- Protect, maintain and/or enhance forage production through direct range improvements throughout the unit to achieve herd population management objectives. Minimize and mitigate impacts from energy development activities. Minimize deer vehicle collisions along highways on the unit.
- Work with private landowner and federal, state and local government agencies to maintain and protect critical and existing winter range from future losses and degradation through grazing management and OHV and Travel Plan modifications.
- Work with federal, private, and state partners to improve crucial deer habitats through the Watershed Restoration Initiative (WRI) process. Also work with federal and state partners in fire rehabilitation on crucial deer habitat through the WRI process.
- Maintain and protect critical winter range from future losses. Preserve, protect and/or acquire critical winter range when the opportunity arises.
- < Provide improved habitat security and escapement opportunities for deer.

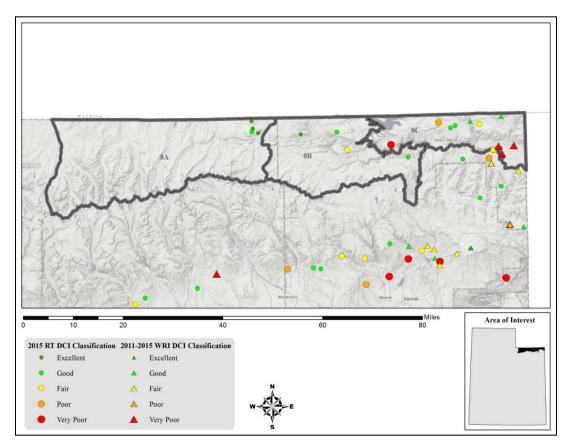
HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

- Continue to improve, protect, and restore sagebrush steppe habitats critical to deer. Cooperate with federal land management agencies and private landowners in carrying out habitat improvements such as pinion-juniper removal, reseedings, controlled burns, grazing management, water developments, etc. on public and private lands. Habitat improvement projects will occur on both winter ranges as well as summer range.
- Continue to monitor permanent range trend studies located throughout the herd unit.
- Conduct cooperative seasonal range rides and surveys to evaluate forage condition and utilization. Determining opportunities for habitat improvements will be an integral part of these surveys. This will also be pivotal in determining if antlerless harvest is necessary.
- Work toward long term habitat protection and preservation through the use of agreements with federal agencies and local governments and the use of conservation easements on private lands.

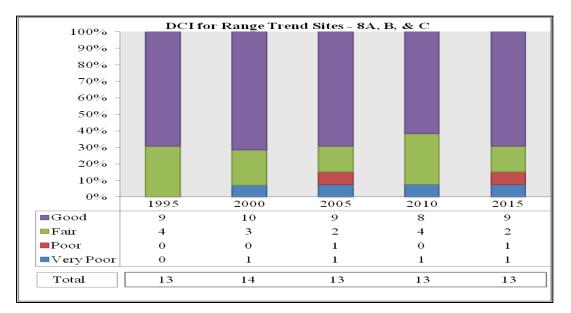
- Work with land management agencies, conservation organizations, private landowners, and local leaders through the regional WRI working groups to identify and prioritize mule deer habitats that are in need of enhancement or restoration.
- < Utilize antlerless deer harvest to improve or protect forage conditions if and when vegetative declines are attributed to deer over utilization.
- Initiate broad scale vegetative treatment projects to improve mule deer habitat with emphasis on drought or fire damaged sagebrush winter ranges, ranges that are being taken over by invasive annual grass species, and ranges being diminished by encroachment of conifers into sagebrush or aspen habitats.
- < Support, cooperate with, and provide input to land management planning efforts dealing with actions affecting habitat security, quality and quantity.
- Manage vehicle access on DWR lands to limit human disturbance during times of high stress, such as winter and fawning.
- Manage riparian areas in critical fawning habitat to furnish water, cover, and succulent forage from mid to late summer.
- Properly manage elk populations to minimize competition with mule deer on crucial ranges.
- Reduce expansion of pinion-juniper and other woodlands into sagebrush habitats and improve habitats dominated by pinion-juniper woodlands by completing habitat restoration projects like lop and scatter, bullhog, and chaining.
- Manage conifer encroachment on important summer ranges by utilizing prescribed fire. Seek opportunities to increase browse in burned areas of critical winter range.
- Protect deer winter ranges from wildfire by reseeding burned areas, creating fuel breaks and vegetated green strips and reseed areas dominated by cheat grass with desirable perennial vegetation.
- < Work with state and federal land management agencies to properly manage livestock to enhance crucial mule deer ranges
- Minimize impacts and mitigate for losses of crucial habitat due to human impacts and energy development. Oil and gas specific habitat biologists will lead this effort.
- Work with county, state, and federal agencies to limit the negative effects of roads by reclaiming unused roads, properly planning new roads, and installing fencing and highway passage structures where roads disrupt normal mule deer migration patterns.

PERMANENT RANGE TREND SUMMARIES

Distribution of Range Trend study sites in the North Slope Unit:



Trend of deer winter range condition on Unit 8 as indicated by DWR permanent Big Game Range Trend studies:



Condition of deer winter range on Unit 8 as indicated by DWR range trend surveys:

Year	Mean DCI Score for Unit	Classification	Unit-specific DCI Score Range: Low	Unit-specific DCI Score Range: Mid	Unit-specific DCI Score Range: High
1995	74	Good	65	76	76
2000	70	Good	57	74	81
2005	64	Good	54	60	85
2010	68	Good	52	63	87
2015	66	Good	21	75	90

8bc (West Daggett & Three Corners)

8a (Summit)

Year	Mean DCI Score for Unit	Classification	Unit-specific DCI Score Range: Low	Unit-specific DCI Score Range: Mid	Unit-specific DCI Score Range: High
1995	90	Good	-	-	90
2000	93	Excellent	-	-	93
2005	88	Good	-	-	88
2010	93	Excellent	-	-	93
2015	94	Excellent	-	-	94

APPENDIX

Unit 8bc, North Slope, Daggett and Three Corners subunits

Overall range trend within these subunits is good. Some areas within this subunit suffered a sagebrush die-off, primarily due to the extensive seven-year drought. This is reflected in the DCI rating for these sites.

There are ten permanent winter range trend study sites on this portion of the unit. In 2010, two sites had a higher Desired Components Index figure showing an improvement in habitat quality. Study sites in the low ecological potential had a slight decrease in their DCI rating, while the mid potential was up slightly. The overall DCI rating is "Good" at 66 for 2015, which is down from 68 found in the year 2010.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Big Game Range Inventory crew read a total of 10 range trend study sites during 2015. Three sites had improving browse trend, 4 were stable and 3 had declining trends due to drought conditions and/or increases in annual grasses. Overall, the majority of the sites are in good condition. The key browse species are principally Wyoming big sagebrush, mountain big sagebrush and mountain browse species such as true mountain mahogany. Areas where sagebrush is the key species have remained stable, but recruitment of young plants has generally remained low. The perennial forb understories associated with mountain big sagebrush and Wyoming big sagebrush have stayed low, but have shown stable to upward trends for perennial grasses. Annual grasses, namely cheatgrass, have increased across sites, placing sites at increased risk for fire.

Two additional range trend sites located in Brown's Park, south of the Green River, are technically in the South Slope Diamond Mountain subunit, but can be used to show range trend on the Three Corners Subunit. They both show fair DCI ratings, and both have low potential ecological potential.

Essential vegetation types monitored include Mountain big sagebrush, Wyoming big sagebrush and mountain brush (which includes bitterbrush, mountain mahogany, curleaf mahogany and service berry).

Unit 8a, North Slope, Summit Subunit

The steep slopes on the study sites have high erosion potential. However, the understory, especially the bunch grasses, is dense and vigorous and provides adequate soil stabilization. Browse trends on the unit for the key browse species, mountain mahogany, are stable to slightly up. The sites in this area all show a stable to slightly increasing trend. The slight upward trend in the last 5 years is probably a result of increased precipitation. The overall DCI rating is excellent.

DEER HERD UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN Deer Herd Unit # 9 South Slope October, 2016

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Wasatch, Summit, Daggett, Uintah, Duchesne counties - Boundary begins at the Junction of US-40 and SR-87 in Duchesne; north on SR-87 to SR-35; northwest on SR-35 to the Provo River; north along the Provo River to the North Fork Provo River; north along the North Fork Provo River to SR-150; north along SR-150 to the Summit/Duchesne county line (summit of the Uinta Mountains); east along the summit of the Uinta Mountains to US-191; north along US-191 to Cart Creek; north along Cart Creek to Flaming Gorge Reservoir; east along Flaming Gorge Reservoir to the Green River; east along the Green River to the Utah-Colorado state line; south along the Utah-Colorado state line to the White River; west along the White River to the Green River to US-40 at Myton; west along US-40 to SR-87 in Duchesne.

LAND OWNERSHIP

RANGE AREA AND APPROXIMATE OWNERSHIP						
	Yearlong range		Summer Range		Winter Range	
Ownership	Area (acres)	%	Area (acres)	%	Area (acres)	%
Forest Service	69	0%	873,235	76%	39,946	7%
Bureau of Land Management	33,042	6%	94,873	8%	183,516	31%
Utah State Institutional Trust Lands	16,195	3%	8,848	1%	36,543	6%
Native American Trust Lands	102,738	20%	35,291	3%	200,458	34%
Private	342,288	66%	108,133	9%	107,791	18%
USFWS Refuge	5,737	1%	0	0%	0	0%
National Parks	9,576	2%	7,925	1%	11,706	2%
Utah State Parks	346	<1%	0	0%	4,050	1%
Utah State Lands & Forestry	69	<1%	0	0%	0	0%
US Bureau of Reclamation	659	<1%	0	0%	0	0%
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	897	<1%	13,716	1%	2,994	1%
TOTAL	950,681	100%	1,140,008	100%	731,950	100%

RANGE AREA AND APPROXIMATE OWNERSHIP

UNIT MANAGEMENT GOALS

Manage the deer population at a level capable of providing a broad range of recreational opportunities, including hunting and viewing.

Balance deer herd goals and objectives with impacts on human needs, such as private property rights, agricultural crops and local economies.

POPULATION MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Target Winter Herd Size – Manage for a target population of 28,000 wintering deer (modeled number) during the five-year planning period unless range conditions become unsuitable, as evaluated by DWR. Range trend data coupled with annual browse monitoring will be used to assess habitat condition. Biologists will continue to carefully monitor winter ranges and make recommendations to improve and protect winter habitat. Should over-utilization and range damage by deer occur, recommendations will be made to reduce deer populations to sustainable levels in localized areas.

Long Term Target Winter Herd Size – population size of 28,000 wintering deer (modeled number) distributed in the following subpopulations:

- 9a	Yellowstone subpopulation:	13,000
- 9b,c&d	Vernal/Bonanza and Diamond Mountain subpopulations:	15,000

 <u>Herd Composition</u> – The Yellowstone and Vernal/Bonanza subunits are General Season subunits and will be managed for a 3-year average postseason buck to doe ratio in accordance to the statewide deer plan. 9a is managed for 18-20 bucks per 100 does. 9b,d is managed for 15-17 bucks per 100 does).

The Diamond Mountain subunit 9c will be managed as a Limited Entry hunting unit, with a 3 year average postseason buck to doe ratio objective ranging from 25 to 35 bucks per 100 does.

<u>Harvest</u> – Continue general season unit by unit buck deer hunt management, using archery, any weapon and muzzleloader hunts. Buck permits will be adjusted to maintain buck-doe ratio objectives. Antlerless permits will be issued to address specific localized range degradation concerns or crop depredation.

POPULATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Monitoring

- <u>Population Size</u> Winter population size will be estimated using a model that was developed to utilize harvest data, postseason and spring classifications and radio collar based survival estimates. Annual survival rates for adult does and doe fawns will be monitored by capturing and radio collaring at least 20 doe fawns each December across the unit and monitoring survival rates into adult hood. A minimum of 50 collared adult females will be mainitained across the unit to monitor adult survival.
- <u>Harvest</u> The primary means of monitoring harvest will be through the statewide uniform harvest survey. We recognize that buck harvest may be above or below what is expected due to climatic and productivity variables. Buck harvest strategies will be developed through the RAC and Wildlife Board process to achieve management objectives for buck:doe ratios.

Strategies to address Limiting Factors:

<u>Crop Depredation</u> - Minimize depredation as prescribed by state law and DWR policy.

<u>Habitat</u> - Public land winter range availability, landowner acceptance and winter range forage conditions will determine herd size. Excessive habitat utilization will be addressed with antlerless deer hunts to lower populations in localized areas.

<u>Predation</u> - DWR will follow the strategies outlined in the predator management policy.

- <u>Highway Mortality</u> Highway mortality is a significant factor in reduced population growth in deer. Work should continue in cooperation with UDOT, Uintah and Duchesne counties, universities, local conservation groups, and landowners to minimize highway mortality by identifying locations of high deer-vehicle collisions and erecting sufficient wildlife crossing structures in those locations. Evaluate the effectiveness of the crossing structures over time and implement new technologies to improve future wildlife crossing structures.
- <u>Disease</u> The impact of disease on deer herds is difficult to assess. Monitoring will continue for diseases that have been found in the state includingbluetongue, epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD), pneumonia, enterotoxemia and chronic wasting disease (CWD). CWD has been documented on the Vernal and Diamond Mountain subunits. Since 2002 when CWD monitoring was initiated, samples from deer have tested positive for CWD out of 4790 samples tested from across the North Slope and the South Slope units. Between 2008 and 2015 there were no new positive samples found until 1 positive was detected in 2015. 1900 elk samples have been tested since 2002 with only one positive result in 2014.
- <u>Illegal Harvest</u> Support law enforcement efforts to educate the public concerning poaching and reduce illegal taking of deer.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Protect, maintain, and/or improve deer habitat through direct range improvements to support and maintain herd population management objectives.

Work with private landowners and federal, state, and local governments to maintain and protect critical and existing ranges from future losses and degradation through grazing management and OHV and Travel Plan modifications.

Work with federal, private, and state partners to improve crucial deer habitats through the Watershed Restoration Initiative (WRI) process. Priority will be given to areas affected by the 2003 sagebrush die off and burned areas that are now dominated by cheat grass.

Work with federal and state partners in fire rehabilitation on crucial deer habitat through the WRI process.

Maintain and protect critical winter range from future losses. Preserve, protect and/or acquire critical winter range when the opportunity arises.

Minimize and mitigate impacts from energy development activities. Minimize deer vehicle collisions along highways on the unit.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Continue to improve, protect, and restore sagebrush steppe habitats critical to deer. Cooperate with federal land management agencies and private landowners in carrying out habitat improvements such as pinion-juniper removal, reseedings, controlled burns, grazing

Draft 10/24/2016

management, water developments, etc. on public and private lands. Habitat improvement projects will occur on both winter ranges as well as summer range. Priority will be given to areas affected by the 2003 sagebrush die off and burned areas that are now dominated by cheat grass.

Continue to monitor permanent range trend studies located throughout the unit.

Conduct cooperative seasonal range assessments to evaluate forage condition and utilization. Determining opportunities for habitat improvements will be an integral part of these surveys. This will also be pivotal in determining if antlerless harvest is necessary.

Work toward long term habitat protection and preservation through the use of agreements with federal agencies and local governments and the use of conservation easements on private lands.

Support, cooperate with, and provide input to land management planning efforts dealing with actions affecting habitat security, quality and quantity.

Work with land management agencies and energy companies to minimize and mitigate impacts of energy development activities. Oil and gas specific habitat biologists will lead this effort. Continue to monitor deer survival on this unit through radio telemetry studies. Use telemetry data to determine potential habitat improvement projects.

Manage vehicle access on DWR lands to limit human disturbance during times of high stress, such as winter and fawning.

Manage riparian areas in critical fawning habitat to furnish water, cover and succulent forage from mid to late summer.

Protect deer winter ranges from wildfire by reseeding burned areas, creating fuel breaks and vegetated green strips and reseed areas dominated by cheat grass with desirable perennial vegetation.

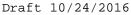
Reduce expansion of pinion-juniper and other woodlands into sagebrush habitats and improve habitats dominated by pinion-juniper woodlands by completing habitat restoration projects like lop & scatter, bullhog, and chaining.

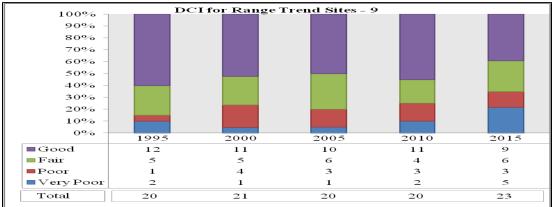
Manage conifer encroachment on important summer ranges by utilizing prescribed fire. Seek opportunities to increase browse in burned areas of critical winter range.

Utilize antlerless deer harvest to improve or protect forage conditions when vegetative declines are attributed to deer over utilization.

PERMANENT RANGE TREND SUMMARIES

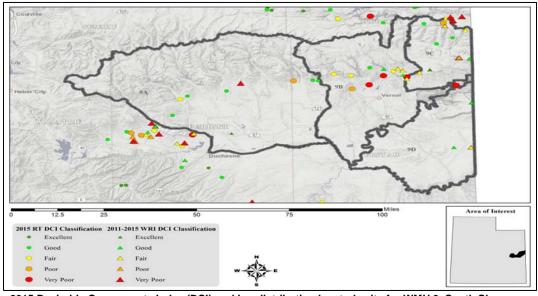
The following graph shows the trend of deer winter range condition on Unit 9, as indicated by DWR permanent Big Game Range Trend studies:





Deer winter range Desirable Components Index (DCI) summary by year of Range Trend sites for Unit 9, South Slope.

Based upon the 2015 range trend studies the overall condition of the South Slope deer unit is currently considered to be declining slightly. The most critical winter range areas are the Wyoming Big Sagebrush areas which are currently only in Fair-Poor condition. These are the areas with the lowest potential and are reflective of the sagebrush die-off that occurred in 2003. These low potential sites are located on the most critical winter range where deer are pushed to on hard winters. Serious range condition problems exist in some of this zone, particularly on the South Slope, Vernal Subunit (9b). This map shows the distribution of the poor rated range trend monitoring sites across the South Slope in red.



2015 Desirable Components Index (DCI) ranking distribution by study site for WMU 9, South Slope. Triangle shaped points indicate Watershed Initiative treatment sites.

Those areas where the range condition is currently in the Poor or Very Poor condition need to be addressed and utilization minimized until range condition can be improved.

Subunit Boundary descriptions:

Unit 9a South Slope, Yellowstone Subunit

Wasatch, Summit, Duchesne, Uintah counties -- Boundary begins at SR-87 and US-40 in Duchesne; north on SR-87 to SR-35; northwest on SR-35 to the Provo River; north along this river to North Fork Provo River; north along this river to SR-150; east and north on SR-150 to the Summit-Duchesne county line (summit of the Uinta Mountains) at Hayden Pass; east along the summit of the Uinta Mountains to the Dry Fork-Whiterocks drainage divide; south atop this divide to USFS Trail #025; southwest on this trail to Whiterocks Lake and the East Fork of the Whiterocks River; south along this river to the Uinta River; south along this river to the Duchesne River; west along this river to US-40 at Myton; west on US-40 to SR-87 in Duchesne.

Unit 9b South Slope, Vernal Subunit

Daggett and Uintah counties -- Boundary begins at the Dry Fork-Whiterocks drainage divide and the Daggett-Uintah county line (summit of the Uinta Mountains); east along the summit of the Uinta Mountains to US-191; north along US-191 to Cart Creek; north along Cart Creek to Flaming Gorge Reservoir; east along Flaming Gorge Reservoir to the Green River; east along the Green River to Gorge Creek; south along Gorge Creek to the summit and the head of Davenport Draw; south along the USFS-Private Land boundary on the west side of Davenport Draw and continuing south along this USFS boundary to the BLM boundary on the Diamond Mountain rim; southeast along the Diamond Mountain rim to the Diamond Mountain road (Jones Hole Road); southwest along this road to the Brush Creek road; south along this road to the Island Park/Rainbow Park road; east along this road to the Dinosaur National Monument boundary; northeast along this boundary to the Utah-Colorado state line; south along this state line to the Green River; south along this river to the Duchesne River; north along this river to the Uinta River; north along this river to Whiterocks river; north along this river to the East Fork of the Whiterocks River; north along this river to Whiterocks Lake and USFS Trail #025; northeast on this trail to the Dry Fork-Whiterocks drainage divide; north atop this divide to the Daggett-Uintah county line (summit of the Uinta Mountains).

Unit 9c South Slope, Diamond Mountain Subunit

Daggett and Uintah counties -- Boundary begins at the Utah-Colorado state line and the Green River at Browns Park; west along this river to Gorge Creek; south along this creek to the summit and the head of Davenport Draw and the USFS boundary; south on this boundary on the west side of Davenport Draw and continuing south on this boundary to the BLM boundary on the Diamond Mountain Rim; east and south along this rim to the Diamond Mountain road (Jones Hole Road); south and west on this road to the Brush Creek road; south on this road to the Island Park/Rainbow Park road; east on this road to the Dinosaur National Monument boundary; north and east on this boundary to the Utah-Colorado state line; north on this state line to the Green River.

Unit 9d South Slope, Bonanza Subunit

Uintah County -- Boundary begins at the Utah-Colorado state line and the White River; west along this river to the Green River; north along this river to the Colorado-Utah state line; south along this state line to the White River.

DEER HERD UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN Deer Herd Unit # 10 (Book Cliffs) October, 2016

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Grand and Uintah counties—Boundary begins at Exit 164 on I-70 near the town of Green River; east on I-70 to the Utah-Colorado state line; north on this state line to the White River; west along this river to the Green River; south along this river to Swasey's Boat Ramp and the Hastings Road; south on this road to SR-19; south and east on SR-19 to Exit 164 on 1-70 near the town of Green River. **EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LAND WITHIN THE BOUNDARY.**

LAND OWNERSHIP

	Yearlong range		Summer Range		Winter Range	
Ownership	Area (acres)	%	Area (acres)	%	Area (acres)	%
Forest Service	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Bureau of Land Management	145453	62%	160399	34%	899786	66%
Utah State Institutional Trust Lands	33770	14%	127776	27%	119242	9%
Native American Trust Lands	51816	22%	161229	35%	253474	19%
Private	4216	2%	9608	2%	90387	7%
Department of Defense	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
USFWS Refuge	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
National Parks	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Utah State Parks	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	0	0%	6518	1%	1689	0%
TOTAL	235255	100%	465531	100%	1364578	100%

RANGE AREA AND APPROXIMATE OWNERSHIP

UNIT MANAGEMENT GOALS

Manage for a population of healthy animals capable of providing a broad range of recreational opportunities, including hunting and viewing. Balance deer herd impacts on human needs, such as private property rights, agricultural crops and local economies. Maintain the population at a level that is within the long-term capability of the available habitat.

POPULATION MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- Maintain a healthy mule deer population within the long term carrying capacity of the available habitat, based on winter range trend studies conducted by the DWR every five years.
- Manage the deer population at a level capable of providing a broad range of recreational opportunities, including hunting and viewing.
- < Balance deer herd goals and objectives with impacts on human needs, such as private property rights, agricultural crops and local economies.

<u>Target Winter Herd Size</u> – Manage for a target population size of 15,000 wintering deer (modeled number) distributed in the following subpopulations:

Unit 10 Total:	15,000
South, Subunit 10B:	5,000
Bitter Creek, Subunit 10A:	10,000

(Subunit boundary descriptions are provided in the Appendix)

Herd Composition and Harvest – The Book Cliffs will be managed as a Limited Entry buck deer hunting unit, with a 3 year average postseason buck to doe ratio objective ranging from 25 to 35 bucks per 100 does. If buck to doe ratios are significantly different on the northern and southern subunits, hunting permits for the rifle season may be adjusted between subunits to better distribute hunter pressure and buck deer harvest. Furthermore, changes to season dates, hunt boundaries, and implementing creative hunt strategies may be explored to ensure that large disparities in buck to doe ratios on subunits are addressed, while maintaining quality on the unit.

POPULATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

<u>Monitoring</u>

- < <u>Population Size</u> Utilizing harvest data, postseason & spring classifications, and mortality estimates, a model has been developed to estimate winter populations. Wintering populations may be modeled separately for each subunit when appropriate.
- <u>Harvest</u> The primary means of monitoring harvest will be through the statewide uniform harvest survey. Buck harvest strategies are developed through the Statewide Deer Plan process and approved by the Wildlife Board to achieve management objectives for buck/doe ratios. A committee was formed to provide a strategy to harvest more bucks on the South Subunit of the Book Cliffs which had a higher buck/doe ratio than the North. The RAC and Wildlife Board accepted the committee's proposal to split the North and South subunits during the any weapon buck deer hunt. .

Strategies to address Limiting Factors:

- < <u>Crop Depredation</u> Take all steps necessary to minimize depredation as prescribed by state law and DWR policy.
- Habitat Changes The vast expanse of the Book Cliffs herd unit is public land managed under a "multiple use" directive. In recent years increased energy development activities have and will continue to contribute to substantial habitat losses and increasing habitat fragmentation. Development of mineral resources through traditional well pads and associated drilling and production facilities may negatively impact deer habitat quality and quantity through loss, disturbance and fragmentation. The paving of the Seep Ridge Road has increased habitat

fragmentation and deer vehicle collisions. In addition to existing mineral lease activities, future development of tar sands and/or oil shale extraction activities pose a significant additional threat to deer habitat. The Book Cliffs deer herd is summer range limited and exhibits slower herd recovery following significant population declines. Proliferation of nonsystem roads and increasing ATV and OHV use compromises deer security and escape possibilities. Domestic cattle grazing outside of recognized grazing plan utilization levels and seasons may negatively impact deer forage availability and condition. Excessive habitat utilization will be addressed when observed. We will continue habitat improvement projects in critical habitat areas.

<u>Predation</u> - DWR will follow the strategies outlined in the predator management policy.

- < <u>Highway Mortality</u> Cooperate with the Utah Department of Transportation and appropriate county road departments in construction of fences, crossing structures, and warning signs, especially in conjunction with the paving of the Seep Ridge Road.
- < <u>Illegal Harvest</u> Support law enforcement efforts to educate the public concerning poaching and reduce illegal taking of deer. In cooperation with the Law Enforcement Section, develop specific preventative measures within the context of an Action Plan to prevent illegal harvest.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- < Maintain and/or enhance forage production through direct range improvements to support and maintain herd population management objectives.
- Work with private landowners and federal, state, local and tribal governments to maintain and protect critical and existing ranges from future losses and degradation.
- < Provide improved habitat security and escapement opportunities for deer.
- < Mitigate impacts from energy development activities.
- Minimize deer vehicle collisions along the Seep Ridge Road corridor.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

- Continue to monitor permanent range trend studies located throughout the unit.
- Conduct cooperative seasonal range rides and surveys to evaluate forage condition and utilization. Determining opportunities for habitat improvements will be an integral part of these surveys.
- Work cooperatively to utilize grazing, prescribed burning and other recognized vegetative manipulation techniques to enhance deer forage quantity and quality.
- < Utilize antlerless deer harvest to improve or protect forage conditions when vegetative declines are attributed to deer over-utilization.
- Cooperate with and provide input to land management planning efforts dealing with actions affecting habitat security, quality and quantity.
- Work with land management agencies and energy companies to minimize and mitigate impacts of energy development activities. Oil and Gas specific habitat biologists will lead this effort.
- Continue to monitor deer survival in relation to the paving of the Seep Ridge Road and work to minimize deer vehicle collisions through fencing, crossing structures, signage, etc.

BOOK CLIFFS HABITAT PROJECTS COMPLETED AND PROPOSED

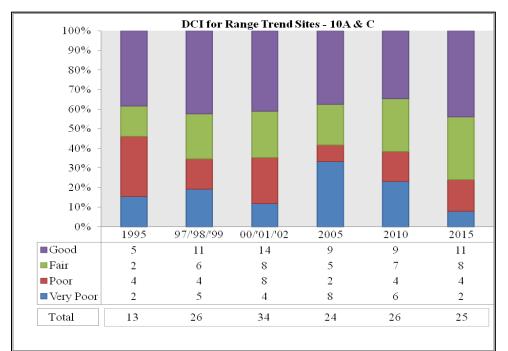
Project Name Acre S Proje		Project Name	Acres		
Little Creek Boundary Fence	0	Indian Springs Bullhog Maintenance	610		
Meadow Creek Boundary Fence	0	Bookcliffs Aspen Exclosure Phase III	0		
Book Cliffs Spring Protection and Enhancement	0	Bookcliffs Water Development	0		
Bitter Creek Riparian Protection	0	West Bookcliffs Aspen Study	0		
Seep Ridge Bullhog Phase II	389	Tom Patterson Rx Line Preparation	47		
Seep Ridge Chaining	321	Atchee Ridge Guzzler Project	0		
Indian Ridge Sagebrush	224	Little Creek WMA Guzzlers	0		
Cedar Camp lop and scatter phase II	869	Monument Ridge Slashing	1,019		
Moonshine Ridge Mountain Browse Enhancement	361	Book Cliffs Gobbler Guzzler Project	0		
Boulevard Ridge Pinyon and Juniper Removal	392	Monument Ridge Bullhog	4,625		
Bookcliffs Aspen Exclosures	0	Bottom Canyon Bullhog Phase II	415		
Archy Bench Sagebrush Restoration	606	North Book Cliffs Wildlife Guzzler Project II	0		
Buck Camp Canyon P-J Project	212	Wolf Den - Rector Ridge Fire Rehabilitation	2,228		
Pine Springs bullhog phase II	494	Wolf Den Fire-Rainbow	525		
Moon Ridge Chaining	540	Park Ridge bullhog maintenance	474		
Little Jim Bullhog	668	Moonshine Bullhog Phase III	426		
Moonshine Bullhog Phase II	619	Steer Ridge Lop and Scatter	566		
Atchee Ridge Lop and Scatter Phase II	483	NER Pronghorn Guzzler Replacement	0		
Book Cliffs Aspen Exclosures Phase II	0	Jack Trap Canyon	334		
Seep Ridge Phase II/Bullhog Maintenance	7293	South Book Cliffs Vegetation Improvement Phase 3 (Hay Canyon)	458		
Bitter Creek (South Books) Restoration Phase 1	1,130	South Book Cliffs Vegetation Improvement Phase 1	343		
Bitter Creek (South Books) Restoration Phase 2	2,250				
South Book Cliffs Vegetation Improvement Phase 2	1,302				
Total Acres Treated					

Completed Projects – 2011 through 2016

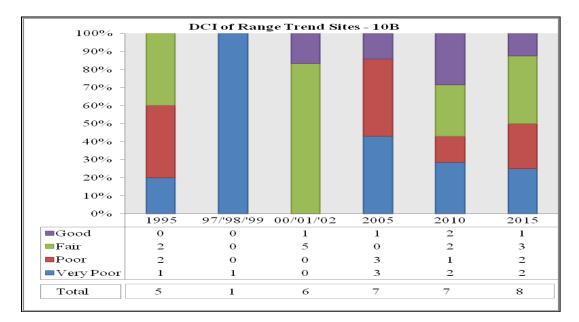
PERMANENT RANGE TREND SUMMARIES

In 2015 mule deer habitat range trend Desirable Conditions Indices were calculated for 22 permanent range trend sites on the North Book Cliffs and 7 permanent range trend study sites on the South Book Cliffs. On the North Book Cliffs 5 "High Potential" summer range sites were evaluated, 8 "Mid Potential" spring/fall transition range sites were evaluated, and 9 "low potential" winter range sites were evaluated. On the South Book Cliffs 7 "low potential" winter range sites were evaluated. These range trend studies show a general trend of stability over the last 10

years with the exception of browse availability on the South Book Cliffs which has declined. In addition, the forb component has generally declined in all these study sites as it has across much of Utah. Weather patterns are the driving force behind much of the trend in range conditions, but continued efforts to reduce pinion juniper monocultures, diversify plant communities, develop/protect limited water resources, increase vigor of browse communities and promote sustainable livestock grazing practices are critical.



Deer winter range Desirable Components Index (DCI) summary by year of Range Trend sites for WMU 10A & C, North Book Cliffs.



Deer winter range Desirable Components Index (DCI) summary by year

of Range Trend sites for WMU 10B, South Book Cliffs.

APPENDIX

Unit 10 Book Cliffs, South subunit

Grand County - Boundary begins at the Utah-Colorado state line and the summit and drainage divide of the Book Cliffs; west along this summit and drainage divide to Diamond Ridge; southwest along Diamond Ridge and the Book Cliffs summit (north-south drainage divide) to the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation boundary (Hells Hole/head of Sego Canyon); west along this boundary to the Green River; south along the Green River to Swasey boat ramp and Hastings Road; south along Hastings Road to SR-19; south and east along SR-19 to exit 164 of I-70;; east along I-70 to the Utah-Colorado state line; north along this state line to the summit and drainage divide of the Book Cliffs.

Unit 10 Book Cliffs, North subunit

Grand and Uintah counties -- Boundary begins at the Utah-Colorado state line and the White River; south along this state line to the Book Cliffs summit (north-south drainage divide); west along this summit and drainage divide to Diamond Ridge; southwest along Diamond Ridge and the Book Cliffs summit (north-south drainage divide) to the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation boundary (Hells Hole/head of Sego Canyon); west along this boundary to the Green River; north along the Green River to the White River; east along this river to the Utah-Colorado state line.

DEER HERD UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN Deer Herd Unit # 11 Nine Mile October, 2016

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Carbon, Duchesne, Emery and Uintah counties—Boundary begins at US-40 and US-191 in Duchesne; southwest on US-191 to US-6; southeast on US-6 to I-70; east on I-70 to Exit 164 and SR-19 near the town of Green River; north and west on SR-19 to Hastings Road; north on this road to the Swasey boat ramp and the Green River; north along this river to the Duchesne River; west along this river to US-40 at Myton; west on US-40 to US-191 in Duchesne.

LAND OWNERSHIP

	Yearlong	range	Summer	Range	Winter Range	
Ownership	Area (acres)	%	Area (acres)	%	Area (acres)	%
Forest Service	7240	1%	35036	10%	57349	11%
Bureau of Land Management	315657	59%	111058	31%	296492	57%
Utah State Institutional Trust Lands	38845	7%	28819	8%	38596	8%
Native American Trust Lands	48508	9%	0	0%	48686	9%
Private	116726	22%	178895	51%	70679	14%
Department of Defense	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
USFWS Refuge	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
National Parks	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Utah State Parks	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	4890	1%	0	0%	6906	1%
TOTAL	531866	100%	353808	100%	518708	100%

RANGE AREA AND APPROXIMATE OWNERSHIP

UNIT MANAGEMENT GOALS

- Manage for a population of healthy animals capable of providing a broad range of recreational opportunities, including hunting and viewing.
- Balance deer herd impacts on human needs, such as private property rights, agricultural crops and local economies.
- Maintain the population at a level that is within the long term carrying capacity of the available habitat, based on winter range trend studies conducted by the DWR every five years.

POPULATION MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

< <u>Target Winter Herd Size</u> - Manage for a 5-year target population of 8,500 wintering deer (modeled number) during the five-year planning period unless range conditions become unsuitable, as evaluated by DWR. Range Trend data coupled with annual browse monitoring will be used to assess habitat condition. Biologists will continue to carefully monitor winter ranges and make recommendations to improve and protect winter habitat. Should over-utilization and range damage by deer occur, recommendations will be made to reduce deer populations to sustainable levels in localized areas

Long Term Objective - Manage for a winter population of 8,500 deer, distributed across the Range Creek and Anthro subunits

Anthro subunit:2,500Range Creek subunit:6,000

- < <u>Herd Composition</u> Manage for a three year average postseason buck to doe ratio of 18 to 20 bucks/100 does in accordance to the statewide plan.
- < <u>Harvest</u> Manage harvest by having General Season unit by unit buck deer hunt regulations, using archery, rifle, and muzzleloader hunts. Buck permits will be adjusted to maintain buck/doe ratio objectives. A late season limited entry muzzleloader hunt will be offered to provide additional opportunity for hunters. This hunt is allowed on units which exceed the 18 to 20 bucks/100 doe objective. Antlerless permits will be issued to address specific localized crop depredation or range degradation.

POPULATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Monitoring

- <u>Population Size</u> A population estimate will be made based on fall and spring herd composition counts conducted by biologists, harvest surveys, and mortality estimates based on radio collar studies and range rides. These data will be used in a population model to determine a winter deer herd population size. The modeled population estimate for the winter of 2015 was 6800 deer with approximately 3/4 of the deer residing on the Range Creek Subunit (5,100 deer) and 1/4 of the deer on the Anthro Subunit (1,700 deer).
- <u>Harvest</u> The primary means of monitoring harvest will be through the statewide uniform harvest survey. Buck harvest strategies will be developed through the RAC and Wildlife Board process to achieve management objectives for buck:doe ratios.

- <u>Research</u> Continue radio telemetry survival study of transplanted deer on the Anthro Unit and expand to Range Creek Subunit as deer are transplanted there.
- <u>Population Augmentation</u> Transplant deer to portions of the unit with low deer densities identified in the approved transplant list. These include portions of the West Tavaputs Plateau and the eastern portion of the Anthro unit. Consider transplant sources from areas with high deer densities and range over-utilization on this and other units as well as areas of urban nuisance populations.
- <u>Disease Management</u> Investigate and manage diseases that threaten mule deer populations and continue monitoring for chronic wasting disease (CWD) as stated in the statewide mule deer plan. This is not a CWD positive unit but is adjacent to one and has had domestic elk facilities that have had incidences of CWD. Continue surveillance through check stations and other methods to document prevalence, and location of positive animals.

Year	Buck	Buck Post-		Post- Post-		% of
	harvest	Season	Season	Season		Objective
		Fawns/100	B/100 doe	B/100 doe Population		
		does		-		
2012	460	59	25	4,700	8,500	55%
2013	438	56	23	5,400	8,500	64%
2014	436	67	29	6,200	8,500	73%
2015	536	68	32	6,800	8,500	80%
3 Year Avg	470	64	28			

Population Trends and Harvest for the Nine Mile Unit

Strategies to address Limiting Factors:

• <u>Crop Depredation</u> - Take all steps necessary to minimize depredation as prescribed by state law and DWR policy.

<u>Habitat</u> - Summer Range is limiting on this unit. Limited portions of the winter range are in poor condition as a result of drought and/or overutilization by wildlife, feral horses, and domestic livestock. Utilization of key shrub species on critical winter ranges will be monitored. This unit has large tracts of private land.

- <u>Predation</u> We will follow DWR predator management policy and include coyote control to protect newly transplanted populations of deer on the Anthro Subunit.
- <u>Highway Mortality</u> Work with UDOT, Counties, universities, local conservation groups, and landowners to minimize highway mortality by identifying locations of high deervehicle collisions and erecting sufficient wildlife crossing structures in those locations. Evaluate the effectiveness of the crossing structures over time and implement new technologies to improve future wildlife crossing structures.
- <u>Illegal Harvest</u> Should illegal kill become an identified and significant source of mortality, attempt to develop specific preventive measures within the context of an Action Plan developed in cooperation with the Law Enforcement Section.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

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- < Protect, maintain, and/or improve deer habitat through direct range improvements to support and maintain herd population management objectives.
- Work with private landowners and federal, state, and local governments to maintain and protect critical and existing ranges from future losses and degradation through grazing management and OHV and Travel Plan modifications.
- Work with federal, private, and state partners to improve crucial deer habitats through the Watershed Restoration Initiative (WRI) process.
- < Work with federal and state partners in fire rehabilitation on crucial deer habitat through the WRI process
- Maintain and protect critical winter range from future losses. Acquire critical winter range when the opportunity arises.
- < Minimize and mitigate impacts from energy development activities.
- < Minimize deer vehicle collisions along highways on the unit.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

- Continue to improve, protect, and restore sagebrush steppe habitats critical to deer. Cooperate with federal land management agencies and private landowners in carrying out habitat improvements such as pinion-juniper removal, reseedings, controlled burns, grazing management, water developments etc. on public and private lands. Habitat improvement projects will occur on both winter ranges and summer range.
- < Continue to monitor permanent range trend studies located throughout the unit.
- Conduct cooperative seasonal range assessments to evaluate forage condition and utilization.
 Determining opportunities for habitat improvements will be an integral part of these surveys. This will also be pivotal in determining if antlerless harvest is necessary.
- Work toward long term habitat protection and preservation through the use of agreements with federal agencies and local governments and the use of Conservation Easements etc. on private lands.
- < Support, cooperate with, and provide input to land management planning efforts dealing with actions affecting habitat security, quality and quantity.
- Work with land management agencies and energy companies to minimize and mitigate impacts of energy development activities. Oil and Gas specific habitat biologists will lead this effort.
- Manage vehicle access on DWR lands to limit human disturbance during times of high stress, such as winter and fawning.
- < Manage riparian areas in critical fawning habitat to furnish water, cover and succulent forage from mid to late summer.
- Protect deer winter ranges from wildfire by reseeding burned areas, creating fuel breaks and vegetated green strips and reseed areas dominated by cheat grass with desirable perennial vegetation.

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- Reduce expansion of Pinion-Juniper and other woodlands into sagebrush habitats and improve habitats dominated by Pinion-Juniper woodlands by completing habitat restoration projects like lop & scatter, bullhog, and chaining.
- Manage conifer encroachment on important summer ranges by utilizing prescribed fire.
- Cooperate with federal agencies in managing wild horse numbers within approved objectives to minimize competition and resource degradation of habitats important to deer.
- < Utilize antlerless deer harvest to improve or protect forage conditions when vegetative declines are attributed to deer over utilization.

PERMANENT RANGE TREND SUMMARIES

Unit 11a, Nine Mile, Anthro Subunit

Deer Winter Range Condition Assessment

The condition of deer winter range Nine Mile, Anthro management subunit has continually changed on the sites sampled since 1995. All of the Range Trend study sites (Cottonwood Canyon and Nutter's Canyon) are considered to be in good condition as of the 2015 sample year (Figure 1). The single treated study site, Big Wash, was sampled before treatment and is in very poor condition. It is possible given a treatment, more time, and continual monitoring that this site will improve.

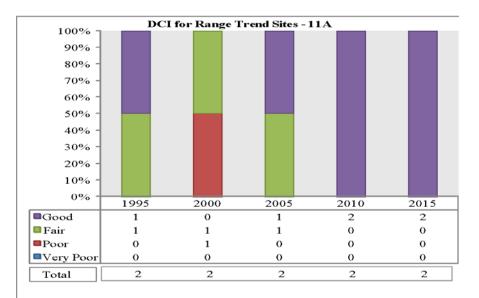


Figure 1. Deer winter range Desirable Components Index (DCI) summary by year of undisturbed sites for WMU 11A, Nine Mile, Anthro.

Unit 11b, Nine Mile, Range Creek Subunit

There are 12 permanent winter range trend sites on the Range Creek Subunit of the Nine Mile Unit that were read in 2015. The overall trend in relative winter range health as noted by the DCI has been slightly improving over the past two decades. Browse cover and density has improved on 11 of the 12 sites measured, whereas the herbaceous component is improving on only 7 of the 12 sites (See Figures 2 and 3). Most range trend sites across the unit show light deer use with a few sites near the town of Price showing extremely high use.

High quality summer range is limiting on the subunit. A relatively small percentage of the unit occurs at high enough elevations to provide good summer range for deer.

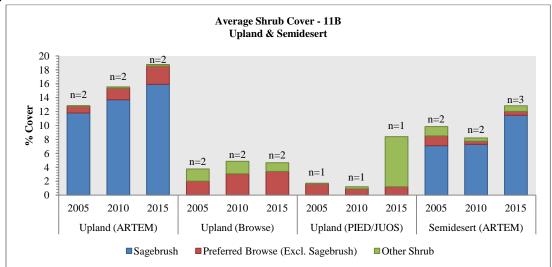
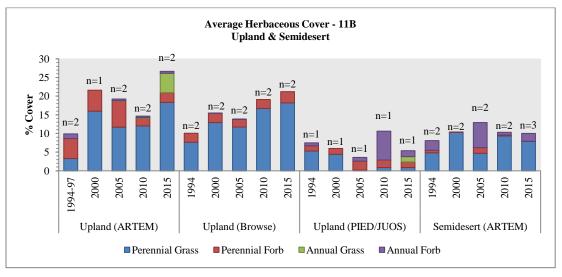


Figure 2. Trends in Shrub Cover on 4 Ecological Types Representing the Majority of Mule Deer Winter Ranges

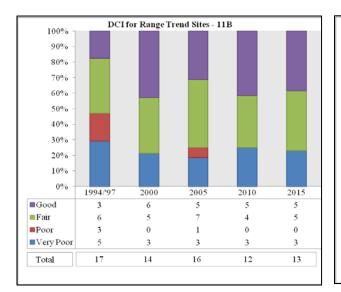
Figure 3. Trends in Herbaceous Cover on 4 Ecological Types Representing the Majority of Mule Deer Winter Range.

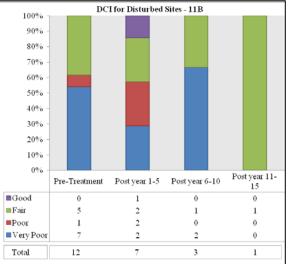


Deer Winter Range Condition Assessment

The condition of deer winter range within the Nine Mile, Range Creek management unit has continually changed on the sites sampled since 1994. Airport, Coal Creek, Cedar Ridge, Twin Hollow, and Steer Ridge remained in good condition. Airport Bench, Cottonwood, Cedar Corral, Dugout Creek PJ Chained, and Deadman Creek are in fair condition. Finally, the Deadman, 'B' Canyon, and Prickly Pear studies are considered to be in very poor condition generally due to the lack of browse cover and sagebrush diversity (Figure 4a). The treated study sites range from very poor to good. The treated sites have generally improved as time since treatment increases; the exceptions to this are the East Carbon Bullhog and Horse Canyon studies, which went from poor to very poor, and Deadman, which remained in very poor condition. Cold Springs WMA, Dugout, Cottonwood, and Cottonwood Ridge were all sampled prior to treatment and were in very poor or fair condition. West Coal Creek Bullhog improved from very poor to

fair, Airport Bench and Dugout Creek PJ Chained remained in fair condition. It is possible given more time and continual monitoring that these sites will continue to improve.





Figures 4a and 4b. DCI Scores for Permanent Range Trend and Disturbed Sties, 1994 - 2015.

Discussion and Recommendations

Mountain (Sagebrush)

The high elevation mountain ecological sites which support sagebrush communities are generally considered to be in good to excellent condition for deer winter range habitat on this unit. The sagebrush communities on these sites provide valuable browse in mild and moderate winters. These communities can be susceptible to invasion from annual grasses, primarily cheatgrass, which can boost fuel loads and increase the threat of wildfire. Some of these ecological sites are also prone to encroachment from pinyon-juniper trees which can reduce understory shrub and herbaceous health if not addressed.

When necessary, it is recommended that work to reduce pinyon-juniper encroachment (e.g. bullhog, chaining, lop and scatter, etc.) should begin in affected communities, although care should be taken to select methods which will not increase annual grass loads.

Mountain (Browse)

The high elevation mountain browse communities are considered to be in fair to excellent condition for deer winter range habitat on the unit. These communities support dense shrub populations that provide browse in moderate to severe winters. Some of these ecological sites can be prone to encroachment from pinyon-juniper trees which can reduce understory shrub and herbaceous health if not addressed.

It is strongly recommended that work to prevent and reduce pinyon-juniper encroachment (e.g. bullhog, chaining, lop and scatter, etc.) should begin in these communities.

Upland (Sagebrush)

The mid elevation upland ecological sites which support sagebrush communities are considered to be in fair condition for deer winter range habitat on the unit. These communities support shrub populations that provide valuable browse in moderate to severe winters. These ecological sites are prone to

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encroachment from pinyon-juniper trees which can reduce understory shrub and herbaceous health if not addressed. In addition, annual grasses, primarily cheatgrass, have the potential to invade the understory in some of these communities. In high amounts, cheatgrass can increase fuel loads and exacerbate the risk of wildfire.

Although tree cover is currently low on these sites, it is strongly recommended that work to monitor and reduce pinyon-juniper encroachment (e.g. bullhog, chaining, lop and scatter, etc.) should continue. Treatments to reduce annual grass may be necessary on some sites.

Upland (Browse)

These mid elevation upland browse communities are considered to be in very poor condition for deer winter range habitat on the unit. These communities support shrub populations that provide browse in mild to moderate winters. Like the higher elevation mountain potential sites, these sites have introduced perennial grasses present in the herbaceous understories. These grasses have the potential to be aggressive and may reduce the abundance of other native grass and forb species. Encroachment from pinyon-juniper trees has also been an issue within some of these communities; this encroachment can reduce understory shrub and herbaceous health if not addressed.

If reseeding is necessary to restore herbaceous species, care should be taken in species selection and preference should be given to native grass species when possible. Work to reduce and/or prevent pinyon-juniper encroachment (e.g. bullhog, chaining, lop and scatter, etc.) should begin on sites that are affected by tree encroachment.

Upland (Twoneedle Pinyon/Utah Juniper)

This mid elevation twoneedle pinyon/Utah juniper community is considered to be in very poor condition for deer winter range habitat on the unit. This community supports mixed shrub populations that provide browse for wildlife. Annual grasses, mainly cheatgrass, are a potential issue in this community. Although cover is currently low, increased amounts of cheatgrass can increase fuel loads and exacerbate the threat of wildfire. This ecological site is also prone to encroachment from pinyon-juniper trees which can reduce understory shrub and herbaceous health if not addressed.

Treatments to reduce annual grass may be necessary if cover increases. It is also recommended that work to reduce pinyon-juniper encroachment (e.g. bullhog, chaining, lop and scatter, etc.) should continue in this community.

Semidesert (Sagebrush)

These low elevation semidesert ecological sites that support sagebrush communities are considered to be in fair to good condition for deer winter range habitat on the Nine Mile, Range Creek management unit. Sagebrush populations on these sites are generally robust, but sagebrush on the Airport Bench study is rather depleted. Introduced perennial grass species which can be aggressive are present on some sites. Although tree cover is low, pinyon-juniper encroachment is occurring in these communities and they are considered to be in Phase I of woodland succession. Invasion from annual grasses, primarily cheatgrass, is an additional threat to the herbaceous understories of these communities. Cover of cheatgrass is currently low, but increased amounts in the future could increase fuel loads and the risk of wildfire in these communities.

It is recommended that efforts to monitor and/or reduce pinyon-juniper encroachment (e.g. bullhog, chaining, lop and scatter, etc.) should begin or continue on these sites. If reseeding is deemed necessary to restore herbaceous species, care should be taken in species selection and preference should be given to native grass species when and where possible.

Treatments/Restoration Work

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There has been an active effort to address many of the limitations on this unit through the Watershed Restoration Initiative (WRI). A total of 17,887 acres of land have been treated within the Nine Mile, Range Creek unit since the WRI was implemented in 2004. Treatments frequently overlap one another bringing the total treatment acres to 18,340 acres for this unit (Table 1). Other treatments have occurred outside of the WRI through independent agencies and landowners, but the WRI comprises the majority of work done on deer winter ranges throughout the state of Utah.

Seeding to supplement the herbaceous understory is the most common management practice in this unit. Vegetation removal via hand crew is also very common. Other management practices include seeding desirable shrub species, bullhog use to remove pinyon pine and Utah juniper, herbicide application to remove weeds, prescribed fire, harrow, and other similar vegetation removal techniques.

Table 1. Treatments Completed on Nine Mile Range Creek Subunit	Table 1.	Treatments Con	npleted on Nine	Mile Range	Creek Subunit
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Treatment Action	Acres
Seeding (Primary)	9271
Vegetation Removal/Hand Crew	3253
Bullhog	2502
Herbicide Application	1521
Seeding (Secondary/Shrub)	867
Prescribed Fire	680
Mowing	107
Bulldozing	66
Harrow	57
Planting/Transplanting	16
Stream Corridor/Channel	
Improvements	0
Vegetation Improvements	0
*Total Land Area Treated	17887
Total Treatment Acres	18340

DEER HERD UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN Deer Herd Unit # 17 Wasatch Mountains October 2016

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Carbon, Duchesne, Salt Lake, Summit, Utah and Wasatch counties—Boundary begins at the junction of I-15 and I-80 in Salt Lake City; east on I-80 to US-40; south on US-40 to SR-32; east on SR-32 to SR-35; southeast on SR-35 to SR-87; south on SR-87 to Duchesne and US-191; south on US-191 to US-6; northwest on US-6 to I-15; north on I-15 to I-80 in Salt Lake City. EXCLUDING ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LAND WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY.

LAND OWNERSHIP

RANGE AREA AND APPROXIMATE OWNERSHIP									
	-	EARLONG SUMMER RANGE RANGE			WINTER R	TOTAL ACRES			
Ownership	Area (acres)	%	Area (acres)	%	Area (acres)	%			
Forest Service	17,268	32%	687,185	62%	104,466	22%	808,919		
Bureau of Land Management	0	0%	12,105	1%	8,768	2%	20,873		
Utah State Institutional Trust Lands	0	0%	34,450	3%	3,939	1%	38,389		
Native American Trust Lands	4,732	9%	20,930	2%	51,061	11%	76,723		
Private	28,660	52%	297,425	27%	240,366	50%	566,451		
Department of Defense	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0		
USFWS Refuge	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0		
National Parks	235	1%	0	0%	0	0%	235		
Utah State Parks	401	1%	9,153	1%	13,462	3%	23,016		
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	3,433	6%	47,363	4%	58,330	12%	109,126		
TOTAL	54,729	100%	1,108,611	100%	480,392	100%	1,643,732		

RANGE AREA AND APPROXIMATE OWNERSHIP

UNIT MANAGEMENT GOALS

- Manage for a population of healthy animals capable of providing a broad range of recreational opportunities, including hunting and viewing.
- Balance deer herd impacts on human needs, such as private property rights, agricultural crops and local economies.
- Maintain the population at a level that is within the long-term capability of the available habitat to support.

POPULATION MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

• <u>Target Winter Herd Size</u> - Achieve a long-term combined target population size of 47,600 wintering deer (modeled number).

<u>Unit 17</u>

17a Wasatch West subpopulation:	22,600
17b Currant Creek subpopulation:	20,000
17c Avintaguin subpopulation:	5,000
Total:	47,600

- <u>5 year Winter Herd Size</u> Manage for a 5-year target population of 47,600 wintering deer during the five-year planning period unless range conditions become unsuitable, as evaluated by DWR. Range Trend data coupled with annual browse monitoring will be used to assess habitat condition. If habitat damage by deer is occurring due to inadequate habitat, measures will be taken to reduce the population to sustainable levels.
- <u>Herd Composition</u> All Wasatch Mountains subunits are General Season subunits and will be managed to maintain a three year average postseason buck to doe ratio according to the statewide plan (17a is managed for 15-17 bucks per 100 does. 17b,c is managed for 18-20 bucks per 100 does).

POPULATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Monitoring

- <u>Population Size</u> Utilizing harvest data, postseason and spring classifications, and survival estimates, a model has been developed to estimate winter population size. The post season 2015 model estimates the 17a population at 23,700, 17b at 17,000 and 17c at 3,500 deer.
- Harvest The primary means of monitoring harvest will be through the statewide uniform harvest survey. We recognize that buck harvest may be above or below what is expected due to climatic and productivity variables, and we will make hunt recommendations to make progress towards approved buck:doe ratio objectives. Buck harvest strategies will be developed through the RAC and Wildlife Board process to achieve management objectives for buck: doe ratios

Limiting Factors

- <u>Crop Depredation</u> DWR will take all steps necessary to minimize depredation as prescribed by state law and DWR policy.
- <u>Habitat</u> Public land winter range availability, landowner acceptance and winter range forage conditions will determine herd size. Excessive habitat utilization will be addressed with hunting.
- <u>Predation</u> DWR will follow the strategies outlined in the predator management policy
- <u>Highway Mortality</u> Cooperate with the Utah Dept. Of Transportation in construction of highway fences, passage structures, warning signs, etc.
- <u>Illegal Harvest</u> If illegal harvest is identified as a significant source of mortality, an attempt to develop specific preventive measures within the context of an action plan will be developed in cooperation with the Law Enforcement section.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- Maintain mule deer habitat throughout the unit by protecting and enhancing existing crucial habitats and mitigating for losses due to natural and human impacts.
- Seek cooperative projects to improve the quality and quantity of deer habitat.
- Provide improved habitat security and escapement opportunities for deer.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

<u>Monitoring</u>

- Determine trends in habitat condition through permanent range trend studies, spring range assessments, pellet transects, and field inspections. Land management agencies will similarly conduct range monitoring to determine vegetative trends, utilization and possible forage conflicts.
- Range trend studies will be conducted by DWR to evaluate deer habitat health, trend, and other vegetation data.

Habitat Protection and Maintenance

- Work with public land management agencies to develop specific vegetative objectives to maintain the quality of important deer use areas.
- Continue to coordinate with land management agencies in planning and evaluating resource uses and developments that could impact habitat quality.
- Work toward long-term habitat protection and preservation through the use of agreements with land management agencies and local governments, and through the use of conservation easements on private lands.

Habitat Improvement

- Cooperate with federal land management agencies and private landowners in carrying out habitat improvement projects. Protect deer winter ranges from wildfire by reseeding burned areas, creating fuel breaks and vegetated green strips and reseed areas dominated by cheatgrass with desirable perennial vegetation.
- Reduce expansion of Pinyon-Juniper woodlands into sagebrush habitats and improve habitats dominated by Pinyon-Juniper woodlands by completing habitat restoration projects like lop & scatter, bull hog and chaining.
- Cooperate with federal land management agencies and local governments in developing and administering access management plans for the purposes of habitat protection and escape or security areas.
- Future habitat work should be concentrated on the following areas.
 - o **17a**
 - North side of hwy 6 in the Sheep Creek drainage
 - Wallsburg WMA
 - North side of Diamond Fork Canyon
 - Quaking aspen forests unit wide
 - Anywhere along the front that would avert deer from entering cities
 - o 17b
 - West Fork of the Duchesne
 - Currant Creek WMA

- Tabby Mountain WMA
- Wildcat WMA
- o 17c
 - Horse Ridge WMA
 - Reservation Ridge
 - Strawberry Peak area (Slab Canyon, Cow and Calf Hollow, etc.)

Projects Unit 17a 2006-2014	# Projects	Acres
Pinyon-Juniper Projects	1	1,061
Sagebrush Improvement Projects	1	40
Mountain Brush Improvement Projects	3	2,159
OHV Trail Closures	4	104
Weed Control Projects	5	4,700
Total	14	8,064

Projects Unit 17bc 2012-2016	# Projects	Acres
Pinyon-Juniper Projects	5	3,625
Sagebrush Improvement Projects	6	1,477
Aspen Improvement Projects	1	244
Total	12	5,346

PERMANENT RANGE TREND SUMMARIES

Unit 17bc, Wasatch Mountains, Currant Creek, and Avintaguin Subunits 2015

The following tables summarize the condition of deer winter range on Unit 17bc, as indicated by DWR permanent Big Game Range Trend studies:

The condition of deer winter range within the Wasatch Mountains management unit has fluctuated on the sites sampled since 1994. The Range Trend sites sampled within the unit are considered to be in very poor to good condition as of the 2015 sampling year (Figure 1). Sand Wash went from poor to very poor due to a decrease in browse and perennial forb cover. Grey Wolf Mountain and Lower Santaguin Draw are in poor condition, Rabbit Gulch is in fair condition, Two Bar Ranch went from good to fair, and Santaquins Cabin, Cutoff, Lower Horse Ridge, Emma Park, Little Horse Ridge, Road Hollow, and Emma Park Harrow Grazed sites are all in good to excellent condition. The treated study sites range from very poor to good (Figure 2). In general the treated sites have improved as time since treatment increases. Santaguins Cabin, Lower Horse Ridge, Rabbit Gulch, and Road Hollow are also considered to be Range Trend sites and are discussed above. Tabby Mountain was sampled prior to treatment and is considered to be in very poor condition. Rabbit Gulch Chaining and Golden Stairs Chaining remained in very poor condition, Blacktail Chaining went from poor to very poor, Grey Wolf Chaining went from fair to poor, Two Bar-Blacktail Chaining went from good to poor, and Two Bar-Sand Wash Chaining went from very poor to fair. In addition, East Santaguin Chaining remained in poor condition, Santaguin Chaining improved from poor to good, Santaquin Greasewood and Rabbit Gulch Interseed went from good to fair, and Skitzy Chaining improved from good to excellent condition. It is possible given more time and continual monitoring that these sites will continue to improve.

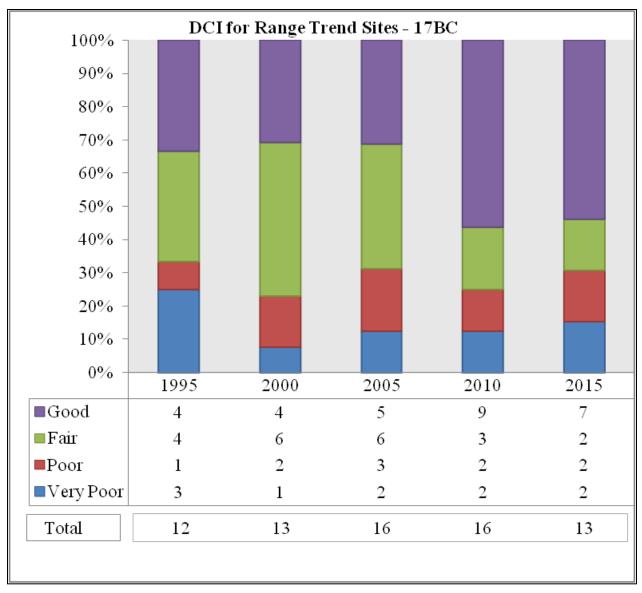


Figure 1. Deer winter range Desirable Components Index (DCI) summary by year of Range Trend sites for WMU 17BC, Wasatch Mountains, Currant Creek-Avintaquin.

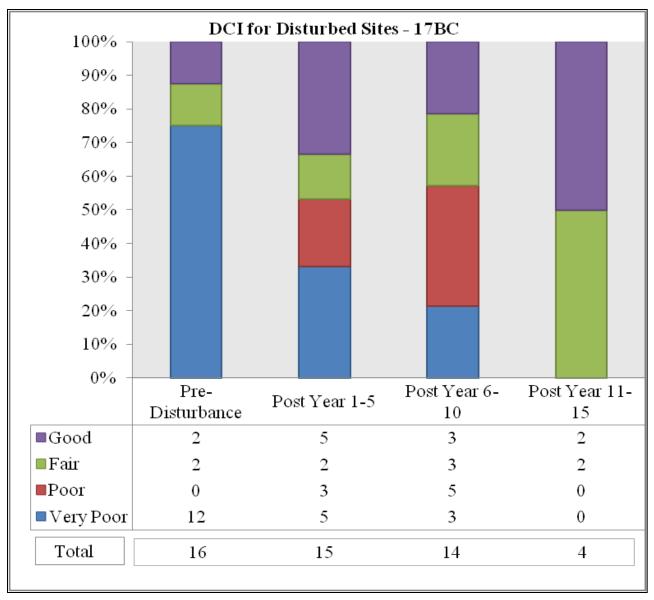


Figure 2. Deer winter range Desirable Components Index (DCI) summary by year of treated/disturbed sites for WMU 17BC, Wasatch Mountains, Currant Creek-Avintaquin.

Winter range is the critical habitat factor on these subunits. Approximately half of the 200,000 plus acres of winter range is owned and managed by the State while the other half is in private ownership. Most of the privately owned winter range is currently under threat of cabin site & ranchette development.

All 13 range trend study sites on these subunits are located in mule deer winter range. Vegetation varies from Pinyon-Juniper at lower elevations to sagebrush-grass and mountain brush communities at the higher elevations.

Unit 17a, Wasatch Mountains, West subunit 2012

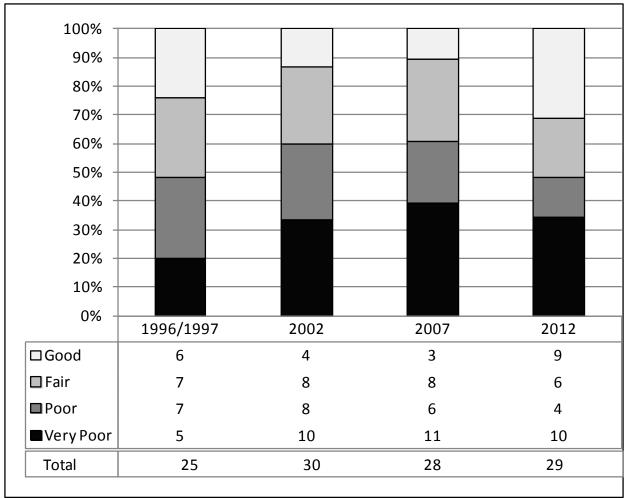


Figure 3. Deer winter range condition trend summary for subunit 17a, Wasatch Mountains, West, as indicated by the deer winter range Desirable Components Index (DCI).

There were 29 permanent range trend study sites sampled on subunit 17a in 2012, all of which are considered to be in deer winter range (see Figure 3). For summary purposes the subunit was divided into three distinct areas; Heber Valley, Bonneville Shoreline, and Spanish Fork Canyon.

<u>Heber Valley:</u> Much of the winter range in the Heber Valley area (50%) is privately owned and development has been a continuing concern. Since the early 2000's development has accelerated and some of the most critical range is being converted to housing. Division of Wildlife Resources, State Parks, and federal lands will likely be the key to the survival of deer into the future on this portion of the unit. Important vegetation types monitored include antelope bitterbrush, mixed mountain browse, mixed oakbrush/sagebrush, and mountain big sagebrush.

There were 11 range trend study sites sampled around the Heber Valley area in 2012. Sites in the area showed a general decrease in sagebrush density, cover, and health in 2007. It is thought that an infestation of the sagebrush defoliator moth (*Aroga websteri*) likely occurred throughout the Heber Valley from 2002 to 2007 affecting many of the studies adversely. The moth was sampled on many of the studies in that area in 2007. The health of these sagebrush populations appears to be improving, but density and cover of sagebrush remained at reduced levels. The abundance of the weedy annual grass species (namely cheatgrass) and bulbous bluegrass is a particular concern on these sites and may inhibit the recovery of sagebrush in the areas.

<u>Bonneville Shoreline</u>: Winter habitat is limited by quality and quantity in this area of the subunit. A large portion of deer winter range is privately owned making it susceptible to development. Housing

developments in recent years have consumed much of this important winter range and will likely continue to do so in the future. Most winter range has been reduced to a narrow bench above the communities of Alpine, Pleasant Grove, Orem, Springville and Mapleton. Important vegetation types monitored include antelope bitterbrush, true mountain mahogany, mixed mountain browse, mixed oakbrush/sagebrush, and Stansbury cliffrose.

There were nine studies sampled along the Bonneville Shoreline area in 2012. The lack of browse species is a primary concern in this area, and is likely an artifact of historic wildfires on many of these studies. The abundance of weedy annual grass species (namely cheatgrass) and bulbous bluegrass is a particular concern on these sites.

<u>Spanish Fork Canyon:</u> The majority of deer winter range is managed by the US Forest Service in this area. These sites are typically higher elevation winter range and may not be used as heavily in more severe winters. Important vegetation types monitored include mixed mountain browse, mixed oakbrush/sagebrush, and sagebrush.

There were nine studies sampled in the Spanish Fork Canyon area in 2012. Browse species do not appear to be limited within this area. The primary concern in this area is the abundance of the weedy grass species bulbous bluegrass. A desirable trend is the increase in perennial grass species on many of the studies in this area.

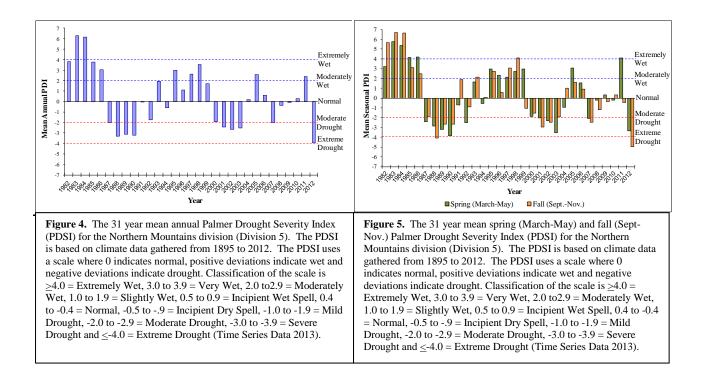
<u>General Assessment:</u> The winter range within the Heber Valley and Spanish Fork Canyon areas of the subunit appear suitable to support planned deer population objectives. Suitable winter range on the Bonneville Shoreline is more limited due primarily to development and poor quality habitat. Deer will likely be forced to winter in an urban setting during more sever winters in this area. The abundance and increase of bulbous bluegrass is a concern in all of the areas of the subunit because this perennial species can form dense mats of cover that may compete with other more desirable herbaceous species and with seedlings and young shrubs, which potentially limits establishment of new plants into the population. The abundance of cheatgrass in the Heber Valley and Bonneville Shoreline areas of the unit is a concern because this annual species can increase fuel loads and increases the chance of a catastrophic fire event.

Unit 17, Wasatch Mountains/Salt Lake County, East Bench Subunit

Range trend studies have not been done on this subunit since 1983. Lack of access to trend study plots that have not been destroyed by development has resulted in these studies being abandoned. Very little winter range is available on this subunit and deer are forced to winter in an urban setting during more severe winters.

Precipitation

Vegetation trends are dependent upon annual and seasonal precipitation patterns. Precipitation and Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) data for the unit were compiled from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Physical Sciences Division (PSD) as part of the Northern Mountains division (Division 5). The Northern Mountains division had a historic annual mean precipitation of 19.13 inches from 1895 to 2012. The mean annual PDSI of the Northern Mountains division displays a cycle of several wet years followed by several drought years over the course of study years (Figure 4 and Figure 5) (Time Series Data 2013).



APPENDIX – subunit hunt boundaries

Unit 17-Wasatch Mountains, Wasatch West subunit

Salt Lake, Summit, Utah and Wasatch counties -- Boundary begins at I-80 and I-15 in Salt Lake City; east on I-80 to US-40; south on US-40 to the Strawberry Bay Marina road; south on this road to USFS Road 042 (Indian Creek road); south and west on this road to USFS Road 051; south on this road to US-6; west on US-6 to US-89; northwest on US-6 to I-15; north on I-15 to I-80 in Salt Lake City.

Unit 17-Wasatch Mountains, Wasatch East subunit

Carbon, Duchesne, Utah and Wasatch counties -- Boundary begins SR-87 and US-40 in Duchesne; north on SR-87 to SR-35; west on SR-35 to SR-32 at Francis; west on SR-32 to US-40; southeast on US-40 to Strawberry Bay Marina Road; south on this road to USFS Road 042 (Indian Creek); south and west on this road to USFS Road 051; south on this road to US-6; southeast on US-6 to US-191; north on US-191 to US-40; east on US-40 to SR-87 in Duchesne. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LANDS WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY.

Unit 17- Wasatch Front Extended Archery

Davis, Salt Lake, and Summit counties -- Boundary begins at I-15 and the Weber/Davis county line; east on this county line to the Davis/Morgan county line; south on this county line to the Morgan/Salt Lake county line; south on this county line to the Salt Lake/Summit county line; south on this county line to I-80; east on I-80 to US-40; south on US-40 to Summit/Wasatch county line; west on this county line to the Wasatch/Salt Lake county line; west on this county line Upper Corner Canyon Road; north on this road to Highland Drive; north on this road to I-15; north on I-15 to the Salt Lake/Davis county line; west on this county line to the 4200ft elevation line; north along this elevation to Weber/Davis county line; east on this county line to I-15. EXCLUDES ALL WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREAS.



GARY R. HERBERT Governor SPENCER J. COX Lieutenant Governor State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES MICHAEL R. STYLER Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources GREGORY SHEEHAN Division Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 20, 2016

To: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

From: Covy Jones, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator

Subject: 2017 BUCK/BULL CWMU AND LANDOWNER ASSOCIATION RECOMMENDATIONS

The following is a summary of the 2017 Bucks and Bulls CWMU and Landowner Association recommendations. There are three types of applications received for the CWMUs: New, Renewal, and Change applications.

- There are 9 new applications:
 - \circ 1 Due to >34% land ownership change
 - 7 Brand new applications
 - \circ 1 DWR recommendation to deny (Deer Creek CWMU)
- 13 CWMUs submitted applications for renewal for 2017.
- 9 applications were received requesting changes to permit numbers, splits, and/or season dates, which require RAC and Board approval.
- 2 CWMUs did not re-apply but were instead merged together into a new CWMU
- 131 total CWMUS for the 2017 hunting season based on DWR recommendations



The total recommended CWMU permits for 2017 are:

	PRIVATE PERMITS	PUBLIC PERMITS
BUCK DEER	1,975	262
MANAGEMENT BUCK DEER	2	1
BULL ELK	919	134
BUCK PRONGHORN	97	68
BULL MOOSE	48	38
TOTALS	3,041	503 (14%)

Please find attached a summary of the CWMU applications that require Board action. Applications for individual CWMU units are available upon request. Applications for new CWMUs have been provided for review.



2017 LANDOWNER ASSOCIATION RECOMMENDATIONS AND CORRECTIONS

- 12 Landowner Associations were approved for the 2017 hunting season and require no RAC or Wildlife Board action
- 4 Landowner Associations request a change in permit numbers
- 1 New Landowner Association
- A total of 126 buck deer, 78 elk, and 9 pronghorn vouchers are recommended for Landowner Associations for the 2017 season.
- A correction in Book Cliffs buck pronghorn from 2 to 3 vouchers

The LOA changes recommended by the Division are as follows:

LOA Name	Species	Vouchers Requested	Vouchers Qualified For	Division Recommendation	Reason
Oak Creek	Buck Deer	7	7	7	Qualifies for an additional voucher based on percentage of land in habitat in the Oak Creek LE unit
Diamond Mountain	Buck Deer	48	48	48	LOA vouchers increased by 4 due to increase in public permits in 2016
Pilot Mountain	Bull Elk	2 in 3 years	2 in 3 years	2 in 3 years	LOA vouchers increased by 1 due to increase in public permits in 2016
Pahvant Mountain	Bull Elk	6	6	6	Increased LOA acreage qualifies them for one additional voucher

The new LOA request is as follows:

LOA Name	Acres	% Private Acres in unit	Vouchers Qualified For	Division Recommendation
Henry Mountain	6,032	61.94	1 deer voucher every 3	1 deer voucher every 3
LOA			years	years

Region	CWMU_Name	Species	Sex	Rcmnd_Private	Rcmnd_Public	Rcmnd_HuntDate	Ratio	Acres_Private	Acres_Public	Manag_Unit	County	Comments
CRO	Allen Ranch	PRONGHORN	Buck	2	1	9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	6300	0	19	Utah	Inactive for 2016 new for 2017
CRO	Bear Mountain	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	8900	0	16	Sanpete	Increased 3 buck deer permits
CRO	Deer Creek	DEER	Buck	11	2	9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	7956	0	17	Wasatch	DWR recommends denial of this CWMU
CRO	Rock House	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	5290	0	19	Juab	New for 2017
NERO	Cottonwood Ridge	PRONGHORN	Buck	4	2	9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	8244	0	11	Duchesne	New for 2017
NRO	Blue Creek	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	7353	0	1	Box Elder	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Cedar Springs	PRONGHORN	Buck	2	1	9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	32573	1270	1	Box Elder	New for 2017
NRO	Deseret	DEER	Buck	80	15	9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	225031	15359	4	Morgan/Rich/Weber	Decrease of 13,093 acres. Corresponding permit decrease
NRO	Deseret	ELK	Bull	92	17	9/01-11/22/2017	90:10	225031	15359	4	Morgan/Rich/Weber	Decrease of 13,093 acres. Did not effect moose habitat no decrease
NRO	Deseret	MOOSE	Bull	3	2	9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	225031	15359	4	Morgan/Rich/Weber	Decrease of 13,093 acres. Corresponding permit decrease
NRO	Deseret	PRONGHORN	Buck	43	34	9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	225031	15359	4	Morgan/Rich/Weber	Decrease of 13,093 acres. Corresponding permit decrease
NRO	Double Cone	ELK	Bull	6	1	9/01-10/31/2017	85:15	5329	4365	1	Box Elder	Added additional 2,938 acres of trade land adjusted permits accordingly
NRO	George Creek	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	11879	783	1	Box Elder	Reduced Doe permits added buck and doe pronghorn
NRO	George Creek	PRONGHORN	Buck	2	1	9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	11879	783	1	Box Elder	Reduced Doe permits added buck and doe pronghorn
NRO	Grass Valley/Clark Canyon	DEER	Buck	135	15	9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	63337	0	6	Summit	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Grass Valley/Clark Canyon	ELK	Bull	90	10	9/01-11/30/2017	90:10	63337	0	6	Summit	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Grass Valley/Clark Canyon	MOOSE	Bull	4	5	9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	63337	0	6	Summit	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Hardscrabble	DEER	Buck	18	2	9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	17623	0	5	Davis/Morgan/Salt Lake	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Hardscrabble	ELK	Bull	18	2	9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	17623	0	5	Davis/Morgan/Salt Lake	No Change in bull increasing in antlerless
NRO	Hardscrabble	MOOSE	Bull	2	2	9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	17623	0	5	Davis/Morgan/Salt Lake	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Ingham Peak	DEER	Buck	27		9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	16628	4160		Box Elder	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Ingham Peak	ELK	Bull	4	2	9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	16628	4160	1	Box Elder	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Ingham Peak	MOOSE	Bull	0	1	9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	16628	4160	1	Box Elder	Added bull moose 2017
NRO	Jacob's Creek	ELK	Bull	0	0	9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	13017	0	5	Davis/Morgan	Dropped elk for 2017
NRO	Jacob's Creek	MOOSE	Bull	1	1	9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	13017	0		Davis/Morgan	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Lazy H Ranch	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	5107	0	5	Morgan	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Mecham Ridge	DEER	Buck	9		9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	6225	0		Rich	New for 2017
NRO	Mountain Top	DEER	Buck	18		9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	10480	0	5	Morgan/Summit	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Mountain Top	ELK	Bull	18		9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	10480	0		Morgan/Summit	No Change in bull increasing in antlerless
NRO	Neil Creek	DEER	Buck	18	2	9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	5648	0		Summit	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	North Peaks	DEER	Buck	18	2	9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	22480	2040		Box Elder	Changed name (Twin Peaks) reduced deer 20 added elk
NRO	North Peaks	ELK	Bull	3	1	9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	22480	2040	1	Box Elder	Changed name (Twin Peaks) reduced deer 20 added elk
NRO	Royal Ivory Outfitters	DEER	Buck	9		9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	12475	0	8	Summit	New for 2017
NRO	Royal Ivory Outfitters	MOOSE	Bull	1		9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	12475	0	8	Summit	New for 2017
NRO	Snowville Flat	PRONGHORN	Buck	2		9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	6708	0	1	Box Elder	New for 2017
NRO	Stillman Creek Ranch	DEER	Buck	36		9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	5842	0		Summit	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	TJ Cattle Company	DEER	Buck	9		9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	7344	0	5	Morgan	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	TL Bar Ranch	PRONGHORN	Buck	1		9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	4540	640		Tooele, Box Elder	Added antlerless permits 2 per year
NRO	Woodruff Creek South	DEER	Buck	25		9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	10073	1270		Rich	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Woodruff Creek South	ELK	Bull	22		9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	10073	1270		Rich	No Change-Renewal application
NRO	Woodruff Creek South	MOOSE	Bull	2		9/01-10/31/2017	60:40	10073	1270		Rich	No Change-Renewal application
SERO	Hiawatha	ELK	Bull	6		9/01-11/30/2017	80:20	15229	0		Carbon/Emery	Added 1,400 acres and 1 bull permit
SERO	Indian Head	DEER	Buck	9		9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	10005	460		Utah	Season date change for deer adding November hunt dates
SERO	Minnie Maud Ridge	DEER	Buck	45		9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	16205	80		Carbon/Duchesne	Renewal application added 10 deer
SERO	Minnie Maud Ridge	ELK	Bull	36		9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	16205	80		Carbon/Duchesne	No Change-Renewal application
SERO	Redd Ranches	DEER	Buck	17		9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	19048	0		Grand/San Juan	No Change-Renewal application
SERO	Redd Ranches	ELK	Bull	17		9/01-10/31/2017	90:10	19048	0		Grand/San Juan	No Change-Renewal application
SERO	Scofield Canyons	ELK	Bull	8		9/01-10/31/2017	80:20	15191	120		Carbon/Utah	Added 2 bull, makes distribution more equitable
SRO	Pahvant Ensign	DEER	Buck	9		9/11-11/10/2017	90:10	37176	0		Millard and Sevier	New for 2017 (Combination of Black Point and Missouri Flat CWMU's)
SRO	Pahvant Ensign	ELK	Bull	6		9/01-10/31/2017	80:20	37176	0		Millard and Sevier	New for 2017 (Combination of Black Point and Missouri Hat CWMU's)
SRO	Pahvant Ensign		Buck	4		9/01-10/31/2017	60:20	37176	0		Millard and Sevier	New for 2017 (Combination of Black Point and Missouri Flat CWMU's)
SRO	Pahvant Ensign	TURKEY	Bearded	15		2nd Saturday in April - May		37176	0		Millard and Sevier	New for 2017 (Combination of Black Point and Missouri Flat CWMU's)
510		TONICET	Dearueu	15	15	2.na Sataraay in April - Ma	5131 50.30	5/1/0	0	21		

Year	Association_Name	LOA President	Valid	Species	Hunt_Area	Permits	Application_Renewal	Changes
2017	Book Cliffs	Mark Hill	2015, 2016, & 2017	Buck Deer	Book Cliffs	13	September 1, 2017	
2017	Diamond Mountain	Dave Chivers	2015, 2016, & 2017	Buck Deer	South Slope, Diamond Mountain	48	September 1, 2017	Increase 4
2017	Elk Ridge	Lynn Patterson	2015, 2016, & 2017	Buck Deer	San Juan, Elk Ridge	2	September 1, 2017	
2017	Oak Creek	Andy Monroe	2016, 2017, & 2018	Buck Deer	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	7	September 1, 2018	Increase 1
2017	Paunsaugunt	Robert J. Ott	2015, 2016, & 2017	Management/Premium Buck Deer	Paunsaugunt	19	September 1, 2017	
2017	South Fork of Sevier River	James D. Perkins Jr.	2015, 2016, & 2017	Buck Pronghorn	Mt Dutton/Paunsaugunt, Johns Valley	6	September 1, 2017	
2017	Vernon	Jim Gowans	2015, 2016, & 2017	Buck Deer	West Desert, Vernon	30	September 1, 2017	
2017	Henry Mountains Deer LOA*	Joseph Venuti	2017,2018, & 2019	Premium Buck Deer	Henry Mountains	1	September 1, 2019	New

*Henry Mountains voucher is 1 every 3 years or .34 per year.

Limited entry and Premium Buck Deer				
Management Buck Deer	1			
Total buck deer vouchers	126			

Year	Association_Name	Contact	Valid	Species1	Hunt_Area	Permits1	Application_Renewal	Changes
2017	Book Cliffs	Mark Hill	2015, 2016, & 2017	Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	9	September 1, 2017	
2017	Deep Creek	Richard Knight	2015, 2016, & 2017	Bull Elk	West Desert, Deep Creek	2	September 1, 2017	
2017	Diamond Mountain	Dave Chivers	2015, 2016, & 2017	Bull Elk	South Slope, Diamond Mountain	31	September 1, 2017	
2017	Indian Peaks	Gary Gardner	2015, 2016, & 2017	Bull Elk	Southwest Desert	3	September 1, 2017	
2017	Monroe Mountain	Jeff Ogden	2015, 2016, & 2017	Bull Elk	Monroe	4	September 1, 2017	
2017	Pahvant Mountain	Carsten N. Mortensen	2015, 2016, & 2017	Bull Elk	Fillmore, Pahvant	6	September 1, 2017	Increase 1
2017	Panguitch Lake	Michael L. Tebbs	2015, 2016, & 2017	Bull Elk	Panguitch Lake	7	September 1, 2017	
2017	Paunsaugunt Elk	Bryce Syrett	2015, 2016, & 2017	Bull Elk	Paunsaugunt	5	September 1, 2017	
2017	San Juan Elk	Preston L. Grover	2015, 2016, & 2017	Bull Elk	San Juan Bull Elk	5	September 1, 2017	
2017	Three Corners	Alex Radosevich	2015, 2016, & 2017	Bull Elk	North Slope, Three Corners	5	September 1, 2017	
2017	Pilot Mountain*	Dale Christiansen	2015, 2016, & 2017	Bull Elk	Pilot Mountain	1	September 1, 2017	Increase 1
-					Total Limited Entry Bull Elk Vouchers	78		

*Pilot Mountain voucher is 2 every 3 years or .66 per year.

Year	Association_Name	Contact	Valid	Species1	Hunt_Area	Permits1	Application_Renewal
2017	Book Cliffs	Mark Hill	2015, 2016, & 2017	Buck Pronghorn	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	3	September 1, 2017
2017	South Fork of Sevier River	James D. Perkins Jr.	2015, 2016, & 2017	Buck Pronghorn	Mt Dutton/Paunsaugunt, Johns Valley	6	September 1, 2017

Total Pronghorn Vouchers 9