

RAC AGENDA – November 2019



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|-----|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Approval of Agenda
- RAC Chair | |
| 2. | Approval of Minutes
- RAC Chair | |
| 3. | Old Business
- RAC Chair | |
| 4. | Regional Update
- DWR Regional Supervisor | INFORMATIONAL |
| 5. | Statewide Deer Management Plan
- Covy Jones, Big Game Coordinator | ACTION |
| 6. | Bucks, Bulls & OIAL 2020 Season Dates, Application Timeline and Rule Amendments
- Covy Jones, Big Game Coordinator | ACTION |
| 7. | CWMU Management Plans and Permit Numbers for 2020 and Landowner Association Permit Numbers for 2020
- Chad Wilson, Public Wildlife/Private Lands Coordinator | ACTION |
| 8. | Proposed rule amendments to address point creep, lost opportunities and equity in the hunt drawing process.
R657-42 – Fees, Exchanges and Surrenders
R657-57 – Division Variances
R657-62 – Drawing Application Procedures
- Lindy Varney, Wildlife Licensing Coordinator | ACTION |
| 9. | Big Game Application Timeline
- Lindy Varney, Wildlife Licensing Coordinator | INFORMATIONAL |
| 10. | Town of Castle Valley Request – Southeastern Region Only
- Alice Drogin, Town of Castle Valley | ACTION |

Meeting Locations

CR RAC – Nov. 12th 5:30 PM
Wildlife Resources Conference Room
1115 N. Main Street, Springville

SER RAC – Nov. 20th 6:30 PM
John Wesley Powell Museum
1765 E. Main St, Green River

NR RAC – Nov. 13th 6:00 PM
Weber County Commission Chambers
2380 Washington Blvd, Ogden

NER RAC – Nov. 21st 5:30 PM
Uintah County Conference Center
313 E. 200 S, Vernal

SR RAC – Nov. 19th 5:00 PM
Cedar City Middle School
2215 W. Royal Hunte Dr, Cedar

Board Meeting – Dec. 5th - 9:00 AM
DNR Boardroom
1594 West North Temple, SLC



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL D. FOWLKS
Division Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 30, 2019

To: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

From: Covy Jones, Big Game Program Coordinator

Subject: Statewide Management Plan for Mule Deer

The current statewide management plan for mule deer was approved in December 2014 and is set to expire in December 2019. In conjunction with the mule deer committee, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) has drafted a new statewide plan that, if approved, will guide the management of mule deer for the next 7 years (proposed dates: December 2019 – December 2026).

Below is a summary of the major updates to the statewide management plan for mule deer:

1. This plan provides guidance and direction for managing Utah's mule deer populations. Major changes to the plan focus on more actively managing populations and providing more tools for biologists.
2. The plan calls for updating unit plans to set realistic and attainable population objectives based on body condition, cause-specific mortality, range trend, historic population estimates, and fawn production data.
3. The plan calls for expanding antlerless hunts to improve population performance and provide hunting opportunity for meat.
4. The plan recommends continuing the habitat restoration efforts with an objective of improving at least 100,000 of mule deer habitat annually.
5. The plan recommends we continue with general season hunting as it currently is managing 11 units for 15-17 bucks per 100 does and 18 units for 18-20 bucks per 100 does.
6. We recommend that we continue managing 7 limited entry units at 25-35 bucks per 100 does with a target of 30 bucks per 100 does on each unit.
7. The plan recommends managing the Henry Mountains and Paunsaugunt as premium limited entry units with 49 and 135 public draw permits on each unit as long as they are meeting or exceeding their objectives.

8. The plan recommends establishing the following season lengths.
 - 28-day archery season
 - 9-day muzzleloader season
 - 5-day early any weapon season (on select units)
 - 9-day any weapon season
 - 9-day late muzzleloader season
9. As part of the plan, we recommend establishing a 9-day late muzzleloader season on all general season units. Permits for these hunts will be recommended based on either 0.5% of the total draw permits or 5 permits (whichever is greater).
10. We will evaluate areas for Limited Entry HAMS hunts. Areas considered for these hunts typically ~~are~~ have low deer densities, are underutilized by hunters, have high potential for human conflict, or have migratory deer populations.
11. We will continue to evaluate areas for new extended archery hunt units to provide increased hunting opportunity throughout the state.
12. We will work with the mammals program to develop spot-and-stalk cougar permits that overlap deer seasons.
13. The plan supports hunters losing preference points if they acquire a buck deer permit.
14. We will work with our partners to increase outreach efforts to promote mule deer conservation. Specifically, we will use electronic media, podcasts, and traditional media to educate the public about mule deer and mule deer management.
15. The statewide mule deer management plan includes the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) plan as an appendix. The CWD plan includes a variety of strategies that may be implemented to slow the spatial spread of CWD, prevent further increase in CWD prevalence in positive areas, and detect new infected areas as early as possible.

UTAH MULE DEER

STATEWIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN



Utah Division of
Wildlife Resources

UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES
STATEWIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR MULE DEER

I. PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

A. General

This document provides overall guidance and direction for managing Utah's mule deer populations. This plan provides general information on natural history, management, population status, habitat, and issues of concern for mule deer in Utah. This plan also outlines the goals, objectives, and strategies for managing mule deer populations and their habitats. The plan will be used to help set priorities for statewide mule deer management programs and provide guidance for individual unit management plans.

B. Dates Covered

The mule deer management plan will be presented to the Utah Wildlife Board on December 5, 2019 and, if approved, will be in effect for a period of 7 years from this date (Dates covered: December 5, 2019 – December 5, 2026).

II. SPECIES ASSESSMENT

A. Natural History

Mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) are part of the deer or cervid family which includes moose (*Alces alces*), elk (*Cervus canadensis*), and caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*) among many other species. A unique feature of the cervid family is that males grow bony antlers that are shed each year. The name "mule deer" comes from their large ears, which resemble those of mules. The specific epithet *hemionus* means half mule. Mule deer occur throughout the western U.S. with as many as 11 subspecies described (deVos, 2003).

Mule deer males, females, and young are known as bucks, does, and fawns, respectively. Fawns are born as singles or more commonly as twins after a gestation period of approximately 7 months. Fawns are normally born in June with the mean fawning date in Utah ranging from June 7–20 (Robinette et al. 1977, Freeman et al. 2014). Fawns born too early have a higher likelihood of encountering late winter storms, which may decrease survival. Conversely, fawns born too late may not have time to grow large enough and build up sufficient fat reserves to withstand Utah's winters. Pregnancy rates for mule deer are high and typically exceed 95% (Freeman et al. 2014).

The antlers of bucks begin to grow as soon as the old antlers are shed in late winter. Bucks will generally live apart from does and fawns through the summer antler growing period (Geist 1998). The velvet, which covers and provides nourishment to the growing antlers, begins to shed in early September. In Utah, the rut or breeding period for mule deer peaks in mid-November. During the rut, bucks seek out and "tend" several does, waiting for them to come into estrus. During the peak of estrus, does are receptive for less than a day and sometimes for only a few hours. If females are not bred during the first estrous cycle, they will enter another estrous cycle about 4 weeks later (Wallmo 1978).

After the rut, bucks become reclusive again until they shed their antlers in late winter and join herds of does and fawns, blending in with the rest of the antlerless population. In late spring, the does seek solitude for fawning. At this time, yearlings from the previous year can be aggressively driven away by the does. Once new fawns are several months old, adult females form family groups for the remainder of the summer that often include yearlings born the previous year.

B. Management

1. UDWR Regulatory Authority

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (hereafter the Division) operates under the authority granted by the Utah Legislature in Title 23 of the Utah Code. The Division was created and established as the wildlife authority for the state under section 23-14-1. This Code also vests the Division with necessary functions, powers, duties, rights, and responsibilities associated with wildlife management within the state. Division duties are to protect, propagate, manage, conserve, and distribute protected wildlife throughout the state.

2. Past and Current Management

History of Mule Deer Management

Mule deer were common in Utah at the time of settlement, although not as abundant as today (Rawley 1985). Mule deer harvest was unrestricted until after the turn of the twentieth century. In 1908 the hunting season on deer was closed to help protect Utah's dwindling deer herd (Rawley 1980). In 1913 deer hunting resumed when the legislature enacted a buck-only law. However, as the deer herd increased game managers realized the need for antlerless harvest in order to keep the deer herds in balance with their habitat. The first limited harvest of does began in 1934 on 4 separate herd units. Multiple permits, multiple seasons, and extra permits for antlerless deer were common in the 1950s and early 1960s. Total deer harvest (bucks and does) peaked in Utah in 1961 when over 132,000 deer were harvested (Figure 1). As the number of hunters and permits increased, deer populations were gradually reduced and brought more in balance with available forage and habitat. Extra permits and antlerless harvest were gradually reduced through the mid-1960s and early-1970s.

By the mid 1970s it was apparent that deer populations were in decline and, in many areas, below the carrying capacity of the habitat. In 1975, Utah again adopted a statewide buck-only hunting strategy and a symposium was held in 1976 to discuss the decline of mule deer in the west (Workman and Low 1976). Under buck-only hunting deer populations went through a series of boom and bust cycles. The peak harvest of buck deer in the state occurred in 1983 when 82,552 bucks were harvested during the general season hunts. Buck hunter numbers also peaked in 1983 with 228,907 hunters participating in the general season deer hunt, whereas the total number of hunters peaked in 1988 with nearly 250,000 total hunters afield (Figure 1).

Mule Deer Management Plans

Management plans provide guidance and direction for deer populations in Utah. These plans are taken through a public process to gather input from interested constituents and then presented to the Utah Wildlife Board for approval. The first statewide deer management plan was approved in 1995 and called for managing public land general season units to a minimum regional average of 15 bucks per 100 does.

Individual management plans were then developed for 53 deer management units and approved by the Wildlife Board in 1996. This plan remained in effect until 2003 when it was updated and approved by the Wildlife Board. Unit management plans were revised in 1998 following a reduction in the number of deer management units from 53 to 30, and revised again in 2001 to incorporate new population objectives and habitat information. In 2008, the statewide plan was again revised and approved by the Wildlife Board. In 2011, the statewide plan was amended with the general season buck-to-doe objectives being raised from 15–25 to 18–25 bucks per 100 does as an average in each of the 5 regions.

Due to concerns over chronically low buck-to-doe ratios on specific management units within the regional hunt boundaries, the Wildlife Board amended the statewide plan again in 2012 and approved a general season unit-by-unit hunt structure. Under this management system, the state was divided into 30 general-season hunting units with 14 units managed at 15–17 bucks per 100 does and 16 units managed for 18–20 bucks per 100 does. The lower buck-to-doe ratio objective was designed to provide for increased hunting opportunity whereas the higher objective was intended to provide opportunity for hunters to harvest older and larger bucks. The statewide management plan was revised again in December 2014 and has been used as the guiding document for management over the last 5 years. After the 2014 revision of the statewide plan, there was a change in unit plans that resulted in 29 general-season hunting units. Currently 11 of those units are managed at 15–17 bucks per 100 does and 18 of those units are managed at 18–20 bucks per 100 does.

All unit plans were revised in 2006 and again in 2012. Unit plans are currently revised on a five-year rotation with each unit plan being revised the year following collection of range trend data. By doing so, the latest and most accurate habitat assessment can be incorporated into each unit plan. On some units, local working groups have been used to help with the development and implementation of unit plans. Those groups have been instrumental in garnering local support for mule deer management and providing local knowledge on factors limiting population growth and locations where habitat projects may be beneficial. Local working groups will continue to be used on an as-needed basis to assist in achieving the population and habitat management goals and objectives.

Recent Mule Deer Harvest Management

Following several years of drought and an unusually hard winter in 1992–1993, buck deer permits were capped for the first time in 1994. That year, 97,000 general-season buck permits were issued across 5 hunting regions. The 97,000 permit cap remained in place through 2005, but due to difficulties in monitoring over-the-counter permit sales, buck hunter numbers exceeded 97,000 permits in some years. Permit sales were closer to the 97,000 cap after implementation of a drawing system in 2000. Because of severe drought during the early 2000s, the permit cap was temporarily reduced to 95,000 in 2005 with 1,000 permits removed from both the Central and Northeastern regions. Due to continued drought concerns and, in some areas, severe winter weather, permits were held below the 97,000 cap through 2012, at which time unit-by-unit hunting was implemented and the statewide permit cap was removed. The total number of general-season deer permits available in 2019 was 89,900.

Prior to 1994, data on buck-to-doe ratios were collected by wildlife biologists but not used to determine permit numbers. The 1995 statewide mule deer management plan changed this management practice and set postseason buck-to-doe objectives for general season units at 15 bucks per 100 does for the 5 regions. The regions, and later individual units, have been managed for a set range of bucks per 100 does since that time. In 2018, 23 general-season units either met or exceeded their buck-to-doe ratio objective, whereas only 6 units were below objective (Table 1).

Over the past 20 years, an average of 27,619 bucks has been harvested in Utah each year. The harvest level has remained relatively constant over this time period with a low of 21,292 in 2011 and a high of 34,402 in 2016. During the same time period, buck-to-doe ratios have shown an increasing trend in Utah with average ratios on public lands across the state rising from 13 bucks per 100 does in 1998 to 19 bucks per 100 does in 2018 (Figure 2). With fewer hunters and higher buck-to-doe ratios, hunter success has increased on general-season units. Statewide average hunter success during the general-season any weapon hunt in 2018 was 39.3% compared to 31.1% during the 1998 any weapon hunt.

In addition to general season hunting opportunities, Utah also manages for premium limited-entry and limited-entry hunts which provide a high quality hunting experience, high hunter success, and few permits. There are 2 premium limited-entry hunting units in Utah: the Henry Mountains and the Paunsaugunt. From 2008 to 2014, these units were managed for a 3-yr average of 40–50 bucks per 100 does and 40–55% of the harvest ≥ 5 years of age. That strategy was slightly modified in 2015 and set the public draw permits at 49 for the Henry Mountains and 135 on the Paunsaugunt for the next 5 years, as long as the 3-yr average of $>40\%$ of the bucks harvested were ≥ 5 years of age. In 2008, management buck hunts (3 points or less on 1 antler) were added to these units to help reduce their buck-to-doe ratios and provide additional hunting opportunity while not reducing the top-end quality. In 2018, 205 premium limited-entry permits were issued, with a harvest of 189 bucks and a 3-yr average of 57% of bucks ≥ 5 years of age. Additionally, 55 management buck permits were issued and 48 bucks harvested. These 2 units met or exceeded both of their management objectives in 2018 (Table 2).

There are 7 limited-entry units in the state that are managed for a postseason buck-to-doe ratio of 25–35 bucks per 100 does. In 2018, all 7 units met or exceeded their management objectives (Table 3). In addition to managing limited-entry units based on buck-to-doe ratios, the Division also provides limited-entry hunts on general-season units based on the timing of the hunting season, either through early high-country buck hunts, or through muzzleloader hunts in early November. In 2018, the Division issued 1,402 limited-entry permits and 1,129 bucks were harvested.

In addition to hunting bucks, doe hunting has been used to address habitat concerns on rangelands and alleviate depredation on private lands. In 1995, the Utah Legislature passed a law that required the establishment of population objectives on each mule deer unit. In some instances, doe hunts have been used to meet population objectives, although the current approach is to evaluate range trends, annual winter browse utilization, and deer densities to determine if population objectives need to be adjusted before recommending doe permits.

C. Population Status

The 2018 postseason population estimate for mule deer in Utah was 372,500 deer; 82% of the long-term management objective of 453,100 deer. Since the large decline during winter 1992–1993, the statewide deer population has shown an increasing trend (Figure 3). The population had good growth during the mid-late 1990s, but then declined during the severe drought years from 2000 to 2003 when fawn production decreased (Figure 4). The harsh winters in northern Utah in 2007–2008 and in southern Utah in 2009–2010 negatively impacted adult and fawn survival, resulting in population declines. Weather conditions from 2011–2015 were very favorable for mule deer resulting in an increase of nearly 100,000 deer. Overall, the deer population in Utah has grown at an average rate of 1.6% over the past 20 years.

D. Herd Monitoring

Population sex and age composition for mule deer is determined through the use of postseason ground classification counts. On each unit, annual ground classification counts are conducted shortly after the general-season hunts (typically between November 15 and January 15) when mule deer are concentrated on winter range and bucks are in peak rut. Data are collected on representative areas throughout each unit and biologists attempt to classify a minimum of 400 does on each unit. Classification data are used to determine annual production and survival of young to 6-months old (fawn-to-doe ratios), to assess if herds are meeting their buck-to-doe objectives, and as input data for population models.

In addition to classification data, the Division also monitors survival and cause-specific mortality on 7 representative units across the state. Adult female survival has been shown to have the most influence on population growth, whereas fawn survival, although less influential, shows considerable temporal variation (White and Bartmann 1998, Gaillard et al. 2000). Beginning in 2009, survival data were collected using VHF radio collars on a sample of adult does and female fawns. This provided good estimates of overwinter and annual survival, but little information on timing and cause of mortality. In 2014, the Division switched from using VHF collars to satellite-GPS collar, which greatly improved the quantity and quality of data collected. The GPS collars send an email when they switch to mortality mode, enabling biologists to determine the timing and likely cause of mortality for each deer. Over the 10-year survival monitoring period, statewide adult female survival has averaged 83% (range 79-86%), whereas fawn survival has averaged 61% (range 30-82%, Table 4). During the 5 years of monitoring cause-specific mortality, 44% died due to predation, 19% due to malnutrition, 6% from vehicle collisions, 8% other causes, and 23% to unknown causes (Table 5). By understanding the extent and main sources of mortality, we are able to determine the likely limiting factors for each population and develop management actions to address those factors.

In 2014 the Division also began monitoring nutritional condition of mule deer entering winter using a combination of ultrasonography and palpation (Cook et al. 2010). Nutrition and the resultant nutritional condition can have substantial effects on virtually every aspect of physiology and productivity of animals (Cook 2002), and nutritional deficiencies can affect reproduction, growth and development, and survival (Gaillard et al. 2000, Cook et al. 2004, Parker et al. 2009). In addition to impacts on demography, deer in good body condition produce fawns that have the potential to grow larger antlers than females in poor body condition (Freeman et al. 2013). By knowing when and where nutrition is limiting mule deer populations, habitat treatment projects and other management actions can be implemented to improve population performance.

E. Habitat

Mule deer are adaptable to a wide variety of habitats throughout their range (Wallmo 1981). In North America, they live from the northern boreal forests to the hot deserts of the southwest and from the coastal rain forests to the Great Plains. In Utah, mule deer are found across the state, although they are less abundant in desert areas (Figure 5). Currently, 54% of the state is considered mule deer habitat. Total mule deer habitat in Utah is estimated at 29,370,577 acres with 10,189,038 acres of summer habitat, 13,787,762 acres of winter habitat, and 5,393,777 acres of transitional or year-long habitat.

Although mule deer occur in a wide variety of habitat types, there are many similarities in diet and habitat composition. Deer eat a wide variety of plants including browse, forbs and grasses. Deer are especially reliant on shrubs for forage during winter months. Similarly, fawn production is closely tied to

the abundance of succulent, green forage during the spring and summer months. Even though vegetative communities vary throughout the range of mule deer, habitat is nearly always characterized by areas of thick brush or trees interspersed with small openings. The thick brush and trees are used for escape and thermal cover, whereas the small openings provide forage and feeding areas.

Mule deer do best in habitats that are in the early stages of plant succession. This relationship is described in the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) publication on mule deer, which states: "Mule deer thrive in early successional habitats, where forbs, grassy plants and shrubs dominate. These environments are not as stable as forest habitats, and they rely on fire or some other type of disturbance to return them to an early successional stage. If they are not disturbed, they become more stable plant communities dominated by large trees and large shrubs. Tree-dominated habitats offer mule deer a place to retreat from severe weather, but these areas offer little in the way of food. That is why it is important to provide a mosaic or pattern of habitats that can provide food, cover and water." (WAFWA 2003)

One of the major problems facing mule deer populations in Utah is many of the crucial deer ranges are in late successional plant community stages dominated by mature stands of pinyon-juniper or other conifer trees, and old even-aged stands of shrubs such as sagebrush. Many crucial deer winter ranges are covered with older shrubs with little or no recruitment of young plants, or are being replaced by annual grasses like cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*). Additionally, many forest aspen habitats are being replaced by conifers that provide little forage for mule deer. In order for mule deer populations to thrive in Utah, it is essential that extensive habitat treatments be completed to revert sagebrush habitats back to young, vigorous, shrub-dominated communities, and restore aspen communities to early seral stages. Habitat treatments vary by site but generally include chaining, bullhog, and pinyon-juniper lop and scatter on winter range and prescribed fire and logging on summer range. Figure 6 shows the habitat restoration priority areas for mule deer in Utah.

III. ISSUES AND CONCERNS

A. Habitat

Deer habitats are classified into three main categories based on season of use: winter, summer and transitional. Deer use high quality forage during the spring and early summer to aid in fat and protein deposition (Cook et al. 2013). The higher the quality of spring and summer forage, the better the antler growth in bucks, the better does are prepared for lactation, and the more fat reserves deer can build up for use during winter. Recent data from Utah's monitoring effort suggests the amount of fat deer have entering into winter is an important predictor of over winter survival. Similarly, high quality forage on winter range may help slow the rate of decline of accumulated fat reserves, helping deer survive. The size and condition of mule deer populations are primarily determined by the quantity and quality of these habitats as they provide the necessary nutrition to sustain deer throughout the year. Lack of quality habitat has been associated with decreased survival and recruitment of fawns, increased age at first reproduction, decreased reproductive output, and decreased survival by adults (Monteith et al. 2014).

Loss and degradation of habitat are thought to be the main reasons for mule deer population declines in western North America over the last few decades (Workman and Low 1976, WAFWA 2003). Crucial mule deer habitat has been and continues to be lost in many parts of Utah and severely fragmented in others due to human population expansion, development, and natural events. For purposes of this plan, crucial

mule deer habitat is defined as habitat essential to the life history requirements of mule deer. Continued degradation and loss of crucial habitat will lead to significant declines in carrying capacity and/or numbers of mule deer. Urbanization, road construction, off-highway vehicle (OHV) use, energy development, drought, catastrophic wildfire, and expansion of invasive plant species have all resulted in loss or degradation of mule deer habitat.

The quality and quantity of forage available on important mule deer ranges can be limited by a variety of factors. The encroachment of pinyon and juniper threatens to choke out understory forbs and shrubs and increase risk of catastrophic wildfire. Annual weeds such as cheatgrass alter natural fire cycles by increasing fire frequencies, often resulting in shrublands being converted to annual grasslands. Aspen habitat is declining in part due to conifer encroachment resulting from the suppression of naturally occurring fires. The seeding of aggressive introduced perennial grasses that outcompete native shrubs and forbs can reduce the ability of rangelands to meet the dietary requirements of mule deer. The DWR Range Trend Project has documented many of these threats and how mule deer habitat in Utah has changed over the last 30 years (UDWR 2014–2018). During the 1940s and 1950s, deer herds erupted in response to abundant shrub growth on mule deer ranges throughout the state, as a result of heavy grazing on most rangelands (deVos et al. 2003). Since that time, many shrub-dominated rangelands have gradually converted to juniper-dominated communities due to lack of fire or other disturbances. The conversion of shrublands to annual grasslands has also been accelerated in recent decades due to an increase in invasive weed species, drought, and large wildfires.

To address the decline in mule deer habitat throughout Utah, restoration projects are being implemented to target habitat improvement on crucial mule deer ranges that have shifted in dominance to less desirable types or have degraded and provide little productivity. In Colorado, Bergman et al. (2014) found higher deer fawn survival in pinyon-juniper areas that had been treated as compared to those with no treatment. Habitat restoration projects are designed to move communities to earlier successional states, while restoring community functionality by providing a diversity of grasses, forbs, and shrubs that are available during critical seasons throughout the year. Ideally, restoration projects that benefit mule deer should be large in scale, include mosaic patterns to increase patchiness and edge effects, and be conducted in areas with high potential for success. Although fire can be beneficial for mule deer habitat, particularly in high-elevation summer habitat, in some instances large wildfires can be extremely destructive (e.g., when on winter range). Projects in recently burned areas are designed to restore lost food and shelter and protect water and soil resources. Restoration of shrubs in these communities can be a slow process, but can improve mule deer habitat throughout Utah, which in turn, will provide the necessary habitat requirements to meet statewide and unit population objectives.

B. Water Distribution

Water is a fundamental need for mule deer. When browse, forbs, and grasses consumed by mule deer have high water content, mule deer don't need to drink as they can obtain adequate amounts of water from their food. However, when forage contains only limited amounts of water, access to drinking water becomes important. The spatial distribution of mule deer populations is often positively associated with the availability of water in arid regions of western North America (Hervert and Krausman 1986, Boroski and Mossman 1996). Consequently, recent work by state wildlife agencies depicts large expanses of the Intermountain West ecoregion as water-limiting to mule deer (Wasley et al. 2008). Wildlife water developments, or guzzlers, can help provide water to mule deer in arid areas, but need to be designed and placed in areas conducive to use by mule deer. To maximize benefits to mule deer, guzzlers should be built in areas used by females with young and spaced less than 5 km from other water sources.

Fencing should be of sufficient size to allow access (Krausman et al. 2006, Larsen et al. 2011, Shields et al. 2012).

C. Energy Development

A boom in energy development has claimed and fragmented thousands of acres of mule deer habitat in portions of Utah. Energy is a 4.7 billion dollar industry in Utah, and in 2012, Utah ranked 10th in natural gas production and 11th in crude oil production among US states (Utah Office of Energy Development 2014). Mule deer, particularly in eastern Utah, are facing the challenges associated with increased, large-scale energy development. The impacts of energy development on mule deer are not fully known but generally include direct and indirect loss of habitat, added physiological stress, disturbance and displacement, habitat fragmentation and isolation, and other secondary effects (e.g. oil/chemical spills and contamination, increased noxious weeds, etc.; Sawyer et al. 2002, Lutz et al. 2011). Small, isolated disturbances within non-limiting habitats are of minor consequence within most ecosystems. However, larger-scale developments within limited habitat types are a major concern to managers because such impacts cannot be relieved or absorbed by surrounding, unaltered habitats (Watkins et al. 2007). For mule deer populations to thrive in areas of extensive energy development, it is essential to work closely with energy companies to minimize and mitigate for potential impacts.

D. Population Objectives

The current statewide population objective for mule deer in Utah is 453,100 and is based on the sum of the population objectives from individual unit plans. Deer unit plans are approved through a public process, and population objectives are set based on what the habitat can biologically support, while considering possible detrimental impacts to surrounding land uses. When deer unit plans are revised, it is essential that the best possible population and range data be used to assess the current unit conditions. In some instances, these data may indicate the population objective is too low and should be raised to allow for more deer. In other situations, the data may show that the objective is too high and cannot be attained under current habitat and climatic conditions. In these cases, population objectives should be lowered to reflect a realistic view of what can be obtained in the foreseeable future. Population objectives can be revisited as needed to address improving conditions for mule deer.

E. Predator Management

Predators are often identified as one of the main causes for mule deer herd declines in Utah. However, predator-prey relationships are complex and not always easily understood. There are often many factors which can negatively affect mule deer populations including predation. The complex relationship between predators and habitat is described by Geist (1999). "Inevitably predators are blamed for declining mule deer populations, in particular when the survival of fawns is low. There is no doubt that today's predators are effective in killing deer. However, predation is not independent of poor habitat quality. Such translates itself less as a reduced birth rate, but as fawns born too small, too poorly developed and too weak to be viable. Here predators take fawns that have a low chance of survival anyway. Improved habitat quality, which leads to better growth and larger body size in deer, is also expected to lead to large, vigorous fawns that are more difficult for predators to catch."

Ballard et al. (2001) reviewed 40 published papers on the response of deer to predator control and found removing predators is most effective when 1) the deer population is below carrying capacity, 2) predation is identified as a limiting factor, 3) control efforts reduce predator populations enough to yield

results, 4) removal of predators occurred just prior to the reproductive periods of predators or deer, and 5) control efforts occurred at a focused scale. Mountain lions, coyotes, and in some areas black bears are the primary predators of mule deer in Utah (Smith 1983). On Monroe Mountain in southern Utah, Hall (2018) determined the primary cause of death among fawn mule deer is predation by both coyotes and mountain lions, and predator control can enhance the likelihood that fawns survive their first six months of life.

Since 2014, UDWR and its partners have monitored the survival of roughly 2000 individuals and the cause-specific mortality of approximately 500 adult and fawn mule deer. The Division has also been examining the interactive effects of habit (examined using body condition or fat stores in individual deer) and predation. Although, coyotes and mountain lions both take a significant number of mule deer fawns and adults, the resultant effects on the population are not necessarily equal. Coyotes tend to take animals in relatively poor body condition that have a low likelihood of survival to the subsequent year. In contrast, mountain lions take more adult deer than coyotes and are more likely to take deer that are prime-aged and in good condition.

By monitoring body condition, survival, and cause-specific mortality on many herds throughout the state, managers have the ability to identify populations that appear to be limited by predation (e.g. mountain lions are removing a significant proportion of the adult population each year) and not habitat (i.e., animals are in relatively good body condition with significant fat stores). In these areas, it is likely for predation to be an additive source of mortality, and, as such, predator control is more likely to lead to an increase in the size of the mule deer population. In contrast, we can also identify populations that are in relatively poor body condition suggesting that the population has exceeded the carrying capacity of the available habitat. Predator control in such areas would likely have little or no effect on the mule deer population as predation is likely a source of compensatory mortality; habitat improvement would be the only way to enhance populations in those areas.

Predator management in Utah is guided by a predator management policy (UDWR 2011a). This policy specifies that predator management can occur on units well below population objectives providing a predator management plan is written and approved. The Utah Wildlife Board has set triggers to evaluate if a predator management plan should be written. Intensive predator management is costly, and therefore is probably not warranted on units that are near objective or where habitat is limiting population growth. Mountain lion populations should be managed at levels that allow mule deer population objectives to be met. On some units, this may require additional reduction of mountain lion populations which are negatively impacting mule deer populations. In regards to coyotes, the Utah Legislature passed the Mule Deer Protection Act in 2012 which allocates additional funds for coyote control efforts in Utah. These funds allow for a statewide bounty and targeted removal of coyotes by USDA Wildlife Services and private contractors.

F. Disease

Identifying, understanding, and monitoring disease is important for mule deer management. Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a contagious, chronic, degenerative disease that affects members of the cervid family including mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, and moose. CWD affects the central nervous system of an infected animal, which results in weight loss, progressive neurologic deterioration, and death. At present, there is no known vaccine, treatment, or way to eradicate the disease. CWD was first detected in Utah in 2003 and is currently the biggest disease concern for mule deer populations in the

state. Appendix A contains the CWD plan, which provides more information on CWD and adaptive management actions aimed at preventing the spread of CWD within Utah.

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD), and less commonly Bluetongue, are viral diseases that may affect mule deer in Utah. Outbreaks of EHD generally occur during late summer and early autumn where the insect vector *Culicoides* is most active. EHD outbreaks have been documented in several areas throughout Utah in recent years, and although losses to these diseases can be substantial within focal areas, they are isolated events and populations generally recover quickly.

Other diseases that occasionally have been diagnosed in mule deer across Utah have included pneumonia, diarrhea, neoplasms, brain abscesses, exotic lice (*Bovicola tibialis*) infestation, *Eleaophora* infection, malignant catarrhal fever, and mineral deficiencies. However, in most cases only single individuals have been affected.

G. Access Management

The use of Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs) in Utah has dramatically increased in recent years. OHV registrations increased more than tripled from 1998 to 2006 (from 51,686 to 172,231) and that trend continues to increase (Smith 2008). Uncontrolled use of motorized vehicles and OHVs can cause damage to mule deer habitat and disturbance to mule deer during critical phases of their life cycle. State and federal land management agencies are currently struggling with issues involving the use of OHVs on public land. Those agencies acknowledge OHVs as a legitimate use of public land, but also recognize the potential problems associated with uncontrolled activity. As such, these agencies have developed or are currently working on travel management plans on federal lands.

Shed antler gathering and the associated human disturbance on crucial winter ranges, especially with the use of vehicles, can cause undue stress on mule deer during a time when they must conserve energy.

There is also a demand for walk-in and horseback only access areas in Utah. Many hunters want the opportunity to hunt in a remote area that has lower hunter densities, where they don't have to compete with vehicle traffic. Biologically, limiting areas to foot and horse travel can limit hunter pressure, reduce harvest, and increase buck to doe ratios.

H. Depredation Issues

Depredation of private croplands is an ongoing challenge and, in some areas, can be a significant problem for deer to reach their management objectives. The Division has committed substantial resources to address depredation concerns, and there are numerous programs designed to assist landowners with depredation situations. Depredation problems need to be addressed within the sideboards of state code, rule, and policy, and in a timely and efficient manner so that landowners will better tolerate migratory mule deer populations on their lands.

I. Private Land / Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit Issues

The value of private lands to the overall deer population in Utah cannot be overstated. Many crucial mule deer habitats throughout the state are on privately owned lands. Unfortunately, some of those private rangelands have been converted from mule deer habitat to housing developments, recreational

properties, or other uses. As such, programs that provide incentives to private landowners to manage their properties for mule deer and other wildlife are critical to the success of the state's deer management program. Programs like cooperative wildlife management units (CWMUs), landowner associations (LOAs), general-season landowner permits, and walk-in access currently provide incentives for landowners to manage for healthy habitat and deer populations on their properties. Additionally, the Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative (WRI) has worked with numerous cooperating landowners to provide funding and other resources to accomplish vegetation treatments on private and public lands to benefit mule deer and other wildlife, as well as livestock.

J. Winter Feeding

Supplemental feeding is often viewed by the public as a solution to a lack of forage on crucial deer winter ranges, especially during severe winters. However, there is evidence that the potential harm created by feeding mule deer may outweigh the limited benefits (WAFWA 2003). Winter feeding programs are generally costly and can potentially cause problems for mule deer including disruption of natural movement patterns, range destruction, and increased disease transmission. Additionally, feeding deer in winter may have limited value because of the complex and highly specialized digestive system of mule deer (WAFWA 2013). If deer do not adapt quickly enough to dietary changes, deer may die of starvation despite having a full stomach. Moreover, adult deer will likely outcompete fawns for available feed, causing increases in fawn mortality at feeding sites.

In some situations, it may be necessary to feed deer to sustain a base population (WAFWA 2003). If necessary, winter feeding of mule deer in Utah will be guided by the winter feeding policy (UDWR 2011b). The Division will not participate in any emergency big game feeding program that occurs within the known range or use area of any big game population where CWD, brucellosis, or tuberculosis has been detected as feeding concentrates animals and can increase disease transmission and prevalence.

K. Competition

Competition occurs when two species use the same limited resource, and both of the species suffers in some way because of that use (WAFWA 2003). When resources are limited, competition may potentially occur between deer and other ungulates such as horses, livestock or elk. This competition could be direct for specific resources such as food or water, or a more general displacement of a species from preferred habitats due to behavioral characteristics.

From a direct resource competition standpoint, it is often assumed that deer and elk do not compete for forage since elk diets consist primarily of graminoids (grasses) and mule deer largely consume woody vegetation or browse. Although this may be true much of the year, there are circumstances when diet overlap can become a concern. For example, during a hard winter when forage is limited, elk can successfully shift to a diet largely comprised of browse causing a high degree of diet overlap with mule deer (Frisina et al. 2008). This overlap can create direct competition for forage between elk and mule deer when mule deer are most vulnerable.

Mule deer can also experience behavioral and spatial competition with elk. Behavioral competition is most likely to occur on summer ranges during drought years or on generally arid units. The mere presence of elk may displace mule deer into lower quality habitats. GPS collar data has shown that mule deer avoid elk when selecting habitat, but elk habitat selection is independent of mule deer distribution (Stewart et al. 2002).

Feral horse populations in Utah continue to grow. Horses are less efficient at extracting nutrients from forage than ruminants like mule deer and elk. As such, horses must consume larger quantities of forage to survive. In arid environments, horses may also defend water sources from other species (Gooch et al. 2017, Hall et al. 2016). More specifically, feral horses have a negative effect on water use by mule deer (Hall et al. 2018) suggesting that an increase in horse numbers will negatively affect populations of mule deer. It is crucial that the Division work closely with federal land management agencies to actively manage horses on federal lands to minimize negative impacts to wildlife habitat.

Crucial ranges where elk, livestock, and/or horses coexist with mule deer should be closely monitored to prevent overuse and competition. Although competition may exist in some areas where resources are limited, the Division continues to work closely with our partners to restore and improve habitats to benefit both wildlife and livestock.

L. Movements and Migration Corridors

One of the primary ways that mule deer respond and adapt to changes in the environment is through movement. The ability to freely move allows deer to take advantage of seasonal resources, colonize new habitats and find mates. It also helps them avoid competitors, predators and parasites.

Some of the longest movements that mule deer make are seasonal migrations between summer and winter ranges. Most mule deer in Utah are migratory, with some individuals moving up to 70 miles. In Wyoming, mule deer migrations up to 150 miles have been documented (Sawyer et al. 2016). Mule deer exhibit high fidelity to their seasonal ranges and often use the same migration corridors year after year to move between seasonal ranges (Brown 1992). However, even for well studied species such as deer, little is known about the locations of migration corridors.

In 2017, the Division founded the Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative to document, preserve, and enhance wildlife movement throughout Utah. This initiative uses state-of-the-art GPS tracking technology to monitor the movements of species in near real-time. Information generated by tracking collars is used to define critical habitats for species, including migration corridors. Currently, the Migration Initiative is putting a large focus on documenting mule deer movements. For example, in 2019 there were over 900 mule deer with GPS tracking collars in 15 wildlife management units throughout the state (Figure 7).

GPS tracking information allows the Division to precisely define migration corridors for mule deer (Figure 8). The Division uses the information to work with partners to place wildlife crossings on roads, which preserves wildlife movement and reduces deer-vehicle collisions. The information is also used to work with landowners and municipalities to preserve open space for deer and other wildlife to move across the landscape. Additionally, the information is used to target habitat treatment locations and evaluate the success of habitat improvements.

M. Translocations

Translocation projects are an increasingly common strategy for managing wildlife populations on modified landscapes. Recent work in Utah shows that managers can expect the following outcomes associated with translocation of mule deer: 1) approximately 50% survival of adults during the first year, 2) higher survival for younger animals, 3) high survival in year 2 that is similar to resident deer, 4) high site fidelity (i.e., most surviving deer returned to winter range where they were released during the

second year), and 5) reproduction similar to that of resident deer (Smedley 2016, Smedley et al. 2019). This same study found no difference in survival for deer captured and released in early (January) compared to late (March) winter suggesting that translocation could occur throughout the winter.

Translocation of mule deer can be an expensive and time-intensive management activity. Costs can range from roughly \$100 to \$1,000 per animal based on the number of animals involved, capture method used, and duration of the project. Additional costs can include purchasing radio-collars, disease testing, and monitoring of translocated animals. Partnering with local governments, conservation groups, and other interested parties can help defray some of the costs associated with mule deer translocations.

All mule deer translocations in Utah will be conducted in accordance with the approved mule deer transplant list (Appendix B). Although situations exist where transplants may be considered, the use of translocations is expected to be minimal due to the associated risks (e.g., disease transmission, transport of exotic lice, etc.). Deer that reside in CWD positive areas will not be considered for translocation, and special consideration should be taken when transplanting deer into CWD positive areas due to increased risks of large-scale deer movements and disease transmission. Translocated deer should be moved a minimum of 50 km to limit the return of translocated animals (Eberhardt and Pickens 1979). Finally, efforts should be made to reduce handling time and stress on animals during capture and translocation.

N. Poaching

The effect of poaching on wildlife populations can be difficult to assess. Poachers can be motivated by a variety of things including a desire to get a jump on hunting season, annoyance with state game laws, a desire to shoot and kill something, or the money and prestige associated with trophy-sized antlers. During winter 2009–2010, Utah experienced an increased number of illegally taken deer on winter ranges, likely due to the increased snow in southern Utah. In response, conservation officers conducted winter range patrols in an effort to protect vulnerable wintering deer herds. A concerted outreach effort was implemented to solicit assistance from conservation groups and the public to recognize and report suspicious activities while in the field. Law enforcement will continue to make mule deer protection a high priority by concentrating efforts on prioritized winter ranges. Success will only be achieved when poaching is no longer socially acceptable and only with assistance from our conservation partners and the general public.

IV. USE AND DEMAND

Mule deer are the most important game animal in Utah. Hunter demand and interest has always been high and the family tradition of mule deer hunting is strongly rooted in Utah. From 1960 to 1993, no fewer than 150,000 hunters participated in the annual mule deer hunt. Over 200,000 hunters participated in the deer hunt each year from 1977 to 1992, except in 1984.

Although the number of permits has been relatively stable for over 2 decades, the number of applicants for permits has increased causing the demand for both limited-entry and general-season permits to rise (Table 6). In 2018, the overall odds of drawing a limited-entry buck permit were 1 in 33.1, compared to 1 in 8.3 in 1998. The odds of drawing a general-season permit also increased from 1 in 1.1 in 2000 to 1 in 1.9 in 2018. Although limited-entry permits are popular, it is clear that many Utah hunters are also interested in being able to hunt every year. As demand for both permit types continues to increase

faster than supply, many hunters are giving up on the sport. The North American model of wildlife management is based on the premise that hunters are largely responsible for funding the management of game animals. If we continue to lose hunters and fail to recruit youth hunters, the current system under which we manage wildlife may be in jeopardy. Thus, it is critical to the future of hunting and wildlife management in Utah to provide people with both the opportunity to hunt and a high-quality hunting experience.

Mule deer are also a high interest watchable wildlife species since nearly everyone enjoys seeing deer in the wild. Many thousands of hours and considerable dollars are expended each year in deer watching activities. Units that produce large bucks are especially attractive not only to hunters but wildlife watchers and photographers as well.

V. CONCLUSION

Mule deer are the most abundant big game animal in Utah and are of high interest to sportsmen and women and nonconsumptive users. The mule deer population in Utah is lower than what it was in the 1960s and 1980s, but it has been increasing over the past 2 decades with overall numbers approaching what was present 30 years ago. Mule deer face a myriad of factors that can have a cumulative impact on their ability to flourish. The loss and degradation of habitat, combined with unfavorable weather conditions, have likely had the most significant impact on mule deer numbers. Other factors such as predation and disease are intensified when habitat quality is reduced. If deer herds are to reach their population objectives in Utah, extensive habitat work will need to be done to rehabilitate crucial mule deer ranges and compensate for a climatic trend toward hotter and drier conditions. It is vital that the Division, state agencies, Native American tribes, federal agencies, conservation organizations, private landowners, and others work together to protect and improve mule deer habitat if we hope to maintain and expand mule deer populations to meet management goals.

VI. STATEWIDE MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Population Management Goal: Expand and improve mule deer populations throughout the state within the carrying capacity of available habitats and in consideration of other land uses.

Population Objective: By 2026, manage mule deer populations within the state as conditions allow and bring all populations to their unit objective (453,100 in 2019)

Implications: This objective can be accomplished if favorable environmental conditions exist and through the implementation of the strategies in this plan

Strategies:

A. Population Objectives

- a. Review individual unit management plans and revise where necessary to provide consistency with this plan. Unit plans will be revised and approved internally by the Division Director unless:
 - i. New unit plan
 - ii. Change in the population objective
 - iii. Major boundary change.
- b. Use current research (body condition scores (BCS), cause-specific mortality, range trend data, etc.), historic population estimates, and production data to set realistic and attainable population objectives
- c. Manage mule deer populations below biological carrying capacity to increase herd productivity
- d. Use the most reliable population models to evaluate herd size and population trends over time
- e. Manage predators according to the predator management policy, where habitat is not limiting and predators are demonstrated to have a negative impact on the population
- f. Work with UDOT to construct sufficient wildlife crossing structures, fencing or other mitigation options to minimize deer vehicle collisions
- g. Continue to support law enforcement efforts to educate the public concerning poaching and reduce illegal take of deer
- h. Implement emergency feeding when needed in accordance with the DWR feeding policy and educate the public on the implications of winter deer feeding
- i. Work with federal and state land management agencies to adopt seasonal closures or travel restrictions to minimize human disturbance of mule deer during critical phases of their life cycle

B. Population Management

- a. Use antlerless harvest as the primary tool to manage deer populations
- b. Use antlerless harvest in combination with the Urban Deer Rule to reduce conflict and damage in urban areas
- c. Investigate and manage diseases that threaten mule deer populations
- d. Monitor and manage CWD in accordance with CWD plan (Appendix A)

C. Population Monitoring and Research

- a. Continue to monitor all mule deer populations annually to evaluate fawn production, herd composition, and habitat use
- b. Continue to collect annual adult doe and fawn survival rates, body condition scores, and cause specific mortality across the state
- c. Support the Utah Migration Initiative in identifying and protecting migratory corridors
- d. Evaluate the effectiveness of the crossing structures and other mitigation options over time and implement new technologies to minimize highway mortality
- e. Continue to implement research studies on specific herd units that are chronically below population objective to identify limiting factors and recommend solutions

D. Populations on Private Lands

- a. Support incentive programs for landowners that will increase tolerance and promote deer populations on private lands such as the CWMU, landowner permit, and Walk-In Access programs
- b. Explore cultivated lands only doe permits and allow private landowners the ability to alleviate crop damage using public hunters
- c. Address all depredation problems in a timely and efficient manner to increase landowner tolerance of mule deer
- d. Educate, advocate and work with municipalities/counties to enact sound management plans on zoning decisions in order to minimize and mitigate the loss of crucial mule deer habitat and to maintain the integrity of migration corridors
- e. Educate the public on the value of private landowner incentive programs

Habitat Goal: Conserve, improve, and restore mule deer habitat throughout the state with emphasis on crucial ranges

Habitat Objective 1: Maintain mule deer habitat throughout the state by protecting and enhancing existing crucial habitats and mitigating for losses due to natural and human impacts

Implications: Loss of crucial mule deer habitat will need to be minimized to achieve population objectives. Mitigation is essential for loss or degradation of all crucial habitats due to natural and human impacts

Strategies:

A. Habitat Classification and Assessment

- a. Continue to identify, map, and characterize crucial mule deer habitats including migration routes throughout the state
- b. Identify and rank threats and limiting factors within each unit plan
- c. Continue to support the interagency Big Game Range Trend Studies crew in monitoring the long-term trends of crucial mule deer ranges throughout the state

B. Habitat Management and Conservation

- a. Work with local, state and federal land management agencies via land management plans and with private landowners to identify and properly manage crucial mule deer habitats, especially fawning, wintering, and migration areas
- b. Minimize impacts and recommend mitigation for losses of crucial habitat due to human impacts
- c. Acquire additional crucial mule deer habitats through fee title and conservation easements
- d. Educate, advocate and work with municipalities/counties to enact sound management plans on zoning decisions in order to minimize and mitigate the loss of crucial mule deer habitat and to maintain the integrity of migration corridors
- e. Conduct any mule deer feeding in accordance with Division policy to limit habitat damage.
- f. Manage elk populations to minimize competition with mule deer on crucial ranges
- g. Work with local, state and federal land management agencies and ranchers to properly manage livestock to enhance crucial mule deer ranges
- h. Encourage and support federal land management agencies, state agencies, and tribal entities efforts to minimize competition with wildlife from horses and burros and to manage these animals at appropriate management levels (AML)

C. Travel Management and Development

- a. Support the establishment of multi-agency OHV travel plans developed on a county or federal land management plan level and ongoing efforts to reduce illegal OHV use to prevent resource damage and protect crucial mule deer habitat

- b. Where appropriate, work with county, federal and state land management agencies to adopt seasonal motorized route closures to minimize human disturbance in existing crucial mule deer habitats
- c. 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 mule deer migration patterns
- d. Use established energy guidelines (e.g. WAFWA Energy Development Guidelines for Mule Deer) to minimize and mitigate impacts to mule deer from energy development and other habitat disturbances

D. Private Lands

- a. Support existing and explore additional incentive programs for landowners that will increase tolerance, enhance habitat, and promote deer populations on private lands such as the CWMU, landowner permit, Walk-In Access programs, etc.

Habitat Objective 2: Improve the quality and quantity of vegetation for mule deer on a minimum of 700,000 acres of crucial range by 2026

Implications: Habitat will need to be improved on at least 700,000 acres of crucial mule deer range to meet the population objectives in this plan. If habitat improvement projects cannot be completed because of inadequate funding, environmental restrictions, or unfavorable climatic conditions, population objectives may not be achieved. Additionally, because habitat treatments often require a number of years before they provide optimal benefits to mule deer, and if large catastrophic wildfires and energy developments continue to negatively impact crucial mule deer ranges, the population and habitat goals of this plan may not be achieved within the 7-year life of this plan

Strategies:

A. Watershed Restoration Initiative

- a. Continue to support and provide leadership for the Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative, which emphasizes improving sagebrush-steppe, aspen, and riparian habitats throughout Utah
- b. Work with land management agencies, conservation organizations, private landowners, and local leaders through the regional Watershed Restoration Initiative working groups to identify and prioritize mule deer habitats that are in need of enhancement or restoration (Figure 6). Emphasis should be placed on crucial habitats including sagebrush winter ranges and aspen summer ranges
- c. Work with university extension to increase landowner participation in the Watershed Restoration Initiative program
- d. Initiate broad scale vegetative treatment projects to improve mule deer habitat with emphasis on drought or fire damaged sagebrush winter ranges, ranges that have been taken over by invasive annual grass species, and ranges being diminished by encroachment of conifers into sagebrush or aspen habitats, ensuring that seed mixes contain sufficient forbs and browse species

- e. Encourage land managers to manage portions of pinyon-juniper woodlands and aspen-conifer forests in early successional stages using various methods including timber harvest and managed fire
 - f. Continue to support the conservation permit and habitat enhancement programs which provide critical funding for habitat improvement efforts
- B. Public Support
- a. Educate the public on the value of the general license, conservation, and convention permits for mule deer habitat improvement projects
 - b. Promote and enhance programs that encourage volunteer participation in habitat restoration projects that benefit mule deer

Recreation Goal: Provide a diversity of high-quality mule deer hunting and viewing opportunities throughout the state

Recreation Objective 1: Provide mule deer hunting that encourages a variety of quality hunting opportunities while maintaining population objectives

Implications: Current hunting programs can be maintained if population objectives are met

Strategies:

- A. Hunting Strategies: Continue to provide three hunt unit categories (general season, limited entry and premium limited entry) in approximately the current distribution to provide a variety of hunting opportunities
 - a. General Season
 - i. Manage general-season units for 15–17 or 18–20 bucks per 100 does (see Table 2 for management objectives)
 - ii. Biologists should take into account buck-to-doe ratio, (current estimate, 3-year average, and trend) as well as adult and fawn survival when making permit recommendations
 - iii. Annual permit recommendations on public land units (>50% of deer habitat is on public land) should be made to achieve the buck:doe ratio objective for the unit
 - b. Limited Entry
 - i. Manage limited-entry units for 25–35 bucks per 100 does (see Table 3 for units and objectives)
 - ii. Biologists should take into account buck-to-doe ratio, (current estimate, 3-year average, and trend) when making permit recommendations
 - iii. Annual permit recommendations should be made to achieve a target buck-to-doe ratio of 30 bucks per 100 does
 - c. Premium Limited Entry
 - i. Manage premium limited-entry units for 40–55 bucks per 100 does with >40% of harvested deer 5 years of age or older (see Table 2 for units and objectives)
 - ii. Premium limited-entry baseline permits for the public draw will be set by this plan at 49 on the Henry Mountains and 135 on the Paunsaugunt
 - iii. Reductions in permits will occur if <40% of the harvested bucks (3-year average) are 5 years of age or older to achieve the objective
 - iv. Permit numbers will be returned to baseline numbers when the age objectives are being met
 - v. Continue to provide management buck hunts on these units with a minimum of 10 permits on each unit
 - vi. If the buck-to-doe ratio exceeds 55 bucks per 100 does, management buck permits will be increased to bring the population to objective
- B. Hunt Types/Weapon Splits

- a. Recommend permits for the 3 weapon types based on the following percentages: 20% archery, 20% muzzleloader, and 60% any weapon. On some units, these percentages may be altered to help achieve buck-to-doe ratio objectives
- b. On general-season units where crowding may be a concern, additional hunts may be added or weapon type percentages may be altered to manage to approved buck-to-doe ratios
- c. On limited-entry and premium limited-entry units with sufficient public draw permits, provide a multi-season hunting opportunity that will allow 3% of the hunters to hunt all seasons for an increased fee. The permits for this hunt will be removed from the any-weapon quota

C. Hunting Seasons

- a. Establish season lengths that provide adequate hunting opportunity as follows:
 - i. 28-day archery season
 - ii. 9-day muzzleloader season
 - iii. 5-day early any weapon season (on select units)
 - iv. 9-day any weapon season
 - v. 9-day late muzzleloader season
- b. Limited-entry hunts on all general-season units
 - i. Permits will be set at 0.5% of the general-season draw permit total with a minimum of 5 permits on each unit
- c. Season lengths for some hunts may be altered to accommodate:
 - i. High-country buck hunts/overlapping deer and elk seasons
 - ii. Deer migration
 - iii. Extended archery areas
 - iv. Management buck hunts
 - v. Cactus buck hunts
 - vi. Handgun, archery, muzzleloader, shotgun (HAMS) hunts
 - vii. Multi state agreements

D. Additional Hunt Strategies

- a. Continue to evaluate hunt boundaries to manage hunting pressure on a unit/subunit scale. Unit hunt boundaries should:
 - i. Encompass the majority of the movements of specific deer herds
 - ii. Maintain easily identifiable boundaries
 - iii. Consider private lands issues
- b. Explore additional opportunities to provide incentives to landowners that provide habitat for mule deer
- c. Evaluate units and subunits for handgun, archery, muzzleloader, shotgun (HAMS) hunts as an additional LE opportunity. Potential units will typically meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - i. Low densities of deer
 - ii. Underutilized by hunters
 - iii. High potential for conflict with humans

- iv. Migratory deer populations that are not able to be hunted during standard seasons
- d. Continue to evaluate areas for new extended archery hunt units
- e. Explore having over the counter extended archery permits to provide increased hunting opportunity and reduce point creep
- f. Work with the mammals program to have spot-and-stalk cougar permits with season dates that overlap deer seasons
- g. To address point creep in general-season units, support the acquisition of a buck deer permit resulting in the loss of all preference points
- h. Work with land managers to maintain access during hunting seasons where appropriate
- i. Consider cactus buck hunts on units with an appreciable number of cactus bucks

Recreation Objective 2. Increase opportunities to educate the public about the needs of mule deer and the importance of habitat and other limiting factors

Implications: In order to gain support for mule deer and mule deer management, it is crucial that the public understand factors that drive and limit mule deer populations. Efforts need to be made to educate the public about mule deer and promote everything that is being done to benefit mule deer and mule deer habitat in Utah

Strategies:

- A. Education and Nonconsumptive Use
 - a. Work with partners (conservation organizations, state and federal agencies, etc.) to increase outreach efforts to promote mule deer conservation
 - b. Use electronic media, podcasts, and traditional media to educate the public about mule deer and mule deer management
 - i. Conservation
 - 1. Information on where and how to view mule deer
 - 2. The importance of proper population management
 - 3. Provide updates on current research and management actions
 - ii. Habitat restoration
 - 1. The importance of the Watershed Restoration Initiative
 - 2. Identifying and protecting migration routes and corridors
 - iii. Impacts of disturbance
 - 1. Impacts of highways and development and the importance of crossing structures that offer safe passage
 - 2. Potential positive and negative impacts of wildfire
 - 3. Human activities on winter range
 - iv. Factors that impact mule deer population growth
 - 1. Impacts of predators on mule deer populations
 - 2. Habitat carrying capacity and how it is dynamic
 - 3. Effects of severe weather
 - 4. Deer-vehicle collisions
 - 5. Disease outbreak

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Figure 1. Statewide trends in mule deer hunters afield and harvest, Utah 1925–2018.

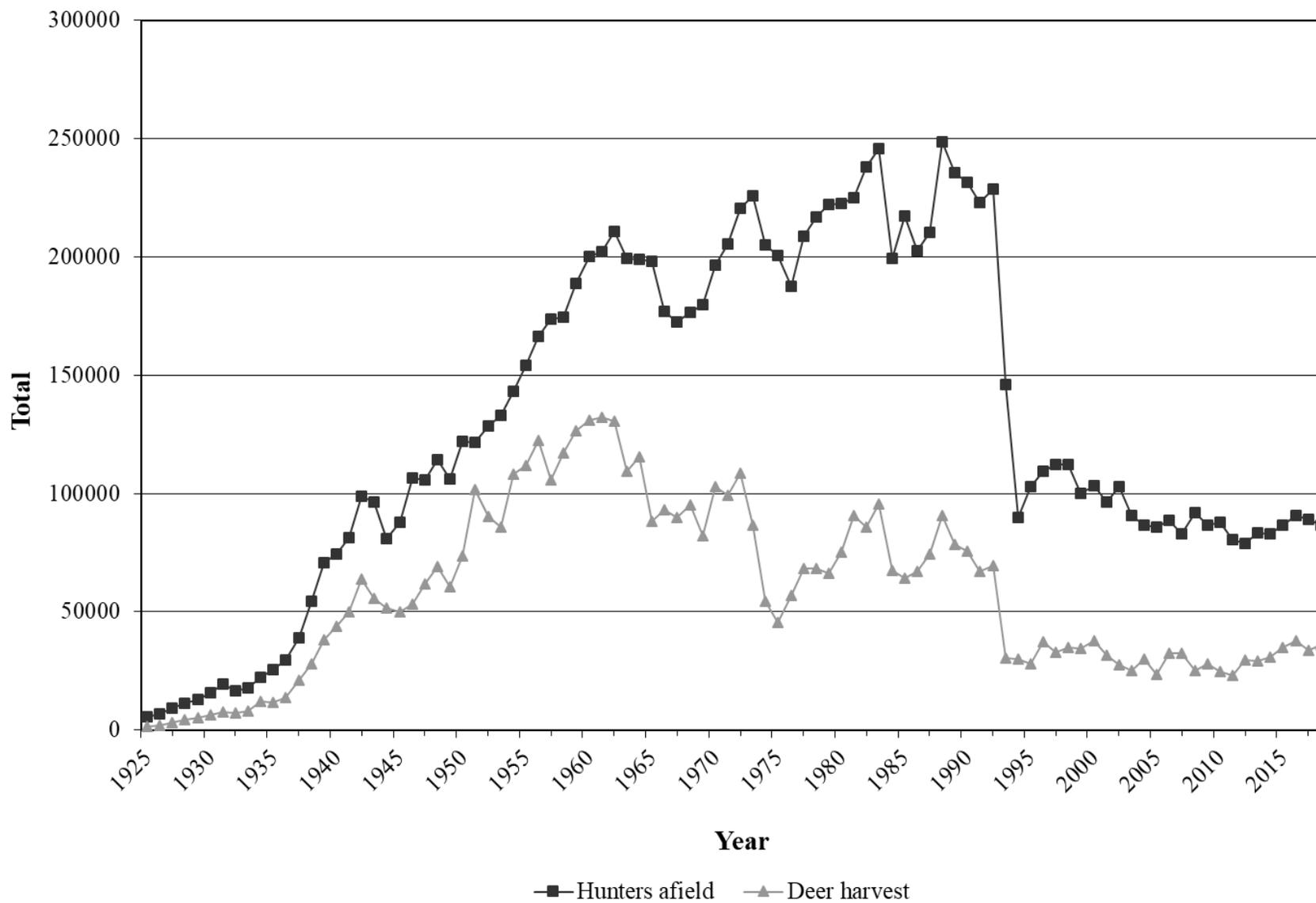


Figure 2. Statewide post-season buck to doe ratio estimates, Utah 1993–2018.

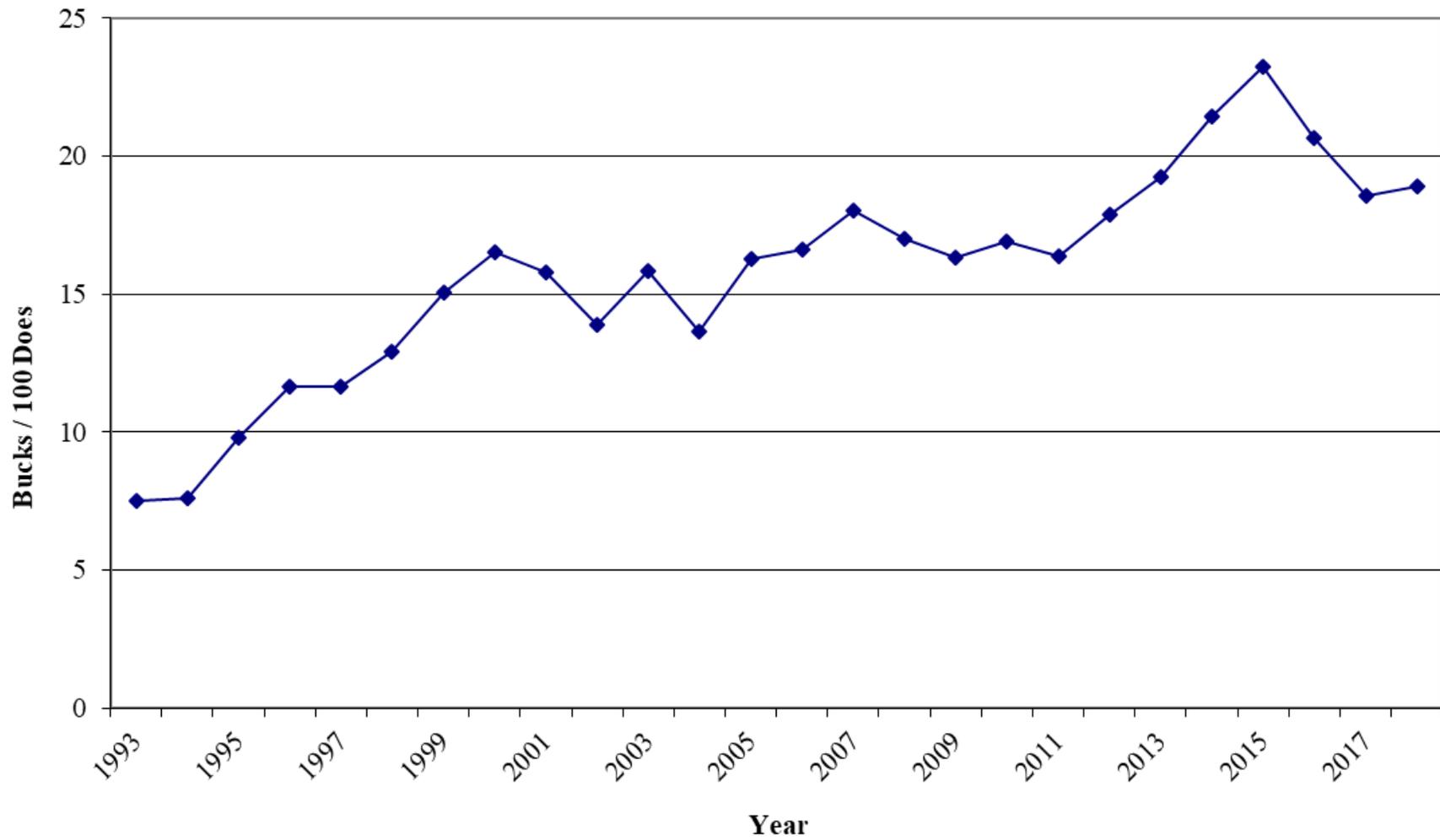


Figure 3. Statewide post-season mule deer population estimates, Utah 1992-2018.

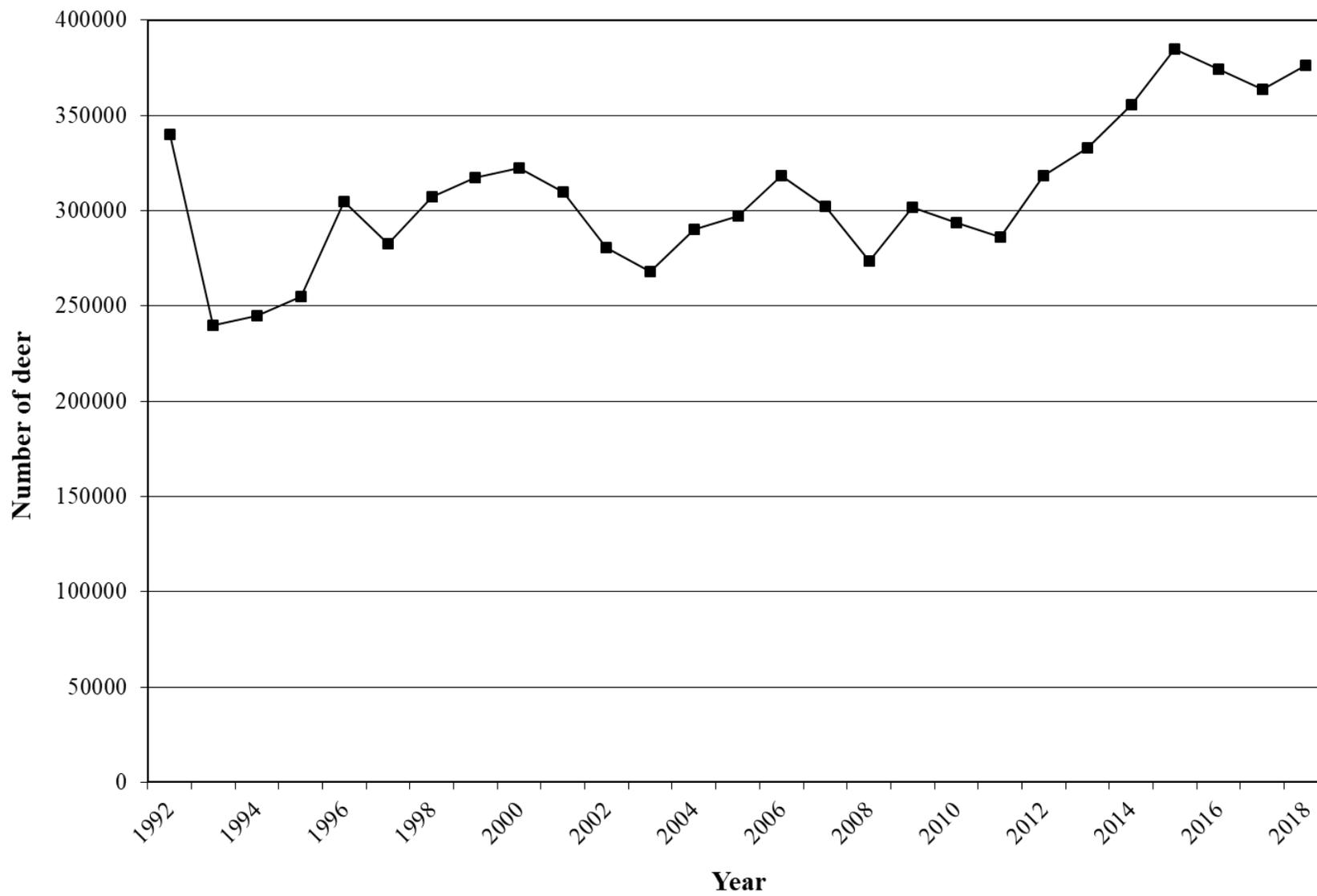


Figure 4. Statewide post-season fawn to doe ratio estimates, Utah 1993–2018.

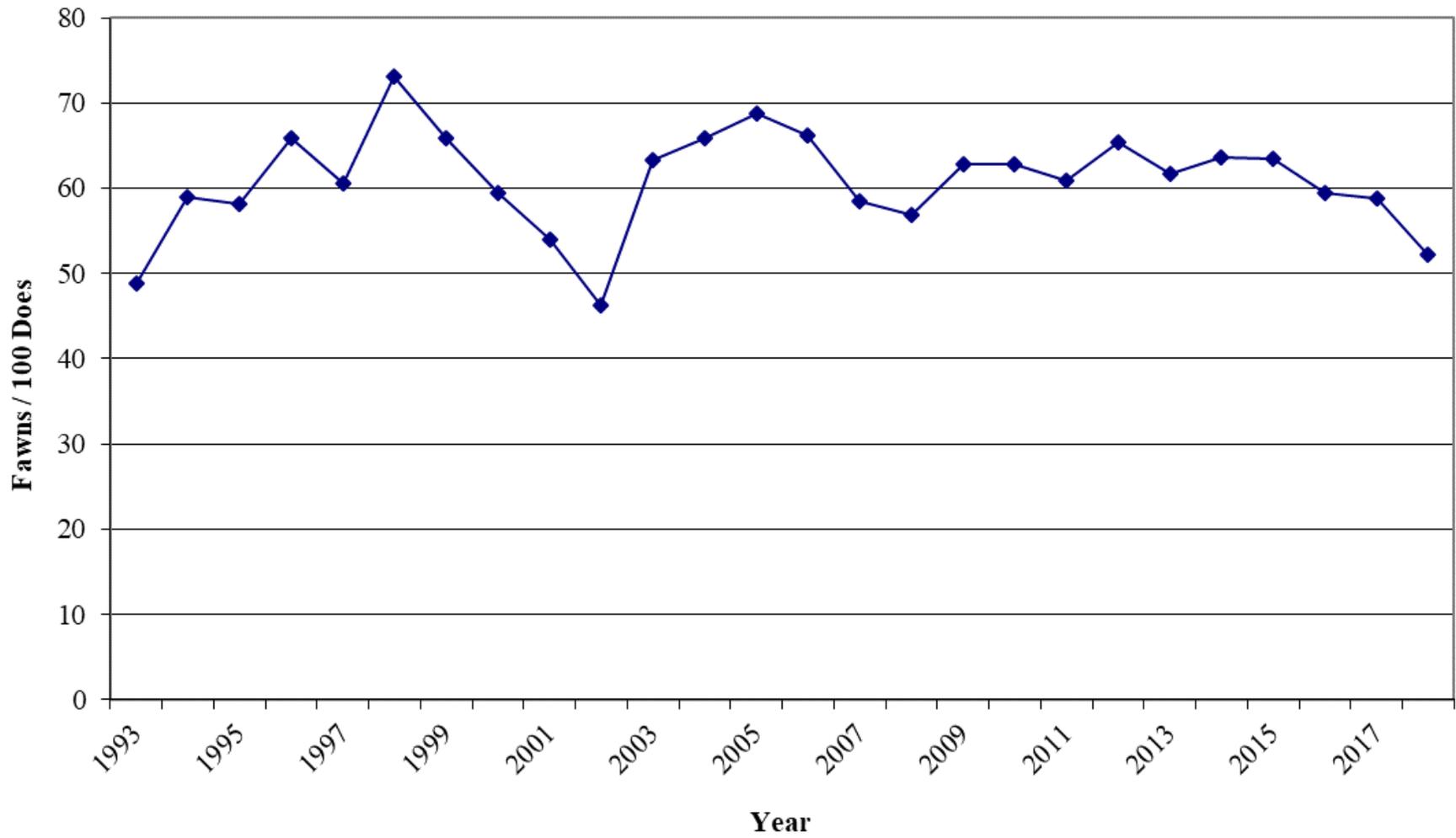


Figure 5. Mule deer habitat, Utah 2019.

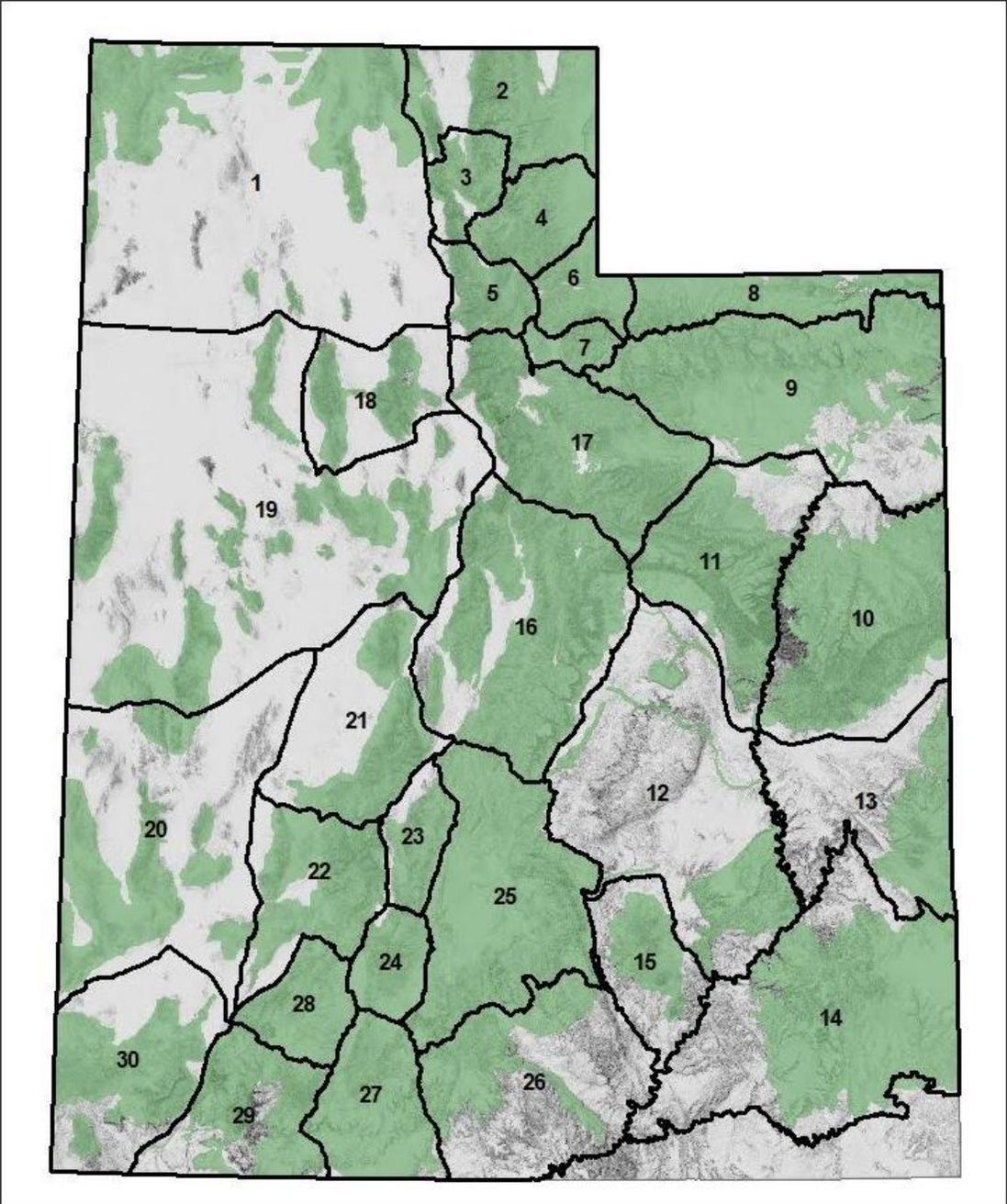


Figure 6. Crucial mule deer habitat restoration priority areas, Utah 2019.

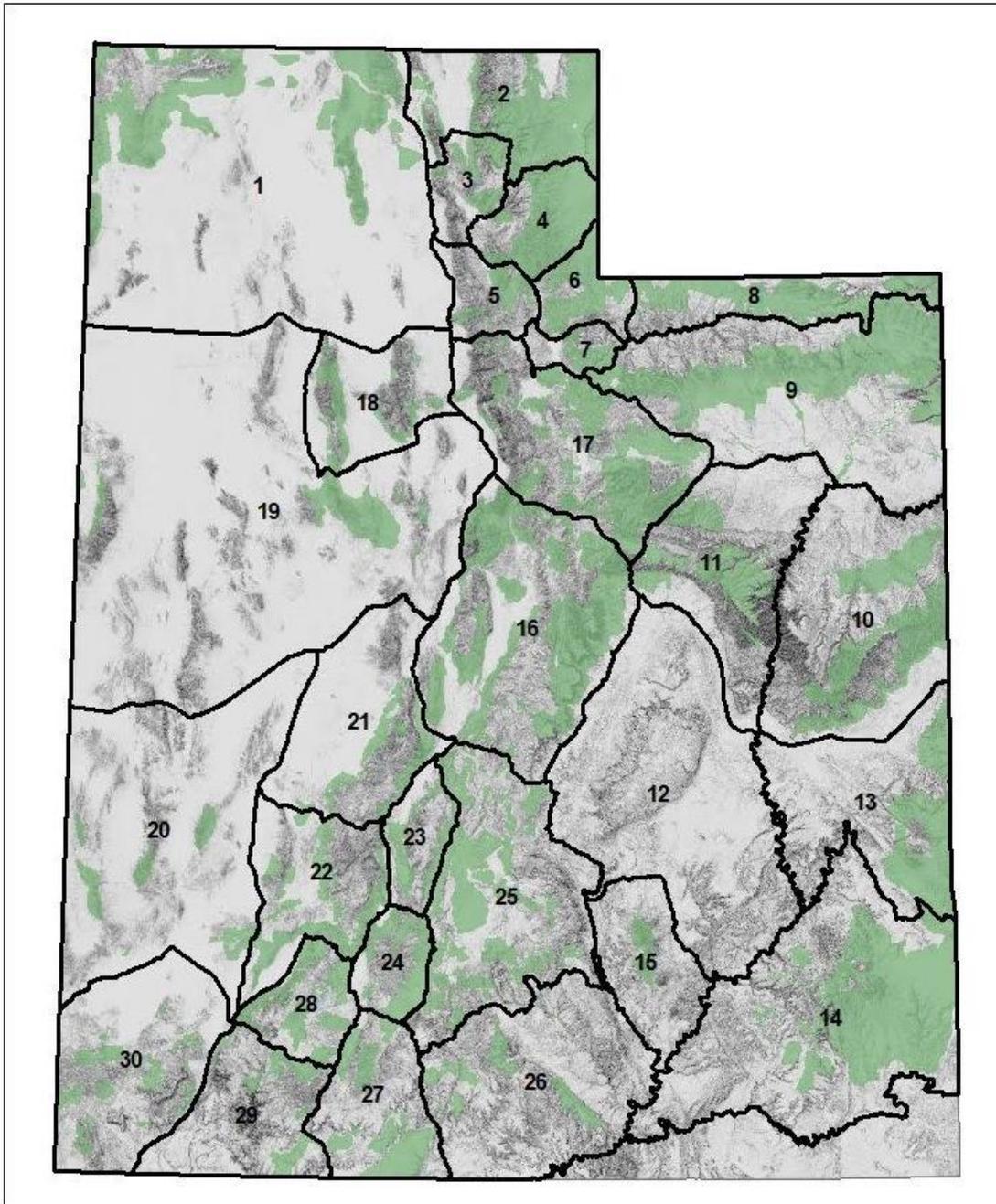


Figure 7. Locations of over 900 mule deer that were monitored with GPS tracking technology in 2019.

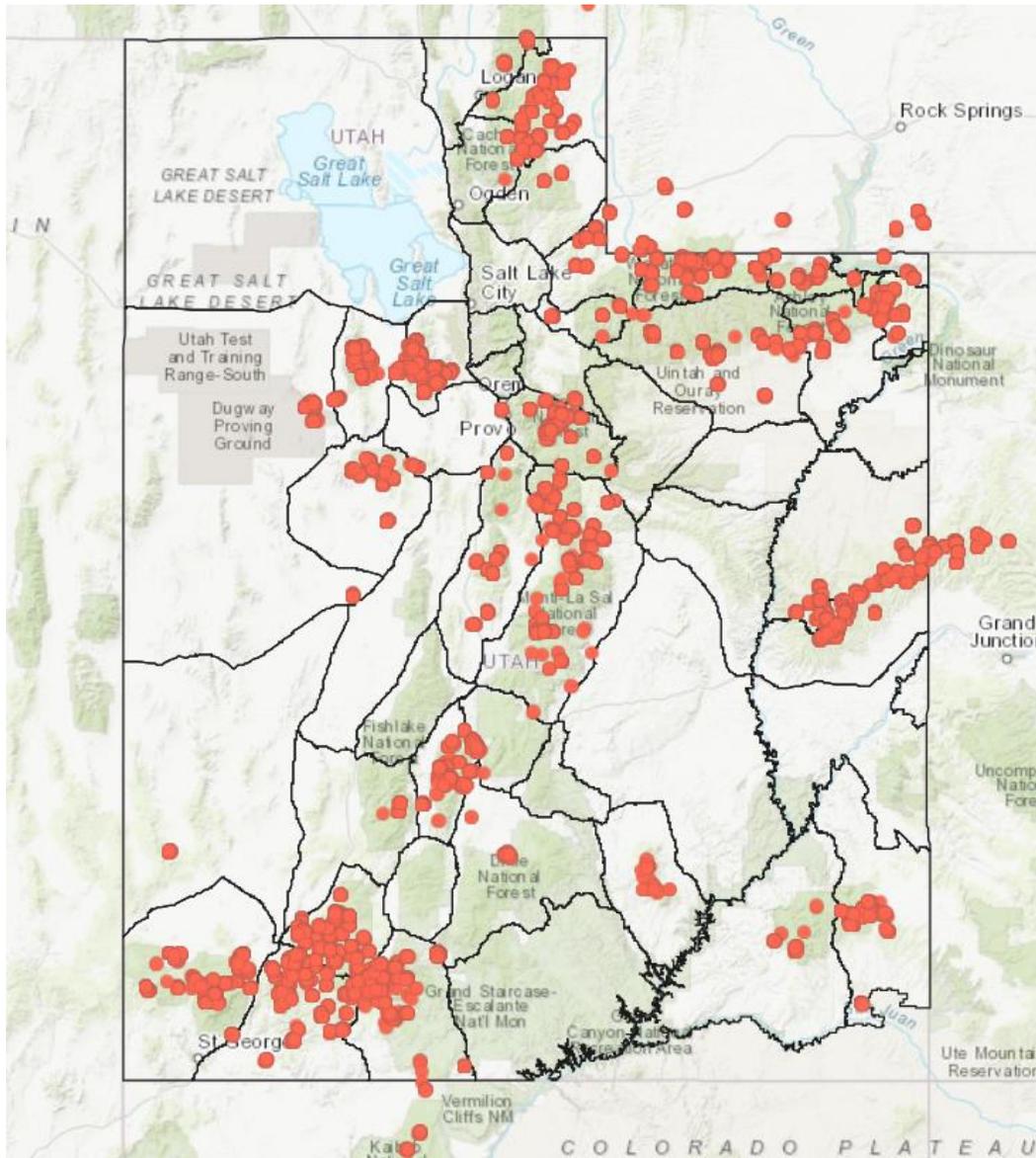


Figure 8. Mule deer migration corridors near the City of Eagle Mountain, UT

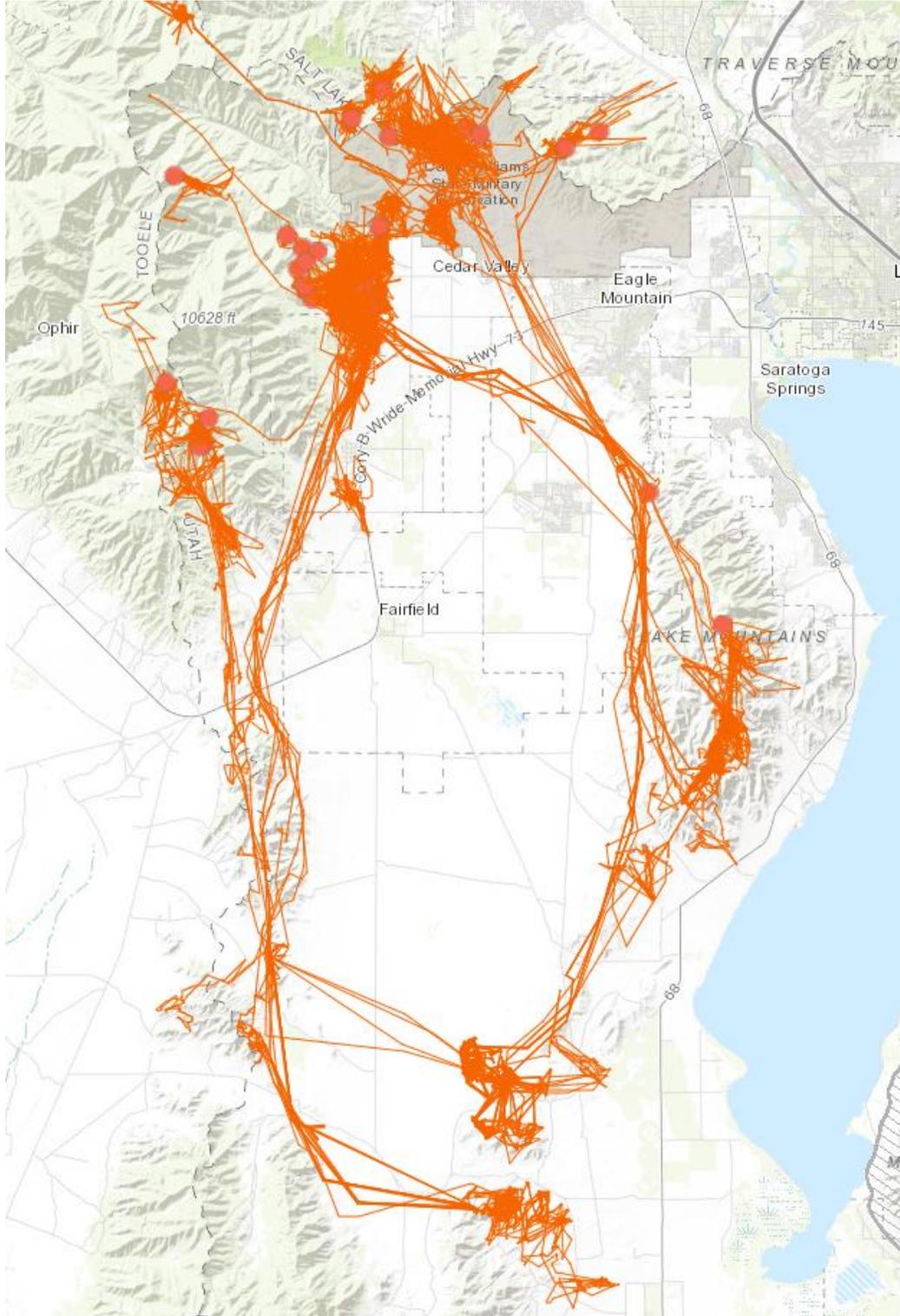


Table 1. General-season unit bucks per 100 does and objectives, Utah 2016–2018.

General season unit	Unit #	Objective	2016	2017	2018	3 year average
Beaver	22	18–20	24.8	17.7	15.1	19.2
Box Elder	1	15–17	19.3	18.8	16.0	18.0
Cache	2	15–17	15.1	15.4	19.6	16.7
Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	16B/12	15–17	15.6	13.3	16.7	15.2
Central Mtns, Nebo	16A	15–17	15.3	16.8	15.7	15.9
Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	4/5/6	18–20	32.9	24.9	29.6	29.1
Fillmore	21	18–20	26.7	22.4	17.7	22.3
Kamas	7	18–20	31.0	22.5	23.7	25.7
La Sal, La Sal Mtns	13A	15–17	16.7	11.1	17.4	15.1
Monroe	23	18–20	19.1	13.6	17.4	16.7
Mt Dutton	24	18–20	20.8	18.2	16.5	18.5
Nine Mile	11	18–20	26.8	27.6	25.7	26.7
North Slope	8	18–20	20.6	17.9	19.7	19.4
Ogden	3	18–20	21.4	15.6	20.0	19.0
Oquirrh-Stansbury	18	15–17	23.1	18.7	19.1	20.3
Panguitch Lake	28	18–20	19.2	18.0	15.7	17.6
Pine Valley	30	18–20	24.2	23.9	23.8	24.0
Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	25C/26	18–20	16.5	17.4	12.5	15.5
Plateau, Fishlake	25A	18–20	18.1	15.2	18.4	17.3
Plateau, Thousand Lakes	25B	18–20	21.2	32.0	25.9	26.4
San Juan, Abajo	14A	15–17	23.4	22.4	17.8	21.2
South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	9BD	15–17	17.2	18.8	23.0	19.7
South Slope, Yellowstone	9A	18–20	23.0	18.2	22.2	21.1
Southwest Desert	20	18–20	25.0	23.5	20.6	23.0
Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin/Currant Creek	17BC	18–20	22.6	18.6	18.7	20.0
Wasatch Mtns, West	17A	15–17	15.8	15.6	16.1	15.9
West Desert, Tintic	19C	15–17	—	12.7	13.0	12.9
West Desert, West	19A	15–17	—	12.7	13.0	12.9
Zion	29	18–20	24.1	22.8	22.6	23.2

Table 2. Premium limited-entry unit bucks per 100 does and objectives, Utah 2016–2018.

Premium limited-entry unit		Objective	2016	2017	2018	3 year average
Henry Mtns	Buck-to-doe ratio	40–50	46.7	40.7	44.2	43.9
	% \geq 5 years old	40–55	70%	68%	46%	61%
Paunsaugunt	Buck-to-doe ratio	40–50	50.8	48.3	48.8	49.3
	% \geq 5 years old	40–55	51%	57%	57%	55%

Table 3. Limited-entry unit bucks per 100 does and objectives, Utah 2016–2018.

Limited-entry unit	Objective	2016	2017	2018	3 year average
Cache, Crawford Mtn	25–35	30.4	17.9	27.3	25.2
South Slope, Diamond Mtn	25–35	34.1	33.8	33.9	34.0
Book Cliffs	25–35	32.4	33.9	39.6	35.3
La Sal, Dolores Triangle	25–35	24.1	41.7	28.3	31.3
San Juan, Elk Ridge	25–35	42.9	30.3	43.8	39.0
West Desert, Vernon	25–35	36.5	44.0	29.2	36.5
Fillmore, Oak Creek	25–35	29.0	28.9	49.0	35.7

Table 4. Estimated survival of adult and fawn mule deer monitored via radio telemetry along with population growth rates (lambda; values above 1 indicate a growing population while values below 1 suggest an annual decline) by management unit, Utah 2013–2018.

Unit	Year	Adult Survival	Fawn Survival	Lambda
Cache	2013–2014	0.82	0.77	1.04
	2014–2015	0.92	0.79	1.16
	2015–2016	0.84	0.27	0.92
	2016–2017	0.71	0.10	0.75
	2017–2018	0.91	0.59	1.10
Monroe	2013–2014	0.82	0.86	1.12
	2014–2015	0.82	0.75	1.07
	2015–2016	0.79	0.44	0.93
	2016–2017	0.75	0.38	0.84
	2017–2018	0.76	0.41	0.86
Oquirrh-Stansbury	2013–2014	0.80	0.78	1.07
	2014–2015	0.78	0.61	0.98
	2015–2016	0.72	0.27	0.81
	2016–2017	0.72	0.18	0.77
	2017–2018	0.82	0.81	1.05
Pine Valley	2013–2014	0.84	0.93	1.11
	2014–2015	0.86	0.90	1.12
	2015–2016	0.89	0.41	1.02
	2016–2017	0.84	0.50	0.98
	2017–2018	0.79	0.43	0.91
San Juan	2013–2014	0.86	0.79	1.10
	2014–2015	0.84	0.71	1.01
	2015–2016	0.80	0.71	1.00
	2016–2017	0.75	0.41	0.87
	2017–2018	0.73	0.00	0.73
South Slope	2013–2014	0.93	0.83	1.20
	2014–2015	0.82	0.93	1.15
	2015–2016	0.78	0.59	1.00
	2016–2017	0.71	0.18	0.77
	2017–2018	0.88	0.75	1.11
Wasatch-Manti	2013–2014	0.81	0.80	1.09
	2014–2015	0.82	0.69	1.06
	2015–2016	0.81	0.31	0.91
	2016–2017	0.88	0.37	1.00
	2017–2018	0.83	0.75	1.07
Statewide	2013–2014	0.84	0.82	1.10
	2014–2015	0.84	0.77	1.08
	2015–2016	0.80	0.43	0.94
	2016–2017	0.79	0.30	0.87
	2017–2018	0.79	0.53	0.95

Table 5. Probable causes of mortality for GPS collared deer, Utah 2014–2019.

Mortality Cause	n	%
Birth complication	2	<1
Depredation removal	2	<1
Disease	20	2
Fence	19	2
Hunter harvest	9	1
Injury/accident	5	<1
Malnutrition	165	19
Poaching	5	<1
Predation, bobcat	11	1
Predation, cougar	194	23
Predation, coyote	167	20
Predation, domestic dog	1	<1
Predation, golden eagle	1	<1
Roadkill	54	6
Train	1	<1
Unknown	197	23

Table 6. Limited-entry and general-season odds of obtaining a permit, Utah 1998–2018.

Permit type	Year	Resident odds	Nonresident odds	Overall odds
Limited entry	1998	1 in 7.5	1 in 19.7	1 in 8.3
	1999	1 in 7.9	1 in 16.3	1 in 8.5
	2000	1 in 8.9	1 in 14.4	1 in 9.3
	2001	1 in 9.9	1 in 18.1	1 in 10.6
	2002	1 in 12.8	1 in 24.8	1 in 13.8
	2003	1 in 15.2	1 in 34.0	1 in 16.7
	2004	1 in 17.2	1 in 40.4	1 in 19.1
	2005	1 in 19.5	1 in 48.3	1 in 21.7
	2006	1 in 19.9	1 in 49.7	1 in 22.1
	2007	1 in 21.0	1 in 62.2	1 in 23.7
	2008	1 in 20.6	1 in 48.2	1 in 22.5
	2009	1 in 19.8	1 in 74.1	1 in 23.8
	2010	1 in 20.3	1 in 72.1	1 in 24.3
	2011	1 in 21.3	1 in 76.5	1 in 25.5
	2012	1 in 23.5	1 in 79.0	1 in 27.9
	2013	1 in 27.1	1 in 98.4	1 in 32.5
	2014	1 in 28.7	1 in 108.8	1 in 34.8
	2015	1 in 26.8	1 in 92.9	1 in 32.4
2016	1 in 24.9	1 in 91.1	1 in 30.4	
2017	1 in 26.1	1 in 98.3	1 in 32.5	
2018	1 in 26.0	1 in 111.5	1 in 33.1	
General season	2000	—	—	1 in 1.1
	2001	1 in 1.2	1 in 1.6	1 in 1.2
	2002	1 in 1.3	1 in 1.7	1 in 1.3
	2003	1 in 1.3	1 in 1.9	1 in 1.3
	2004	1 in 1.3	1 in 1.7	1 in 1.3
	2005	1 in 1.4	1 in 1.7	1 in 1.4
	2006	1 in 1.3	1 in 1.7	1 in 1.4
	2007	1 in 1.4	1 in 1.7	1 in 1.5
	2008	1 in 1.4	1 in 1.5	1 in 1.4
	2009	1 in 1.4	1 in 1.5	1 in 1.4
	2010	1 in 1.3	1 in 1.4	1 in 1.3
	2011	1 in 1.4	1 in 1.5	1 in 1.4
	2012	1 in 1.5	1 in 1.8	1 in 1.5
	2013	1 in 1.6	1 in 1.8	1 in 1.6
	2014	1 in 1.7	1 in 2.1	1 in 1.7
	2015	1 in 1.8	1 in 2.1	1 in 1.8
	2016	1 in 1.8	1 in 2.1	1 in 1.8
	2017	1 in 1.9	1 in 2.2	1 in 1.9
2018	1 in 1.9	1 in 2.3	1 in 1.9	

Appendix A.

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Chronic Wasting Disease Management Plan

Goals of the plan:

The goals of this plan are to provide adaptable directions for management and prevention of spread of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in free-ranging deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), elk (*Cervus elaphus*), and moose (*Alces alces*) in Utah. The disease has been present in Utah for at least two decades, and eradication, although desired, is likely not realistic at this point in time. Specific objectives addressed in this plan are to 1) reduce the rate of spread and prevalence of Chronic Wasting Disease in Utah; 2) provide guidelines for response to detection of new infection foci; 3) communicate with the public and participate in scientific research.

Background:

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a neurodegenerative disease of deer, elk, moose, and caribou caused by infectious proteinaceous particles called prions (Haley 2015). The disease is classified as a transmissible spongiforme encephalopathy (TSE) similarly to bovine spongiforme encephalopathy in cattle, scrapie in sheep, and kuru and Creutzfeldt Jacob Disease in humans (Haley 2015). Incubation time from infection to clinical signs averages at approximately 16 months (Williams & Miller 2002). Clinical symptoms in affected animals can vary but can include progressive weight loss, behavioral changes, ataxia, excessive salivation, head tremor, aimless wandering, and always results in death of the affected animal (Williams 2005; Haley 2015). In infected animals, prions are predominantly present in nervous and lymphoid tissues, but have also been detected in antler velvet, muscle, saliva, blood, intestinal tract, bladder, urine, and feces (Henderson *et al.* 2015; Angers *et al.* 2006; Mathiason *et al.* 2006; Angers *et al.* 2009; Haley *et al.* 2011). Transmission can occur directly from animal to animal via contact with infectious body fluids (Haley 2015), however, prions are highly resistant in the environment and environmental contamination may contribute to the spread of the disease (Miller 2004; Miller *et al.* 2004; Haley 2015).

Chronic wasting disease can have consequences for both free ranging and captive populations. Studies have shown that CWD can cause declines in free-ranging deer populations, especially with high disease prevalence (Wasserberg *et al.* 2009; Edmunds *et al.* 2016) and environmental persistence (Almberg *et al.* 2011). Survival studies in deer and elk utilizing radio collars showed that CWD infected animals have lower survival, consequently leading to lower population growth rates (Miller *et al.* 2008; Monello *et al.* 2014; Geremia *et al.* 2015; DeVivo *et al.* 2017). Chronic wasting disease continues to be a major concern for the domestic cervid industry.

To date, CWD has been detected in multiple US states and Canadian provinces (for a map of the current distribution visit <http://cwd-info.org/map-chronic-wasting-disease-in-north-america/>), as well as in Norway (Benestad *et al.* 2016), Finland, and South Korea (Sohn *et al.* 2002; Kim *et al.* 2005). The disease has mainly spread to new areas via natural animal migrations, translocations of cervids, and escape of CWD infected cervids from captive facilities (Miller & Fischer 2016). Other risk factors may include transport of infected carcasses or animal products such as urine, saliva, feces etc., and artificially concentrating animals through baiting or feeding (Miller & Fischer 2016).

Chronic Wasting Disease in Utah:

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) first began conducting CWD surveillance in 1998 upon the request of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. The first case of CWD was found in a hunter-killed buck taken near Vernal in Uinta County in 2002. To date, 92 mule deer and two elk have tested positive for CWD in 6 Wildlife Management Units (WMU) statewide (Figure 1). The highest prevalence in Utah is found in WMU 13 in the La Sal Mountains where the proportion of CWD positive samples have varied between 0 – 8% since 2003 with an increasing trend (Table 1, Figure 2). The proportion of CWD positive samples have varied between 0 and 2% in the other positive WMU's (8, 9, 11, 14, 16) but also with an increasing trend (Table 1, Figure 2). The disease appears to be slowly spreading. In the fall of 2016 and 2017, two deer tested positive near Myton, which is located in the western part of unit 9 and approximately 40 miles west of previously positive animals, and in 2018, another deer tested positive within unit 11 near this area. In the fall of 2017, one deer tested positive near Kenilworth, also within unit 11. This deer was harvested close to CWD positive deer within unit 16. To date, only two elk and no moose have tested positive for CWD in Utah.

Domestic elk ranching is administered through the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF). In 2014, a domestic bull elk killed on a hunting ranch in Liberty in northern Utah tested positive for CWD. This elk was traced back to a domestic elk facility near Blanding in southeastern Utah. The facility was depopulated, and 38% of the animals tested CWD positive. Spread of CWD from domestic to wild cervids and from free-ranging to captive populations continues to be a significant concern.

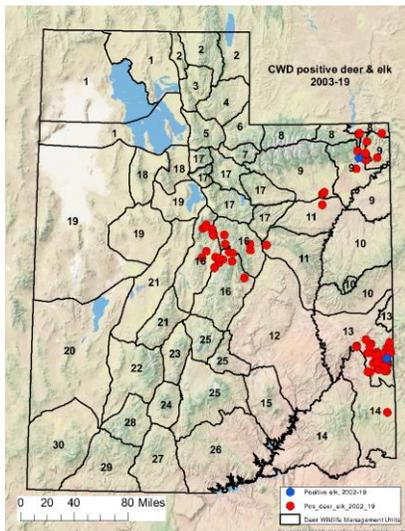
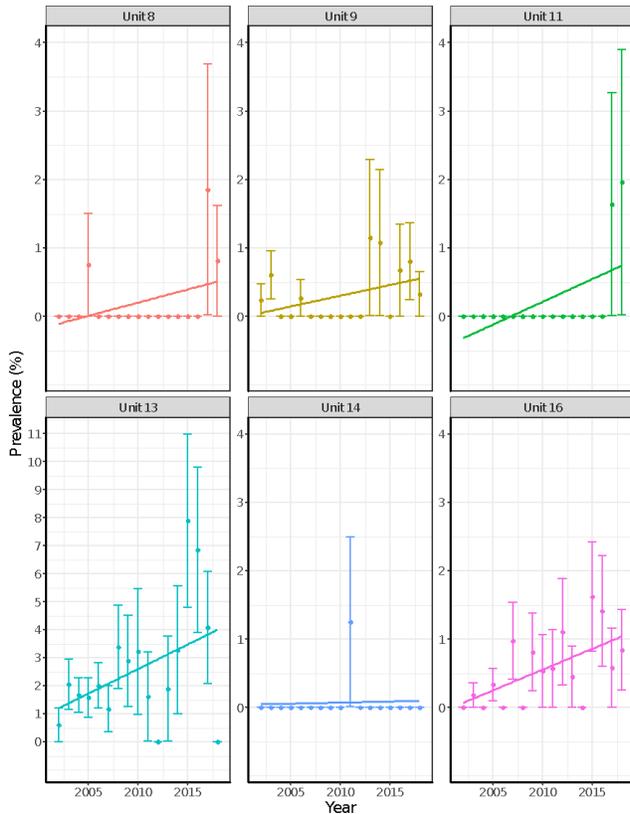


Figure 1: Locations of CWD positive deer and elk in Utah from 2002-2019.

Table 1. Total number of samples collected (Total) and number (Pos) and percent positive (%) mule deer in CWD positive units in Utah from 2002 – 2019. In addition to the data shown in the table, two elk have tested positive for CWD during this time period, one in Unit 9 and one in Unit 13.

Year	Unit 8			Unit 9			Unit 11			Unit 13			Unit 14			Unit 16		
	Total	Pos	%	Total	Pos	%	Total	Pos	%	Total	Pos	%	Total	Pos	%	Total	Pos	%
2002-03	138	0	0.00	423	1	0.24	18	0	0.00	166	1	0.60	136	0	0.00	16	0	0.00
2003-04	66	0	0.00	495	3	0.61	125	0	0.00	244	5	2.05	175	0	0.00	549	1	0.18
2004-05	102	0	0.00	563	0	0.00	85	0	0.00	420	7	1.67	226	0	0.00	549	0	0.00
2005-06	133	1	0.75	493	0	0.00	78	0	0.00	316	5	1.58	223	0	0.00	594	2	0.34
2006-07	94	0	0.00	375	1	0.27	71	0	0.00	300	6	2.00	72	0	0.00	392	0	0.00
2007-08	75	0	0.00	151	0	0.00	37	0	0.00	171	2	1.17	133	0	0.00	308	3	0.97
2008-09	62	0	0.00	251	0	0.00	32	0	0.00	148	5	3.38	93	0	0.00	210	0	0.00
2009-10	62	0	0.00	254	0	0.00	34	0	0.00	104	3*	0.03	87	0	0.00	247	2	0.81
2010-11	57	0	0.00	391	0	0.00	34	0	0.00	62	2	3.23	59	0	0.00	187	1	0.53
2011-12	56	0	0.00	304	0	0.00	52	0	0.00	62	1	1.61	80	1	1.25	175	1	0.57
2012-13	60	0	0.00	93	0	0.00	11	0	0.00	41	0	0.00	107	0	0.00	181	2	1.10
2013-14	73	0	0.00	87	1	1.15	21	0	0.00	53	1	1.89	55	0	0.00	223	1	0.45
2014-15	70	0	0.00	93	1	1.08	29	0	0.00	61	2	3.28	86	0	0.00	239	0	0.00
2015-16	74	0	0.00	179	0	0.00	28	0	0.00	76	6	7.89	63	0	0.00	247	4	1.62
2016-17	104	0	0.00	148	1	0.68	9	0	0.00	73	5	6.85	84	0	0.00	213	3	1.41
2017-18	54	1	1.85	249	2	0.80	61	1	1.64	98	4	4.08	97	0	0.00	172	1	0.58
2018-19	123	1	0.81	308	1	0.32	51	1	1.96	24	0	0.00	64	0	0.00	238	2	0.84
Total	1403	3	0.21	4857	11	0.23	776	2	0.26	2419	52	2.15	1840	1	0.05	4740	23	0.49

Figure 2: Trends of apparent CWD prevalences [(numbers positive/ numbers tested)*100] in mule deer in CWD positive units 2002–2018. Note the different scale in unit 13.



Risk factors for spread of CWD and options for management:

Once CWD is established in a population it is unlikely to be eradicated. Currently, there are no effective treatments or vaccines available for CWD. At the time of writing of this plan, Utah first detected CWD in its cervid population almost 2 decades ago. The goal of CWD management in Utah is therefore *to slow the spatial spread of the disease, to prevent further increase in CWD prevalences in affected areas, and detect new infection foci as early as possible*. As deer are more susceptible to CWD than elk and moose, CWD management actions and sampling efforts will therefore primarily target mule deer populations at this time, as a reduction in CWD prevalence in mule deer likely will reduce the spread of the disease to other cervid species as well.

Chronic wasting disease prions can persist in the environment (Almberg *et al.* 2011), and environmental contamination may contribute to transmission of the disease within infected areas. Deliberate, localized reduction of population densities ("hot-spot culling") has been utilized by multiple states and may be effective in reducing CWD prevalences locally. However, sustained actions are needed in order to achieve long term effects, and these efforts have therefore yielded mixed results (Miller & Fischer 2016; Wolfe 2018).

Male deer are more likely to be infected than females (Miller *et al.* 2000; Grear *et al.* 2006; Rees *et al.* 2012), and statistical modeling has shown that harvest management may be most effective when focused on antlered deer (Jennelle *et al.* 2014; Potapov *et al.* 2016). Bucks over 4 years of age are more likely to be infected with CWD (Miller & Conner 2005), and targeting older age bucks may therefore be a tool for reducing CWD prevalences. Hunts later in the hunting season and during the rut appear to be especially effective in increasing adult male harvest and may therefore be an effective tool for targeting this age group. Research is currently underway to better understand the effect of different harvest strategies on CWD prevalences and spread.

Other risk factors for spread of CWD include movements of animals and animal parts (Williams & Miller 2003), and artificial concentration of cervids through baiting and feeding (Fischer & Davidson 2005). Implementing and enforcing carcass import regulations, reducing artificial concentration of wild cervids by prohibiting baiting and feeding, and avoiding translocation of wild cervids are therefore management options that may reduce the risk of CWD transmission.

The Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) published Recommendations for adaptive management of Chronic Wasting Disease in the West (WAFWA 2017), which outlines possible CWD management strategies and recommendations for how to evaluate their effectiveness. Some of these recommendations have been incorporated in this plan.

Human health risks associated with CWD:

To date there has been no direct evidence that CWD is transmissible to humans (CDC 2018). A study investigated the occurrence of prion associated diseases over time in a CWD infected area of Colorado and did not find evidence of a higher incidence of prion associated diseases in residents (MaWhinney *et al.* 2006). Further, transgenic mice with human prion proteins, failed to develop the disease when exposed to elk CWD prions (Kong *et al.* 2005). Recently, a Canadian study successfully infected cynomolgus macaques by intracranial and oral routes (Czub 2017), however, a study by Race *et al.* 2018 reported no infection of the same species 11-13 years after experimental inoculation with CWD prions.

The UDWR maintains a website with information on CWD in the state and beyond and provides general advice on how to reduce the risk of exposure. Hunters are advised not to harvest animals that appear sick

or eat meat from suspect or positive animals. The following simple precautions are recommended when handling the carcass of any deer, elk, or moose:

- Do not handle or consume wild game animals that appear sick. Instead, contact your local DWR office and notify them of the location of the sick animal.
- Do not consume meat from animals known to be infected with CWD.
- Wear rubber or latex gloves when field dressing big game.
- On all deer, bone out the meat, and avoid consuming the brain, spinal cord, eyes, spleen and lymph nodes of harvested animals.
- Minimize handling of soft tissues and fluids. Wash hands with soap and warm water after handling any parts of the carcass.
- Knives, saws, and cutting table surfaces should be disinfected using a solution of 50 percent household bleach for at least an hour.
- Please contact the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources for additional information or if you see a sick animal while hunting.

Objectives of the plan:

1. Reduce the rate of spread of Chronic Wasting Disease in Utah and reduce the CWD prevalence in infected areas
2. Provide guidelines for response to detection of new infection foci
3. Communicate with the public and participate in scientific research

Objective 1) Reduce the rate of spread and prevalence of CWD:

This objective will be reached through the following strategies a) surveillance, b) harvest management, c) reducing risk of importing infected carcasses from other states by carcass import restrictions, d) restricting baiting and feeding of wildlife, e) limiting the translocation of wild cervids, f) prohibiting the rehabilitation of wild cervids, g) implementing clear requirements for disease testing of domestic cervids that are overseen by UDWR, and h) providing guidelines for proper carcass disposal.

Strategies to achieve objective 1:

a) Surveillance:

The UDWR has conducted CWD surveillance since 2002. To date, the surveillance has consisted of sampling hunter harvested animals in all wildlife management units across the state on a rotational schedule, sampling vehicle killed and other animals in areas with urban deer translocation programs, sample and test any symptomatic cervid, and test all cervids submitted for post mortem examination to the diagnostic laboratory for any reason. In addition, elk have been sampled opportunistically in areas where CWD has been confirmed. The sample efforts are designed to be able to detect $\geq 1\%$ prevalence of CWD with 95% confidence and employs a weighted surveillance strategy (Walsh 2012). In this system, animals that are more likely to be infected (e.g. a symptomatic animal, vehicle killed animals, or adult bucks), are given a higher weight than animals considered at lower risk for being infected with CWD, (e.g. fawns or yearlings). An overview of the weights allocated to each sample type is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Relative sample weights (points) associated with demographic groups of deer and elk for weighted surveillance of Chronic Wasting Disease. The weights were developed based on mule deer data from Colorado (Walsh 2012).

Demographic group	Weight and species	
	Mule deer	Elk
Symptomatic female	13.6	18.75
Symptomatic male	11.5	8.57
Road-killed male/female, all ages except fawns/calves	1.9	0.41
Other mortalities (predation, other unexplained in adults and yearlings)	1.9	0.41
Harvest, adult males	1	1.16
Harvest, adult females	0.56	1.00
Harvest, yearling males	0.19	N/A
Harvest, yearling females	0.33	0.23
Harvest, fawns/calves	0.001	N/A

The required sample size for determining a $\geq 1\%$ prevalence of CWD with 95% confidence is 304 deer and 346 elk (due to lower test sensitivity in elk), using standard equations for determining freedom of disease (Dohoo 2010). Currently, the positive WMU's are sampled annually, whereas the WMU's considered free of CWD are sampled every 5 years on average in clusters of 2-3 units together. Table 3 is showing the sampling units that have been combined since 2006.

Hunter harvested samples are collected at check stations, meat processors, regional offices, and taxidermists. From each animal, the retropharyngeal lymph nodes will be collected. The obex may also be sampled if lymph nodes are not available. Samples will be screened for CWD with an Enzyme-Linked-Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA), and positives confirmed with Immunohistochemistry (IHC) at a National Animal Health Laboratory Network-accredited laboratory (Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory). Hunters who wish to have their animals tested from areas outside of the test zones can continue to do so at their own expense.

Test results are made available online for hunters to check. If an animal is positive, the hunter is contacted and, if the hunter agrees, the meat and antlers confiscated and incinerated. If the meat and antlers are surrendered, the hunter is issued a new tag for the following year in the same hunting unit.

Table 3: Wildlife management unit clusters sampled for CWD since 2006 in Utah.

Year	Wildlife Management Units sampled (mainly hunter harvest)								Urban
2006-07	2,3,4	5,6,7	10,11	17	21,23,25	8,9	16	13,14	*
2007-08	2,3,4	6-7	*	17	21,23,25	8,9	16	13,14	*
2008-09	2,3,4	5,6,7	*	17	23,24,25	8,9	16	13,14	*
2009-10	2,3,4	*	*	*	21,22	8,9	16	13,14	*
2010-11	2,3,4	*	*	*	27,28,29,30	8,9	16	13,14	*
2011-12	*	*	10,11	*	*	8,9	16	13,14	*
2012-13	*	*	*	*	*	8,9	16	13,14	*
2013-14	2,3,4	*	*	*	*	8,9	16	13,14	*
2014-15	*	5,6,7	*	17	*	8,9	16	13,14	*

2015-16	2,3,4	*	*	17	*	8,9	16	13,14	*
2016-17	2,3,4	*	*	*	23,24,25	8,9	16	13,14	*
2017-18	2,3,4	*	10,11	*	*	8,9	16	13,14	5, 17,18,19
2018-19	*	5,6,7	10,11	17	21,22	8,9	16	13,14	5, 17,18,19

Ongoing strategy for hunter harvest surveillance:

Rotational hunter harvest surveillance:

The rotational hunter harvest surveillance will continue by targeting a cluster of 2-3 units at least every 5 years using the weighted surveillance approach. Known positive units will also be included in the rotational surveillance instead of being sampled every year. A suggested 5- year rotational schedule is outlined in Table 4.

Compulsory testing and other strategies to increase sample size:

In Utah, it has become increasingly difficult to obtain adequate sample sizes to achieve statistically meaningful results. Beginning in the fall of 2020, compulsory testing may be introduced in units that are being surveyed in a given year. Compulsory testing could entail sampling a subset or all of harvested deer in a given unit and year. Additional strategies to increase the number of CWD samples may include sending letters to hunters to request their participation in the CWD surveillance program, providing freezers in convenient locations where hunters can leave the head of their harvested animal, hiring additional staff during the hunting season, and working with meat processors and taxidermist to obtain samples.

Table 4: Possible 5-year rotational schedule for sampling of hunter harvested mule deer across Utah.

Year	Units		
Year 1	1	23,24,25	12,15,16
Year 2	2,3,4	17	13,14
Year 3	5,6,7	10,11	8,9
Year 4	18,19	20,21,22	21,23,24
Year 5	22,24,28	27,28,29,30	-
Year 6	Rotation begins from the top		

b) Harvest management:

Hunting is an important tool to manage cervid populations in Utah and continues to be the most effective source of surveillance samples. Harvest management may also be the most effective tool to reduce spread and reduce or maintain low CWD prevalences. Research has also shown that that it may be most effective when focused on antlered deer (Jennelle *et al.* 2014; Potapov *et al.* 2016). To date, most of the CWD positive units in Utah have been managed at low buck to doe ratios, which may have contributed to the relatively low prevalence of CWD in Utah thus far. However, despite these efforts, the prevalence appears to be slowly rising, and as the disease spreads, changes to existing harvest management will likely be necessary in order to prevent further spread of disease in the state.

Bucks over 4 years of age are more likely to be infected with CWD (Miller & Conner 2005), and targeting older age bucks may therefore be a tool for reducing CWD prevalences (WAFWA, 2017). Hunts later in the hunting season and during and after the rut appear to be effective in increasing harvest of older aged bucks infected with CWD (Conner et al., 2000).

Further, CWD does not occur randomly distributed over the landscape, but CWD positive animals are often harvested from within smaller focal areas. This is known because hunters that harvest CWD positive animals are requested to provide an approximate GPS location of harvest. An increase in sample size of animals tested for CWD, e.g. through compulsory testing, may facilitate more effective identification of disease hotspots. More accurately locating disease hotspots could enable managers to increase harvest within those focal areas with the goal of removing more CWD positive animals.

Strategies to use harvest management as a tool to reduce the spread of CWD:

Data from Colorado suggests that after initial introduction of CWD into an area, CWD prevalence slowly increases but remains < 5 % for years. However, when an ~5% infection rate is reached, the increase in CWD prevalence becomes exponential and population impacts become detectable (Colorado Parks and Wildlife, 2018). In Colorado, a 5% prevalence is also the threshold for mandatory management action to reduce the prevalence of CWD (Colorado Parks and Wildlife, 2018). In Utah, a 5% prevalence of infection likely has been reached in Unit 13 (La Sal Mountains), whereas in other units, the prevalence is likely still below 2%, but also with an increasing trend. Because Utah still has a relatively low prevalence of CWD, setting the threshold for action at 5% would result in years of inaction while waiting for the prevalence to become higher. The consequence would not only be more disease in the populations, but also spread of CWD from its current infection foci to other areas. Potentially, valuable limited entry units bordering CWD positive areas could be infected if the prevalence is not kept at the lowest level possible.

Consequently, in order to reduce the risk of an increase in prevalence and spread of CWD, the threshold for implementation of CWD management actions in Utah should be set at detection of CWD. Currently, the CWD surveillance program is aimed at detecting a 1% prevalence of CWD with 95% confidence. Based on this surveillance program, the threshold for taking action should therefore be set at the detection of the first CWD positive, which, if sample sizes are met, likely would mean that the CWD prevalence is 1%. The type of action taken in a unit should be decided by the regional biologist, in consultation with the big game and wildlife health programs.

One or more of the following harvest management strategies can be implemented in units with 1% prevalence of CWD:

- The buck to doe ratio of each unit is outlined in the unit management plans. If CWD is present in a unit, the buck to doe ratio should be kept at the lowest end of the range outlined in the plan. A ratio of 15-17 bucks per 100 does should be maintained in units that are already CWD positive. If CWD is found on a unit that is managed for 18-20 bucks per 100 does or higher, consider changing the management of the unit to 15-17 bucks per 100 does.
- Late season buck hunts can be implemented within focal hotspot areas within CWD positive units. The goal of such hunts is to target prime age class bucks that are more likely to be infected with CWD. The boundaries of such areas will be determined by the regional biologists and managers and be based on previous CWD surveillance, deer movement data, and location of winter ranges. These boundaries may be changed if CWD spread from the original infection foci.
- If CWD is detected in units with higher buck to doe ratios, a late season hunt can be implemented immediately to target prime age class bucks. The area in which the late season hunt is

implemented should be determined by the area biologist and wildlife managers based on knowledge of deer movements and location of winter ranges. In addition, change in hunt management to lower the buck to doe ratio across the unit should be considered.

- Issuance of more buck and doe hunting licenses to lower the population density.
- Shifting of the harvest to later in the season during and after the rut to target prime age class bucks that are more likely to be infected with CWD while maintaining the overall same number of tags.
- Adding a unit wide hunt later in the season during or after the rut to target prime age class bucks and increase overall harvest.
- Increasing harvest on private land and in urban areas by increasing collaboration with private land owners, wildlife management areas, cities, counties and other entities.

In order to reduce focal disease hot spots, managers could consider the following management options in addition to the late season hunt:

- Increase the overall number of tags within a focal hotspot area.
- Add doe hunts within focal hot spot areas.

The effectiveness of new management strategies should be evaluated over a period of at least 10-15 years (2-3 sampling rotations). Additionally, any implementation of targeted strategies (e.g. late season buck hunts within focal hotspot areas) should involve additional annual CWD monitoring to determine the prevalence of CWD within the focal area and longer term effectiveness of the strategy. As new science becomes available additional CWD management strategies may be added to this plan.

c) Carcass import restrictions:

The import of deer, elk and moose carcasses from known infection areas is prohibited. Only meat that is cut and wrapped either commercially or privately, quarters or other portion of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached, meat that is boned out, hides with no heads attached, skulls plates with antlers attached that have been cleaned of all meat and tissue, antlers with no meat or tissue attached, upper canine teeth known as buglers, whistlers or ivories, and finished taxidermy heads are allowed. The Division keeps a list of states, provinces, game management units, equivalent wildlife management units, or counties on their website, from which it is prohibited to import carcasses, except for the parts listed above. Prohibiting import from infected units or counties instead of from entire states that have CWD, significantly increases the risk of bringing in an infected carcass as finding CWD is very dependent on the quality of the surveillance.

Strategy to reduce risk of importing CWD infected carcasses through import restrictions:

It will be prohibited to import carcasses, except for the carcass parts listed below from any state where CWD has been detected. Additional states may be added as necessary.

Permitted parts: Only the following parts of wild deer, elk and moose may be imported from states with confirmed CWD:

- Meat that is cut and wrapped either commercially or privately
- Quarters or other portion of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached
- Meat that is boned out
- Hides with no heads attached
- Skulls plates with antlers attached that have been cleaned of all meat and tissue

- Antlers with no meat or tissue attached
- Upper canine teeth known as buglers, whistlers or ivories
- Finished taxidermy heads

d) Baiting and feeding:

Baiting and feeding of wildlife in Utah is currently legal and unregulated. However, with the exception of the elk feeding ground at Hardware Ranch in northern Utah, state managed feeding of wildlife only occurs on a very limited basis during extreme winter conditions. Baiting and feeding by private individuals may occur but the extent is unknown.

Strategy to reduce the risk of CWD transmission through artificial concentration of cervids:

Artificial concentration of wild cervids can facilitate transmission of CWD and should be avoided. Even during emergency conditions such as extreme winters, UDWR will not feed cervids in areas where CWD has been detected, or in high risk areas where CWD is suspected. All intentional feeding of wild cervids by private individuals should be limited to the largest extent possible. The UDWR will educate the public about the disease risks associated with feeding of wildlife.

e) Translocation of cervids:

Import and translocation of cervids significantly increases the risk of spreading CWD, and has been the single most important factor in spreading CWD in North America (Miller & Fischer 2016).

Strategies to reduce risk of spread of CWD through translocation of cervids:

The UDWR should not allow for import of free-ranging or captive deer (*Odocoileus* sp.), free-ranging elk (*Cervus elaphus* sp.), or free-ranging or captive moose (*Alces alces*) into Utah. The UDWR has previously translocated free-ranging cervids within the state from areas considered free of CWD. Such translocations carry significant risk of spreading undetected infections and should be limited to the largest extent possible. Translocation of moose away from urban areas is permitted within the same unit.

f) Rehabilitation:

Rehabilitation can lead to an unnatural mixing and concentration of wild cervids with unknown background and infection status, and it increases the risk of moving cervids from one area of the state to the other. Further, rehabilitated deer don't always acclimate well to natural conditions when released back into the wild, and these animals often congregate in urban areas resulting in nuisance and public safety concerns.

Strategy to reduce risk of spreading CWD through wildlife rehabilitation:

The Utah DWR prohibits the rehabilitation of deer, moose, or elk of any age in order to prevent the mixing of potentially infected and non-infected animals.

g) Alternative livestock species:

Domesticated elk:

Captive elk ranching is overseen by the UDAF. The Division will continue to collaborate with UDAF on captive elk ranching, prevention of ingress and egress of wild cervids, and finding sustainable solutions to reduce the risk of CWD transmission between captive and wild cervids. If wild deer are found in captive elk facilities, owners may apply for certificate of registration (COR) to lethally remove wild deer, in accordance with R657-71.

Fallow deer and reindeer:

Keeping of fallow deer and reindeer in Utah requires the possession of a valid COR issued by the UDWR. Facilities must meet the standards for keeping fallow deer and reindeer as outlined in the COR, and no permit can be issued before a facility inspection has been conducted and the facility approved. Each fallow deer and reindeer must be identified with a unique identification, and a full herd inventory comprising of ID number, age, sex, disposition, place of origin, place to where the animal was sold (if sold) must be submitted annually. Any animal that dies for any reason must be tested for chronic wasting disease (retropharyngeal lymph nodes and/or obex) at a National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) approved laboratory (such as the Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory) and the test results reported to the UDWR with the annual report. The Division has the right to conduct unannounced inspections at any time to determine whether the reported inventory is correct. Failure to comply with these regulations will lead to revocation of the COR.

h) Carcass disposal:

Disposal of infected carcasses is a concern for environmental contamination, and potentially could be a source of spread of CWD.

Strategy to avoid CWD spread through carcass disposal:

Incineration, alkaline hydrolysis tissue digestion, and burial in an approved, active landfill are considered suitable methods for carcass disposal (AFWA 2018). The DWR will continue to educate hunters, the public, meat processors, and taxidermists about the risk of CWD, and appropriate carcass disposal methods. Hunters and meat processors are encouraged to help prevent the spread of CWD by following management practices such as a) processing the carcass in the field and thereby not move it out of the area of origin, b) disposing carcasses by burial in a landfill, or c) disposing unused animal parts and wild game meat in double bagged plastic bags in the household trash for burial at the landfill.

Objective 2) Provide guidelines for response to detection of new infection foci

Strategy: Implement population reduction and sampling to determine prevalence

Aggressive sampling in focal areas was conducted early in the CWD epidemic in Utah but has not been used as a tool since then. If CWD is detected in new areas, strategies as outlined under objective 1 should be implemented, but in addition, an immediate response should also be considered on a case by case basis. A more aggressive approach should especially be considered especially in areas where CWD has previously not been detected, and that are located far from previous infection foci.

Factors that may determine the strength of a response:

- Distance to CWD positive areas
- Resident or migratory population

- Connectivity or isolation to other populations
- Size of the population
- Current hunt management of the population
- Presence of other cervid species
- Presence of domestic cervid facilities (elk, reindeer, fallow deer)
- Accessibility (private and public land)
- Hunting opportunity for the public
- Public perception of the proposed change or intervention
- Location with respect to another positive area out of the State of Utah or tribal ground

If CWD is detected within a new area, a feasible course of action should be determined by area biologist and wildlife managers based on factors listed above.

Strategies to consider may include:

- Immediate, localized reduction of population densities.
- Immediate, intensive sampling in areas around the positive animal in order to determine CWD prevalences.
- Immediate implementation of a late season hunt targeting older age class bucks.

Objective 3) Communicate with the public and participate in scientific research.

This objective will be reached through the following strategies: a) Communication with the public, and b) participation in relevant, applied research.

a) Communication with the public:

The UDWR is committed to providing the public with factual, timely and accurate information on the CWD prevalence, distribution, and management in the State. The Division will maintain an up to date website and release relevant information through other media outlets when necessary. The information provided will include where CWD has been found in the State, public health risks as determined by public health professionals, efforts to monitor the disease, links to laws and regulations pertaining to CWD, information on carcass import restrictions, and how the public can help minimize the spread of CWD. The UDWR will engage hunters in education about the disease transmission risks associated with baiting and feeding wildlife, using urine scents and lures, and harvest management to manage CWD prevalences in order to gain public support for any regulations and management actions that may be necessary. The location of hunter check stations, regional offices, and annual units for CWD surveillance will also be publicized on the CWD website and prior to the hunting season on social and other DWR media outlets.

b) Participation in relevant, applied research:

The Division will participate in applied research that is relevant for enhancing knowledge about CWD. Participation in relevant research project will be decided and approved by UDWR on a case by case basis.

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Appendix B. Statewide mule deer transplant list, Utah 2019.

Region		Unit	County	Area (s)
Northern	1	Box Elder	Box Elder	Newfoundland Mountains Pilot Mountains Raft River Mountains
	2	Cache	Cache	Hardware Ranch
	7	Kamas	Summit	Cedar Hallow
Northeastern	11A	Nine Mile, Anthro	Duchesne	Big Wash Nutters Ridge Sowers Canyon
	17C	Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin	Duchesne	Strawberry River Horse Ridge Lake Canyon
Southeastern	11B	Nine Mile, Range Creek	Carbon and Emery	Southern end of Tavaputs Plateau
	14B	San Juan, Elk Ridge	San Juan	Cedar Mesa Deer Flat Lower Lost Park
	16C	Central Mountains, Manti	Emery, Sanpete, and Sevier	Stump Flat Danish Bench North and South Horn Mountain Biddlecome Ridge Black Dragon Dry Mountain Sage Flat Muddy Creek Canyon Link Canyon McEwen Flat The Pines/Green Hollow/Wildcat Knolls Quichupah Canyon/Water Hollow/Saleratus Benches Trough and Mill Hollow/Gilson Valley Duncans

Central	19A	West Desert	Tooele and Juab	Deep Creek Mountains (Tom's Creek and Granite Creek) Dutch Mountain Gold Hill Northern end of Cedar Mountain
Southern	21A	Fillmore, Oak Creek	Millard	Oak Creek Mountains
	21B	Fillmore, Pahvant	Millard	Pahvant Mountains (North of Holden to South of Fillmore)
	24	Mt Dutton	Garfield and Piute	Deer Creek to Pine Creek East and West Forks of Hunt Creek Sanford Bench
	30	Pine Valley	Washington	Browse Area



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL D. FOWLKS
Division Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 30, 2019

To: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

From: Covy Jones, Big Game Coordinator

Subject: 2020 big game proposed season dates, boundary changes and rule changes (R657-5)

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

BBOIAL season dates:

See attached tables for details.

Big Game Guidebook Recommendations:

Statewide changes

1. We recommend late-season, limited-entry muzzleloader deer hunts on all general-season deer units.

Southern Region changes

1. We recommend adding extended archery deer hunts on the Pine Valley, New Harmony and Southwest Desert, Cedar Valley units.
2. We recommend discontinuing the Pine Valley, Desert bighorn sheep unit.
3. We recommend adding the Pine Valley, Beaver Dam and Pine Valley, Virgin River desert bighorn sheep units.
4. We recommend adding a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep hunt to the Fillmore, Oak Creek unit.
5. We recommend adding a HAMS hunt on the Kaiparowits unit. We recommend this as a Limited-entry deer hunting opportunity.
6. We recommend adding muzzleloader pronghorn hunts on the Panguitch Lake/Zion, North and the Pine Valley units.

Southeast Region changes

1. We recommend adding extended archery on the Nine Mile, Green River Valley unit.



7. We recommend adding a HAMS hunt on the Book Cliffs, Floy Canyon unit. We recommend this as a Limited-entry deer hunting opportunity.
2. We recommend a boundary change on the San Juan, Lockhart and San Juan, South desert bighorn sheep units.
3. We recommend adding a desert bighorn sheep hunt on the San Juan, North and San Juan, San Juan River units.

Northern Region changes

1. We recommend a boundary change on the Cache, North limited-entry elk unit.
2. We recommend a boundary change to the Cache, South limited-entry elk unit.
3. We recommend a boundary change to add the Clarkston Mtns to the elk any bull unit.
4. We recommend a boundary change to the Cache extended archery area.
5. We recommend adding elk to the Cache extended archery area.
6. We recommend a boundary change to the Wasatch Front extended archery area.
8. We recommend adding a HAMS hunt to the Morgan, South Rich deer unit. We recommend this as a Limited-entry deer hunting opportunity.
7. We recommend adding the Box Elder, Pilot Mtn bighorn sheep hunt.
8. We recommend discontinuing the Cache, Laketown extended archery area.
9. We recommend discontinuing the Ogden, Willard Peak (female only) mountain goat hunt.

Northeast Region changes

1. We recommend a boundary change to the Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South bison unit.
2. We recommend a date change to the Book Cliffs bison hunts.
3. We recommend adding a Book Cliffs archery bison hunt (hunter's choice).
4. We recommend adding a Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless bison hunt (cow only).
5. We recommend discontinuing the Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep hunt on the North Slope, Bare Top/West Daggett.
6. We recommend adding a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep hunt on the North Slope, Three Corners-Bare Top and the North Slope, West Daggett.

Central Region changes

1. We recommend a boundary change to the Sanpete Valley extended archery unit.
2. We recommend discontinuing the Central Mtns, Nebo/Wasatch Mtns Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep hunt.
3. We recommend adding a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep hunt to the Wasatch Mtns, West and the Central Mtns, Nebo units.

Rule changes (R657-5)

1. Hunting of wildlife is allowed within the boundaries of all park areas, except for those areas and hunts specifically closed by the Division of Parks and Recreation in Rule R651-614-4.
2. State Laws regarding the possession and discharge of dangerous weapons apply in state park areas open to hunting.
3. It is unlawful to import dead elk, moose, mule deer, or white-tailed deer or their parts from any state or province which has deer or elk diagnosed with Chronic Wasting Disease, except the following portions of the carcass:
4. The division may identify big game hunting units where an individual may be randomly selected to submit their harvested animal to the division for Chronic Wasting Disease testing.
5. Big game hunting units that are eligible for mandatory testing will be identified in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.
6. Individuals who are randomly selected as participants in the big game Chronic Wasting Disease testing program will be notified in writing prior to the opening day of their hunt with a list of program requirements.
7. An individual who fails to comply with mandatory testing requirements in this rule may be declared ineligible to apply for or receive any big game licenses, permits, or certificates of registration until they comply with the requirements of this rule and any assessment of fees under R657-42-9.

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

	The 2020 DWR General Season Deer Dates Recommendation			
	Extended Archery Deer			
DB0008	Cache, Laketown; Uintah Basin; Wasatch Front; West Cache; Utah Lake; Herriman South Valley; Pine Valley, New Harmony; Southwest Desert, Cedar Valley;			Sept. 12–Nov. 30
	South Wasatch; Sanpete Valley; Nine Mile, Green River Valley			Sept. 12–Oct. 15
		Key	Recommended Boundary Change	
General Season Buck Deer			Recommended Date Change	
			New Hunt	
General Season Archery Hunts				
			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DB1500	Beaver	22	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1501	Box Elder	1	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1502	Cache	2	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1503	Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	12/16B	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1504	Central Mtns, Nebo	16A	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1505	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	4/5/6	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1506	Fillmore	21A/21B	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1508	Kamas	7	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1509	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	13A	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1510	Monroe	23	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1511	Mt Dutton	24	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1512	Nine Mile	11	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1513	North Slope	8	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1514	Ogden	3	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1515	Oquirrh-Stansbury	18	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y

DB1516	Panguitch Lake	28	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1517	Pine Valley	30	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1518	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	25C/26	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1519	Plateau, Fishlake	25A	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1520	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	25B	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1521	San Juan, Abajo Mtns	14A	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1522	South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	9B/9D	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1523	South Slope, Yellowstone	9A	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1524	Southwest Desert	20	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1525	Wasatch Mtns, East	17B/17C	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1526	Wasatch Mtns, West	17A	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1527	West Desert, Tintic	19C	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1528	West Desert, West	19A	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1529	Zion	29	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y

General Season Any Legal Weapon Hunts (early)

			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DB1590	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	4/5/6	Oct. 7–Oct. 11	y
DB1591	Fillmore	21A/21B	Oct. 7–Oct. 11	y
DB1592	Kamas	7	Oct. 7–Oct. 11	y
DB1593	Nine Mile	11	Oct. 7–Oct. 11	y
DB1594	Panguitch Lake	28	Oct. 7–Oct. 11	y
DB1595	Pine Valley	30	Oct. 7–Oct. 11	y
DB1596	Plateau, Fishlake	25A	Oct. 7–Oct. 11	y
DB1597	Zion	29	Oct. 7–Oct. 11	y

General Season Any Legal Weapon Hunts

			2020	2020
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Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DB1530	Beaver	22	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1531	Box Elder	1	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1532	Cache	2	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1533	Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	12/16B	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1534	Central Mtns, Nebo	16A	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1535	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	4/5/6	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1536	Fillmore	21A/21B	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1538	Kamas	7	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1539	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	13A	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1540	Monroe	23	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1541	Mt Dutton	24	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1542	Nine Mile	11	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1543	North Slope	8	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1544	Ogden	3	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1545	Oquirrh-Stansbury	18	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1546	Panguitch Lake	28	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1547	Pine Valley	30	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1548	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	25C/26	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1549	Plateau, Fishlake	25A	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1550	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	25B	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1551	San Juan, Abajo Mtns	14A	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1552	South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	9B/9D	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1553	South Slope, Yellowstone	9A	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1554	Southwest Desert	20	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1555	Wasatch Mtns, East	17B/17C	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1556	Wasatch Mtns, West	17A	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1557	West Desert, Tintic	19C	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1558	West Desert, West	19A	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y

DB1559	Zion	29	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
General Season Muzzleloader Hunts				
			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DB1560	Beaver	22	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1561	Box Elder	1	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1562	Cache	2	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1563	Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	12/16B	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1564	Central Mtns, Nebo	16A	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1565	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	4/5/6	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1566	Fillmore	21A/21B	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1568	Kamas	7	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1569	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	13A	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1570	Monroe	23	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1571	Mt Dutton	24	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1572	Nine Mile	11	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1573	North Slope	8	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1574	Ogden	3	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1575	Oquirrh-Stansbury	18	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1576	Panguitch Lake	28	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1577	Pine Valley	30	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1578	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	25C/26	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1579	Plateau, Fishlake	25A	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1580	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	25B	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1581	San Juan, Abajo Mtns	14A	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1582	South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	9B/9D	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1583	South Slope, Yellowstone	9A	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1584	Southwest Desert	20	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y

DB1585	Wasatch Mtns, East	17B/17C	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1586	Wasatch Mtns, West	17A	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1587	West Desert, Tintic	19C	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1588	West Desert, West	19A	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1589	Zion	29	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y

Premium Limited Entry Buck Deer

Premium Archery Hunts

			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DB1000	Henry Mtns	15	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1001	Paunsaugunt	27	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y

Premium Any Legal Weapon Hunts

			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DB1002	Antelope Island	1	Nov. 11–Nov. 18	n
DB1003	Henry Mtns	15	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1004	Paunsaugunt	27	Oct. 17–Oct. 31	y

Premium Muzzleloader Hunts

			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DB1005	Henry Mtns	15	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1006	Paunsaugunt	27	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y

Management Buck Hunt

			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits

DB1009	Henry Mtns (any legal weapon)	15	Oct. 26–Oct. 30	n
DB1051	Henry Mtns (archery)	15	Aug. 22–Sept. 11	n
DB1052	Henry Mtns (muzzleloader)	15	Sept. 26–Oct. 1	n
DB1010	Paunsaugunt (any legal weapon)	27	Nov. 2–Nov. 6	y
DB1058	Paunsaugunt (cactus buck)	27	Nov. 7–Nov. 19	y
DB1073	Paunsaugunt (archery)	27	Aug. 22–Sept. 11	y
DB1074	Paunsaugunt (muzzleloader)	27	Sept. 26–Oct. 1	y

Multi-Season

			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
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

			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DB1011	Book Cliffs	10A/10B/10C	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1012	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	21C	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1013	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	13B	Oct. 31–Nov. 13	n
DB1014	San Juan, Elk Ridge	14B	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1015	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	9C	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
DB1016	West Desert, Vernon	19B	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y

Limited Entry Any Legal Weapon Hunts

			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits

DB1017	Book Cliffs, North	10A/10C	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1018	Book Cliffs, South	10B	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1019	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	21C	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1020	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	13B	Nov. 14–Nov. 22	y
DB1021	North Slope, Summit	8A	Oct. 3–Oct. 15	y
DB1022	San Juan, Elk Ridge	14B	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1023	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	9C	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y
DB1024	West Desert, Vernon	19B	Oct. 17–Oct. 25	y

Limited Entry Muzzleloader Hunts

			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DB1025	Book Cliffs	10A/10B/10C	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1026	Cache, Crawford Mtn	2D	Nov. 14–Nov. 29	y
DB1029	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	21C	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1031	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	13B	Nov. 25–Dec. 3	n
DB1037	San Juan, Elk Ridge	14B	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1038	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	9C	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
DB1042	West Desert, Vernon	19B	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y

Multi-Season

			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DB1044	Book Cliffs	10A/10B/10C	All Limited Entry Seasons	y
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	y

Limited Entry Late Season Muzzleloader				
			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DB1059	Beaver	22	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	Box Elder	1	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	Cache	2	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	12/16B	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	Central Mtns, Nebo	16A	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1027	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	4/5/6	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1028	Fillmore	21A/21B	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1030	Kamas	7	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	13A	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1032	Monroe	23	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1053	Mt Dutton	24	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1033	Nine Mile	11	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1065	North Slope	8	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1054	Ogden	3	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	Oquirrh-Stansbury	18	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	Panguitch Lake	28	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1034	Pine Valley	30	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	25C/26	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1055	Plateau, Fishlake	25A	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1036	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	25B	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	San Juan, Abajo Mtns	14A	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	9B/9D	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1039	South Slope, Yellowstone	9A	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1040	Southwest Desert	20	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1041	Wasatch Mtns, East	17B/17C	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	Wasatch Mtns, West	17A	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y

New	West Desert, Tintic	19C	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
New	West Desert, West	19A	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
DB1043	Zion	29	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	y
Limited Entry Late Season HAMS				
			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Unit #	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
New	Book Cliffs, Floy Canyon	10	Nov. 6–Nov. 27	y
New	Kaiparowits	26	Nov. 6–Nov. 27	y
New	Morgan, South Rich	4	Nov. 6–Nov. 27	y
(y) At least one nonresident permit in 2020				
(n) No nonresident permit in 2020				
<u>NOTE: Permit numbers will be determined in May 2020</u>				

The 2020 DWR General Season Elk Dates Recommendation			
EB1005	Archery Spike Bull (Cache, North and Cache, South)	Aug. 15–Sept. 4	
	Archery Any Bull (Added from Cache, North and Cache, South)	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	
Any Bull			
EB1002	Muzzleloader (Added from Cache, North and Cache, South)	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	
EB1001	Any Legal Weapon (Added from Cache, North and Cache, South)	Oct. 3–Oct. 15	
Spike Only	Extended Archery Elk		
EB1004	Uintah Basin	Aug. 15–Dec. 15	
EB1003	Wasatch Front (Boundary Change, Northern Portion)	Aug. 15–Dec. 15	
	West Cache (Added from Cache, North and Cache, South)	Aug. 15–Dec. 15	
		Key	Recommended Boundary Change
Limited Entry Bull Elk			Reccommended Date Change
			New Hunt
Archery Hunts			
		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
EB3000	Beaver, East	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3001	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3002	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3003	Cache, Meadowville†	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3004	Cache, North	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3005	Cache, South	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3006	Central Mtns, Manti	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3007	Central Mtns, Nebo	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3008	Fillmore, Pahvant	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3009	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3010	Monroe	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3011	Mt Dutton	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y

EB3012	Nine Mile, Anthro	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3013	North Slope, Three Corners	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3014	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3015	Panguitch Lake	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3016	Paunsaugunt	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3017	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3018	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3019	San Juan Bull Elk	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3020	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3021	Southwest Desert	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3022	Wasatch Mtns	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
EB3023	West Desert, Deep Creek	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y

Any legal weapon hunts (early rifle)

		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
EB3024	Beaver, East	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3026	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3028	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3029	Box Elder, Grouse Creek	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3031	Box Elder, Pilot Mtn	Sept. 12–Oct. 2	y
EB3032	Cache, Meadowville†	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3034	Cache, North	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3036	Cache, South	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3038	Central Mtns, Manti	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3040	Central Mtns, Nebo	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3042	Fillmore, Pahvant	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3045	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3047	Monroe	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3049	Mt Dutton	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y

EB3051	Nine Mile, Anthro	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3054	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3056	Panguitch Lake	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3058	Paunsaugunt	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3061	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3063	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3066	San Juan Bull Elk	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3068	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3070	Southwest Desert	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3072	Wasatch Mtns	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
EB3074	West Desert, Deep Creek	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y

Any legal weapon hunts (mid rifle)

		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
EB3030	Box Elder, Grouse Creek	Oct. 3–Oct. 25	y
EB3126	Central Mtns, Manti	Oct. 3–Oct. 15	y
EB3053	North Slope, Three Corners	Oct. 3–Oct. 15	y
EB3059	Paunsaugunt	Oct. 3–Oct. 15	y
EB3064	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Oct. 3–Oct. 15	y
EB3069	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Oct. 3–Oct. 15	y
EB3127	Wasatch Mtns	Oct. 3–Oct. 15	y
EB3075	West Desert, Deep Creek	Oct. 3–Oct. 15	n

Any legal weapon hunts (late rifle)

		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
EB3025	Beaver, East	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3027	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3033	Cache, Meadowville†	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y

EB3035	Cache, North	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3037	Cache, South	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3039	Central Mtns, Manti	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3041	Central Mtns, Nebo	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3043	Fillmore, Pahvant	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3044	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	Dec. 5, 2020–Jan. 31, 2021	n
EB3046	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3048	Monroe	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3050	Mt Dutton	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3052	Nine Mile, Anthro	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3055	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	n
EB3057	Panguitch Lake	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3060	Paunsaugunt	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3062	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3065	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3067	San Juan Bull Elk	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3071	Southwest Desert	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3073	Wasatch Mtns	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	y
EB3076	West Desert, Deep Creek	Nov. 7–Nov. 15	n

Muzzleloader Hunts

		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
EB3077	Beaver, East	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3078	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3079	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	n
EB3080	Box Elder, Grouse Creek	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3081	Cache, Meadowville†	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3082	Cache, North	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	n
EB3083	Cache, South	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y

EB3084	Central Mtns, Manti	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3085	Central Mtns, Nebo	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3086	Fillmore, Pahvant	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3087	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3088	Monroe	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3089	Mt Dutton	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3090	Nine Mile, Anthro	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3091	North Slope, Three Corners	Oct. 28–Nov. 5	n
EB3092	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	n
EB3093	Panguitch Lake	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3094	Paunsaugunt	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3095	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3096	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3097	San Juan Bull Elk	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3098	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3099	Southwest Desert	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3100	Wasatch Mtns	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	y
EB3101	West Desert, Deep Creek	Sept. 21–Oct. 2	n

Multi-Season

		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
EB3102	Beaver, East	All Limited Entry Seasons	n
EB3103	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	All Limited Entry Seasons	n
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	y
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	y
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	y
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 t

Youth Any Bull Hunts

		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
EB1007	Youth General Any Bull Elk	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y

(y) At least one nonresident permit in 2020

(n) No nonresident permit in 2020

NOTE: Permit numbers will be determined in May 2020

Limited Entry Pronghorn			
		Key	Recommended Boundary Change
			Reccommended Date Change
			New Hunt
Archery Hunts			
		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
PB5000	Beaver	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	n
PB5001	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	n
PB5002	Book Cliffs, South	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5003	Box Elder, Promontory	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	n
PB5004	Box Elder, Puddle Valley	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5005	Box Elder, Snowville	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5006	Box Elder, West	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	n
PB5007	Cache/Morgan-South Rich/Ogden	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5008	Fillmore, Oak Creek South	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5009	La Sal, Potash/South Cisco	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5332	Mt Dutton/Paunsaugunt	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5011	Nine Mile, Anthro-Myton Bench	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5053	Nine Mile, Range Creek	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	n
PB5012	North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5054	Panguitch Lake/Zion, North	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5013	Pine Valley	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5333	Plateau, Parker Mtn	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5058	San Juan, Hatch Point	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	n
PB5055	San Rafael, Desert	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	n
PB5015	San Rafael, North	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5016	South Slope, Bonanza/Diamond Mtn	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5017	South Slope, Vernal	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y

PB5018	Southwest Desert	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5019	West Desert, Riverbed	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
PB5020	West Desert, Rush Valley	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	n
PB5021	West Desert, Snake Valley	Aug. 15–Sept. 11	y
Muzzleloader hunts			
		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
PB5022	Cache/Morgan-South Rich/Ogden	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
PB5059	Nine Mile, Anthro-Myton Bench	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
New	Panguitch Lake/Zion, North	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	n
New	Pine Valley	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
PB5335	Plateau, Parker Mtn	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
PB5056	San Rafael, North	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
PB5060	South Slope, Bonanza/Diamond Mtn	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
PB5024	Southwest Desert	Sept. 23–Oct. 1	y
Any Legal Weapon Hunts			
		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
PB5025	Beaver	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5026	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5027	Book Cliffs, South	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5028	Box Elder, Promontory	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5029	Box Elder, Puddle Valley	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5030	Box Elder, Snowville	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5031	Box Elder, West	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5032	Cache/Morgan-South Rich/Ogden	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y

PB5033	Fillmore, Oak Creek South	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5034	Kaiparowits	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	n
PB5035	La Sal, Potash/South Cisco	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5331	Mt Dutton/Paunsaugunt	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5037	Nine Mile, Anthro-Myton Bench	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5038	Nine Mile, Range Creek	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5039	North Slope, Summit	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5040	North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5041	Panguitch Lake/Zion, North	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5042	Pine Valley	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5334	Plateau, Parker Mtn	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5044	San Juan, Hatch Point	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5045	San Rafael, Desert	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5046	San Rafael, North	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5047	South Slope, Bonanza/Diamond Mtn	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5048	South Slope, Vernal	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5049	Southwest Desert	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5050	West Desert, Riverbed	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5051	West Desert, Rush Valley	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
PB5052	West Desert, Snake Valley	Sept. 12–Sept. 20	y
	(y) At least one nonresident permit in 2020		
	(n) No nonresident permit in 2020		
	<u>NOTE: Permit numbers will be determined in May 2020</u>		

		Key	Recommended Boundary Change	
ONCE IN A LIFETIME SPECIES			Reccommended Date Change	
			New Hunt	
Bull Moose			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name		Season Dates	Nonres Permits
MB6000	Cache		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	y
MB6001	Chalk Creek†		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	n
MB6002	East Canyon†		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	n
MB6003	East Canyon, Morgan-Summit†		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	n
MB6004	Kamas		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	n
MB6005	Morgan-South Rich†		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	n
MB6006	North Slope, Summit		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	y
MB6007	North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	y
MB6008	Ogden†		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	y
MB6009	South Slope, Diamond Mtn/Vernal		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	n
MB6010	South Slope, Yellowstone		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	n
MB6011	Wasatch Mtns/Central Mtns		Sept. 12–Oct. 15	y
†This unit is composed of all or largely private property. Hunters should acquire written permission from the landowner before hunting.				
Bison			2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name		Season Dates	Nonres Permits
BI6500	Antelope Island		Nov. 30–Dec. 11	n
New	Book Cliffs (archery, hunter's choice)		Aug. 15–Sept. 11	n
BI6517	Book Cliffs (hunter's choice)		Sept. 12–Sept. 20	n
BI6508	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South (cow only)		Oct. 17–Oct. 27	y
BI6518	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South (hunter's choice)		Oct. 3–Oct. 15	n
BI6520	Book Cliffs (cow only)		Nov. 21–Dec. 6	n
BI6519	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless (hunter's choice)		Oct. 3–Oct. 15	y
New	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless (cow only)			y

BI6507	Book Cliffs, Wild Horse Bench/Nine Mile, Anthro (hunt)	Dec. 7, 2020–Jan. 31, 2021	y
BI6509	Henry Mtns (archery, hunter's choice)	Sept. 12–Sept. 22	y
BI6515	Henry Mtns (archery, cow only)	Oct. 3–Oct. 15	y
BI6503	Henry Mtns (hunter's choice)	Oct. 31–Nov. 11	y
BI6504	Henry Mtns (hunter's choice)	Nov. 14–Nov. 25	y
BI6516	Henry Mtns (hunter's choice)	Nov. 28–Dec. 9	y
BI6505	Henry Mtns (cow only)	Dec. 12–Dec. 25	y
BI6506	Henry Mtns (cow only)	Dec. 26, 2020–Jan. 10, 2021	y
Desert Bighorn Sheep		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DS6600	Henry Mtns	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	n
DS6601	Kaiparowits, East*	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	y
DS6602	Kaiparowits, Escalante	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	n
DS6603	Kaiparowits, West	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	y
DS6604	La Sal, Potash/South Cisco	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	n
New	Pine Valley, Virgin River	Oct. 24–Dec. 27	n
New	Pine Valley, Beaver Dam	Oct. 24–Dec. 27	n
DS6606	San Juan, Lockhart	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	n
New	San Juan, North	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	n
New	San Juan, San Juan River	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	n
DS6607	San Juan, South	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	n
DS6608	San Rafael, Dirty Devil	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	n
DS6609	San Rafael, North	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	n
DS6610	San Rafael, South†	Sept. 12–Nov. 10	y
DS6611	Zion^	Sept. 12–Oct. 9	y
DS6612	Zion	Oct. 10–Nov. 10	n
Archery Hunts		2020	2020

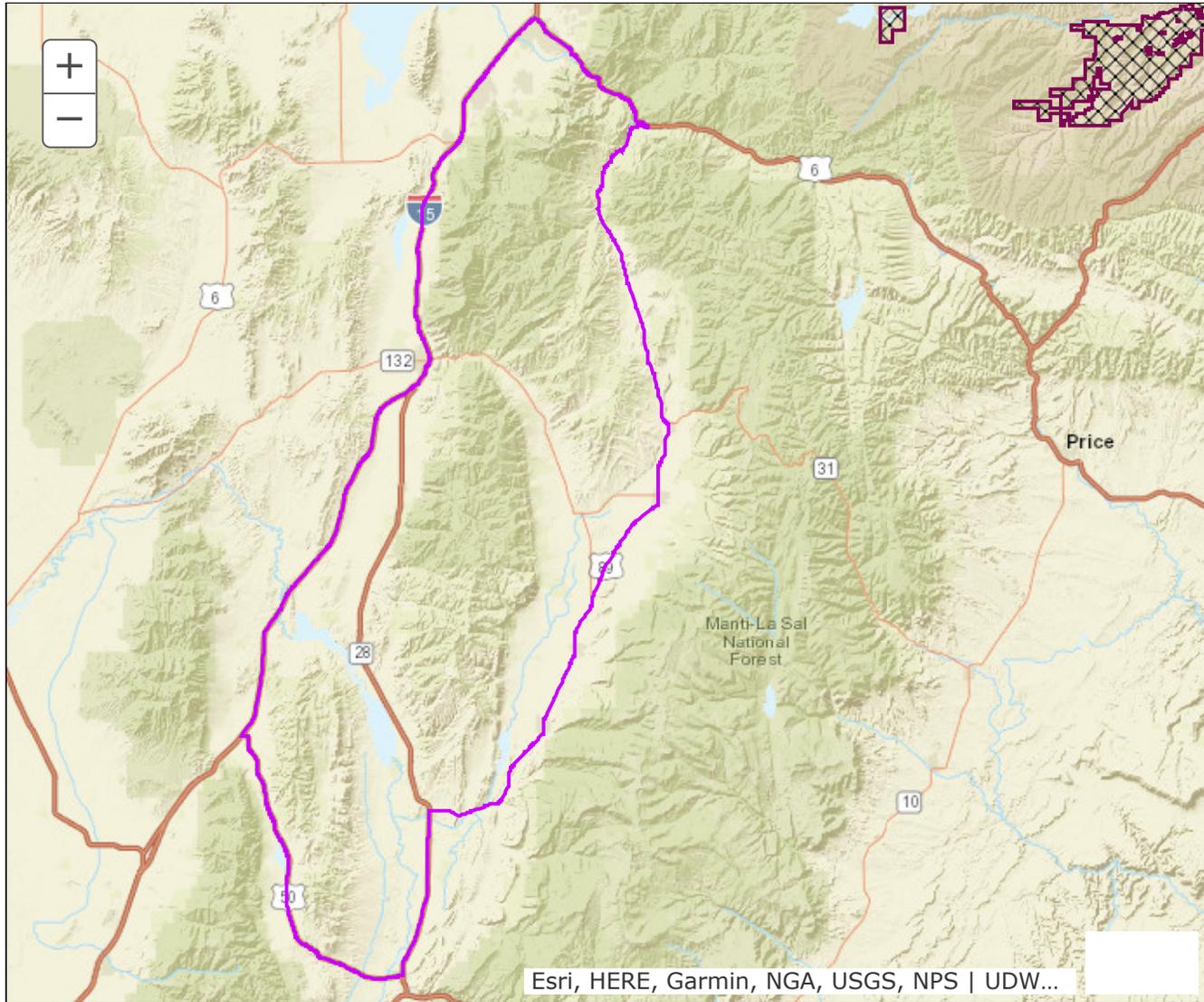
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
DS6619	Zion (archery)	Dec. 26, 2020–Jan. 17, 2021	n
*Nonresidents may only hunt the Kaiparowits East and Escalante subunits			
†Nonresidents may hunt both the San Rafael, North and San Rafael, South subunits			
^Nonresidents may hunt both the early and late season of the Zion ur			
Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
RS6700	Antelope Island	Discontinued	n
RS6701	Book Cliffs, South	Oct. 31–Nov. 30	y
RS6703	Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn	Oct. 10–Oct. 30	n
RS6704	Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn	Oct. 31–Nov. 20	y
RS6702	Box Elder, Pilot Mtn	Sept. 1–Oct. 30	n
New	Wasatch Mtns, West	Oct. 31–Nov. 30	n
New	Central Mtns, Nebo	Oct. 31–Nov. 30	n
RS6720	Fillmore, Oak Creek	Oct. 10–Oct. 30	n
New	Fillmore, Oak Creek	Oct. 31–Nov. 20	y
RS6712	Nine Mile, Gray Canyon	Oct. 31–Nov. 30	y
RS6713	Nine Mile, Jack Creek	Oct. 31–Nov. 30	n
RS6708	North Slope, Three Corners-Bare Top	Sept. 14–Nov. 30	n
RS6709	North Slope, West Daggett	Oct. 31–Nov. 30	n
RS6721	Oquirrh-Stansbury, West	Oct. 31–Nov. 30	n
Archery Hunts		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
RS6722	Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn (archery)	Nov. 21–Dec. 13	n
Mountain Goat			
Any Legal Weapon Hunts		2020	2020

Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
GO6800	Beaver	Sept. 5–Sept. 27	y
GO6801	Beaver	Sept. 28–Nov. 15	n
GO6803	Central Mtns, Nebo	Sept. 5–Nov. 30	y
GO6804	Chalk Creek/Kamas, Uintas	Sept. 5–Oct. 31	y
GO6817	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Sept 5–Nov. 30	y
GO6814	Mt Dutton	Sept 5–Nov. 30	n
GO6805	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas Central	Sept. 5–Oct. 31	y
GO6806	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas East	Sept. 5–Oct. 31	n
GO6807	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas Leidy Peak	Sept. 5–Oct. 31	n
GO6808	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas West	Sept. 5–Oct. 31	y
GO6809	Ogden, Willard Peak	Sept. 5–Sept. 27	n
GO6810	Ogden, Willard Peak	Sept. 28–Nov. 15	y
GO6818	Wasatch Mtns, Box Elder Peak	Sept. 5–Nov. 30	n
GO6819	Wasatch Mtns, Lone Peak	Sept. 5–Nov. 30	n
GO6813	Wasatch Mtns, Provo Peak	Sept. 5–Nov. 30	n
GO6820	Wasatch Mtns, Timpanogos	Sept. 5–Nov. 30	n
Archery Hunts		2020	2020
Hunt #	Hunt Name	Season Dates	Nonres Permits
GO6815	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas Central (archery)	Aug. 15–Sept. 4	n
GO6821	Central Mtns, Nebo (archery)	Aug. 15–Sept. 4	y
	(y) At least one nonresident permit in 2020		
	(n) No nonresident permit in 2020		
	<u>NOTE: Permit numbers will be determined in May 2020</u>		

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Central Mtns, Nebo

SPECIES RMBS



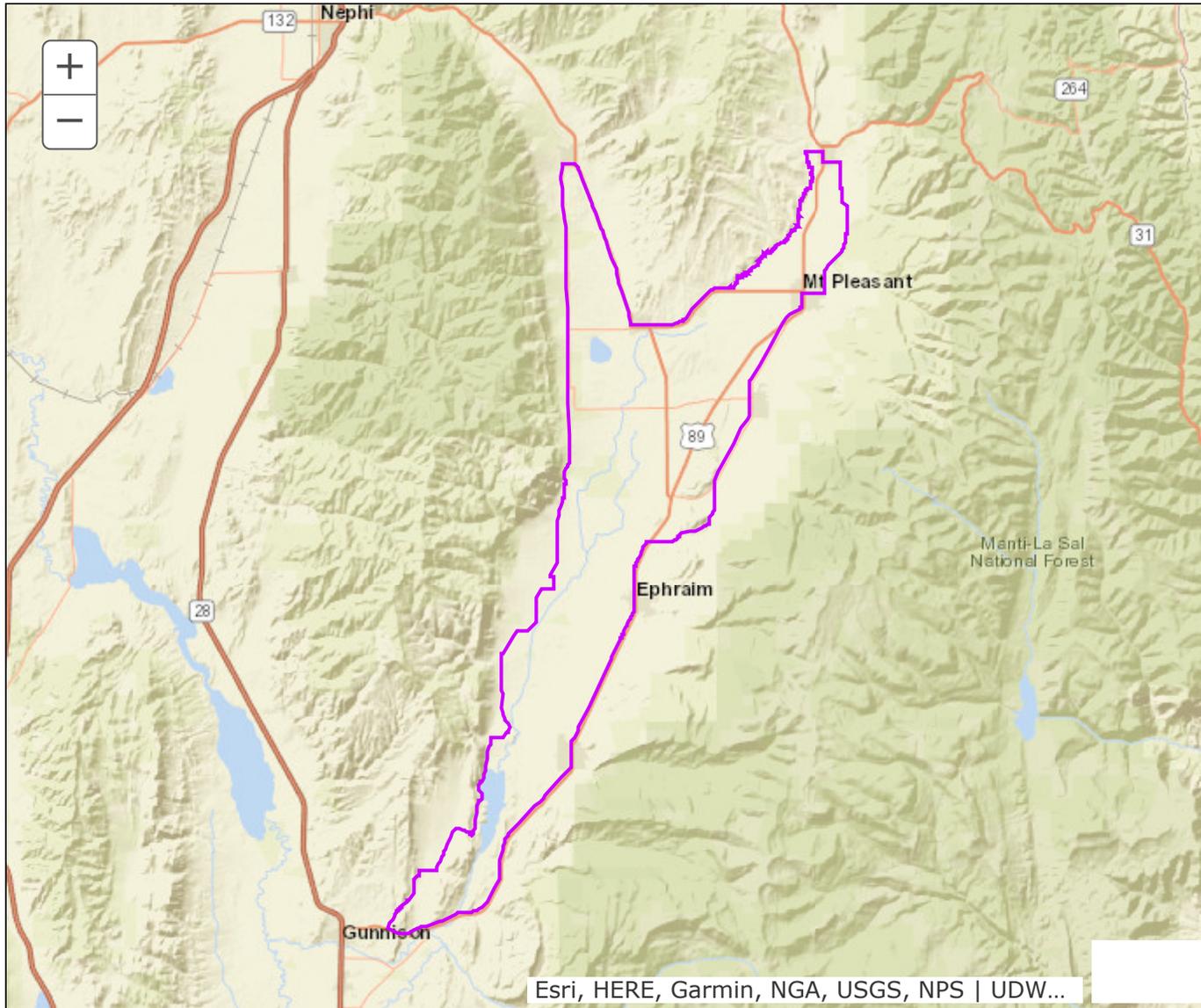
Updated Boundary: Juab, Millard, Sanpete, Sevier and Utah counties—Boundary begins at US-6 and I-15 at Spanish Fork; southeast on US-6 to US-89 near Thistle; south on US-89 to US-50 at Salina; northwest on US-50 to I-15 at Scipio; north on I-15 to US-6 at Spanish Fork. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Maps: Delta, Manti, Nephi, Provo, Salina. Boundary questions? Call the Springville office, 801-491-5678.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Sanpete Valley Extended Archery Area

SPECIES Deer

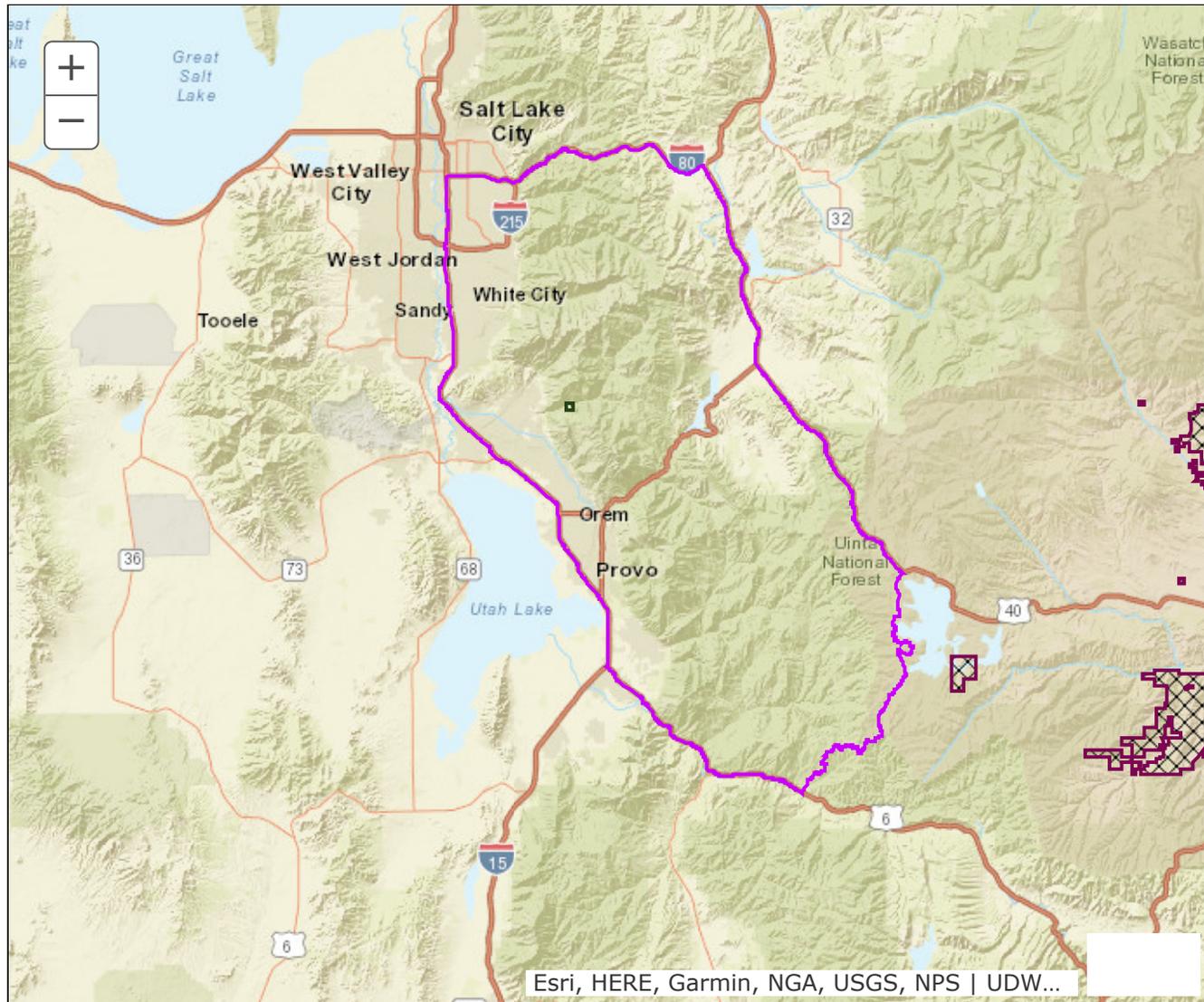


Updated Boundary: Sanpete County--Boundary begins at SR-132 and 400 S in Fountain Green; south and east on SR-132 to SR-116; east on SR-116 to the San Pitch River; north and east along this river to 100 N in Fairview; east on 100 N to US-89; south on US-89 to 300 S in Fairview; east on 300 S to Mountainville Hwy; south on Mountainville Hwy to 200 S in Mount Pleasant; west on 200 S to US-89; south on US-89 to SR-117 (Pigeon Hollow Rd); south on SR-117 to Little Pigeon Hollow Rd; south and west on this road to US-89; south and west on US-89 to Antelope Rd near Gunnison; north on this road to West Side Rd; north on this road to River Lane Rd; east then north on this road to West Side Rd; north on this road to 400 S in Fountain Green; east on 400 S to SR-132. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Nephi, Manti. Boundary questions? Call the Springville office, 801-491-5678

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Wasatch Mtns, West

SPECIES RMBS

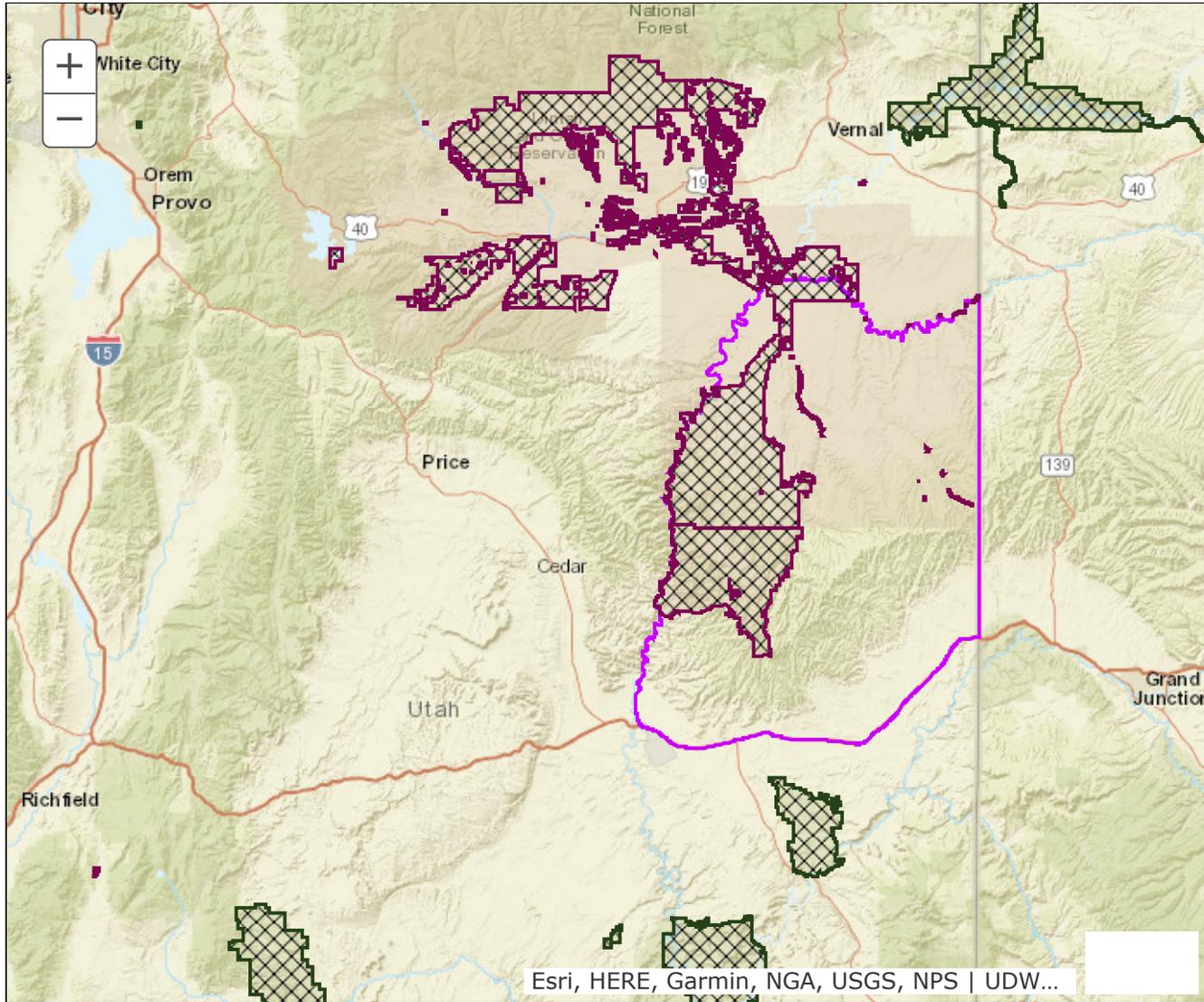


Updated Boundary: Salt Lake, Summit, Utah and Wasatch counties—Boundary begins at I-80 and I-15 in Salt Lake City; east on I-80 to US-40; south on US-40 to the Strawberry Bay Marina road; south on this road to USFS Road 042 (Indian Creek road); south and west on this road to USFS Road 051; south on this 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. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Nephi, Provo, Salt Lake City. Boundary questions? Call the Springville office, 801-491-5678.

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Book Cliffs

SPECIES Bison

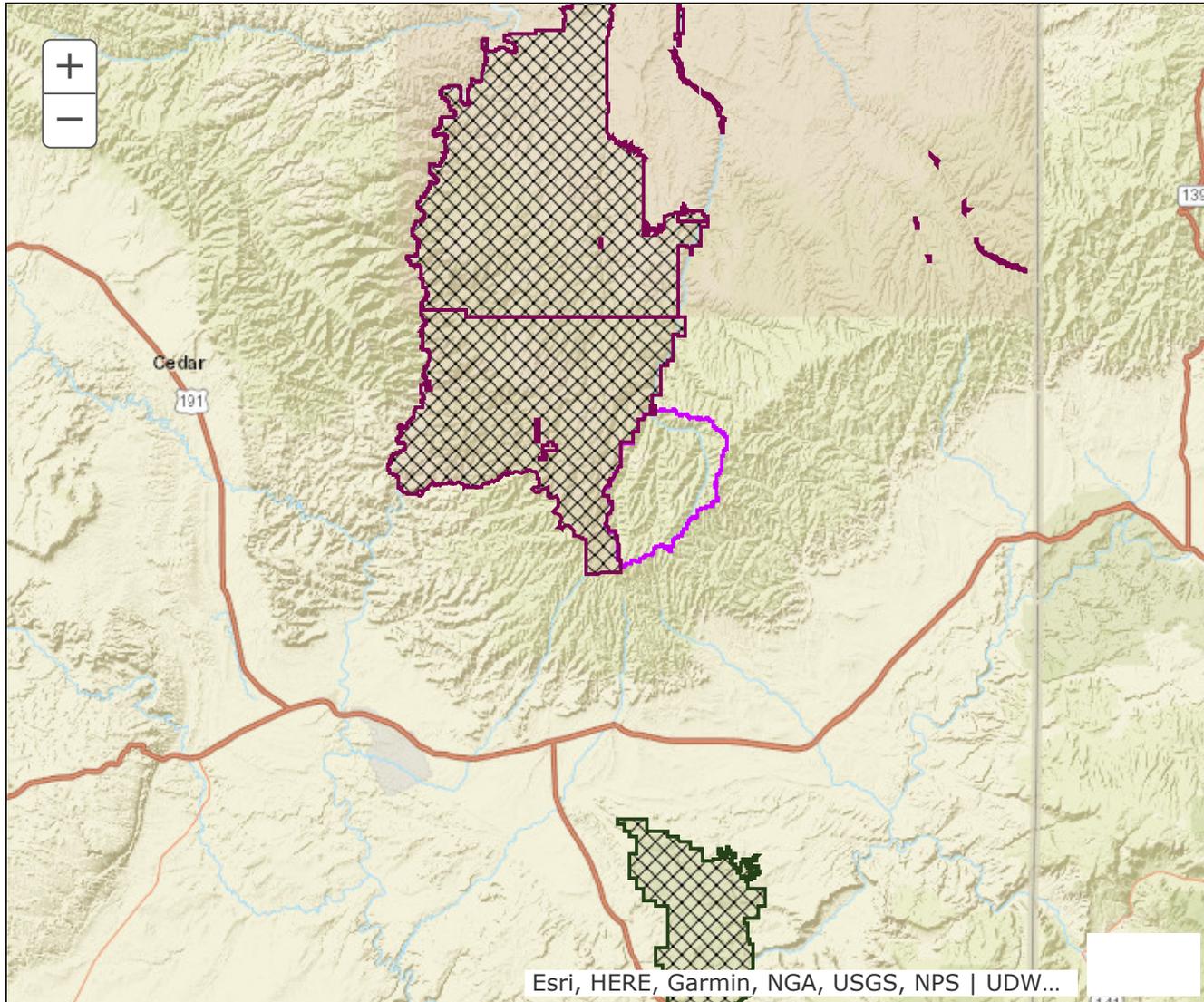


Updated Boundary: Grand and Uintah counties--Boundary begins at Exit 164 on I-70 near the town of Green River; east on I-70 to the Utah-Colorado state line; north on this state line to the White River; west along this river to the Green River; south along this river to Swasey's Boat Ramp and the Hastings 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. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Huntington, Seep Ridge, Westwater. Boundary questions? Call the Price office, 435-613-3700 or the Vernal office, 435-781-9453.

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless

SPECIES Bison



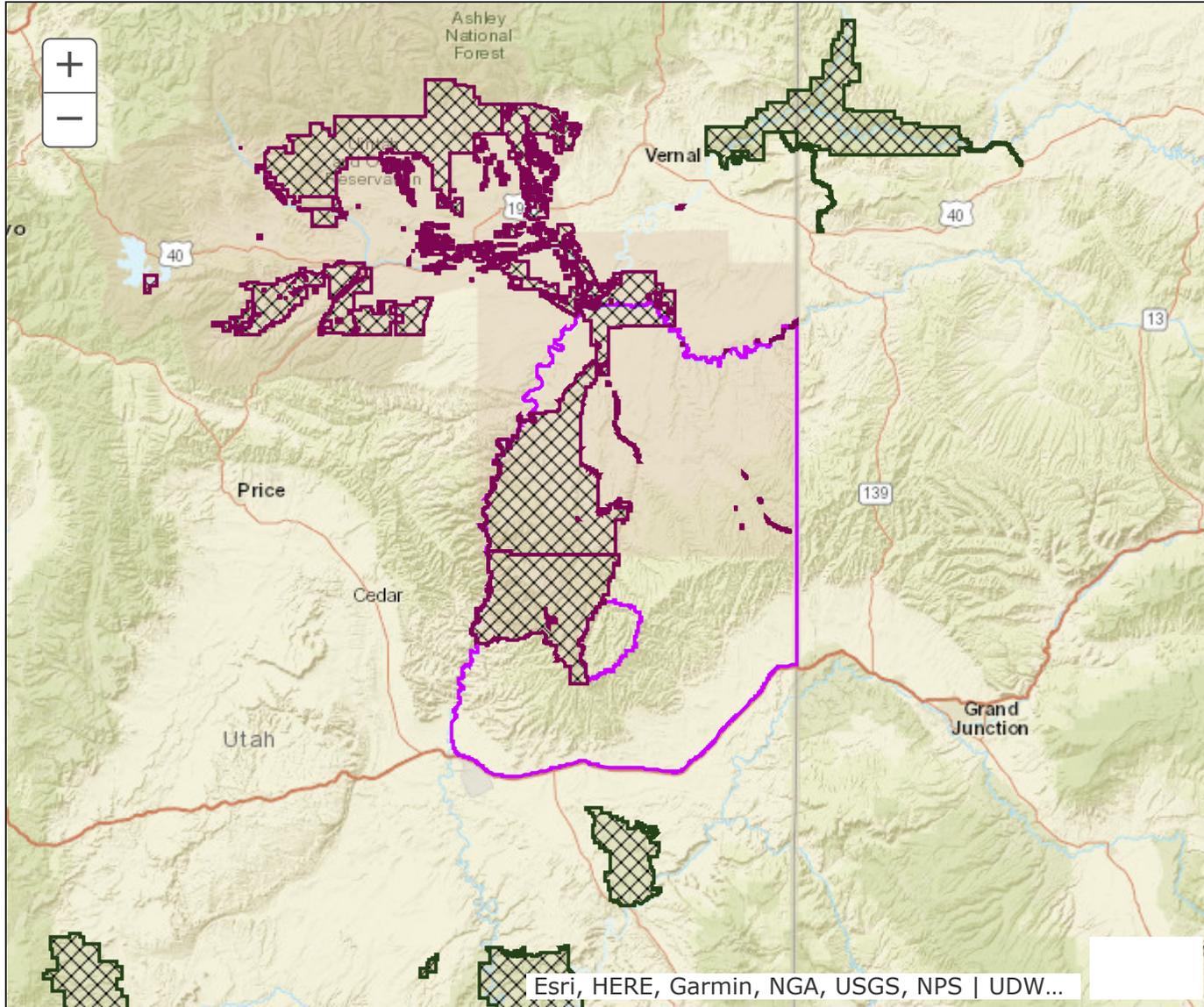
Updated Boundary: Grand County--Boundary begins at the Steer Ridge road at Ten Mile Knoll and the Book Cliffs summit (north-south drainage divide); southwest along the Book Cliffs summit on Diamond Ridge to the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation boundary (Hells Hole/head of Sego Canyon); north on this boundary (west side of West Willow Creek) to the DWR Wildlife Management Area/Ute Tribe Fence at the confluence of East and West Willow Creek; northeast from this confluence; cross-country to the Steer Ridge road (NW 1/4 Sec 7, T17S R21E); south and east on the Steer Ridge road (atop the drainage divide) to Ten Mile Knoll and the Book Cliffs summit. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LAND WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Westwater. Boundary questions? Call Vernal office, 435-781-9453.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South

SPECIES Bison

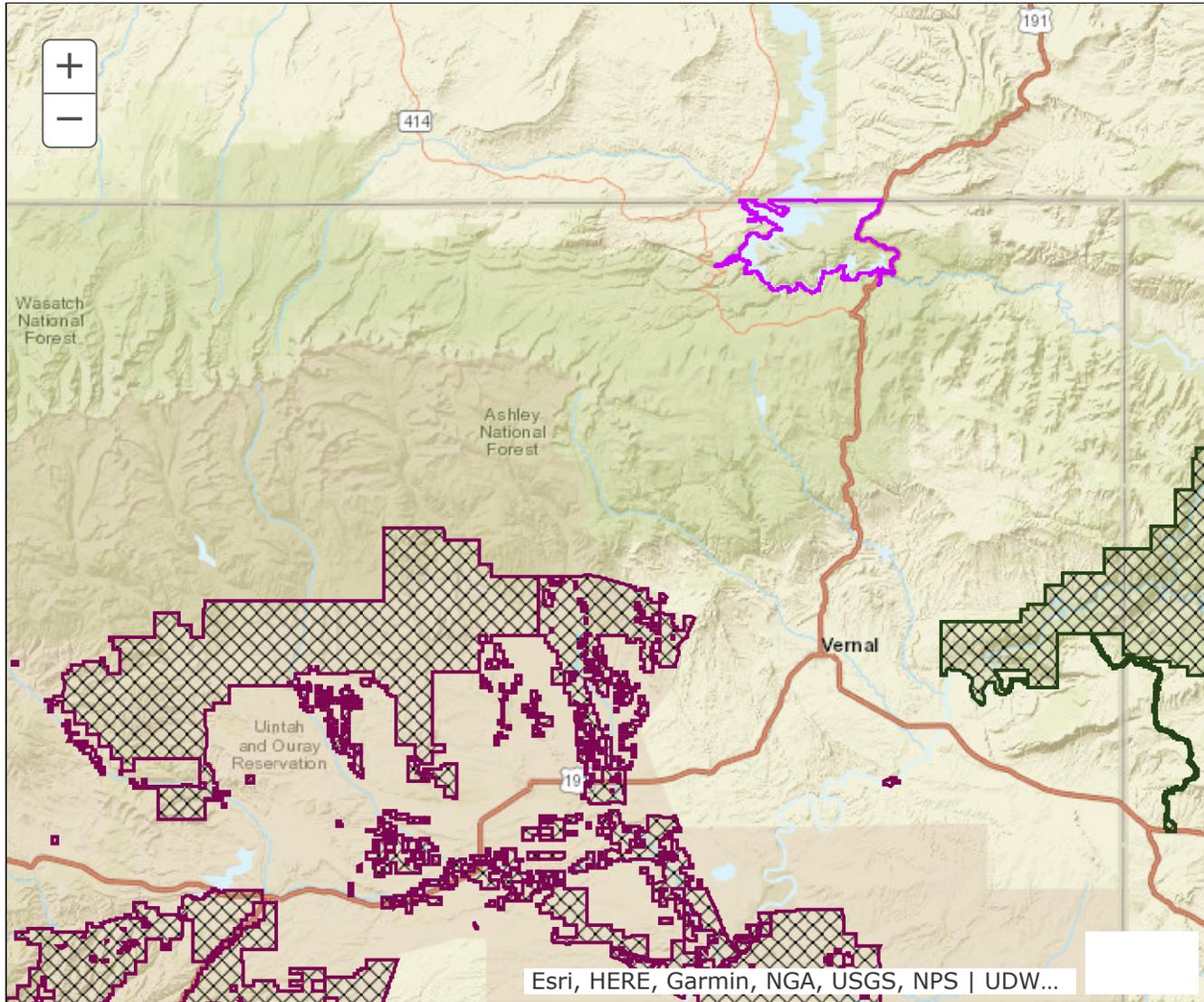


Updated Boundary: Grand and Uintah counties--Boundary begins at the Utah-Colorado state line and the White River; west along this river to the Green River; south along this river to Swasey's Boat Ramp and the Hastings Road; south on this road to SR-19; south and east on SR-19 to Exit 164 on 1-70 near the town of Green River; east on I-70 to the Utah-Colorado state line; north on this state line to the White River. EXCLUDES THE BOOK CLIFFS, LITTLE CREEK ROADLESS UNIT. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LAND WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Huntington, Moab, Price, Seep Ridge, Vernal, Westwater. Boundary questions? Call the Vernal office, 435-781-9453 or the Price office, 435-613-3700. EXCLUDES Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless Unit as follows: Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless Grand County--Boundary begins at Steer Ridge road and Ten Mile Knoll; 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); north along this boundary (west side of West Willow Creek) to the Wildlife Management Area/Ute Tribe Fence at the confluence of East and West Willow Creek; northeast to the west fork of the Steer Ridge road (NW 1/4 Sec 7, T17 S R 21 E); south and east along the Steer Ridge road (atop the drainage divide) to Ten Mile Knoll. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LAND WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Westwater. Boundary questions? Call the Vernal office, 435-781-9453.

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT North Slope, Three Corners-Bare Top

SPECIES RMBS

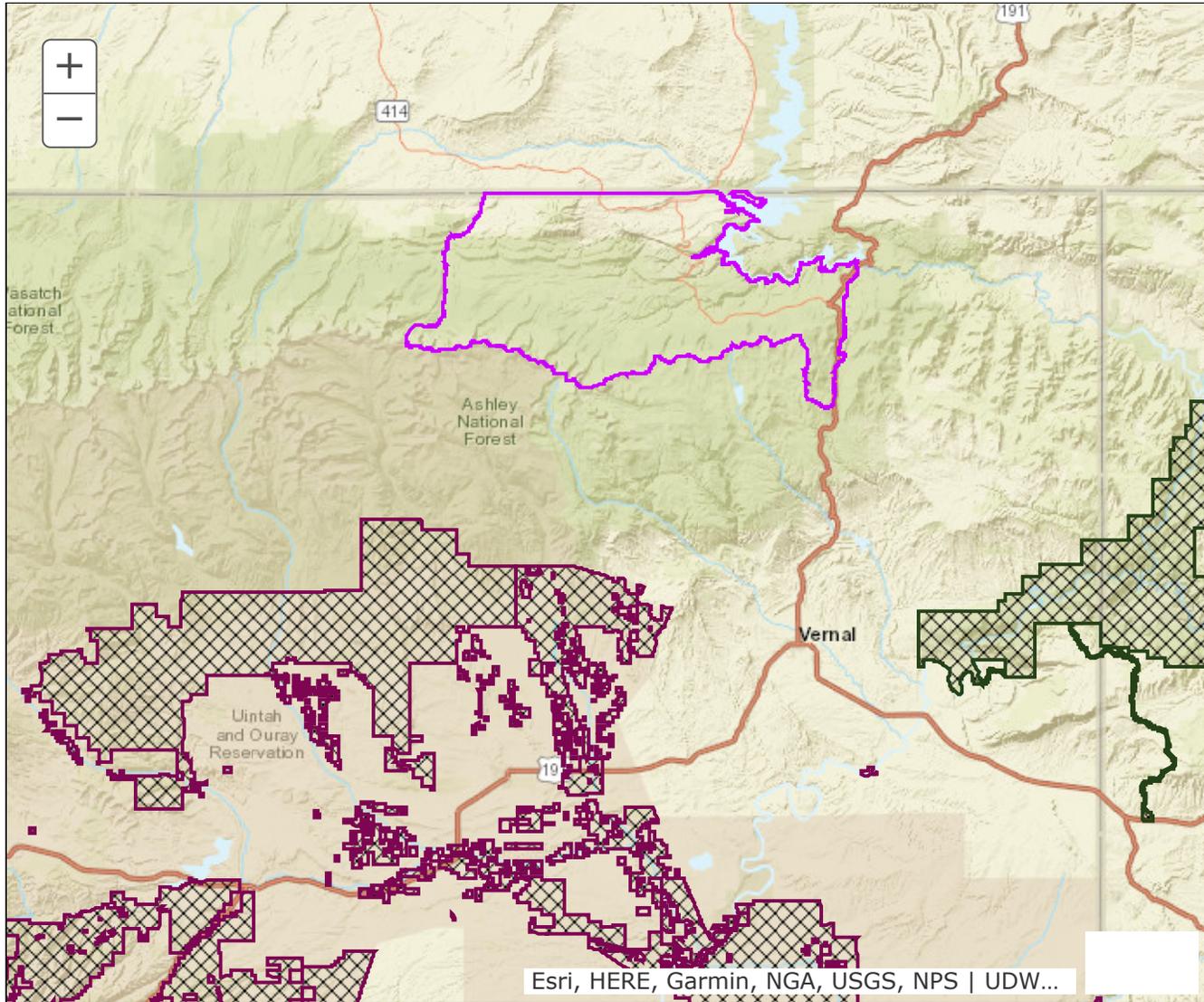


Updated Boundary: Daggett County—Boundary begins at the main channel western shoreline of Flaming Gorge Reservoir on the east side of Lucerne Point at the Utah-Wyoming state line; east along this state line to US-191; south on US-191 to Flaming Gorge Reservoir; west along the west shore of Flaming Gorge Reservoir to the Utah-Wyoming state line: east along the state line to Lucerne Point; east around Lucerne Point to the Utah-Wyoming state line. EXCLUDES GOSLIN MOUNTAIN. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Dutch John. Boundary questions? Call the Vernal office, 435-781-9453.

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT North Slope, West Daggett

SPECIES RMBS



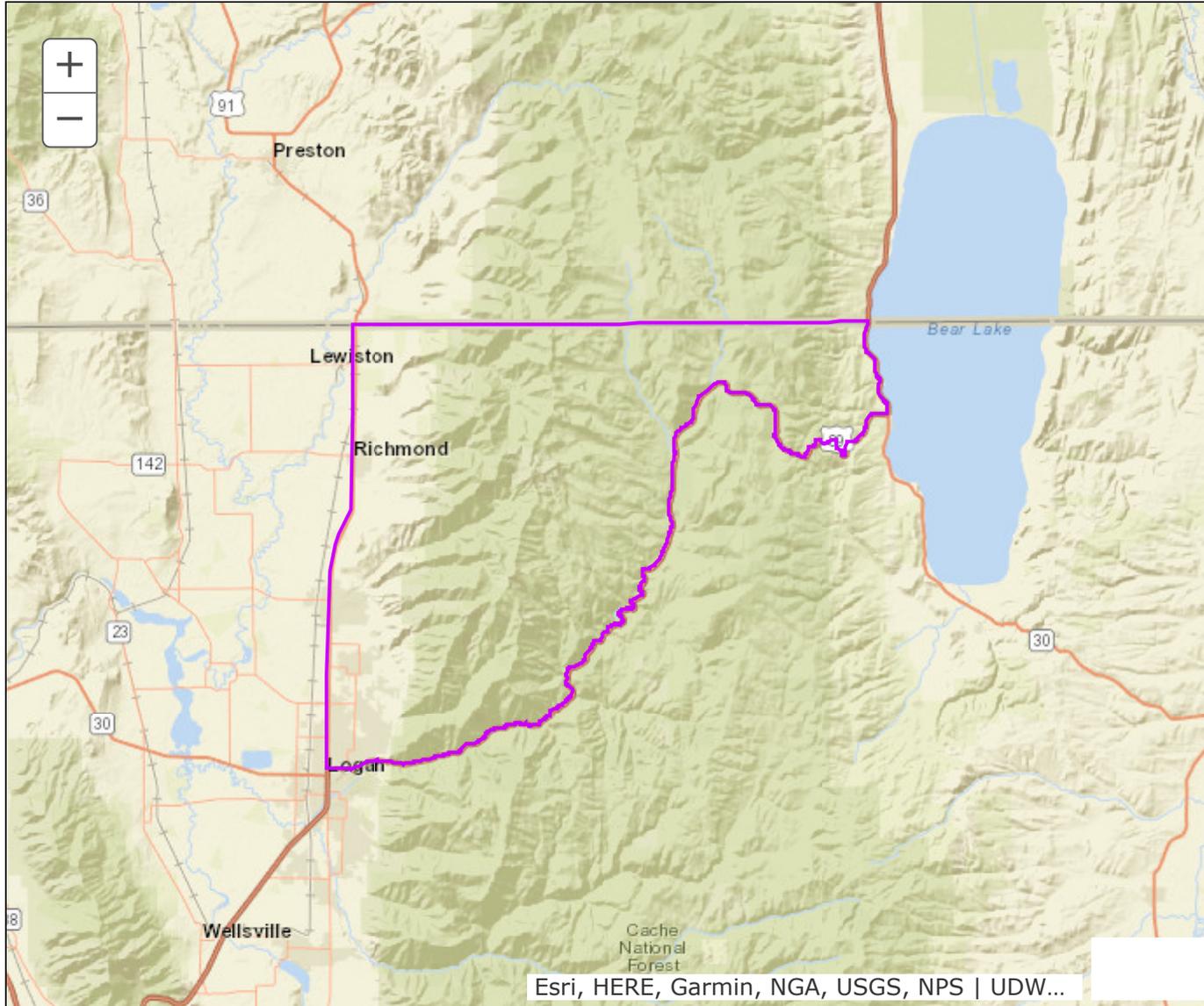
Updated Boundary: Daggett and Summit counties-Boundary begins at the Burnt Fork drainage bottom and the Utah-Wyoming state line; east along this state line to the Flaming Gorge Reservoir main channel western shoreline(on the east side of Lucerne Point); west around Lucerne Point to the Utah-Wyoming state line (includes Lucerne Point); west along the state line to the western shore of Flaming Gorge Reservoir; southeast along this shoreline 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 on this county line to the head of Burnt Fork drainage bottom(Divide Pass/Island Lake); north along this drainage bottom to the Utah-Wyoming state line. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Dutch John, Kings Peak. Boundary questions? Call Vernal office, 435-781-9453.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Cache, North

SPECIES Elk



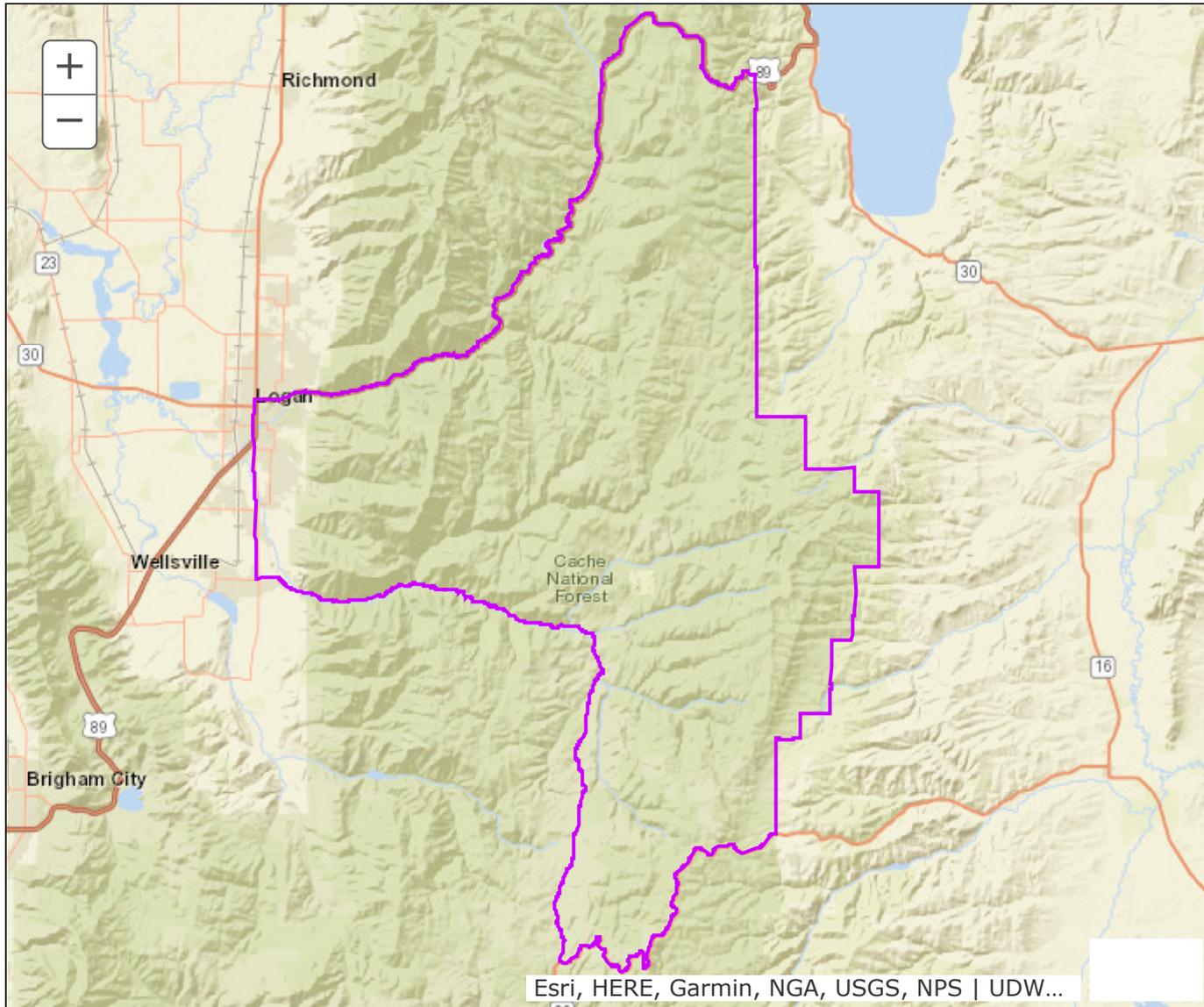
Updated Boundary: Cache, Box Elder and Rich counties--Boundary begins at US-91 and the Utah-Idaho state line; south on US-91 to US-89 in Logan; east and north on US-89 to the Utah-Idaho state line; west along this state line to US-91. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Tremonton, Logan. Boundary questions? Call the Ogden office, 801-476-2740.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Cache, South

SPECIES Elk



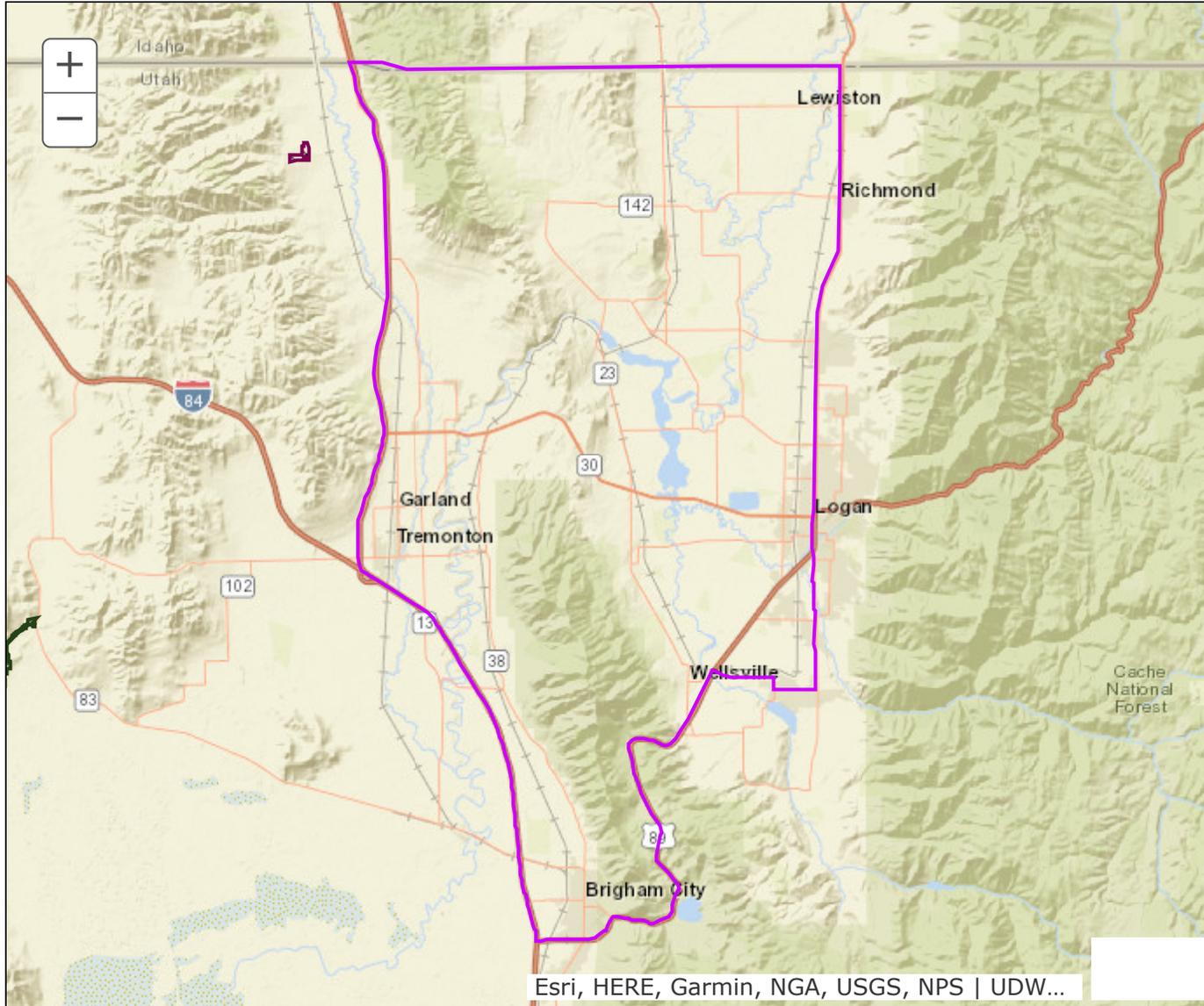
Updated Boundary: Cache, Rich and Weber counties—Boundary begins at US-89 and the USFS boundary west of Garden City; south on this boundary to SR-39; southwest on SR-39 to USFS Road 054 (Ant Flat road); north on this road to SR-101; west on SR-101 to SR-165; north on SR-165 to US 89/91; north on US 89/91 to US-89; northeast on US-89 to the USFS boundary approximately 3 miles west of Garden City. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Logan, Ogden. Boundary questions? Call the Ogden office, 801-476-2740.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Cache, Wellsville

SPECIES Elk



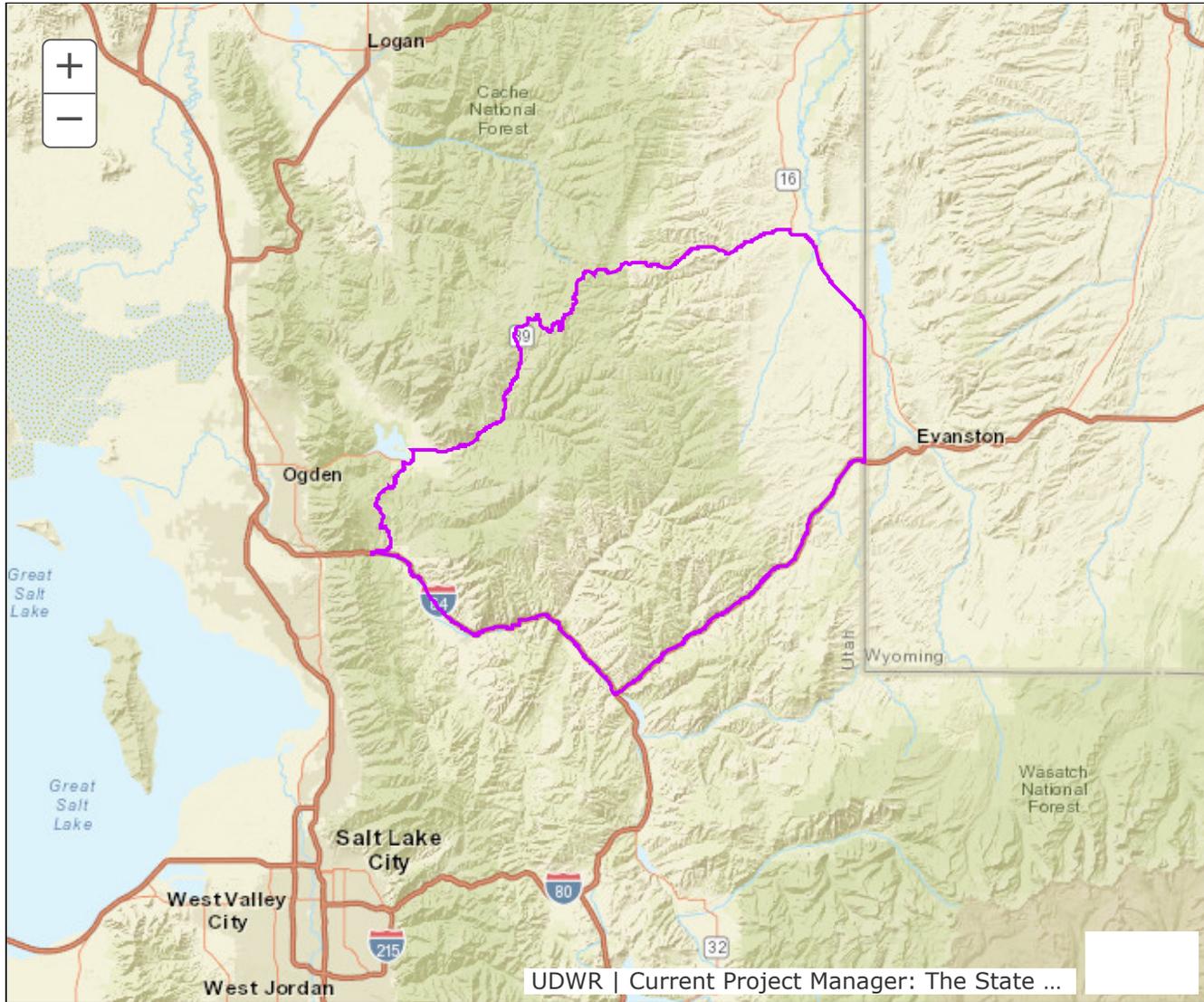
Updated Boundary: Cache and Box Elder counties--Boundary begins at I-15 and the Idaho State Line; south on I-15 to US-91 in Brigham City; east on US-91 to US-89/91; northeast on US-89/91 to US-91; north on US-91 to the Idaho State Line; west on the Idaho State Line to I-15. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Tremonton, Logan. Boundary questions? Call the Ogden office, 801-476-2740.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Morgan-South Rich

SPECIES Deer



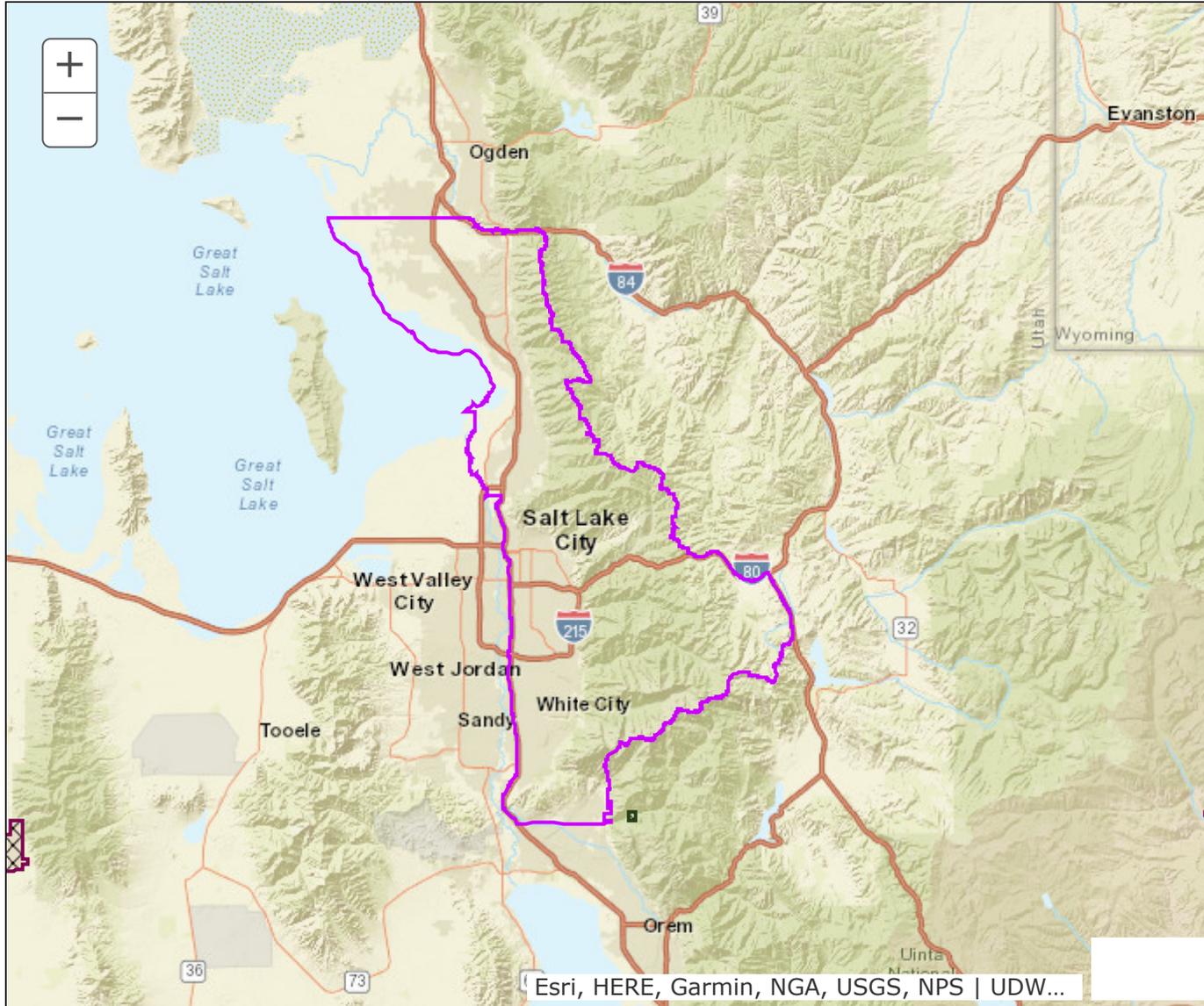
Updated Boundary: Morgan, Rich, Summit and Weber counties--Boundary begins at I-80 and the Utah-Wyoming state line; west on I-80 to Echo Junction and I-84; west on I-84 to SR-167 at Mountain Green (Trappers Loop Road); north along SR-167 to SR-39; east along SR-39 to Woodruff and SR-16; southeast on SR-16 to the Utah-Wyoming state line; south along the state line to I-80. Excludes all CWMUs. This hunt is comprised of all or largely private property. Hunters should acquire written permission from the landowner before applying for this hunt. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Logan, Ogden. Boundary questions? Call the Ogden office, 801-476-2740.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Wasatch Front Extended Archery Area

SPECIES Deer



Esri, HERE, Garmin, NGA, USGS, NPS | UDW...

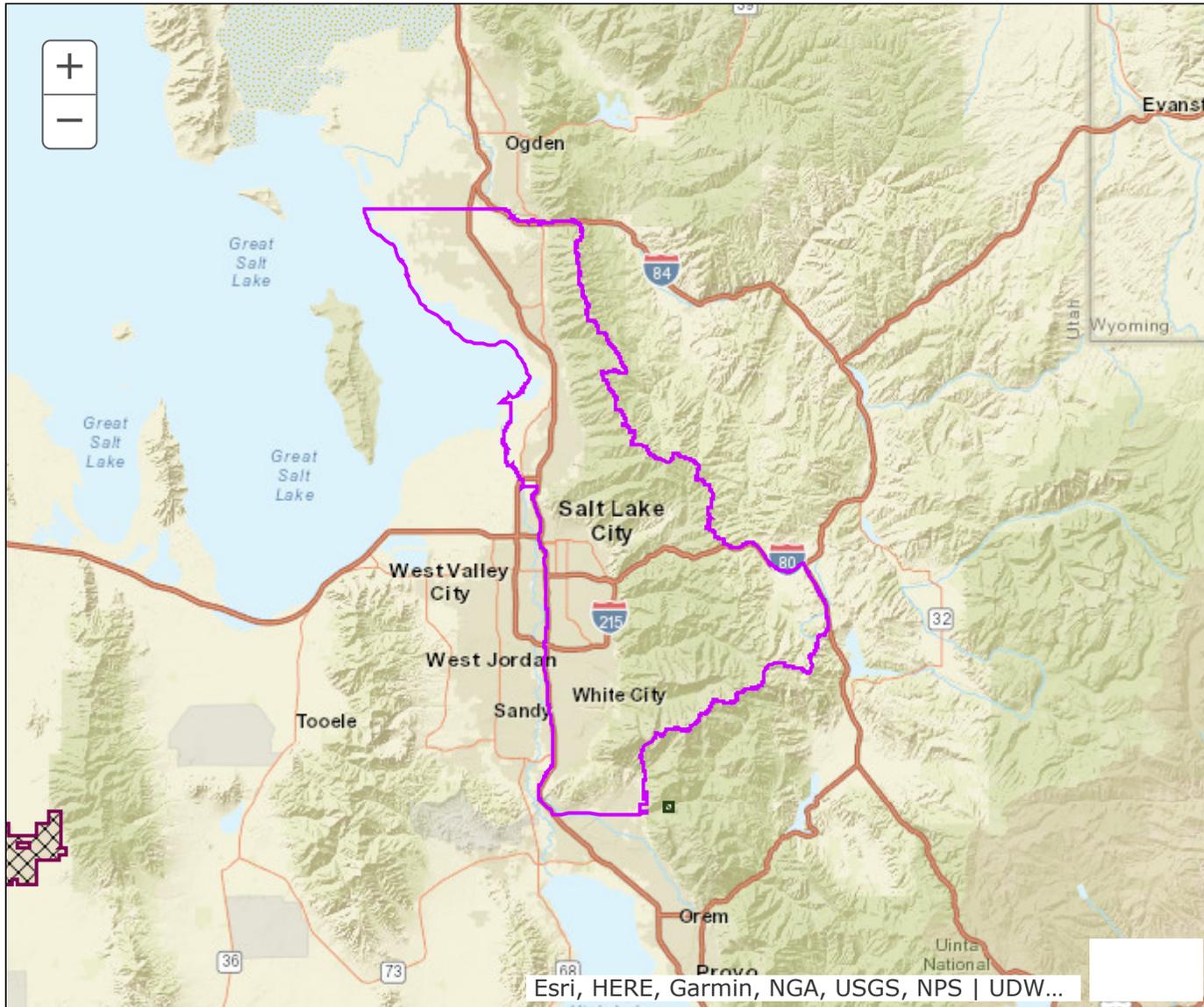
Updated Boundary: Extended archery unit for deer and elk. Must complete the archery ethics course to participate during the extended period. Davis, Salt Lake, Summit, Morgan and Utah counties—Boundary begins at I-15 and the Weber/Davis county line; east on this county line to the Davis/Morgan county line; all contiguous public land south on the Davis/Morgan county line; all contiguous public land south on this county line to the Salt Lake/Summit county line; all contiguous public land 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 to the Salt Lake/Utah county line; west on this county line to the Lake Hardy Trail; south on this trail to the USFS Wilderness Boundary; south on this boundary to SR-92; west on SR-92 to I-15; north on I-15 to the Weber/Davis county line. EXCLUDES ALL WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREAS. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Ogden, Salt Lake City, Promontory Point, Provo. Boundary questions? Call the Ogden office, 801-476-2740



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Wasatch Front Extended Archery Area

SPECIES Elk



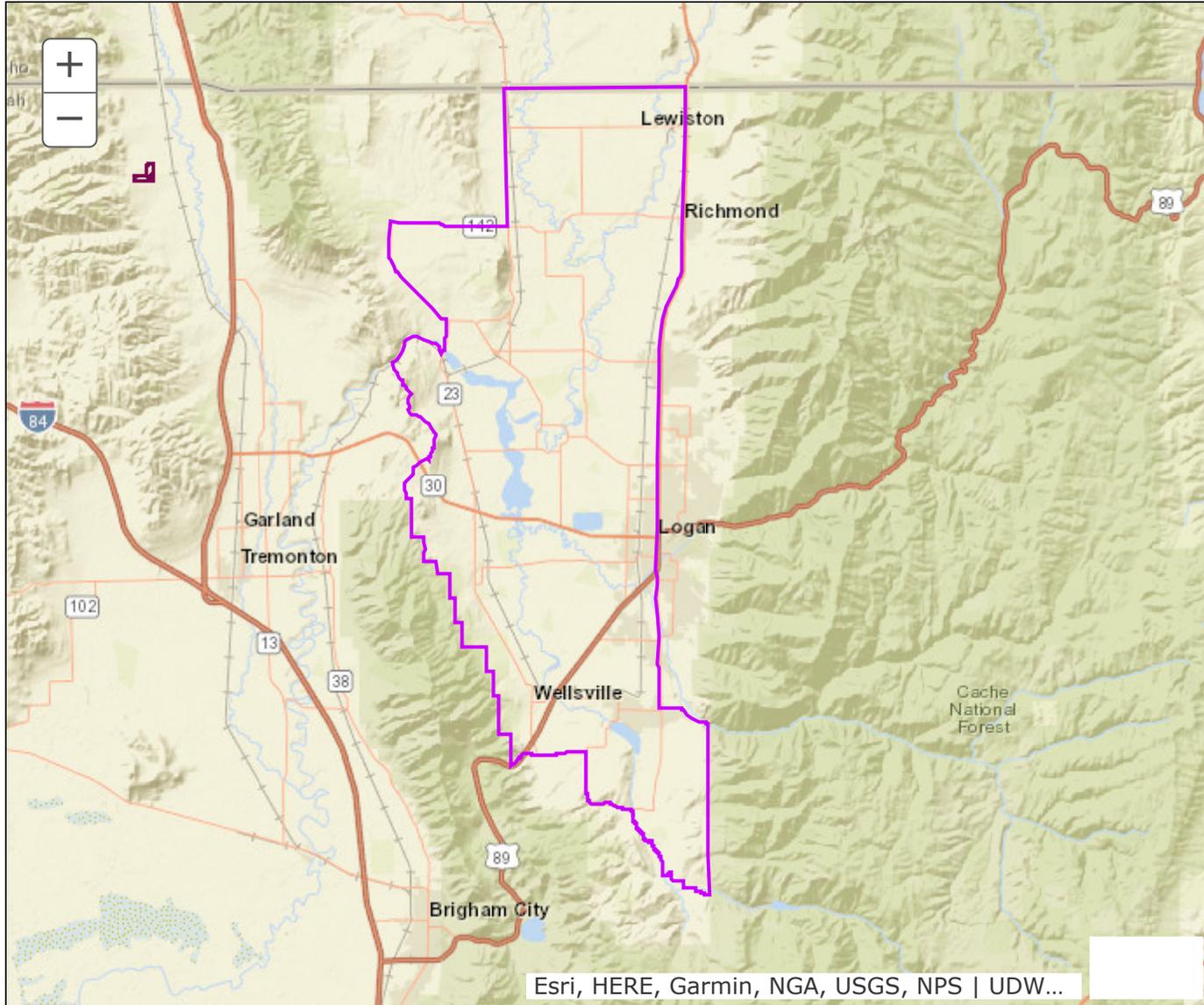
Updated Boundary: Extended archery unit for deer and elk. Must complete the archery ethics course to participate during the extended period. Davis, Salt Lake, Summit, Morgan and Utah counties—Boundary begins at I-15 and the Weber/Davis county line; east on this county line to the Davis/Morgan county line; all contiguous public land south on the Davis/Morgan county line; all contiguous public land south on this county line to the Salt Lake/Summit county line; all contiguous public land 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 to the Salt Lake/Utah county line; west on this county line to the Lake Hardy Trail; south on this trail to the USFS Wilderness Boundary; south on this boundary to SR-92; west on SR-92 to I-15; north on I-15 to the Weber/Davis county line. EXCLUDES ALL WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREAS. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Ogden, Salt Lake City, Promontory Point, Provo. Boundary questions? Call the Ogden office, 801-476-2740



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT West Cache Extended Archery Area

SPECIES Deer

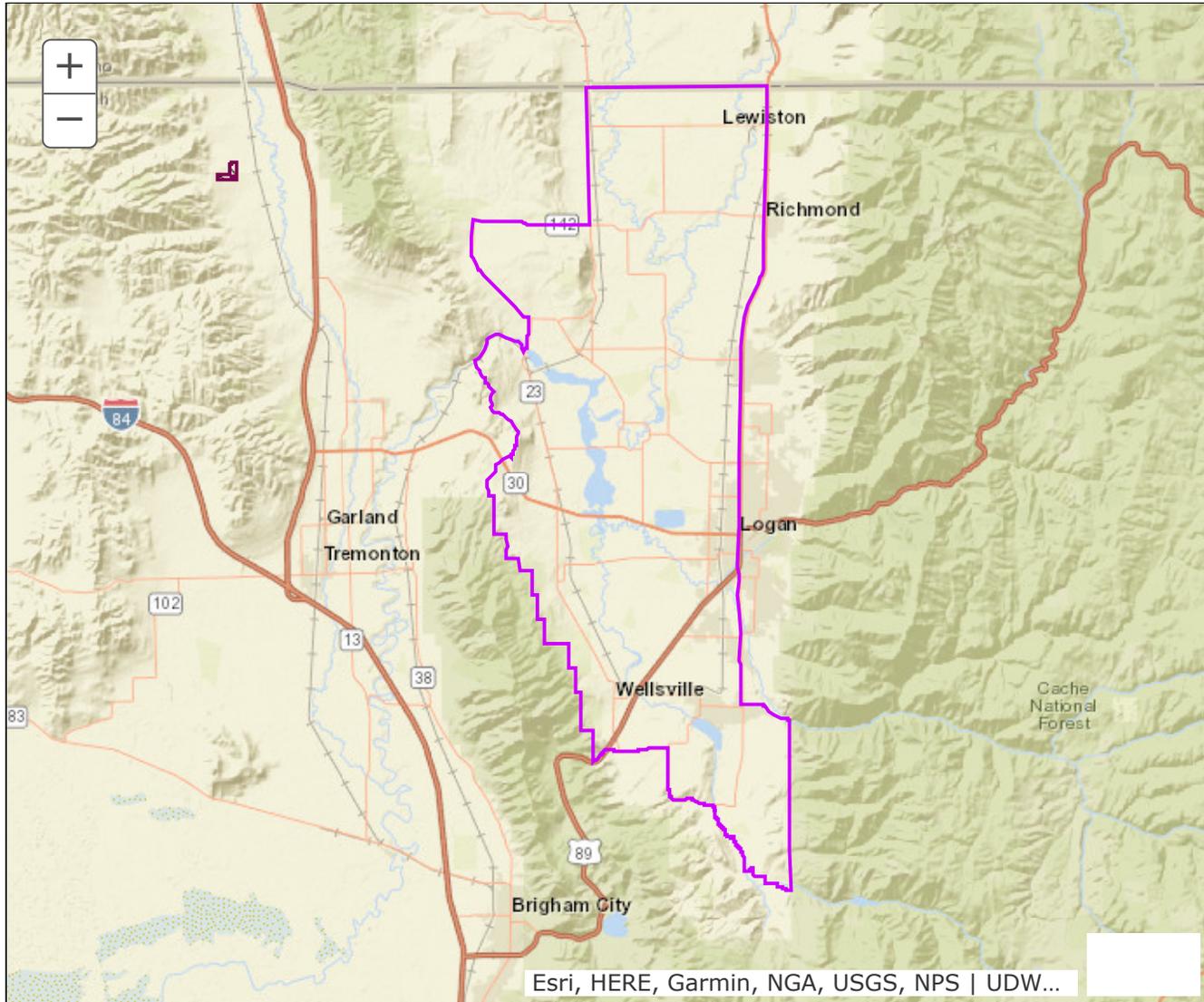


Updated Boundary: Cache County--Boundary begins at SR-142 and SR-23 in Newton; northwest then east on SR-142 to SR-23; north along SR-23 to the Utah/Idaho line; east on the Utah/Idaho line to US-91; south on US-91 to US-89/91; south on US-89/91 to SR-165; south on SR-165 to SR-101; east on SR-101 to the USFS Administrative Boundary: south on the USFS Administrative Boundary to East Canyon Road (La Plata Road) in Avon; west on East Canyon Road (La Plata Road) to SR-162; north and west on SR-162 to West Canyon Road; West on West Canyon Road to the Little Bear River; north along the Little Bear River to Mt Pisgah Road (8700 South) in Paradise; west on Mt Pisgah Road to 2400 west; north on 2400 west to SR-1170; west on SR-1170 to US-89/91; southwest on US89/91 to the USFS Administrative Boundary; north on this boundary to the Box Elder/Cache County line; north on this county line to the southwest shoreline of Cutler Reservoir; east along this shoreline to SR-23; north on SR-23 to SR-142 in Newton.

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT West Cache Extended Archery Area

SPECIES Elk



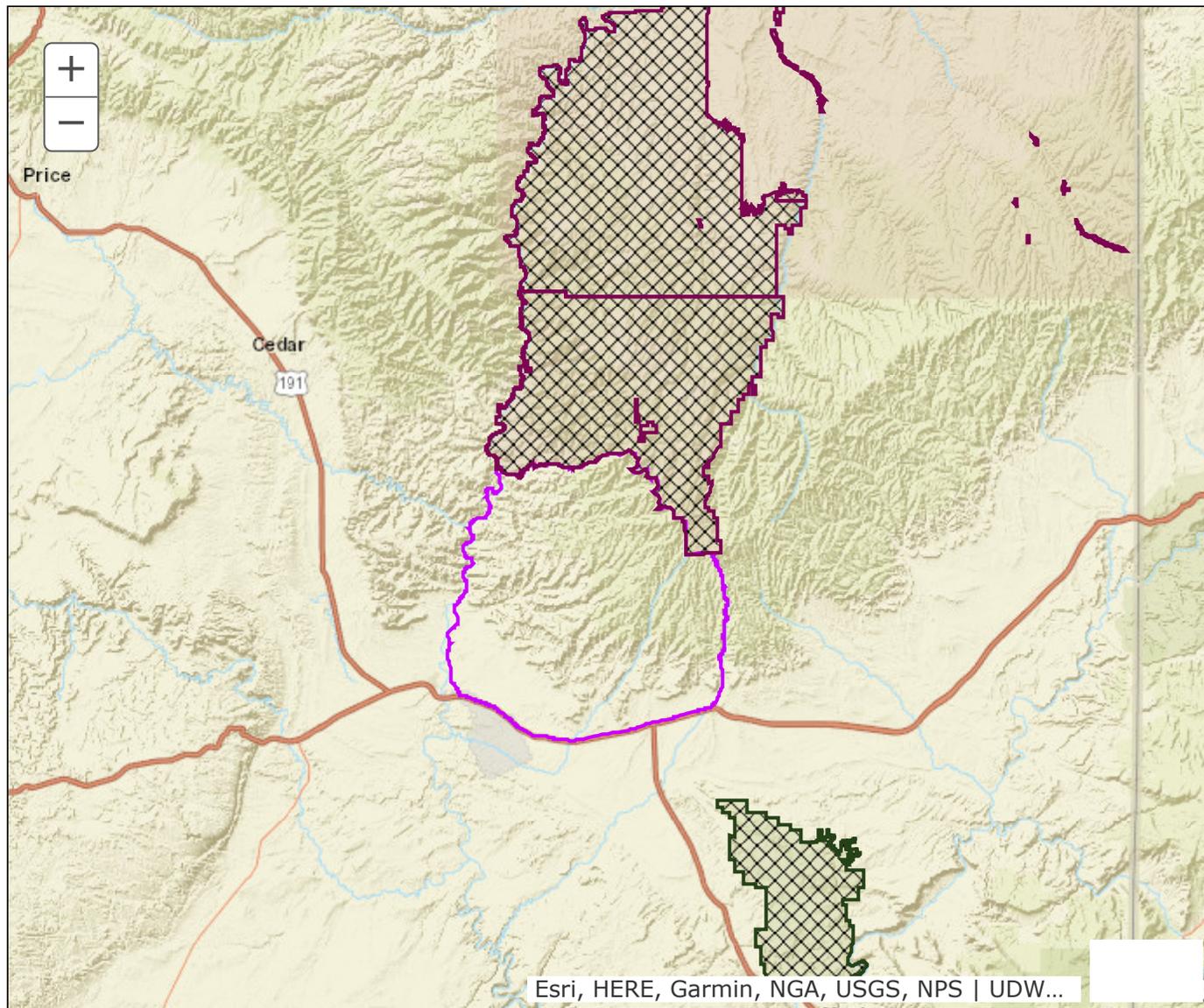
Updated Boundary: Cache County--Boundary begins at SR-142 and SR-23 in Newton; northwest then east on SR-142 to SR-23; north along SR-23 to the Utah/Idaho line; east on the Utah/Idaho line to US-91; south on US-91 to US-89/91; south on US-89/91 to SR-165; south on SR-165 to SR-101; east on SR-101 to the USFS Administrative Boundary: south on the USFS Administrative Boundary to East Canyon Road (La Plata Road) in Avon; west on East Canyon Road (La Plata Road) to SR-162; north and west on SR-162 to West Canyon Road; West on West Canyon Road to the Little Bear River; north along the Little Bear River to Mt Pisgah Road (8700 South) in Paradise; west on Mt Pisgah Road to 2400 west; north on 2400 west to SR-1170; west on SR-1170 to US-89/91; southwest on US89/91 to the USFS Administrative Boundary; north on this boundary to the Box Elder/Cache County line; north on this county line to the southwest shoreline of Cutler Reservoir; east along this shoreline to SR-23; north on SR-23 to SR-142 in Newton.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Book Cliffs, Floy Canyon

SPECIES Deer

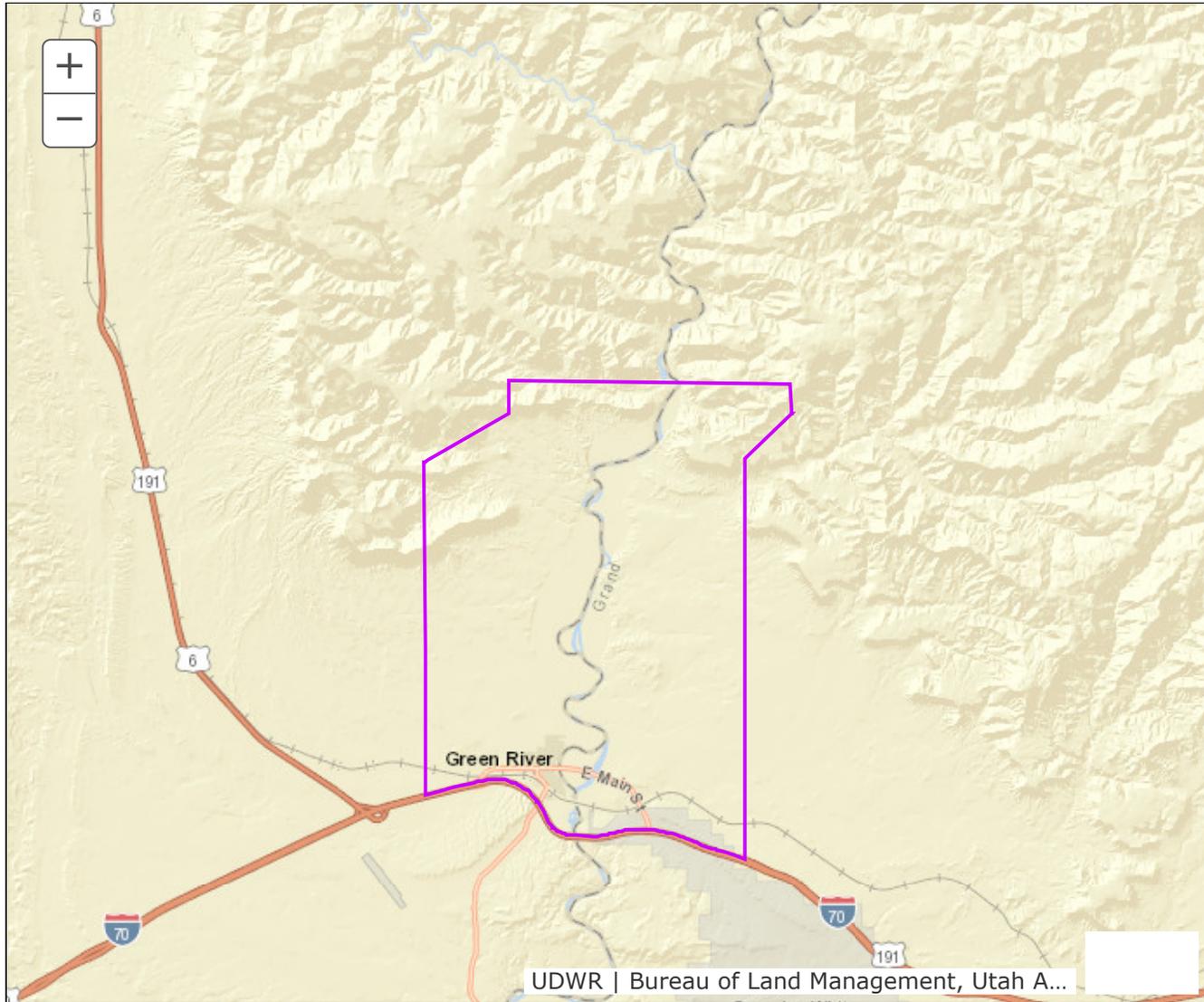


Updated Boundary: Grand County - Boundary begins at Exit 164 on I-70 near the town of Green River; east on I-70 to the Thompson Canyon road at Thompson; north on this road to the Sego Canyon road; north on this road to the Ute Indian Reservation boundary; west along this boundary to the Green River; 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 I-70 near the town of Green River. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LAND WITHIN THE BOUNDARY. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Huntington, Westwater. Boundary questions? Call the Price office, 435-613-3700

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Nine Mile, Green River Valley

SPECIES Deer



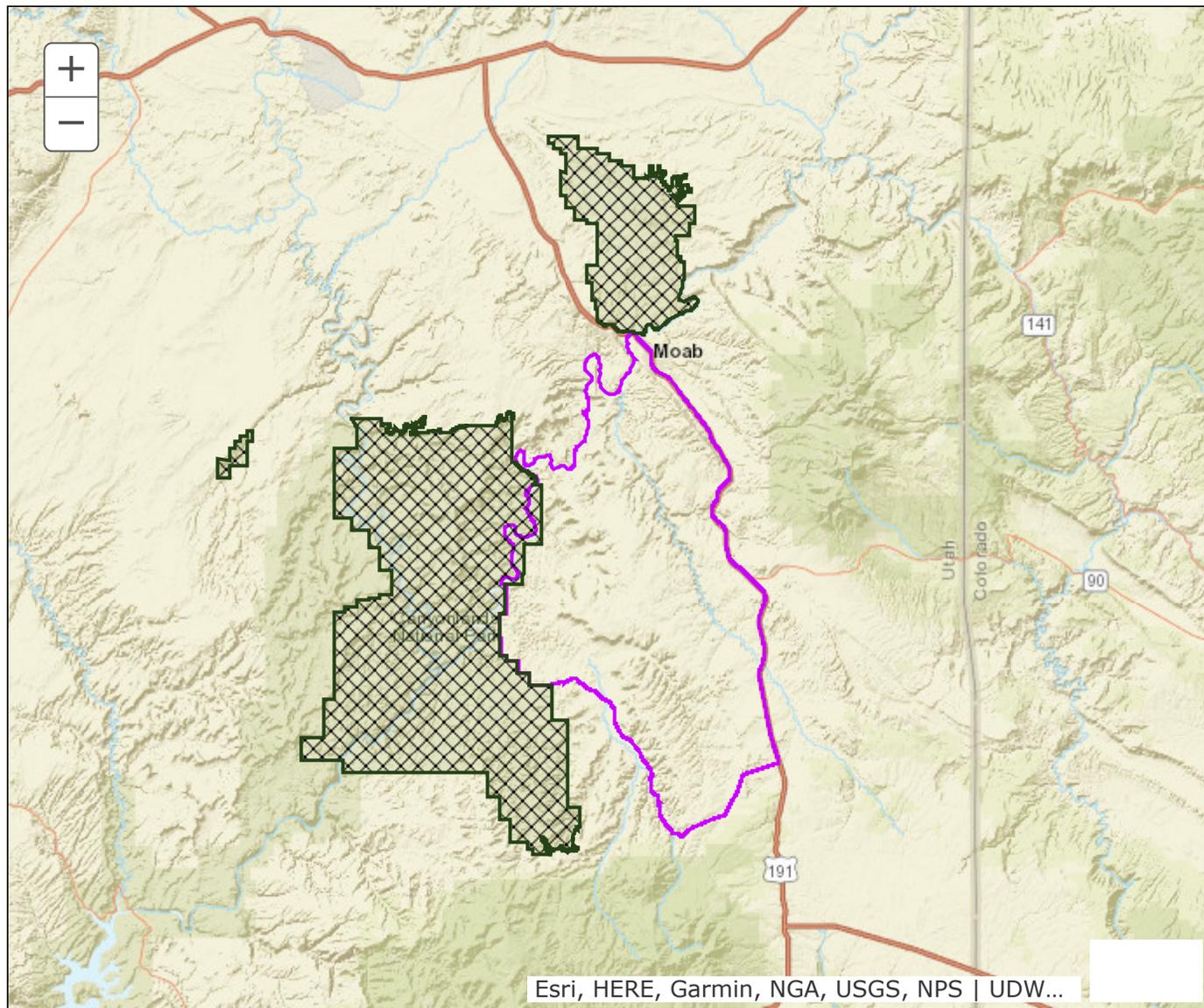
Updated Boundary: Emery and Grand Counties; This boundary includes 3 miles either side of the Green River from Interstate 70 north to Swasey’s Beach.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT San Juan, Lockhart

SPECIES DBS

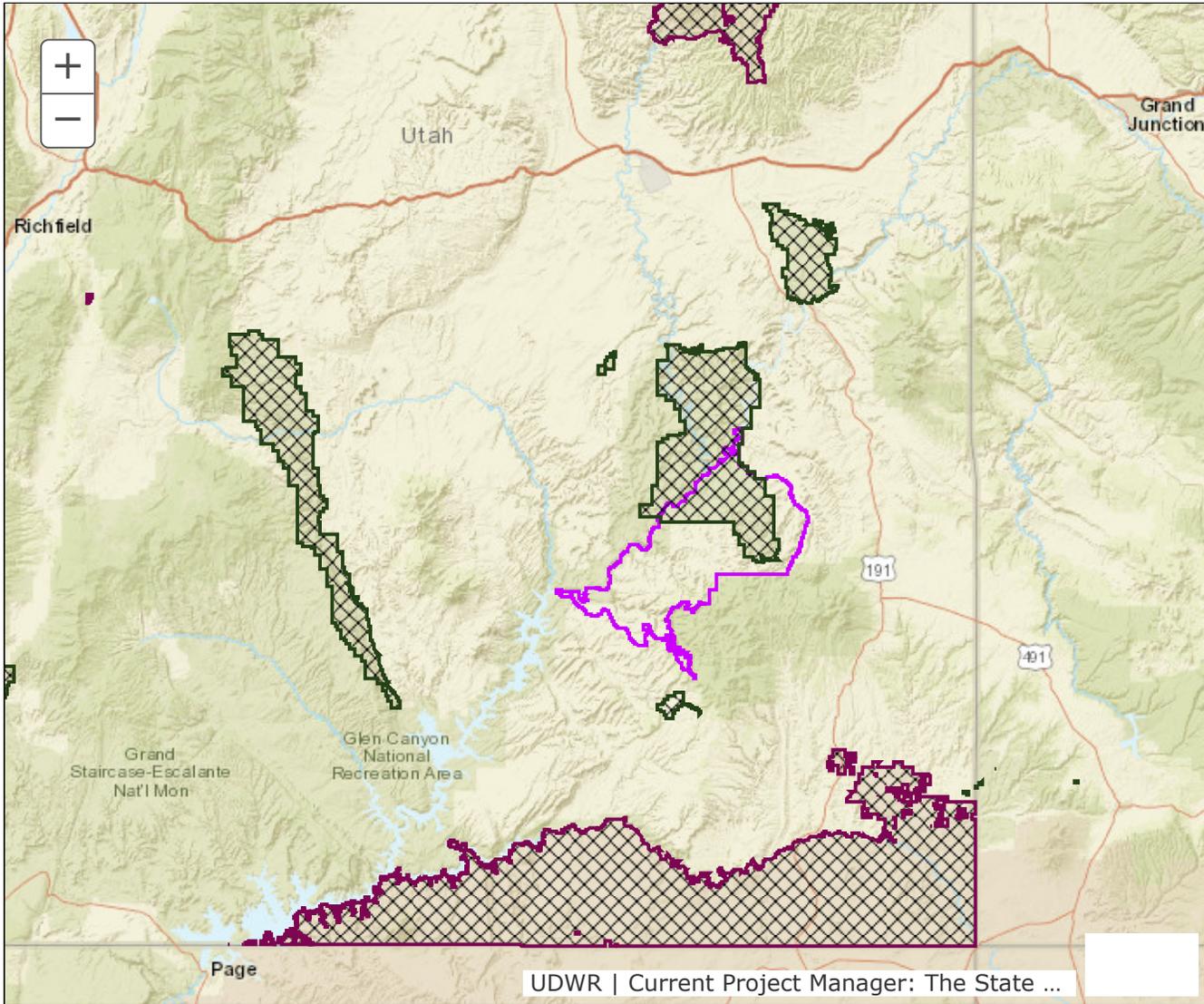


Updated Boundary: Grand and San Juan counties—Boundary begins at the Colorado River and US-191 at Moab; south on US-191 to SR-211; west on SR-211 to the Canyonlands National Park boundary; north on this boundary to the Indian Creek and Colorado River confluence; north on the Colorado River to US-191 at Moab. EXCLUDES ALL NATIONAL PARKS.

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT San Juan, North

SPECIES DBS

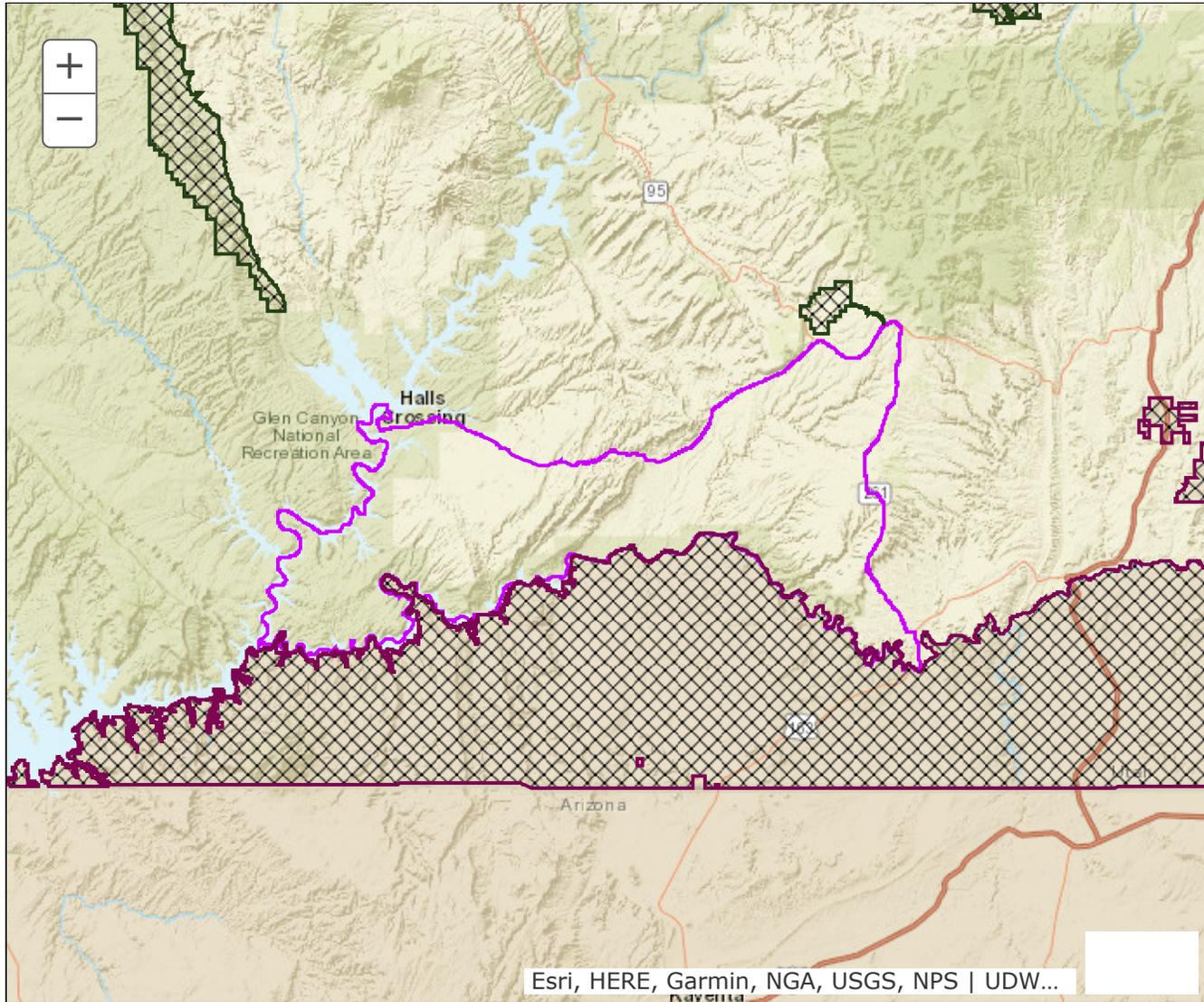


Updated Boundary: San Juan County—Boundary begins at the Colorado River and SR-95; east and north along the Colorado River to the confluence with Indian Creek; southeast along Indian Creek to the Canyonlands National Park boundary; south along this boundary to SR-211 at Canyonlands National Park entrance; east and south on SR-211 to the Bridger Jack Road; south on this road to the North Cottonwood cutoff road down to North Cottonwood Creek; south on this creek to the USFS boundary line; west on the USFS boundary line to Calf Canyon then continuing south along the USFS boundary to the Woodenshoe Road; northwest on this road to the Fortknocker Canyon Road; northwest on this road to SR-95; northwest on SR-95 to the Colorado River. EXCLUDES ALL NATIONAL PARKS.

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT San Juan, San Juan River

SPECIES DBS

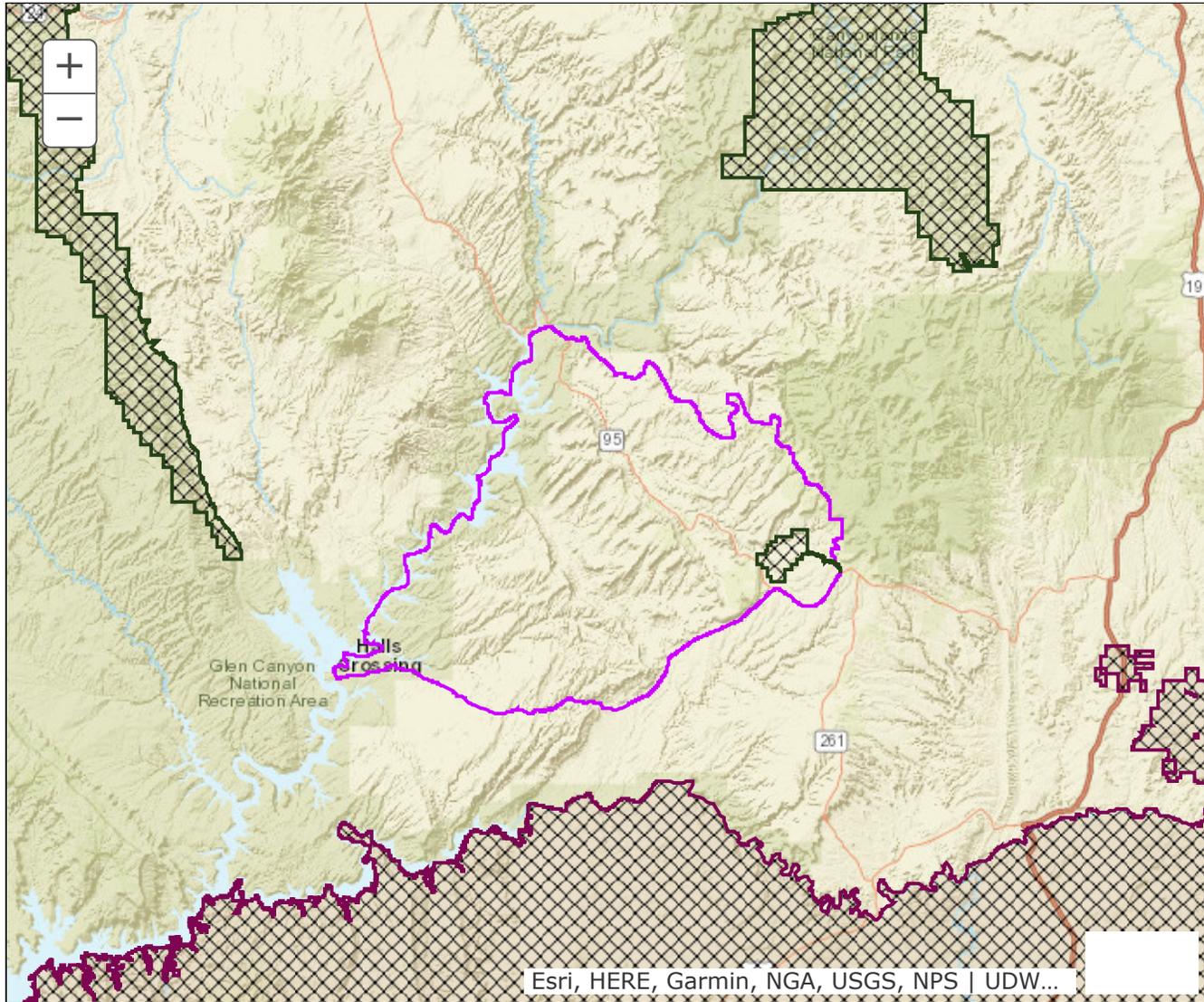


Updated Boundary: San Juan County--Boundary begins at the eastern shoreline of Lake Powell and SR-276 at Halls Crossing; east on SR-276 to SR-95; east on SR-95 to SR-261; south on SR-261 to US-163; south on US-163 to the San Juan River at Mexican Hat; west along the San Juan River to the eastern shoreline of Lake Powell; north on this shoreline to SR-276 at Halls Crossing.

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT San Juan, South

SPECIES DBS



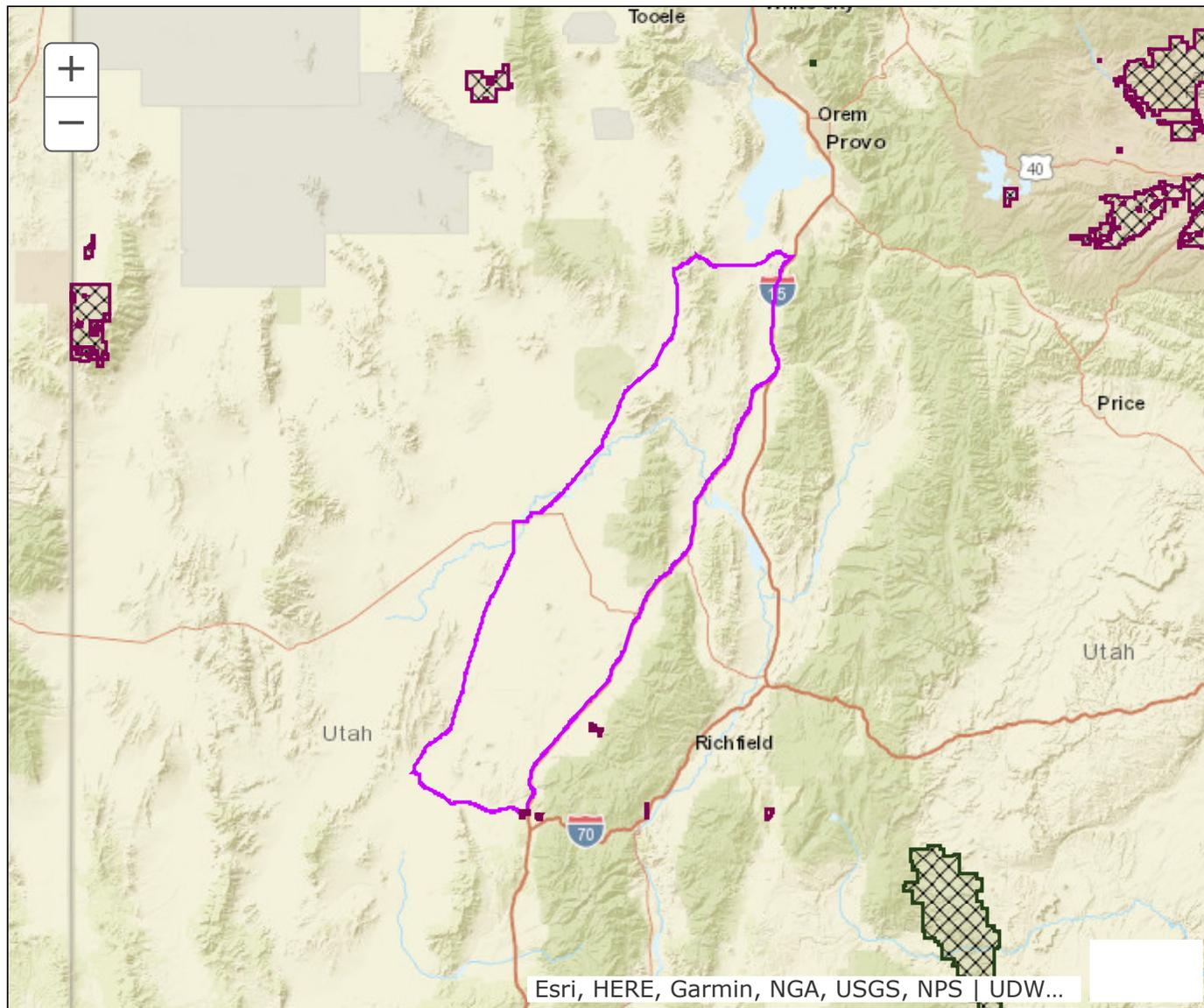
Updated Boundary: San Juan County—Boundary begins at the shoreline of Lake Powell and SR-95; southeast along SR-95 to the Fortknocker Canyon Road; southeast along this road to the Woodenshoe Road; east then southeast along this road to the USFS boundary line; south on this boundary line to the Birch Canyon Road; south on this road to UT-275; south on UT-275 to SR-95; west on SR-95 to SR-276; south and west on SR-276 to the eastern shoreline of Lake Powell; east and north along this shoreline to SR-95. Boundary questions? Call the Price office, 435-613-3700.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Fillmore, Oak Creek (cougar)

SPECIES RMBS

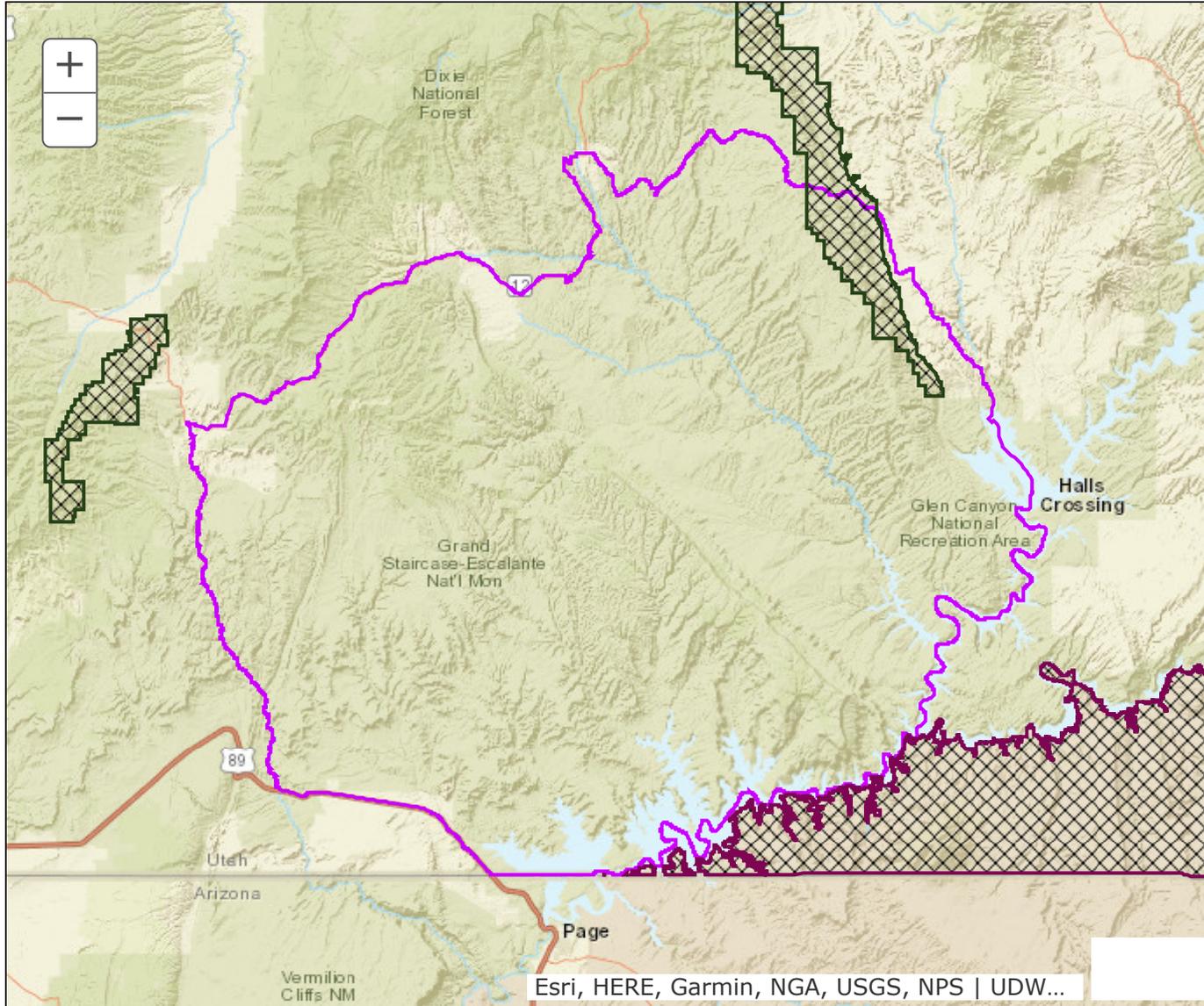


Updated Boundary: Juab, Millard, Sanpete and Sevier counties—Boundary begins at Black Rock Road and I-15(Exit 135); west on Black Rock Road to SR-257; north on SR-257 to US-6/50; east on US-6/50 to US-6; northeast on US-6 to Santaquin and I-15; south on I-15 to Exit 135 and Black Rock Road. Boundary questions? Call the Cedar City office, 435-865-6100.

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Kaiparowits (HAMS)

SPECIES Deer

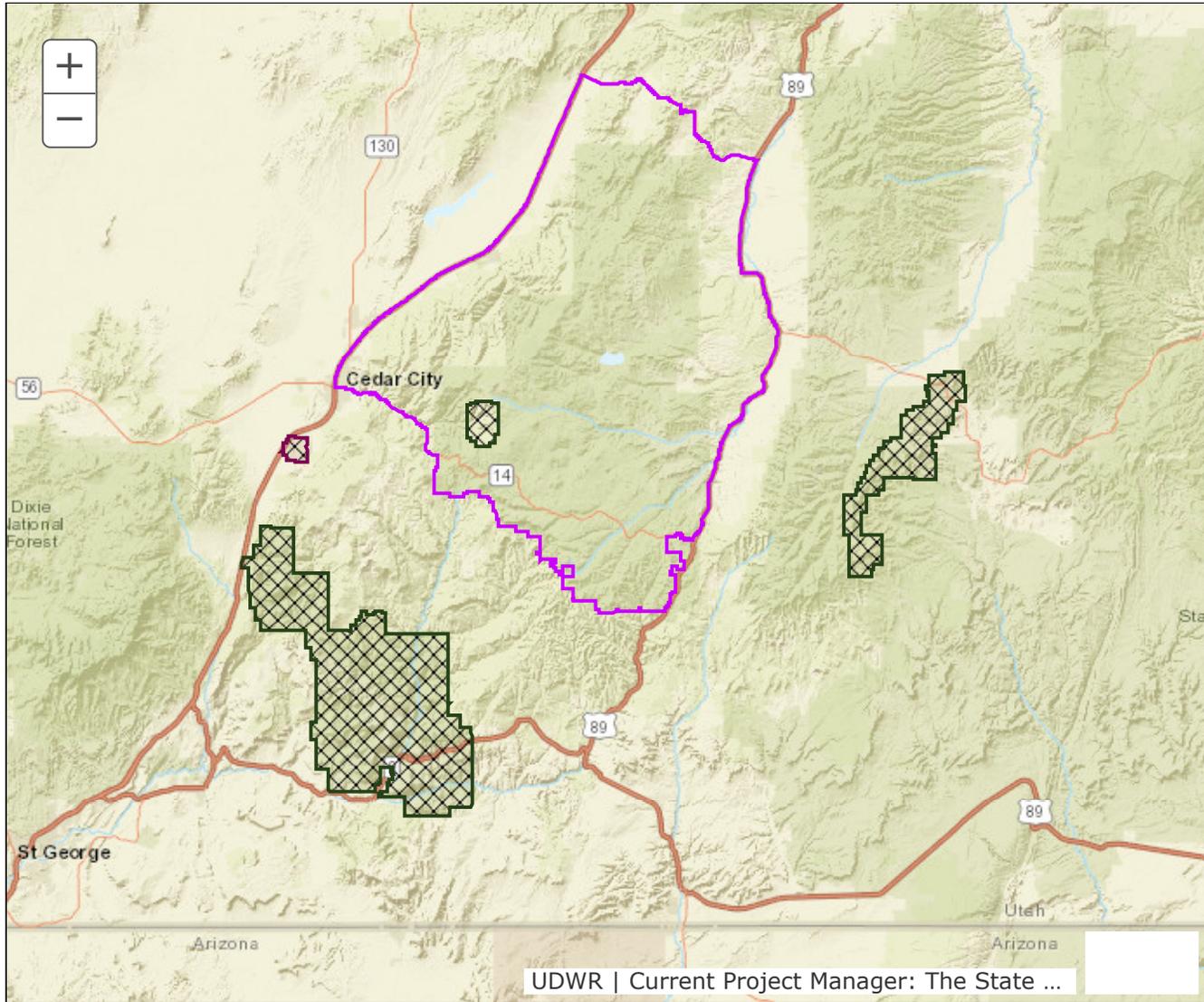


Updated Boundary: Garfield and Kane counties--Boundary begins at SR-12 and the Paria River in Cannonville; south along the Paria River to US-89; east on US-89 to the Utah/Arizona border; east on this border to Lake Powell; east and north on Lake Powell to Bullfrog creek; north along this creek to the Notom Road; north on this road to the Burr Trail road; west on this road to SR-12; west on SR-12 and the Paria River in Cannonville. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Escalante, Navajo Mountain, Smoky Mountain. Boundary questions? Call the Cedar City office, 435-865-6100

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Panguitch Lake/Zion, North

SPECIES Pronghorn

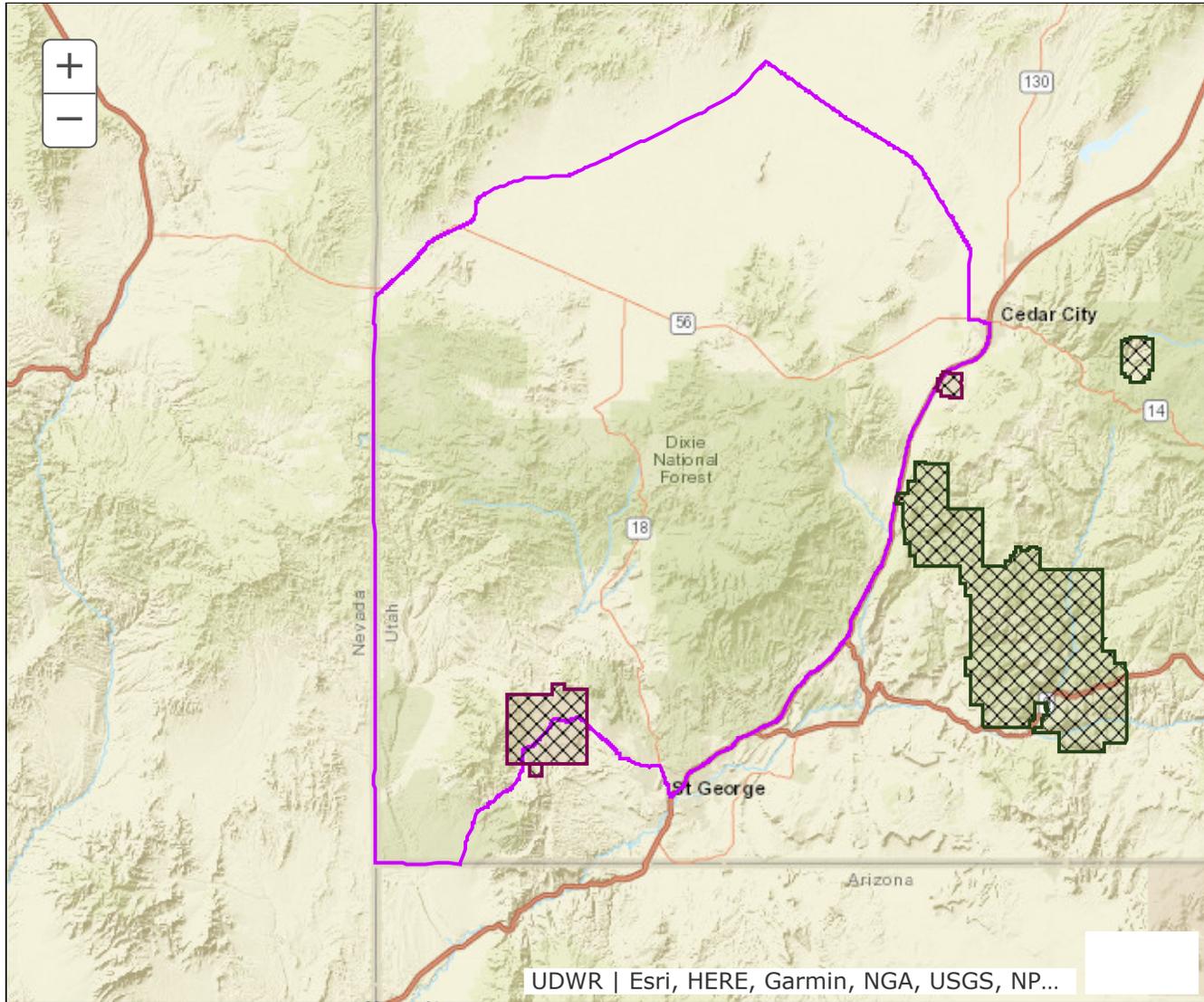


Updated Boundary: Garfield, Iron and Kane counties—Boundary begins at US-89 and SR-14; north on US-89 to SR-20; west on SR-20 to I-15; south on I-15 to SR-14; east on SR-14 to the USFS boundary; south and east on this boundary to US-89; north on US-89 to SR-14. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Beaver, Cedar City, Panguitch. Boundary questions? Call the Cedar City office, 435-865-6100.

BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Pine Valley, Beaver Dam

SPECIES DBS



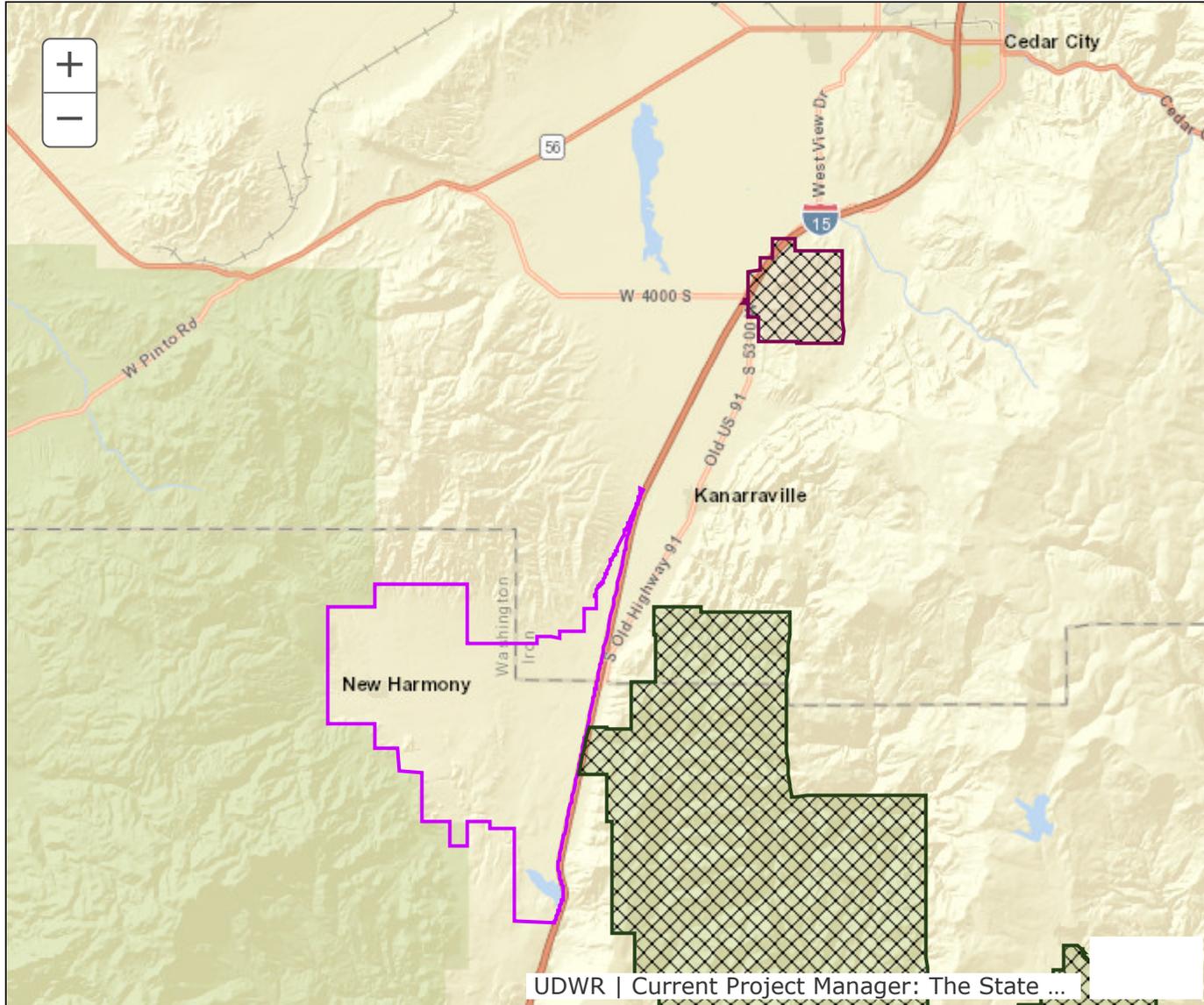
Updated Boundary: Iron and Washington counties--Boundary begins at SR-18 and I-15 in St. George; northwest on SR-18 to US-91; southwest on US-91 to the Arizona-Utah state line; west along this state line to the Utah-Nevada state line; north along the Utah-Nevada state line to the Union Pacific railroad tracks near Uvada; northeast along these tracks to Lund highway; southeast on this highway to SR-56; east along SR-56 to I-15; south on I-15 to SR-18. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Cedar City and St. George. Boundary questions? Call Cedar City office, 435-865-6100.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Pine Valley, New Harmony

SPECIES Deer



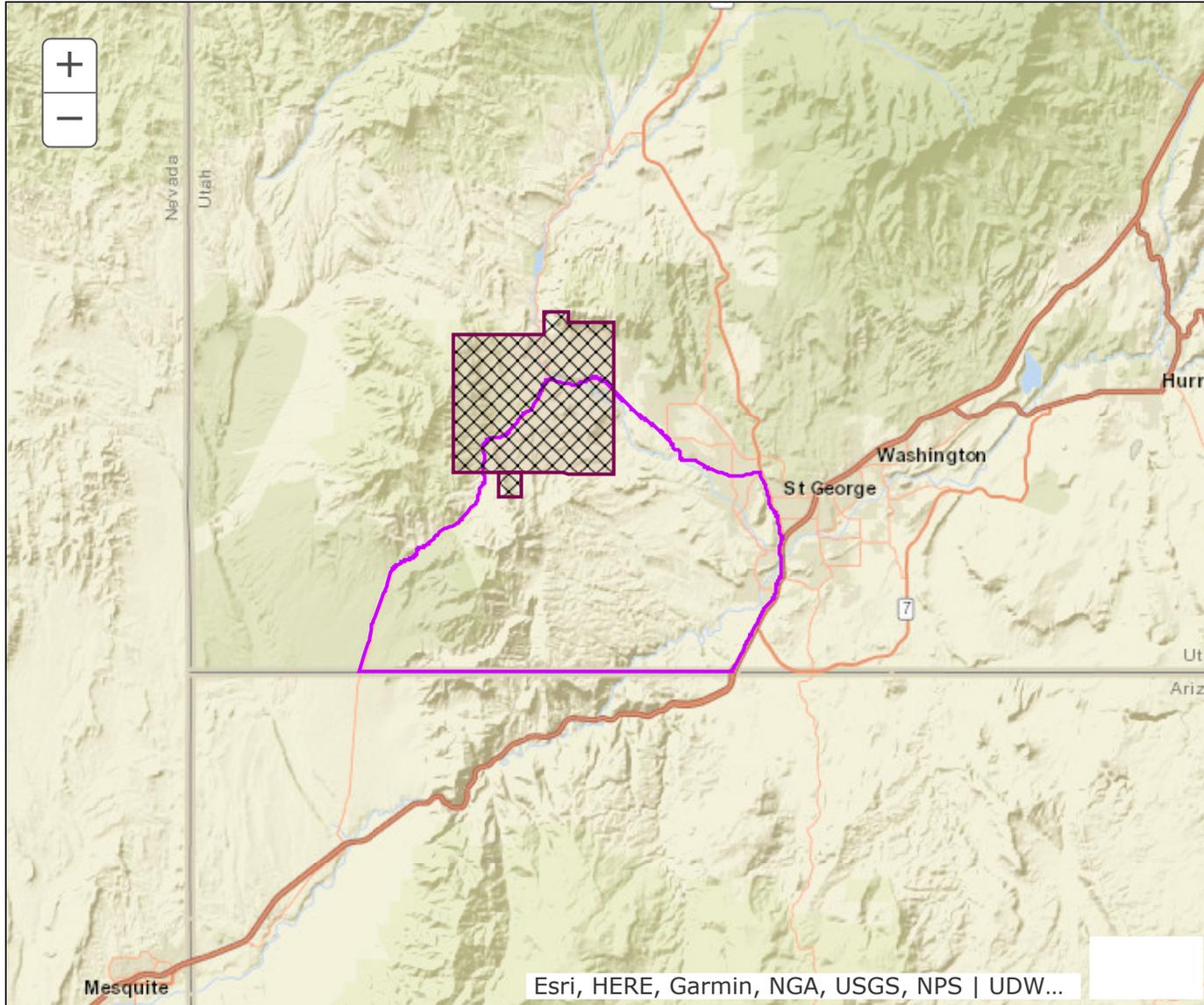
Updated Boundary: Iron and Washington counties--Boundary begins at I-15 and Kannarra Hills Drive near New Harmony; south on Kannarra Hills Drive to the BLM-private land boundary; west and north on this boundary to the Sitla-private land boundary; west on this boundary to the BLM-private land boundary and Private land; West then North on this boundary to a State section; West on this boundary to the BLM boundary; west on this boundary to the USFS-private land boundary; west then southeast on this boundary to the BLM-private land boundary; southwest on this boundary to I-15; north on I-15 to Kannarra Hills Drive.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Pine Valley, Virgin River

SPECIES DBS



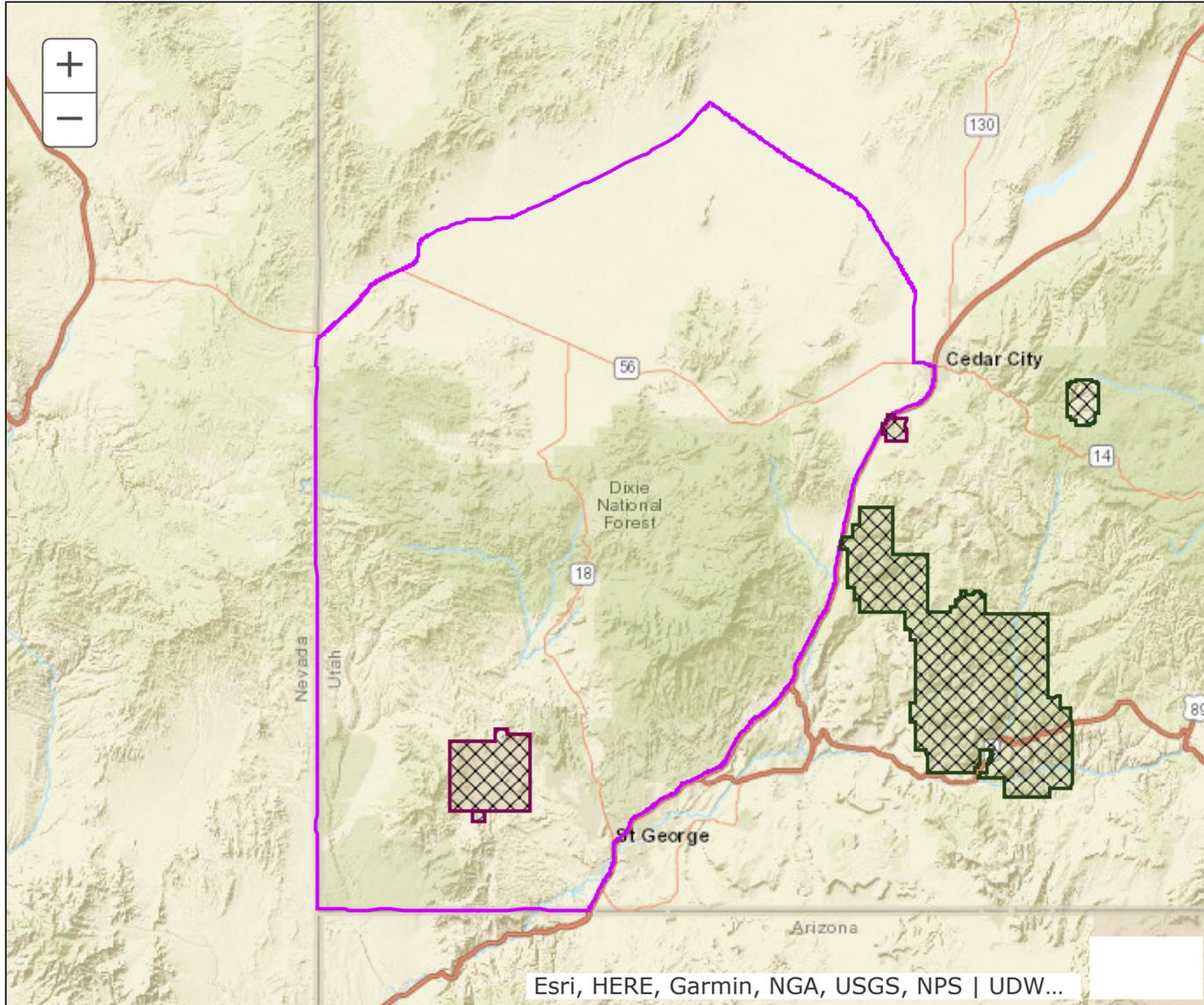
Updated Boundary: Washington County—Boundary begins at SR-18 and I-15 in St. George; northwest on SR-18 to US-91; southwest on US-91 to the Arizona-Utah state line; east along this state line to I-15; north on I-15 to St. George. USGS 1:100,000 Map: Saint George. Boundary questions? Call the Cedar City office, 435-865-6100.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Pine Valley

SPECIES Pronghorn



Esri, HERE, Garmin, NGA, USGS, NPS | UDW...

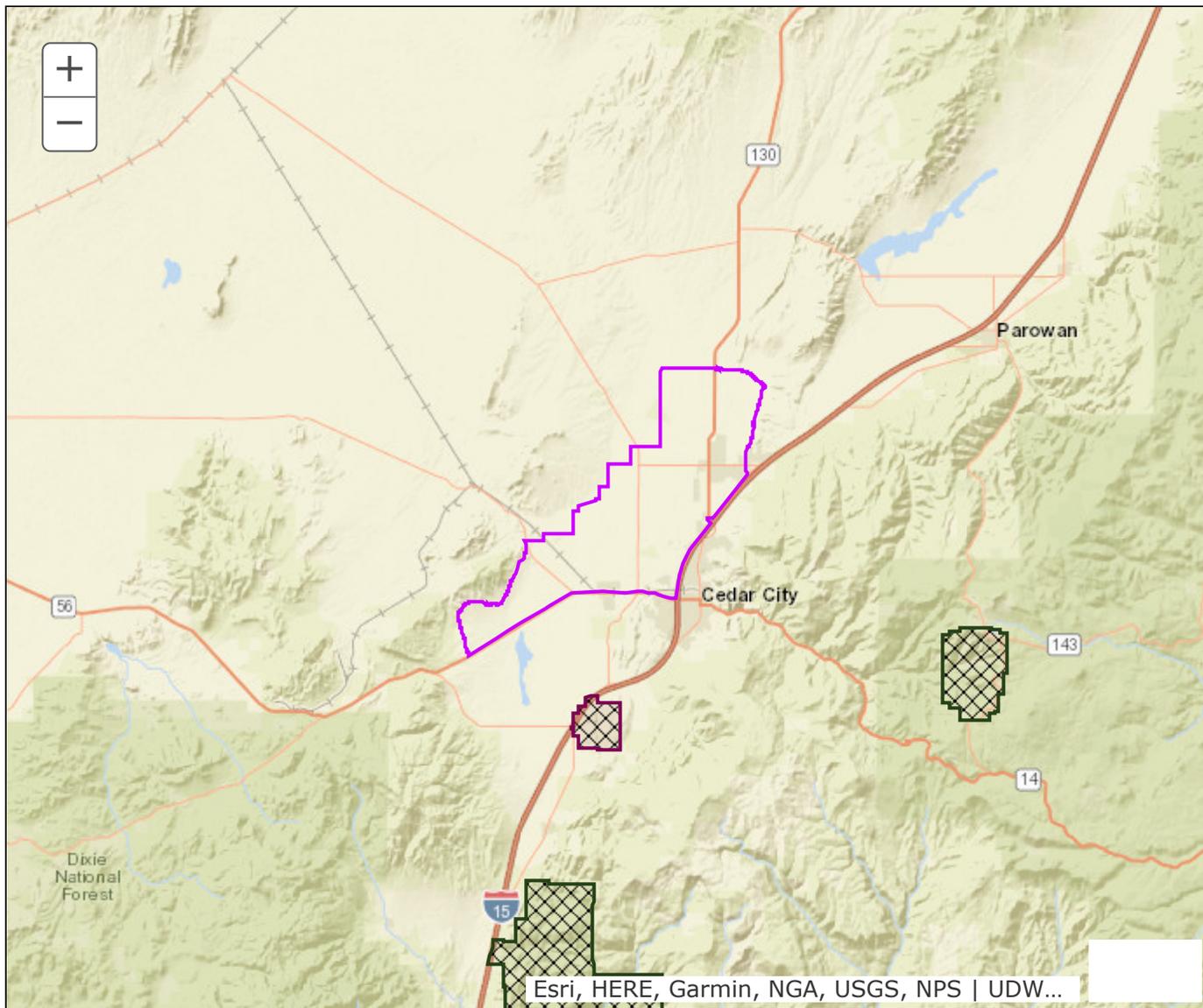
Updated Boundary: Iron and Washington counties—Boundary begins at the Utah-Arizona state line and I-15; north on I-15 to SR-56; west on SR-56 to the Lund highway; northwest on this highway to Lund and the Union Pacific railroad tracks; southwest along these tracks to the Utah-Nevada state line; south on this state line to the Utah-Arizona state line; east on this state line to I-15. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LANDS WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Caliente, Cedar City, Clover Mountains, Saint George. Boundary questions? Call the Cedar City office, 435-865-6100.



BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

UNIT Southwest Desert, Cedar Valley

SPECIES Deer



Updated Boundary: Iron County--Boundary begins SR-56 and I-15 (Exit 59); west on SR-56 to the Swett Hills road; north on this road to the Eight Mile Hills road; north and east on this road to the Iron Springs Road; north on this road to 2240 N; east on this road to 6300 W; north on this road to 2400 N ; east of this road to 5300 W; north on this road to 3200 N; east on this road to 3425 N; northeast on this road to 3600 N; east on this road to a point straight south of 4400N; north from this point to 4000 N; east on this road to 4100 W; north on this road to Mid Valley Road; east on this road to 3300 W; north on this road to 5400 N; east on this road to 2300 W; north on this road to 8000 N; east on this road to Braffits Creek; southwest on this road to 2200 E; south on this road to Enoch Road; south on this road to Old Highway 91; southwest on this road to SR-130; south on this road to I-15 (Exit 62); south on I-15 to SR-56 (Exit 59).

R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources.

R657-5. Taking Big Game.

R657-5-1. Purpose and Authority.

(1) Under authority of Sections 23-14-18 and 23-14-19, the Wildlife Board has established this rule for taking deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bison, bighorn sheep, and Rocky Mountain goat.

(2) Specific dates, areas, methods of take, requirements, and other administrative details which may change annually are published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

R657-5-12. Areas With Special Restrictions.

(1)(a) Hunting of [~~any~~]wildlife is [~~prohibited~~]allowed within the boundaries of all park areas, except for those [~~designated~~]areas and hunts specifically closed by the Division of Parks and Recreation in Rule R651-614-4.

(b) [~~Hunting with rifles and handguns in park areas designated open is prohibited within one mile of all park area facilities, including buildings, camp or picnic sites, overlooks, golf courses, boat ramps, and developed beaches.~~]State laws regarding the possession and discharge of dangerous weapons apply in state park areas open to hunting.

~~[(c) Hunting with shotguns or archery equipment is prohibited within one-quarter mile of the areas provided in Subsection (b).]~~

(2) Hunting is closed within the boundaries of all national parks unless otherwise provided by the governing agency.

(3) Hunters obtaining a Utah license, permit or tag to take big game are not authorized to hunt on tribal trust lands. Hunters must obtain tribal authorization to hunt on tribal trust lands.

(4) Military installations, including Camp Williams, are closed to hunting and trespassing unless otherwise authorized.

(5) In Salt Lake County, a person may:

(a) only use archery equipment to take buck deer and bull elk south of I-80 and east of I-15;

(b) only use archery equipment to take big game in Emigration Township; and

(c) not hunt big game within one-half mile of Silver Lake in Big Cottonwood Canyon.

(6) Hunting is closed within a designated portion of the town of Alta. Hunters may refer to the town of Alta for boundaries and other information.

(7) Domesticated Elk Facilities and Domesticated Elk Hunting Parks, as defined in Section 4-39-102(2) and Rules R58-18 and R58-20, are closed to big game hunting. This restriction does not apply to the lawful harvest of domesticated elk as defined and allowed pursuant to Rule R58-20.

(8) State waterfowl management areas are closed to taking big game, except as otherwise provided in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(9) Hunters are restricted to using archery equipment, muzzleloaders or shotguns on the Scott M. Matheson Wetland Preserve.

(10) A person may not discharge a firearm, except a shotgun or muzzleloader, from, upon, or across the Green River located near Jensen, Utah from the Highway 40 bridge upstream to the Dinosaur National Monument boundary.

R657-5-42. Carcass Importation.

(1) It is unlawful to import dead elk, moose, mule deer, or white-tailed deer or their parts from [~~the areas of~~] any state[;] or province[; ~~game management unit, equivalent wildlife management unit, or county;~~] which has deer or elk diagnosed with Chronic Wasting Disease, except the following portions of the carcass:

- (a) meat that is cut and wrapped either commercially or privately;
- (b) quarters or other portion of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached;
- (c) meat that is boned out;
- (d) hides with no heads attached;
- (e) skull plates with antlers attached that have been cleaned of all meat and tissue;
- (f) antlers with no meat or tissue attached;
- (g) upper canine teeth, also known as buglers, whistlers, or ivories; or
- (h) finished taxidermy heads.

(2)(a) The affected states, provinces, game management units, equivalent wildlife management units, or counties, which have deer, elk, or moose diagnosed with Chronic Wasting Disease shall be available at division offices and through the division's Internet address.

(b) Importation of harvested elk, moose, mule deer, or white-tailed deer or its parts from the affected areas are hereby restricted pursuant to Subsection (1).

(3) Nonresidents of Utah transporting harvested elk, moose, mule deer, or white-tailed deer from the affected areas are exempt if they:

- (a) do not leave any part of the harvested animal in Utah and do not stay more than 24 hours in the state of Utah;
- (b) do not have their deer, elk, or moose processed in Utah; or
- (c) do not leave any parts of the carcass in Utah.

R657-5-43. Chronic Wasting Disease - Infected Animals.

(1) Any person who under the authority of a permit issued by the division legally takes a deer, elk, or moose that is later confirmed to be infected with Chronic Wasting Disease may:

- (a) retain the entire carcass of the animal;
- (b) retain any parts of the carcass, including antlers, and surrender the remainder to the division for proper disposal; or
- (c) surrender all portions of the carcass in their actual or constructive possession, including antlers, to the division and receive a free new permit the following year for the same hunt.

(2) The new permit issued pursuant to Subsection (1)(c) shall be for the same species, sex, weapon type, unit, region, and otherwise subject to all the restrictions and conditions imposed on the original permit, except season dates for the permit shall

follow the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game published in the year the new permit is valid.

(3) Notwithstanding other rules to the contrary, private landowners and landowner associations may refuse access to private property to persons possessing new permits issued under Subsection (1)(c).

(4)(a) The division may identify big game hunting units where an individual may be randomly selected to submit their harvested animal to the division for Chronic Wasting Disease testing.

(b) Big game hunting units that are eligible for mandatory testing will be identified in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(c) Individuals who are randomly selected as participants in the big game Chronic Wasting Disease testing program will be notified in writing prior to the opening day of their hunt with a list of program requirements.

(d) An individual who fails to comply with mandatory testing requirements in this rule may be declared ineligible to apply for or receive any big game licenses, permits, or certificates of registration until they comply with the requirements of this rule and any assessment of fees under R657-42-9.

KEY: wildlife, game laws, big game seasons

Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: July 22, 2019

Notice of Continuation: October 5, 2015

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 23-14-18; 23-14-19; 23-16-5; 23-16-6



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL D. FOWLKS
Division Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: Oct 10, 2019

To: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

From: Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator

Subject: 2020 Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) and Landowner Association (LOA) permit recommendations

The following is a summary of the 2020 CWMU recommendations for bucks, bulls and turkeys. There are three types of applications the DWR receives for CWMUs: new, renewal and change applications. This year, there are no new CWMU applications. There was one CWMU that did not renew.

The DWR received **28** CWMU applications for 2020 and recommends the approval of all of them with one contingency:

- 22 renewal applications (one contingent on CWMU advisory recommendations)
- 6 change applications that require RAC/Board approval

There will be a total of 124 CWMUs for the 2020 hunting season, based on the DWR's recommendations. The following table summarizes the recommended number of CWMU permits statewide for bucks, bulls and turkeys:

Species	Private	Public
Bull elk	909	130
Buck pronghorn	56	38
Buck deer	1,879	238
Bull moose	41	26
Turkey	12	12
Total	2,897	444



The following is a summary of the DWR's 2020 LOA recommendations for bucks and bulls. One LOA (Henry Mountains) did not renew, and there were no new applications.

Only **one** LOA submitted a change application for 2020:

- The Vernon LOA increased acreage from 60,162 to 62,589.

DWR_Region	CWMU_Name	Species	Gender	Private	Public	Rcmdnd_HuntDate	Ratio	Status	Acres_Private	Acres_Public	Unit	County
CRO	Allen Ranch	PRONGHORN	Buck	2	2	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Renewal	6300	0	19	Utah
CRO	Deer Creek	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	7944	0	17a	Wasatch
CRO	Rock House	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	6343	0	19c	Juab
NERO	Cottonwood Ridge	PRONGHORN	Buck	6	4	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Renewal	8331	0	11	Duchesne
NRO	Blue Creek	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	7240	0	1	Box Elder
NRO	Cedar Springs	PRONGHORN	Buck	2	2	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Renewal	33203	630	1	Box Elder
NRO	Grass Valley/Clark Canyon	DEER	Buck	135	15	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	63867	0	6	Summit
NRO	Grass Valley/Clark Canyon	ELK	Bull	90	10	9/1-11/30/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	63867	0	6	Summit
NRO	Grass Valley/Clark Canyon	MOOSE	Bull	4	5	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Renewal	63867	0	6	Summit
NRO	Hardscrabble	DEER	Buck	18	2	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	16357	0	5	Davis/Morgan/Salt Lake
NRO	Hardscrabble	ELK	Bull	18	2	9/1-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	16357	0	5	Davis/Morgan/Salt Lake
NRO	Hardscrabble	MOOSE	Bull	2	2	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Renewal	16357	0	5	Davis/Morgan/Salt Lake
NRO	Ingham Peak	DEER	Buck	33	4	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	16628	4160	1	Box Elder
NRO	Ingham Peak	ELK	Bull	5	1	9/1-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	16628	4160	1	Box Elder
NRO	Ingham Peak	MOOSE	Bull	1	0	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Renewal	16628	4160	1	Box Elder
NRO	Jacob's Creek	DEER	Buck	18	2	9/1-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	13510	0	5	Davis/Morgan
NRO	Jacob's Creek	ELK	Bull	18	2	9/1-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	13510	0	5	Davis/Morgan
NRO	Jacob's Creek	MOOSE	Bull	1	1	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Renewal	13510	0	5	Davis/Morgan
NRO	Lazy H Ranch	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	5082	0	5	Morgan
NRO	Mecham Ridge	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	6698	0	4	Rich
NRO	Mountain Top	DEER	Buck	18	2	9/01-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	7540	0	5	Morgan/Summit
NRO	Mountain Top	ELK	Bull	0	0	9/1-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	7540	0	5	Morgan/Summit
NRO	Neil Creek	DEER	Buck	18	2	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	6250	0	6	Summit
NRO	Royal Ivory Outfitters	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	12475	0	8	Summit
NRO	Royal Ivory Outfitters	MOOSE	Bull	0	0	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Renewal	12475	0	8	Summit
NRO	Snowville Flat	PRONGHORN	Buck	3	2	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Renewal	6708	0	1	Box Elder
NRO	Stillman Creek Ranch	DEER	Buck	36	4	9/1-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	5762	0	6	Summit
NRO	TJ Cattle Company	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	7344	0	5	Morgan
NRO	TL Bar Ranch	PRONGHORN	Buck	1	1	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Renewal	4540	640	1	Box Elder/Tooele
NRO	Deseret	Pronghorn	Buck	7	5	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Change	225,031	15,359	4	Morgan/Weber/Rich/summit
NRO	Weber Florence Creek	Elk	Bull	72	8	9/1-11/30/2020	90:10:00	Change	36,915	0	6	Summit
NRO	Junction Valley	Deer	Buck	44	6	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Change	31,525	360	1	Box Elder
NRO	Strawberry Ridge	Pronghorn	Buck	0	0			Change	26,865	48	2	Rich
NRO	Middle Ridge	Pronghorn	Buck	0	0			Change	4971	1274	2	Rich
NRO	SJ Ranch	Pronghorn	Buck	0	0			Change	6073	0	2	Rich
SERO	Minnie Maud Ridge	DEER	Buck	45	5	9/1-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	15940	0	11b	Carbon/Duchesne
SERO	Minnie Maud Ridge	ELK	Bull	40	5	9/1-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	15940	0	11b	Carbon/Duchesne
SERO	Redd Ranches	DEER	Buck	17	2	9/1-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	18559	0	13a	Grand/San Juan
SERO	Redd Ranches	ELK	Bull	17	2	9/1-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	18559	0	13a	Grand/San Juan
SRO	Pahvant Ensign	DEER	Buck	9	1	9/11-11/10/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	37351	0	21b	Millard/Sevier
SRO	Pahvant Ensign	ELK	Bull	6	1	9/1-10/31/2020	90:10:00	Renewal	37351	0	21b	Millard/Sevier
SRO	Pahvant Ensign	PRONGHORN	Buck	4	3	9/1-10/31/2020	60:40:00	Renewal	37351	0	21b	Millard/Sevier
SRO	Pahvant Ensign	TURKEY	Bearded	12	12	2nd Saturday in April - IV	50:50:00	Renewal	37351	0	21b	Millard/Sevier

2019 Landowner Association Recommendations

Change Application

Association Name	Species	Unit	Old Acreage	New Acreage
Vernon	Elk	Vernon	60,162	62,589

Not Renewed

Association Name	Species	Unit	Status
Henry's Mountain	Deer	Henry's Mountain	Not Renewed



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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL D. FOWLKS
Division Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 31, 2019

TO: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

FROM: Lindy Varney, Wildlife Licensing Coordinator

SUBJECT: **Proposed rule amendments to address point creep, lost opportunities and equity in the hunt drawing process**

As demand to hunt in Utah continues to grow, hunters are voicing concerns about point creep, lost opportunities and equity in the hunt drawing process.

To begin addressing those concerns — and to improve the overall customer experience — the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) recommends changes to the following rules:

- Fees, exchanges, surrenders, refunds and reallocations of wildlife documents (R657-42)
- Division variance rule (R657-57)
- Drawing application procedures rule (R657-62)

All of the proposed rule amendments are summarized below:

1. If you surrender your permit(s) at least 30 days before the season opens, your previously acquired bonus/preference points will be reinstated and the waiting period will be waived, if applicable. (R657-42)
2. If you surrender your permit(s) less than 30 days before the season opens, you will lose your bonus/preference points, but the waiting period will be waived, if applicable. (R657-42)
3. You must submit all required forms and accompanying paperwork within 90 days of the season ending in order to qualify for a full refund. (R657-42)
4. You will receive a **full** refund for your general-season permit and have all preference points reinstated — including one for the current year — if you accept a reallocated permit for the same species. (R657-42)
5. The waiting period for a limited-entry buck deer hunt will increase to **five** years. (R657-62)
6. You will forfeit your preference points for almost any over-the-counter permit purchase, with a few exceptions. (R657-62)
7. You can apply for either a general-season buck deer permit **or** the Dedicated Hunter program, but not both. (R657-62)



8. Because of recent changes to management buck deer hunts, there will no longer be permit quotas allocated to youth and to individuals who are 65 and older. (R657-62)
9. If you draw a wildlife expo permit, you will have the option to request a variance, if necessary. (R657-57)
10. If you obtain a permit through a DWR drawing and need to request a season-extension variance for that permit, you may do so only one time. (R657-57)
11. If you obtain a conservation permit, CWMU permit (sold by the CWMU), limited-entry landowner association (LOA) permit or wildlife expo permit, there's a two-year maximum on season-extension variance requests. (R657-57)
12. Conservation permit holders and limited-entry landowner voucher holders will have the same permit-surrender options already provided to CWMU private voucher holders. (R657-42)
13. You can submit a group application for bonus points. (R657-62)
14. The DWR can establish specific time periods for applicants to withdraw, modify or edit their applications. (R657-62)
15. Up to four youth can apply together in a group for youth any bull elk permits. (R657-62)
16. You will be allowed to draw only one once-in-a-lifetime permit in the same year — in either the big game drawing or the sportsman drawing. (R657-62)

R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources.

R657-42. Fees, Exchanges, Surrenders, Refunds and Reallocation of Wildlife Documents.

R657-42-1. Purpose and Authority.

(1) Under the authority of Sections 23-19-1 and 23-19-38 the division may issue wildlife documents in accordance with the rules of the Wildlife Board.

(2) This rule provides the standards and procedures for the:

- (a) exchange of permits;
- (b) surrender of wildlife documents;
- (c) refund of wildlife documents;
- (d) reallocation of permits; and
- (e) assessment of late fees.

R657-42-4. Surrenders.

(1) Any person who has obtained a wildlife document and decides not to use it may surrender the wildlife document to any division office.

(2) Any person who ~~[has obtained]~~surrenders a wildlife document ~~[may surrender the wildlife document]~~ prior to the season opening date ~~[of the wildlife document]~~is eligible for the ~~[purpose of]~~following:

(a) ~~waiving the waiting period normally assessed~~~~[and reinstating the number of bonus points, including a bonus point for the current year as if a permit had not been drawn, if applicable];~~

(b) if bonus points apply to the permit opportunity being surrendered, reinstating the number of ~~[preference points, including a preference point for the current year as if a permit had not been drawn, if applicable];~~previously acquired bonus points, provided:

(i) the wildlife document is surrendered more than 30 days before the start of the season for which the permit is valid; or

(ii) if the results of the drawing are not posted until less than 30 days before the start of the season, and the hunter surrenders the permit prior to the opening day of the season for which the permit is valid;

(c) if preference points apply to the permit opportunity being surrendered, reinstating the number of previously acquired preference points, provided:

(i) the wildlife document is surrendered more than 30 days before the start of the season for which the permit is valid; or

(ii) if the results of the drawing are not posted until less than 30 days before the start of the season, and the hunter surrenders the permit prior to the opening day of the season for which the permit is valid;

(d) purchasing a reallocated permit or any other permit available for which the person is eligible, and receiving a preference point in lieu of that surrendered permit, if applicable; or

~~(e)~~e receiving a refund as provided in R657-42-5.

(3) A CWMU permit must be surrendered prior to the applicable season opening date provided by the CWMU operator, except as provided in Section R657-42-11.

(4) Dedicated hunter participants must surrender their permits prior to the general archery deer season, except as provided in Section R657-38-8.

(5) A person ~~[may surrender a limited entry, or once in a lifetime permit]~~surrendering a wildlife document received through a group application ~~[in the Big Game drawing and have their bonus points for that permit species reinstated, provided]~~is eligible for the following;

(a) if all group members surrender their permits~~[-and]~~ more than 30 days before the start of the season for which the permit is valid, all group members may:

(i) have previously acquired bonus points or preference points reinstated;

(ii) any waiting period normally assessed may be waived;

(iii) applicants may be eligible for a refund consistent with R657-42-5;

(b) ~~[all permits are surrendered to the division]~~except as identified in subsection (c), if a group member fails to surrender their permit more than 30 days before the start of the season for which the permit is valid[-], all group members lose bonus points or preference points applicable to that hunt, but applicants who have surrendered may have the normally-assessed waiting period waived; and

(c) if an individual in a group surrenders a general season permit in order to obtain a reallocated permit, then all group members are eligible to:

~~[—(6) A person may surrender a general season permit received through a group application in the Big Game drawing and have their preference points reinstated, provided;]~~(i) have previously acquired preference points reinstated;

~~[—(a) all members of the group surrender their permits to the division prior to the start of the season for which the permit is valid.]~~

(ii) receive a preference point for that year's application; and

(iii) receive a refund on the general season permit consistent with R657-42-5

~~(7)~~(6) Notwithstanding ~~[Subsections (5)(b) and (6)(a)]~~the limitations in this section, a person who obtains a permit through a group application ~~[in the Big Game drawing]~~ may surrender that permit after the opening date of the applicable hunting season and have ~~[the]~~previously acquired bonus points or preference points for the permit species restored, provided the person~~[-]~~;

(a) is a member of United States Armed Forces or public health or public safety organization and is deployed or mobilized in the interest of national defense or national emergency;

(b) surrenders the permit to the division, with the tag attached and intact, or signs an affidavit verifying the permit is no longer in their possession within one year of the end of hunting season authorized by the permit; and

(c) satisfies the requirements for receiving a refund in R657-42-5(3)(c) and (d).

~~(8)~~(7) The division may not issue a refund, except as provided in Sections 23-19-38, 23-19-38.2, and R657-42-5.

(8) For the purposes of this section, each reference to restoring previously acquired bonus points or preference points is limited to those points utilized in acquiring the wildlife document to be surrendered.

R657-42-5. Refunds.

(1) The refund of a license, certificate of registration or permit shall be made in accordance with:

(a) Section 23-19-38 and Rule R657-50;

(b) Section 23-19-38.2 and Subsection (3); or

(c) Section 23-19-38 and this section.

(2)(a) An application for a refund may be obtained from any division office.

(b) All refunds must be processed through the Salt Lake Division office.

(c) Except for an individual applying for a refund under Section (3), an individual may apply for a refund up to 90 days after the expiration of the wildlife document.

(d) The division may reject an application for a refund that is incomplete.

(3) A person may receive a refund for a wildlife document if that person was deployed or mobilized on or after September 11, 2001, in the interest of national defense or national emergency and is thereby completely precluded from participating in the hunting or fishing activity authorized by the wildlife document, provided:

(a) the refund request is made to the division within one year of the end of the hunting or fishing season authorized by the wildlife document;

(b) the person surrenders the wildlife document to the division, or signs an affidavit stating the wildlife document is no longer in the person's possession; and

(c) the person verifies that the deployment or mobilization completely precluded them from participating in the activity authorized by the wildlife document ; and

(d) the person provides military orders, or a letter from an employment supervisor on official public health or public safety organization letterhead stating:

(i) the branch of the United States Armed Forces, or name of the public health organization or public safety organization from which they were deployed or mobilized; and

(ii) the nature and length of their duty while deployed or mobilized.

(4) The division may issue a refund for a wildlife document if the person to whom it was issued dies prior to participating in the hunting or fishing activity authorized by the wildlife document, provided:

(a) The person legally entitled to administer the decedent's estate provides the division with:

(i) picture identification;

(ii) letters testamentary, letters of administration, or such other evidence establishing the person is legally entitled to administer the affairs of the decedent's estate;

(iii) a photocopy of the decedent's certified death certificate; and

(iv) the wildlife document for which a refund is requested.

(5)(a)(i) A person may receive a refund for a once-in-a-lifetime or limited-entry permit provided the permit is surrendered to the division no less than 30 days prior to the season opening date identified on the permit.

(ii) A person may receive a refund for a general season permit that must be surrendered in order to accept a reallocated limited entry permit for the same species.

~~(b)(i) The established wildlife document refund fee [shall be deducted from all refunds]~~ will not be assessed on general season permits surrendered under subsection (5)(a) ~~:- [(ii) A refund will not be issued where the wildlife document purchase price is equal to or less than the wildlife document refund fee.]~~ (ii).

(6) The director may determine that a person did not have the opportunity to participate in an activity authorized by the wildlife document.

(7) The division may reinstate a bonus point or preference point, whichever is applicable, and waive waiting periods, if applicable, when issuing a refund in accordance with this Section.

R657-42-6. Reallocation of Permits.

(1)(a) The division may reallocate surrendered limited entry and once-in-a-lifetime permits.

(b) The division shall not reallocate general season permits for big game and turkey, but the number of permits surrendered may be added to the appropriate permit quota the following year.

(2) [~~Permits shall be reallocated through the Salt Lake Division office.~~][~~—(3)~~](a) Any limited entry, once-in-a-lifetime or public CWMU permit surrendered to the division [~~shall be~~and reallocated through the drawing process shall be awarded by contacting the next person listed on the alternate drawing list or as provided in Subsection (b).

(b) A person who is denied a permit due to an error in issuing permits may be placed on the alternate drawing list to address the error, if applicable, in accordance with the Rule R657-50.

(c) The alternate drawing lists are classified as private and therefore, protected under the Government Records Access Management Act.

(d) The division shall make a reasonable effort to contact the next person on the alternate list [~~by telephone or mail~~]using contact information provided by the applicant.

(e) If the next person, who would have drawn the limited entry, once-in-a-lifetime or public CWMU permit, does not accept the permit or the division is unable to contact that person after reasonable efforts are made, the reallocation process will continue until the division has reallocated the permit or the season closes for that permit.

(~~[4]~~[3]) If the next person, who would have drawn the limited entry, once-in-a-lifetime or public CWMU permit has obtained a permit, that person may be required to surrender the previously obtained permit in accordance with Section R657-42-4(2) and any other applicable rules and guidebooks of the Wildlife Board.

(~~[5]~~[4]) Any private CWMU permit surrendered to the division will be reallocated by the landowner through a voucher, issued to the landowner by the division in accordance with Rule R657-37.

R657-42-8. Accepted Payment of Fees.

(1) Personal checks, business checks, money orders, cashier's checks, and credit or debit cards are accepted for payment of wildlife documents.

(2) Personal or business checks drawn on an out-of-state account are not accepted.

(3) Third-party checks are not accepted.

(4) All payments must be made payable to the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

(5)(a) Credit or debit cards must be valid at least 30 days after any drawing results are posted.

(b) Checks, and credit or debit cards will not be accepted as combined payment on single or group applications.

(c) If applicants are applying as a group, all fees for all applicants in that group charged to a credit or debit card [~~must~~may] be charged to [~~a single card~~multiple cards].

(d) Handling fees and donations are charged to the credit or debit card when the application is processed.

(e) Application amendment fees must be paid by credit or debit card.

(f) Permit fees may be charged to the credit or debit card prior to the posting date of the drawings, if successful.

(g) The division shall not be held responsible for bank charges incurred for the use of credit or debit cards.

(6)(a) An application is voidable if the check is returned unpaid from the bank or the credit or debit card is invalid or refused.

(b) The division charges a returned check collection fee for any check returned unpaid.

(7)(a) A license or permit is voidable if the check is returned unpaid from the bank or the credit or debit card is invalid or refused.

(b) The Division may make attempt to contact the successful applicant [~~by phone or mail~~] to collect payment prior to voiding the license or permit.

(8)(a) A license or permit received by a person shall be deemed invalid if payment for that license or permit is not received, or a check is returned unpaid from the bank, or the credit or debit card is invalid or refused.

(b) A person must notify the division of any change of credit or debit card numbers if the credit or debit card is invalid or refused.

(9) Hunting with a permit where payment has not been received for that permit constitutes a violation of hunting without a valid permit.

(10) The division may require a money order or cashier's check to correct payment for a license, permit, or certificate of registration.

(11) Any person who fails to pay the required fee for any wildlife document, shall be ineligible to obtain any other wildlife document until the delinquent fees and associated collection costs are paid.

(12) The Division may take any of the following actions when a wildlife document is voided for nonpayment or remains unissued and unpaid;

(a) reissue the wildlife document using the alternate drawing list for that document;

(b) reissue the wildlife document over-the-counter; or

(c) elect to withhold the wildlife document from reissuance.

(13) The Division may reinstate the applicant's bonus points or preference points and waive waiting periods, where applicable, when:

(a) voiding a permit in accordance with this section and the permit is reallocated;

(b) withholding a wildlife document from a successful applicant for nonpayment and the permit is reallocated; or

(c) full payment is received by the successful applicant on a voided or withheld wildlife document that is not reallocated.

R657-42-9. Assessment of Late Fees.

(1) Any wildlife application submitted under the Utah Administrative Code Rules provided in Subsection (a) through (e), within 30 days of the applicable application

deadline established in such rules, in the guidebooks of the Wildlife Board, or by the division may be processed only upon payment of a late fee as provided by the approved fee schedule.

- (a) R657-52, Commercial Harvesting of Brine Shrimp and Brine Shrimp Eggs;
- (b) R657-21, Cooperative Wildlife Management Units for Small Game;
- (c) R657-22, Commercial Hunting Areas;
- (d) R657-37, Cooperative Wildlife Management Units for Big Game; or
- (e) R657-43, Landowner Permits.

(2) Any person who fails to report their Big Game hunt information pursuant to R657-5 Taking Big Game, within 30 calendar days of the ending season date for their once-in-a-lifetime, premium limited entry, limited entry, or cooperative wildlife management unit hunt may apply for a Big Game permit or bonus point in the following year provided:

(a) the survey is completed and submitted to the division [~~at least 5 days~~] prior to the close of the Big Game application period established in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(b) the late fee established in the approved fee schedule is paid to the Division [~~through the 1-800 number listed in the guidebooks of the Wildlife Board for taking big game~~].

(c) The accepted method of payment of fee is only a credit or debit card

(3) Any person who fails to report their Swan hunt information pursuant to R657-9-7, within 30 calendar days of the ending season date for their Swan hunt may apply for a Swan permit in the following year provided:

(a) the survey is completed and submitted to the division [~~at least 5 days~~] prior to the close of the Swan application period established in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking waterfowl.

(b) the late fee established in the approved fee schedule is paid to the Division [~~through the 1-800 number listed in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking waterfowl or through the division website~~].

(c) The accepted method of payment of fee is only a credit or debit card.

R657-42-11. Surrender of Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit~~[-or]~~, Limited Entry Landowner, and Conservation Permits After Vouchers Have Been Redeemed.

(1) A person who has redeemed a voucher and obtained a CWMU~~[-or]~~, limited entry landowner, or conservation permit may surrender the permit after the deadline provided in Subsection R657-42-4(3) for CWMU permits [~~and~~or] after the season opening date for limited entry landowner permits or conservation permits, for the purpose of:

(a) death in accordance with Section 23-19-38, Subsection (2) and Section R657-42-5(4);

(b) injury or illness in accordance with Section 23-19-38 and Subsection (2);

(c) deployment or mobilization in the interest of national defense or national emergency in accordance with Section 23-19-38.2 and Subsection (2); or

(d) an error occurring in issuing the permit in accordance with Subsection (2) and Rule R657-50.

(2)(a) The permittee and the landowner association operator or affiliated conservation organization must sign an affidavit stating that the permittee has not participated in any hunting activity.

(b) The permittee and landowner association operator or affiliated conservation organization signatures must be notarized.

(c) The affidavit and unused permit must be submitted to the division.

(3)(a) The division may reissue a voucher to a landowner association operator or conservation organization, or reallocate a surrendered permit in accordance with Section 23-19-38 and as provided in Subsections (b) and (c).

(b) The division may reallocate a surrendered permit:

(i) originally issued by the division through the big game drawing process in accordance with Section R657-42-6; or

(ii) originally issued by the division through a voucher redemption in the form of a new voucher issued to the landowner association operator or to the affiliated conservation organization.

(c) Reissuance of vouchers or reallocation of permits under this section may only occur in the year in which the surrendered permit was valid.

KEY: wildlife, permits

Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: March 16, 2015

Notice of Continuation: April 12, 2018

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 23-19-1; 23-19-38; 23-19-38.2

R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources. R657-57. Division Variance Rule.

R657-57-1. Purpose and Authority.

(1) Under authority of Sections 23-14-18 and 23-14-19 this rule is established to provide authority, standards and procedures for granting remedial relief to persons precluded from obtaining or using a wildlife document because of an event or condition beyond their control.

R657-57-4. Division Variance Authority Scope.

(1)(a) The Division may grant a season extension variance extending the hunting season on an applicant's wildlife document to the same or substantially similar hunt in the following year, provided:

(i) the variance request involves a wildlife document for

a: (A) once-in-a-lifetime hunt under R657-5;

(B) conservation permit hunt under R657-41;

(C) limited entry landowner permit hunt under R657-43;

(D) poaching-reported reward permit hunt under R657-5; ~~[or]~~

(E) CWMU hunt obtained through the operator or landowner under R657-37-~~9~~; 9; or

(F) a wildlife exposition permit under R657-55;

(ii) the applicant was substantially precluded during the prescribed hunting season from using a wildlife document because of a qualifying event or condition set forth in R657-57-6; and

(A) the qualifying event or condition was not the result of the applicant's willful misconduct or gross negligent acts or omissions; and

(B) the applicant was unsuccessful in harvesting an animal for which the wildlife document was issued; and

(iii) the season extension occurs the following year and is restricted to the same species, gender, unit, weapon type, and season as the original wildlife document;

(iv) any changes in unit descriptions and season dates in the extension year are applied; and

(v) the variance is otherwise requested and issued in compliance with the standards, requirements and procedures set forth in this rule.

(b) Any waiting period associated with a wildlife document for which a season extension variance is granted begins on the date the original wildlife document is obtained.

[(2)(a) The Division may grant a variance by restoring forfeited bonus points and waiving an incurred waiting period, provided:

(i) the variance request involves a wildlife document for

a: (A) limited entry hunt or once-in-a-lifetime hunt; or

(B) any other hunt that triggers a waiting period to participate in a Division administered drawing;

(ii) the applicant was substantially precluded during the prescribed hunting season from using a wildlife document because of a qualifying event or condition set forth in R657-57-6; and

(A) the qualifying event or condition was not the result of the applicant's willful misconduct or gross negligent acts or omissions; and

(B) the applicant was unsuccessful in harvesting an animal for which the wildlife document was issued; and

(iii) the variance is otherwise requested and issued in compliance with the standards, requirements and procedures set forth in this rule.

(b) The Division may not restore a bonus point on a wildlife document that did not cause a bonus point forfeiture.

(3)(a) The Division may grant a variance by restoring forfeited preference points, provided:

(i) the variance request involves a wildlife document obtained through a Division administered drawing and for which preference points are awarded to unsuccessful applicants and forfeited by successful applicants;

(ii) the applicant was substantially precluded during the prescribed hunting season from using a wildlife document because of a qualifying event or condition set forth in R657-57-6; and

(A) the qualifying event or condition was not the result of the applicant's willful misconduct or gross negligent acts or omissions; and

(B) the applicant was unsuccessful in harvesting an animal for which the wildlife document was issued; and

(iii) the variance is otherwise requested and issued in compliance with the standards, requirements and procedures set forth in this rule.

(4)(a) The Division may grant a variance by awarding a bonus or preference point to a person who filed an untimely wildlife document application in a Division administered drawing, provided:

(i) the variance request involves a wildlife document for any hunt identified in Subsections (2)(a)(i) or (3)(a)(i);

(ii) the applicant was significantly impaired from filing a timely application in a Division administered drawing because of a qualifying event or condition set forth in R657-57-6;

(iii) the untimely application was rejected and a bonus or preference point was not awarded for the selected species;

(iv) the applicant would have been eligible to receive the bonus or preference point had the application been timely filed; and

(v) the variance is otherwise requested and issued in compliance with the standards, requirements and procedures set forth in this rule.

~~(5) A Division administered drawing for purposes of subsection (2) does not include a drawing conducted at a wildlife exposition pursuant to R657-55-1)(a) An individual applying for a variance on a permit awarded through a Division administered drawing may only apply for and receive one season extension variance for each permit received.~~

(b) An individual applying for a variance on a Conservation permit, CWMU permit redeemed from a private voucher, or a Limited Entry Landowner Permit,

may apply for and receive a maximum of two season extension variances for each permit received.

(c) An individual who has already been provided the maximum number of season extensions for their relevant permit, but who is still unable to hunt, is limited to restoration of preference or bonus points, a refund, or both, so long as they otherwise qualify.

(d) An individual receiving a variance for a CWMU permit or Limited Entry Landowner permit redeemed from a private voucher must receive permission from the CWMU Operator or respective landowner to hunt during the variance period.

(6)(a) A Division administered drawing for purposes of subsections (2) and (5) do not include a drawing conducted at a wildlife convention pursuant to R657-55.

(b) Permits distributed through a wildlife exposition pursuant to R657-55 are eligible for the same variance relief and are subject to the same variance restrictions as permits distributed via a Division administered drawing.

~~(6)~~(7) The Division may not refund wildlife document fees, except as authorized in

Sections 23-19-38, 23-19-38.2 and R657-42-5.

R657-57-8. Division Variance Committee.

(1) The Division ~~[will:—]~~shall establish a variance committee consisting of the Wildlife Chief, Administrative Services Chief, Licensing Coordinator, and Rules Coordinator, or their designees, which shall:

- (a) review variance applications submitted to the Division pursuant to this rule;
- (b) determine facts relative to variance requests;
- (c) apply the provisions of this rule to relevant facts; and
- (d) grant or deny variance requests in accordance with this rule.

(2) Any variance request granted or denied shall be reviewed and approved by the Division director/designee before notice of decision is provided to the variance request applicant.

R657-57-9. Variance Denial.

(1) The variance committee and Division director shall deny a variance request where the applicant:

- (a) fails to satisfy the variance criteria set forth in this rule;
- (b) is under a judicial or administrative order suspending his/her Utah hunting privileges for the species at the time:
 - (i) the variance request is filed or at any time during ~~[an]~~a extension season; or
 - (ii) the wildlife document application period expired for a bonus or preference point variance;
- (c) was legally ineligible to receive or use the wildlife document for which a season extension variance is sought;
- (d) is legally ineligible to hunt during the extension season;
- (e) is legally ineligible to use the weapon type authorized by the wildlife document during the original hunting season or the extension

season;

(f) provides false or misleading information on a material fact in the variance request application; or

(g) provides false or misleading information on a material fact in a previous variance request application.

(2) The Division may deny a variance request when it is contrary to sound public policy, wildlife management objectives, Division policies and interests, or the interests sought to be served by this rule.

R657-57-10. Wildlife Board Appeals.

(1) A person may appeal the Division's decision on a variance application to the Wildlife Board pursuant to the requirements of this rule. The appeal request must be in writing and received by the Division within 30 calendar days of the issuance date on the Division's decision.

(2) The appeal shall contain the following information and documentation: (a) name, address and telephone number of the petitioner;

(b) a statement of the variance relief sought and justification for the relief;

(c) a description of the wildlife document application for which the variance is sought, including the document number, species and sex, season dates, and weapon type;

(d) the original wildlife document for which the variance is sought;

(e) a statement describing the degree of lost opportunity because of an event or condition; and

(f) corroborating documentation of the event or condition listed in R657-57-7(3)(d) and (4)(d), which may include:

(i) a physician's written statement;

(ii) a certified death certificate photocopy; (iii) a photocopy of the military orders;

(iv) a letter from an employment supervisor on official letterhead; or

(v) court documentation.

(3) The Wildlife Board may reject a variance appeal that is incomplete or that contains false or misleading information.

(4) The Wildlife Board may require the petitioner to provide additional information, documentation, or clarification in conjunction with the variance appeal.

(5) The Wildlife Board may set a time and date for a hearing on the variance appeal where the petitioner may be given an opportunity to address the Wildlife Board concerning the appeal.

(a) The Wildlife Board will provide the petitioner notice of the date, time, and location of the hearing.

(b) Failure to participate in the hearing may result in dismissal of the variance appeal.

(6) The Wildlife Board may sustain, overturn, or modify the Division's [-

~~decision~~[order](#) which is the subject of the variance appeal, provided the relief granted is consistent with the standards, limitations, requirements, and procedures in R657-57-11 through R657-57-13.

(7) The Wildlife Board will prepare a written decision on the variance appeal and mail a copy to the petitioner.

KEY: wildlife, permits

Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: August ~~[9, 2018]~~[21, 2012](#)

Notice of Continuation: ~~[July 31, 2018]~~[August 5, 2013](#)

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 23-14-18; 23-14-19

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.

R657-62-7. Group Applications.

(1) When applying as a group all applicants in the group with valid applications and who are eligible to possess the permit or certificate of registration applied for shall receive a permit or certificate of registration ~~where~~ if the group is successful in the drawing.

(2) Group members must apply for the same hunt choices.

(3) When applying as a group, if the available permit or certificate of registration quota is not large enough to accommodate the group size, the group application will not be considered.

R657-62-8. Bonus Points.

(1) Bonus points are used to improve odds for drawing permits.

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

(i) each valid unsuccessful application when applying for limited-entry permits; or

(ii) each valid application when applying for bonus points.

(b) Bonus points are awarded by species for:

(i) limited-entry deer including cooperative wildlife management unit buck deer and management buck deer;

(ii) limited-entry elk including cooperative wildlife management unit bull elk and management bull elk;

(iii) limited-entry pronghorn including cooperative wildlife management unit buck pronghorn;

(iv) once-in-a-lifetime species including cooperative wildlife management units;

(v) limited entry bear;

(vi) restricted bear pursuit;

(vii) antlerless moose;

(viii) ewe Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep;

(xi) ewe desert bighorn sheep;

(x) cougar; and

(xi) turkey.

(3)(a) A person may not apply in the drawing for both a permit and a bonus point for the same species.

(b) A person may not apply for a bonus point if that person is ineligible to apply for a permit for the respective species.

(c) Group applications ~~will not~~ may be accepted when applying for bonus points.

(d) A person may apply for bonus points only during the applicable drawing application for each species.

(4)(a) Fifty percent of the permits for each hunt unit will be reserved for applicants with the greatest number of bonus points.

(b) Based on the applicant's first choice, the reserved permits will be designated by a random drawing number to eligible applicants with the greatest number of bonus points for each species.

(c) If reserved permits remain, the reserved permits will be designated by a random number to eligible applicants with the next greatest number of bonus points for each species.

(d) The procedure in Subsection (c) will continue until all reserved permits are issued or no applications for that species remain.

(e) Any reserved permits remaining and any applicants who are not selected for reserved permits will be returned to the applicable drawing.

(5)(a) Each applicant receives a random drawing number for:

(i) each species applied for; and

(ii) each bonus point for that species.

(6) Bonus points are forfeited if a person obtains a permit through the drawing for that bonus point species including any permit obtained after the drawing.

(7) Bonus points are not forfeited if:

(a) a person is successful in obtaining a conservation permit, expo permit, sportsman permit, or harvest objective bear permit;

(b) a person obtains a landowner or a cooperative wildlife management unit permit from a landowner; or

(c) a person obtains a poaching-reported reward permit.

(8) Bonus points are not transferable.

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

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

(b) The division shall retain electronic copies of applications from 1996 to the current drawings for the purpose of researching bonus point records.

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

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

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

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 applying for a general buck deer, antlerless deer, antlerless elk, doe pronghorn, Sandhill Crane, Sharp-tailed grouse, Greater sage grouse or Swan permit; or

(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 for the applicable species are forfeited if a person obtains a general buck deer, antlerless deer, antlerless elk, doe pronghorn, Sandhill Crane, Sharp-tailed grouse, Greater sage grouse or Swan permit, whether obtained through [the drawing] a division drawing or over the counter, except points are not forfeited if a person obtains one or more of the following:

(a) youth archery buck deer permit;

(b) mitigation permits issued to a landowner R657-44, not including mitigation permit vouchers; and

(c) antlerless elk control permits.

(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.

R657-62-11. Corrections, Withdrawals and Resubmitting Applications.

(1) (a) If an error is found on the application, the applicant may be contacted for correction.

(b) The division reserves the right to correct or reject applications.

(2)(a) An applicant may withdraw their application from the permit or certificate of registration drawing by the date published in the respective guidebook of the Wildlife Board.

(b) ~~[An]~~ The division may establish time periods when an applicant may ~~[resubmit]~~ withdraw, modify, or edit their application ~~[- after withdrawing a previous application,]~~ for ~~[the]~~ a permit or certificate of registration drawing ~~[by the date published in the respective guidebook of the Wildlife Board].~~

(c) Handling fees, hunting or combination license fees and donations will not be refunded. ~~[Resubmitted applications will]~~

(d) If an individual withdraws an application and then resubmits a new application, the resubmitted application may incur a handling fee.

(3) To withdraw, edit, or modify an entire group application, all applicants must withdraw, edit, or modify their individual applications.

R657-62-18. Big Game.

(1) Permit Applications

(a) Limited entry, Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit, Once-in-a-Lifetime, Management Bull Elk, Management Buck Deer, General Buck Deer, and Youth General Any Bull Elk permit applications.

(i) A person must possess or obtain a valid hunting or combination license to apply for or obtain a big game permit.

(ii) Applicants must meet all age requirements, proof of hunter education requirements and youth restrictions as provided in rule R657-5.

(iii) A person may obtain only one permit per species of big game, including limited entry, cooperative wildlife management unit, once-in-a-lifetime, conservation, landowner and general permits, except antlerless permits as provided in the Antlerless Addendum and permits as provided in Rule R657-42.

(b) A resident may apply in the big game drawing for the following permits:

(i) only one of the following:

(A) buck deer - limited entry and cooperative wildlife management unit;

(B) bull elk - limited entry and cooperative wildlife management unit; or

(C) buck pronghorn - limited entry and cooperative wildlife management unit; and

(ii) only one once-in-a-lifetime permit, including once-in-a-lifetime cooperative wildlife management unit permits.

(c) A nonresident may apply in the big game drawing for the following permits:

(i) all of the following:

(A) buck deer -limited entry;

(B) bull elk - limited entry;

(C) buck pronghorn - limited entry; and

(D) all once-in-a-lifetime species.

(ii) Nonresidents may not apply for cooperative management units through the big game drawing.

(d) A resident or nonresident may apply in the big game drawing by unit for:

(i) a ~~[statewide]~~ general archery buck deer permit; ~~[or]~~

(ii) for general any weapon buck deer; ~~[or]~~ and

(iii) for general muzzleloader buck deer; or

(iv) a dedicated hunter certificate of registration.

(2) Youth

(a) For purposes of this section "youth" means any person 17 years of age or younger on July 31.

(b) Youth applicants who apply for a general buck deer permit.

(i) Youth will automatically be considered in the youth drawing based upon their birth date.

(ii) 20% of general buck deer permits in each unit are reserved for youth hunters.

(iii) Up to four youth may apply together for youth general deer permits.

(iv) Preference points shall be used when applying.

(v) Any reserved permits remaining and any youth applicants who were not selected for reserved permits shall be returned to the general buck deer drawing.

~~[(c) Youth applicants who apply for a management buck deer permit]~~

~~[(i) will automatically be considered in the youth drawing based upon their birth date.]~~

~~[(ii) 30% of management buck deer permits in each unit are reserved for youth hunters.]~~

~~[(iii) Bonus points shall be used when applying]~~

~~[(iv) Any reserved permits remaining and any youth applicants who were not selected for reserved permits shall be returned to the management buck deer drawing.]~~

(3) ~~Senior~~ [reserved]

~~[(a) For purposes of this section "senior" means any person 65 years of age or older on the opening day of the management buck deer archery season published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.]~~

~~[(b) Senior applicants who apply for a management buck deer permit]~~

~~[(i) will automatically be considered in the senior drawing based upon their birth date.]~~

~~[(ii) 30% of management buck deer permits in each unit are reserved for senior hunters.]~~

]

~~[(iii) Bonus points shall be used when applying.]~~

~~[(c) Any reserved permits remaining and any senior applicants who were not selected for reserved permits shall be returned to the management buck deer drawing.]~~

(4) Drawing Order.

(a) Permits for the big game drawing shall be drawn in the following order:

(i) limited entry, cooperative wildlife management unit and management buck deer;

(ii) limited entry, cooperative wildlife management unit and management bull elk;

(iii) limited entry and cooperative wildlife management unit buck pronghorn;

(iv) once-in-a-lifetime;

(v) general buck deer – lifetime license;

(vi) general buck deer – dedicated hunter;

(vii) general buck deer - youth;

(viii) general buck deer; and

(ix) youth general any bull elk.

(b) Any person who draws one of the following permits is not eligible to draw a once-in-a-lifetime permit:

(i) limited entry, Cooperative Wildlife Management unit or management buck deer;

(ii) limited entry, Cooperative Wildlife Management unit or management bull elk; or

(iii) a limited entry or Cooperative Wildlife Management unit buck pronghorn.

(c) If any permits listed in Subsection (a)(i) through (a)(iii) remain after the big game drawing after all choices have been evaluated separately for residents and nonresidents, a second evaluation will be done allowing cross-over usage of remaining resident and nonresident permit quotas.

(5) Groups

(a) Limited Entry

(i) Up to four people may apply together for limited entry deer, elk or pronghorn; or resident cooperative wildlife management unit permits.

(b) Group applications are not accepted for management buck deer or bull elk permits.

(c) Group applications are not accepted for Once-in-a-lifetime permits.

(d) General season

(i) Up to four people may apply together for general deer permits.

(ii) Up to ~~two~~ four youth may apply together for youth general any bull elk permits.

(iii) Up to four youth may apply together for youth general deer permits.

(6) Waiting Periods

(a) Deer waiting period.

(i) Any person who draws or obtains a limited entry, premium limited entry, management, or cooperative wildlife management unit buck deer permit through the big game

drawing process may not apply for or receive any of these permits again for a period of ~~two~~[five](#) seasons.

(ii) A waiting period does not apply to:

(A) general archery, general any weapon, general muzzleloader, conservation, sportsman, poaching-reported reward permits;

(B) cooperative wildlife management unit, limited entry, premium limited entry, or landowner buck deer permits obtained through the landowner; or

(C) buck deer wildlife expo permits, as provided in R657-55-6.

(b) Elk waiting period.

(i) Any person who draws or obtains a limited entry, management or cooperative wildlife management unit bull elk permit through the big game drawing process may not apply for or receive any of these permits for a period of five seasons.

(ii) A waiting period does not apply to:

(A) general archery, general any weapon, general muzzleloader, conservation, sportsman, poaching-reported reward permits;

(B) cooperative wildlife management unit or limited entry landowner bull elk permits obtained through the landowner; or

(C) bull elk wildlife expo permits, as provided in R657-55-6.

(c) Pronghorn waiting period.

(i) Any person who draws or obtains a buck pronghorn or cooperative wildlife management unit buck pronghorn permit through the big game drawing may not apply for or receive any of these permits thereafter for a period of two seasons.

(ii) A waiting period does not apply to:

(A) conservation, sportsman, poaching-reported reward permits; or

(B) cooperative wildlife management unit or limited entry landowner buck pronghorn permits obtained through the landowner; or

(C) buck pronghorn wildlife expo permits, as provided in R657-55-6.

(d) Once-in-a-lifetime species waiting period.

(i) Any person who draws or obtains a permit for any bull moose, bison, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, desert bighorn sheep or mountain goat [through the big game drawing or sportsman permit drawing](#) may not ~~apply for or~~ receive ~~an~~ [another](#) once-in-a-lifetime permit ~~[for the same species]~~ in the big game drawing or sportsman permit drawing [in the same year](#).

(ii) Except as provided in Subsection (iii), once-in-a-lifetime restrictions do not apply to obtaining wildlife expo permits for once-in-a-lifetime species in the wildlife expo drawing, as provided in R657-55.

(iii) Any person who obtains a wildlife expo permit for a once-in-a-lifetime species is subject to the once-in-a-lifetime restrictions applicable to obtaining a subsequent permit for the same species through a division application and drawing process, as provided in R657-62 and the guide books of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(iv) A person who has been convicted of unlawfully taking a once-in-a-lifetime species may not apply for or obtain a permit for that species.

(e) Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit and landowner permits.

(i) Waiting periods and once-in-a-lifetime restrictions do not apply to purchasing limited entry landowner or cooperative wildlife management unit permits obtained through a landowner, except as provided in Subsection (ii).

(ii) Waiting periods are incurred and applied for the purpose of applying in the big game drawing as a result of obtaining a cooperative wildlife management unit bull moose permit through a landowner.

KEY: wildlife, permits

Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: [~~July 22, 2019~~ [August 9, 2018](#)

Notice of Continuation: April [~~9, 2019~~ [14, 2014](#)

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 23-14-18; 23-14-19



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAEL D. FOWLKS
Division Director

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 31, 2019

TO: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

FROM: Lindy Varney, Wildlife Licensing Coordinator

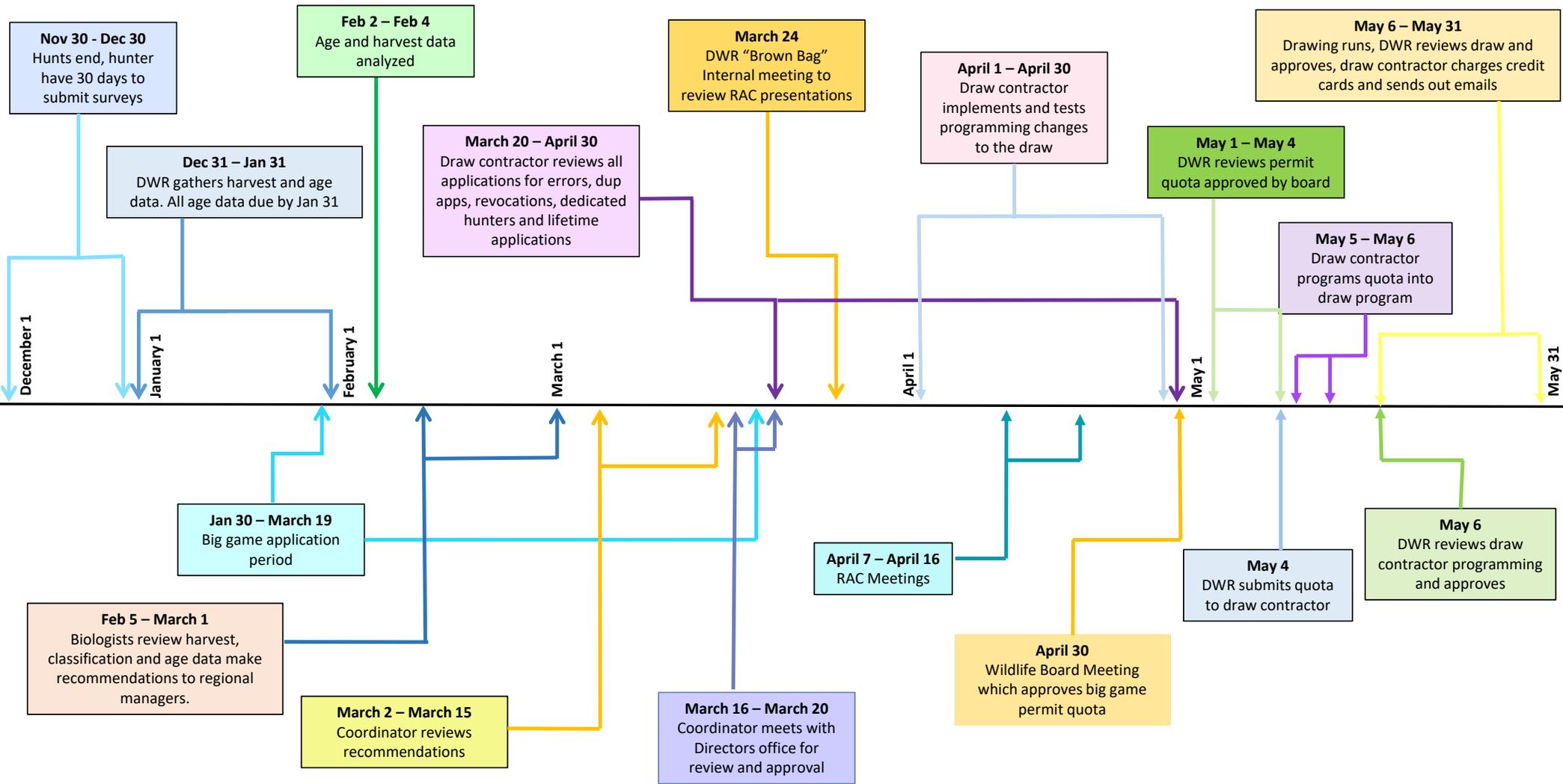
SUBJECT: **Big game application timeline**

INFORMATIONAL

The Utah Wildlife Board asked UDWR to research and present an informational on the big game application timeline.

The UDWR has reviewed all the necessary tasks to prevent errors and to make sure the draw is 100% accurate. After much research, at this time the UDWR recommends no change to the application timeline.

See back for a detailed outline of the big game application timeline.



October 1, 2019

Utah Wildlife Board Members

In response to safety concerns from residents, the Town of Castle Valley (TCV) would like to request the Utah Wildlife Board change the hunting designation from its current designation: shotgun, muzzleloader, archery, and areas of any legal weapon (see attached map Current TCV Hunting Designations) to Archery only in areas adjacent to residential parts of the TCV, and areas of any legal weapons (see attached map Proposed Changes to Castle Valley Hunting Designations - Archery Only Buffers). The Town is seeking to adopt Proposed Ordinance 2019-2- An Ordinance Regarding Hunting and Discharge of Firearms within the Boundaries of the TCV (this ordinance supersedes Ordinance 2007-7). It is felt that simplifying the hunting designation will lead to increased compliance, which will serve to ensure public safety. These safety concerns are detailed later in our presentation.

Please find attached digital files (hard copies to follow) these documents:

- Proposed Hunting Ordinance 2019-2
- 2 plat maps: Current TCV Hunting Designations Ordinance 1999-5 and Proposed Changes to TCV Hunting Designations - Archery Only Buffers
- Safety Reasons for Requested Changes
- Written Summary of Public Hearing 21 August 2019

In a follow-up email, we will attach additional digital documents:

- Utah Open Lands official statement
- Castle Valley Hunting Designation Survey including comments January 2019
- Public Comments
- History of Hunting in Castle Valley 3 September 2019

We are forwarding this information to all Southeast Region RAC members for their Meeting November 20, 2019 , Wildlife Board members for their Meeting December 5 2019 as well as State Representative Carl Albrecht.

The Town of Castle Valley thanks you for considering our request to ensure the safety of the residents of our town.

Castle Valley Town Council



**TOWN OF CASTLE VALLEY
PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2019-2**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH ARCHERY ONLY AND HUNTING AREAS
AND REGULATE THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS WITHIN
AND ADJACENT TO THE TOWN OF CASTLE VALLEY
AND REPEAL AND REPLACE ORDINANCE NO. 2007-7 AND ORDINANCE NO. 99-5**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Utah Statute §10-9a-102(2), the Town of Castle Valley (the “Town”) may enact necessary ordinances for the use and development of land within the Town, including ordinances governing: uses, open spaces, and considerations of surrounding land uses to balance the stated purposes of Utah Statute §10-9a-102(1) with a landowner’s private property interests and associated statutory and constitutional protections;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Utah Statute § 23-14-1(3), the Town may enact ordinances concerning hunting, fishing, or trapping so long as they do not conflict with state law and communities may close areas to hunting for safety reasons after confirmation by the Wildlife Board;

WHEREAS, the Town of Castle Valley is zoned into three areas known as the Rural Agricultural Residential Zone (RAR-1), the Range and Grazing Zone (RG-15), and the Geological Hazard Zone (GH) and is interspersed with and surrounded by land owned by the United States Bureau of Land Management (“BLM”) and Utah Open Lands, a Utah non-profit corporation which manages land for open space and conservation (“UOL”);

WHEREAS, currently the eastern portion of the RG-15 Zone is divided into two hunting zones, assigned by the Utah Department of Wildlife Resources for hunting purposes. Those two areas are designated as “Open to All Hunting Weapons” and “Open to Shotgun, Muzzleloader and Archery Hunting Only;”

WHEREAS, the RAR-1 Zone allows single family residential use and agricultural uses by right, which uses are incompatible with hunting activities;

WHEREAS, residents and visitors are at risk of injury from hunting activities using weapons within certain portions of the Town;

WHEREAS, the Town of Castle Valley Council finds and determines that hunting within the Town boundaries must be regulated for the preservation of the health, safety and welfare of residents and visitors;

WHEREAS, on September 15, 1999, the Town Council approved and adopted Ordinance 99-5, an ordinance regarding the Hunting and discharge of Firearms within the boundaries of the Town of Castle Valley;

WHEREAS, on October 22, 2007, the Town Council approved and adopted Ordinance 2007-7, an ordinance regarding the Hunting and discharge of Firearms within the boundaries of the Town of Castle Valley;

WHEREAS, the Town held a public hearing on August 21st, 2019 to consider public comment regarding the establishment of new proposed archery only hunting areas and to regulate the safe discharge of firearms within and adjacent to the Town boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Town, in open session at a duly-noticed public meeting, voted to adopt this Ordinance, which repeals Ordinance No. 2007-07 and Ordinance No. 99-5 in their entirety.

SECTION 1: DEFINITION:

As used in this Ordinance, “hunting” means the search for or pursuit of any wild game animal, bird or mammal with the purpose of capturing or killing or attempting to capture or kill the animal, regardless of whether such kill or capture is affected.

SECTION 2: RAR-1 ZONE

2.01 It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge any firearm within the RAR-1 Zone, whether said firearm is loaded with blank or live cartridges or other projectiles of any kind.

2.02 Additionally, within the RAR-1 Zone, it is unlawful for any person to engage in the act of hunting or to open carry an uncased firearm under conditions which may reasonably be construed as hunting, except as expressly permitted herein.

SECTION 3. RG-15 ZONE, ARCHERY ONLY

3.01 The western section of the RG-15 Zone shall be designated as “Archery Only Area,” as shown in the accompanying map, which designation shall be integrated into the office Zoning Map maintained by the Town. This zone shall be referred to herein as the “RG-15, Archery Only Zone.”

3.02 It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge any firearm within the RG-15, Archery Only Zone, whether said firearm be loaded with blank or live cartridges or other projectiles of any kind.

3.03 Additionally, within the RG-15, Archery Only Zone, it is unlawful for any person to engage in the act of hunting with a firearm or to open carry an uncased firearm under conditions

which may reasonably be construed as hunting with a firearm, except as expressly permitted herein.

3.04 Hunting by archery is permitted within the RG-15, Archery Only Zone, subject to permitting and regulation by the Division of Wildlife Resources.

SECTION 4. UOL, ARCHERY ONLY AREA

4.01 All land owned by UOL inside the Town boundaries and adjacent to the Town boundaries shall be designated as “Archery Only Area,” as shown in the accompanying map, which designation shall be integrated into the office Zoning Map maintained by the Town. This area shall be referred to herein as the “UOL, Archery Only Area.”

4.02 It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge any firearm within the UOL Archery Only Area, whether said firearm be loaded with blank or live cartridges or other projectiles of any kind.

4.03 Additionally, within the UOL, Archery Only Area, it is unlawful for any person to engage in the act of hunting with a firearm or to open carry an uncased firearm under conditions which may reasonably be construed as hunting with a firearm, except as expressly permitted herein.

4.04 Hunting by archery is permitted within the UOL, Archery Only Area, subject to permitting and regulation by the Division of Wildlife Resources.

SECTION 5: RG-15, HUNTING ZONE

5.01 The eastern section of the RG-15 Zone beyond the Archery Only Zone shall be designated as “Hunting,” as shown in the accompanying map, which designation shall be integrated into the office Zoning Map maintained by the Town. This zone shall be referred to herein as the “RG-15, Hunting Zone.”

5.02 Within the RG-15, Hunting Zone, hunting with any legal hunting weapon is allowed subject to permitting and regulation by the Division of Wildlife Resources

SECTION 6: DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS

6.01 Within the Town of Castle Valley, it shall be unlawful to discharge a firearm within six hundred (600) feet of any residence or building, except as expressly permitted herein.

SECTION 7: EXCEPTIONS

7.01. The following actions are excepted from the hunting and firearm regulations hereunder:

- A. The discharge of a firearm for the purpose of slaughtering domestic livestock or the use of a shotgun up to five chill for varmint control in such a manner that the projectile does not exit the property on which the discharge occurs.
- B. Nets, snares, Havahart-type traps or similar devices may be used by the resident of the property on which these devices are being used.
- C. Target archery is permitted if conducted in such a manner that the projectile cannot exit the property on which the target archery is being conducted.
- D. Discharge of air propelled pellet or BB guns for any purpose.

SECTION 8. ENFORCEMENT

- A. **Criminal Penalty and Imprisonment.** Every person who violates this Ordinance is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor and may be punished by a criminal penalty not to exceed the maximum class B misdemeanor fine under Utah Code § 76-3-301 or a term of imprisonment up to six (6) months, or both.
- B. **Civil Penalty.** Alternatively, the Town Council may impose an appropriate civil penalty for each violation of this Ordinance by a fine not to exceed the maximum class B misdemeanor fine under Utah Code § 76-3-301, which civil penalties the Town Council shall specify and adopt under its authority herein and as granted by law with a minimum fine as established by resolution.
- C. **Attorneys' Fees and Costs.** In the event the Town Council institutes an action at law to enjoin a violation of, or enforce, this Ordinance, including payment of penalties imposed herein, it shall be entitled to recover all costs of such action, including reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs, including filing, service, and witness fees.
- D. **Continuing Violations.** Each violation of this Ordinance shall constitute a separate offense.
- E. **Notices.** All notices required in this Section 8 shall be deemed sufficient if mailed by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, addressed to each violator at the last known address on file with the Grand County Assessor.
- F. **Cumulative Remedies.** The penalties provided herein shall be cumulative of other remedies provided by law.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY

9.01 If a court of competent jurisdiction declares any provision of this Ordinance invalid, the remainder shall not be affected thereby.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Castle Valley, Utah that the following Ordinance is hereby adopted:

See Exhibit A – Map of Proposed Designation Change

This land use ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Town Council.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Town Council of the Town of Castle Valley in open session at a duly-noticed public meeting on the ___ day of _____, 2019.

Those voting AYE:

Those voting NAY:

Those abstaining or absent:

TOWN OF CASTLE VALLEY:

Jazmine Duncan, Mayor

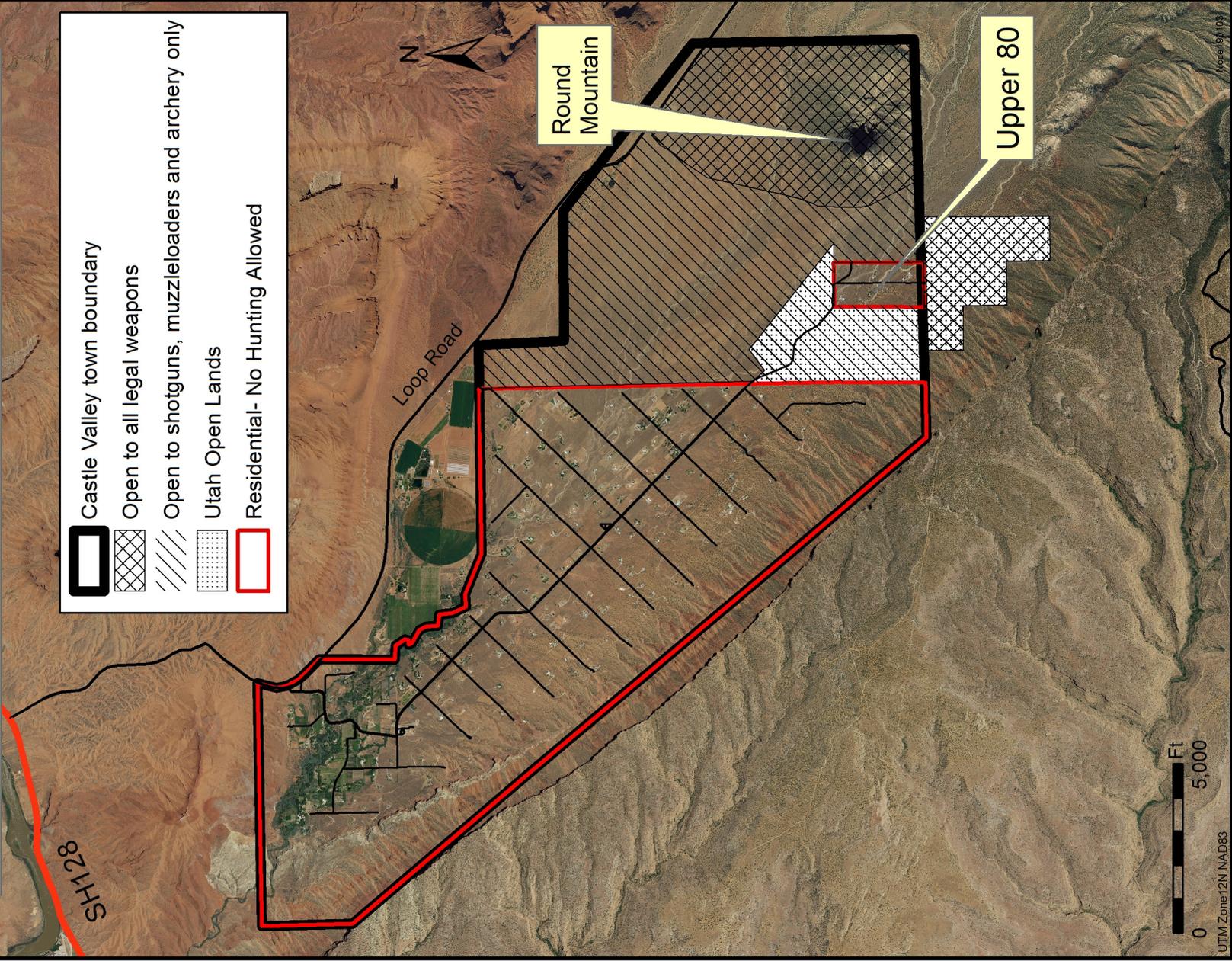
ATTEST:

Jocelyn Buck, Town Clerk

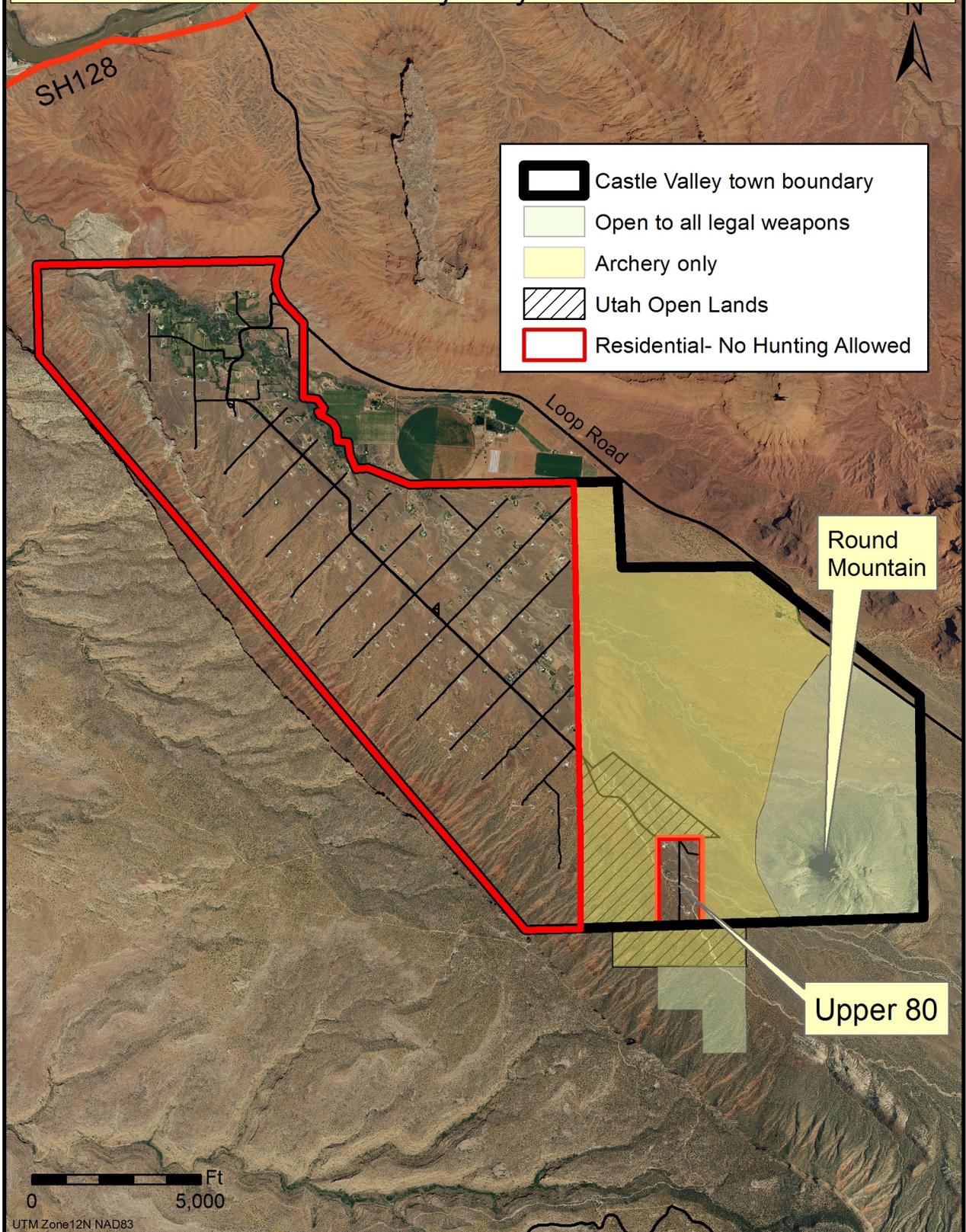
Official Seal of the Town of Castle Valley:

Current Town of Castle Valley Hunting Designations Ordinance 1999-5

- Castle Valley town boundary
- Open to all legal weapons
- Open to shotguns, muzzleloaders and archery only
- Utah Open Lands
- Residential- No Hunting Allowed



Proposed Changes to Castle Valley Hunting Designations Archery only buffers



Town of Castle Valley Proposed Hunting Designation Changes

Hunting Safety

The Town of Castle Valley (TCV) firmly believes that hunting & public safety can coexist so long as rational distance & buffers are established between residential & hunting areas.

The TCV is a comparatively small island of 5626.27 acres sitting amid tens of thousands of acres of state & federally owned land where hunting with any legal weapon is permitted. The lands within the TCV boundaries encompass 2 residential areas; the southeast end is primarily sagebrush & pinion/juniper forest that is increasingly popular with recreational users. The TCV seeks to establish a buffer around these residential & recreational areas for safety purposes.

Safety First

There is an existing state regulation stating that discharging a firearm is not allowed within 600 ft of any building. This distance falls short of the stated distances listed for various types of firearms published on *Know Your Rifle or Handgun's Range* WA State hunter education website. (Not everyone agrees these distances are accurate, but requests for accurate info have not been met; it appears Utah does not have a comparable list of firearm ranges.) It is felt by many residents & recreational users that 600 ft. is not enough to ensure safety from bullets, given the rugged, uneven terrain that characterizes the area & wooded slopes that limit visibility, and that hunting with firearms puts people, pets, & property at risk. For the safety & welfare of residents & recreational users it is felt that hunting within the TCV boundary must be regulated. Having the narrow strip of land between the residential unit known as the Upper 80 & the larger residential part of the TCV be designated as 'archery only', and having other lands surrounding the residential parts of the TCV be designated as 'archery only' offers the best protection for people, pets, & property while still allowing appropriate hunting to occur there.

Community Support

There is overwhelming support from TCV residents (see survey results & email response) to limit hunting within TCV boundaries to 'archery only'. The TCV has heard from several residents that for the last few years,

during which time the TCV posted 'archery only' signs in error, the negative encounters with hunters experienced by residents of the Upper 80 had markedly decreased. The Game Warden, Adam, mentioned that the sheriff's office had very few reports of problems for the last several years - hunters obeying the posted 'archery only' signs may well be the reason.

In addition, many residents state that they do not report incidents to the sheriff. There are various reasons for this, among them: fear of repercussion, they don't want law enforcement involvement, many feel that reporting such actions is a waste of time.

Breeding Population Protection

TCV lands are a de facto nursery for the state's deer herds, & adjacent UOL lands are Critical Winter Range for said deer. It then seems reasonable to protect the breeding population by limiting the hunting to 'archery only' in this comparatively small area.

Simplification

Simplification will increase compliance. Currently there are 3 different hunting designations in different parts of the TCV; even when people want to obey regulations, there is confusion. When people are looking for a loophole, this complexity works to their advantage. For purposes of simplicity we would like to see a single hunting designation, 'archery only', for lands bordering the residential areas of TCV. Signage must be clear & unambiguous. In suggesting some different boundaries for hunting designations, much care has been given to simplifying these boundaries, using natural & man-made features, to make it easier for hunters & recreational users to clearly understand where the boundaries are & what they mean.

The TCV wants to coordinate efforts & goals with UOL & DWR; we hope we are aligned in our efforts to promote safety first. We feel it is imperative to do the right thing BEFORE disaster strikes. It's not enough to say that nothing bad has happened so far, & if something bad does happen, then we'll address it.

The TCV invites DWR & UOL to join us in working proactively to safeguard human health & safety by doing what we can to prevent hunting accidents.

Written Summary of Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance Change in the Town of Castle Valley 21 Aug 19

Meeting began 6:30 PM with comments from the public

In attendance:

DWR representative Dustin Mitchell
Town of Castle Valley Council Members
Fifteen residents

Harry Holland read the document *Hunting Safety Concerns* (this will be attached, as well as the map & the proposed new ordinance)

Faylene Roth asked how much hunting takes place in the area in question (the area the TCV would like to designate as Archery Only) & how successful it is.

Dustin Mitchell, Area Biologist, answered that a random hunter sample showed 3 deer had been taken in the last year from this general area, but he could not say exactly where they had been taken from.

Mary O'Brien questioned how the state had determined 600 ft to be the safe distance that the rule (no shooting within 600 ft of any building) was based on. Dustin did not know.

Jack Campbell noted that people need to feel safe in their homes and on their property, free from the threat of any weapons. He advocates extending the no shooting zone.

Tom Wood inquired about the dates of various hunting seasons and also asked if it was legal to shoot towards a building from a distance greater than 600 ft. Dustin generally felt that shooting towards a building you can see is not a good idea but was not clear about the legality.

Archery season began last week and runs 17 Aug thru 13 Sept

Muzzleloader 25 Sept - 3 Oct

Any legal weapon 19 Oct - 27 Oct

Bob Lippman said he was speaking also for his spouse, Pam Hackley. They support hunting but feel it must be balanced with safety concerns. He related a recent incident in which bear hunters were firing shots on UOL (Utah Open Lands) land - he & Pam felt unsafe on their own land. Pam & Bob feel that 600' is inadequate for safety purposes and the distance should be modified. They support the Archery only designation and recommend that hunters be allowed to access hunting lands from the SE only to direct them away from residential areas. They would like to have additional time for UOL to be brought up to speed so they could provide additional input.

Laura Cameron has lived adjacent to UOL lands for over 10 years. In 2007 there were signs posted saying Archery Only and this was better. Now that hunters can use firearms there, she has felt terrorized by recent sounds of shooting there and would like to go back to 2007 regulations.

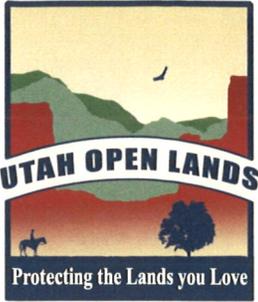
Diane Ackerman asked Dustin to repeat and clarify the various hunting seasons. He did so.

Tom Wood's personal opinion is that the Town of Castle Valley should post signs telling hunters that we would prefer it if they hunted elsewhere.

Colleen Thompson supports Bob Lippman's idea of allowing only SE access to hunters

Jazmine Duncan made the decision to keep the public hearing process open for an additional 2 weeks to allow further input. 4 Sept 2019 is the deadline for comments.

Meeting ended 7:40 PM



September 6, 2019

Jazmine Duncan
Mayor of Castle Valley
HC 64 Box 2705
Castle Valley, Utah 84532-9608

Utah Open Lands Official Statement

Utah Open Lands has concerns should the "Town of Castle Valley Proposed Hunting Designation Changes" not be adopted. Should the "Town of Castle Valley Proposed Hunting Designation Changes" not be adopted we are concerned we will be exposed to higher liability. We also have concerns regarding increased use by dogs and the impact of dog waste on the area. This could have a negative impact on conservation values.

Utah Open Lands agrees that hunting can be a useful management tool, and we are not opposed to hunting. We do, however, have concerns regarding increased firearms on the property in close proximity to residential homes, and the risk that poses to us as an organization from a liability standpoint.

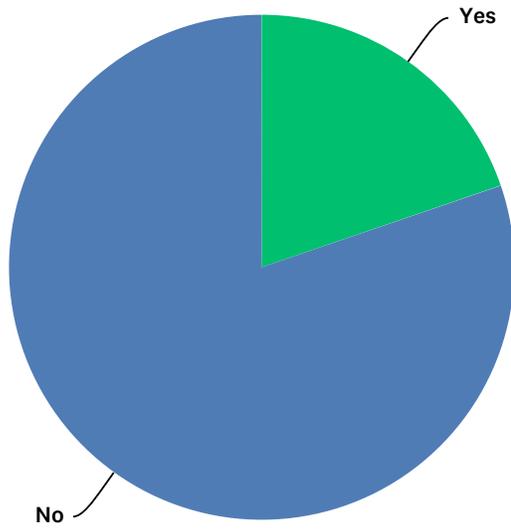
Sincerely,

Wendy Fisher
Executive Director



Q1 Are you a hunter?

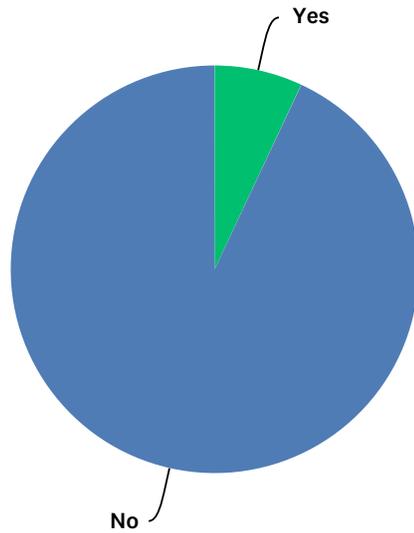
Answered: 86 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	19.77%	17
No	80.23%	69
TOTAL		86

Q2 Do you have a current hunting license?

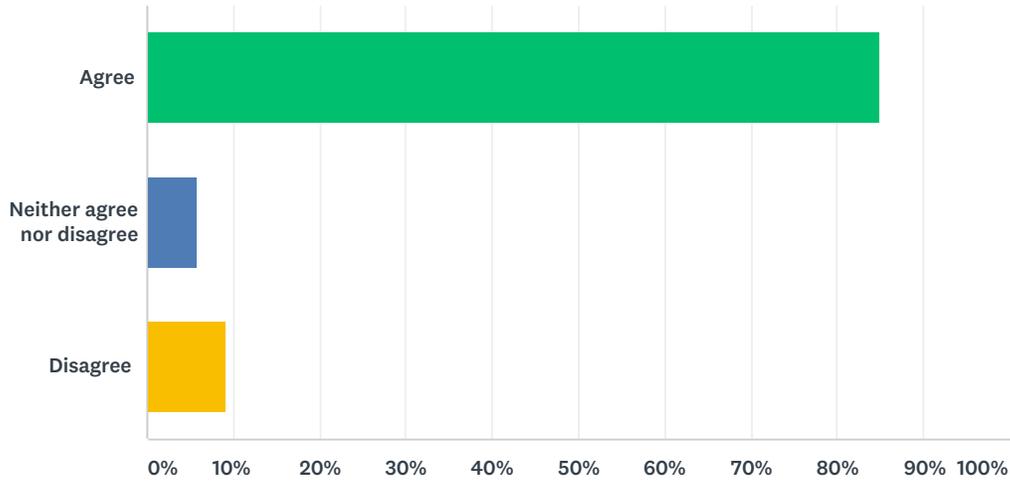
Answered: 86 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	6.98%	6
No	93.02%	80
TOTAL		86

Q3 In the hunting zone closest to the residential areas of town, do you support changing the types of weapons allowed from “Primitive Weapons Only”- including shotguns, modern and antique muzzle loaders and archery equipment- to “Archery Weapons Only”?

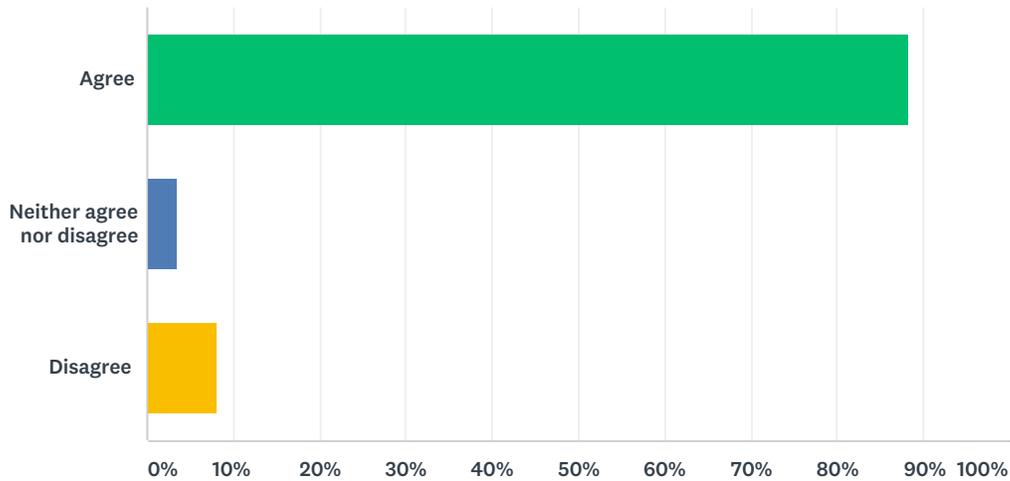
Answered: 86 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	84.88%	73
Neither agree nor disagree	5.81%	5
Disagree	9.30%	8
Total Respondents: 86		

Q4 Do you support extending the current “No Hunting Zone” to the area between Keogh Lane and the Upper 80, and south of Castle Valley Drive?

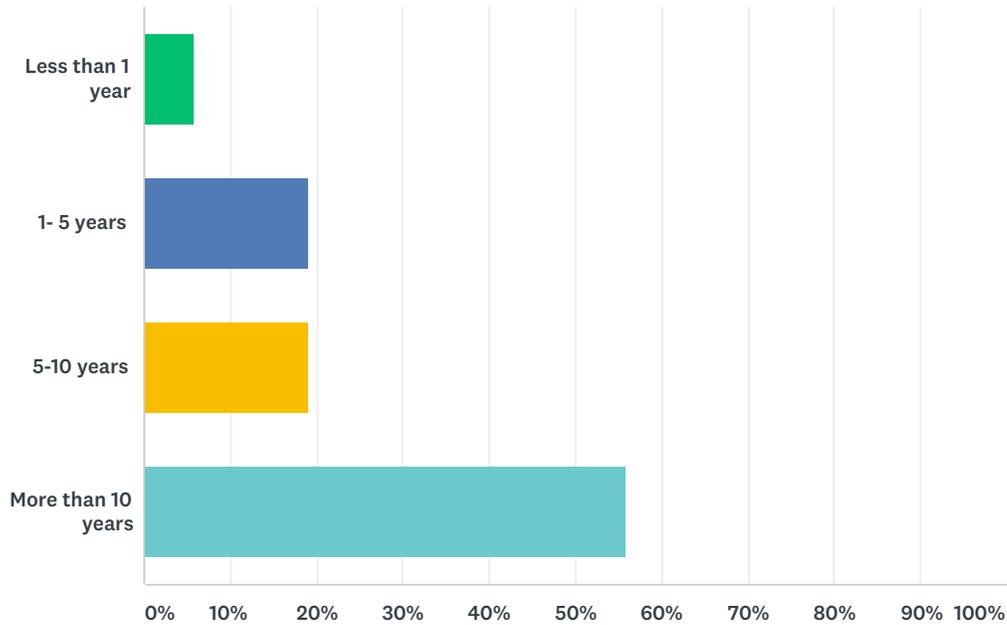
Answered: 86 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	88.37%	76
Neither agree nor disagree	3.49%	3
Disagree	8.14%	7
TOTAL		86

Q5 How long have you lived in Castle Valley?

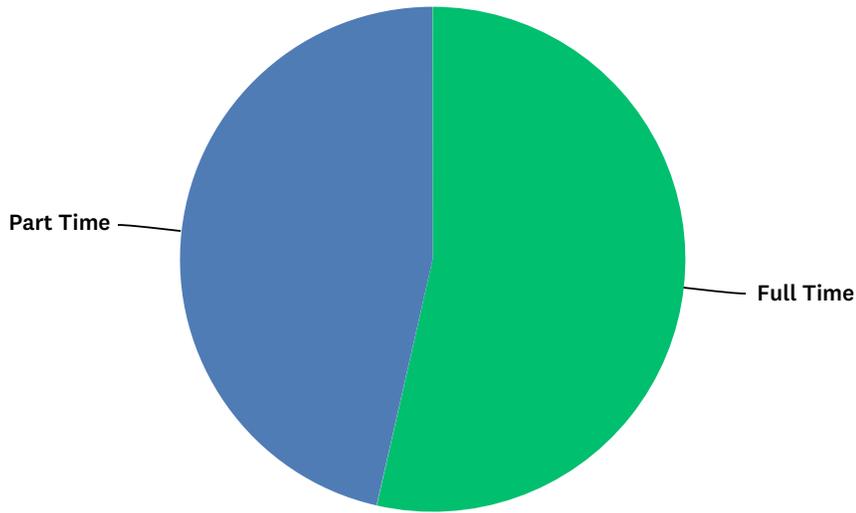
Answered: 84 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Less than 1 year	5.95% 5
1- 5 years	19.05% 16
5-10 years	19.05% 16
More than 10 years	55.95% 47
TOTAL	84

Q6 Are you a full or part time resident?

Answered: 84 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Full Time	53.57%	45
Part Time	46.43%	39
TOTAL		84

Q8 Do you have any other comments, questions, or concerns that you would like to share with the Town and Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR)?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 35

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The fire arm issue should not be pertaining to hunting only, but the use of the fire arms in general. Meaning no fire arms should be allowed in the residential areas, even for slaughter of animals.	1/11/2019 12:11 PM
2	Deer population too high	1/10/2019 11:16 AM
3	Please prohibit ALL tourist traffic and ATV/UTV in Castle Valley while you are at it.	1/7/2019 6:54 PM
4	I have reviewed the maps, both current and proposed, and fully support the proposed No-Hunting extension onto Utah Open Lands adjacent to and within the Town. The Town needs to consider how to restrict hunting access onto public lands within its boundaries by non-residents during the hunting season. Such incursion, by armed strangers, threatens the safety and security of residents. Surely there is enough open space outside of Town boundaries and accessible without trespass by hunters who are non-residents of the Town. There must be areas accessible from the Castleton Road for hunting, areas not directly in proximity to the Town. I support the proposed hunting changes to reduce the various risks to public safety. I reviewed the maps on the town website that show the current hunting zones and the proposed new zones. I hope Utah Open Lands and Utah DWR support these changes as well. My support is for reasonable public safety and an administrative process that should have been completed as legislated in 2007. My support is for a legislated buffer within and adjacent to Town Boundaries, for the protection of its residents and their property, including their livestock. Other municipalities, such as Emigration Canyon in Salt Lake County, have similar restrictions on hunting and the discharge of firearms. I would further like to share a personal experience with the danger of continuing to allow discharge of firearms within or in proximity to Town boundaries. In October 2018 I heard rifle-shooting for several hours but could not determine where it was coming from. Nor was I about to investigate ! However, another resident insisted that I was the one shooting high-power bullets in direction of his home. He claimed bullets 'zinged' past his house and that the shooter was definitely on my property. Because he felt threatened, and I "would not quit shooting" as he claimed, he threatened me by saying, "I am an excellent marksman and I can see you in your orchard." The point being that shooting in the vicinity of homes or residents who happen to be out within Town boundaries is dangerous in many ways. We are exposed to threats, unintentionally or carelessly, from target shooters, hunters, and foolish, misguided, unpredictable people. I appreciate you considering my opinions.	1/7/2019 2:48 PM
5	These are common sense changes. These new zones will help protect landowners, hikers, bikers, sightseers, and other hunters. I encourage the adoption and approval of the hunting change proposals by all regulating bodies. Tom Wood Lot 52 - Castle Valley,UT	1/7/2019 2:23 PM
6	I have come across many out-of-town hunters in the Round Mountain area. I usually chat with them but many view the area as primitive and distant from residents.	1/7/2019 7:47 AM
7	No but thanks for your efforts	1/6/2019 6:44 PM

8	<p>As you recall, this entire process to re-evaluate hunting in the Town, came to light when bear-hunters with dogs trespassed to access BLM/UOL lands from the end of the Castle Valley Dr. in the Upper 80 and resulted in a firearm being discharged very close to our home on Lot 365. This incident was reported to Warden Adam Wallerstein on the day while it was happening 5/6/17, to Guy Wallace – DWR SE Region Manager by phone call 5/15/17, and Town via letter dated 5/12/17. I appreciate that the Town is revisiting hunting concerns. As a hunter, I think that the proposed new boundaries for No-Hunting and Archery-Only hunting go a long way to improve and ensure the safety for both residents and hunters alike. These extensions are an important improvement to the Town's 2007-7 ordinance, which we thought was in place until the above-mentioned incident. And, these extensions certainly provide much more protection than the 1999 "fallback" ordinance presently re-instated by default. Historically, it is my understanding that the Wildlife Board agreed to the 1999 Primitive Weapons Only zone (in lieu of Archery Only) but verbally suggested that a 5-year Primitive Weapons-Only "testing period" should ensue to further revisit the issue if needed, to justify an Archery-Only buffer zone. After the 5-year period elapsed, and a growing number of safety and trespass incidents occurred, the Wildlife Board did in fact approve the go-ahead for a new ordinance incorporating Archery-Only, thus the passage of Ordinance 2007-7 which made findings and provisions as to the need for such a change in designation. The presently proposed No-Hunting extension onto UOL lands within the Town gives much needed assurances of added safety to all of us that live in the Upper 80 and Keogh/Taylor Lanes area, and those many valley-wide residents and visitors who use the upper end of Castle Valley Drive to walk, jog, dog-walk, bike, etc. Due to the widespread use of this road, it would make more sense to also include a portion of the east side of the road into the No-Hunting extension proposed for the west side, as bow-hunters could still be hunting at or close to that section of road. Additionally, I still see a few other areas that should be given these protections. I would like the Town to work with UOL, consistent with the Town proposal, to establish a small no-hunting zone & no access restriction at the cul-de-sac at the end of CV Dr. in the Upper 80. This would prudently serve to prevent possible trespass, restrict unnecessary hunting access from the Ranchos (as well as parking), and protect the adjacent to private properties and residences. This could be accomplished in a number of ways, such as a change in the present UOL hunting easement, a voluntary annexation of the cul-de-sac into the Town, or a token purchase. Commensurately, I would also like the Town to work with UOL to place what would be the remainder of UOL lands south of the Upper 80, beyond the cul-de-sac, into Archery-Only, but again, not accessible from Castle Valley Drive. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this process and much needed amendment.</p>	1/6/2019 3:43 PM
9	We support no center-fire weapons within any city boundaries.	1/6/2019 3:41 PM
10	If guns are allowed in the area, shooting distance from houses should be increased to exceed the maximum shooting range for allowed firearms.	1/6/2019 2:31 PM

11	Residents have compiled a long list of historical conflicts and risky situations with firearms hunting adjacent to residences, and have submitted these to the Town over the years. In 2007, the Town made findings of public safety risks, and passed Ordinance 2007-7, which established the needed "Archery-only" buffer. This still allowed ample hunting opportunity, balanced with the demonstrated need for public safety protection, although in 2018 these protections were lost over an apparent approval technicality or miscommunication. The present proposal, which includes Utah Open Lands parcels adjacent to residences, strikes a rational balance for all stakeholders, and a modicum of enhanced public safety for a significant percentage of lots, residents and visitors, and is warranted regardless of personal interests or desires over the specific acreages open to firearms hunting. The 600' rule is wholly inadequate within the context of modern muzzle-loader and repeating shotguns ballistics ranges (not to mention high-powered rifles), for reasonable public safety. Thus, as other communities in Utah have found and acted upon, protective municipal zoning is required. Although I do not hunt, my son is an avid hunter (and we do gratefully consume wild game), and I fully support responsible hunting as a legitimate and even necessary activity; but this activity needs to be balanced with the absolute necessity of public safety protection, the prevention of trespass conflicts and additional ATV damage in the Town's watershed, and the reduction of wildfire risk from firearms discharges, through reasonable protective zoning. The most vulnerable areas in Castle Valley include all properties adjacent to and near the fence line running along the east edge of the Ranchos from Shafer Lane to Holyoak Lane and the Upper 80 lots, the UOL parcel between Keogh and Taylor Lanes and the south end of the Upper 80 lots, and the cul-de-sac at the end of Castle Valley Drive which is owned by UOL. Residents in these areas have experienced very close gunfire during hunting season. Other areas in the northern portion of the Ranchos are also vulnerable, but many of these lots are on the town boundary, which would require a different legal mechanism of protection. Directing hunting access exclusively from the Castleton Road would also serve to protect residents along the south end of Castle Valley Drive and in the area of the "green gate" in the Upper 80. The network of roads west of Round Mountain would serve well (as they have in the past) as a recognizable zone boundary for access, signage and enforcement. Thank you for your consideration of the Town's very reasonable and fully warranted proposal to re-establish its weapons-regulated (archery-only) buffer and policy.	1/6/2019 12:37 PM
12	The valley by nature echos sound, the farther firearms activity is moved from residential the less disturbance there will be.	1/6/2019 10:34 AM
13	I am concerned about "supposed" hunters, lurking around in pickup trucks who don't walk and pursue game but instead shoot from the road or from within their vehicles. If the two-track vehicle ways in the area are decommissioned, then it will force hunters to engage in the true spirit of hunting. Also, passive on foot travel recreation in this area is increasing, heightening the need to end" drive my pick up truck to the big game and shoot crowd".	1/6/2019 10:05 AM
14	I am especially concerned about modern muzzle loaders since their range is so great. But any rifle has an unacceptable range so near a residential area.	1/6/2019 9:46 AM
15	While not a hunter, I am proficient with many types of fire arms and have tremendous respect for their power and range. In any residential area there shouldn't be any weapons used that have a destructive range further than about 1,000 yards. The varying range distances for weapons used need to be seriously taken into consideration to provide maximum safety precautions in order to prevent tragedies from occurring.	1/5/2019 8:14 PM
16	In favor of bow and arrow hunting in residential areas also! Anything to get a decrease in the deer population would be very much appreciated. Not aware of any accidents Resulting from archery hunting in residential areas!	1/5/2019 6:19 PM
17	I would love to see a ban on motorized vehicles driving through the washes. I support seeing signs directing all motorized vehicles to stay on existing roads.	1/5/2019 5:03 PM
18	I recall that the signs near town always read archery only. When and why did it change?	1/5/2019 4:41 PM
19	I run often a loop around Round Mountain on the Jeep roads. I try to wear bright colors during hunting season but worry nevertheless. I am glad that the town is considering implementing these changes on the more popular walking/running routes. Thank you.	1/5/2019 3:39 PM
20	Please provide data on the census of the deer population. They seem over abundant.	1/5/2019 3:26 PM
21	I am not a full time resident, therefore I don't feel comfortable taking a stand either way on the hunting regulations. If there have been minimal complaints with the current regulations, I would vote to keep them as is.	1/5/2019 3:06 PM
22	How far can an archery weapon launch an arrow?	1/5/2019 2:53 PM

23	No	1/5/2019 2:33 PM
24	I would prefer no hunting of any kind in the entire Castle Valley area.	1/5/2019 2:31 PM
25	living near the fenced BLM (prior State Trust Land) line, we have seen hunters with non-primitive rifles hunting deer and have witnessed shots (bullets) enter onto private property from hunters	1/5/2019 2:24 PM
26	I would like the entire area around Round Mountain to prohibit hunting. I like to go hiking out there and don't want to have to worry about getting shot with ANY kind of weapon.	1/5/2019 2:12 PM
27	What's the sense in having a hunting area in a residential area when the La sals are just a few miles up the road.	1/4/2019 5:44 PM
28	Not at this time. Thank you for the survey so we can all be easily involved in the decision making process.	1/4/2019 2:44 PM
29	I think keeping hunting away from residential areas is a very good idea. Thank you for doing this.	1/4/2019 2:44 PM
30	no	1/4/2019 10:59 AM
31	Please enforce stare laws that require hunters with rifles to stay more than one mile away from residential structures	1/4/2019 6:41 AM
32	I will send my comments to the Town and would like the Town to send them to DWR, Utah Open Lands and the BLM.	1/3/2019 9:55 PM
33	I do not live in Castle Valley but I am a property owner.	1/3/2019 8:45 PM
34	There are plenty of other places to hunt away from residential areas.	1/3/2019 7:11 PM
35	Appreciate providing opportunity to have a safer way to still allow hunting and reduce chances someone could get hit or have to deal with the noises	1/3/2019 6:56 PM
36	Where the residents of the upper 80s and along the town boundaries aware of the open hunting areas when they moved there?	1/3/2019 6:31 PM
37	Safety first!	1/3/2019 5:58 PM
38	There are plenty of places to hunt. Mixing hunting and residential is a bad idea.	1/3/2019 5:27 PM
39	keep our community safe by regulating a buffer zone around our boundaries	1/3/2019 4:21 PM
40	There are several residents who enjoy biking and hiking in those areas. It would be tragic to suffer loss of life due to hunting issues.	1/3/2019 4:13 PM
41	I would like it even stricter. No hunting at all especially in areas off castle Valley drive	1/3/2019 3:28 PM
42	The deer population is very unhealthy to high. Disease and starvation (a VERY CRUEL way to die) will prevail if the herd is not reduced.	1/3/2019 3:21 PM
43	We have sent a letter to the Castle Valley Town Council that's on record with our concerns for safety near the hunting area. We want the hunting boundary to be moved as far from Castle Valley Drive and dwellings as possible to mitigate risk of injury. This is a very reasonable request as many residents and visitors regularly ride bikes, drive and hike the road in this area. Any hunting boundaries need to take into account the energy and ballistics of modern hunting weapons.	1/3/2019 3:13 PM
44	I would like to extend the No Hunting Zone to all land within the entire CV border, as well as a safe buffer area abutting that border. There are plenty of places to hunt; why here as well? Too dangerous, including archery-only.	1/3/2019 3:03 PM
45	I understand why hunters would want to hunt near Round Mountain. When the deer move off of the mountain in the fall that is where they tend to yard up. However I feel that the area between Round Mountain and our residential areas should not be open to hunting. Archery only is a partial solution. I would rather that all hunting be illegal closer to our homes.	1/3/2019 2:50 PM
46	go away	1/3/2019 2:50 PM
47	I used to hunt, I am a gun owner and avid shooter. My feeling is there should not be any hunting within 1 thousand feet of a residential area. Even then, it should be archery only. There is much more other land that can be hunted on that won't be hazardous to the surrounding towns.	1/3/2019 2:49 PM
48	I feel if someone wants to hunt, go up the mountains. NO hunting of any type should happen in a residential area. Within the town limits.	1/3/2019 2:37 PM

49	I believe that Castle Valley should be held to the same standards as other communities in the state and that they should have no jurisdiction over public lands that are owned by state and federal agencies. If they want to regulate the greenbelt along the creek, that is their right.	1/3/2019 2:33 PM
50	We live in Castle Valley about 6 months out of the year, and are there during the Deer & Turkey seasons. As much of a nuisance as the deer are, eating our landscaping, I'd prefer that everything within the towns's jurisdiction be limited to bow hunting or even no hunting.	1/3/2019 2:30 PM
51	We support the town's decision to change the hunting zones!!!!	1/3/2019 2:21 PM
52	All areas within safe distance to residential (600') should be open to all firearms for hunting and recreational use in my opinion. Support our right to keep and bear arms.	1/3/2019 2:20 PM
53	I agree that primitive weapons should be changed to archery only and that the no hunting zone should be expanded.	1/3/2019 2:16 PM

Public Comments

"The subject of this e-mail is in relation to the 14-November-2018 Town Council Meeting and in particular the agenda item regarding hunting boundaries in the Upper Eighty.

For some background, we own the home on lot 352 Castle Valley Drive. Recently my wife Robin was walking our dog on a leash just before sunrise early one morning as she does almost every morning when we are in Castle Valley. Our dog Daisy was uncharacteristically spooked and pointing and refused to walk in our front yard - Daisy is not a pointer! Daisy stopped walking and wouldn't budge while she was sniffing the air in one direction and focusing on the area directly across Castle Valley Drive from where Robin and Daisy usually walk. This is the same walk she was doing with the grand kids just the week before. After looking in that direction and not seeing anything, and then some coaxing, Robin got Daisy to walk in the wash on our property. As she was returning to the house I met her at the door and at that time I observed a hunter wearing orange carrying a firearm coming out of the woods directly across Castle Valley Drive from our lot. The hunter was on Utah Open Lands walking towards Round Mountain. The hunter was in the same general location that Daisy had been pointing and she most likely sensed the hunter's location not far off the road in the trees.

Obviously, our concern with this issue essentially is that if hunters are within that close of proximity to houses and discharging their firearms, it is too close to people, houses and dwellings. A serious injury or death could be caused by an errant shot, or at a minimum property damage that could occur as a result of careless aiming and discharge of a muzzle loader or shotgun. Even if the hunter respected and followed the 600 foot minimum distance from a house or dwelling (reference Utah Code § 76-10-508 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-12) that distance is irrelevant considering the fact modern muzzle loader rounds have ballistic properties of thousands of feet per second at distances greater than 600 feet; it is a fact and well documented muzzle loader velocities are over 1,000 fps at distances greater than 600 feet from the barrel. These can be lethal velocities that pack a lot of energy. Our concern is that the Utah State law of 600 feet minimum from a house is inadequate when it comes to firearm discharge.

Request:

This is to request that Castle Valley Town pursue incorporating a change to the hunting boundaries and move them to in order to provide an appropriate easement to eliminate risk of injury, death or property damage from hunters in the Upper Eighty. We recommend moving the boundary and creating an easement of at least 1-mile or more between homes and the current hunt area to mitigate risk as described above.

Respectfully,
Chris and Robin Steinman "
"Warren Scott <castletower@gmail.com>

Reply all |

Today, 10:13 AM

Robert P Lippman;

Hi Bob. I've reviewed your information and agree with the need to better define current hunting zone regulations in Castle Valley. A few years ago I found a carcass of a shot deer just outside my east fence. The deer had a unique antler rack which I hauled into my property and put on a boulder.

Quite sometime later an individual was doing some work on my property and recognized the antlers from a deer he had shot and then tracked across Steve's property. I think he had shot it just south of FS

#!, tracked it across the Seventh Day's alfalfa field, and then eventually lost it when it collapsed near my fence. He admitted to using a high powered rifle and not black powder or a compound bow.

Further, during hunting season I frequently see hunters traipsing across the countryside just south of my property well within range of my house.

Even though I myself enjoy hunting and fishing, and perhaps because of my knowledge of firearms, I find the presence of these hunters so close to my residence to be unnerving as one never knows the competency of the individual hunter.

With all that said though, Castle Valley has a real problem with its resident herd of deer, which enjoys little pressure on its population from natural predation or hunting. So while that is an ancillary issue to the hunting boundary situation, it does need to be addressed. Otherwise, the herd will continue to increase and that will eventually present its own unique set of problems.

I'm in New Mexico for another day or so and won't be able to attend the Monday meeting, but I support the effort to better define allowable hunting weapons and the areas in which hunting is granted respective to Castle Valley.

Best to you,

Warren Scott"

"My name is Howard Renshaw, and I currently own Lots 367 & 364 in the upper 80 (across street from Bob Lippmann). I hope to build a home someday in the next 5-10 years +/-.

I do need to work on getting a Temporary Dwelling Permit so that I can ""camp out"" (or referred to as Human Habitation on the CV website) with my travel trailer that has an enclosed waste system. Currently just have it stored on Lot 367 for winter, but camp out with it down on the river last few years.

In any case, I didn't specifically purchase these lots so that I could ""Hunt"" off the back porch, but rather due to the location and I suppose 90% of the reason for buying the lots was due to the ""Amazing Views!"". I did attend the ""hunting ordinance"" town hall meeting a couple months ago, and as a result I learned I am actually surrounded (on 2 sides of Lot 367, and 1 side of 364) by Utah Open Lands, however they have different hunting regulations depending on what direction you face, as one is in town boundaries and other part is not. So glad I attended and learned the details!

I definitely enjoy recreational shooting, etc, etc, haven't been much of a hunter last 10+ years though. However any shooting I do, its far outside of CV town boundaries, and have no intention of shooting next to my lot 367.

I suppose if people were shooting all the time at the end of Castle Valley Road (on Utah Open Lands section, outside of the town boundary), that would probably get a little old noise wise, with echoes off the ridge..

I have found 2 brass casings (30-06 & 30-30) on my LOT 367 over ~2+ years, however they were somewhat weathered, so I am sure these were not fired recently by any trespassers... I suppose they could be 10-20 years old or much older..

Coincidentally my neighbor Bob mentioned to me about the Bear Hunting incident awhile back, and he thought they were definitely hunting on my property, chasing down that bear. Does make me feel a little violated and upset, somewhat... I would never allow that to occur on my Lots (also not legal on CV Lots). Since I have purchased these lots 3+ years ago I have never heard anyone shooting near me , however I am not around much presently, maybe a weekend each month or so at most...

Anwyays, hope this helps a little!
Best Regards
Howard Renshaw
970-403-9110"

"Hi Jocelyn,

I wanted to respond to the Town Councils pending revision to the current hunting ordinance in Castle Valley.

I am not a hunter but I am a gun(s) owner. I would not hunt anywhere near Castle Valley even if I were a hunter and would like to see all hunting prohibited in the Valley. There is no reason to have such conflicting uses (residences vs bullets / arrows). I am also firmly against any further use of Castle Valley Drive by hunters (or non-full time residents) on those infernal ATV / UTV racers. I have and will continue to call the Grand County Sheriff to report them on our community road.

Please count my vote as against hunting of any kind in or near Castle Valley.

Thank you,

David Harris
284 Pope Lane"
"November 13, 2018

Castle Valley Deer Hunting History and Previous Regulations

In 2018 the area bordering the town of Castle Valley (now BLM at the East end of River Rancho's proper), and North of the upper 80 was deregulated from what was thought to be "Archery only," and reregulated back to "Primitive Weapons" which includes archery, muzzleloaders, and shotguns. The critical issues pertaining to why and how the change came about has a long history, some of which will be offered in this letter. For details not delivered here, as well as clarifications, one can review Castle Valley Town regular meeting minutes beginning in 1994 through August 2017.

History of the change in status process:

In appoximately 1999 the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) was first approached about changing hunting regulations from the status at that time, which was "Any Legal Weapon" (rifle) to "Archery only." Castle Valley Town Mayor Bruce Keeler and I approached the RAC with maps proposing the new hunting boundaries. The RAC was mostly supportive of our request, with one RAC member opposed to the change. The opposing member compromised and requested that instead of "Archery only" the designation be listed as "Primitive Weapons." At that time another RAC member said if this new

designation did not work, the Town of Castle Valley may come back in five years to renegotiate for "Archery only."

About six years later Mayor Damian Bollerman and I arranged a meeting with SITLA representative Bryan Torgerson to discuss safety issues of the designation of the time, and possibly renegotiate the "Archery only" proposal. Damian, Bryan, and I did a walk-about on the SITLA lands. Bryan was all open ears and gave us the go ahead as a state representative, and to go ahead and approach the RAC with the "Archery only" proposal. We followed though. The outcome of that meeting led us to go before the Wildlife Board and present our findings.

Laura Kamala (who was at that time a member of the RAC,) and I went to the Wildlife Board meeting, held at the State Capitol building in Salt Lake City. We went through the proper procedure of being put on the agenda. I presented the case to the Board and they unanimously approved our proposal to re-designate the area to "Archery only," based on human safety (see the section "Reasons for the change from "Primitive Weapons" to "Archery only"). The following year our mayor at that time was supposed to follow up on this with the RAC so this regulation could be added to the Utah hunting proclamation. In the meantime, the Town of Castle Valley had "Archery only" hunting signs printed and established around the valley. With the new signage hunters thought we were officially "Archery only." However, since the process wasn't completed, "Archery only" status could not be enforced. I told this to the existing Mayor, but there was no follow up. In 2017, the issues concerning hunting designation came up again. Sadly, there is no record of the meeting Laura Kamala and I had at the State Capitol. Due to neglect and time, the "Archery only" status became invalid. So, we are back to where we started. The oversight put hunting status back to "Primitive Weapons" only.

Reasons for the change from "Primitive Weapons" to "Archery only:"

Regarding shotguns: people in Utah generally do not hunt deer with Shotguns. Most deer hunting with shotguns is restricted to the eastern portions of the United States, mainly because hunting occurs in heavily populated areas along with dense forested areas. A large slug from a shotgun doesn't travel well in wooded areas. The bullet is stopped by the trees. Castle Valley's landscape is wide open sage with widely dispersed junipers. There is nothing to stop the bullet, and the shotgun holds multiple cartridges. The chance of crossfire is imminent.

Regarding muzzleloaders: today's modern muzzleloaders are far from primitive. The only thing primitive about them is that they must be loaded from the front end of the rifle barrel. They are dead on accurate at 200 yards and can travel in flight well over a half mile. There is now a company (Gunwerks) that has developed a muzzleloader that is tack driving accurate at 500 yards, with a bullet that can travel in flight at least a mile.

Personal experience:

As I predicted, in one or two years after the new designation ("Primitive Weapons") the hunters began to show up in force with the muzzleloaders and shotguns, and just a few archery hunters. What I witnessed was absolutely appalling, and as a hunter was immensely embarrassed. We had folks shooting deer on private property using the above weapons. These were not vacant lots, but lots with houses, with illuminating lights with people living in them and doing regular activities such as cooking dinner. I witness a deer killing on the property where Laura Kamala lived on E. Holyoak Lane. After the killing which was very near her home, the hunter drove up on an ATV, blatantly loaded up the deer and drove away. There were hunters trespassing on other private properties, chasing deer off private land and then onto what was State/SITLA land (now BLM), so they could shoot them.

I have seen hunters shoot more than one deer - sometimes two and three at a time. Then leave them until nighttime and pick them up on their ATV's in the dark, or put other hunters' tags on the deer. With a shotgun and multiple shots, this is quite possible as evidence has indicated. I have witnessed two deer being killed by one hunter, and then the shooter called another hunter on a two-way radio to come in and tag the 2nd deer. Some hunters were local residents, and others were from elsewhere. Most of the prime hunting is open sage and most deer travel the same corridors that end up adjacent to houses and less than the required 600 feet from those houses. The hunters know this and move in close to the hot spots so they can stock and watch the deer movements. The area is so wide open, other hunters can see the same deer. The scenario is multiple hunters with different weapons moving in on one animal. In one instance I was stocking a deer with bow and arrow and had a hunter shoot within 30 yards from me with shotgun and muzzleloader. I must admit this was quite startling. I have encountered so many different and wildly dangerous scenarios...too many to mention here, but I could write a volume on the topic.

Now that we are regulated back to "Primitive Weapons" we will have more of the same dangerous activities and issues we had before. What will it take; someone getting killed while out hunting, or have a bullet go through their head while making dinner? We have joggers up and down the valley, we have kids waiting at bus stops early in the morning, and folks walking their dogs. In years past, with "Primitive Weapons" status in effect during the 5-year trial period, I witnessed hunters at the top of Holyoak waiting for deer early in the morning (still dark) while my kids were walking up and waiting for the bus pick-up. I approached one hunter (local Moab business man) at the bus stop, drunk out of his mind at 6:00 a.m., he was scoping the field with his scoped muzzleloader rifle, next to the road where my children were walking. I ran him off but not without a major argument. Hunters like this do not like to be confronted and they all have a gun.

It is important to understand I am an avid hunter. I am not looking at this from a non-hunter aspect, or for my personal gain. Over the thirty-four years of observing the Castle Valley deer hunt, it is obvious the "Archery only" designation is the safest and most sensible approach to hunting here considering the Castle Valley town boundaries, the "Upper 80" and on up to Round Mountain. With the town population continuing to grow in both hunters and non-hunters alike, dangerous situations increase with the current designation of "Primitive Weapons." In addition to human danger, overkill of deer is likely due to hunters understanding the predictability of deer movements, which in turn, is mostly associated with close proximity to multiple residents. There is no getting around it, other than to designate the hunting as "Archery only."

Evidence has indicated that in previous years when we believed we had "Archery only" designation, things were a lot safer. It was quiet, there were significantly less violations, and virtually no complaints from residents. The "Primitive Weapons" and worse still "Any Legal Weapon" (which includes high powered rifles) designations are no longer safe or appropriate for the Town of Castle Valley to tolerate. It is absolutely imperative we change to a safer designation. Therefore, I strongly urge the town council to follow through to completion in order to designate hunting here, including the "upper 80" in its boundary, as "Archery only." I will do anything to help, once again, with this process.

Sincerely,

Greg Nunn

.....

"To: Castle Valley Mayor and Town Council,

1/16/19

I would like to make a comment regarding making changes to the current hunting ordinance for the Town of Castle Valley. I was able to attend the open house meeting with the DWR, thanks for making that happen. I received a letter via email from private individuals on Jan 3, 2019 regarding making changes to the current hunting ordinance. The letter appears to have been sent to "strategic" landowners adjacent to the current primitive weapons hunting boundary, not all landowners adjacent to the hunting boundary were recipients, a bit curious. Contrary to accusations made in the letter, I feel that the current and past mayors and town council members did follow through with the intention of creating an archery only hunting zone around the eastern town boundary. I thank all of you for your efforts. It appears to me that the inability to create the archery only zone lies with the DWR, apparently a quasi-political state organization mainly concerned with hunting and the potential revenue that it can bring to the state and others. Concern for wildlife in general, not so much.

While I am not opposed to an attempt to create an archery hunting only zone in place of the primitive weapons zone, for me the current primitive weapons zone is satisfactory. During the open house meeting, it was mentioned by DWR representative, Chris Wood, that requesting a change to the primitive weapons zone could bring about having this zone revert back to an "All Legal Weapons Zone". Something to consider.

My lot (358) borders BLM land on the east side of the Upper 80. I have owned the lot since 2001 and have resided there since 2002. During my time of residence, I have not had conflicts with hunters being near or on my property. The East boundary is signed. In addition, I rarely see deer in the primitive hunting area during the hunting season as they are mostly still in the mountains, as are the hunters. Therefor I have to admit that I don't concern myself with the occurrence of injury from the use of primitive weapons adjacent to my property. I do think that requesting that the DWR consider allowing the "All Legal Weapons Zone" to be moved further from residential zones in Castle Valley is worth the effort. Related to moving this boundary, I have noticed that new signs have been installed along the road that leads from the green gate at the NE corner of the upper 80 out to the loop road. However, this boundary is not signed directly east of the Upper 80 toward Porcupine Rim where there is no road to create a visual boundary. I would ask that you consider a satisfactory method to visually designate the boundary for this area.

I think that designating the UOL land between Keogh Lane and the Upper 80 as a no hunting zone is also worth requesting from the DWR, mainly due to its proximity to the road (upper Castle Valley Drive) and that it is within the town boundary.

Again - thank you for your efforts,

Brian Murray"

I would like to express my concerns regarding the changes to the hunting regulations that were made by the Division of Wildlife Resources. This change invalidated the 2007 town ordinance that restricted hunting to archery only within the town boundaries that include public lands in the section of our Town that is commonly referred to as the Upper Eighties.

My husband and I live on Taylor Lane and our property is bordered by Utah Open Lands. At the time we moved to Castle Valley in 2002 hunting did include shotguns and primitive weapons. The reason that this designation was changed to archery only in 2007 was due to safety concerns and other

problems related to trespass on private property that was occurring. It was the understanding of the Town that this change was agreed upon by the administration of DWR at that time.

We experienced several harrowing incidents between 2002 and 2007 with hunters who were stalking deer and shooting guns in our direction as we were standing in our yard directly in front of our house. On one occasion there were hunters who were so close to our property that my husband was able to converse with them and informed them that they were very close to the boundary of our property. It was actually a terrifying experience to see hunters shooting their guns in the direction where I was standing. Needless to say, I did not feel safe and retreated to the inside of my house. We have a lot of big windows in our house and I did not even feel completely safe indoors. I was relieved when I was told that DWR had agreed to restrict hunting to archery only.

Now that DWR has changed the designation and shotguns and primitive weapons are allowed I have the following concerns

- Lack of information regarding the dates of the hunting season and types of wildlife hunting allowed. The website for DWR is not clear in providing this information for our particular area.
- Range that bullets from modern weapons are capable of traveling - 1 mile, 2 miles 3 or more?
- Safety issues for CV residents. Isn't the value of human life worth taking in to consideration when designating areas where hunting is allowed?
- Possible fire hazards from bullets during periods of drought and higher than average temperatures.

Suggestions to improve the current situation related to hunting within the boundaries of CV:

- Until the possibility of changes in the current designation might occur, DWR is requested to notify the Town of the dates of the hunting seasons in advance to allow the Town to post signs at the mailboxes and the impacted areas to warn residents, and visitors that come here to recreate on public lands that there will be hunters in the area.
- DWR, Utah Open Lands and the BLM agree to totally ban hunting within the boundaries of the Town. This is not an unreasonable request and this has occurred in other townships in the State of Utah.

Laura Cameron

Articles from Moab Times Independent

Moab Times Independent October 20, 2005

Laura Kamala Reminds Hunters of Property Boundaries

http://www.moabtimes.com/view/full_story/66346/article-Laura-Kamala-reminds-hunters-of-property-boundaries

This is a plea to sportsmen taking advantage of the opportunity to hunt with primitive weapons in Castle Valley this year, please educate yourselves about the legal boundaries for the hunt. Do not hunt on property which is obviously private without permission. There is no hunting allowed in the town, side streets are off-limits.

Last year I had an unfortunate incident on my place on the last day of the season, a deer was taken, after dark, and the hunter was criss-crossing my property on an ATV. Due to other illegal incidents which occurred last year, residents will be more attentive to patrolling their property and pressing charges for illegal activities. Don't jeopardize the hunt for responsible sportsmen.

Thank you.

Laura Kamala, Castle Valley

2005

Read more: Moab Times-Independent - Laura Kamala reminds hunters of property boundaries

Castle Valley Comments - Jan. 17, 2008

Greg Nunn is a sportsman and more specifically he's a deer and elk hunter. He usually uses his bow and homemade arrows complete with points he knapped himself from hard, cold flint found from only a handful of locations around the world. As a world-renowned flintknapper, who teaches his craft around the globe, what else would you expect a guy to use as he supplements his food supply during the hunting season?

But lately Greg has lost much of his inherent desire to hunt deer in Castle Valley and has developed a renewed respect and appreciation for our local deer herd and their well being. With the population growth of the valley, he has noticed the herd getting "pushed around" more aggressively by either clueless or careless individuals as they recreate on the state lands above the valley. The worst offences occur when people take their unrestrained dogs with them on jogs or hikes through a deer herd and let their animals chase the herd around unrestricted.

As an example, Greg cites a recent one-day scenario: Someone was jogging from the Quakey Shake Pond cross-country and broke up a herd, scattering them in all directions. Then a dog was seen chasing and moving the herd around. Then another group of people was walking across the land, again busting up the herd. Then, on the Round Mountain Road, people with dogs were seen moving the deer around for the third time and the dogs chased the herd despite efforts by the owners to control them. Finally, two adults with two children carrying .22 caliber rifles pushed the deer back up toward Round Mountain. The town ordinance restricts hunting within town boundaries with anything other than primitive weapons such as shotguns and archery and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) honors the ordinance and violators will be cited.

The deer herd is weak and vulnerable during this time of the year. They have endured the annual deer hunt, for one thing and the bucks are beat up from their rut and are now recovering, for another. Additionally, all of the does are now pregnant and their body fat is gone and they have few reserves for the winter. They must eat all day to maintain their stamina but sometimes there is little to eat because there is no new growth due to a dry summer or the ground is covered with snow.

This area is a designated critical deer winter habitat by the Division of Wildlife Resources and historically and pre-historically, the deer come here from all parts of the La Sal Mountains for the winter. The ancient inhabitants of this valley were here because of the plentiful deer that wintered here. Some of the herds live here all year but many return to the mountains as the snow recedes in April.

There is no law against the joggers, walkers and bicyclists who use the state land to exercise and enjoy the outdoors but Greg thinks people should be more respectful to the herd as the deer try to sustain themselves during the winter. The dogs are a different story however. The game warden tells us that they can, and do, cite dog owners for wildlife harassment for letting their dogs chase deer, and the offense is recognized as poaching and is treated as such. Fines can start at \$250 and go up astronomically.

"I could become a bad guy real quick," he said, "but I really don't want to." At the same time, he is not shy about going up to people and voicing his concerns about those who violate the law and disturb the herd. "Some will say 'not my dog' but they just don't know what their dogs are doing," as evidenced by

the free-roaming dogs he sees both day and night or when they are out of the owner's sight during walks.

"The new people moving in have no idea what is going on," Greg said, but some of the new residents he talks to are cooperative and try to change their habits. Others he knows to be environmental-minded people are living contrary to their beliefs and allow their dogs free reign of the deer habitat.

In the end, Greg is protective of the local deer herd and is very concerned for them and just wants people to obey the law. From his vantage point at the upper end of the valley, he notices these things. "It is just what I do," he said. But for him, the bottom line is to keep dogs on a leash so they can't chase the deer and try to time walks when the deer are not feeding along Castle Valley Drive and stay on the dirt roads in the upper end of the valley. "We are the encroachers here and we should value the deer herd, it is one of the reasons we live here and we should also respect the wild and scenic aspects of nature."

To illustrate his point, Greg remembers a message he saw scratched on a sandstone cliff face in Chaco Canyon some years ago that was written in 1929: "Once we lose nature, we will have lost what we have already forgotten." Something to think about the next time we enjoy a peaceful walk in our scenic backyard.

Read more: Moab Times-Independent - Castle Valley Comments Jan 17 2008

TO: Town of Castle Valley, Town Council
FROM: Robert Lippman
RE: Hunting comment synopsis
DATE: March 18, 2019

First, a sincere thank you to the Council for taking up this extremely important matter. My ongoing comments and observations are already a matter of record with the Town.

Second, as the Town prepares a potential action, I offer this synopsis of observations:

1. The Town has already made findings, as a basis for its 2007 ordinance, that hunting within town poses a clear and present danger to life and property. This is supported by citizen observations, and the evident fact that hunting even beyond the arbitrary and meaningless 600' "limit" from structures *per se* poses an imminent danger to residents and visitors. The matter is one of practical safety imperative and legal need, and not an issue over any public sentiments or desires regarding the legitimate activity of hunting itself. Hunting and public safety can coexist so long as rational distance and buffers are established;
2. The Town has thus already duly enacted legislation under its municipal police powers, to regulate both hunting and the discharge of firearms. It is viably arguable that these municipal restrictions remain fully legal *regardless* of any approval or lack thereof by the Wildlife Board, especially regarding the discharge of firearms, which is separate and apart from any DWR jurisdiction. As no court has ruled in the matter, Ordinance 2007-7 technically and legally is still enforceable law, and should be treated as such;
3. It is thus recommended and urged that the Town simply revise Ordinance 2007-7 with clearer, attorney-approved language, and accurate maps. If a town attorney is reluctant to approve such action, a second opinion would be fully warranted. The Town, consistent with the actions of other municipalities in Utah, clearly has the authority to restrict the *discharge of*

firearms within the *entire* Town boundary if it so desires and needs, and a severability clause protects the Ordinance from failing even if a specific *hunting* restriction is challenged. By all means, the Town should base its actions on what is needed and legally supported, as opposed to any perceptions regarding what might be "politically achievable" or expedient. An "archery-only" buffer zone, as established by Ordinance 2007-7, will dramatically reduce the clear and present danger to life and property; however, restricting firearms discharges in the entire Town will go a lot further to protect residents and visitors who are regularly active in these areas, and such a restriction falls outside the jurisdiction of DWR. It would also allow for much easier and effective enforcement. The revised ordinance should certainly be submitted for approval to the Board, pursuant to the regulatory process, but under the position that the Town's uncompromised actions hold authority and are intended regardless of response. If approval is withheld by the Wildlife Board, the Town should simply act upon the legality of the ordinance, and pursue notice, posting and enforcement, unless and until it is challenged and a court renders an opinion. In that event, a court will not properly rule that the Town has no authority over BLM lands for such purposes that are not in direct conflict with Federal law, and even if that were to happen, it would have national implications, and locally would "invalidate" many existing ordinances in Alta, Park City, Moab, Monticello, Price and other municipalities in Utah. It would ultimately be subject to viable appeal and reversal, and likely even force the state legislature to fix the problem in favor of municipal authority to regulate for the protection of public health, safety and welfare. Castle Valley does not stand alone in this matter, regardless of DWR's verbal assertions of discomfort with Federal lands within the Town. Again, even if a *hunting* restriction is barred by the Court, the ban on *firearms discharges* should still stand.

4. The Town needs to coordinate its goals and efforts with Utah Open Lands due to the overlap of critical risk area around the Upper 80 and Keogh/Taylor Lanes. In 2017 my family personally experienced and reported shooting from bear hunters on the UOL parcel, within 600' of our home. A creative mechanism needs to be worked out, which may simply involve having the UOL parcel annexed into the Town by agreement. The Town should explore the process for extending its boundaries in other critical areas of exposure, such as the Town entrance.
5. As a practical matter, virtually all residents and visitors within the Town of Castle Valley, especially along the eastern Ranchos fence line, Keogh/Taylor Lanes, and the Upper 80, are at risk of death, injury and property damage if the 2007 "no-hunting" zone is altered or abrogated to allow firearms of any sort. As a legal matter, it is recommended and urged that the Town maintains its intentions under Ordinance 2007-7, with clearer language revisions and maps, while recognizing that the ordinance is technically still in force and effect;
6. Some suggested language clarifications in the findings preamble to Ordinance 2007-7: First Whereas - strike out "State of Utah" (as no longer relevant); Second Whereas - add "a clear and present" after the words "are at," add "and discharging" after the word "using," and delete "certain portions;" Third Whereas - add "and residents have reported close-range firearms discharges and stray ballistics" after the word "Town;" Fifth Whereas - add "and the discharge of firearms" after the word "hunting," and delete the words "with dangerous weapons." Sections 1 and 2 should be evaluated by the Town attorney working with a representatives of the Town Council, for any potential changes. Note again that Section 5, the Severability Clause, fully protects the *firearms discharge* restriction should any *hunting* restriction be struck down.
7. Thank you again for your serious consideration of these practical and legal comments, and for taking affirmative action to protect public safety and prevent an inevitable but preventable catastrophe under the present circumstances.

Robert Lippman

CV Ranchos Lots 365/366

Submission for the Council Meeting re: Archery only on the upper 80:

Dear Mayor and Castle Valley Council Members,

I am out of town and will be unable to speak at the Council Meeting public comment section re: hunting on the property adjacent to the Upper 80.

However, I would like to express my support for designating 'archery only' outside of the Upper 80 portion of Castle Valley. I often ride my bike on those back trails, as does my young son. From the top of Round Mountain last week, I saw 4 other people walking in the area below me.

During hunting season, I am very concerned that someone could be accidentally shot while recreating out there. Firearms just have too long a range to be safe in an area that is used so frequently by hikers/riders, not to mention the residents who live in that area who are at risk.

Let's not wait for someone to be shot before this designation is changed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Tana Kincaid

238 Miller Lane

HC64 Box 2404 Castle Valley UT 84532

I own property in the Upper 80 but am unable to attend this important meeting. I strongly support the proposed ordinance to restore "archery only" hunting around the Ranchos boundaries. I experienced many unsafe situations on my land before the earlier "archery only" regulations went into effect. We need to protect the safety of our community by buffering it from more dangerous weapons. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Zinn, lot 353

I walk my dog in the upper 80 and around round mountain. I have often been very nervous about hunters mistaking us for wildlife. I'm against firearms in this area.

Patricia Ogilvy

Personally I wish there were no hunting in that area.

I am not a hunter.

I like to hike and walk my dog there, and even when my dog is wearing a bright bandana I worry that he might be shot (with ammo or an arrow).

Thank you! Lou Taggart

A lot of people walk and with their dogs around Round Mountain. All we need are flying bullets! Some people ride their horses.

I don't hunt and am very much against it. That is the last thing we need in this valley.

Marilyn Bradford

I frequently walk my dog from the end of the paved Castle Valley Drive on the dirt portion of road to the dead end loop. Many of my neighbors do the same.

I see deer feeding at a close range to this dirt road and often see many crossing all along the road in daylight hours.

On almost every walk we observe fresh deer tracks crossing this road.

My fear of hunting in this area is to be hit by someone hunting with arrows and/or firearms. Due to lots of juniper and pinion cover a hunter cannot possibly see the road which is lower than the treed ground where a hunter is likely to be.

Anyone living in the upper 80 is at risk also, in their yard, driving, biking and walking, etc.

I meet folks walking and biking 1/3 of the times I am on that road! And a few folks walk in the wash areas among the evergreens.

In my opinion there are just too many opportunities for a disaster.....

It is a beautiful, quiet location for locals and visitors to recreate and enjoy. Let's keep it SAFE also.

Sincerely, Linda Wilkinson

87 Bailey Lane

Castle Valley, Utah

Public Comments after Public Hearing 8.21.2019

Good afternoon,

The designated hunting area in the map shown on the town site should be limited to archery only and not include primitive weapons. We feel this is the safer option of the two.

Thank you,

Stephen and Susan Curtis

Hi Jocelyn,

This is response to your recent request for input regarding the CV Hunting Ordinance.

Robin and myself, as well as my immediate family which includes our small young grand kids and friends who visit our place in CV are concerned for their safety especially during hunting season. We are very concerned that a hunting accident can occur even while we are wandering on our own property which is lot #352. Also, with all the local folks and visitors who enjoy hiking and bike riding in the area during hunting season it is only a matter of when, not if, there will be a tragedy or damage to personal property due to a hunter's errant gun shot in the vicinity of our home even if the hunter is beyond the current 600 foot distance as required by the ordinance. It is a fact that the ballistics energy of modern weapons including modern muzzleloaders are lethal at 600 feet from the end of the barrel.

Robin and I do a lot of hiking and bike riding in the valley, as well as our family and friends especially on public land near and beyond Round Mountain; this area often has active hunting with high power weapons as we have personally observed during hunting season.

As we have assessed this situation it is our request the CV Council work with the authorities to revise and update the ordinance to make it Archery Only for hunting in and around the CV city limits to ensure no modern weapons are allowed.

If the current Option #1 complies with what we've described above, then that approach gets our vote.

Thanks for your efforts and support in this matter.

Chris and Robin Steinman

Castle Valley Lot #352

ph: 801-571-4835 home
847-790-6478 mobile

Hello Jocelyn

This is Howard Renshaw, I currently own Lots 364 & 367..I would personally like Option #1, however if that doesn't work out for us, Option #2 is fine also. Thank you for your time! Howard

Dear Jocelyn,

Sorry for the delay in getting back to you. We have not had any experiences with hunters in the past few years. We do hike in the creek, and ride bikes in the area around Round Mountain. We often see others doing the same. We are also on a parameter lot so we have some concern that hunting activities are performed responsibly.

While I don't think this was hunters or related to hunting, about two years ago we experienced campers that were camping north west of Round Mountain that were firing weapons in the general direction of Castleton UT. There were hundreds and hundreds of rounds fired, some fired in burst fire mode and some in full automatic mode. I called and spoke to the BLM Ranger Lloyd Rich, at the time who advised me that in Utah, unless someone is firing at someone else, it is pretty much ok to do that. He took note that there was automatic fire, but said they did not have the resources to deal with the situation. He felt the bigger issue was that they were camped in an area not designated for camping. The Sheriffs have been placing "No Camping" signs in that area and people are knocking them down and camping there anyway. Steve Heinrich and I have offered to help keep these signs up and the Sheriff said he would try to get some more signs to Steve to be placed.

While I am sure it was a lot of fun to fire off those guns, I know it is possible for one of those rounds to find its way to hitting someone. Depending on the round fired and type of gun, bullets can be dangerous for a considerable distance. With houses build close to the Town boundary, even a low power gun could hurt someone if discharged toward the town. Lead bullets decompose and put lead into the environment as well. We would certainly not want this type of activity to fall under what would be permitted by a hunting ordinance.

I would prefer to see a hunting ordinance that supports responsible hunting, but at the same time protects the Town from stray bullets and lead.

Sincerely yours, Jim
jim@woolaway.net

To: Town Council, Town of Castle Valley
From: Robert Lippman and Pam Hackley
Date: 09.02.19
Re: Revised Comments Regarding Proposed Amended Hunting and Firearms Regulation Ordinance

Greetings, and thank you to the Council for properly revisiting this process (and extending the time to comment) in order to appropriately address hunting safety in Castle Valley. Both Pam and I support hunting, balanced by reasonable provisions to protect resident and visitor safety, through evidence-based and objective means. Please refer to, and incorporate into the public hearing record our history of comments and observations in this matter.

The bottom line in Castle Valley, as reflected in the 2007 Ordinance (which I still contend is legally in force pursuant to the town's inherent and statutory power to regulate for the protection of public health, safety and welfare, regardless of any mere agency contentions to the contrary), is that resident and visitor safety is objectively placed in jeopardy by allowing the use of firearms within and adjacent to the Ranchos and other areas within town boundaries used for recreation and other purposes.

Justifiable "buffers" between residences and roads, and areas where hunting is permitted must consider modern ballistics range, which generally implicates a 1-mile safety zone. Historically, and as recently as 2017, residences both along the eastern fence line of the Ranchos and in the Upper 80 have been exposed to live fire well within that margin, and reportedly (including personally) even within the ridiculously unrealistic and laughable (if it weren't so threatening) 600-foot State rule.

Arguably the clearest and best way to achieve the goals of reasonably protecting resident and visitor safety, minimizing liabilities, eliminating trespass conflicts, achieving clarity of notice and boundaries for hunters, reducing wildfire risk, and optimizing enforcement efficacy, would be to simply prohibit hunting and/or firearms discharge within town limits, such as has been done over very large areas in other municipalities/entities in Utah, including Park City, Draper, Emigration Township, and most of Alta (which is 80% Federal land). We would again suggest that the Town consult with administrators of these other municipalities for perspective, if it has not already done so. The Castleton (Loop) Road, which defines part of the town boundary, provides the clearest demarcation landmark to achieve these goals. Consistent with this is the fact that Castle Valley ordinances have already duly prohibited the use of virtually all firearms, in most areas, independent of any hunting designations, and can easily extend this to include the entire town limits.

Having noted the above, the proposed designation delineating an **Archery-only** buffer zone between the Ranchos fence and the north-south "Round Mountain Road" (as per the 2007 Ordinance), and including the Utah Open Lands Critical Range conservation parcel within the town, is the *only* reasonable and workable alternative (to an ideal town-wide restriction) that meets the objective goals stated above. Designating an Archery-only buffer strip along the northern portion of the UOL parcel located outside the Town boundary, adjacent to the Upper 80 lots, would be consistent with this, and would be required also to consistently meet these goals; however, note that proposed Ordinance amendment Section 5 would need to be redrawn to reflect any agreement reached with UOL (and DNR), as that portion of the parcel is again, outside the town boundary. UOL has expressed its extreme concerns regarding safety and liability issues regarding hunting on its lands adjacent to residences, and as I understand, will be submitting comments and taking action reflecting such. The Archery-only alternative and compromise still allows and preserves the *full* spectrum of hunting activity and weapons choice east of the "Round Mountain Road," on BLM land within the town, and approximately ¼ mile south of the Upper 80, on UOL and BLM land. This ¼ mile, however, is objectively insufficient, given ballistics range and experience, and should be extended at least another 1/2 to 3/4 miles; or better yet, for clarity, the entire southern parcel. Access to hunting areas south of the Upper 80 should be limited specifically from BLM land south and east of the UOL parcel, rather than via Castle Valley Drive.

The second proposed alternative which would allow a Primitive Weapons-only zone between a narrow Archery-only strip along the eastern Ranchos fence line and the "Round Mountain Road" would *not* satisfy any of the objective goals stated above, as it would allow modern muzzle loaders and repeat-action shotguns to be fired within town limits and easily within ballistics range of many residences and Castle Valley Drive, and as it would be virtually impossible to delineate and enforce.

Given the above, and the history of safety issues and concerns in Castle Valley, it is *ideally* recommended that the town council at least consider any pros and cons of simply prohibiting hunting

and firearms discharges within the town, and work with UOL in extending the reach of such restriction (or designating an Archery-only buffer) where needed (south of Upper 80). Otherwise, the **ONLY** viable *alternative* would be the reasonable compromise proposed as the **Archery-only** buffer designation, incorporating provisions for consistent designation on UOL property within and directly adjacent to the town. In regard to this, please consult with UOL regarding their concerns and recommendations, and possible actions, *prior* to any 2020 proclamation deadline imposed by DNR for their arguably “courtesy” and nugatory review.

If DNR is already pre-judging what they will “accept,” we would submit that the Town should stand its ground with legal backing on asserting what is *objectively* needed, and what the Town’s powers are, and suggest/assert to DNR, through the Town’s attorney, that the Town *does* have the authority to regulate on its own, especially in regard to firearms discharges within the entire Town limits. That “bargaining chip” would then put the Archery-only buffer in perspective as the Town’s reasonable compromise. *It is utterly insane and irresponsible for DNR to require the Town to wait until someone is killed by a stray bullet*, as happened recently in northern Utah during hunting season, and the Town should not accept DNR’s false and warped “logic” that “no incidents have occurred” implicating a direct threat to life and property, “so no protective action is warranted.” Note also that the on-the-ground and on-paper situations in the above-noted towns in Utah directly contradict assertions made by the DNR at prior town council meetings, regarding protected acreage size, and authority to regulate over Federal lands within a municipality.

Lastly, due consideration and action will need to be taken and followed up on accurate and adequate notice and more appropriate (and less “advertising”) signage, as well as enforcement mechanisms.

Again, we thank the town for properly addressing and acting assertively on an appropriate, objective balance between hunting opportunity and resident/visitor safety.

Bob Lippman / Pam Hackley
CVRR Lots 365/366

September 3, 2019

Town of Castle Valley
HC 64 Box 2705
Castle Valley, UT 84532-9608

Dear Town Council - Thank you for providing our community an extended comment period for the Amended Hunting Ordinance 2007-7 until 9/5/19.

Bob (Lippman) testified at the public hearing on 8/21/19 and we have jointly signed a comment letter for the record dated 9/2/2019.

I am writing now to add, to the public hearing record, materials that I have provided to the Town on several prior occasions as we have discussed revisions to the hunting ordinances - 1999-5 and 2007-7, since the May 2017 black bear hunting with dogs incident we reported to the Div. of Wildlife warden and the Town, that set this process in motion. These materials clearly support the concerns and observations of our community over the years and bolsters the Town's necessity and authority to approve a town-wide designation for no hunting or an effective and meaningful "archery only buffer" alternative hunting option.

These items are included in total below. Each exemplifies one or more reasons to support and pass a revised Town Hunting Ordinance.

- 1) May 12, 2017 Letter to TCV from Pam Hackley Re: Black Bear Hunting Incident May 6, 2017. *This incident documents that a weapon was fired very near a residence causing grave concern; was likely within 600 ft of a residence; may have involved trespass onto private property; and demonstrates the need to address these issues.*
- 2) October 29, 2018 Letter from Robert Lippman, Pam Hackley, Greg Nunn Re: Comments Observations, and Request for Action Regarding Hunting Safety and Impact Situation. *This letter summarizes the issues around hunting and hunting designations in the Town of Castle Valley; provides a detailed history of the issues and passage of hunting ordinances; fully documents the need for passage of a revised Hunting Ordinance in the Town; supports the Town's efforts to pursue the revision under its authority through public hearings; emphasizes the need for enforcement and better signage.*
- 3) Excerpts from Castle Valley Town Council regular meetings, 1994 through August 16, 2017, in which hunting issues were mentioned. *These excerpts demonstrate that as far back as 1994, discharge of firearms and hunting have been a concern of residents; records citizen observations of hunter trespass; dangerous discharge of firearms within the Ranchos as well as near residents and people; that the Town Council addressed these concerns and issues resulting in the passage of Ordinance 1999-5 (Primitive Weapons) and the further necessity of revision leading to the passage of Ordinance 2007-7 (Archery Only); that effective signage is necessary; that monitoring and enforcement of hunting and firearms discharge is absolutely required.*
- 4) August 27, 2007 Letter to TCV from Robert Lippman Re: Hunting Concerns in Castle Valley, Utah. *Mr. Lippman served on the TCV Council from 2004-2006 and supports hunting. His letter documents safety issues during deer hunting season in the Ranchos and on the unincorporated Town lands; the ineffectiveness of Utah's "600 ft" rule in mitigating the safety of residents and hunters alike; trespass occurrences; specifically the inadequate protection of Upper 80 residents; increased ORV use that disturbs the quiet nature of our Town and has led*

to damage of fragile land; user conflicts; increased fire danger from ORV use and hunting, unauthorized 'social' camping and campfires; articulates the need for enforcement; provides suggestions to remedy the various issues – supporting the 2007-7 Archery-only designation.

- 5) November 13, 2018 Letter to TCV from Greg Nunn Re: Castle Valley Deer Hunting History and Previous Regulations and Personal Experience. *As an avid hunter, Mr. Nunn chronicles the history of hunting issues and regulations in TCV; history of archery-only designation (Ord. 2007-7) approved by Wildlife RAC and Boards; describes that modern muzzleloader firearms are not “primitive weapons” and details personal observations and experiences over the years of hunter trespass; dangerous situations for bow, muzzleloader and rifle hunters alike; and justifies the reasonableness of “archery-only” designation.*
- 6) Excerpts from Moab Times Independent – Castle Valley Comments by Ron Drake Re: Hunting (Researched by Pam Hackley). *These reportings in 1994 substantiated the need for a restricted hunting ordinance for the Town of Castle Valley – detailing trespass; dangerous crossfire with rifles where primitive weapons hunters were present; violations of Utah’s hunting regulations.*
- 7) Know Your Rifle or Handgun’s Range – State of Washington - Hunter Education Course. *This training piece describes clearly the firing range of modern weapons that makes Utah’s “600 foot rule” not only seriously outdated but completely untenable. The Town can “buffer” the rule by establishing restrictions and zones without having to change State legislation.*

Thank you most sincerely for your work on this matter.

Pam Hackley
HC 64 Box 3208
Castle Valley, UT 84532
CVRR Lots 365, 366

#####

1) May 12, 2017 Letter to TCV from Pam Hackley Re: Black Bear Hunting Incident

May 6, 2017

Dear Castle Valley Town Council~

Last Saturday, May 6, we heard two shots fired near our home in the Upper 80 between the end of Castle Valley Dr. and Porcupine Rim. Sunday morning, May 7, we heard dogs howling and barking in the same area. Hunters (4 adults with 3 or 4 children) arrived about 10am in 2 pickups and parked at the end of Castle Valley Dr. Two people left the party, one with a rifle, and headed towards Porcupine Rim. Soon one shot was fired. The dogs continued on their trail and eventually the trucks left around 11:30am. We saw one collared dog come down Placer Cr. past our house.

We contacted Adam Wallerstein, the local DWR game warden (630-0578), who arrived as quickly as possible from Moab, to take our report but just after the hunters left. Apparently, Adam could not locate the group that day based on the vehicle descriptions we provided him and the license number of one truck, C521WG. He later confirmed that the plate was registered in the Salt Lake area.

We have also heard, that this party (based on similar truck descriptions), had set up camp near the Quaky Pond and that the Sheriff and BLM officer made them vacate the area. We appreciate their actions that uphold the new BLM management policies in the valley.

Our concerns are that this hunting activity is both and illegal because:

- 1) These weapon firings were too close to our home.
- 2) This area is for bow-hunting only. [ed: referring to unsubdivided lands of Town, and that in 2017 we were working from the understanding that the area outside the Ranchos/Upper 80 boundary was Archery-only; we have since been provided a copy of the easement between UOL and DNR]
- 3) The hunters were parked on private property of Utah Open Lands and may likely have been on UOL land when the shots were fired. We have contacted Wendy Fisher, UOL Exec. Dir., and they will be discussing this with the Sheriff.
- 4) We understand that UOL, in cooperation with UT Dept. of Wildlife Resources, has legally designated these lands as the, LaSal Herd Critical Range Preserve for mule deer. At this time does are giving birth/nurturing young between the Upper 80 and the base of Porcupine Rim. The dogs and rifle shooting are no doubt disturbing the deer herd.

We plan to keep in touch with Adam, contact DWR biologist Guy Wallace, and send this letter to the DWR Wildlife Board as well as SE Utah Wildlife RAC.

We are requesting that the Town inquire further into this situation.

- 1) Please follow-up by contacting Adam and asking for his report so the Town has the official account on record.
- 2) Notify DWR Board as well as SE Utah RAC about hunting regulations for Castle Valley and over private lands; get clarification on whether hunting and chasing with dogs is legal in Castle Valley.
- 3) Revisit hunting regs/boundaries as they pertain to the Town and Castle Valley. For a start, the Town needs to have the boundaries and archery only designation listed in the hunting proclamation.
- 4) Improve signage at Town entrance concerning hunting.

Thanks for your consideration and following up on this important incident and issue.

Pam Hackley and Bob Lippman
HC 64 Box 3208
Castle Valley UT 84532

Notes for letter consideration:

** Guy Wallace – DWR SE Region Manager – call 5/15

Altho very familiar w/CV (his prior position was WL Biol. For this area) he did not know about the UOL LaSal Herd Preserve.

He will share my concerns with RAC and Board.

**Mike Auger, UOL Stewardship Director – He will work on property ownership signage for the end of CV Dr. turnaround and possibly the perimeter. He is also willing to work with Town if decision is made to change the Town's Hunting Ordinance. Eg archery only on the preserve.

** Discharge of firearms rules in other UT communities

Moab – city limits no discharge of firearms

Park City – city limits no discharge of firearms

Alta – city limits and no hunting!

Draper – city limits, no hunting with firearm or bow

Emigration Canyon Township -

**CV Hunting ordinance and map for Weapon Regulated Boundary area not in this rule:

R657-5-12. Areas With Special Restrictions.

(1)(a) Hunting of any wildlife is prohibited within the boundaries of all park areas, except those designated by the Division of Parks and Recreation in Rule R651-614-4.

(b) Hunting with rifles and handguns in park areas designated open is prohibited within one mile of all park area facilities, including buildings, camp or picnic sites, overlooks, golf courses, boat ramps, and developed beaches.

(c) Hunting with shotguns or archery equipment is prohibited within one-quarter mile of the areas provided in Subsection (b).

(2) Hunting is closed within the boundaries of all national parks unless otherwise provided by the governing agency.

(3) Hunters obtaining a Utah license, permit or tag to take big game are not authorized to hunt on tribal trust lands. Hunters must obtain tribal authorization to hunt on tribal trust lands.

(4) Military installations, including Camp Williams, are closed to hunting and trespassing unless otherwise authorized.

(5) In Salt Lake County, a person may:

(a) only use archery equipment to take buck deer and bull elk south of I-80 and east of I-15;

(b) only use archery equipment to take big game in Emigration Township; and

(c) not hunt big game within one-half mile of Silver Lake in Big Cottonwood Canyon.

(6) Hunting is closed within a designated portion of the town of Alta. Hunters may refer to the town of Alta for boundaries and other information.

(7) Domesticated Elk Facilities and Domesticated Elk Hunting Parks, as defined in Section 4-39-102(2) and Rules R58-18 and R58-20, are closed to big game hunting. This restriction does not apply to the lawful harvest of domesticated elk as defined and allowed pursuant to Rule R58-20.

(8) State waterfowl management areas are closed to taking big game, except as otherwise provided in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(9) Hunters are restricted to using archery equipment, muzzleloaders or shotguns on the Scott M. Matheson Wetland Preserve.

(10) A person may not discharge a firearm, except a shotgun or muzzleloader, from, upon, or across the Green River located near Jensen, Utah from the Highway 40 bridge upstream to the Dinosaur National Monument boundary.

****Distance/Range capability of firearms:**

WA State Hunter Educ. Course -

- rifle/ .22 short is the shortest range and at sea level max range is ~3/4 mi (~4000ft); as go up in elevation distance increases

- handguns/ which are legal to hunt with in UT, shortest range is 3300ft

-

Utah -- R657-5-7. Prohibited Weapons.

(1) A person may not use any weapon or device to take big game other than those expressly permitted in this rule.

(2) A person may not use:

(a) a firearm capable of being fired fully automatic;

(b) any light enhancement device or aiming device that casts a visible beam of light; or

(c) a firearm equipped with a computerized targeting system that marks a target, calculates a firing solution and automatically discharges the firearm at a point calculated most likely to hit the acquired target.

(3) Nothing in this Section shall be construed as prohibiting laser range finding devices.

R657-5-8. Rifles and Shotguns.

(1) The following rifles and shotguns may be used to take big game:

(a) any rifle firing centerfire cartridges and expanding bullets; and

(b) a shotgun, 20 gauge or larger, firing only 00 or larger buckshot or slug ammunition.

R657-5-9. Handguns.

(1) A handgun may be used to take deer and pronghorn, provided the handgun is a minimum of .24 caliber, fires a centerfire cartridge with an expanding bullet and develops 500 foot-pounds of energy at the muzzle.

(2) A handgun may be used to take elk, moose, bison, bighorn sheep, and Rocky Mountain goat provided the handgun is a minimum of .24 caliber, fires a centerfire cartridge with an expanding bullet and develops 500 foot-pounds of energy at 100 yards.

R657-5-10. Muzzleloaders.

(1) A muzzleloader may be used during any big game hunt, except an archery hunt, provided the muzzleloader:

- (a) can be loaded only from the muzzle;
- (b) has open sights, peep sights, or a variable or fixed power scope, including a magnifying scope;
- (c) has a single barrel;
- (d) has a minimum barrel length of 18 inches;
- (e) is capable of being fired only once without reloading;
- (f) powder and bullet, or powder, sabot and bullet are not bonded together as one unit for loading;
- (g) is loaded with black powder or black powder substitute, which must not contain smokeless powder.

(2)(a) A lead or expanding bullet or projectile of at least 40 caliber must be used to hunt big game.

(b) A bullet 130 grains or heavier, or a sabot 170 grains or heavier must be used for taking deer and pronghorn.

(c) A 210 grain or heavier bullet must be used for taking elk, moose, bison, bighorn sheep, and Rocky Mountain goat, except sabot bullets used for taking these species must be a minimum of 240 grains.

(3)(a) A person who has obtained a muzzleloader permit for a big game hunt may:

(i) use only muzzleloader equipment authorized in this Subsections (1) and (2) to take the species authorized in the permit; and

(ii) not possess or be in control of a rifle or shotgun while in the field during the muzzleloader hunt.

(A) "Field" for purposes of this section, means a location where the permitted species of wildlife is likely to be found. "Field" does not include a hunter's established campsite or the interior of a fully enclosed automobile or truck.

(b) The provisions of Subsection (a) do not apply to:

(i) a person licensed to hunt upland game or waterfowl provided the person complies with Rules R657-6 and R657-9 and the Upland Game Guidebook and Waterfowl Guidebook, respectively, and possessing only legal weapons to take upland game or waterfowl;

(ii) a person licensed to hunt big game species during hunts that coincide with the muzzleloader hunt;

(iii) livestock owners protecting their livestock; or

(iv) a person licensed to carry a concealed weapon in accordance with Title 53, Chapter 5, Part 7 of the Utah Code, provided the person is not utilizing the concealed firearm to hunt or take protected wildlife.

(4) A person who has obtained an any weapon permit for a big game hunt may use muzzleloader equipment authorized in this Section to take the species authorized in the permit.

R657-5-11. Archery Equipment.

(1) Archery equipment may be used during any big game hunt, except a muzzleloader hunt, provided:

(a) the minimum bow pull is 40 pounds at the draw or the peak, whichever comes first; and

(b) arrowheads used have two or more sharp cutting edges that cannot pass through a 7/8 inch ring;

(c) expanding arrowheads cannot pass through a 7/8 inch ring when expanded, and

(d) arrows must be a minimum of 20 inches in length from the tip of the arrowhead to the tip of the nock, and must weigh at least 300 grains.

(2) The following equipment or devices may not be used to take big game:

(a) a crossbow, except as provided in Subsection (5) and Rule R657-12;

(b) arrows with chemically treated or explosive arrowheads;

(c) a mechanical device for holding the bow at any increment of draw, except as provided in Subsection (5) and Rule R657-12;

(d) a release aid that is not hand held or that supports the draw weight of the bow, except as provided in Subsection (5) and Rule R657-12; or

(e) a bow with a magnifying aiming device.

(3) Arrows carried in or on a vehicle where a person is riding must be in an arrow quiver or a closed case.

(4)(a) A person who has obtained an archery permit for a big game hunt may:

(i) use only archery equipment authorized in Subsections (1) and (2) to take the species authorized in the permit; and

(ii) not possess or be in control of a crossbow, draw-lock, rifle, shotgun or muzzleloader while in the field during an archery hunt.

(A) "Field" for purposes of this section, means a location where the permitted species of wildlife is likely to be found. "Field" does not include a hunter's established campsite or the interior of a fully enclosed automobile or truck.

- (b) The provisions of Subsection (a) do not apply to:
 - (i) a person licensed to hunt upland game or waterfowl provided the person complies with Rules R657-6 and R657-9 and the Upland Game Guidebook and Waterfowl Guidebook, respectively, and possessing only the weapons authorized to take upland game or waterfowl;
 - (ii) a person licensed to hunt big game species during hunts that coincide with the archery hunt, provided the person is in compliance with the regulations of that hunt and possesses only the weapons authorized for that hunt;
 - (iii) livestock owners protecting their livestock;
 - (iv) a person licensed to carry a concealed weapon in accordance with Title 53, Chapter 5, Part 7 of the Utah Code, provided the person is not utilizing the concealed firearm to hunt or take protected wildlife; or
 - (v) a person possessing a crossbow or draw-lock under a certificate of registration issued pursuant to R657-12.
- (5) A person who has obtained an any weapon permit for a big game hunt may use archery equipment authorized in this Section to take the species authorized in the permit, including a crossbow or draw-lock.
- (6)(a) A crossbow used to hunt big game must have:
 - (i) a minimum draw weight of 125 pounds;
 - (ii) a minimum draw length of 14 inches, measured between the latch (nocking point) and where the bow limbs attach to the stock;
 - (iii) an overall length of at least 24 inches; measured between the butt stock end and where the bow limbs attach to the stock; and
 - (iv) a positive mechanical safety mechanism.
- (b) A crossbow arrow or bolt used to hunt big game must be at least 16 inches long and have:
 - (i) fixed broadheads that are at least 7/8 inch wide at the widest point; or
 - (ii) expandable, mechanical broadheads that are at least 7/8 inch wide at the widest point when the broadhead is in the open position.
- (c) It is unlawful for any person to:
 - (i) hunt big game with a crossbow during a big game archery hunt, except as provided in R657-12-8;
 - (ii) carry a cocked crossbow containing an arrow or a bolt while in or on any motorized vehicle on a public highway or other public right-of-way, except as provided in R657-12-4; or
 - (iii) hunt any protected wildlife with a crossbow:
 - (A) bolt that has any chemical, explosive or electronic device attached; or
 - (B) that has an attached magnifying aiming device, except as provided in Subsection (7).
- (7) A crossbow used to hunt big game during an any weapon hunt may have a fixed or variable magnifying scope.

R657-5-15. Party Hunting and Use of Dogs.

- (1) A person may not take big game for another person, except as provided in Section 23-19-1 and Rule R657-12.
- (2) A person may not use the aid of a dog to take, chase, harm or harass big game. The use of one blood-trailing dog controlled by leash during lawful hunting hours within 72 hours of shooting a big game animal is allowed to track wounded animals and aid in recovery.

2) October 29, 2018 Letter from Robert Lippman, Pam Hackley, Greg Nunn Re: Comments Observations, and Request for Action Regarding Hunting Safety and Impact Situation.

To: Castle Valley Town Council

From: Robert Lippman, Pam Hackley, Greg Nunn

Date: October 29, 2018

Re: COMMENTS, OBSERVATIONS, AND REQUEST FOR ACTION REGARDING HUNTING SAFETY AND IMPACT SITUATION

1. The issue of residents' safety has been addressed numerous times over the past decades, and especially in the last 12 years, with local decisions, approved through various State channels, being made. Unfortunately, however, the most recent actions (2007 through 2017) to address public safety and hunting issues, and to revise and meaningfully enact our ordinances regarding hunting and firearm discharges, have not been brought to fruition through the designated process requiring DWR/RAC Board approval and publication of any Town requests or legislative actions.

2. The next meeting of the RAC Board, for approving the 2019 big game proclamation is coming up on November 29, 2018.

3. As it has done so, the Town is empowered to pass ordinances that may restrict or condition hunting within municipal jurisdiction. UC 23-14-1 (3) (b).

4. The process required by DWR for subsequent approval and publication of such ordinances is set out in Rule R657-34. [Please note that the link I was forwarded from the Mayor, via Chris Wood of DWR, directs to a “Continuation of the Rule” section stating that the full text is available only at DWR office in Salt Lake City; please look into this and clarify!].

5. CV Ordinance 2007-7, duly passed into law on October 22, 2007, amends several older ordinances (99-5, 98-1), but reiterates the prohibition or restriction of hunting and the discharge of firearms within town limits. The ordinance recites findings that the Town Council has made and acknowledged that Castle Valley residents, visitors and property are at risk from hunting activities within most portions of the town, and a map is included that clearly sets out 3 designations defined by clear boundaries and landmarks. These include (a) *No Hunting*– all Ranchos and Upper 80, (b) *State Regulated Hunting* – east of identified Round Mountain roads, and (c) *Weapon-Regulated Hunting*, being designated for Archery Only – west of the Round Mountain roads, which provides a clear and identifiable, but minimal buffer zone between Ranchos residents, including the Upper 80, and the *Weapon-Regulated* zone, and protects residents along the Ranchos fenceline and within the Upper 80 from the risks of firearm discharges.

Ordinance 2007-7, reflecting State law, only provides a 600-foot zone of protection from firearm discharges, from any structure or building. As will be noted below, this distance does not in reality protect against the range of modern firearms, including muzzle loaders and shotguns. The Weapon-Regulated zone was designed to adequately protect all residents and property along the Ranchos fenceline and Upper 80, which was lacking in older ordinances that identified a *Primitive Weapons* zone adjacent to the Ranchos.

The Town has also drafted and passed a Parking Restriction Ordinance, 2005-2 to address the problem of trespass and hunting violations within residential areas; however this also needs to be revisited to reflect changing conditions and the ultimate land and easement status of UOL trust lands at the end of Castle Valley Drive, as further noted below.

6. Maps of designated hunting areas in Castle Valley have been generated and should be on file in Town records. One such map delineates the 600-foot radius around structures along the Ranchos fenceline and in the Upper 80, and clearly indicates the vulnerability of and risk to residents and property adjacent to the eastern fenceline, from Shafer Lane through the Upper 80. The 600-foot radii clearly extend onto public lands that are identified as *Primitive Weapons* only, in the older ordinances (see attached).

A search of Town files and documents has also generated a concise summary of materials related to this matter, including minutes, letters, and observations/complaints, and this summary was submitted to the records for easy reference. [Pam Hackley, Susan Roche, 2017] (see attached).

7. The matter of hunting problems and an apparent deficiency regarding the effect of Ord. 2007-7 was addressed for further action by the Town Council on May 17, 2017, after a complaint was registered and

investigated regarding unlawful and dangerous bear hunting at the end of CV Drive in the Upper 80, involving trespass and firearms discharges likely within 600 feet of a residential home and other structures. No follow up to this matter appears in the record.

8. Note that the Town of Alta, Utah has successfully established a legal and enforceable prohibition of hunting and firearms discharges within its town limits. Alta Hunting Code 5-3C-2; DWR Annual Big Game Proclamation.

9. Any present effort to get Castle Valley's 2007 (or amended) ordinance and designations before the next RAC Board meeting needs to:

- a) be done during the next month and properly and timely submitted to the RAC Board;
- b) incorporate public input and findings (already on record), and coordinate and collaborate with Utah Open Lands;
- c) accurately incorporate a truly protective *Weapon-Regulated* zone – being only either *No Hunting* or *Archery Only*, as supported by the evidence on record and already acted upon in the 2007 Ordinance, that clearly shows that the old *Primitive Weapons* zone does not provide for residential safety. The Town thus does not need to start over on this fact-finding and documentation process, as input and subsequent findings are included in the record and referenced in the 2007 Ordinance.

10. Documented concerns, facts, risks and violations:

a) The most vulnerable areas of risk to residents are:

- Holyoak Lane and properties along the fenceline between Holyoak and Shafer Lane;
- Utah Open Lands trust property between Keogh/Taylor and Upper 80;
- Upper 80 lots, especially lots adjacent to BLM lands east of fenceline;
- Utah Open Lands property at end of Castle Valley Drive, south side of Upper 80;
- West/rim side of Upper 80, north to Taylor (Utah Open Lands).

b) The 600-foot rule is wholly insufficient to protect residents and property from muzzle-loaders and shotguns, as well as high-powered rifles. It cannot be changed without State legislating/rulemaking, but appropriately designating hunting-regulated land solves that problem. In addition to the issue regarding the range of modern muzzle-loaders and shotguns, the use of shotguns permits multiple and rapid discharges, which further compromises the safety of both residents and hunters. Note that there are documented reports in the record of close encounters with bullets crossing into private, residential land, directly threatening residents. The change in designation from *Primitive Weapons* to *Archery Only* in the 2007 Ordinance clearly reflects these facts and findings.

c) Poaching and illegal hunting along roads within the Town have been reported and documented;

d) dangerous and armed trespass conflicts have been documented;

e) safety issues regarding hunters themselves are documented, e.g., hazing, not wearing colors, lack of situational awareness and firing near other hunters, etc.;

f) Unlawful ATV use poses additional risks and vulnerabilities, including access closer to residences and roads, damage to public lands/watershed, weed invasion, etc.;

g) Castle Valley wildfire danger and risk is significantly increased by weapons discharges and ATV use.

11. Enforcement issues: In addition to legal completion of the hunting restriction/designation process, the Town needs to deal affirmatively with its long-standing enforcement issues. The hunting regulation effort implicates a compelling and poignant need and opportunity to finally establish a process/protocol for enforcement of criminal, administrative and civil penalties for violations, not only regarding hunting issues, but zoning and other administrative enforcement. Interlocal agreements with the Sheriff's Office, County and other State and Federal agencies need to be established.

12. Notice and educational issues: Adequate and accurate signs will need to be erected at critical locations, including the Town gate, Keogh Lane and CV Drive, Upper 80 road, Upper 80 "green gate," Round Mountain roads, and Castleton/LaSalMountain Loop Road. Signs must address hunting designations and directions, proper access, and parking issues. The best option is to simply require all hunters to access designated areas only from the Castleton Road, and not through Town or the "green gate." This will eliminate misunderstandings and trespass conflicts, and minimize violations in Town.

Hunters must be directed away from the Upper 80 and end of CV Drive. Utah Open Lands needs to be an active and collaborating stakeholder in ensuring that their properties are designated (and noticed) consistent with the Town's ordinances and intentions.

Otherwise, the Town should consider simple, concordant and consentaneous annexation of the UOL parcel at the end of CV Drive, including the south edge of the Upper 80 cul-de-sac.

Thank you for your **prompt** consideration of these points and recommended actions, in order to truly provide effective and equal protection and safety for all residents and visitors in Castle Valley.

3) Excerpts from Castle Valley Town Council regular meetings, 1994 through August 16, 2017, in which hunting issues were mentioned. (Researched and compiled by Pam Hackley and Susan Roche both residents of the Town of Castle Valley.

7/20/94

Communications: 1. There was a discussion regarding current shooting incidents in the valley.

4/8/98

Hunting Ordinance – Melody Taylor reported: 1. Hunting season is currently a dangerous situation; 2. As a Town, we have more clout – can have an ordinance, can post boundaries, etc.; 3. Greg Nunn has been working on mapping boundaries; 4. Has talked to State Wildlife for information; 5. Can hire Sheriff deputies for enforcement. Melody and Greg will continue working on this issue and will make a presentation to the Planning Commission at their next meeting.

6/10/98

No Hunting Ordinance – Melody Taylor reported on the status of the ongoing work on this issue. The Planning Commission wrote an ordinance based on one from the Town of Alta. It needs some changes which the PC will address at their next meeting. Melody also reported on the procedures for posting. There was also discussion of boundaries (Greg Nunn has worked on these) and the need for attorney and State lands review of the ordinance for legality.

7/14/98

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Possible decision on proposed No Hunting Ordinance (attached) [*not found*] – Dave moved to adopt the proposed hunting ordinance. Robert seconded. Bruce read the proposed ordinance. After discussion, changes were made to Sections 1 and 3 (attached) [*not found*]. Robert moved to amend the original motion to include the changes. With a second by Dave [Wagstaff], the motion to amend was carried unanimously. Then the vote on the original motion was taken and the motion was carried unanimously.

9/9/98

Reports: Hunting – Melody Taylor reported: There are some problems with Div. of Wildlife Resources. Town will have to present a report to the Wildlife Board to establish a no hunting area. However, the Town can establish a no discharge of firearms area. Therefore, Clerk was instructed to post the passed Hunting Ordinance which covers this. Melody is working with the POA to make posting information available to private property owners and placing notices in the Times-Independent.

10/14/98

Hunting: A letter was received from the State Division of Wildlife Resources (attached) [*not found*] regarding the Town hunting ordinance. More has to be done to institute a no hunting area, but the no discharge of firearms portion of the Town ordinance is now in effect and property owners may post their private boundaries.

7/21/99

PUBLIC HEARING:

Hearing to Receive Public Input on Proposed No Hunting Ordinance:

Clerk read the proposed ordinance. There was discussion about the ordinance, particularly the 600 feet from a residence portion. Public comment followed.

David Erley: supports ordinance; “I would support this ordinance to the end the way it works they push the deer down from Round Mountain towards the residences at the upper end of the regular River Ranchos subdivision, so they’re shooting towards our houses”.

Jessie Anderson: supports ordinance; “I’m a second amendment advocate “aaalll” the way, and yet I sit here on my land, and last year somebody drove down Miller in a cream colored pick-up truck and popped a cap off right there and I thought it was coming my way and I ducked down behind a berm. I’ve been hunting all my life and I was thinking, ‘wrong, this guy’s a bad actor and needs to be stopped’ and I didn’t know who to call, bud. support ordinance because there’s a bunch of bad actors”.

Elaine Pinkowski: supports ordinance; “.....definitely there should be a buffer and there should be protection for the residents....”.

Merrill Brady: supports ordinance; “I’m for it as long as you can still kill the varmints that come to get your chickens and so forth”.

TC regular meeting; 7/21/99; page 3

Carl Anderson: supports ordinance

Jeff Whitney: supports ordinance; "I'm for it. I like the 600-foot buffer, that's actually fairly small. As long as there's no attempt to go beyond that road because that's traditional black powder area".

Gwen Martineau: supports ordinance; "I'm all right with it, as long as we can take care of the problems that come up on our own property".

Mark Webster: supports ordinance – agrees with other statements.

Ron Drake: supports ordinance

Jack Campbell: supports ordinance; "I strongly support an ordinance that does not permit hunting within the subdivision and yet still allows it in some of the undeveloped sections of the Town".

The proposed ordinance and other information (safety reasons, summary of public hearing, maps) required will be sent to the Division of Wildlife Resources Regional Supervisor, Miles Moretti, in Price. Town representatives will then attend the Regional Advisory Board (which will make a recommendation to the State Wildlife Board) meeting in Green River in August and the State Wildlife Board (which will make the final decision on the hunting closure) meeting in Salt Lake in September.

[It might be worth seeing if this info is in some other place in Town records]

8/18/99

3. Decision on TC Approval to Give Mayor Leeway to Alter Hunting Boundary, If Necessary, at DWR Regional Advisory Board Meeting in Green River on August 24, 1999: Bruce stated that he was asking for permission to change the boundary in the event the Board feels that the Town is eliminating too much State land from hunting, and if this would then jeopardize the whole hunting ordinance. Robert moved that the TC grant the Mayor approval to change the hunting boundary, if necessary, at the DWR Regional Advisory Board meeting in Green River. With a second by Dave [Wagstaff], the motion was carried unanimously.

9/15/99

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Discussion and Possible Decision on Amendment, Recommended by State Wildlife Board, to Hunting Ordinance: Proposed Ordinance 99-5 to supersede Ordinance 98-1 is attached [not found].** The changes in the proposed ordinance are at the request of the State Wildlife Board in order to obtain their approval for the hunting closure in the ordinance. John moved to adopt Ordinance 99-5 for the purposes of this hunt but that efforts to refine it in additional areas, e.g. trapping, be continued. With a second by Dave, the motion was carried unanimously.

10/20/99

Road Report: Damian reported: 1. He and Greg Nunn have been putting up hunting signs.

10/16/02

Road Rpt: The hunting signs are up and the fence is repaired.

7/16/03

COMMUNICATIONS, REMONSTRANCES, PETITIONS

2. Open Public Comment Period: Dave Erley had some comments and questions regarding hunting and boundaries.

11/17/04

10. Approximately five years ago changes were made to the hunting designation of land in the southern end of the Castle Valley River Ranchos, including the land between the main subdivision and the upper 80 acres. Due to changes in weather, deer migration, increased development and the successful experience of hunters, greater activity is now occurring in close proximity to residential property. The increased hunting activity is posing a threat to the safety of residents and property owners. Robert Ryan moved to limit the primitive weapon hunting area to bow hunting only and to establish the land between the upper 80 acres and the established eastern fence line as a no weapon zone. Jerry Bidinger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Bruce Keeler and Greg Nunn will attend the December RAC meeting to present this request.

12/8/04

UNSUBDIVIDED LANDS: Bruce Keeler reported that hunting closure in this area will not be addressed until the **August, 2005 Agenda of the RAC board.**

16. Jerry Bidinger was contacted by Jim Salmon regarding hunting and poaching issues in Castle Valley. Bob Lippman believes that the game warden should be contacted regarding poaching and to educate the new warden about Castle Valley hunting restrictions.

March 15, 2006,

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS... Another complaint letter was received from Irv about the no hunt sign posts. Damian said the posts have been taken down.

October 18, 2006,

1. Open Public Comment...Dave announced if anyone has trouble during hunting season this year, they can call enforcement officer Casey McBay at 435-820-6015 or the County dispatch.

17. Communications, Petitions and Committee Reports (reports on Water, Roads, Building, Landscaping)... Damian suggested making the rest of the no hunting signs available to the public. Rebecca will put them at the building entrance with a description of how to post your land properly. Dave suggested that the Town consider establishing a halfmile no-hunting buffer for the Town.

November 16, 2006,

2. Open Public Comment

Dave Erley presented a letter and map about the hunt and the effects of shotgun usage on the Upper 80. A citizens' group is going to the RAC board in February asking for the same protection be afforded for people in the Upper 80 as the rest of the Valley, possibly turning the shotgun zone into a primitive weapons zone. The Upper 80 is most strongly affected by the hunt, and is becoming popular for shotguns and primitive weapons. Shotguns are multiple shot and longer range, and cross-shooting is causing danger.

7. Discussion & possible action re: Target Shooting Inside Town Boundaries. Joe Kingsley submitted a letter re: target shooting problems noting that the firearms ordinance addresses hunting but not target shooting. Discussion ensued about firearm safety, the sheriff responding to firearms complaints as a safety issue, and the firearm and nuisance ordinances, with comments by Damian, Ranna, Jim, Mark Webster, Jack, Greg Halliday, Mary Germain, Valli and Greg Nunn. Jim suggested that this issue should be handled as a nuisance and complaint resolution issue, i.e., that two people should talk to Joe, find out who this was, and go talk to them.

16. Discussion & possible action re: Proposed Complaint Resolution Process.... Jim amended the motion to adopt the Temporary Complaint Process Ordinance with the specified changes, contingent on final review of the draft, to become effective December 8, 2006. Valli seconded. Damian called the question. Motion passed unanimously. It was discussed that both the firearms complaint and dog barking complain would be pursued under the new ordinance.

SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

13. Discussion and Possible Action re: Revision of Ordinance 1999-5, "Hunting and Discharge of Firearms". After some discussion, it was decided that the map needs reworking. Damian will handle this. Jim motioned to table the item. Alice seconded the Motion. Damian, Jim, Valli and Alice all voted in favor of the Motion. The Motion passed with four in favor.

SEPTEMBER 27, 2007

2. Discussion and Possible Action re: Revision to Ordinance 1999-5 – The Hunting and Discharge of Firearms Ordinance. Dave Erley pointed out that everything we are proposing to regulate is within the Town boundary, and that Utah Open Lands is a side issue – not a Town issue. Dave further stated that the way the hunters begin a hunt is to start at Round Mountain and push the deer down towards Dave Erley's home, the Bidinger's home, etc. He mentioned that Marilyn Bidinger had a bullet go over her head while she was gardening a few years ago. Jim commented that it is his understanding that we have three sets of rules: A. In residential areas there is no discharge of firearms other than the slaughtering of livestock; B. In the second zone of the Town, you are allowed to hunt using bows and arrows; and 2 C. In the section around Round Mountain, any type of hunting is allowed. Valli recommended that the Town Council not pass this Ordinance until it is reviewed by the Division of Wildlife Resources upstate. Damian will call Bill Bates and talk with him about this. Jim would like to rewrite the map, showing the specific areas on the map. The consensus was to rework the map.

OCTOBER 17, 2007

10. Discussion and Possible Action re: Revision of the Hunting and Firearms Discharge Ordinance (tabled). Valli motioned to untable. Alice seconded the Motion. Damian, Valli and Alice all voted to untable. Ranna opposed. The Motion passed with three in favor, one opposed. Damian sent the current revised version to Bill Bates. Bill was concerned that we were banning archery hunting in the private property. Ranna had some concerns that the map was not marked clearly. She will mark up a map and give it to Denise, and Denise will make the changes. Alice motioned to adopt the Ordinance as amended. Valli seconded the Motion. Damian, Ranna, Valli and Alice all voted to adopt the Ordinance. The Motion passed with four in favor.

MARCH 19, 2008

New Business: 5. Discussion re: Cooperative Land Stewardship with SITLA and BLM. Greg Nunn spoke about the problems posed by people using ATV's to look at deer herds. A new bike trail is being created by ATV's, bikes and trucks right in the middle of where deer lay when times are bad. He said that they are busting up the herds and causing them to run at their most vulnerable time, as well as trampling and ruining much of the deer feed. He also said that they are causing new trails to be made, which are causing erosion. The Town ran the grader in that area during a fire, and it has now become a major race track for sporting vehicles. Greg asked that the Town install signs to keep people off of these tracks. Damian said that Town should designate road(s) in the area and Greg Halliday agreed to do some of the work regarding signage as part of his duties. The Town Council agreed to make a decision to allocate funds for signs and installation at the next meeting.

APRIL 16, 2008 16. Discussion and Possible Action re: Addressing the Issue of Inappropriate ORV Use in the Valley....After further discussion the consensus was that we must do something. Therefore, we'll begin by having Greg Halliday make signs (perhaps backed by heavy steel) and see how effective that will be. Jim notioned to spend up to \$1,000.00 on signag and labor. Valli seconded the Motion. Damian, Jim, Ranna, Valli and Aaron all approved the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

OCTOBER 21, 2009

2. Open Public Comment. Dave Erley thanked the Town for the hunting signs that Greg posted.

FEBRUARY 17, 2010

12. Discussion and Possible Action re: SITLA's Obligation to Follow Local Land Use Code. The Council agreed that it is in the interest of the Town for SITLA to follow the County Land Use Code. Audrey Graham said that other counties and cities are furious about this. Mayor Sakrison (from Moab) and members of the County Council are planning to go to Salt Lake City to talk with SITLA representatives and our Legislative representatives. The Town Council agrees that it is appropriate for Dave to go with them in his capacity as Mayor of Castle Valley. The Town Council authorized Dave to go specifically to voice that SITLA should comply with local land use ordinances.

APRIL 21, 2010

New Business: 5. Discussion and Possible Action re: Round Maintain Road Closure Proposal (Greg Nunn). Greg asked the Town Council to consider closing the roads around Round Mountain. He explained that he has noticed that motorized traffic in the area has led to the deer and elk being displaced. He is concerned that when people drive their vehicles to look at the wildlife they cause the deer and elk to be dispersed into undesirable environments. His request is for all roads around Round Mountain to be closed to motorized traffic (except for emergency use) from January 1st until April 15th. Greg has talked with T. J. Robertson (State Conservation Officer). T. J. is less supportive of the idea than he was earlier. We are waiting for a report from State Wildlife Biologist Guy Wallace. It was suggested that the Town Council stay in contact with the Utah Division of Natural Resources to learn more about this.

OCTOBER 19, 2011

2. Open Public Comment. Mayor Erley reported that the Town of Castle Valley and the Utah Department of Wildlife Resources are aware that poaching is occurring within the Town boundary. He noted that discharge of firearms is not allowed within the Town. According to Mayor

Erley, there is some evidence about who is doing the poaching. A warning has been issued and this declaration serves as a final warning. Ron Drake will report on the warning against poaching in the next issue of Castle Valley Comments in the Moab Times-Independent.

NOVEMBER 19th , 2014

5. Discussion and Possible Action re: Bow hunting regulations.

Mayor Erley stated that the Town had changed primitive weapons hunting to Bow hunting in Castle Valley but the proclamation with the State needed to be changed by the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) of the Department of Wildlife Resources. He stated that there was a hunter who hasn't respected private property or the hunting regulations.

Greg Nunn stated that he had seen a group of hunters crossing private property and had approached them & told them that they were on private property. The hunters got aggressive and argued for a long period with Nunn about being able to hunt on the land and that the signs weren't adequate according to the law.

Council Member Duncan inquired about why the Sheriff had not been contacted about the threats.

Nunn stated that he was not able to reach the sheriff and that the hunters were staying with Steve Brunell who is close to the sheriff.

Mayor Erley stated that the Town needed to invest in all the proper signs to legally keep hunters off private property.

Laura Cameron stated that she had seen the hunters and wanted to make sure that they knew the regulations because in the past she had heard a lot of gunshot and appreciated the Town following up on these issues because the gunshots are very concerning.

Skip Ambrose inquired about what the current ordinance allows.

Mayor Erley stated that there is no hunting in the Town boundaries, or 600 ft. from a structure. There is bow hunting allowed in the un-subdivided land that is now BLM land.

Council Member Hill moved to go to the RAC and get the discussed area designated as bow hunting, Council Member Duncan seconded, the Motion passed unanimously.

JANUARY 21, 2015

4. Correspondence

Mayor Erley summarized 2 letters that came to the Town regarding an incident in the Fall of 2014 with private residents and out of town hunters (the Thigpins). He stated that there were differences in the two parties' accounts and they brought up a number of issues regarding citizens, the Town, DWR, and wildlife management. He stated the bottom line is the private property in the incident was not properly posted with "No Trespassing" signs and this was necessary for enforcement.

Council Member Hill inquired about putting regulations up at the mailbox that says "No side streets in Castle Valley can be used to access hunting and private citizens need to be sure and post signs to meet legal requirements."

Council Member Drogin stated that it seemed the underlying concern in the letters was that their side of the story was not properly represented and the letters are available to the public.

Council Member Duncan stated that this is not just those hunters story, and she had heard this before.

Mayor Erley stated that he had talked to one of the Thigpins who wrote the letters and clarified some misunderstandings and corrected some names for the record. i.e. "Laura Cameron" should be "Laura Kamala" and the hunters were treated graciously by Laura. He stated that he was going to contact folks that were mentioned in the letters and clarify some misunderstandings as far as the Town being grouped with public comments. He stated that the letters were 10 & 4 pages long and the town wanted to present both sides equally. All open meetings are Public record and accompanying documents are available to the public.

Ron Drake stated that he simply reported on what was said at the meeting in November in the Castle Valley Comments.

Council Member Hill stated that it seems the real problem is improper "No Trespassing" posting on private property.

Council Member Duncan agreed with Council Member Hill and brought up concerns about this not being the first time there have been accusations against the private resident involved.

Mayor Erley reviewed the posting regulations and thought the town should review what can be done to remedy the issue. He will get in touch with all the individuals that attended the meeting or were mentioned in the letters. Basically the "hunters" who have been coming to Castle Valley since the 60's were cruising around taking pictures, dropping off a hunter and it seemed there were misinterpretations of what was happening between the two groups. The town would ensure that reporter Ron Drake received a copy of the letters from the Thigpins.

February 12, 2015

On another subject, the council received a letter from a California resident responding to allegations of illegal hunting during the deer-hunting season last year. In the Nov. 27 installment of "Castle Valley Comments," I reported on the proceedings of the town council meeting and wrote: "Some property owners complained about out-of-town bow hunters trespassing on private land to hunt and observe deer during the bow hunt deer season." During that meeting in December, a Castle Valley resident complained to the town council that he had seen a group of hunters crossing private property and had approached them and told them that they were on private property, according to the town meeting minutes. The resident said that the hunters got aggressive and argued for a long period with him about being able to hunt on the land and that signs weren't adequate according to the law.

The letter was written by a son of a hunting team consisting of a father and two sons, although the writer hasn't hunted since 1987 but was taking pictures of the deer and the scenery while the others were hunting. He disputes the claim, stating that he wants everyone to know that his brother and dad never had a gun out in the archery-only Bureau of Land Management land, and they never hunted on private property and hunted only in the archery-only area with their bows and arrows during the rifle and legal weapon deer hunt season. He said that the local individual initiated the aggression when he jumped out of the bushes wearing camouflage clothing, holding a weapon when it was still dark and began yelling and was interfering with a legal hunt.

The writer said in his nearly 10-page letter that his family has been vacationing and hunting in the Moab and Castle Valley area since the late 1960s and that one brother knows every law about hunting in California, Utah and the rest of the

http://www.moabtimes.com/printer_friendly/26465577

western part of the United States. He said that the two hunters never trespassed to observe deer, they were always on public roads, and no laws were ever broken by them. One brother carries a viewfinder and know how far away from buildings he is at all times. The writer said that his family arrived a week before the hunt to scout areas to see what areas his dad and brother are able to hunt since they both have health issues. He chronicled every day of the nine-day hunt in his letter to the council to detail their activities. He added that they love this area and most of the people that they have met over the years, and found that most of the people, even those who don't like hunting, are still nice to them. "We don't have a problem with anyone that doesn't like hunting, we'll never have a problem as long as they don't interfere with a legal hunt," he wrote.

MAY 17, 2017

2. Correspondence: Pam Hackley and Dog at Large Complaints

Hackley provided a written report on a Bear hunting incident May 6, 2017 (attached)

CM Hill clarified the hunter's truck was parked at the top of Castle Valley drive and they crossed private property to access Utah Open Lands.

Erley reported the license plate number from the truck did trace to a party with a bear permit . He had spoken with UDWR Manager Chris Wood and the 2007 Town Ordinance was never passed through the RAC process with Department of Wildlife Resources. Ordinance 1999-5 is recognized by the RAC State Hunting Regulations. And according to that Ordinance, this hunting incident would be legal apart from the crossing/ trespassing on private property. Going forward we need to assess the 1999-5 Ordinance with the RAC and potentially make updates and changes to the Proclamation as well as re-sign Town boundaries.

JUNE 21, 2017

1. Discussion and Possible Action re: Hunting Regulations Ordinance amendments from SITLA to BLM for Ordinance 2007-7 or 1999-5.

Erley explained the Ordinance was never approved or endorsed by the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC). Going forward we will need to amend 1999-5 working with the BLM, State Dept . of Wildlife and Grand County.

CM Duncan stated that "no parking" and "no camping" signage would be something the Town could do to control hunting access.

Item dropped.

AUGUST 16, 2017

1. Administrative Matters & Procedures

Hunting Issues Meeting with DWR and Utah Open Lands 1PM September 21, 2017.

Erley stated Zacharia Levine from Grand County and Pam Hackley will also be there. Discussion will be on hunting regulations and signage. The Bear Hunting incident occurred on Grand County land above the Upper Eighty potentially in the future this land could be annexed to the Town . This is a complex situation with different hunting regulations in different jurisdictions adjacent to the Town. The BLM will also need to be invited to the meeting. Changes in signage will probably not be done before this hunting season. After the meeting the Town Council will discuss the signage necessary for the Town to be legal.

4) August 27, 2007 Letter to TCV from Robert Lippman

Comments Regarding Hunting Concerns in Castle Valley, Utah

Submitted by Robert Lippman, August 27, 2007

These observations and comments are offered both from my perspective as a former member of the Castle Valley Town Council (2004-2006), and as a resident of the "Upper 80" section of the so-called "Castle Valley River Ranchos".

Additionally, these comments are by no means directed against hunting per se, but simply to address the growing number of conflicts and safety issues developing over hunting activities in close proximity to Castle Valley town residents and homes, and within and adjacent to the town boundary.

Hunting is presently conducted within the Town and directly adjacent to private property and residences. Present shooting rules (600' rule, etc.) are ineffective in minimizing and mitigating the **safety** of residents as well as hunters themselves, as the firing of weapons occurs at and across property lines and within a hunter-crowded area. Modern high-powered "primitive weapons" and multiple-firing shotguns pose essentially as much if not greater risk to residents and hunters as high-powered **and** rifles, under the circumstances. The already-nebulous "primitive weapons" buffer also ends at the "Upper 80" section of properties, directly exposing residents in that area to high-powered rifle use at their fencelines. **Trespass** is regularly reported by residents and property owners along the length of the private/State Lands fenceline, as well as incidents of **hunting, poaching and shooting** along Castle Valley Drive and within the town and subdivision proper, and on trustlands owned by Utah Open Lands. **ORV** use has markedly increased as vehicles are leaving roads and damaging fragile desert lands and riparian areas. **User conflicts** develop as hunting activities preclude residents' other uses of State and Federal lands surrounding the Ranchos, both within and outside of the Town boundary. The Castle Valley Fire Protection District and Volunteer Fire Department has also expressed concerns about increasing **fire danger** posed by hunting activities and ORV's adjacent to the subdivision, in areas already red-flagged as posing extreme risk of wildfire.

Enforcement of the few, ineffective, existing rules, laws and ordinances relevant to hunting activity has traditionally been lax to non-existent, and until last year, not even visible. After a number of discussions with DWR, Castle Valley residents were extremely pleased that an enforcement officer met with the public during last year's hunt, and was present and visible in the valley on opening day of season. Signs directing access and parking were also worked out. Despite these efforts, that officer did agree with residents that under the circumstances in Castle Valley, a larger and better delineated "**archery only**" buffer between the La Sal Mountain Loop Road and the Ranchos fenceline would be appropriate and justified.

Several knowledgeable residents have also expressed concern about the **sustainability** of the present hunting takes in Castle Valley.

Given these observations and information, I am therefore submitting the following recommendations and requests on behalf of myself and other reporting citizens, and ask that the RAC Board re-visit these issues, concerns and recommendations at the next meeting this year:

1. Designate and adequately sign and notice the area between the La Sal Mountain Loop Road (Castleton Road) on the east, the Castle Valley River Ranchos fenceline on the west, and the "South Round Mountain Road" (a primitive and rough dirt road) to the Porcupine Rim, on the south, as "Archery Only", and re-affirming and noticing the "no hunting" proscription and ordinance, within the Ranchos, and between the Ranchos and the Porcupine Rim, within the Town boundary (note that trespass is generally required to access this strip).

A few residents have suggested in the alternative that the dirt roads running north and west of Round Mountain could be designated as archery boundaries, but effective notice and enforcement would remain as difficult (if not impossible) as it presently is under the "primitive weapons" restriction. On the other hand, the Loop Road would provide a clear and unmistakable physical and legal boundary (along with controlled access) between areas under different hunting designations, and safety and liability issues would be exponentially mitigated under that scenario. In looking at this proposed change in designation, DWR should perhaps also look at the increased public and tourist/recreational uses now occurring east of the Loop Road (Castleton Tower area and campground, Utah Open Lands Trustlands, private lands, BLM bicycle trails and campgrounds, etc.) and consider and incorporate these changes in use when addressing hunting designations in Castle Valley;

2. Following last year's lead, direct and sign all access to Castle Valley hunting lands from the Loop Road, as opposed to Castle Valley Drive. This will mitigate unlawful parking and hunting practices in the Ranchos, increasing safety, and decreasing conflicts;
3. Notice and enforce ORV restrictions (ordinance, State law, and agency regulations) to existing roads only;
4. Initiate new studies to determine and monitor for a conservative carrying capacity for annual takes in Castle Valley, and do not expand the present rifle and primitive weapons seasons; and,
5. Work with the Castle Valley Fire Protection District to develop and implement fire prevention rules, regulations and education.

Thank you very much for your agency's consideration of these long-time observations, and requests, as further conflicts and endangerment incidents are inevitable under the present circumstances. Please forward these comments and concerns to the RAC Board at the Fall B & B Meeting.

Robert Lippman
HC 64 Box 3208 Castle Valley, UT 84532

5) November 13, 2018 Letter to TCV from Greg Nunn

Castle Valley Deer Hunting History and Previous Regulations

In 2018 the area bordering the town of Castle Valley (now BLM at the East end of River Rancho's proper), and North of the upper 80 was deregulated from what was thought to be "Archery only," and reregulated back to "Primitive Weapons" which includes archery, muzzleloaders, and shotguns. The critical issues pertaining to why and how the change came about has a long history, some of which will be offered in this letter. For details not delivered here, as well as clarifications, one can review Castle Valley Town regular meeting minutes beginning in 1994 through August 2017.

History of the change in status process:

In approximately 1999 the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) was first approached about changing hunting regulations from the status at that time, which was "Any Legal Weapon" (rifle) to "Archery only." Castle Valley Town Mayor Bruce Keeler and I approached the RAC with maps proposing the new hunting boundaries. The RAC was mostly supportive of our request, with one RAC member opposed to the change. The opposing member compromised and requested that instead of "Archery only" the designation be listed as "Primitive Weapons." At that time another RAC member said if this new designation did not work, the Town of Castle Valley may come back in five years to renegotiate for "Archery only."

About six years later Mayor Damian Bollerman and I arranged a meeting with SITLA representative Bryan Torgerson to discuss safety issues of the designation of the time, and possibly renegotiate the "Archery only" proposal. Damian, Bryan, and I did a walk-about on the SITLA lands. Bryan was all open ears and gave us the go ahead as a state representative, and to go ahead and approach the RAC with the "Archery only" proposal. We followed though. The outcome of that meeting led us to go before the Wildlife Board and present our findings.

Laura Kamala (who was at that time a member of the RAC,) and I went to the Wildlife Board meeting, held at the State Capitol building in Salt Lake City. We went through the proper procedure of being put on the agenda. I presented the case to the Board and they **unanimously approved** our proposal to re-designate the area to "Archery only," **based on human safety** (see the section "Reasons for the change from "Primitive Weapons" to "Archery only"). The following year our mayor at that time was supposed to follow up on this with the RAC so this regulation could be added to the Utah hunting proclamation. In the meantime, the Town of Castle Valley had "Archery only" hunting signs printed and established around the valley. With the new signage hunters thought we were officially "Archery only." However, since the process wasn't completed, "Archery only" status could not be enforced. I told this to the existing Mayor, but there was no follow up. In 2017, the issues concerning hunting designation came up again. Sadly, there is no record of the meeting Laura Kamala and I had at the State Capitol. Due to neglect and time, the "Archery only" status became invalid. So, we are back to where we started. The oversight put hunting status back to "Primitive Weapons" only.

Reasons for the change from "Primitive Weapons" to "Archery only:"

Regarding shotguns: people in Utah generally do not hunt deer with Shotguns. Most deer hunting with shotguns is restricted to the eastern portions of the United States, mainly because hunting occurs in heavily populated areas along with dense forested areas. A large slug from a shotgun doesn't travel well in wooded areas. The bullet is stopped by the trees. Castle Valley's landscape is wide open sage with widely dispersed junipers. There is nothing to stop the bullet, and the shotgun holds multiple cartridges. The chance of crossfire is imminent.

Regarding muzzleloaders: today's modern muzzleloaders are far from primitive. The only thing primitive about them is that they must be loaded from the front end of the rifle barrel. They are dead on accurate at 200 yards and can travel in flight well over a half mile. There is now a company (Gunwerks) that has developed a muzzleloader that is tack driving accurate at 500 yards, with a bullet that can travel in flight at least a mile.

Personal experience:

As I predicted, in one or two years after the new designation ("Primitive Weapons") the hunters began to show up in force with the muzzleloaders and shotguns, and just a few archery hunters. What I witnessed was absolutely appalling, and as a hunter was immensely embarrassed. We had folks shooting deer on private property using the above weapons. These were not vacant lots, but lots with houses, with illuminating lights with people living in them and doing regular activities such as cooking dinner. I witness a deer killing on the property where Laura Kamala lived on E. Holyoak Lane. After the killing which was very near her home, the hunter drove up on an ATV, blatantly loaded up the deer and drove away. There were hunters trespassing on other private properties, chasing deer off private land and then onto what was State/SITLA land (now BLM), so they could shoot them.

I have seen hunters shoot more than one deer - sometimes two and three at a time. Then leave them until nighttime and pick them up on their ATV's in the dark, or put other hunters' tags on the deer. With a shotgun and multiple shots, this is quite possible as evidence has indicated. I have witnessed two deer being killed by one hunter, and then the shooter called another hunter on a two-way radio to come in and tag the 2nd deer. Some hunters were local residents, and others were from elsewhere. Most of the prime hunting is open sage and most deer travel the same corridors that end up adjacent to houses and less than the required 600 feet from those houses. The hunters know this and move in close to the hot spots so they can stock and watch the deer movements. The area is so wide open, other hunters can see the same deer. The scenario is multiple hunters with different weapons moving in on one animal. In one instance I was stocking a deer with bow and arrow and had a hunter shoot within 30 yards from me with shotgun *and* muzzleloader. I must admit this was quite startling. I have encountered so many different and wildly dangerous scenarios...too many to mention here, but I could write a volume on the topic.

Now that we are regulated back to "Primitive Weapons" we will have more of the same dangerous activities and issues we had before. What will it take; someone getting killed while out hunting, or have a bullet go through their head while making dinner? We have joggers up and down the valley, we have kids waiting at bus stops early in the morning, and folks walking their dogs. In years past, with "Primitive Weapons" status in effect during the 5-year trial period, I witnessed hunters at the top of Holyoak waiting for deer early in the morning (still dark) while my kids were walking up and waiting for the bus pick-up. I approached one hunter (local Moab business man) at the bus stop, drunk out of his mind at 6:00 a.m., he was scoping the field with his scoped muzzleloader rifle, next to the road where my children were walking. I ran him off but not without a major argument. Hunters like this do not like to be confronted and they all have a gun.

It is important to understand I am an avid hunter. I am not looking at this from a non-hunter aspect, or for my personal gain. Over the thirty-four years of observing the Castle Valley deer hunt, it is obvious the "Archery only" designation is the safest and most sensible approach to hunting here considering the Castle Valley town boundaries, the "Upper 80" and on up to Round Mountain. With the town population continuing to grow in both hunters and non-hunters alike, dangerous situations increase with the current designation of "Primitive Weapons." In addition to human danger, overkill of deer is likely due to hunters understanding the predictability of deer movements, which in turn, is mostly associated

with close proximity to multiple residents. There is no getting around it, other than to designate the hunting as “Archery only.”

Evidence has indicated that in previous years when we believed we had “Archery only” designation, things were a lot safer. It was quiet, there were significantly less violations, and virtually no complaints from residents. The “Primitive Weapons” and worse still “Any Legal Weapon” (which includes high powered rifles) designations are no longer safe or appropriate for the Town of Castle Valley to tolerate. It is absolutely imperative we change to a safer designation. Therefore, I strongly urge the town council to follow through to completion in order to designate hunting here, including the “upper 80” in its boundary, as “Archery only.” I will do anything to help, once again, with this process.

Sincerely,
Greg Nunn

6) Excerpts from Moab Times Independent – Castle Valley Comments by Ron Drake Re: Hunting

Castle Valley Comments by Ron Drake – Excerpt 12.03.04

...The hunting regulations on the upper end of Castle Valley that were instituted several years ago seemed to work well originally but this last deer hunt proved to be a dangerous situation according to those who live in the area. Those residents said the early snow drove many of the deer down from the mountains and the “testosterone level of the hunters was high” creating a hazardous situation. The area is currently restricted to primitive weapons but there were reports of high-powered rifles, hunting from ATV’s, hunting in people’s yards and other complaints. One resident said he counted 17 hunters one day and many more on the last day all hunting in the small area. “There was too much cross firing going on.” They said there were hunters from all over the country in a small concentrated area and it wasn’t safe in their own yards. Mayor Bruce Keeler said he intends to go to the Regional Advisory Council (RAC) board meeting and ask to have the area between the River Ranchos and the upper 80’s, the current primitive weapon hunting area, for bow hunters only. The council concluded that it wouldn’t be too long before there would be a dead bow hunter there. The RAC board is an advisory group to the State Division of Wildlife Resources and they meet monthly at different locations around the state.

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Castle Valley Comments –by Ron Drake – Excerpt 12.10.04

...Last week this column reported on an agenda item of the Castle Valley Town Council meeting about hunting violations in an area limited to primitive weapons. Members of the community who live in the proximity of the BLM and SITLA land in question said the deer hunters created a hazardous situation in that small area this year and wanted it restricted to just bow hunting. Jim Salmon of Castleton, who was in the area at the time with his sons from Salt Lake City who were hunting with muzzleloaders, objected to the resident’s assessment of the situation and the fact that no attempt was made to get the hunters’ points of view at the meeting. “Much of what was said was extremely biased and not necessarily true,” he said. “Residents who felt obligated to monitor the situation were apparently only noticing those legal hunters who were dressed in orange and hunting with primitive weapons.” If bow hunting occurs during the general season hunt, the bow hunters are supposed to wear orange clothing, not camo as they do during the bow hunt season. He acknowledges that there were a few hunters with high powered weapons in the area, dressed in camo to avoid detection, but said “you shouldn’t condemn all hunters because of a couple of bad hunters. What we have is an enforcement problem, not a bad rule.” He said it is like shutting down the interstate because of a few drunk drivers. Jim went on to say that he was personally upset because his sons were following a large buck deer down from Round Mountain,

which went onto properly posted SITLA land. They were doing nothing illegal, when one of the “vigilante” residents “jumped all over them.” He said he called fish and game officers that day and asked them to come out and patrol the area for those hunting illegally. The Fish and Game people stated, according to Salmon, that there had been no complaint calls from Castle Valley residents. They then responded and did issue some citations which shows the system works, he said. “The people who are doing it the right way and legal way are not the problem,” he said. “Don’t shut down the area for a few illegal hunters.

Jim said he went to the big game board nine years ago and asked them to consider limiting the public lands above Castle Valley to primitive hunting which he considers the right choice for that area. He instituted the same restrictions years before for the canyons above Salt Lake City and said it has worked well. “It makes me sad,” he concluded, “that people are saying all these things that are just not true. Exaggerations do not solve the issue and only inflame other residents, causing them to react inappropriately.” ...

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Castle Valley Comments – by Ron Drake - Excerpt 12.31.04

... Residents complained of a dangerous hunting situation on state land above Castle Valley during the town council meeting in November.

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7) Know Your Rifle or Handgun’s Range

About the Study Guide

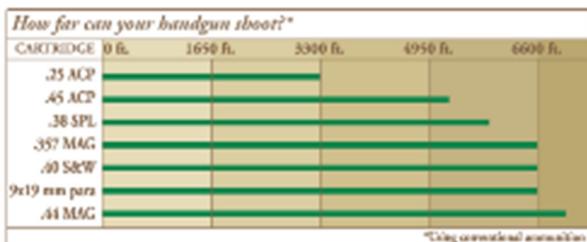
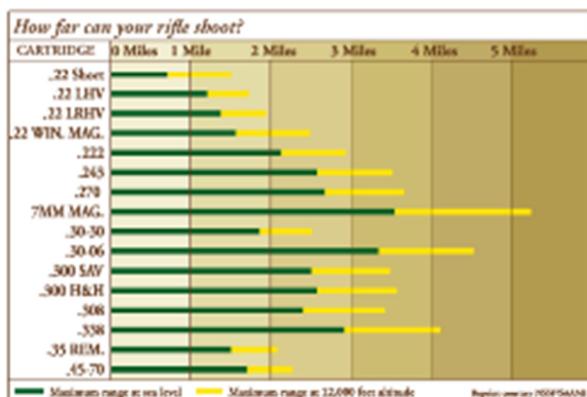
You are looking at a preview of what's in the timed [Washington Hunter Ed Course](#). Feel free to look around, but you'll need to [register](#) to begin progress toward getting your Certification Card.

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Know Your Rifle or Handgun's Range

Metallc cartridges are very powerful. Some bullets can travel almost five miles! Be sure you identify your target and what lies beyond it before you squeeze the trigger. The charts below show just how far bullets from different cartridges can travel.



10/23/2017 - 2017-003111

Report of a hunter on public ground near Castle Valley. Reporting party would not return Adam's phone calls. Nothing else was done.

8/20/2017 – 2017-002307

Mingo Grits case. Bear shot and killed in Castle Valley.

5/7/2017 – 2017-000979

Trespass call. Hunters were gone when officer arrived.

3/10/2017 – 2017-000463

Utip call concerning antler gathering and harassing wildlife.

8/24/2016 - 2016-002390

3 deer that had been legally harvested were dumped near the Castle Valley irrigation pond. Not all of the meat was taken. A citation was issued for wasting.

5/13/2016 – H2994952

2 Citation issued for operating a vehicle without registration.

3/5/2016 – R767791

Dead Head



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL D. FOWLKS
Division Director

Utah Wildlife Board
Box 14301
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301

November 1, 2019

Dear Utah Wildlife Board,

You recently received a proposal from the Town of Castle Valley (“TCV”) regarding Proposed Ordinance 2019-2, which would implement certain hunting closures on lands within TCV’s boundaries. Utah Code §23-14-1(3) provides that if a political subdivision of the state adopts ordinances or regulations concerning hunting, fishing, or trapping that conflict with the Wildlife Code or rules promulgated thereunder, state law shall prevail. It further provides that communities may only close areas to hunting for safety reasons after confirmation by the Wildlife Board.

Utah Administrative Rule R657-34 sets forth the process for your analysis of TCV’s proposed ordinance. Consistent with those requirements, this letter provides the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources’ (UDWR) technical evaluation and recommendation to the Utah Wildlife Board regarding the Town of Castle Valley’s (TCV) proposal. After evaluating the proposal, UDWR recommends that the Utah Wildlife Board not approve the proposed ordinance, and that current restrictions on allowable weapon types described in the 1999 Castle Valley Ordinance be confirmed. We offer the following reasons to support our recommendation:

1. The proposed ordinance restricts hunting on large blocks of unoccupied federal land.

TCV’s town boundaries include approximately 2,550 acres of public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). By UDWR’s estimate, the proposed ordinance would close hunting with muzzleloaders and shotguns on approximately 1,169 acres of public land, and 1,467 acres in total. Hunting restrictions imposed by a local municipality affecting that quantity of contiguous public land must be closely scrutinized. While TCV residents have communicated concerns regarding how the uses of public lands have affected their neighboring private parcels,



this scenario is not unique in Utah - hundreds of communities and towns across the state are islands of private land surrounded by large blocks of publicly owned and publicly accessible land. Public lands are for the use of all citizens, not just those that reside in adjacent towns. These lands are a valuable resource for hunting and are vital to preserving opportunity in Utah.

2. Existing laws prohibit much of the conduct that has concerned TCV residents. These laws protect public safety and private property.

TCV has identified resident and visitor safety as a primary justification for their proposed ordinance. Comments from residents that were submitted during TCV's public survey largely revolved around discharging firearms in proximity to residences and from roadways, as well as hunters trespassing on private lands. Utah Code §76-3-508 prohibits an individual from, among other things, discharging a dangerous weapon or firearm from an automobile or other vehicle, from, upon, or across a highway, or within 600 feet of a house, dwelling, building, or structure where domestic animals are kept or fed *without written permission from the owner or person in charge of the property*. (emphasis added)

UDWR evaluated the location and prevalence of structures within proposed ordinance boundary and determined that most of the Residential Lands within TCV boundary fall within this 600-foot buffer. On these lands a hunting closure serves a similar function as a "no discharge of firearms" restriction – and renders the hunting closure largely duplicitous. However, as mentioned above, the TCV boundaries also include large swaths of BLM land and property owned by Utah Open Lands. The Utah Open Lands parcel is also subject to a conservation easement held by UDWR, and one of the primary purposes identified in the conservation easement is hunting. UDWR has compromised in agreeing to the provisions of the 1999 Ordinance, which prohibits hunting with centerfire rifles in certain areas and results in a corresponding loss of hunting opportunity. Further prohibiting the use of shotguns and muzzleloaders in those areas is unjustified.

A second tool available to TCV residents is Utah Code §23-20-14, which prohibits a person from hunting or engaging in a wildlife-related activity on privately-owned land that is properly posted. Violations of this provision are subject to a Class B Misdemeanor and potential suspension of hunting privileges. UDWR takes reported violations seriously and has committed to responding to them in a timely manner.

3. UDWR has not received the number or kinds of reports of safety issues that would indicate that hunting restrictions beyond those in the 1999 Ordinance are justified.

UDWR evaluated the prevalence of safety-related calls they received in the TCV area and did not find a higher-than-average number of documented calls to officers or their UTIP call line. Officer TJ Robertson was a Conservation Officer in Grand County with the UDWR from 2007 – 2013. Officer Robertson reports that in six years he only received one hunting safety-related call. In that call specifically, a new TCV resident shot a muzzleloader on his private ground and his neighbor called because he felt it was too close to his private land. No citations were issued. In the last 4 years, UDWR has received one safety-related call pertaining to hunting within the proposed ordinance boundaries.

The table below summarizes all hunting-related calls UDWR has documented within the last four years that occurred within the boundaries of the proposed hunting closure:

2019	10/28- Landowner found deer remains on BLM lands 166 yards from his home. Officer Adam Wallerstein responded to this call. This deer was harvested with a muzzleloader during the 2019 hunt.
2018	No calls
2017	10/23- Report of a hunter on public ground near Castle Valley. Reporting party would not return Officer Adam Wallerstein’s phone call. No further actions taken.
	5/7- Report of a trespass hunter and shots fired. Hunters were gone when officer arrived.
	3/10- UTIP call concerning antler gathering and harassing wildlife.
2016	8/24 - 3 deer carcasses were found in an irrigation pond. Not all the meat was taken. A citation was issued for wasting.
	5/13 - Two citations were issued for operating a vehicle without registration.
	3/5 - Deer skull was reported on public lands and investigated.

Public comments received by TCV insinuate that there may be additional unreported social conflicts, but it appears that they are largely of two categories: (1) conduct that is already unlawful under existing law; or (2) a general apprehension of firearms and their lawful use. UDWR understands TCV’s position that they must act before an accident occurs, but acting based on unsubstantiated fears could eliminate hunting and recreational target shooting in large

regions of the state, especially as Utah continues to grow in population. These are safe recreational activities when performed in accordance with existing laws.

4. The proposed ordinance prohibits simple possession of firearms.

Sections 2.02, 3.03, and 4.03 include language that makes it unlawful for a person to “open carry an uncased firearm under conditions which may reasonably be construed as hunting...”

Utah Code §§ 53-5a-102 and 76-10-500 restrict the ability of a local authority from, among other things, prohibiting the possession of a firearm on an individual’s private property. A local jurisdiction’s authority to regulate firearms is generally limited to regulating the discharge of firearms, in addition to recognizing and enforcing other applicable state laws. See Utah Code § 10-8-47(1)(c). Attempting to regulate the possession of firearms in scenarios which “may reasonably be construed as hunting” may exceed the authority delegated to TCV by the legislature. At a minimum, it is ambiguous.

5. The proposed ordinance attempts to assert regulatory authority outside of the boundaries of the TCV.

The proposed ordinance includes an “archery-only” hunting restriction on a parcel of Utah Open Lands Property that lies outside of the TCV boundaries. UDWR believes any restriction imposed by the ordinance must be limited to TCV boundaries.

6. The proposed ordinance does not recognize exceptions for UDWR law enforcement and necessary wildlife management actions.

The lands affected by the TCV hunting closure serve as critical mule deer winter range. During the hunting seasons, the majority of the deer population remain at higher elevations on the La Sal mountains. Most hunters drive through Castle Valley to higher elevations where there are more deer and better hunting opportunities. Resident deer that remain in residential areas of TCV year-round are considered a nuisance by many residents. UDWR administers programs that can be implemented to address big game nuisance issues, but those programs generally depend upon the use and discharge of firearms (either by UDWR staff or licensed hunters). The proposed ordinance does not provide any type of exemption or authorization for these types of programs.

Additionally, Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) has been confirmed on the La Sal unit. This detrimental disease can be spread by congregating deer, such as on winter ranges and is most prevalent in mature bucks. The lands in and around TCV winter many deer, including mature bucks. There may be times when it is beneficial for the health of the deer herd to use public hunters to harvest deer when they are on the winter range within the boundaries of TCV. The proposed hunting restrictions may hinder the UDWR's efforts to manage wildlife populations and halt the spread of CWD in the area.

Thank you for your consideration. UDWR can commit to responding to law enforcement issues in the TCV boundaries under the currently recognized 1999 Ordinance restrictions. However, it appears evident that additional hunting restrictions would have unwarranted and unacceptable impacts on hunter opportunity, UDWR management objectives, and use and enjoyment of public lands. If there are any questions regarding UDWR's perspective on this matter please contact Chris Wood, Southeastern Region Supervisor, at chriswood@utah.gov or (435) 820-6019.

Sincerely,



ACTING DIRECTOR

Michal D. Fowlks

Division Director

GBH / CW