Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

November 7, 2013, DNR, Boardroom
1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

Thursday, November 7, 2013, Board Meeting 9:00 am

1. Approval of Agenda **ACTION**
   – Jake Albrecht, Chairman

2. Approval of Minutes **ACTION**
   – Jake Albrecht, Chairman

3. Old Business/Action Log **CONTINGENT**
   – Bill Fenimore, Vice-Chair
   - Update on Duck Creek action log item
   - Update on Monroe Mtn. Elk action log item
   - Update on rule/guideline to define management plans

4. DWR Update **INFORMATION**
   – Gregory Sheehan, DWR Director

5. Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 **ACTION**
   - Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator
   - Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator

6. Establishment of Least Chub Refuge Populations **ACTION**
   - Chris Crockett, Native Aquatic Project Leader

7. Conservation Permit Audit **ACTION**
   - Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief

8. Conservation Permit Allocation – 1 year **ACTION**
   - Bill Bates, Wildlife Section Chief

9. Conservation Permit Annual Report **ACTION**
   - Bill Bates, Wildlife Section Chief

10. 2014 RAC/Board Dates **ACTION**
    - Staci Coons, Wildlife Board Coordinator

11. Other Business **CONTINGENT**
    – Jake Albrecht, Chairman
    - Winter WAFWA

Earthwings presentation at 1:00 p.m.

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

Wildlife Board Motions

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

Spring 2013 – Target Date – Preference Point Presentation

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to give a presentation on the preference point system relative to the new 30 unit deer plan.

Assigned to: Judi Tutorow / Lindy Varney
Action: Under Study
Status: Additional information to be presented December 4, 2013
Placed on Action Log: June 6, 2012

Spring 2013 – Target Date – Scopes on Muzzleloader Rifles and Use of Crossbows

MOTION: I move that we ask the division to report to the Board on the issues and concerns with using a magnifying scope on a muzzleloader as well as the use of a crossbow during the "any legal weapon" general season deer hunt by all sportsmen. This is to be placed on the action log and the report shall be discussed at the May 2013 work session.

Assigned to: Tony Wood
Action: Under Study
Status: Proposal to be taken to RAC's and Board beginning in November with Big Game
Placed on Action Log: December 6, 2012

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Nine Mile Range Creek

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to report back on the Nine Mile Range Creek change to any bull relative to all issues of hunting, including trespass, harvest, and hunter satisfaction.

Assigned to: Justin Shannon/Brad Crompton
Action: Under Study
Status: Information to be presented December 4, 2013

Placed on Action Log: December 1, 2011

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Premium Limited-entry deer tags

MOTION: I move that we have placed on the action log that the Division look into a premium limited entry deer tag similar to the premium limited entry elk tag.

Assigned to: Bill Bates/Judi Tutorow
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: May 3, 2012

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Duck Creek

MOTION: I move that we ask the Southern Region to address the Duck Creek issues and report back to the board within a year from now. This is to be placed on the action log.

Assigned to: Kevin Bunnell
Action: Under Study
Status: To be presented at the November 7, 2013 board meeting
Placed on Action Log: November 1, 2012

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Mineral Mountain Range

MOTION: I move that we ask the division to study the issues and concerns of making the Mineral Mountain Range (west side of Beaver unit) a limited entry buck deer unit and that it be discussed during the revision of the deer plan with the Deer Management Committee. This is to be placed on the action log.

Assigned to: Bill Bates
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: December 6, 2012

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Additional muzzleloader Pronghorn hunting opportunity

MOTION I move that we ask the division to study additional muzzleloader pronghorn hunting opportunity as presented in the November RAC meetings by Mr. Zundel. This is to be placed on the action log.

Assigned to: Bill Bates
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: December 6, 2012

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Fish Possession Limit

MOTION: I move that the division look into the issue of bag and possession limits being identical.

Assigned to: Drew Cushing
Action: Under Study
Status: To be presented at the November 7, 2013 board meeting
Placed on Action Log: November 1, 2012

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Exemptions for Companion Hunters of Disabled Sportsmen

MOTION: I move that we place on the action log the motion from the Southeastern Region to look at allowing a specified companion hunter to finish off a wounded animal for a disabled hunter, who is paraplegic, quadriplegic, blind or has lost use of his upper extremities. This is to be completed by the Bucks and Bulls Board Meeting in Dec. 2013.

Assigned to: Kenny Johnson/Marty Bushman
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: January 10, 2013

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Additional Use of Crossbows for taking carp

MOTION: I move that we place on the action log that the division look at the use of crossbows to take carp by all fisherman and not just Disabled Anglers.

Assigned to: Tony Wood
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: January 10, 2013

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Transfer of Permits to Veterans

MOTION: I move that we place on the action log the recommendation made by Mr. David Gurr and that we ask the division to consider his proposal as they are considering other statue changes relating to the transfer of tags. (See Board Packet – 01/10/2013 for proposal)

Assigned to: Robin Cahoon
Action: Under Study
Status: Information to be presented December 4, 2013
Placed on Action Log: January 10, 2013

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Monroe Mountain

MOTION: I move that we ask the Southern Region Manager to meet with his staff to look at the Monroe Mountain unit to see if it requires a different hunting structure. This is to be brought back to the Wildlife Board prior to the November RAC meetings.

Assigned to: Kevin Bunnell
Action: Under Study
Status: To be presented at the November 7, 2013 board meeting
Placed on Action Log: May 2, 2013

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Non-Resident Sheep Permit Quota

MOTION: I move that we ask the division to prepare a sheet for the Board and the NRO RAC that shows the sheep unit grouping and permit percentage rules that were passed (by the board) last year – and subsequent total permits and breakout between OIAL, conservation and convention permits, for each sheep species and each unit group.

Assigned to: Bill Bates
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: May 2, 2013

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Rule/Guideline to define Species and Unit Management Plans

MOTION: I move that we establish an action log for DWR to develop a rule to define plan creations, notifications, participation, composition, and processes of species management plans and unit management plans that cover big game, bear, cougar, and turkey.

Assigned to: Bill Bates
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: June 4, 2013

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Dedicated Hunter Hours

MOTION: for DWR to reconsider allowing Dedicated Hunter program applicants to accrue volunteer hours in the first year after they apply in the program rather than waiting until the final selections and approval. Also, have the DWR bring the list of approved efforts for hours to the Board for review and consideration.

Assigned to: Bryan Christensen
Action: Under Study
Status: Proposal to be taken to RAC's and Board in November with Big Game
Placed on Action Log: June 4, 2013

Summer 2014 – Target Date – Hunting Turkeys with Falcons

MOTION: I move that we put the hunting turkeys with falcons proposal on the action log for consideration when the Upland Game Guidebook comes up for review.

Assigned to: Jason Robinson
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: June 9, 2011

Summer 2014 – Target Date – Additional Benefits for Limited-Entry turkey tag holders

MOTION: I move that we have placed on the action log that the Division look into the possibility and feasibility of a limited entry turkey permit holder who is unsuccessful to turn in their limited entry tag and purchase a general season tag.

Assigned to: Jason Robinson
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: May 3, 2012

Summer 2014 – Target Date – Group Applications for Limited-Entry turkey permits, sage-grouse and sharp-tail grouse permits.

MOTION: I move for the DWR to present a proposal to the RACs that group applications be allowed for the limited entry turkey, sage-grouse, and sharp-tailed grouse hunts.

Assigned to: Jason Robinson
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: June 4, 2013

Summer 2014 – Target Date – Use of 28 gauge shotgun for taking Wild Turkeys

MOTION: I move that we place on the action log the request for use of a 28 gauge shotgun for turkeys.

Assigned to: Jason Robinson
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: June 4, 2013

Fall 2014 – Target Date – Management Buck Tags on the Book Cliffs

MOTION: I move that the Division be asked to review the buck management tags on the Book Cliffs. People are always reporting the presence of big two and three point bucks in that area. Perhaps these permits could be given to youth. This is to be addressed during the revision of the Deer Management Plan in 2014.

Assigned to: Bill Bates
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: December 1, 2011

Fall 2014 – Target Date – Definition of "Youth"

MOTION: I move that we ask the division to study the definition of "youth" and see if it can be adjusted and made universal across the division with the different species. This is to be placed on the action log.

Assigned to: Kevin Bunnell/Judi Tutorow
Action: Under Study
Status: the proposal is to be taken out to the RAC's and Board as the applicable guidebooks come up for review
Placed on Action Log: December 6, 2012

On going – Target Date - Multi-year guidebooks and rules

MOTION: We ask that the Division look toward multi-year guidebooks and rules and that they present a plan on how that multi-year guidebook and rule will work as each is presented.

Assigned to: Staci Coons
Action: Under Study
Status: Wildlife Board last updated at the May 29, 2013 work session
Placed on Action Log: August 20, 2009

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

August 22, 2013, DNR, Boardroom
1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
AGENDA

Thursday, August 22, 2013 – 9:00 am

1. Approval of Agenda **ACTION**
   – Jake Albrecht, Chairman
2. Approval of Minutes **ACTION**
   – Jake Albrecht, Chairman
3. Old Business/Action Log **CONTINGENT**
   – Bill Fenimore, Vice-Chair
4. DWR Update **INFORMATION**
   – Greg Sheehan, DWR Director
5. Goat Management Plans **ACTION**
   – Dustin Schiable, Guy Wallace, Justin Shannon, Wildlife Biologist
6. Cougar Recommendations **ACTION**
   – John Shivik, Mammals Coordinator
7. Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations **ACTION**
   – John Shivik, Mammals Coordinator
8. Turkey Depredation **INFORMATION**
   – Jason Robinson, Upland Coordinator
9. Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule R657-09 **ACTION**
   – Blair Stringham, Upland Game Biologist
10. R657-66 Military Installations New Rule **ACTION**
    – Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief
11. Proposed Fee Schedule FY 2015 **ACTION**
    – Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief
12. R657-52 Brine Shrimp Rule Amendments **ACTION**
    – John Luft, Brine Shrimp Coordinator
13. R657-60 AIS Rule Amendments **ACTION**
    – Jordan Nielson, AIS Coordinator
14. Convention Permit Audit **ACTION**
    – Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief
15. Convention Permit Allocation **ACTION**
    – Mike Fowlks, Deputy Director
16. CRC - Recommendation **ACTION**
    – Staci Coons, CRC Chair
17. Wildlife Board Stipulation Agreement **ACTION**
    – Greg Hansen, Legal Counsel
18. Other Business **CONTINGENT**
    – Jake Albrecht, Chairman

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
August 22, 2013, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
Summary of Motions

1) Approval of Agenda **(Action)**

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.

2) Approval of Minutes **(Action)**

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the May 29, 2013 Wildlife Board Work Session as amended.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the June 4, 2013 Wildlife Board Meeting.

3) Goat Management Plans **(Action)**

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the Goat Management Plan for Mt. Dutton with the augmentation of up to 125 goats and have the Division meet annually with an advisory group to address concerns.

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the Goat Management Plan for the La Sal with the transplant of up to 200 goats and have the Division meet annually with an advisory group to address concerns.

The following amended motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Bill Fenimore. The amended motion failed 2-4.

AMENDED MOTION: I move that we postpone transplants until monitoring is established and keep the goats to 1.8 per square miles.

4) Cougar Recommendations **(Action)**

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 5-1. Kirk Woodward voted against the motion.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Cougar Recommendations as presented with the requirement that the Division reopen the management plan and provide a simplified proposal that incorporates unit by unit next year.

5) Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendation **(Action)**

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations as presented

6) Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule R657-09 **(Action)**

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule R657-09 as presented, with a youth hunt start date of September 21, 2013.

7) R657-66 Military Installations New Rule **(Action)**

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Military Installations Permit Program R657-66 as presented by the Division.

8) Proposed Fee Schedule FY 2015 **(Action)**

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the FY 2015 Proposed Fee Schedule as presented.

9) R657-52 Brine Shrimp Rule Amendments **(Action)**

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

MOTION: I move that we approve R657-52 Brine Shrimp Rule Amendments as presented the Division.

10) R657-60 AIS Rule Amendments **(Action)**

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

MOTION: I move that we approve R657-60 AIS Rule Amendments as presented by the Division.

11) Convention Permit Allocation **(Action)**

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

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

12) CRC Recommendation **(Action)**

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

MOTION: I move that we approve both CRC Recommendations as presented.

13) Wildlife Board Stipulation Agreement **(Action)**

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Wildlife Board Stipulation Agreement for Jose L. Garcia as presented.

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Wildlife Board Stipulation Agreement for Joel Murray as presented.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
August 22, 2013, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
http://wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings/board_minutes/audio/13-8-22.mp3

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

RAC Chairs Present
Central – Richard Hansen
Southern – Dave Black
Southeastern – Kevin Albrecht
Northeastern - Wayne McAllister
Northern – Robert Byrnes

Division Personnel Present

Mike Fowlks	Bruce Johnson	Teresa Griffin
Rory Reynolds	Mark Hadley	Darren DeBloois
Mike Canning	Bill Bates	Jordan Nielson
Staci Coons	Kevin Bunnell	Scott McFarlane
Thu Vo-Wood	Chris Wood	Justin Dolling
Dustin Schiable	Troy Davis	Mike Roach
Guy Wallace	Robyn Pearson	John Fairchild
Justin Shannon	Covy Jones	Kenny Johnson
John Shivik	Robin Thomas	Jason Vernon
Jason Robinson	Lindy Varney	Randall Thacker
Blair Stringham	Rick Olson	Sid Groll
Kenny Johnson	Tony Wood	Phil Gray
Greg Hansen	Judi Tutorow	Roger Wilson
Marty Bushman	Dean Mitchell	John Luft
Boyde Blackwell	Kent Hersey	Drew Cushing
Ashley Green	Dax Mangus	Riley Peck
		Clint Mecham

Public Present

Ernie Perkins	Randy Dearth	Al Nielson	
Byron Bateman, SFW	Ryan Foutz	Adam Hadlock	Allison Jones, Wild Utah Project
Eric Tycksen, MDF	Fox 13	Brant Klun, UHA	Milton Hooper, Goshute Tribe
Kim Coleman	Stanton Gleaves	Brad Evans	Tye Boulter, United Wildlife
Shawn Mathewson	Del Brady	Dustin Sm	Sterling Brown, Utah Farm Bureau
Chet Young, UHA	Evan Hoyt	Amy Ekins	Wayne Hoskisson, Canyonlands Watershed Council
Jason Binder, UHA	Dan Cockayne, UHA	Annette York	Mary O'Brien, Grand Canyon Trust
Jeff Greenwell	Dustin Smuin, UHA	Lonnie Steinke	Kirk Robinson, Western Wildlife Conservancy
Brady Halladay	Earl Hansen	Adam Hadlock	Danielle Chi, Forest Service
Jared Workman	Kirt Connolly	Bryce Pilling	Robert Olson, Sanpete Valley Houndsman
Hal Mecham, UHA	Tyson Mathews	Ganett Gleaves	Ryan Benson, Big Game Forever
Kyler Wheeler	Zachary Rawlings	Martina Barnes	Jim Carter, Utah Anglers Coalition
Clair Woodbury	Don Leonard	George Sommers	Mark Lamon, Ocean Star International
Andy Lyon	Jeromy Kempton	Kevin Jensen, UHA	Troy Justensen, SFW

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

1) Approval of Agenda **(Action) 00:04:33 – 00:04:58 of 07:34:21**

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.

2) Approval of Minutes **(Action) 00:04:59 – 00:06:26 of 07:34:21**

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the May 29, 2013 Wildlife Board Work Session as amended.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the June 4, 2013 Wildlife Board Meeting.

3) Old Business/Action Log **(Contingent) 00:06:33 – 00:07:00 of 07:34:21**

The action log item, additional take of sandhill crane and swan, will be discussed during the waterfowl presentation.

4) DWR Update **(Informational) 00:07:05 – 00:16:55 of 07:34:21**

Greg Sheehan summarized an active law suit that will affect DWR's ability to manage wildlife. He also updated the fire situation around the state; low water issues that prompted emergency changes; and recognized Ernie Perkins for an award received during summer WAFWA.

5) Goat Management Plans – Mt. Dutton and La Sal **(Action) 00:17:22 – 03:33:02 of 07:34:21**

Dustin Schiable presented the goat management plan for Mt. Dutton.

Justin Shannon presented the goat management plan for the La Sal.

Board Questions 00:35:00 – 01:00:14

There were specific questions about monitoring processes and procedures.

Public Questions 01:00:22 – 01:08:50

Public questions were accepted at this time.

RAC Recommendations 01:08:56 – 01:20:00

Southern, Northeast, Central, and Northern RAC approved the Goat Management Plans for Mt. Dutton and La Sal with a few dissentions and abstentions.

Southern RAC passed an amendment to create a stakeholder group for the Mt. Dutton plan.

Northeast RAC included Farm Bureau's recommendation to incorporate on Mt. Dutton.

Southeast RAC passed the Mt. Dutton plan with two opposing votes. They were unable to break a tie for two proposed motions on the La Sal plan.

Public Comments 01:20:04 – 02:32:45

Public comments were accepted at this time. Individuals and organizations were very passionate in their positions.

Board Discussion 02:32:55 – 03:33:02

The Board tackled the Mt. Dutton discussion first and foresaw no negative impacts. They got engrossed in defining the group that would meet with the Division on an annual basis to review/monitor/evaluate the plan's progress.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the Goat Management Plan for Mt. Dutton with the augmentation of up to 125 goats and have the Division meet annually with an advisory group to address concerns.

The Board expressed confidence in the Division's ability to manage and monitor the plan on the La Sals and felt the Division provided due process for the plan. They conveyed concerns for the relationship between the Division and Forest service. A couple board members erred on the side of caution and asked the Division for restraint.

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the Goat Management Plan for the La Sal with the transplant of up to 200 goats and have the Division meet annually with an advisory group to address concerns.

The following amended motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Bill Fenimore and failed 2-4.

AMENDED MOTION: I move that we postpone transplants until monitoring is established and keep the goats to 1.8 per square miles.

6) Cougar Recommendations **(Action) 03:42:10 – 5:21:48 of 07:34:21**

John Shivik presented the cougar recommendations.

Board Questions 04:01:35 – 04:16:10

The Board asked about the online training process and questions on how to simplify the management plan.

Public Questions 04:16:15 – 04:33:16

Public questions accepted at this time.

RAC Recommendation 04:33:29 – 05:00:36

Each RAC added stipulations to the Cougar Recommendations and passed it with varying dissent.

Public Comments 05:00:37 – 05:03:07

Public comments accepted at this time.

Board Discussion 05:03:23 – 05:21:48

Discussion revolved around determining units and areas, which proved to be perplexing and confounding.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 5-1. Kirk Woodward voted against the motion.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Cougar Recommendations as presented with the requirement that the Division reopen the management plan and provide a simplified proposal that incorporates unit by unit next year.

7) Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations **(Action) 05:22:43 – 05:32:00 of 07:34:21**

John Shivik presented the furbearer and bobcat harvest recommendations.

Public Questions 05:29:26 – 05:30:29

Public questions accepted at this time.

RAC Recommendations 05:30:30 – 05:30:54

Southern , Northern, Northeast, and Central RACs unanimously passed the Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest recommendations as presented. Southeast RAC approved the recommendations 8 to 2.

Public Comments 05:31:02 – 05:31:27

Public comments accepted at this time.

Board Discussion 05:31:33 – 05:32:00

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

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

8) Turkey Depredation **(Informational) 05:32:20 – 05:37:53 of 07:34:21**

Jason Robinson outlined HB 432 – Wild Turkey Management and the Divisions' plan of action to the bill.

Board Questions 05:36:53 – 05:37:53

The depredation permits will be for any sex although the regions can make that determination.

There are a variety of nuisance issues ranging from someone not liking turkeys to turkeys scratching hay bales and disrupting the yard.

9) Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule R657-09 **(Action) 05:37:54 – 05:52:30 of 07:34:21**

Blair Stringham presented the Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule R657-09.

Board Questions 05:47:16 – 05:49:20

Board members asked about objectives, zones, and the effects of moving the youth hunt date.

RAC Recommendations 05:49:30 – 05:50:52

Southeast, Central, and Northeast RACs unanimously passed the Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule as presented. Southern and Northern RACs qualified their unanimous vote with a change in the youth hunt start date to September 21, 2013.

Board Discussion 05:50:53 – 05:52:30

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule R657-09 as presented, with a youth hunt start date of September 21, 2013.

10) R657-66 Military Installations New Rule **(Action) 05:52:44 – 06:03:46 of 07:34:21**

Kenny Johnson presented rule R657-66 Military Installations.

Board Questions 05:55:58 – 05:57:04

Most of the military bases do have their own biologists and will be working closely with DWR biologists.

RAC Questions 05:57:05 – 05:57:45

At this time, military personnel who are nonresidents will have to pay nonresident fees.

Public Questions 05:57:46 – 05:59:04

The military will determine if disabled or retired military personnel qualify.

RAC Recommendations 05:59:12 – 06:01:40

Southern, Northeast, and Central RACs unanimously passed the Military Installations Permit Program R657-66 as presented.

Southeast RAC passed with one opposing vote.

Northern RAC passed with one abstention. They suggested exploring additional hunting opportunities on military installations.

Board Discussion 06:01:57 – 06:03:46

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Military Installations Permit Program R657-66 as presented by the Division.

11) Proposed Fee Schedule FY 2015 **(Action) 06:03:48 – 06:37:55 of 07:34:21**

Kenny Johnson presented the proposed fee schedule for fiscal year 2015.

Board Questions 06:23:33 – 06:24:39

Multiple year licenses for seniors will be considered at a later time once a system is in place to calculate discounts.

RAC Questions 06:24:43 – 06:26:44

There was a lot of interest and discussion about lifetime licenses during the RAC meetings and prior; however, the high cost of the license and administrative expenses to maintain the program dissuaded many from pursuing this route. The five-year license is much more feasible.

RAC Recommendations 06:26:53 – 06:29:09

Southern, Central, and Northern RACs unanimously passed the Proposed Fee Schedule FY 2015 as presented. Southeast RAC passed with one opposing vote. Northeast passed 5-4.

Public Comments 06:32:44 – 06:35:52

Public comments taken at this time.

Board Discussion 06:29:19 – 06:32:42; 06:35:55 – 06:37:55

Jake Albrecht commended the DWR for keeping up with the fee schedule as needed rather than prolonging it for a harsher increase.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the FY2015 Proposed Fee Schedule as presented by the Division.

12) R657-52 Brine Shrimp Rule Amendments **(Action) 06:37:55 – 06:49:00 of 07:34:21**

John Luft presented the Brine Shrimp Rule Amendments R657-52.

RAC Recommendations 06:45:01 – 06:45:13

Central and Northern RACs unanimously passed the Brine Shrimp Rule Amendments R657-52 as presented.

Public Comments 06:45:17 – 06:48:12

Public comments taken at this time.

Board Discussion 06:48:14 – 06:49:00

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the R657-52 Brine Shrimp Rule Amendments as presented by the Division.

13) R657-60 AIS Rule Amendments **(Action) 06:49:03 – 06:54:50 of 07:34:21**

Jordan Nielson presented the amendments to AIS Rule R657-60.

Board Questions 06:53:26 – 06:53:54

Calvin Crandall confirmed that professional decontamination is not necessary each time a boat leaves/enters the same infested body of water during extended stays. Boats are only required to clean and drain.

RAC Recommendations 06:54:09 – 06:54:50

All RACs unanimously passed the AIS Rule Amendments R657-60 as presented.

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the AIS Rule Amendments R657-60 as presented by the Division.

14) Convention Permit Audit **(Action) 06:54:59 – 07:06:30 of 07:34:21**

Kenny Johnson presented the Convention Permit Audit.

Board Questions/Discussions 07:05:37 – 07:06:30

Mike King asked about projects that were funded by the permits. Projects are listed in the Board packet.

15) Convention Permit Allocation **(Action) 07:06:31 – 07:15:15 of 07:34:21**

Mike Fowlks presented the Convention Permit Allocation.

Board Questions/Discussions/Public Comments 07:09:54 – 07:15:15

The spin off money in the economy from the Hunt Expo was roughly $12 million.

John Bair wanted to clarify that once the tags are allocated to the draw they cannot be sold as something else or moved to serve some other purpose.

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

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

16) CRC Recommendation **(Action) 07:15:21 – 07:19:45 of 07:34:21**

Staci Coons presented the CRC recommendations.

Board Questions/Discussions 07:18:00 – 07:19:45

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

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

17) Wildlife Board Stipulation Agreement **(Action) 07:19:55 – 07:27:30 of 07:34:21**

Greg Hansen presented the stipulation agreement for Jose L. Garcia.

Martin Bushman presented the stipulation for Joel Murray.

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Stipulation Agreement for Jose L. Garcia as presented by the Division.

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Stipulation Agreement for Joel Murray as presented by the Division.

18) Other Business **(Contingent) 07:27:35 – 07:34:21 of 07:34:21**

DWR Employee Awards banquet is September 19. The Board was in agreement with their nomination. Greg Sheehan invited the Board to attend and present the award to the recipient.

Jake Albrecht asked the RAC and Board to determine a better strategy for lengthy agendas. John Bair noted it's easier to take off one day from work than make arrangements for several days off to attend meetings.

Jake Albrecht proposed the Board attend some of the ongoing wildlife management projects around the state; dedicate a field trip day to learn about the various projects that become issues for discussion and consideration.

Meeting adjourned.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

August 29, 2013, Suite 2210
1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

Thursday, August 29, 2013, 9:00 am

1. Approval of Agenda **ACTION**
   – Jake Albrecht, Chairman

2. Conservation and Sportsmen permit season dates **ACTION**
   – Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief

3. Other Business **CONTINGENT**
   – Jake Albrecht, Chair

Board Members in attendance at anchor location:
Gregory Sheehan – Executive Secretary

Board Members participating electronically:
Jake Albrecht - Chairman
John Bair
Calvin Crandall
Kirk Woodward

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
August 29, 2013, Suite 2210
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
Summary of Motions

1) Approval of Agenda **(Action)**

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.

2) Conservation and Sportsmen Permit Season Dates **(Action)**

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we amend the Sportsman and Statewide Conservation Permit Season Dates, posted on page 8 of the 2013 Big Game Guidebook, from Monday, September 2, 2013 to Saturday, August 31, 2013 in accordance with the CWMU permit season date.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
August 29, 2013, Suite 2210
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
http://wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings/board_minutes/audio/13-08-29.mp3

Wildlife Board Members Present
Jake Albrecht – (phone)
Greg Sheehan – Exec Sec
John Bair– (phone)
Calvin Crandall (phone)
Kirk Woodward (phone)

Division Personnel Present
Kenny Johnson
Staci Coons
Marty Bushman
Mike Fowlks
Brad Vaske
Bill Bates
Anita Candelaria
Suzette Fowlks

Public Present
Zach Mikesell (phone)
Brad Binkley
John Mikesell

Chairman Albrecht called the meeting to order and did a roll call since the meeting was held via conference call.

1) Approval of Agenda **(Action) 00:01:18 – 00:02:06 of 00:31:38**

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.

2) Conservation and Sportsmen Permit Season Dates **(Action) 00:03:01 – 00:31:38 of 00:31:38**

Kenny Johnson presented the proposed sportsman and statewide conservation permit opening season date change. It would be an amendment to page 8 of the 2013 Big Game guidebook. This would be in alignment with the CWMU opening season date, which was approved in the December 2012 Board meeting to default backwards to a Saturday.

Board Questions 00:05:26 – 00:10:06

The Board wanted to ensure they understood the Division's request. This would be an amendment to the opening season date for statewide conservation and sportsman permits only. It would allow these permit holders an extra two days to hunt by moving the date to August 31, which would be parallel to the CWMU opening season date.

Public Comments 00:10:43 – 00:20:05

Public comments were taken at this time. They requested consistency for season dates, that it match the Board approved season dates for CWMUs.

Board Comments 00:20:07 – 00:31:38

History, background and legal interpretations were discussed. Greg Sheehan noted that archery hunters would be affected by the date change, unfair competition by rifle hunters.

The Board concluded that the sportsman and statewide conservation permit holders should have equitable hunt days to CWMU permit holders.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we amend the Sportsman and Statewide Conservation Permit Season Dates, posted on page 8 of the 2013 Big Game Guidebook, from Monday, September 2, 2013 to Saturday, August 31, 2013 in accordance with the CWMU permit season date.

Greg Sheehan mentioned that affected permit holders were notified about the potential season date change prior to this meeting. Jake Albrecht requested that permit holders be notified again and ensure that there is direct contact about the Board's final decision.

Meeting adjourned.

Summary of Motions
September 2013

FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13

SRO

MOTION: To allow a 3 day possession limit and to remove preserved fish (canned, bottled, smoked etc.) from the possession limit.
VOTE: carried 4:3; opposed by 2 at large reps and 1 agriculture rep, non-consumptive rep abstained

MOTION: To include in the next fisheries survey a question regarding the taking of catch and kill species by spearfishermen in all waters where it applies.
VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION: To include in the next fisheries survey a question regarding instating an 8 fish limit statewide.
VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION: To accept the remainder of the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented.
VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION: To create an action item for the board to address the theft of trail cameras to include wildlife related penalties.
VOTE: Unanimous.

SERO, NERO, CRO

MOTION: To accept the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented.
VOTE: Passed unanimously

NRO

MOTION: Recommend the Wildlife Board adopt the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented with the addition of the following 5 items.
1. Closure of the Willard Bay inlet during the Walleye spawn.
2. 2 day limit possession in the field, 3 day limit in the fridge or freezer and no limit on cooked fish.
3. 2 day possession limit at Strawberry Reservoir.
4. In 2015 all catch and kill waters will be open to spearfishing.
5. 3 walleye and 3 wiper possession limit at Willard Bay.

Motion to amend the original motion: Include in #2, excluding Strawberry Reservoir and Flaming Gorge Reservoir, Remove #3 (2 day possession limit at Strawberry Reservoir) and #5 (3 walleye and 3 wiper possession limit at Willard Bay).
Motion to Amend Passes: Unanimous

Amended Motion Passes: For: 11, Against: 1

ESTABLISHMENT OF LEAST CHUB REFUGE POPULATIONS

CRO

MOTION: To support the Least Chub management plan as presented
VOTE: Passed unanimously

Southern Regional Advisory Council Meeting
Richfield High School
Richfield, UT
September 10, 2013
7:00 p.m.

1. REVIEW & ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES AND AGENDA

MOTION: To accept the minutes and agenda as written.

VOTE: Unanimous.

2. FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13

MOTION: To allow a 3 day possession limit and to remove preserved fish (canned, bottled, smoked etc.) from the possession limit.

VOTE: **C**arried 4:3; opposed by 2 at large reps. and 1 agriculture rep., non-consumptive rep abstained

MOTION: To include in the next fisheries survey a question regarding the taking of catch and kill species by spearfishermen in all waters where it applies.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION: To include in the next fisheries survey a question regarding instating an 8 fish limit statewide.

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION: To accept the remainder of the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented.

VOTE: Unanimous

3. OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION: To create an action item for the board to address the theft of trail cameras to include wildlife related penalties.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Southern Regional Advisory Council Meeting
Beaver High School
Beaver, UT
September 10, 2013
7:00 p.m.

RAC Members Present	DWR Personnel Present	Wildlife Board Present	RAC Members Not Present
Chairman David Black	Stan Beckstrom	Jake Albrecht	Cordell Pearson
Harry Barber	Paul Birdsey	Steve Dalton	Clair Woodbury
Sam Carpenter	Nic Braithwaite		Dale Bagley
Brian Johnson	Kevin Bunnell		Layne Torgerson
Mack Morrell	Lynn Chamberlain		
Mike Worthen	Drew Cushing		
Rusty Aiken	Micah Evans		
Mike Staheli	Brent Farnsworth		
Sean Kelly	Mike Hadley		
	Richard Hepworth		
	Giani Julander		
	Roger Wilson		

Dave Black called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 3 interested parties in attendance in addition to RAC members, members of the Wildlife Board, and Division employees. Dave Black introduced himself and asked RAC members to introduce themselves.

Dave Black: I'd like to welcome you to the Southern Utah RAC meeting this evening. My name's Dave Black. I'm the chairman of the RAC. I'm from St. George. I'd like to recognize - - before we introduce the rest of the RAC we have a couple of Wildlife Board members with us. We have Steve Dalton, who's with us, and we have the new chairman of the Wildlife Board Jake Albrecht with us as well. So, we welcome them. Appreciate their attendance. We appreciate the work that they do. Maybe we can start down here on my right and I'll have the RAC introduce themselves as we go on.

Brian Johnson: Brian Johnson. I represent the non-consumptives.

Mike Worthen: Mike Worthen, Cedar City; representing the public at-large.

Rusty Aiken: Rusty Aiken, Cedar City; representing agriculture.

Sean Kelly: Sean Kelly, Fillmore; representing the Forest Service.

Sam Carpenter: Sam Carpenter from Kanab. I represent the sportsman.

Kevin Bunnell: Kevin Bunnell from Cedar City. I'm the regional supervisor and just here to help out.

Mike Staheli: Mike Staheli from Deseret; I'm at-large.

Harry Barber: I'm Harry Barber from Kanab and I represent the BLM.

Mack Morrell: Mack Morrell, Bicknell; representing agriculture.

Dave Black: Thank you. Um, we'd like to review the - - well first we need to review - - make a motion to accept the minutes and the agenda.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda and Minutes (action)

Harry Barber: Hopefully everybody's had a chance to review that. Do we have a motion on the table for the minutes and the agenda? Sam.

Rusty Aiken: I'll make the motion to accept the minutes and the agenda.

Sean Kelly: I'll second.

Dave Black: Okay, we have a motion and a second to accept the agenda and the minutes. All in favor? It looks like that's unanimous.

Rusty Aiken made the motion to accept the agenda and minutes as presented. Sean Kelly seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Wildlife Board Update:
-Dave Black, Chairman

Dave Black: I'd like to give a Wildlife Board update. The last meeting was even longer than our RAC meeting. There were quite a few people in attendance. It was pretty interesting. There was some good discussion that was there. The first item was the mountain goats. And after a lot of discussion there was a vote, which passed 4 to 2, to allow the transplanting of the goats on the LaSal and also on Mt. Dutton. And it's my understanding that the transplant has already taken place. Is that correct, in both areas, or just the LaSal?

Kevin Bunnell: I'll cover that in the regional update.

Dave Black: Okay. All right, and then the next item was with the management plan for the cougars. And again, there was quite a bit of discussion back and forth. And if I recall the Southern RAC had a motion

that went to the Board to address the cougars the same way on the premium limited entry deer units as they do the sheep units. That was discussed briefly but the main discussion was going towards just the confusion and how complicated the current management plan was. There was a motion to accept the plan for this year, which passed, however, they recommended that by next year they revise or update that plan so it's easier to understand; and if I understand that right that's the way that happened. Maybe I'll have Kevin fill you in on some of the other motions and so forth at that time.

Kevin Bunnell: Everything else that was on the agenda, the fee increase, and the aquatic invasive species, and the military installations, that stuff all passed as it had passed this RAC. You know interestingly enough the two things on the cougar recommendations that came out of this group, one to have an update of the research, and then to have a review of the management plan, the Board didn't take them exactly as this advisory counsel had passed them but modified those recommendations a little bit and directed the Division to simplify the cougar plan, which is a request that came out of this group, and to get an update on all the cougar research that's been going on. And that will probably be going to all the RACs, not just specifically to here, I would guess probably in December we'll get an update and kind of an overview of all that research that's been taking place for, well fifteen plus years in some places of the state. So, other than that, you know, the goat plan and the cougar recommendations took the bulk of the meeting and then everything else went fairly quick, wouldn't you say Jake, after that? Yeah, it was a long meeting. Do you want me to go ahead with the regional update too?

Dave Black: Yeah.

Rusty Aiken: I have a question.

Kevin Bunnell: Go ahead.

Rusty Aiken: Maybe I missed this. What happened on the cougar in the premium units? Did that pass?

Kevin Bunnell: It didn't. Because the Board had directed the Division to kind of go over the whole plan, they, they, I think they thought to kind of just keep it simple this year; let's go with the recommendations as presented but then directed the Division to look at the overall plan. And so I think that's one of those things that will be considered as they look at simplifying and revising the management plan. I don't know if it will go anywhere. It only came out of this RAC and none of the others had similar recommendations so I don't know how much traction it will get with the revision but it's something that will be on the list, I'm sure, to look at.

Sam Carpenter: Can I ask one more question?

Kevin Bunnell: Sure.

Sam Carpenter: Was there a deadline on when they're going to do this and is it going to come before the RAC? How is that going to work?

Kevin Bunnell: Yep. It will come towards the RAC. I think the direction was to have the plan updated prior to when, to July of next year. So a year, before a year from now, that will all take place.

Regional Update:
-Kevin Bunnell, Regional Supervisor

Kevin Bunnell: As far as a regional update:

- Dave mentioned briefly the goat transplant; we did move 52 goats, mountain goats off of the Beaver Mountain. Twenty of those went to the LaSals and were released successfully there that night and the day after. Twenty went to South Dakota; actually 22 went to South Dakota. We've been taking turkeys from South Dakota for the last several years and I think their exchange rate is about 200 turkeys per goat is what it's come out to be. So we're, as far as numbers we're coming out on the good end of that. And then we took about 10 goats up to Mt Nebo to augment a population that was started there a couple of years ago.
- Also, from our wildlife section, the hunts have been going really well. I'm sure you guys are getting text messages and e-mails the same as I am with - - there's been some exceptional animals that have been taken, both deer and elk this year which is, I think, just the reflection of the weather that we've had. We had a fairly light winter and animals came out of the winter with good energy reserves and then we started getting rain just at the right time to green everything back. And I think conditions for antler growth were really good this year and I think that's showing in some of the animals that are being harvested.
- From our law enforcement folks, they've concluded their work at the port of entry looking at checking boats for Quagga muscles, specifically coming out of Lake Mead. That was a very successful, they contacted over 6,000 people and inspected over 1,000 boats, which I would guess is probably more boats than we inspected at all of our water combined around the state. Is that probably accurate Nick? So really a successful program that you'll probably see us continue. Probably our best line of defense in keeping Quagga muscles from spreading into other parts of the state. So that worked really well. And a lot of work from our aquatics section and our law enforcement section on that. On a similar rein, we've held a couple of checkpoints for boats coming out of Lake Powell. The last one, a second one was this last weekend. Again, that's been a really successful effort. You know it's an enforcement operation but really it's focused on education at this point; trying to make sure that people that are pulling their boats out of Lake Powell and potentially headed to other places in the state know what they need to do to keep from spreading those invasive muscles to other places in the state.
- The help stop poaching hotline; we've been getting some tips there, which is always appreciated. I think that's a reflection of the trust that we have with a large segment of the public, that they're willing to call and let us know when they see a violation and our guys are very diligent at following up on that.
- With our habitat section, they must be a pretty righteous bunch because they've been praying for rain and you can see the results. Driving up here today - - you know this will really help all the habitat projects that went in last year and will go in this year getting - - you know we put a lot of time and huge amounts of money into our habitat restoration projects and then we just wait and hope it rains. The seed that went in the ground last year and this fall, we ought to see really good results from. So that's good news.
- From our outreach section, there's a photo contest that the Division is sponsoring that will be beginning here shortly. Lynn do you want to give them a few details on that quickly?

Lynn Chamberlain: Starting October 1st we're going to taking entries for a statewide wildlife photography contest. In October - - there's actually four themes, October will be, the theme will be fall. And we'll take entries October, November and December for the fall theme. Within the theme there are

two categories, number one is wildlife and the other one is wildlife recreation. So we're looking for photographs of the animals themselves, on one category we're looking for photographs of people enjoying wildlife, hunting, fishing, watching, whatever they may be doing in the other category. Those photographs will be judged and there are awards that are going to be, or prizes that are going to be given out. We have two sponsoring organizations and in cooperation, well three sponsoring organizations, the Division of Wildlife Resources, and two Utah photography businesses that will be giving prizes. And then KSL and Adam Eakle and his outdoor program will be kind of marketing it for us and showing off the winners and helping us to promote this statewide. So that starts October 1st. Next week on our website we'll have information as far as the rules go. Everybody is eligible except for Division employees or their families. So you gentlemen are all eligible except for Kevin who is definitely not. Also, there's a winter theme and then a spring theme and a summer theme. So there will be four themes through the year, two winners in each theme, so eight winners. And then at the end of the year there's a grand prize given out. So that starts October 1st.

Kevin Bunnell: Great, thank you Lynn.

- The other big effort coming up with out outreach section is an education and a voluntary program to promote the use of non-lead ammunition on the Zion unit. Something that we're taking pretty personal in the Division. It's interesting um, Arizona has been doing a voluntary non-lead program for several years and California went a different route and made it mandatory. And the success in Arizona has far surpassed the success in California with the voluntary program. You know we've patterned ours after Arizona to make it voluntary. You know we strongly believe sportsman are really the original conservationists and when you give them the opportunity to step up and make a difference they will. And the folks in Arizona have proven that again and we have no doubt that our sportsman here in Utah will do the same. And we are offering some incentives, some pretty good incentives. There's a brand new Honda ATV and five rifles that have been donated that will be given away for anybody that can show they they're using, either using non-lead ammunition which is the preferred route on the Zion unit for deer, or elk, or bighorn sheep, or any tagged, any hunting that's going on on the Zion unit - - or people can actually pack their gut pile out if they want to use lead ammunition and then remove it, which is not something that I want to personally be involved with, but it is an option. So that's a program you'll probably see. We'll have several, I think five places set up around the mountain all through the month of October where people can stop in and get entered for the drawing. And we, you know I have no doubt that people will step up and we can make a difference with that program.
- In our aquatics section, you'll hear a lot about that tonight, but just here specific to the region, our guys did a kind of a Herculean effort over the last little bit to get Clear Creek treated. After the big fire here on the Beaver Mountain and a lot of those streams were actually somewhat fishless because of the debris flows and stuff after, we've taken advantage of that and we're now clearing them completely of fish so that we can go back in and reestablish native cutthroat trout populations within Clear Creek and its tributaries.
- I think I told you last time that we were planning on treating Piute Reservoir this fall to reestablish the trout fishery there. The rain has kind of set us back on that. We need to get Piute Reservoir down to a certain level before it's economical to try to treat it. We've been working closely with the county and with the water master and we just got word that, despite their best effort, they're not going to be able to get that reservoir down to a low enough level that we can treat it this fall. I mean, that's just because of all of the inflow they've had with the rain. So, we will plan on doing that next year. The first opportunity we get we'll get that

reservoir treated and get it back up to what we know it can be in terms of a sport fishery.

- Minersville Reservoir is continuing to move forward. I think I updated you on that last time. We thought we were going to have to drain that reservoir to do some repair on the dam. Thanks to Richard and others working closely together, we've been able to set up a situation where we'll send divers down to do the work, at our expense, the Division's putting about $30,000.00 into that effort but it will save that fishery. Otherwise we would have had to drain Minersville and start from scratch, which would have been a real shame and a real loss. But luckily we've been able to find a compromise there that will save that fishery.
- And then lastly, it's getting that time of year when fishing is really going to start picking up, especially as temperatures start getting a little bit cooler. So, you know, everybody needs to get out and take advantage of that.

Kevin Bunnell: So, any questions on any of those items? All right, thanks Dave.

Dave Black: Okay, thank you Kevin. We do have just one action item on the agenda today. We're on item number 5; it's the fishing guidebook and rule. As we go through this we'll have the presentation first. And it looks like we have Drew and Paul listed there as presenters. And then first we will entertain any questions from the RAC and then we'll entertain any questions from the public; and at that time we would ask that they only be questions. And then if you have comments you need to fill out a comment card and bring those forward. And following the questions we'll entertain comments from the RAC, or excuse me, comments from the public, and then comments from the RAC. And then following which we would move for a motion and voting. So, with that in mind we'll move to item number 5.

Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 (action) 18:52 to 42:51 of 1:25:40
-Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator
(See attachment 1)

Questions from the RAC:

Dave Black: Thank you. Do we have any questions from the RAC? Brian.

Brian Johnson: On the snagging rule, it says that if you catch something other than in the mouth you've got to let it go. Would that be applicable to catch and kill fish or are those still on a different rule?

Drew Cushing: They are part of that catch and kill regulation.

Brian Johnson: So, no matter how you catch a catch and kill you just go ahead and smack it in the head and bury it.

Drew Cushing: Yep.

Brian Johnson: Okay.

Dave Black: Sam.

Sam Carpenter: I actually had some people send me emails on this so I've got to have an answer for them. And this has to do with fishing from a boat with a motor of any kind is prohibited on these waters

that you mentioned. But mainly on the Boulder, they want to know why they can't use those little 36-pound torque electric motors like they have been. What happened there?

Richard Hepworth: Um, going back to about, I'm guess it was around '89 or '90, is when the change was made and didn't allow that. And then about three years ago that was removed from our regulations when we revamped our booklet. So, it was really never taken off or, it hadn't been allowed since the late 80's early 90's, is when that was changed. And that was changed because we had a fair number of people up there using motors and other anglers complaining about the experience on the mountain. Boulder Mountain is kind of backcountry place and didn't feel like it should be done so we're really just putting those back into the proclamation. It's something I'd be interested in hearing from, you know, if there's some particular lakes they'd like to talk about with those motors. But it was an issue of the public complaining that it took away from their experience at the lakes with people using motors.

Sam Carpenter: Okay, so this has been in place for some time then. So, if they've been doing this it really wasn't legal to start with with these little small motors.

Richard Hepworth: Exactly.

Sam Carpenter: But the reasoning, and I can understand it if they are gas motors, but the little electric are silent and (unintelligible).

Richard Hepworth: Yeah, when it was put in place there wasn't a lot of the little electric ones around. It was put in place, you know, when not many people had these pontoon boats, when we're using those kinds of motors. So, you know I'm willing to rethink that and talk to some people about it and see if we need to make some changes. I was just, with this rule, was trying to put back into the proclamation what was left out for a few years. Because we had people calling and saying, hey they're using motors up here; they're not supposed to but I can't find it in your proclamation any more; if that makes sense.

Sam Carpenter: All right, thanks.

Dave Black: Do we have any other questions from the RAC?

Questions from the Public:

Dave Black: Okay, do we have questions from the public? And if you - - so when you come up please state your name.

Ken Strong: My name is Ken Strong and I have two questions. Drew, when you were talking, you talked about two limits of unprocessed fish. I'm kind of trying to figure out what the difference between with the law the way it is right now what's the difference between processed and unprocessed fish? They both count on your limit, am I correct, even if you processed them?

Drew Cushing: Processed would be canned, you know, made for dinner, that's processed. And you know if they're in a freezer bag in your freezer then they're part of your limit.

Ken Strong: But if they're canned and that they're not?

Paul Birdsey: Paul Birdsey with the Division of Wildlife Resources. Right now the rule is that you may have one daily limit in possession. So that is, unlike bird hunting where you can have multiple day's limits in your possession, in fishing at the moment has been this way for as long as I've been around. Um, you get your daily limit is your possession limit. What we're suggesting with the regulation change this year is that you can have one daily limit that is fresh caught, you went out that day, enjoyed it. And if you happen to be camping at a place then you can go out the next day but you will have had to fillet or in some way process those fish so that they're not, you know, obviously not fresh. Um, and then you can go out and collect a second day's limit and possess those. There are people now, have been for years, that go home, they can the fish, they bottle them, they put them in their freezer, whatever, they are in fact in violation of the rule right now and they would be in violation of the rule in the future. I know personally of two cases that have been made over the past probably five years of flagrant violations of those rules by our law enforcement people. Um, honestly I don't know what to do about that. If you go home and can the fish, you know bottle them, if you go home and put them in your freezer, I don't know what to say about that. This rule is more directed at those people that want to go to a distant reservoir from the Wasatch Front, for example Starvation Reservoir, go out there and camp with their families for a couple of days. They will then have the opportunity of doing, possessing more than one day. Drew mentioned that we did this online survey; we have 1100 responses. We also had about 650 people respond on the freeform question. And we didn't bring those responses forward because most of them didn't deal with regulations. The one thing that did come out of a lot of those people were, however, is that they wanted limits increased or they wanted the ability to keep more fish to make it worth their while to go fishing at these more distant reservoirs. That was our, this rule is our attempt to try and address that. But at the same time not turn reservoirs into some factory ship operation where people are standing on the shoreline and bottling fish as fast as they can catch them too.

Ken Strong: My second question is, if I go to Strawberry from my house and I catch a limit of fish, under this new rule, I go home that night, I come back the next day, I haven't eaten those first four fish, am I breaking the law if I go fishing again at Strawberry? If you have a two-day possession limit, with the exception of Strawberry, am I breaking the law then?

Drew Cushing: At Strawberry there is just a one-day possession limit. So, if you're asking me if you went back to Strawberry . . .

Ken Strong: The next day from my house.

Drew Cushing: That would be illegal.

Ken Strong: Okay, all right.

Terry Reist: Terry Reist from the Utah Spearfishing Association. I have one question and depending on the answer I might have a second question. First question is, is it appropriate to talk about an addition to the proposals that have already been put down on paper? It seems like a logical one that I'd like to bring up.

Drew Cushing: This is just the comments, or questions, right?

Terry Reist: It is just a question.

Kevin Bunnell: So the procedure would be if you want to make a different recommendation then what they presented then you would do that during the comment period not during the question period. Be it is certainly appropriate to do that, that's why we're here.

Terry Reist: Okay. All right.

Dave Black: Do we have any more questions from the audience? Okay, let's go to comments from the board. Oh, I'm sorry. Please come forward.

Danny Washburn: Danny Washburn from Monroe. I kind of have a question on reading this. I'm not exactly sure if gizzard shad are approved for chumming for Lake Powell. But it sure looked to me like Lake Powell is kind of similar to Willard; they have them in there, they catch them. I was just curious, does this make it legal to chum with gizzard shad at Lake Powell?

Drew Cushing: As long as they're commercially processed, then yes.

Danny Washburn: They're in that list. I didn't know what was in the list. And I don't know if this is an appropriate question or not. But, at the other meetings we did some input. I said, Fish Lake - - I'm a perch fisherman. I like perch. We don't have many perch in Southern Utah. And what they - - they kind of wipe them out it seems like. Nobody supports them but me. But, uh, I - - at Fish Lake I've said for years - - I talked to fisheries people many years ago, they put a limit of 50 on there and they want to get all of them out of there they can because there's too many and they're stunted. And it just doesn't make any sense to me. I brought it up before and they said that sounded like a good idea maybe we can get the limit just taken off of perch at Fish Lake. And yet I don't see anything come of that even though I went to two public meetings, I mentioned it and I didn't see anything in there. And if you want to get rid of them and get people to catch more than 50 it just seems to me like it's silly to have the limit of 50 on there. And it's a special regulation on that lake anyway; why don't we just change that to no limit on perch and let people take all they want?

Dave Black: I think there's a question in there.

Drew Cushing: I'll just give you a statewide answer. And then Richard might follow up with something specific to Fish Lake. Perch are a problem in a number of waters. They compete with rainbow trout. In many of our waters we have a liberal limit. The limit is more social than anything. It gives anglers, or at least our opinion and some other states, is that it gives them a target. Otherwise someone might stop at 20 or 30. But if there's another target that someone wants to throw out we'd be happy to talk to them about that. And Richard, do you?

Richard Hepworth: Um, just a follow-up on what Drew said really quick with the perch limit. Some of the studies and things that have been done show that we get more harvest by having that target of 50 fish than we would by having no limit. That's why we've kept the 50.

Danny Washburn: I'm having a hard time believing that. When we go out and catch a big ice chest full I'm not going to sit there and count them. How many's in there? There's five of us or 250, maybe there's 300. I don't want to break the law but it just makes sense to me. I've only got one more question and it's something that doesn't have to do with regulations. But every meeting I've asked them, you have a stocking report on the Internet where you can go and look and see what was stocked where. I said,

please make that so it's either sortable or list it three different ways instead of just listing it by reservoir list it by, also by county, and list it by species. So if I wanted to know where they've planted a specific fish I could go in and sort and just go down there and look at that, don't have to go through fifteen pages trying to find that fish. It seems simple. They keep telling me they'll do it. But I've asked for three years and all I get is we sent the minutes to Salt Lake. I guess they're supposed to take care of it. But I don't know how to stir somebody up to get that done. It can't be that hard.

Dave Black: Well it looks like you stirred somebody up Danny. So, we appreciate your question.

Paul Birdsey: I don't know when the change was made but I can tell you right now it is in fact sortable by a number of those fields. I just sorted it last week when I was looking for an error that was on the stocking report by the species. There's just a little arrow at the top of the box, at the column heading, that if you click on that arrow it will in fact sort by the values in that field. So there are, I don't know whether it's on every field but I can tell you it's on several of them.

Dave Black: Thank you. Do we have any more questions from the audience?

Comments from the RAC:

Dave Black: Okay, let's move to comments from the RAC. Sam

Sam Carpenter: That's kind of in the form of a question, but Richard, on these electric motors being they weren't around back in the '80s, in fact the ones that they make now for these little pontoons, these one-man pontoons that are just ten or fifteen years old that you can get them, they cost about $100.00, totally silent. What steps do we need to take or what do we need to do to just get that addressed and see if we can't bring that up to date. And are they going to post these lakes up there so people will know ahead of time that they're not supposed to use these motors?

Richard Hepworth: And no, it's like I said, it's been something that's pretty much known. This will help people know that better. I don't see this being a big issue. But what I will do to address the motors into the future on whether we should or shouldn't use them, over this next winter we're going to be working on developing a new sport fish management plan for the Boulder Mountains. As part of that process I will make sure that the trolling motor, electric motor issue is discussed and part of that process. And if it is something that well feel like the majority of anglers are interested or it isn't going to be an issue or anything else then we'll definitely put that as part of the plan and bring that to the RAC next year. Is that, is that work for you?

Sam Carpenter: Sure, that would be fine. The lakes they have to hike into they're not going to have those kinds of things up there anyways. So it's just the ones with drive in access that I think would be needing addressing.

Richard Hepworth: Okay, and like I said, I'll do what we can to address that and see if we can get a good feel for - - if it's not a concern to the public I'm open to it. I don't see any real negatives there.

Dave Black: Do we have any more comments?

Comments from the public:

Dave Black: Okay, we do have some comment cards. The first two are Terry Reist and Ken Strong. If you want to come up in that order; and please restate your name when you come up.

Terry Reist: Thank you, my name's Terry Reist. I'm with the Utah Spearfishing Association. First off it's been great working with the DWR and working on the proposals. And despite what Drew told you Utah spearfishing and spear fisherman are really happy about those changes that are being proposed and we're grateful for that opportunity to take place. Um, the question is we're already allowed to spearfish in bodies of water that uh, for rough fish, carp, and suckers and things like that. Where there's a catch and kill on any given species would it be appropriate to also let us into those waters which already allow into to also help with the catch and kill of those species? That's my question.

Dave Black: Do we have a . . .

Kevin Bunnell: Do you want to make that a recommendation for these guys to consider rather than a question?

Terry Reist: Yes, yes please.

Kevin Bunnell: Okay then I think we're good.

Terry Reist: Okay, thanks.

Dave Black: Thanks Kevin.

Ken Strong: Ken Strong representing Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife. First of all I'd like to thank the RAC members, especially in the Southern RAC where some of you had to travel so far to be here, and for the help that you do, and the recommendations that you give that further the hunting and fishing in the great state of Utah. I'm familiar a little bit with the uh, the limit situation, the possession limit because I kind of was the one that started it at the Wildlife Board meeting on November 1st last year. Uh, and what SFW would like to do is they, they pretty much go along with everything the Division has proposed with the exception of three things. First of all when it was proposed I made the statement of uh, a 3-day possession limit. And the reason I put a 3-day possession limit was because it matches what we now have on our upland game. And it just kind of made it simpler to remember 3-day possession limit. And the other thing uh, that we would like to propose is that if a fish is bottled or smoked, or otherwise cooked, prepared, it no longer counts on your limit. Now in Idaho you have a 2-day possession limit in the field. Once you hit your home it's no longer on your limit at all. I'm against somebody stuffing their freezer full of fish that they come home and throw them in a bag and throw them in their freezer and call it good. But on the other hand if somebody takes time to bottle and process that fish, uh, I really don't think that they're going to waste it. Although everybody, well not everybody, but some people will do it anyway. But the idea is to be able to bottle some fish and two limits on bottled fish is not very much. Third of all, uh, we'd like to propose that Strawberry not be put on the, be also added to the 2-day possession limit. Strawberry already has a lot of regulations but the biggest thing is the public already have so many regulations that if they go to this lake I can do this, and if they go to this lake I have to do it this way. And if we just go with the 2-day possession limit statewide it will relieve a lot of questions that people will have and it will make it easier for people to understand. And I thank you for

your time. I would like you guys to vote on that issue that I just talked about if possible.

Dave Black: All right. Now we have Danny Washburn and then followed by Brad Bradley. You're done? Okay. I thought there was a comment in there as well. Brad.

Brad Bradley: Uh, just two comments, first off we'll start with carp. I think that's a way over utilized resource. We should have a two fish limit statewide, flies and lures only. Oh, okay good. I just wanted to see who wasn't playing video poker on their I phone. Um, in the current proclamation you can do about anything to carp. You can stab them, you can net them, you can spearfish them, you can shoot them with your bow, except they have one restriction, no crossbows. I'd like to see that lifted. If we're going to, I mean if we're going to take carp and I don't see a crossbow as a major impact to carp. And I don't think we're that adamant about protecting them from any other type of removal, so I'd like to make that proposal to get cross fishing taken off the proclamation and legalized.

Male voice: (Unintelligible).

Brad Bradley: I read the proclamation before I came. It said anything except crossbows, so, anyway if that can be done. Second, everybody is excited about the limits that you're proposing. One day I woke up and I was an old man. So I remember the limits before you went to 4 fish. I remember the 8 fish limit, very vividly. And uh, I believe if you look at the history behind the 8 fish limit, or going to the 4 fish limit, it was at a time when Midway hatchery came up with whirling disease and was closed down. And in a, I don't know whether to call it a knee jerk reaction, or a management reaction, the Division lowered the limit to 4 fish. Midway's back up in production. And correct me if I'm wrong; are their numbers close to what they were prior to whirling disease? And so I have a hard time understanding why we can't go back to our 8 fish limit. It didn't seem to be an issue prior to the Midway closure. And if we're back in production and putting fish out it would really nice to get that 8 fish limit back on. I'm going to support a daily and possession limit with 8 fish. The reason for that is law enforcement. There are only two states around us, Colorado and Montana that have a split limit on their fish. Um, I don't know what Montana did that for but you can't trust Colorado anyway, so. And so I look at that as enforcement. And I think that when I go out fishing whenever I meet Brent out there when I'm fishing those fish in my cooler are going to be the ones that I caught yesterday. Um, once you get them on ice I don't know how you're going to tell them, you know, tell them from a previous day's fish. It's not like grouse or deer where you can stop a guy and put your hand in the carcass and see if it's warm; they kind of all have the same temperature. So, I think that 8 fish limit gives you something that's worth to go out and fish for. It, everybody measures their fishing experience and a fishing trip. And when you ask somebody about their fishing trip it might be four hours, it might be four days. So uh, I think fisherman can gear their limit to that fishing trip as we did prior to the 4 fish limit. Uh, another thing is I think it gives non-resident fisherman a motive to come and fish. Next week I'm going to be guiding for the Rocky Mountain Jamboree here. Before you went to your 4 fish limit I had 3 days of guiding riders on a fishing trip. And I'd have a dozen riders on each one of those 3 days. When we dropped the limit to 4 I now am down to 1 day and I only have 5 participants on my trip. I used to have people from Georgia, Colorado, Michigan, Texas; everybody came for Utah's trout fishing. But with that lower limit it just, it doesn't give them the value that they see. And I realize that's a perceived value; when they buy that license they don't know whether they're going to catch 1 fish, or 4 fish, or 8 fish. But the perceived value of possibly catching 8 fish weighs on their mind when they buy that license. So I'd like to see those people have an opportunity to make it worth their dollar when they come to Utah to fish. So, that's what I'm going to recommend that we go back to the old 8 fish limit again. Thank you.

Dave Black: Do we have a comment?

Paul Birdsey: (Comments off the mic).

Dave Black: Uh, I think that would be fine if you want to share that information with us.

Paul Birdsey: Just two quick bits of information regarding Brad's comments. First of all in surveys since 2000 when we first did go to the 4 fish limit, and these are statewide angler surveys conducted every 5 years surveying thousands of anglers from around the state. We're getting about 80 percent of people that are whole-heartedly in support of the 4 fish limit. And when we've in fact proposed increasing limits we get a push back from the majority of the anglers that they don't want a higher limit. It's a changing world I guess. And the second part of that too is that since 2000 we had about 400,000 anglers, licensed anglers in the state of Utah in 2000. Right now we're pushing 500,000. Although we have the ability to produce more fish we also have more demand on those resources. So, we do have to balance out supply and demand. Regardless of where we used to be it's where we're at now. So thank you.

Dave Black: Thank you for your comments. Do we have another comment or question?

Mike Worthen: Could you respond also to the spearfishing why crossbows are not legal?

Drew Cushing: Crossbows are actually legal for disabled people who pursue carp. So we are kind of recommended by the Wildlife Board to look at that. That was the adjustment that we made at that time. We felt at that time that regular anglers and regular bow anglers could use, you know, bows. So, it's consistent with our disabled hunter rule.

Dave Black: Brian, go ahead.

Drew Cushing: Sure, absolutely. That's why we're here.

Brian Johnson: Sorry. I just, I understand we have laws that are hard to enforce, but I don't, how do you enforce if someone brings 4 fish home and smokes them and get's 4 more fish and smokes them. How do you guys even enforce that law? It seems like it's, it seems hard to, it seems weird to have a law that's extremely hard to enforce, so maybe a brief answer. Sorry.

Drew Cushing: The simplest answer is that we don't enforce that very often. And that's probably, you know, one of the more difficult things that we discuss everyday. You know we have enforced that several times in the State, it's just not easy. You know it takes a lot of work. It takes a lot of people, a lot of our law enforcement officers going out and watching people, you know, take fish, and take them home and come back. It's been done. But it's not common. It takes a lot of abuse for our anglers, or for our law enforcement officers to pursue that.

Kevin Bunnell: Brent or Micah, would either of you like to address that from a law enforcement point of view?

Brian Johnson: I'm sorry. I shouldn't have even asked. I apologize.

Kevin Bunnell: No, we've got to give these guys a chance to talk once in a while.

Brent Farnsworth: Um, I was going to say the only time that gets enforced is if there's a complaint. You know somebody's been to somebody's house, they said hey he's got a freezer full of fish. And you get a search warrant and you have to go in that way. Otherwise you can't just go knock on people's doors and say, can we look in your freezer and see how many fish you have?

Dave Black: Do you have a comment Jake? Please state your name.

Jake Albrecht: Jake Albrecht, Wildlife Board. Just a comment to Mike and maybe this will help answer the crossbow. We did do a presentation a couple of three months ago in Salt Lake on crossbows. And I know the Division is looking at some of the things that those might be used for in the future. And I think that will come out in November and it will probably be back into this RAC next year on fishing if that's what they choose to do.

Dave Black: Okay, do we have any more comments? Brad. Please come up to the mic please. And you need to restate your name again too, for the record. Thanks Brad.

Brad Bradley: Okay. I'm looking at numbers here on fishing licenses. Oh, Brad Bradley. I'm looking at numbers on fishing licenses before the 4 fish limit and after the 4 fish limit. And I don't know, let me just start at 95. The 4 fish limit went into effect in 2002. I'm just going to start back at 1995. And certified license holders, um, 514, 976, 491,000 in 1996, yeah, I'm just going to round this off so it goes quicker. 463000 in 1997, 469000 in 1998, 457,000 in 1999, 453,000 in 2000, and 455,000 in 2001. When the 4 fish limit went into effect in 2002 that dropped to 404,000. Um, it stayed down below the, well it bumped 4000 once up until 2008 when it went to 425,209, 425,000, 2010, 430,000, uh, 2011 449,000, 2012 – 468,000, 2013 – 463,000. So the numbers in that roughly 10-year prior time to the numbers since 2008 are very comparable. And I think in that 10-year prior if we could support 8 fish limit then we're just getting back to those numbers now. If we're producing as many fish as we did back then, I'm expecting we did. I find it - - I wish I could get upland game biologists and fishery biologist together because an upland game biologist goes uh, the chuckers, we've got chuckers out there that are on their, they're roughing it, they're trying to do it but instead of hunting from the middle of September to the end of November we're going to give you the end of September to February. On pheasants we haven't got that many but we're going to give you a 30-day season. On grouse this year we're going from the middle of September to November 30th, we're going to give you clear to the end of December. Fish guys produce millions of fish and we're only going to give you this many. It would be interesting if we could get a compromise between those two. I know it's apples and oranges but I'm sarcastic. But I really think we have the number of fish. And I don't – it's kind of interesting not everybody out there, it says 8 fish on the license, I don't think most people meet that limit. I once got in an argument with a biologist that said most people don't even catch 4 fish. And of course my response was why do we even have a limit then? So, I'd like to see that data. Because I see on my rural waters since the 4 fish limit went in place, I used to go to Deep Lake and see fisherman there every day of the week. Now I go to Deep Lake - - we were there for three days during the weekend two weeks ago, we saw three other fishermen in the whole time. Apparently it's not value enough, even with catch and release to come down and fish those upper 12 Mile Lakes. And I see that decline going. I think you need to give people a reason - - I mean if uh, you're in a Mormon state, a lot of them leave Salt Lake on Friday and they're back Sunday for church so they only get one day of fishing in. I really don't think you're going to hurt

them with an 8 fish limit. If I had to compromise I'd say go to 6 fish. But make it some kind of valued increase on that daily tag. I'd release - - I think you're in for a law enforcement nightmare with the split limit. It looks good on paper but I don't think it's going to be readily enforceable in the field. And I think you give the people value and then I guess it depends on whether you want to see that number go up and sell more licenses or whether you want to hold it at its level. That's my comment.

Dave Black: Thank you Brad. Anybody else? Okay.

RAC discussion and vote:

Harry Barber: I was just trying to recall from our last RAC meeting when we were talking about the combination licenses and increasing the price, and we talked a little bit about fishing. I thought we had some data that was presented to us. It showed a relatively flat line in the number of licenses sold, or fisherman. I can't even remember exactly what that was. But there was a period of time on a graph that was presented to us, and I don't know if that was 10 years or 15 years, but I thought that showed kind of a flat line. There wasn't a big increase over the last 10 or 15 years in the number of fisherman. Do you remember that graph? And I'm not saying I support one-way or the other, I'm just trying to recall what that graphic showed us.

Kevin Bunnell: I think that, you know the numbers that Brad just presented are pretty accurate. Its, you know, true or Paul correct me if I'm wrong, fishing license sales have been stable.

Drew Cushing: Stable to slightly increasing. (Unintelligible).

Kevin Bunnell: Yeah, and that's over a 20 year period.

Drew Cushing: Since late 90s maybe.

Kevin Bunnell: Yeah, so, I mean the numbers Brad, it was a little bit higher in the mid, we're just getting back to the levels now that we were at in the mid 90s.

Drew Cushing: Right. We had, you know in all things, and Brad's numbers bring up a number of points, you know. During that same time we had a fishing license increase in 2002. And generally following a fishing license price there's a decrease in purchases. We had a drought in the 2000s that probably impacted people's decision making in fishing. You know there are confounding things that are just, you know, in people's decision making. We had a recession that we went through. You know we had 9/11. You know we had several things going on in that time that probably impacted people. So it's hard to say this caused that when you have so many confounding issues.

Kevin Bunnell: I think the point is we've, you know, that's why this group is here. You've got some proposal and some recommendations from the public to consider whether you want to make motions to support them and move them forward. So . . .

Dave Black: We will go over and summarize all of these comments as well so that we have those fresh. But is there any further comments from the RAC before we do that? Okay, let me go ahead and summarize these. You know we only had 4 comment cards with Brad, Danny, Kim, Terry. We appreciate your comments. They have all been very good comments, very appropriate. Brian don't ever

apologize for having a comment because we know you have a comment on everything and so we want you to speak up, that's why we're here. The other thing you have two Wildlife Board members here present and they have your ear and so this has been a great opportunity for you guys to come forward and have this discussion. So let me summarize these for you.

- We had the spearfishermen come up. They support the changes for the most part, but they had a couple of recommendations. And one was that they recommend opening lakes with the catch and kill regulations to spearfishing for that species that the catch and kill regulations apply.
- The Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife, they support the guidebook changes, with the exception of they would like to see a 3-day possession limit. They would like to see the bottled, smoked or otherwise preserved fish that they should not count towards the possession limit. And they would also like to add Strawberry to an increased possession limit.
- And then Brad came up and he talked about allowing the use of crossbows for taking carp. And also we had a good discussion on the possibility of returning back to an 8 fish limit.

Dave Black: Do you have any questions on those comments? Do I need to restate anything for you?

Rusty Aiken: Yeah, I've got a question. He proposed a 3-day possession limit and then for Strawberry to be the same? To go to three or to two? From one? Strawberry proposed one, or the Division.

Brad Bradley: With Strawberry to go with the other lakes so that there's no question. If it's a 3-day possession limit Strawberry would go to three. If it was a 2-day possession limit Strawberry would go to 2.

Rusty Aiken: So whatever is statewide.

Brad Bradley: Whatever is statewide.

Dave Black: Thank you. Harry.

Harry Barber: Is there a biological reason on Strawberry on why we wouldn't make that the same as the others?

Drew Cushing: It's a predator management scenario, and those limits are important to the long term survival of Strawberry. It is hard to say what the impact would be. And that's why it was put on that list. The other thing is there's an organized angler group, the Strawberry Anglers, which when we presented including Strawberry in the rest of these they unanimously opposed it. And it didn't make any sense to bring a recommendation forward that a group that's organized to protect Strawberry opposed. So I hope that helps. As far as the biological impact, that's hard to say because Strawberry largely is made up of one-day anglers. But you just don't know how people are going to react to this and so in our minds it's probably better to be a little bit cautious in a water that you're concerned about and you have an angler group that's concerned about it as well, and address it after you see what happens to the waters that you're really interested in seeing additional harvest and additional pressure.

Dave Black: Sean.

Sean Kelly: Maybe Drew can answer this for me. I was just wondering on regarding Terry Reist's proposal whether it was discussed in committee about spear fisherman being able to pursue the catch and kill fish across those waters?

Drew Cushing: No, it wasn't. It didn't come up until a month ago, Terry, if you're still here. It came up in some e-mails and by that time we'd gone too far down the road in, you know, public input, and working with the constituents. It wasn't, you know, with a group that's so polar opposite, you know, the regular anglers and the spear fisherman, you know if they recommend it it's probably not an issue except it wasn't vetted through that process that we had in place.

Sean Kelly: So you don't see a conflict at all with the regular anglers if spearfishermen are allowed to pursue?

Paul Birdsey: It may just depend on which waters for which species, honestly. The group was polarized. There's very few issues that I've been involved with over the years that you have no middle ground other than the one that we eventually got to. I don't see that on the face of it that there is a concern one way or the other, um, with Terry's proposal. It does present some difficulties simply because it didn't go through the group. It didn't go through the online survey. We struggled for quite a while to get to where we're at and I don't want to then, you know – just my feeling is that I don't want to have it come back and say that we went outside of that process for this particular addition to the rule. That's the entire crux of this right now, is we did struggle to get to where we're at and I guess I don't want to upset the applecart even with a proposal that seems reasonable.

Dave Black: Harry.

Harry Barber: With some of these that have gone down the road maybe a ways but it's causing a little discussion and confusion up here, that it seems to me personally if we want to fish dead we ought to find and use and maximize every possibility as long as we're not injuring somebody. But because these went down the road so far, is there an opportunity to say that we can do another survey in the future, like next year, and then put this on? Just make that commitment that that would part of that? At the very least these folks would have to wait another year but if we made that commitment it seems like we could clear some of this up and get it back in the survey and let the public review that.

Drew Cushing: Absolutely. We'd appreciate a recommendation to that effect.

Dave Black: Okay. I'm not going to make a motion for you but one of the things I learned at the last Board meeting was is that it may be a little bit easier if we make a motion to accept the changes in the rule and then if you want to talk about some of these other items we do so with an amendment and then we can vote on those individually. And then the Board can see our feelings on that particular item because they'll see a vote on that item and not the overall rule. So that's maybe a suggestion that might help the Wildlife Board so they see our opinion on each of these particular items, if indeed you want to add some of those into the motion. Do we have anybody ready to make a motion?

Brian Johnson: Just a simple clarification. Just so I'm understanding you correctly, and just so we can do this, you're saying - - because I think that the majority of us would like to accept their recommendation - - and then we vote on it, we wither approve it or don't approve it and then we go in

and make an amendment after that?

Dave Black: No, no.

Brian Johnson: Or you're saying the amendment's first?

Dave Black: That will be the last vote that we do.
Brian Johnson: That will be the last, okay. I was just . . .

Dave Black: Then we will address each amendment first.

Brian Johnson: First, okay.

Dave Black: And it will either stand or it will fall.

Brian Johnson: Fall on its own.

Dave Black: And then the last vote will be for the rule, for the balance.

Kevin Bunnell: Do you want me to clarify again what the different proposals, recommendations are, or you got em? Okay.

Rusty Aiken: I'd like to make motion to take the 3 day possession limit and I'm not sure what to do with Strawberry.

Dave Black: We need a motion first. And that would be an amendment.

Kevin Bunnell: No, no, that's not, no you want to do each of these individual items separately and then pass the balance of it at the end.

Dave Black: But they'd be an amendment to a motion? (Unintelligible).

Kevin Bunnell: No, no they can be, individual motions for any of these that you want to address and then accept the balance of what's left at the end. To me is the cleanest way to do it; Jake do you agree?

Dave Black: Okay, that's fine.

Rusty Aiken: Okay, so can I made a motion to pass the 3 day possession, take off the preserved possession, and the rest of the recommendations the Division has proposed to accept? Does that work?

Kevin Bunnell: So Rusty, what I would recommend is just make that first part a motion. Let's just deal with that and then we'll come back and do another motion at the end to cover the balance of anything.

Rusty Aiken: Yeah, right. I would like to make the recommendation for the 3-day possession limit.

Kevin Bunnell: And removing the preserved fish from your possession limit.

Rusty Aiken: Correct, yeah.

Dave Black: Okay we have a motion from Rusty to have a 3 day possession limit and remove the preserved fish from the rule and the limit. Do we have a second?

Sam Carpenter: Second.

Dave Black: We have a second from Sam. Is there any discussion on the motion? Harry.

Harry Barber: Would this be an appropriate time to add the piece on the spearfishing that that be part of a future survey?

Lynn Chamberlain: This is a small point, do you want to say processed fish instead of preserved to fit the same language?

Dave Black: Processed fish.

Kevin Bunnell: No, I think you want to say preserved fish because processed by definition in the proclamation is filleted, am I right? Where as preserved is bottled, smoked, or canned or something that's preserving them for a long period of time.

Lynn Chamberlain: Is that your intent Rusty?

Rusty Aiken: Yes.

Kevin Bunnell: And I think that's the intent of the recommendation.

Dave Black: Sam, are you okay with the second? Okay. All right we have a motion and a second. Any further discussion? Okay. All in favor show by the raise of hand. Okay, those opposed. And one abstention.

Kevin Bunnell: So it's 4 to 3 with 1 abstention.

Dave Black: Motion carries. Passed.

Rusty Aiken made the motion to allow a 3 day possession limit and to remove preserved fish from the possession limit. Sam Carpenter seconded. Motion carried 4 in favor 3 opposed. (Mack Morrell, agriculture; Mike Worthen, at large; Mike Staheli, at large opposed. Brian Johnson, non-consumptive abstained.)

Dave Black: Okay. Do we want to address any of these other items? Harry.

Harry Barber: I'd like to make a motion that we put spearfishing into the next survey, whenever that is done. And I guess I would propose that be done.

Dave Black: Do we . . .

Kevin Bunnell: So that the proposal, so to allow spear, the take of fish that have a catch and kill regulation by spearfisherman, any place where there's a catch and kill.

Harry Barber: The catch and kill.

Kevin Bunnell: For the species that are under the catch and kill regulation.

Harry Barber: Right.

Dave Black: Now is your motion to put that in now or to just put it in the survey for the next?

Harry Barber: It sounded like to me that we were going to put it in the next survey because it's too far down the road, so my motion is to put that in the next survey.

Dave Black: Just (unintelligible)?

Kevin Bunnell: No, you could go either way.

Dave Black: It's not necessarily too far down the road if we want to recommend that now we have, that's what as a RAC we can do that.

Harry Barber: I just thought it would give more time, with the survey it would go through the way it is supposed to go through like the previous surveys rather than get ahead of the game where the rest of the public hasn't had a chance to see that.

Dave Black: Okay, that's fine. All right. We have a motion that spearfishing be put into the survey. Do we have a second?

Brian Johnson: Seconded.

Dave Black: Okay we have a second by Brian. Is there any discussion on the motion? Okay, let's vote. All in favor? That looks unanimous. Okay.

Harry Barber made the motion to include in the next fisheries survey a question regarding the taking of catch and kill species by spearfishermen in all waters where it applies. Brian Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Kevin Bunnell: Let me clarify for the notes and for Giani's, my notes and Giani's. The motion is to put, to ask the question in the next survey relative to allow the take of fish that are under a catch and kill regulation by spearfisherman on all bodies of water where there's catch and kill regulations for the species that which it applies. Is that correct? Okay, and that's what was just voted on and passed. Okay, thank you.

Sam Carpenter: Kevin, on the 8 fish limit that has been suggested, can that be thrown in there Harry?

Kevin Bunnell: Well you've already passed the motion for a 3 day possession limit.

Sam Carpenter: Okay.

Kevin Bunnell: Well that's a possession limit. So the eight fish limit is for a daily, so yes, you could still address that if you would like.

Sam Carpenter: That's what I was going to recommend that we make another motion and do that with a survey.

Dave Black: Okay do we have, did somebody make that motion?

Sam Carpenter: I'll make that motion.

Dave Black: Okay, Sam will you make that a motion please?

Sam Carpenter: I make a motion that we have the same survey, committee, whatever it is this is going to go through, that we take a look at this 8 fish limit being reinstated statewide.

Dave Black: Do we have a second on the motion? Harry.

Harry Barber: Seconded.

Dave Black: Do we have any discussion on the motion? Just a survey. Okay, all in favor? It looks unanimous.

Sam Carpenter made the motion to include in the next fisheries survey a question regarding instating an 8 fish limit statewide. Motion carried unanimously.

Kevin Bunnell: This is just to add the question on the survey. That's all they're asking to do.

Sam Carpenter: Just for the survey.

Dave Black: Okay, is there anything left? Well I'll, we have the . . .

Kevin Bunnell: Allowing, the only issue that you haven't dealt with of the comments from the public was allowing the take of carp using crossbows, if anybody wants to address that.

Sam Carpenter: Didn't Jake say that's coming up? It's something already coming up?

Jake Albrecht: (Unintelligible) There's some study coming up, that's going to be addressed.

Sam Carpenter: We'll hold you to that Jake.

Brian Johnson: I would make a motion that we pass the balance of the proposal as presented.

Dave Black: Okay, do we have a second to the motion by Brian? Mack.

Mack Morrell and Mike Staheli seconded.

Dave Black: Okay we have a second. Any discussion on the motion? Okay, let's have a vote. All in favor? It looks like it's unanimous.

Brian Johnson made the motion to accept the remainder of the Fishing Guidebook and Rule as presented. Mack Morrell and Mike Staheli seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Dave Black: So that motion, that action item is through. That motion carries.

Other Business
-Dave Black

Dave Black: Item number 6 is other business. There were two items that were brought to me just at the beginning of the meeting that we want to bring up quickly. One of them is it looks like on the agenda for the next RAC meeting that we will be discussing the hunt tables and dates. Do you foresee that being a long agenda item and if so would we want to start the meeting earlier was the comment.

Kevin Bunnell: It's big game. It will have a lot of attention. It will be longer than this meeting for sure.

Brian Johnson: I think we should bump it to 6 guys.

Kevin Bunnell: It's really at the discretion of how well your guys travel schedules. Can you get to Cedar City by 6 o'clock? And then allowing the public the same opportunity. It's a big region. You need to allow people time to travel after work to get there to make this process do what it's supposed to do to gather public input. It is in Cedar City.

Mack Morrell: I think it ought to start at 6.

Kevin Bunnell: That's fine. We can, any problem with the school it starting an hour earlier, Lynn? No I don't think we need a motion to do that. We can just post that on the next agenda. So would you make a note to remind me that that's what the RAC would like to do?

Start next meeting at 6

Dave Black: Okay, and then one more item that was brought to my attention that we may want to see if it's possible to make an action item, and action log item. Probably have Mike explain it a little bit further but it's regarding the theft of trail cameras and penalties associated with that.

Mike Staheli: I've had several people talk to me about this. There's a real problem with people stealing people's trail cameras. Of course it's against the law but it is a wildlife issue. And I'd like to make an action item that the penalties for this would be wildlife created. In other words maybe lose your hunting privilege for a year or two or five, whatever. Because right now there doesn't seem to be any stem in the tide of this. It's really widespread. These cameras are quite expensive, some of them, and people are just taking them at will. So I'd like to make that an action item that we could address with the Wildlife Board or something like that.

Dave Black: Do you have a comment Brian?

Brian Johnson: I do. I think, I think and I'm probably wrong because I was born wrong, but I believe that those are actually considered abandoned property, statute-wise. So when you leave a trail camera you do it at your own peril. And I've got ten sitting on the southwest desert as we speak with my name and number on it and I've had several people just call. It's a problem. I'm not saying it's not but I think we've got statute problems here verses wildlife problems.

Kevin Bunnell: Micah I see you up there nodding your head. Do you want to come explain from a statute standpoint what we're up against?

Micah Evans: My understanding of the law is, is that you can go out a put, you take your car out and you dump it out there on forest property, okay, after a certain time it becomes abandoned property. Okay? So if you go and you put a trail camera up and you put it up on a tree somewhere, after a certain time it becomes abandoned property. The only time where that doesn't effect is whether or not it's on your private property and then different rules apply. So trying to say okay hey it's against the law and you can lose your hunting privileges to take a trail camera is not really going to be something that is going to A: be very unenforceable, and two: I don't think you have the ability to do that with the statutes as it has with abandoned property. Does that answer your questions? Okay.

Kevin Bunnell: I would say that having been said I don't think even that being said there's nothing wrong with you guys asking for the Wildlife Board to consider it an action item and have a more thorough analysis be done and get the information back to you. I don't think that would be inappropriate.

Dave Black: Do we need a motion to do that?

Kevin: Yeah. I would suggest if that's what you would like to do that somebody make a motion to ask the Wildlife Board to put that on the action so that when Dave's at the next meeting he can make that recommendation to the Board.

Mike Staheli: Okay. I would like to make the motion that we make this an action item and put it before the Board that any theft of trail cameras, or at least address the problem that we have with the theft of trail cameras, that that could have a penalty with wildlife issues. You know, losing your hunting privileges so to speak. Okay?

Dave Black: Do we have a second? I have a second by . . .we have to have a . . .

Rusty Aiken: Can we include tree stands with that as well, or blinds, the list goes on? I'll second the motion.

Dave Black: Okay, we have a second by Rusty. Any discussion on the motion? Do you want to make an amendment to the Rusty?

Rusty Aiken: Yeah, I would, how big of a list do you want? Tree stands and blinds; let's leave it at that.

Mike Staheli: Have we had that much trouble with blinds though? I know we have a real problem with

the cameras. But I haven't had anybody question the blinds and things like that.

Rusty Aiken: Well the portable ones are just coming up real popular just in the last two or three years. So it's not going to be, it will happen.

Kevin Bunnell: It's a similar issue.

Dave Black: So it will be a similar issue. Okay, we have an amendment I guess. Let's vote on the amendment. Do we have a second to the amendment?

Kevin Bunnell: It looks like the amendment fails for lack of a second.

Dave Black: So it looks like the amendment fails.

Amendment fails for lack of second.

Dave Black: So let's go ahead and vote on the main motion of . . .

Kevin Bunnell: So let me restate it the way I've got it. I've got a motion to look into the theft of trail cameras relative to enforcing and making penalties under the wildlife code. Is that what you're asking?

Mike Staheli: Yes, exactly.

Dave Black: Okay. Let's go ahead and vote. All in favor? Opposed? It looks like it is unanimous.

Mike Staheli made the motion to create an action item for the board to address the theft of trail cameras to include wildlife related penalties. Rusty Aiken seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Dave Black: Do we have any other items that need to be brought to our attention? And at this time I call this meeting adjourned. I get to use my new gavel. We'll see you next time.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Southeast Region Advisory Council
John Wesley Powell Museum
1765 E. Main
Green River, Utah
September 11, 2013

Motion Summary

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: To accept the agenda and minutes as written
Passed unanimously

Approval of Minutes
MOTION: To table the approval of the minutes from our 7-13-13 RAC meeting until our next meeting on
Passed unanimously

Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13
MOTION: To accept the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented.
Passed unanimously

Southeast Region Advisory Council
John Wesley Powell Museum
1765 E. Main
Green River, Utah

September 11, 2013 ~ 6:30 p.m.

Members Present	*Members Absent*
	Kevin Albrecht, USFS
Seth Allred, At Large	
Sue Bellagamba, Environmental	
	Blair Eastman, Agriculture
Trisha Hedin, Sportsperson	
Jeff Horrocks, Elected Official	
Wayne Hoskisson, Environmental	
Todd Huntington, At Large	
Karl Ivory, BLM representative	
Derris Jones, Sportsmen	
	Darrel Mecham, Sportsmen
	Christine Micoz, At Large
	Charlie Tracy, Agriculture
Chris Wood, Regional Supervisor	

Others Present
Dr. Mike King

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1) Welcome, RAC introductions and RAC Procedure
-Todd Huntington, Vice Chairman

Todd Huntington- Good Evening My name is Todd Huntington I am the Vice Chairman of the Southeastern RAC. I was just informed that our Chairman won't be here tonight so I get to get us through this one tonight. We will go over the procedure process. For the items, the Division will make a presentation then the RAC will be given a chance, after the RAC, then it's the public's turn to ask questions and at that time just questions. Following all of the questions, we will have the public comments. Please fill out a yellow card on the back table and bring those up to myself or Chris. We will call your name and you will have 3 min. for personal and 5 min. for a group. After the public comments, we will close those and go to the RAC comments and then we will make motions and vote. First thing is to approve the agenda. Are there any questions about the agenda?
Jeff Horrocks- Motion to approve the agenda.
Todd Huntington- Motion made by Jeff. Do I have a second?
Seth Allred- Second
Todd Huntington- Seth seconds. Who is in favor of the motion? That was unanimous.

We had the minutes emailed to us a while ago. Has everyone had a chance to look those over? It was a 60 pager or something like that. I am sure you had chance to run through that one morning.
Todd Huntington- Do we have a motion on the minutes? Or any changes to the minutes?
Wayne Hoskisson- I actually make a motion to table. I haven't had a chance to read them and I would like to. It is one that I have an interest in.
Todd Huntington- We have a motion to table the approval of the minutes.
Jeff Horrocks- I second that, I haven't had a chance to read them.
Todd Huntington- That was Wayne that made the motion and Jeff who seconded the motion.
Jeff Horrocks- The motion was to approve the minutes next time, right?
Todd Huntington-Yes.
Todd Huntington- The motion was made by Wayne and seconded by Jeff. All in favor, raise your hand. Passed unanimously.
Todd Huntington- We are moving right along, and we will now have our wildlife board meeting update

2) <u>Approval of the Agenda</u> (Action)
-Todd Huntington, Vice Chairman

VOTING
Motion was made by Jeff Horrocks to approve the agenda as printed
Seconded by Seth Allred
Motion passed unanimously

<u>Approval of the Minutes</u> (Action)
-Todd Huntington, Vice Chairman

VOTING
Motion was made by Wayne Hoskisson to table the approval of the minutes until the next meeting on November 13
Seconded by Jeff Horrocks
Motion passed unanimously

3) <u>Wildlife Board Meeting Update</u>
-by Chris Wood

Chris Wood- Kevin Albrecht is excused tonight. He is on the mountain. He is helping his friend with an elk hunt and he called me at 3:00 today and said that there was too much rain and he is not going to get down. He was at the board meeting as was I for most of it. But I wasn't prepared until a few hours ago to give a report on the board meeting. If you have any questions, or if you, Dr. King might want to add something, please jump in on any comments or correct anything that I might say. I think this was one of the longest board meetings that we have ever had. The first agenda item of course was the mountain goats. The mountain goat plan for the Dutton and the La Sal's. There was quite bit of discussion and comments from the public. Numerous organizations and groups that the board listened to for quite some time. And the board asked a lot of questions of the biologists and the groups (Sportsmen and the Conservation groups). They had some concerns. After two or three hours of questions and comments, there was a motion made to approve the Dutton Plan. That motion was approved as proposed so up 125 goats is part of that plan. One of the agriculture reps. added to that motion and asked that an advisory group be formed and meet annually to address concerns. For the La Sal plan there was a motion made to accept the proposed plan for the La Sal's that would plant up to 200 goats on the LaSals and to also have this advisory group formed to address any concerns. Dr. King at that point made a motion to postpone the transplant until monitoring can be established and to keep the goats 1.8 goats per square mile. There was some discussion on that motion or the amended motion and the amended motion ended up failing 2-4. Mike King and Bill Fennimore were the ones who voted with that motion that failed. The board then voted to approve the plan and it passed 4-2 with Bill Fennimore and Mike King voting against that motion.

Derris Jones- So is the plan as the division presented it to the RAC? There is no changes?

Chris Wood- That is correct.

Chris Wood- The cougars were then discussed and that took several hours. I think that the board agreed with what was heard throughout the numerous RAC's in the state. The cougar plan is way too complicated and they listened to the RAC's issues and concerns and recommendations. They did however approve the plan as proposed, but part of that motion asked the division to reopen the management plan this year and provide a simplified proposal that incorporates unit by unit into next years. So they want us to come in a year. Early next summer sometime with a simpler plan that incorporates the unit by unit idea. The rest of the board meeting that the motions were to basically accept the division's plans as presented so the Furbearer and the Bobcat harvest recommendations were approved as were as the waterfowl guidebook and rule. They did move the youth hunt start date to Sept.21. Can't recall if that was part of the board or a recommendation from a RAC. I am not sure about that. The military instillation permit program was approved so was the license fee increase for fiscal year 2015. The brine shrimp rule was approved as proposed and so was the AIS Rule. The conservation convention permit was approved as presented by the division as well. So that is the basic gist of the board meeting. Any questions for myself or Dr. King?

Todd Huntington- Sounds like fun. Sounds like we will have a fun meeting next July if we revisit the cougars again. Looks like you're still up with the Regional update them.

<u>Questions from the RAC</u>

No questions

Questions from the Public

No Questions

Comments from the Public

No Comments

RAC Discussion

4) Regional Update

-Chris Wood, Regional Supervisor

Chris Wood- I am the new Regional Supervisor for the Southeastern Region. I have lived in Price for the last seven years. I was the habitat manager prior to becoming the regional supervisor. I am excited to be able to work with the various sections, the public and all of our great volunteers and the RAC for years to come.

Chris Wood- We have had a few changes the last few months in personnel. People have moved on. Sueann Riley was our Support services coordinator. She worked in our office for over 20 years. Her husband has a job in New Mexico and so she is moving down there. We lost her this month. Sean Spencer was our officer in Bull Frog and covered the Henry Mountains. He has accepted an assignment to work as a CO in Utah County. That position is now vacant. We do have two new officers in our region. James Thomas is working our Emery County district. That would be the south side of the Manti. The Manti is divided in half and JD who is here has the north half. Sorry Devin has the North half and James Thomas has the south side of the Manti along with some other areas as well. TJ Robertson is now our Moab Officer and has worked with us previously for approx. 7-8 years or something like that. Back in January he left us and went over to the Grand County Sheriff's office as a sheriff deputy and he has decided that he missed the wildlife work and so he is now back to work for us. We are happy to have these two officers in our region. In August myself and a few of our office staff who are over the licensing program has went down to the Navajo Nation for two days and we have an agreement with the tribe to sell them permits. We visited 3 different chapter houses over those two days. We went down there with 200 SERO tags and 20 SRO tags and we sold most of them during those two days. Our aquatics section has been pretty busy. They have recently stocked Huntington Reservoir with 1,000 wipers. They also have stocked 3,000 Tiger Muskie fingerling in Joe's Valley and the season is kind of wrapping up. The AIS efforts are winding down a little bit. I should mention the success that I think has happened the last month or two. At Joe's Valley the water got so low that boats couldn't launch and the Emery County irrigation district came up with a way to add on to the boat ramp. They bought some military run ways and they added on to the existing boat ramp.

So now the boats can back up further down into the reservoir and hit water and launch. It is launch at your own risk and it is probably for smaller boats but it is back up and running for fisherman. When we had to close the boat ramp we got a lot of public comments. People were bummed out that they couldn't fish for the Tiger Muskies that are really hot. It was great to have the Emery County Water Conservancy district to do that and serve our constituents. Our Conservation outreach program has been very busy also. We have done a fishing day at the Carbon County Fairgrounds in August. We have a fishing event this Saturday here at the Green River state park. Then a week later we have a fishing event at the Huntington game Farm. This time of year we also have the State Fair going on in SLC. If you have never been the building on the left hand corner that is a whole building dedicated to wildlife and the back of that building we have a fishing pond. It is one of the most popular exhibits at the fair. The public can go in and see these big aquariums full of native and sport fish. They can learn all about the theme. This year the theme is about predators and so it is a really great exhibit. There is everything from fish, insects and snakes as well. Our Law enforcement officers this is a busy season for them. They are checking hunters and anglers. They are also working AIS stations in the Southern part of the state. Just after our goat transplant you might have seen us on the news. We were coming off the mountain on Taylor Flat and we ran into a Peruvian sheep herder that had been gored by an elk the previous night. Just kind of a fluke accident. He had been resting on the ground when he heard something in the bushes next to him and he looked over and there was a big bull elk. It startled him so he jumped up and when he jumped up the elk got startled and then attacked him. He got gored several times both from the front and back and had his knee and shoulder dislocated. I was with the crew at the time, I was really impressed with our law enforcement officers and their training and their professionalism and the compassion. Ben Wolford was with us and is an advanced EMT. He had IV's, O2 tanks, he bandaged him up. Dennis Shumway is a fluent in Spanish and could translate, J Shirley and TJ coordinated for life flight to come and take him into Grand Junction. It was a really good feel good story and it made of course statewide news. There was an article in the Salt lake Tribune, it went state wide, national and even internationally. It was a really great story. He did survive and I do believe he is out of the hospital. He was in bad shape and was hospitalized for several days. Lung had been punctured and if he hadn't found us the outcome wouldn't have been so good for him. Habitat section has been busy as well. Habitat projects are being done in every county in every region. A lot have been improving winter ranges by removing pinion and juniper trees. Improving summer range by increasing aspen and we are doing habitat work for game and non-game species. Good stuff is happening. As you have probably saw on the news last week the division has gone to the Tushars where we received twenty mountain goats and they were released that same day on as they were caught on the La Sal's. So we now have twenty goats on the La Sal's. Also on the capture plan there were twenty more goats that were to go to South Dakota. We receive turkeys from South Dakota the last several years so we have had an exchange going on there. Those goats will be in the Mount Rushmore area from what I understand. There were ten more for the Mount Dutton. I think there is a transplant going on in just a few weeks. I think it is for Willard Peak I think? That will be trans-locating goats to the Dutton as well. Our biologists are also been working the check stations and taking samples for the Chronic wasting disease. This fall we have youth hunts coming up for chukars, waterfowl

and pheasants. We are in the middle of a bunch of hunts. Big game, water fowl and upland game hunts are all coming up. We have really busy with that. That is all I have. I will take any question.

Questions from the RAC

No Questions

Questions from the Public

No Questions

Comments from the Public

No Comments

RAC Discussion

5) Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 (Action)
-Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator
-Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator

Questions from the RAC

Derris Jones- Drew, I am going to start where you kind of ended it with Scofield. The fact that Scofield is going to part of two daily bag limits. How is that going to affect the USU study? Is that going to mess up the study design?
Justin Hart- The study is pretty much over, There were only two waters statewide, well one really that was going to do an exception of that. That two day possession rule.
Derris Jones- Strawberry and Flaming gorge.
Justin Hart- We didn't feel like it was going to be a significant problem at Scofield.
Derris Jones- I understand the political deal with Wyoming but Strawberry is just due to the pressure that Strawberry receives is that why you feel like a two daily bag is not expectable there?
Drew Cushing- Yes. Strawberry, historically, and in the survey we just completed, every five years, we do a state wide survey for all anglers just to get an idea of where the pressure is. And Strawberry is by far our most popular water. It receives a lot of pressure and there was concern about harvest of rainbows mostly.
Derris Jones- One last question. When does Wyoming do their regulations?
Drew Cushing- Believe it or not this year. So we are going to wait a year. They have a bi- annual proclamation. We will wait a year and then hopefully sync up with them year after next. They have agreed to pursue this in Wyoming. We have talked to them and they are willing to pursue it up there. They have tried it up there before and it got shot down. But they believe that if we can work together that they can get it implemented.

Derris Jones- No matter which does it first Wyoming or Utah, it's going to be offset?
Drew Cushing- No. Our thought is to wait a year and then when they move forward with it, then we will move forward with it as well.
Derris Jones- So it will come online simultaneous?
Drew Cushing- That is the thought. And just so you know that when this was presented at the wildlife board, they kind of forced us to look at this, which was a good thing. We need to do it anyway. We have been talking about it now for several years--this two day possession limit concept. In my mind when we talked to the managers, they agreed that what this could do is increase the pressure on the more distant waters, you know the ones that people go and camp at. Providing them the incentive to go camping and enable them to take two limits instead of one. We have seen a real decrease in pressure in those waters in recent years. We are hoping that this can remove some of the anglers from our close waters. And push them or allow them some incentive to go to those more distant waters. Take advantage to those waters that less utilized.
Derris Jones- In the definition of the daily bag there was some wording on unprocessed. If somebody is bottling fish in their camper once they are in the bottle they are no longer part of the possession limit? Is that what it is saying?
Drew Cushing- They are actually still part of the limit.
Derris Jones- So am I reading it wrong then. So it says unprocessed fish**.**
Drew Cushing- Processed would mean that they are ready for a meal. If in your freezer you had a limit, you could go out and take a second limit and then you're done by this definition. But bottled fish would count in your limit.
Derris Jones- I would be looking at that word because people are going to get confused at processed when they pressure-can it. They are going to say that is processed.
Drew Cushing- I think we can do that with a definition. We will have to do that as to what processed means.
Wayne Hoskisson- The only communication that I got on this was I think someone from Sportsman for fish and wildlife was suggesting a three limit.
Drew Cushing- Yes, they have and they will.
Derris Jones-When you guys looked at a two daily bag, what were the effects of the waters did you evaluate there?
Drew Cushing- It is important for everybody to recognize that there is no three-day possession limit anywhere that I could find in the fish world. The reason or at least the last night talking with Ken Strong who was the guy that recommended it last night. The reason that he presented it was that he wanted it to be consistent with upland game. Upland game has a three day possession limit. He thought that it should be consistent in that regard. The problem is that if we have a three day possession limit, then we are nowhere near anybody in the fish world. That would be problematic.

Questions from the Public

No Questions

Comments from the Public

Chris Wood-(Read a written statement, emailed by Paul Dremann, Chairman of the Utah

Anglers Association.) Note: The content is available from Brent Stettler upon request.

RAC Discussion

Wayne Hoskisson-I know Paul Dremann and I respect his decision. I would make a motion to accept the 2014 Fishing Guide and Rule as it was presented.

VOTING
Motion was made by Wayne Hoskisson to accept the Fishing Guidebook and Rule 657-13 as presented.
Seconded by Derris Jones
Motion passed unanimously

6) Scofield Reservoir Study (Informational for SER only)
-Justin Hart, Regional Aquatics Program

(Note: Justin Hart's PowerPoint presentation is available upon request from Brent Stettler or by visiting the Department of Natural Resources S: drive at DWR/RAC/RAC Recording/SER/2013/Scofield Reservoir Study RAC 9.11.13.ppt.
Justin referenced a blog written by Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator. The blog may be found at: http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/blog/2011/A-Strategy-for-Scofield/

Questions from the RAC
Wayne Hoskisson- On the population of cutthroat, it looked like they were doing better than the Tiger. So do you think that increasing tigers would bring those numbers up?
Justin Hart- I think that the tiger trout might eat more chubs per pound than the cutthroat. Maybe because of their size or maybe because their conversion of efficiency when they eat. There is just a lot more cutthroat in there. I think Tiger trout might be more effective if you boiled it down pound to pound. I think that is where they came up with their recommendation. To increase the number of tigers to maximize our predation, but there certainly is room in there to change that or to manipulate it around a little bit to get to where you want it to be. Tiger trout are a little bit harder to catch for the average angler. They don't hit power bait, they are harder to catch. Cutthroat are a little bit easier to catch. Maybe we need to talk to the public to what they would like to see. If we are going to go down this route. Or maybe they want to see more cutthroat. I think there is a way that they probably make that just as effective.
Todd Huntington- How about Joe's Valley, How do the Tiger Muskies compare as predator vs. these cutthroat and Tiger trout? Are they doing the job of getting rid of the chubs in Joe's Valley?
Justin Hart- I don't if we have an answer to that question yet. We have approached Joe's Valley kind of conservatively. We didn't want to just swamp that place with Tiger Muskies and have it crash in 4 yrs. from now. We wanted to approach it slowly with a few Tiger Muskies and to see how it goes. We do have big fish in there but I don't think

we have seen Utah chub numbers go down much. I think we will start seeing it pretty soon. That would be my guess. Are they a better predator? Probably so. One issue that we have at Joe's Valley is escapement potential of fish out of the reservoir. It is possible but it is a lot lower because of the outlet structure. We closely monitor the tail water for escapement of Tiger Muskie because there is concern that if a whole bunch get out and get down the San Rafael and into the Green we could have some issues with our native fish. Would it be nice to put Tiger Muskie in Scofield? Yeah. Would it work? It probably would. But the Scofield outlet is just a direct overflow apron. When that thing overflows, you should see the fish that go over, especially the chubs the last couple of years. You can stand there and count hundreds by the minute. It would be a problem to have hundreds and thousands of Tiger Muskies potentially get flushed down Lower Fish creek and into the Price River and into the Green. We are a little bit more limited with our management options at Scofield.

Todd Huntington- Has there been thoughts of putting Tigers or Cutthroat into Joe's Valley? To help the Tiger Muskies?

Justin Hart- We have tried Tiger Trout in Joe's Valley back in 2007 or 2005. We tried them but we just didn't see them. We saw a few here and there in our nettings and a few would be caught. They would look miserable. They didn't return. Splake are the only trout that have done really well in there.

Paul Birdsey (Spoke from the audience without a microphone)-Interesting thing with tiger trout is that what we are seeing is that they either do really well like they are in Scofield or they do really badly. We have a research project proposed that we will initiate in 2014. One of the things that I am personally looking at is what the shape of the reservoir is. If you look at Joe's Valley right now vs. Scofield as a perfect example, Joe's Valley is a canyon reservoir with shallow littoral areas. Scofield at 45-50 feet is highly productive and the Tiger trout want to stay there. Joe's Valley what they did is all ran up Lowery water and they come back. You can actually catch them up there right now. It took them about 5 years before they decided to come back to the reservoir. It depends on the inflow and what the reservoir looks like.

Justin Hart- We don't see many Tiger Trout at Joe's.

Dr. Mike King (Spoke from the audience without a microphone) - What is the cost comparison between the Rotenone treatment, and I am assuming that you have to treat the entire lake compared to what it is to stock enough Tiger Trout and Cutthroats?

Justin Hart- I am going to ask for some help on the trout numbers. We have estimated the Rotenone treatment could cost ¾ of a million dollars in labor and chemical. I don't even know what that might mean to loss in revenue, economy. The loss of the fishery for maybe at least a year. The cost of stocking the lake with large fish to jump start it. Which large fish are extremely expensive? I might have to ask Paul or Drew to help how much it costs.

Drew Cushing- So what you guys are asking is how much it costs to stock Scofield Reservoir annually? Is that what you're asking?

Dr. Mike King-Comparison if you're going to kill them all with Rotenone vs. the cost to stocking more Tiger and Cutthroat to take care of the Chub population?

Drew Cushing- Right now we stock 8" fish in Scofield. 300,000 of them. They are 4 to the pound.

Paul Birdsey (Spoke from the audience without a microphone)- That is not what we

are stocking right now. 80,000 of 8" cutthroat and 120,000 5-6" Tiger trout. 5" tiger trout are 20 per pound. So you have 120,000 divided by 5 X 3.5 is $84,000. That what our current cost is. It has been recommended that we increase that stock so that could increase the cost. Over the course of 5-6 yrs is when we are trying to forecast a control of the chubs. We might spend the same amount over that time period. We could spend a million plus by the time we did the Rotenone treatment and restocking and we would have to go back in with a similar type of stocking program that we are currently complicating just because it is impossible to remove all of the chubs even with a Rotenone treatment. We would have to get in front of it and stock predators. Cost effectiveness is-- this is more cost effective.
Drew Cushing- The best guess Dr. King is $84,000.
Justin Hart- I think a simple way to look at it would be it costs us ¾ of a million more to treat it. Because we are still going to be stocking similar numbers. Whether we treat it or if we don't. We might increase it for a few years that might cost a little bit more money, but after the treatment we would be coming back in with about the same thing, plus you lose a year. I don't how to estimate what kind of loss we would give to the economy
Dr. Mike King (Spoke from the audience without a microphone)-Inaudible
Drew Cushing (Spoke from the audience without a microphone)-There is a long process with Rotenone treatment. If that is the plan then you're going to have to do a second treatment every year for about ten years.
Dr. Mike King (Spoke from the audience without a microphone)-Inaudible
Justin Hart- We would probably just do it once on something this big. We would manage it the exact same way that we are doing it now. We probably would want to keep a slot limit on. We would want Tiger and Cutthroat and hopefully we could get some Rainbow as a benefit of having the chubs gone. We wouldn't be able to go back to four fish because the chubs will come back probably at some point in the future. We would be right back to this. So if we could do this without treating it would save a lot of money.
Roger Wilson (Spoke from the audience without a microphone)- This a very dramatic finding. This is important. This is far beyond our region in Scofield to find out that cutthroat can control chub. This is an important finding for statewide management programs.
Drew Cushing (Spoke from the audience without a microphone)-Inaudible
Dr. Mike King-What kinds of impact are the Pelicans having on the chub populations and do you see any increases in Pelican numbers at Scofield? It seems to me that in the springtime I have never seen as many as I have this year up there.
Drew Cushing- We have several studies right now with Pelicans, specific to where they go, what they eat, I have the unlucky task of stomach analysis for the past several years on Pelicans. They eat a lot of chubs. Strawberry Reservoir there was an issue about what they eat and how they impact our trout fishery up there and they eat chubs because chubs are most available. They are in the shallows and that is where those Pelicans forage. They like to take the fish that is easiest and most abundant. Pelicans are increasing in abundance in Utah. We have elevated the stocking of Rainbow and other fish because of pelicans.
Todd Huntington-Any other questions? Meeting is adjourned.

<u>Comments from the Questions from the Public</u>

Comments from the Public

RAC Discussion

VOTING (Item was informational only.)

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

The next Wildlife Board meeting will take place on November 7 at 9 a.m. in the DNR ballroom, 1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City.

The next SER RAC meeting will take place on November 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the John Wesley Powell Museum in Green River.

NORTHEASTERN RAC MEETING SUMMARY OF MOTIONS
Utah Wildlife Resources Office, 318 N Vernal Ave, Vernal
September 12, 2013

5.FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13

MOTION to accept the Division's recommendation as presented

Passed unanimously

NORTHEASTERN RAC MEETING SUMMARY
Utah Wildlife Resources Office, 318 N Vernal Ave, Vernal
September 12, 2013

RAC MEMBERS PRESENT:
Beth Hamann, Non consumptive
John Mathis, Public Official
Mitch Hacking, Agriculture
David Gordon, BLM
Carrie Messerly, At Large
Wayne McAllister (Chair)
Boyde Blackwell, NER Supervisor
Joe Batty, Agriculture
Dan Abeyta, Forest Service
Rod Morrison, Sportsmen
Andrea Merrell, Non consumptive

UDWR PERSONNEL PRESENT:
Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator
Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Pgm Coordinator
Randy Scheetz, NER Law Enforcement
Gayle Allred, NER Office Manager
Ron Stewart, NER Conservation Outreach Mgr
Garn Birchell, NER Aquatics Biologist

RAC MEMBERS EXCUSED:
Randy Dearth, Sportsmen

1. WELCOME, RAC INTRODUCTIONS AND RAC PROCEDURE: Wayne McAllister, RAC Chair
Review five pages photocopied from the training manual received at the RAC orientation in Salt Lake. Some highlights include: The RAC may not make formal recommendations. The RAC deals with field issues. We want to maintain credibility. We need to show respect for all presenters, and follow parliamentary procedure. We are self-governing and assist the Wildlife Board by representing the Northeastern region and giving the best recommendations we can.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES: Wayne McAllister, RAC Chair
Agenda: Carrie Messerly made a motion to approve, Beth Hamann second. Approved unanimously
Minutes: Beth Hamann motioned to accept, Mitch Hacking second. Approved unanimously

3. WILDLIFE BOARD MEETING UPDATE: Wayne McAllister, RAC Chair
- Kirk Woodward is doing an excellent job.
- The Goat Plan was split, with lots of discussion which took three hours. The Mt. Dutton proposal passed. The La Sal was changed to half the numbers.
- The cougar proposal took 2 1/2 hours and there was a lot of good discussion. Want to re-open the plan to unit-by-unit. The rest went as presented.
- Waterfowl has a September 21 youth date.
- The fee schedule was discussed and accepted and will be taken to the legislature in 2014.

4. REGIONAL UPDATE: Boyde Blackwell

Habitat: We treated 6,000 new acres with brush hog and lop-and-scatter projects. Completed four new guzzlers in the Book Cliffs for wildlife and livestock.

We had three eagle scout projects on three other guzzlers where they ripped out the old guzzlers and put in new tanks and aprons on Bear Top, Avintaquin, etc. Funding came from other sources of sportsman's groups throughout the state.

Aquatics: Is finishing up summer work on threatened and endangered (T&E) fish. We are gearing up for treatment on the Middle Fork of Sheep Creek. The first treatment was last year. This will be the finish up. We need to re-do it to remove unwanted fish in those drainages. The dates will be September 17 for the prep work and September 18 for the actual project. If anyone would like a tour of the project, contact Ron Stewart. We will have a 50-person crew. Contact Trina Hedrick or Garn Birchell if you would like to volunteer.

We just finished Green River electro fishing. From the Spillway below the Flaming Gorge Dam the first night, we collected 396 fish. From the Little Hole area the second night, we collected 438 fish. It is a productive area.
Big fish were as follows:
Rainbow trout- 19.3", 2.3 lbs. from the Spillway
Brown trout- 21.8", 3.9 lbs from Little Hole
Whitefish-20.5", 3.7 lbs. from Little Hole
Catfish-17" from Little Hole
The overall big fish was a flannel mouth sucker measuring 22" and 4.7 lbs from Little Hole.

Law Enforcement: Has been helping with road blocks for aquatic invasive species (AIS) compliance in the southern portion of the state. We are currently training a new recruit in our region, named Jake Greenwood. Randy Scheetz is the sergeant and trainer. For those of you who remember our former game manager, Charlie Greenwood, it is his son. This will make us only down two officers.

Game Management: is working on pronghorn

Outreach: will be hosting Kokanee Salmon Day Saturday, September 14 at Sheep Creek.

A goat relocation plan was passed by the Wildlife Board. We successfully captured 53 goats. Ten went to Nebo to supplement their population. 20 went to the La Sals and 23 to Black Hills, South Dakota. In exchange they're giving us turkeys. New capture plan carried out in October to move goats to Mt Dutton.

Last week, a sheepherder was rescued in the La Sals. He startled a bull elk and was gored. He walked several miles to reach another sheep herder. The second herder found our

people on the release site. Ben Wolford, who recently transferred from our region and is a certified EMT and medical responder, stabilized him and took him to Grand Junction.

Questions:

Mitch Hacking: Have you got otters? Are they causing problems?

Boyde Blackwell: BYU trapped and moved quite a few so the population is down. I haven't received any complaints from the fishermen. They take mainly rough fish, like carp. They have helped the ecosystem. I've moved them around quite a bit when we first brought them in. A fellow from Japan wrote a letter to us saying that seeing a river otter was the highlight of his trip.
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5. Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13: Drew Cushing

Questions from RAC:

John Mathis: Regarding spear fishing. I don't know the answer. Is it a risk for zebra mussel?

Drew Cushing: It does pose a risk. They're aware of the rules. They're no different than any other divers. They can transfer AIS.

Dan Abeyta: On the two possession limit proposal, how would something like that be enforced? On a random basis?

Drew Cushing: We've worked six months or more with law enforcement officers to see if it was possible. They said it falls in line with what they're already doing.

Wayne McAllister: In our informational packet it was confusing.

Drew Cushing: If an angler on Nine Mile Creek, which isn't a fishery, but if you're at the confluence of the Green River, it's a catch and kill, or if you're in Nine Mile. The waters listed are places where we have movement of native fish. We implement this up to the point where we manage waters. Native fish vs. sport fishery.

Beth Hamann: What do you consider "processed" on the 2-day limit?

Drew Cushing: The intent is if you bottle it, zip lock, fillet or in a freezer, that's processed.

Beth Hamann: Do our law enforcement officers say they can tell if it was done two days ago or fresh?

Paul Birdsey: The intent is to have a perceived reward for people who go to distant waters from the Wasatch Front, like if they travel to Starvation and stay a couple of days. The law enforcement officer would determine if that person caught 10 walleye in one day and 10 walleye in a second day or all in one day. It will be where the officer watches to see if you're fishing for 20 fish in one day.

Drew Cushing: We have waters on the Wasatch Front that get a lot of pressure. People go for day trips mainly. They may catch a limit of fish and take them home and put them in the freezer. This affects more distant waters like Starvation or Pelican that don't get enough pressure. People typically say they don't have time to go that far for one limit of fish. But if they can spend the night and take a second limit of fish, that helps the waters that could use the additional pressure.

Questions from the Public:

Jeff Tanaguchi: I'm representing myself, but I'm also on the Blue Ribbon Advisory Council and Trout Unlimited. Has there been a creel census on spear fishermen?

Drew Cushing: We have never creeled a spear fishermen, ever. Their numbers are so low they can't be sampled.

Mitch Hacking: What does "creeled" mean?

Drew Cushing: "Creeled" means we have a list of questions to collect like how many hours they were out, how many fish they caught, etc. It's a way to determine how many anglers you have and how many fish are being removed and time spent. When we do a year creel, we're going to get an idea of what's going on.

Comments from Public:

Lynn Edling: (Not in attendance. Submitted RAC comment card re: Steinaker): "It would be nice if before the poisoning happens to let people fish whether they have a license or not - maybe a month or two weeks beforehand."

Jace Dalton: (Not in attendance. Submitted RAC comment card re: Red Fleet): "Regarding the killing it off of fish. If this is done there will be many fisherman that will never come back which will result of a loss of revenue not only to the state but it is going to make a lake that I'm very fond of going to something that is not appealing at all. It's a bad idea."

Bo Dalton: (Not in attendance. Submitted RAC comment card re: Red Fleet): "Killing off the lake is a bad idea and the park is going to lose money no more people with boat will return to this lake the walleye and bass are getting really good. I know of 5 people with boats that will not return. Do not kill off the lake and remember that it is people like me and my friends that make so you have a pay check."

Ken Strong: (Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife): SFW accepts DWR's recommendations with the exception of 3 things:
1 - Instead of a two-day possession, we would like to see a three-day possession limit. The reason for that is that in upland game, it's a three-day possession limit. This would be more consistent with the rest of the hunting proclamations.
2 - We'd like to see if a person cooks a fish, that they no longer count on your limit, and that would give people a chance to bottle fish and put them in your storage.
3 - Where they have Strawberry eliminated from multiple possession, we would like to make it statewide with the exception of Flaming Gorge. If I go to Strawberry and I catch 4 fish and go home and I go the next day to Deer Creek, I can't go because I have fish at home. The Strawberry anglers brought up the comment that they fear that DWR law enforcement people can't enforce the law. I think DWR people can enforce the law.

Jeff Taniguchi: (representing myself, but referencing a letter from Paul Dremann). We feel the 3-day possession limit will be a nightmare to enforce. It could be pretty problematic for law enforcement and biologists in blue ribbon waters and other waters that are on the fringe.

Comments from RAC:

Mitch Hacking: You represent yourself. Does your organization support what you're saying?

Jeff Taniguchi: We meet once a month and this popped up but we've had a lot of email exchanges. We will meet on the 28th of this month. I'm speaking for myself and I was asked by the Angler's coalition to deliver the letter. It's not only trout but all the warm water species we have. In Pelican it could be problematic, and Jones Hole. If everybody took 3 limits out of there, it could be problematic for the fishery.

Paul Dremann (Not in attendance. Submitted letter): "I am the Chair of the Utah Anglers Coalition. The Coalition membership includes Utah Bass Anglers, Friends of Strawberry Valley, Strawberry Anglers, Utah Council Trout Unlimited, Salt Lake County Fish and Game, Rocky Mountain Anglers (walleye), Federation of Fly Fishers, High Country Fly Fishers (Park City), Stonefly Society (Salt Lake) and several angling oriented commercial entities.

We have been working closely over the past several months with DWR aquatics personnel in reviewing the proposed changes to the fishing regulations. We have voted unanimously to support the changes that will be presented to your RAC this evening. One item that received a great deal of discussion was extending the fish possession limit to 2 days on selected waters.

Some waters, Strawberry Reservoir, Flaming Gorge and a few others would remain with a possession limit of 1 day. This was acceptable to our Coalition. Extending the possession limit to 2 or more days on these selected waters or 3 days on the remainder would have extremely negative impacts on the fisheries.

The Coalition encourages your RAC to support the Divisions' proposal as presented."

Carrie Messerly: What would prevent people from creating a mass problem if people bottled their meat commercially?

Drew Cushing: It would be wise to survey the angling public and see how many people bottle fish anymore. I don't know what impact that could have. The intent is to direct pressure to places where we need more pressure. At the same time, the rationale for 2 vs. 3 or 2 vs. 4 is that the neighboring states have a 2-day. So to have a 3-day means we would never sync up with Wyoming. There would be a real issue since that's the accepted multi-day limit in the angling world. In the 1920s everybody probably bottled fish. In 2013, I don't know.

Carrie Messerly: I wondered if it could have an impact.

Drew Cushing: If you live within 30 minutes of the Wasatch Front or 15 minutes from Steinaker, you catch fish, you may eat two and freeze two. The next day, you catch them and freeze one. That's not what we're talking about. We're talking about a multi-day trip where you stay overnight and catch two limits. As far as the over harvest, if it's happening, it's happening now.

Carrie Messerly: Is there going to be an impact by doubling the limit?

Drew Cushing: We'd like to think so. Starvation is one of waters we hope to direct pressure to. It'll either say our fears are unfounded, or we need to change the limits.

MOTION:
Carrie Messerly move to accept the Division's recommendation as presented
Beth Hamann: Second.

Passed unanimously

Carrie Messerly: Motion to adjourned meeting

Beth Hamann second
Passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned 7:45 pm.

No RAC or Board meetings will be held in October
Next meeting: November 14, 2013

Central Region Advisory Council
DNR Boardroom
1594 W North Temple, Salt Lake City
September 17, 2013 ↬ 6:30 p.m.

Motion Summary

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

MOTION: To accept the agenda and minutes as written
Passed unanimously

Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13

MOTION: To support the Division's recommendations as proposed
Passed unanimously

Establishment of Least Chub Refuge Populations

MOTION: To support the Least Chub management plan as presented
Passed unanimously

Central Region Advisory Council
DNR Boardroom
1594 W North Temple, Salt Lake City
September 17, 2013 ↜ 6:30 p.m.

Members Present	Members Absent
Matt Clark, Sportsmen	Larry Fitzgerald, Agriculture
Timothy Fehr, At large	Sarah Flinders, Forest Service
Karl Hirst, Sportsmen	Kristofer Marble, At large
Michael Gates, BLM	
Richard Hansen, At large, Vice Chair	
George Holmes, Agriculture	
Gary Nielson, Sportsmen, Chair	
Danny Potts, Non-consumptive	
Jay Price, Elected	
Christine Schmitz, Non-consumptive	

Others Present
Mike Canning, Assistant Director

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1) Approval of the Agenda and Minutes (Action)
- **Gary Nielson, RAC Chair**

VOTING
Motion was made by Timothy Fehr to accept the agenda and minutes as written
Seconded by
Motion passed unanimously

2) Wildlife Board Meeting Update (Information)
- **Richard Hansen, RAC Vice Chair**

3) Regional Update (Information)
- **John Fairchild, Central Regional Supervisor**

Wildlife
- Pheasant releases planned at WMAs this fall
- Ten Rocky Mountain Goats moved to Mt. Nebo (augmentation) this month and ten more planned for October
- Highland City Urban Deer Control Hunt to start soon
- Youth waterfowl hunt Sept. 21
- Youth chukar hunt Sept. 21

Habitat
- Sage-grouse habitat improvement project underway at Strawberry (Sage Ck. Area)
- P-J chaining projects planned for Dairy Fork and the Bear Ck CWMU
- Plans underway to seed the Patch Fire (south end of the Stansbury Mtns.)

Aquatics
- Jared Randall is the new Blue Ribbon Fishery Biologist, replacing Jordan Nielsen who was promoted to the AIS Coordinator Position in the SLO
- Mill Creek Restoration Project, 1st Phase a success
- Management Plans for Yuba and Strawberry reservoirs

- Main Creek Restoration (Wallsburg) to benefit native species
- Gillnetting at Deer Cr, Jordanelle, Strawberry and Yuba reservoirs in Oct.
- Electro-shocking Diamond Fork and Sixth Water in Oct.

Conservation Outreach

- Hunter Ed Plus pilot program to provide 150 new hunters with mentored pheasant hunt at Wasatch Wing and Clay CHA and Four-Mile CHA this fall
- Raptor Watch Day Sept. 21
- Kokanee Salmon Festival at Strawberry Sept. 21
- State Fair (DWR exhibits and kid fishing pond a success

Law Enforcement

- Officer Larson working on an elk poaching case involving a trophy bull taken during the spike archery hunt on Traverse Ridge, Draper
- CR law enforcement officers planning winter range patrols to curtail poaching on critical mule deer winter ranges

4) Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 (Action)

- **Paul Birdsey,**

Questions from the RAC

Matt Clark – Why are you closing Jordanelle to spear fishing? To me it seems they fall under the same limits as anyone else.
Paul Birdsey – There is a concern by the bass anglers. They were seeing a reduction in the size of small mouth bass over the last four or five year and they were concerned that the reason for that reduction in size was because those large fish were being harvested whether it be by spear fishermen or other anglers. We are currently doing work to address what exactly is going on at Jordanelle. The members of the public that participated in the process felt strongly that Jordanelle needed to be taken off the list and we are going with the public recommendation on this.
Matt Clark – Do you have any idea how many spear fishermen there are in the state?
Paul Birdsey – In talking with the spear fishermen they suggest there is somewhere between 100 and 200. We don't have a spear fisherman license so we don't know exactly. What I can say is that I have been doing this professionally for 35 years and I have talked to one spear fisherman in the field and that was while I was recreationally fishing at Deer Creek this past spring. There are not a lot of them but it is a very emotional topic and we are trying to find a compromise where everyone can feel like they are walking away with something. It has been a long hard process. There is a lot of emotion on both sides of this issue. People feel very passionate about it and again I thank those people who did come together and develop this compromise.

Richard Hansen – On Lost Creek it says you are not able to filet trout or salmon. What if they eat it there?
Paul Birdsey – That of course would not hold but basically they can't leave that water with it filleted. They could have a shore lunch.

Timothy Fehr – If you allow a two day limit at Strawberry you really expect that there will be over fishing there?
Paul Birdsey – Let me clarify that the two day possession limit is only if you are staying overnight. They majority of people that visit Strawberry and waters that are close to the Wasatch front go for a day and they come home. Their limit doesn't change. However,

having said that, at the peak of fishing pressure in Strawberry seven or eight years ago we were getting about 1.3 million angler hours. Even just a small percentage may in fact tip that balance. What we have committed to do here is ease into this and look at some of the other waters that are high use waters and see if there is any impact there and then move toward inclusion with perhaps Strawberry in the future or perhaps not. It really depends.

Danny Potts – I was a bit surprised that you didn't mention with the two day possession limit out of staters. They bring in a lot of spin off money and they are stuck. They have come all this way to fish and that might be an incentive to bring new money into the state.
Paul Birdsey – I certainly may be. We did recently discover that out of state anglers comprised around 10 percent of our angling public but in fact it is closer to 25 percent and Danny is absolutely right. That represents a huge financial gain for the state and this may help us attract a few more.

Questions from the Public
Paul Cowley – Natural Resources and planning staff officer for the Uinta Wasatch Cache National Forest. How much of a risk does it pose if people catch two fish and Strawberry and then travel to another water with a four fish limit?
Paul Birdsey – You have a daily limit. Technically they could catch two fish at Strawberry then go to Current Creek and catch two more fish they would have their four fish that they are allowed. If they then stayed overnight at Current Creek they could then keep four more fish the following day and they are perfectly legal in doing so. It's going to happen but I don't see a significant impact from that.

Brad Bradley – You are going to add value to the license if you add a second limit. I can get possibly eight fish so it adds a perceived value. If that increases the license purchases is there anything built in for that? Do you want to increase your anglers?
Paul Birdsey – The goal here is increasing the number of licenses that we sell. Obviously about 60 percent of our funding comes from license sales. If that happens it may be necessary to reduce the limit on some waters if there is an impact from more people fishing.
Brad Bradley – But that would be on individual waters, not statewide?
Paul Birdsey – Very likely.
Brad Bradley – Is and angler day midnight to midnight or is that 24 hours after I caught my fish?
Paul Birdsey – Midnight to midnight. September 17th is not the same as September 18th.

Clifford Sackett – I am wondering about the snagging law. I do a lot of bass fishing. Mainly that is what I like doing. A lot of times we are throwing top water and we will catch fish that will come up and hit the lure but we may hook them in the cheek. We turn them loose anyway but a lot of people do keep them. The snagging is basically during the spawn of walleye and other fish. Is there a way of changing that so it only covers the spawning of the fish?
Paul Birdsey – That would be incredibly difficult to write into a rule and enforce. The key word in that snagging regulation is that you have to be intentionally doing that. You can foul hook a fish. My one and only greatest catch at Utah Lake was I foul hooked a carp right in the tail. We say in the mouth but there is some officer interpretation. One caught in the back, you release that one. You catch it in the head but outside of the mouth that sounds like an officers digressions.

Barry Rimmash – With respect to the two day limit are you going to provide a definition for what is considered a processed fish?
Paul Birdsey – Yes. That came up at an earlier RAC meeting and we will be adding a definition.

Barry Rimmash – Otherwise I would see it being a disaster but with those definitions I think that would be excellent.

Bob Dibblee – Trout Unlimited – For the two day catch limit how will they prove they were there for two days?
Paul Birdsey – That has been a point of discussion with our law enforcement officers throughout the course of this consideration about this regulation. How do you determine whether a fish was caught today or yesterday? The law enforcement response from the chief has been that they will have to work that case exactly like any other over limit and it's up to them to prove whether you caught the fish the day before or not. However they choose to do that is entirely up to them.

Comments from the Public

Paul Cowley – Natural Resources and planning staff officer for the Uinta Wasatch Cache National Forest – One of the items that was a concern to us as we looked at the catch and kill provision is the burying of fish along the shoreline of waters where the fish were caught. With some of our high recreation waters this would create a real nuisance to the other general recreating public. We would recommend to the central RAC that they remove that item from the list of possible disposal areas.

Clifford Sackett – Utah Bass Federation – I passed out papers hopefully you can look at one. Nobody likes catching little fish, especially bass. Everybody says you have to keep some in order to keep the fishery viable. When Jordanelle had a lot of fish in it because the regulation was nothing over 12 inches we didn't have an over abundance of little fish because the bigger fish at a lot of them. That is what happens in a lot of the ecosystems. Right now it is so far out of balance I don't know what it would take to get it back in balance. If we could get a slot limit on the bass I think it would help it a great deal. Many other states have slot limits to curb the same thing that is happening here. Texas which is a well known state for bass, some of their major lakes have slot limits. Most of their slot limits are from 16 to 24 inches. California has slot limits. Florida even has slot limits on bass on certain lakes. It's proven that it does help. Look at Strawberry and the trout. Once they get grown it helps the fishery in long run for fishermen and the fishery. No one likes catching little fish. Everyone calls the DWR dirty names when all they do is catch little fish. If they go and catch big fish they brag about it do everybody including the out of staters. They hear about it and they bring their dollars in here to catch big fish. Five years ago in this state I fished over 200 days a year. Last year and this year I fished just over 100 days in Utah waters and I just about fished that many days in other states. I have four other state fishing licenses that I go to and fish more than Utah because of the size of the fish. To answer the one question I heard someone ask about spear fishing at Jordanelle. Before they got up there and spear fished, one thing that I learned about spear fishing from other states and also from a television show. I contacted a man from a show called hook and look and asked them about a show I saw where they were actually pushing the bass away from the camera and the divers. I asked them if that is normal. They said the lakes that have small mouth and even large mouth they can sit on the bottom and the bass will actually come over to them and you have to push them out of the way or they become a nuisance. The bigger the bass the more they come at divers basically territorial. There is no catch and release with a spear once you hit it with a spear its dead. Big and small mouths are a real valuable item. There are people who travel a lot of miles to catch big small mouth. I am one of them.

Paul Dremann – Utah Anglers Coalition – We have been working with the Division for months going over these regulations. We have quite a bit of discussion particularly in regard to the two day procession limit. We fully support that recommendation excluding Strawberry. We also want to compliment the spear fishermen folks. That was a very difficult issue and a lot of tense feeling and my compliments to the Division personnel as well as Terry and George Summers. Lastly, there has been some discussion on increasing to a three day possession limit on fish particularly in light of the drought situation this year and maybe next year and without knowing what may happen on the fisheries the anglers coalition is very much opposed to extending beyond the two day limit.

Ken Strong – SFW – Thank you for the opportunity to address the RAC and for the effort you put into working with rules and regulations that would help this state in the future. Paul, I was going to tell you that in 2010 according to the DWR 40 percent of the fishing licenses came from out of state so we do have a lot of people from out of state here. There are several things I would like to talk about. Of course the license sales dropped in 2002 when the limit of the fish dropped to four. Obviously the limit affects people fishing and coming into state. I would like to talk about possession limits. We just heard that the three day being opposed and that is good. Idaho has a two day possession limit in the field such as Utah is proposing. Once you hit home in Idaho those fish no longer count on your limit. SFW would like to agree with the two day limit that the state has in mind with a three day possession limit once you are home. You could still only get two in the field but you could have a three day possession limit at home if you want a few more fish in your freezer. SFW has put a lot of money into Strawberry mostly in raising the fish to a little bigger size and we are worried about Strawberry as much as the next person and we would be the first to pull the chain on it if we thought a two day possession limit would damage the fishery. We would like to add Strawberry and have it statewide except Flaming Gorge. We would also like to propose that cooked fish no longer count on your limit. Whether that be canning them or bottling them or even if you cook them and put them in your fridge. Paul mentioned the Current Creek change of the limit to four to standardize the limit and that is why we are saying to add Strawberry and make it statewide. Thank you for your time and please take time to consider.

Brad Bradley – I am representing 98 percent of fisherman that don't belong to a special interest group and never show up at these things. On page 14 of the fishing proclamation it talks about how you can take carp. I guess we are kind of afraid of this one thing that is so efficient and so dangerous at harvesting carp that we just can't have it out there and that is the crossbow. I would like to see that struck from the proclamation and make crossbows legal for carp. We can do just about anything to them. I know Cabela's is selling them and it would be nice to be able to go fish with them. Recommendation number two, I want to thank the Division for looking at increasing the fishing limit. I think that is something that we have needed to do for quite a while. If we look at the surrounding states Utah is at the bottom of the list on possession. Utah is the most restrictive on the trout limit in the intermountain west and I think we are better than that and we have more fish out there and have the ability to allow people to harvest those fish. I would like to go back to the 2001 eight fish limit. Right now with the possession regulation you are proposing it is very complicated. It would be much more simple and easy to understand if you just say eight fish in possession. It doesn't matter if you catch

two fish on Saturday and two fish on Sunday. Eight fish was a suitable limit prior to 2002 and your fishing license sales prior to 2002 were above the 450,000 mark. When you dropped the limit you had a pretty serious buyer resistance. You lost about 50,000 fishermen and you have been fighting ever since to get them back. The only thing that got you close to back was thanks to the big game guys making people buy a hunting license or combination license in order to apply for the deer or elk. When I look at enforcement of it I appreciate what the law enforcement section is saying that they will deal with it. Yeah, they have to deal with what the biologists throw out but I think it's a pretty difficult one to enforce. I mentioned it to one friend and he already solved the problem. He said he would just have to carry his sleeping bag on his four wheeler when he goes from now on. Really unless an officer wants to sits on a trailer and make sure they were there on Saturday and not on Friday night there won't be much he can do.

Barry Rimmash – United Wildlife Cooperative – I would like to compliment the workers that made these spear fishing regulation proposals. Those are outstanding. As far as what our members are concerned about a lot of that has been covered. I would encourage the Division to continue to monitor Willard Bay inlet situation closely both from how the law enforcement is being conducted, if it's too much, if the snagging is out of control, if it's providing the opportunity hoped for. Other concerns, we continue to support the current regulations at Minersville. We are conducting member surveys but we don't have full results back yet. Overall great work on the spear fishing regs, we fully support that. Also continue monitoring the Willard Bay situation.

Terry Reist – Utah Spear Fishing Association – I would like to thank Paul Dremann, Paul Birdseye and Drew Cushing for all the effort they have put into accommodating our group and our activity. As spear fishermen we see ourselves no different than any other sportsman sees them self as someone who is vitally concerned about the health of the fisheries within the state. We see ourselves no less or no more than sportsmen compared to hook and line or any other type of sportsman. We are fishermen; we are hunters just like anyone else. Again thank you for all their effort. They did a great job of putting us all together in the same room and helping us work things out. They were instrumental in that. One proposal is on the 2014 survey that the question be proposed that in any water where there is a catch and kill regulation on any given species that spear fishing for those species be allowed. We think it is appropriate and we would be willing to wait until the 2014 survey so have that out to the general public to get their comments and feelings on it. Paul was accurate; we didn't get everything we asked for. I would like to make these information comments only to this council. Currently the proposal puts a moratorium on spear fishing for small and large mouth bass during a certain period of time during the spawn with the effect that it is going to protect those species while they are on their nests spawning. We as spear fishermen as a group absolutely support that proposal. We would like to point out that during that same period of time a hook and line fisherman can and keep the legal limit of those same small and large mouth bass. As spear fishermen and sportsmen we don't really see the difference between a fish in the cooler whether it has been shot by a spear gun or whether it has been hook and line caught. Also, just some general comments for the council and audience. Small mouth bass are curious and the comment about their behavior is fairly accurate. So as spear fishermen it is required of us to use our selectivity prior to pulling the trigger and that is basically what we have to do. Small and large mouth bass are not always on the top of our list of fish to fish for. Just

because they are there doesn't mean we are shooting them. I know for me I haven't in this state in a year and a half of fishing I haven't gone home with a limit of any single species ever. I'm not saying that every spear fisherman does that but it is fairly common. There are pliantly of other fish besides bass to spear fish. With regard to the proposals that have been placed by the addition of waters to make those open to us for spear fishing we feel that it will reduce the pressure on the waters that are currently available to us. We strongly support the proposals that have been made by Paul and Drew. Thank you for your time.

Jesse Kennicott – I am a spear fisherman. I wanted to give a little background. I have been doing it for about three years. I am a hunter. I hunt deer and elk and have fished with very limited success most of my life like most fishermen do. Most of the guys in this room could probably out fish my like crazy. I'm just like you. My old man for the first time in his life in 53 years didn't draw out this year for a deer tag. A friend of mine told me to go rent a wet suit and come with me to a spear fishing competition. He borrowed me his gun and I haven't been able to put it down since. Anybody who has any qualms about spear fishing, I will lend you my gun. It's not as easy as you think. Out of the roughly 200 spear fishermen in the state, and I doubt that is accurate. It's probably less than that. Only 10 percent can actually hold their breath to go down and wait for any period of time. I can't go down and wait for anything. I see what is on the surface. I hardly see any bass at all. In the type of water we fish here it is extremely dirty. There is only about 10 or 15 feet of visibility at the most. I also want to thank Paul and Drew and all the guys from the UAC that got together and helped us come together on a compromise. I will say that the one recommendation that I would like to see that wasn't brought up is night fishing for stripers at Powell. That would be fun for us and I don't see any problem with it. I agree with everything that we have done with increasing spear fishing in the state. I would love to be able to do more waters. In my opinion why not let us do everything everyone else can? Since I put on a wet suit and put a spear gun in my hand for the first time in my like I have felt like a minority. I've had rocks thrown at me and been cussed at and yelled at. I've never felt like that in my life. Why can't I be able to do what I love to do the same way everybody else can? My passion is spear fishing. Everybody else can take a hook and line and go fishing. That is my opinion. I appreciate it.

Jim Carter – Strawberry Anglers Association – I am very happy with the group we have here tonight and everybody that is bringing up their comments. One of the things that I think is important that we should think about is that Strawberry is the major fishery in the State of Utah and has been forever. It's been a big family fishery and one we have been working with for years. Back in the 1990's the reservoir was poisoned and started again and 10,000 anglers signed a petition for Wildlife Resources to stock rainbows in Strawberry and that group of anglers created the Strawberry Anglers Association. That was 15 years ago. I will read to you from the first document written. Our goal was to protect the strawberry valley fishery from any type of threat and work hand in hand with the Division of Wildlife Resources to ensure the best methods are used and the best results are gained for the money spent in the strawberry valley. There are a whole bunch of others on list and all of those are directed toward the fishery group working hand in hand with Wildlife Resources biologists to create the fishery that we have at Strawberry. A few years ago the American Fishery Aquatics got together on a national level and

voted Strawberry Reservoir as the best managed fishery in the United States. That was not anglers, that was biologists. I feel like what the Division is doing right now with their proposal to protect Strawberry on this two day possession limit is in the best interest of the fishery and the people who fish Strawberry. You heard earlier that 1.2 million hours a year is what is general on Strawberry. It has dropped a few hundred hours in the last few years. But a number of years ago it was 80,000 when I was a kid. The point that the Strawberry anglers would like to say is let's take care of Strawberry Reservoir. Let's not do anything to it that may impact negatively the type of fishing we have right now. That brings people from all over the world and all over the state. People are happy with the size, quality and the management of the reservoir and the law enforcement of the reservoir. The Strawberry Anglers Association supports totally the proposal the Division has made in regards to the change in the regulations. I want to thank all of you.

Robert Dibblee – I totally agree with what has been said about Strawberry with regard to the two fish limit. I don't think we should forget about what happened in the past when we had a high rate of fish taken out of Strawberry. Right now on the latest report we had the chub population has spiked up higher. If we start taking more fish out of Strawberry we could have a reoccurrence of when we had to kill off the whole reservoir to kill the chubs. As for the eight fish a day count, a survey was done by the DWR and the overwhelming majority of people were happy with the four fish a day take. There are very few people that take eight fish. Thinking that this will draw people in from out of state isn't true. A lot of people that come in from other states come here for trophy fish and if you start taking eight fish a day out of the water you won't have trophy fish. Also the survey said that 75 percent of people do not even keep their fish. I would hate to see us go to an eight fish limit and not keep the two fish limit at Strawberry.

Quinn Woodmansee – Salt City Bassmasters – In comment earlier about the bass fishing during the spawn, we are not putting them in the coolers. Currently our club during those times of the year we do a paper tournament so as soon as they are caught they are released. We are not keeping them. Also our group would like to see possibly a specialized license for spear fishermen so you can get control or get an idea of how many are out there. For other species we have to apply for licenses and I don't know why spear fishing would be any different. I am one of the ones who pushed the issue for banning spear fishing during the spawn. It's not just for bass. I would like to see it across the board for other species also. Those fish are all subject to take easier sometimes.

Ronald Levine – Sandy, Utah – There are supposedly safe limits on mercury consumption. I personally choose to minimize mercury consumption much less. Last year was an exception. I disregarded that because I had an exceptionally good year catching big fish which was my goal. Now that I have succeeded in doing that and I have accomplished that I want to move onto my next goal. I want to catch and eat small fish. Small fish are younger and haven't been around as much and haven't consumed a lot of fish to get to that size. A big fish consumes a whole lot of small fish and I would be putting a much lower demand on the ecosystem consuming small fish. The thing about consuming small fish is I eat a lot and I want a bigger meal than two small fish or four very small fish and I think for example on the walleye where it was catch and kill but you didn't want to insist on the walleye where they contained mercury because it was an advisory against consuming them, I would like to say the same thing. Having the limits

the way they are where if I can catch two fish or four fish I am going to catch big fish it is encouraging me to eat the older fish at the top of the food chain that have consumed a lot of small fish and then I would be getting more mercury in my diet whereas my preference will be to consume more smaller fish. The way to do that I think below a certain size you might not say the limit is so many fish. You might set the limit as so many pounds as an alternative.

Lee Rasmussen – Blue Ribbon Fisheries Advisory Council – I have hesitated to say anything but feel that I really must. One of the crown jewels of our blue ribbon waters in this state is Strawberry. We have put a lot of money into it. We have a rare situation there where we have two very well trained biologists that manage that. I think what we are doing by planning a two day limit up there without a real effective way of enforcing it is really saying nothing more and being honest with ourselves is we just changed the limit to eight fish. Now if people want to keep eight fish then we have another jewel in the blue ribbon fisheries and that is the middle Provo. We have an overabundance of fish there because fishermen won't pack them out. They are too lazy to do it. If they want to catch all those fish then let them do it there. Strawberry is such an important factor to us in our blue ribbon program that it needs to be protected. We have already said that it needs to be protected with our cutthroat so that we keep our chub problem and with our rainbows so that we can keep enticing people to come there. Four is a great catch in a day and you can do that up there. It hasn't always been that way. We now have it up to where it is functioning. Don't mess around with it. Keep it like it is. Thank you.

RAC Discussion

Gary Nielson – I would like to review some of the points of interest. Paul Cowley is concerned about burying fish. Clifford is concerned about the limit and the slot limit was his primary emphasis. Paul was opposed to the three day limit. Ken Strong wanted to change to a three day limit at home. I don't know how many of you have fish in your freezer or bottled fish on you shelves. I do. Brad Bradley would like to slam carp with crossbows. Barry supported the spear fishing proposal but he is still quite concerned about Willard Bay and the tributaries. Terry would like to address the catch and kill areas. Logically he sees no reason there shouldn't be spear fishing with the catch and kill fisheries. Jesse supports the spear fishing and taking stripers under lights. Jim Carter from Strawberry supports the Division's proposal and is concerned about any possible threat. I heard them as they were talking about it. Paul mentioned that if at any point they could see something going haywire with this plan they would introduce changes. Robert Dibblee supported the Division. Quinn was concerned about spear fishing during the spawn and wanted possibly a special tag for spear fishermen and would like to see to spear fishing for any game fish during spawning. Ronald Levine is concerned about biological magnification and mercury consumption and I will support him in his idea to eat smaller fish. Lee Rasmussen is concerned about the two day limit at Strawberry and how that would impact it.

Richard Hansen – Paul, they talked about a slot limit for bass. Is there a value to it?
Paul Birdseye – There are a lot of things that impact the number of large fish and small fish. It is unfair to try and put the slot at Strawberry against a slot for bass. One thing is we have tremendous pressure at Strawberry. We do not see the same on bass. One of the tenets for an effective slot limit is that you have to have harvest otherwise the slot limit

does not make any difference. The other side of it is we control the number of fish that go into Strawberry by our fish stocking. Bass naturally recruit. In good water years they pull off a good spawn, in bad water years they don't have as good a spawn. Their numbers are more self-regulating. Having said all that, we are working with our regional biologists right now to collect samples to do age and growth work on our bass populations on a number of waters around the state. We have not had the ability to do that before because of manpower restrictions. There may be some waters in the state that require a different bass limit than we have right now but we don't know that per say on any water in the state. What we do know based on some preliminary information that we have received from the age and growth work for example at Pelican a nine year old bass is about ten inches long. That means that there are probably too many bass in there for the available habitat and food and they are doing what we call stunting. The only way to overcome that is to remove bass. I suspect we will see that same result from a number of our waters. Over 90 percent right now are released based on our creel survey. It becomes difficult to manage when you don't have any harvest or anyway of effectively controlling a population.

Matt Clark – Any reason why we can't use crossbows for carp?
Paul Birdsey – Right now crossbows can be used by disabled anglers. They go through the same COR process as disabled hunters. That was a request that we trim that to that particular restriction based on a request from a Wildlife Board a year ago when we went through that rule process. It is my understanding right now from a discussion at an earlier RAC meeting that the Division is meeting with the Wildlife Board and others to look at the crossbow rule. I am not in a position to comment on that other than I have heard that it is being discussed right now and it probably will be brought to the RAC at a future time.

Karl Hirst – We were not part of the compromise between the sport fishermen and the spear fishermen. The spear fishermen have indicated that they will wait until 2014 to get into those catch and kill areas. Does that tip that compromise to do that now?
Paul Birdsey – I don't know. I can tell you that over 90 percent of the waters that have catch and kill regulations on them are in the proposed list of spear fishing waters. We went through the rule after we talked to Terry to try to identify which ones were not in that current proposal and the ones that are not are the Green, San Juan, Colorado Rivers and Utah Lake. With the exception of the A section of the Green River between Tail Race and Little Hole visibility in those other waters is probably so poor that the spear fishermen would not want to be in there but that is something we need to talk to them about. There are several other waters that have no limits on certain species such as small mouth bass at Sand Hollow and Quail Creek. I'm not sure if Terry intended to bring those forward. I can tell you that based on our discussion with the bass anglers there probably would be a lot of push back for those waters. We need to do more work here but I applaud Terry in saying we'll take this one step at a time.

Michael Gates – I was a little confused with Mr. Rasmussen's comment from the blue ribbon fishery. He was talking about the two day limit at Strawberry but I read that the current proposal from the DWR does not include Strawberry. That is correct right?
Paul Birdsey – Correct and I believe he was supporting that.

VOTING
Motion was made by Danny Potts to support the Division's recommendations as proposed
Seconded by Jay Price
In Favor: All
Opposed:
Motion passed unanimously

5) <u>Establishment of Least Chub Refuge Populations</u> (Action)
- **Chris Crockett, Native Aquatics Project Leader**

<u>Questions from the RAC</u>
<u>Questions from the Public</u>
? - Are you only going to put them in smaller spots that were showed on your map or are you going to put them in some of the bigger reservoirs?
Chris Crockett – For this project we are specifically talking about the Big Springs wetland. We do have some other areas throughout the state. For instance Atherley Reservoir near the town of Faust where we have put them and they have taken off. At this point we don't have plans to put them in any of the larger reservoirs.
? – Personally I see no reason why you couldn't put them in other reservoirs just to see if they could get established.
Chris Crockett – I think that is a good idea. We have had that discussion in regards to Yuba and some other areas and I think that is something that we will take into consideration in the future.

Byron Gunderson – Was the range of the Least Chub bigger at one time?
Chris Crockett – It was. Historically we know of about ten other sites where we had them. We actually surmise that historically it was the entire Bonneville Basin. A great portion of Utah was covered by Lake Bonneville and we have no reason to believe that there weren't Least Chub throughout the entire Bonneville Basin. We do in our records know of about ten other documented sites.
Byron Gunderson – Could Least Chub be an alternative to gambozia as far as mosquito fish?
Chris Crockett – Definitely. We have done some work with Salt Lake County with that regard to use them especially in some of these sensitive areas where we don't want to introduce another non-native fish. Just a quick info, Gambozia are live bearers so you can go from 10 to 10,000 in a few months which is great for controlling the mosquito population but you can imagine a fish with that sort of reproductive potential can very quickly get away from you. We have definitely looked at using them in some other areas. I have to say the only thing Least Chub have against them is the fact that they don't reproduce quite as quickly but in our realm that helps us to control those populations.

? – As far as where the Least Chub is concerned what vital niche within the environment do they fill that other species don't?
Chris Crockett – In terms of their benefit to us as I have already alluded to they eat a whole lot of mosquito larvae a lot of midge larvae. Historically in the areas where they would have been coexisting with our native Bonneville Cutthroat Trout obviously they were providing food for them. In some of our ponds a lot of their diet is algae which can help under eutrophic conditions where we have issues with algae blooms they will actually help whittle that down. They definitely are low man on the totem pole in the food chain but of course these are all links in the chain if you will of life.
? – Are they mostly restricted to lower elevations then?
Chris Crockett – Yes, historically any of the areas that would have been Lake Bonneville. The majority are some of these spring complexes of fairly low elevation.

? – Are there any real negative?
Chris Crockett – That is a loaded question. I am up here to talk about the positives. I don't see negatives in terms of any sort of ecosystem interactions where they would all of the sudden turn into a problem like Utah Chub at Strawberry.

? – So we are talking about spending resources and money and other things to supporting the population. If we don't have the Least Chub what will occur?
Chris Crockett – From our standpoint of course we are trying to do everything we can for the benefit of the species but also to keep the species off the endangered species list. As I mentioned we have a conservation agreement strategy that guides us what we are supposed to be doing just like there is Strawberry management plans. The Fish and Wildlife Service places a lot of emphasis on us having these back up populations. In a way it kind of buys us time. As you can imagine if you don't have all your eggs in one basket you are not going to have an emergency listing if all of the sudden a population gets wiped out. You still have a backup ready to go where you still have the genetic integrity of that species. The negatives of no action would be in worst case scenario would be a listing by Fish and Wildlife Service and the loss of that species.

Gary Nielson – Are they as efficient at reducing mosquito larvae as Gambozia are?
Chris Crockett – In the same densities they are pretty close. There are a couple of research papers if you are interested in the specifics of that I would be happy to provide the details.

Comments from the Public
RAC Discussion

VOTING
Motion was made by Matt Clark to support the Least Chub management plan as presented
Seconded by Christine Schmitz
In Favor: All
Opposed:
Motion passed unanimously

6) Mill Creek Cutthroat Restoration Project (Information)
- **Mike Slater, Aquatics Manager**

Questions from the RAC
Questions from the Public
Comments from the Public
Paul Cowley – Forest Service – We really appreciate the time and effort that Mike and the rest of the Division staff have put into this project especially in the public outreach portion having two open houses. We have also met up there with the state legislative folks and federal congressional staffers. Also the newspaper and we really commend the Division for the extra effort put in and outreaching to the public and trying to explain what is occurring and their participation as we look at the overall habitat restoration there in Mill Creek. We really think this will be a real opportunity. We get about 13,000 vehicles every week in the summer. It is a high use canyon and pretty visible. Like Mike said we have been working closely with the scout council and private landowners trying to be sure they understood why we are doing it and the value that we felt like this project provides for the general public of Utah. Thank you.

RAC Discussion

7) Yuba Reservoir Fishery Management Plan (Informational)

- **Mike Slater, Aquatics Manager**

Questions from the RAC

Matt Clark – Would it ever make sense to take perch out of Fish Lake and put them in Yuba?
Mike Slater – That is in the plan. That is something we will be doing next spring. We have an overabundance of perch in Fish Lake. It is actually a fish that is not really desirable there for various reasons. We will go down next spring when they are trying to spawn when we have the ability to catch those fish and will transplant those from Fish Lake into Yuba. That will be right after the ice if coming off at Fish Lake. We don't know if it will be quite as effective as going out and buying thousands of perch and bringing them into the state but it's another option. Another thing that the anglers have presented is that they would like to go down and hook and line perch and bring some of those in. Again you are going down in levels of efficiency but that is something they can participate in and they can help with.

Gary Nielson – Are they going to put any trout back in there?
Mike Slater – We don't have any plans to right now. We did in the interim when it was drained in 2003 we knew we weren't going to have any fish in there for a while so in order to again provide a fishing opportunity we put some rainbows in there. It created quite the stir. They did very well without the presence of the walleye, the pike and other fish they can survive but when they are in the presence of all these other fish it makes it difficult and very expensive to feed all those fish and get a few to your hook.

Danny Potts – Have we established is it a reproduction or recruitment issue with the yellow perch?
Mike Slater – We are working within some constraints we have at that reservoir. The reservoir is declining in elevation right when we need a stable water level. That is something that is really hard to work with. Yes we are bringing in fish hoping that they can pull off a spawn. Earlier comments were made tonight about bass. Some years you get a good spawn and some years you don't. A lot of that depends on water elevations and the presence of water at certain elevations. We are going to try to overload the reservoir with perch and hope for some good spawn years but we can't count on that.
Danny Potts - Wouldn't those introduced fish at a length of three to eight inches just be gobbled up?
Mike Slater – With the northern pike in there I could stock 14 inch yellow perch and they are still going to be within the gape limits.
Danny Potts – It kind of seems like a feel good thing
Mike Slater – It is but this is the best option that we've been able to come up with. We feel like if we can saturate it enough some of those will survive.

Matt Clark – So why don't we take more northern pike out of there then?
Mike Slater – That is what we are trying to do with the regulations where we have increased the regulations on the northern pike to 20 instead of the statewide regulation. We want to take all those hammerheads out. We want all those 20 to 24 inch fish to be removed if at all possible. That is the overwhelming majority of what you see in the reservoir. The reason for the one over 36 is it is drawing an awful lot of attention to that reservoir. We have had multiple state record pike caught out of there this year over 26

pounds, 45 inches. These are big fish. We are trying to do a little bit of both. We want to remove those pike yet there are a lot of people saying you better leave some of those big ones so I can go down and catch them. We can't make everybody happy all the time.

Danny Potts – We have a new mercury advisory on the lake. Have we checked the perch?
Mike Slater – What timing on that. When we are trying to encourage the harvest of the northern pike we now have a mercury advisory on them. We have checked the yellow perch but I don't know if they have the results back yet.
Paul Dremann – They have not found it in the perch to the best of my knowledge.
Danny Potts – The plan looks great but I think the advisory came out too late to include mercury as an issue in the list of constraints. Mentioning it in plan might be a good thing.
Mike Slater – One thing in the plan is we will be meeting with this working group probably biannually and that will allow us to make modifications and see where we can improve.
Danny Potts – So is this a draft?
Mike Slater – This is considered final but again as part of this plan we will be meeting on a biannual basis to make modifications if something is not working.
Danny Potts – You understand our concern. If you have high levels of mercury in perch and perch are considered a primary fresh water food fish then we have a problem. We may have to move ahead and not include it in the plan but move ahead with an advisory later on.
Mike Slater – If it comes back. It sounds like it is negative on the perch. I will look into that further.

? – Isn't there a wide discrepancy between the federal and the state levels of mercury tolerance?
Mike Slater – There is and we have worked through that and we are working under the department of health's recommendation. There are two different levels. The EPA deals with what are the impacts to the environment and the health department deals with what are the impacts to you and I eating that fish and that is more stringent and that is the one we will be going by. That makes it a little more difficult.
?- Isn't the federal one an impact on eating as well?
? – There is an EPA limit and a FDA limit.

Ronald Levine – What are the worst offenders for mercury. I would like a list of the best places with least amounts of mercury. Where could I find that?
Mike Slater – I would consider any water that is not on that list a good water. They aren't going to be able to test every water and give you a level on everything. It's just not practical.
Ronald Levine – I would like to know which ones are exceptionally good for low mercury.
Mike Slater – Just as a general rule the higher you go up in a drainage typically you are going to have a nutrient poor system and less contaminants if you want to call them that. It is cleaner water and you will have less mercury. That is not always the case. But if you want to go to the Uinta's to a really high lake and fish there you will have less contaminants.

Ronald Levine – Any specific waters? For example I like Grantsville Reservoir but I haven't been able to find anything about it.
Paul Birdsey – I want to mention that he Division of Wildlife Resources assists the Department of Health. We collect the samples and they are the ones that actually run the samples and issue the health advisories. I would suggest that you talk to the folks from the Department of Health or the Division of Water Quality to get the full list of all the waters that have been sampled and what the results are. We are really the technicians on this project. We collect the fish and they are the ones who do the testing and publish the results.
Mike Slater – So keep in mind it is fishadvisories.utah.gov and that would be a source for you.

Questions from the Public
Comments from the Public
RAC Discussion

8) Schofield Reservoir Study (Informational)
- **Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**

Questions from the RAC
Danny Potts – It seems that a compromise on the rainbow situation might be a token stoking of larger, obviously expensive rainbow trout and then that would be a novelty in the lake. Would that negatively affect us?
Paul Birdsey – It may not negatively affect us other than there are only so many dollars to drive this and there is only so much space in the reservoir. Are we getting to a carrying capacity? If we completely replace the 80,000 rainbow trout we are stocking right now with 80,000 bear lake cutthroat which is what we are talking about is there still room for another 30,000 rainbow and will they return enough to make the price worth it? I don't know the answer to that.
Danny Potts – The inference is that the rainbows are not competing with these other predators and they tend to partition themselves anyway right?
Paul Birdsey – The biggest problem with rainbow is they have almost 100 percent diet overlap with the chubs. We did do staple isotope analysis of the four major species in the reservoir and the rainbow trout and the Utah cubs line up just like this.
Danny Potts – Wouldn't that result in a lower condition factor of probably both the Utah chubs allowing predation to be even more effective?
Paul Birdsey – We don't typically calculate condition factors of chubs. I can tell you it was impacting the rainbows condition.
Matt Clark – Is there a slot restriction on tiger trout at Schofield?
Paul Birdsey – There is, it is a 15 to 22 inch with two fish under 15 one over 22.
Matt Clark – So basically you are going to have two fish in that reservoir that have slot restrictions by taking all the rainbows out that don't have them? So does that concern you about people not using that fishery for that reason alone?
Paul Birdsey – We had that concern that is why we have persisted in stocking rainbows. They are only returning two to three percent right now. People that fish Schofield at the moment are not fishing it for rainbow trout. They are fishing it for the opportunity to catch a world record tiger trout or a trophy cutthroat trout. Those have only been in there since 2009 and we are producing some seven pound cutthroat trout out of there right now. It is a fish growing machine. I don't think we will see a significant impact from that. I

really anticipated the pubic coming back and saying that we want rainbow in there but they said we are fine.

Timothy Fehr – So the hope is that you don't have to do the rotenone treatment. If you did have to do that you lose your trophy fishery as well.
Paul Birdsey – It will take every fish out of there.
Timothy Fehr – What kind of an uproar will you have from the trophy fishermen?
Paul Birdsey – That is the downside to producing huge fish. In 2005 as the manager I said let's use the rotenone right now. I can turn this fishery around in a weekend. But I didn't have to pay the bill so that was the chief's decision to not pay that and maybe the right one. If we decided to do it right now it would be an uphill battle.

Byron Gunderson – Wouldn't it make sense to introduce a fly and lure only regulation and turn it into an incredible trophy fishery that would draw people from all over the country to fish it?
Paul Birdsey – That is one of the things we have been talking about is what is the long term management of Schofield? Mike talked about a management plan for Yuba. The guys in the southeast region are under direction right now to start to ask those questions and to develop a management plan for Schofield. It has traditionally been the place especially since 1990 when we redid the Strawberry fishery that if you had a boatload of kids and you loaded up the wagon you would haul them over to Schofield because that is where they could fish with pretty much anything for everything they could catch. It has been a paradigm shift and really kind of happened quickly and somewhat unexpectedly there at Schofield. It may be time to take Schofield to the next level but it is really going to be driven by what does the public want.

Robin Spicer – Has there been any thought to tiger Muskie in Schofield? If it were up to me I would put them everywhere.
Paul Birdsey – We had a chub problem in Joes Valley. We considered a bunch of different options. In fact from 2005 to 2007 we thought we could net them out of there. We removed 40,000 pounds of pre spawn chub. An estimated 940 million eggs were removed from the system. After a tremendous amount of effort we made absolutely no difference in the chub population so we decided to look at a biological control and we settled on tiger Muskie. Joes Valley sits in the San Rafael drainage which feeds into the Green River which is home to four endangered species of fish and innumerable native fish. We have an interstate compact with the states of Colorado and Wyoming and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that we will not stock a non-native warm water or cool water fish into that system without their approval. We went through that approval process. We had originally intended to stock wipers and tiger Muskie into Joes Valley. We were only able to secure permission to stock tiger Muskie with the understanding that we would sample every year downstream from the reservoir and if we detect four tiger Muskie in the first mile below or two in the next section below that or one anywhere in the San Rafael River that we would discontinue stocking and would liberalize the limit and we would attempt to get the tiger Muskie back out of there and that is with the outlet configuration we have at Joes Valley which is not really conducive to fish escaping from that reservoir. Schofield sits in the Price River and feeds into the Green River, home to four endangered fish and innumerable native fish. The outlet structure at Schofield absolutely would allow those fish to escape from the reservoir. In 2011 when the

reservoir was spilling I stood on that bridge and I could not count how many fish were going over that spillway they were going over so quickly. We would wind up with tiger Muskie down in Green River and we would simply not be able to do that for that reason.

Brad Bradley – With the slot limit similar to Strawberry currently do you have any numbers, are you losing fishermen on that or is it staying stable?
Paul Birdsey – We did creel surveys in 1987, 1998, 2005, 2008 and we have another one scheduled for 2015. In 1987 we had 347,000 hours of pressure at Schofield. By 1998 that had declined to 260,000 hours. By 2005 prior to any change in the regulation it had decreased to about 114,000 and in 2008 it declined further to about 104,000. What the reason for the decline was between 1987 and 1998 is not clear. The regulation was the same and the stocking was the same. The catch per unit effort on the gill nets was exactly the same. For whatever reason that reservoir decreased in popularity. In 2005 when we did the survey again we were concerned about the declining pressure and as you may recall in 2008 we increased the limit to eight to try and attract people back to that fishery yet in fact what we saw was that there was a decline in use and a decline in harvest between the 2005 and 2008 survey. 2008 happened to be the year that gas went to $4.50 a gallon. That same year not only did we see a decrease in the use at Schofield we saw a dramatic shift in the composition of use. I mentioned that prior to that 70 to 75 percent of the anglers came from this side of the hill. In 2008 about 60 percent of anglers came from the Carbon County side of the hill. People that lived over here did not make the trip up to Schofield. We then changed the regulation to a slot limit in 2009. If anything, it will be my suspicion that in 2015 when we do the creel survey again we will actually see an increase in use just because of the trophy aspect of the fishery that is being offered there that was not previously available

Questions from the Public
Comments from the Public
RAC Discussion

Meeting adjourned at 9:30
50 in attendance
Next board meeting November 7, 2013 at the DNR boardroom, Salt Lake
Next RAC meeting THURSDAY November 7, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.

Northern Regional Advisory Council Meeting
September 18, 2013
Brigham City Community Center
Brigham City, Utah

Summary of Motions

Meeting Begins: 6:00 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda
Motion: Approve agenda as provided.
Motion Passes: Unanimous

Approval of the August 7, 2013 Meeting Minutes
Motion: Approve the meeting minutes of the August 7, 2013 Northern Regional Advisory Council meeting.
Motion Passes: Unanimous

Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13
Motion: Recommend the Wildlife Board adopt the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented with the addition of the following 5 items.
1. Closure of the Willard Bay inlet during the Walleye spawn.
2. 2 day limit possession in the field, 3 day limit in the fridge or freezer and no limit on cooked fish.
3. 2 day possession limit at Strawberry Reservoir.
4. In 2015 all catch and kill waters will be open to spearfishing.
5. 3 walleye and 3 wiper possession limit at Willard Bay.

Motion to amend the original motion: Include in #2, excluding Strawberry Reservoir and Flaming Gorge Reservoir, Remove #3 (2 day possession limit at Strawberry Reservoir) and #5 (3 walleye and 3 wiper possession limit at Willard Bay).
Motion to Amend Passes: Unanimous

Amended Motion Passes: For: 11, Against: 1

Meeting Adjournment
Motion: Move we adjourn.
Motion Passes: Acclamation by RAC Chair

Meeting Ends: 8:50 p.m.

DRAFT

Northern Regional Advisory Council Meeting
September 18, 2013
Brigham City Community Center
Brigham City, Utah

Draft Meeting Minutes

Meeting Begins: 6:00 p.m.

RAC Present	DWR Present	Wildlife Board
John Blazzard- Agric	Jodie Anderson	Bill Fenimore
Robert Byrnes- Chair	Justin Dolling	
Paul Cowley-Forest Service	Drew Cushing	
James Gaskill- At Large	Paul Birdsey	
R. Jefre Hicks- At Large	Chris Penne	
Russ Lawrence- At Large	Paul Thompson	
Jon Leonard- Sportsman	Mitch Lane	
Kristin Purdy-Noncon.	Phil Douglass	
G. Lynn Nelson- Elected	Scott Davis	
Bruce Sillitoe- BLM		
Bryce Thurgood- At Large		
Craig Van Tassell- Sportsman		
John Wall- At Large		

RAC Excused
John Cavitt- Noncon.

RAC Unexcused
Joel Ferry- Agric

Agenda:
Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure
Approval of Agenda and Aug 7, 2013 Meeting Minutes
Wildlife Board Meeting Update
Regional Update
Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13

DRAFT

Item 1. Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure

Welcome: Robert Byrnes-Chair
Introduction of RAC Members
RAC Procedure: Robert Byrnes-Chair

Item 2. Approval of Agenda and Aug 7, 2013 Minutes

Motion

Motion: Cowley- Move to approve the agenda.
Second: Van Tassel
Motion Passes: Unanimous

Item 2. Continued Below

Item 3. Wildlife Board Meeting Update
- Robert Byrnes, RAC Chair

Robert Byrnes- Wildlife Board meeting update sent to council members. One change is to be made about the population objective not the transplant of 200 goats on the La Sal's. The Wildlife Board agreed with our recommendations and moved the youth waterfowl hunt opener to the 21st.
Jon Leonard- We made a recommendation on the cougar rule to including the board working with landowners to solve some depredation problems. Was there any discussion or action taken on that?
Robert Byrnes- I am not sure that the Wildlife Board specifically discussed it but I am sure they are aware of the problems we are having in the northern region.
Justin Dolling- I don't believe the Wildlife Board even addressed that. There was some discussion with Jon Shivik, the program coordinator, and I know Jon indicated that there is some sensitivity to being more cooperative and had a slide talking about that. Jon has plans to go back and tweak the plan a little bit and I think that is one thing he was going to look at. I think that may have ended any discussion the board had at that point.
Robert Byrnes- It was a very long meeting, especially at the Wildlife Board. I think we finished at 5 or 6 o'clock after starting at 9 o'clock. Things that were discussed kind of escape my memory. I can specifically ask Jon about that if you would like me to.
Jon Leonard- I think there were very important points made at the RAC by the landowners involved. I think that needs to be followed up on and an action taken. I guess we were under the impression that the division had some potential remedies and that they were going to sit down and negotiate and apply to those specific landowners.
Robert Byrnes- I think they addressed part of that in the discussion and part of what we talked about in our meeting in the presentation about potentially having landowner tags. They were specific tags for livestock operators to address problem cougar. That was adopted. I think that is going to be a new tool for them to use.
Jon Leonard- OK.
Jim Gaskill- We have got some new members on the Wildlife Board and maybe it would be a good idea to remind them that although we do not make policy, if they don't agree with our recommendations, they need to explain why in writing. That was not a recommendation, more of a suggestion. But still, it kind of upsets us when we have a long discussion and come to a compromise agreement and somehow it gets dropped in the Wildlife Board. I think something needs to be followed up.
Robert Byrnes- We do have a new Wildlife Board chair and vice chair which I have not recognized yet. Good thing you reminded me. In the past, the Wildlife Board has responded that their policy on how to reply to any situation where they voted differently than we had voted, is that the official minutes of the Wildlife Board are the response to any differences as far as how they voted and we voted. Those won't

actually be available, there will be a draft version out, but the approved minutes won't be out until they approve them at their next meeting.
Jim Gaskill- I have had my say.

Item 4. Regional Update
- Justin Dolling, Regional Supervisor

Personnel Changes- Deriek Wilcox- Accounting tech in administrative section. Shauna Mosher- Office Specialist.
Law Enforcement- Chris Schultz- new officer in North Cache. Brandon Baron has moved to West Box Elder. Brent Kasza- Conservation officer replacing Bruce Johnson. Devon Christensen- Weber Officer.
Wildlife Section- Planned goat transplant from Willard Peak Oct. 14, 15 and 16. Taking 30 goats which will be going to Dutton. Sampling Chronic Wasting Disease for mule deer in Units 2, 3, and 4. Unit 2 is our Cache Unit. 3 is our Ogden Unit and Unit 4 is the Morgan South Rich. Hardware Ranch elk trap repair. Upland game and waterfowl youth hunt this Saturday. Releasing pen reared birds, chuckars and pheasants.
Outreach Section- Hired a Wildlife Technician to help start wildlife recreation program. Involved in community fisheries program as well as satellite program.
Habitat- Several fires here in the region. Habitat working together to seed before winter hits. Working with UDOT on Highway 89 on escape ramps for deer.
Aquatics Section- New Aquatics invasive species biologist Sarah Seegert. Treatment on Johnson Creek. Grow out ponds for June sucker out near Rosette. Finished second treatment of the right hand fork of Logan River and looking at stocking Bonneville Cutthroat. Fishing on Weber River should pick up as well as the reservoirs.
Robert Byrnes- Was the fire in Blacksmith Fork close to Hardware Ranch?
Justin Dolling- The Millville face fire or the one that just recently happened last night? It was in Cottonwood Canyon. I am not sure how close it was but it was a 20 acre grass fire and did not impact operations at the ranch.

Item 2. Approval of Agenda and Aug 7, 2013 Minutes –Continued-

Robert Byrnes- You should have received the minutes of our 8-7-13 meeting. Were there any amendments to those minutes?

Motion: Blazzard- Approve Aug 7, 2013 meeting minutes.
Second: Gaskill
Motion Passes: Unanimous

Item 5. Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13
- Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator

See Handout

Public Questions

John Overdiek- Why are you eradicating Tilapia? They are good fish. Why don't we say that anyone who wants them can take them home and eat them?
John Overdiek- Why can't that law be amended and make some kind of a creel update toward that? Can we do that? Can't tilapia be put in as a desirable fish?
Paul Birdsey- Tilapia present a huge environmental risk to ecosystems in the state of Utah. They do not belong in the state of Utah. So, we would like them removed.
John Overdiek- May I ask why?

Paul Birdsey- Because they present a huge environmental risk.
John Overdiek- Because they only eat plankton.
Paul Birdsey- They eat at a very low level and reproduce quickly and outcompete and present a threat to native species.
John Overdiek- Just exactly like the gizzards shad? Is there an association with tilapia and gizzard shad?
Paul Birdsey- No, they are different.
John Overdiek- Either one of them I cannot catch or hook.
Robert Byrnes- Asking questions about the presentation please.
John Overdiek- On your first presentation, you had 1,158 people you are surveying. I was never made aware of your spring presentation of what was published in the paper yesterday. Could you enlighten what took place on that particular spring meeting regarding Mr. Cushing's presentation that was published today? Can you tell me dates, names and how it was presented?
Paul Birdsey- I do not have that information.
John Overdiek- Thank you. Regarding the 70% survey data, could you give me information of when this survey was conducted, by who and who judicated that particular 70% data?
Paul Birdsey- For the online survey?
John Overdiek- Yes.
Paul Birdsey- Or the Willard Bay survey?
John Overdiek- No, the online survey.
Paul Birdsey- The online survey was run from May 10th to June 10th of this year. The length was posted on several forms and presented on several news releases. It was available through our website at www.wildlife.utah.gov.
John Overdiek- Thank you for that clarification. I have an understanding of the word confluence in your presentation. Confluence to the Colorado. Does that include Sheep Creek and Cataract Canyon?
Paul Birdsey- Those are main stem. Cataract Canyon is a main stem of the Green River.
John Overdiek- The Colorado River not the Green River.
Paul Birdsey- You are right, the Colorado River.
John Overdiek- Can somebody misconstrue that rule in relationship to confluences. The Colorado River runs 22 miles. It runs east and west. My concern is lots. I have caught walleye and every kind of fish imaginable there. How can I interpret this?
Paul Birdsey- You have to understand that what we present here is a simplified version of the rule. The actual rule will have a mile marker from the Hite bridge upstream to state line and then the various tributaries are designated from the confluence with whatever river they get to up to whatever management water may or may not exist on that particular water. For nine mile creek, for example, there are no management waters. Range creek is the same way. The Strawberry River or the Duchesne would have specific designations as to where that catch and kill ends.
John Overdiek- In the 80's, I went up to the Colorado River. Mother Nature at 11 days of below zero temperature, the walls are 800 feet high. There was no wind. 100,000 tons of shad died because the water temperature feel below 41 degrees. Is that why we are making all the presentations relationship to catch and kill. That is my question to you. Can you answer that?
Paul Birdsey- I am completely unfamiliar with what you are talking about. I apologize but the catch and kill has to do with illegally introduced species or species that were legally introduced by management agencies such as small mouth bass. They have become very populous and present threats to the endangered fish. The fish and Wildlife Service's spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to try and mechanically remove those species. It seems, as a good partner, that we should also work towards bringing anglers in as part of that equation.
John Overdiek- I totally agree with your assumption there. I think it is wonderful, correct and accurate. My whole intent for bringing this up is because if you don't have bait, you cannot feed fish.
Paul Roberts- Classifying burbot, even though it is a weed fish, it is unfortunately also a desirable table fish. Maybe we need to work out convincing people to eat them or maybe have the stores there buy them from you for a package of potato chips or something and then enter them into the restaurant trade.
Robert Byrnes- Stick to questions. If you ask in a form of a question, he could probably answer.

Paul Roberts- Why are we putting burbot into the same category as carp?
Paul Birdsey- The basic reason is that it is an illegally introduced fish. It would be difficult to have some kind of barter or sale system set up since it is against the law to commercially sale wildlife. Also, the state of Wyoming just implemented a mercury advisory on burbot in their portion of Flaming Gorge Reservoir. Again, that becomes a question of human health vs. our desire to manage the reservoir. In terms of our promotion of people taking burbot, we participated in something called burbot bash every year. We do a lot of things to try and promote people taking burbot.
Paul Roberts- A lot of times when you snag them, you will hook them in the eye or somewhere like that and releasing them that means the fish is going to die. Is there some kind of exemption that is possible there?
Paul Birdsey- The key word in that rule is that intentionally snag and there are obviously unintentional foul hooks also. For the most part, you should release those fish. In fact, you should always release those fish regardless of whether they are going to live or die as a result of that foul hooking. I am certain that there is officer discretion involved that I cannot predict how a particular officer would deal with something that was an unintentional snag and felt like that fish was not going to survive anyway. That is entirely up to the officer.
Paul Roberts- Where was that email list derived? Are license applications requiring email addresses now?
Paul Birdsey- The ones purchased online do require an email address and that is where that list was derived from.
John Overdiek- You had $500 dollar implants in burbots, would you give us an update of the how you made a locality of study in relationship to where they spawn. Have you followed and tracked them? Can you give me an objective of the money of $500 dollars and how it was spent and how it created an advisory position?
Paul Birdsey- I have not seen the results of that survey or that study as of yet. I think it is still ongoing. It was supposed to be for a couple of years. I will attempt to find out and report back to the RAC. Right now, I do not have an answer for you.
Terry Reist- With regard to the multiple possession limits over multiple days. For example, if I go to Starvation and catch 6 walleye. All I want to do is gut them and put them on ice. Will that qualify as being field processed or do I have to fillet them to posses 2 limits.
Paul Birdsey- That would qualify as field processing. One of the things we have to work out that has come out as a result of the RAC is that Drew and I clearly understood what we meant when we said "processed". However, what we understood meeting with the public is that is a very unclear term and we have to come up with a very clear definition. What you just described would fall into the realm of processed fish.
Terry Reist- I know you have been asked that question a few times during this process but I was just curious.
John Overdiek- On possession limits, you make 2 exclusions. Strawberry and Flaming Gorge. I have major concerns about Willard Bay. If we, as a body of fisherman, suggest we have a limit of three wipers and three walleye as a combination for the catching fish can we incorporate Willard Bay as an exception?
Paul Birdsey- That would be carried forward as a recommendation from this RAC to the Wildlife Board. If the RAC chooses to adopt that as a recommendation, it would then be up to the Wildlife Board on November 7th as to what they do. We would not make that proposal at this time. It would have to come from the public and through the RAC.
Trevor Earl- On the catch and kill with the burbot, what kind of numbers can a specific area of water sustain as far as dead floating fish? The reason I ask is because I am personal friends with a guide at Flaming Gorge. He goes out starting this October and is averaging 200 fish a night. A small percentage of these fish that his clients catch actually make it to the table.
Paul Birdsey- That recommendation for being returned to the water where they were caught was to puncture the air bladder, put them back into the water so they sink and you do not have a nice trail of dead fish following your boat. For reservoirs such as Flaming Gorge where it has high nutrient loading from the Green River, the amount of nutrients that might be released as a result of decomposing fish will be miniscule compared to the input from the surrounding countryside. There may be cases when you go out

and kill 10,000 carp in a one acre pond. That would present a significant nutrient load for impact water quality. It is not likely that kind of situation would occur.
Trevor Earl- That was my concern. This individual has not fished more than an area this size and is averaging 200 fish a night. The reason I bring this up is because he was fined and cited prior to this proposal to change to be able to throw them back in the water. He was taking the fish and disposing them into sage brush. He was feeding the coyotes, which may be right or wrong. He received a very hefty fine.
Paul Birdsey- In the old rule, feeding animals with fish was not considered a beneficial use.
Roland Roe- What I understand is that the only way I will ever receive a survey is if I make an online purchase, is that correct?
Paul Birdsey- That is not necessarily correct. We do have the online survey that is open to everyone. We also have had surveys on our management waters that are open to everyone. We have done these types of email surveys twice that I am aware of. We can make accommodations through the regional office if you are interested in receiving surveys in a different ways, we can provide a hard copy.
Roland Roe- Where do I get the information to get on your survey list? I have never been surveyed and I have lived here 35 years. I am upset about the closure of the inlet. I would like to be on that list so I can get a chance at a survey.
Paul Birdsey- If you purchase a license in the State of Utah and part of that license purchase process is to provide an email address. If you do that, automatically you are going to be in the pool we select from. The 20,000 anglers we selected from do not represent every angler that had an email address in the database. They were randomly selected from the entire pool. I have also lived here 35 years and have not received a survey. Nor have I ever won the lottery. It is the nature of a random draw. If you provide us with your email address, you will be in the pool of the people we draw from.

RAC Questions

Jim Gaskill- What precipitated this new possession rule? Was it something that the board brought up or was it a law enforcement issue? Where did it come from?
Paul Birdsey- It was a presentation at the wildlife board last November. The Wildlife Board then directed it to the aquatics section of the division of wildlife resources to pursue it.
Drew Cushing- Two RAC's.
Paul Birdsey- In two RAC’s also. That is where the direction came from.
Jim Gaskill- Do you have an idea what number of citations for violation of this previous rule had been?
Paul Birdsey- Under that, it would have been considered an over limit. We have had numerous over limit violations. I do not have an exact number but in terms of law enforcement for this, we still have the daily limit. Then, we have the two day possession limit. There have been concerns that the ability of the law enforcement officers to effectively enforce this two day possession. However, we have met with or talked on the phone with, the chief of law enforcement, the captains and each of the regional lieutenants. They have assured us that it will require no more work to make a case using this two day possession limit than it would be to make the standard over limit case that they have right now. They are willing to take it on.
Jim Gaskill- Under the current regulations, possession was possession. Whether it be in your house, boat or car. If you had more than one days limit of fish in your freezer, you are in violation of the possession rule, is that correct.
Paul Birdsey- That is true.
Jim Gaskill- This does away with that correct?
Paul Birdsey- No, you could technically have two days worth of possession in your freezer. One of the discussions that we have had, and I am sure Ken will be making a presentation in a bit, is looking at taking that out of those fish that are home in your freezer or on your shelf and moving those from the possession of wildlife type of standard that we have right now to the grocery standard. But that is something that we would like to take out to the public. We also have to have a lot more discussion with our law enforcement people and our aquatics managers before we are willing to move forward with that large of a step at this point and time.

Jim Gaskill- I ask that questions because I did not think that was clear at all in the wording you presented. You specifically said you are doing things not related to residents and I was not sure where you were going with that.
Paul Birdsey- It has been an extremely difficult rule to enforce over the years. There has only been three or four cases that have been made in terms of serious over limits of people. I am not sure we are ready to move away from that. We do not have all the information needed at the moment.
Jim Gaskill- I am interested in this Lost Creek slot limit and wonder why in Lost Creek it applies to all game fish but in almost all the others, it only applies to certain species. I have never quite understood that.
Paul Birdsey- Maybe Paul could help me out better.
Paul Thompson- The reason we went with Lost Creek all species is for simplicity for law enforcement purposes. We have been moving between some species. We tried tiger trout for three years and they did not really work out as a predator. We are going to try splake this fall. We are just trying a bunch of different predators to see which will control chubs in that water.
Jim Gaskill- In most places, when you have a slot limit, like Strawberry you have a slot limit on cutthroats. No slot limit on rainbows or kokanee or brook or whatever. Whereas in Lost Creek, you still have a number of species there but why a slot limit for a species including all the trout rather than just one you might be targeting for a trophy fish.
Paul Thompson- For example, rainbow trout is what you are asking?
Jim Gaskill- Yes, rainbow trout are included in the slot limit in Lost Creek and not anywhere else that I am aware of.
Paul Thompson- Yes and rainbow trout are not a great predator so it would have probably been for simplicity of having all the trout species.
Jim Gaskill- That was my question because I have been to Lost Creek and seen guys who say they can keep rainbows because they are not in the slot limit. I think either we need a lot more publicity or look at maybe a slot limit for a specific species in Lost Creek. Most of us are accustomed to a species specific slot limits.
Paul Thompson- We are stocking Bear Lake cutthroat and that is the predator we want to protect to control chubs. Rainbow trout are not necessarily. Most of our rainbow trout in Lost Creek don't get up over into the slot limit as well.
Jim Gaskill- That is another issue.
Paul Thompson- It has not really been an issue of anglers complaining that they are catching rainbow trout they would like to keep but they can't.
Jim Gaskill- Can you snag carp?
Paul Birdsey- Technically no.
Jim Gaskill- Ok.
Paul Birdsey- You can spear them and do lots of things but you cannot snag them.
Jefre Hicks- I have a couple of questions about the walleye inlet. Mostly about enforcement if you could help us clarify a little bit about how much enforcement is going on out there including hours and if it is at night or daytime. You added some citations given but I am wondering how often you are out there.
Paul Birdsey- Chris may have more information about that. I just had some real basic summary slides here tonight.
Mitch Lane- I can tell you what we spent this year during the historical closed period. We spent 258 hours among 12 different officers. We contacted 610 people and checked 480 licenses. We detected 15 violations, 5 of which were snagging violations. The others were license and miscellaneous violations.
Jefre Hicks- How long does the spawn period go?
Mitch Lane- The closure is typically the months of March and April.
Jefre Hicks- Nighttime enforcement at all?
Mitch Lane- Yes. All days of the week, all hours of the day. We tried but I am sure there were some periods we were not there but tried to hit the peak times when use was high.
Jefre Hicks- That is why you have a tough job. You should get paid more. As far as the biological information you gave about the limits on walleye, I think there was something about how many walleye you could get wasn't there? I don't remember.

Bryce Thurgood- Why couldn't we add an exception of snagging carp?
Paul Birdsey- I think it just comes down to a question of if there are carp in the water, there is also other species in the water. You could always tell the officer you are attempting to snag carp. How is that officer supposed to know that you are not attempting to snag one of those other species there?
Kristin Purdy- Can you tell us what was the specific question anglers were asked to assess support for opening the Willard Bay inlet on the survey? I am wondering if you have that information?
Paul Birdsey- In terms of the survey that was done this year, I do not have the specific wording other than the questions were stepped. First of all was "will you provide us with your license number". That was used simply to collect, if we did decided to break down the information by some demographic, that would allow us to tie it back in to get their birthday or place of residence, etc. Then we went to "did you fish Willard Bay in 2012 or 2013"? If they said yes, then they were tiered into a series of questions with regard to the Willard Bay fishery per say. If they said no, they went right to a question that said "were you aware of the Willard Bay inlet closure?" "Do you support the closure" and then finally there was a free form question that said to provide any comments on Willard Bay. Everybody had a chance of answering the question if they are aware of the closure and if they support the closure. When we summarized the information, we did split it out to those people that did fish Willard Bay vs. those that did not. I do not have all that information here with me tonight. But, I do believe when we have looked at the information, that we had very strong support from the people that did fish Willard Bay to leave the Willard Bay inlet open. I think I have that summary here. There was even more support from the people that did not fish Willard Bay. We pretty much discount their opinion because they were not part of the population that uses the reservoir.
Kristin Purdy- I need you to educate me. What is so compelling about being able to fish that inlet that we think it needs to be opened?
Paul Birdsey- The biggest thing there is that part of our job as fishery biologists and wildlife managers in the state of Utah is to provide opportunity. To do so in such a way that does not damage a resource. The walleye that use Willard Bay are relatively small for the total population. The eggs they produce, based on previous studies, by and large do not hatch or recruit to the fishery because of sedimentation. We have the opportunity where it is not going to be a biological impact if we allow fishing during this period of time. The question is, can socially we allow additional opportunity? Law enforcement said they could deal with what had been a previous issue of snagging during that period of time. They said that they were willing to take that on and I think they did a pretty good job at that. So, now you have the opportunity for people that may never have the opportunity to catch a walleye again because they are not necessarily accessible to most shore fisherman during most times of the year. That was the basic philosophy how we managed all our fisheries and in this case, why it was desirable to open up that inlet.
Robert Byrnes- You said Willard Bay but you specifically meant the inlet. The fish that spawn in the inlet.
Paul Birdsey- That is correct, I am sorry. The fish that spawn in the inlet. That is what I meant. They are the ones that do not successfully recruit to the fishery.
Jefre Hicks- Educate me on walleye spawn. When they are in that inlet or anywhere else that would be concentrated in there, are they eating in there? Are they casting baits they are trying to get these walleye to eat? Are they trying to snag them with a hook?
Paul Birdsey- Primarily what they are going to catch during that type of activity are going to be the males. The females, when they move in to the channel, they are not interested in feeding. The males however, are pretty aggressive. I do not know whether they are necessarily eating as much as they are just very aggressive. Walleye are broadcast spawner's, they do not build a nest. The way you get to pass along your genetic material is that you are more aggressive than that other guy. That is part of it; it is just an aggression type of response.
Jim Gaskill- In the Provo River, as it goes into Utah Lake, they have a closure. Does that mean they are just more successful in their spawning in the Provo than they are in the Willard Bay inlet?
Paul Birdsey- That closure is a social closure. It is not a biological closure. There the staging got to be such that the law enforcement officers at that time felt like they could not deal with this except for snagging. You have to remember that there are the threatened june sucker that are attempting to use that

river in a similar timeframe also. You have the possibility of people snagging june sucker during that period of time. We have discussed with the region last year and with the june sucker recovery program, to reopen those tributaries for walleye fishing during those time periods. The recovery program is very much in favor of it because walleye love to eat little june sucker. But, we still have to overcome this social thing of snagging. How do we enforce that and how do we prevent any inadvertent take of the threatened june sucker.
Jim Gaskill- Thank you, it just occurred to me we have one open and one not open.
Robert Byrnes- On the recommended methods of disposal, that is not going to be part of the rule but just a recommendation that goes along maybe in the proclamation.
Paul Birdsey- It will be in the proclamation and one of those information boxes in there. Putting it into rule got to be a little bit messy. It was just simply stated that we probably needed to go down the recommendation road rather than saying specific ways to dispose of them.
Robert Byrnes- So, buried on the shoreline where the fish was caught, that would be subject to the regulations of the pertinent land management agency. Is that correct?
Paul Birdsey- That is absolutely correct. In fact, Paul Cowley last night at the Central Region RAC suggested that we remove that from the list of recommendations for that reason. Just some of the high use waters they are concerned about potential problems with fluctuating water levels, etc. It has been our policy to try and present the same information to every RAC so that everybody gets to see the same thing. We did not make that change between last night and tonight. However, it seems to be a reasonable thing that we would want to take into consideration and just take that off the list of recommendations.
Robert Byrnes- I will comment on that specifically. I will wait for comments.
John Blazzard- I have a question about spear fishing. I do hear often that swimmers are hit by boats. Is there a safety issue or concern with guys boating and fishing?
Paul Birdsey- First of all, I think it is important for us to know that according to the spear fisherman and their organization, there is between 1,000-2,000 spear fishermen statewide. Even if that estimate is off by a factor of 10, we are talking about 1,000-2,000 spear fisherman statewide. In fact, in 35 years of doing this, I have encountered one spear fisherman in the field and that happened to be while recreational fishing this past year. I have never actually interviewed one. The probability you are going to encounter one is relatively low. Secondly, our rule requires that the spear has to be tethered to the spear fisherman. We do not allow what is called free shafting. I believe it is a 10 foot tether on that spear. I don't know of anyone who has ever been injured by a spear fisherman.
John Blazzard- I was worried about them being injured by a boat.
Paul Birdsey- That is probably a more realistic worry than any danger that they present because not all boaters are considerate of that dive flag.
Drew Cushing- It is a legal requirement for anybody that dives out of a boat to have a diver down bouy. Wherever that diver is, there is a flag up above that identifies the diver as being down in the water.
John Blazzard- That shows you how much I know about boating.
Jefre Hicks- On disposal of fish on the shoreline, I am just thinking we could say they have to bury it a certain depth or something like that?
Paul Birdsey- I don't know. It is just a recommendation. I think that we have to listen very carefully to what the RAC's recommend and what our land management partners recommend on this and go with whatever avenues are suggested there.

Public Comment

Jim Morkin-Friends of Willard Bay- Not a good place to introduce kids to fish. It does create an organization that is going to grow and make Willard Bay more accessible to more people. Ask that you not reopen than inlet during the spawn.
Roland Rowe- The opening of the Willard Bay inlet during spawning carries ethical problems. There is a potential for illegal and unsportsmanlike snagging. There was a reason it was closed before. DWR law enforcement would need to be present at all times during the spawn to monitor illegal snagging.

Ken Strong- Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife- People are not buying licenses because they do not feel like they are getting their money's worth out of the fishing. We would like to propose at least a three day in your fridge or freezer. Also, propose that cooked fish no longer be considered your limit. For Strawberry, we propose that it be included in the possession limit of two days so that it is straight across the board with no questions.
Paul Roberts- Fish that are reduced for later consumption by cleaning and gutting or filleting, then freezing, canning, smoking or drying may be in possession up to five or whatever the board might consider wise. Trout on ice is what limits are really about. Fishing guidebook needs a strong directive not to leave fish line or discarded equipment on the pond or stream bank. For the book itself, the book should be made waterproof. On Website under rules for specific waters, if it was put into HTML blocks that you could click and print that for the waters you are going to fish and then enhance it with water descriptions and what fish are there along with road access and handicap information.
Terry Reist- Utah Spearfishing Association- Currently there is a no take for large and small mouth bass from April-June to protect the spawn. The other 433,000 line fisherman can catch their limit on a daily basis if they want to for the same species. Strongly support being able to dispose of carp where we shoot them. Propose that for the 2014 survey for fishing that the public be able to comment on whether spearfishing should be allowed in the catch and kill waters. Hopefully, in 2015 spearfishing would be allowed in specific waters.
John Overdiek- At one time, five of us went to Lake Powell in the 80's. There were five boats with three in each boat. The tally for those four wonderful days was 1,780 stripers. The largest of which was in excess of 12 pounds. How can I distinguish, in relationship to my freezer, a wiper and a striper?
Drew Cushing- If you are at Lake Powell and you have fish, you have to presume they are striped bass. If you are fishing up north, anywhere but Lake Powell, you have to presume they are wipers.
John Overdiek- In front of me, the date was March 20, 2013. That is the inlet channel. Drew Cushing and all the wonderful people that represent us have no control over water. Recommend that RAC members make a motion to disinfect. Suggest that next spring; the inlet is closed with a limit of 3 wipers and 3 walleye.
Jerry Hoyt- Strongly oppose the opening of the Willard Bay channel during the walleye spawn. Emails sent to RAC members. Opening the channel sets a precedence that could lead to opening other inlets and channels during the spawn to add more fishing opportunities. Sets a bad example to our youth.
Melvin Neilson- Maybe the government would want to promote the use of electric motors for fishing. Wondering what happened to fishing at Hyrum? Wondering if fish went down the spillway? Could something be done to get bigger fish in there?
Robert Byrnes- Regarding taxes, please talk to your legislator because they are the ones who handle those things.
Harold Anderson- Follow up on Hyrum. Is the spillway still open for fishing? There is no way in there. A lot of fish go down there in the spring during the runoff.
Trevor Earl- Letter given to RAC members regarding survey put out by DWR. I have never received an email survey. Nor has anyone I know. It says 74% of fisherman want the inlet closed. If it is a social issue in Utah Lake, I would think it is a social issue in Willard Bay. How many officers were stationed and supposed to be working Willard Bay.
Robert Byrnes- We would have to have law enforcement answer that.
Trevor Earl- I can answer that for you. There are 2 officers for Willard Bay. If there are 12 or 20, that means that surrounding waters had to give up their officers to come watch for snagger's. Percentage of people in the survey put out by DWR was 18% which correlates with the amount of people oppose it. People that actually care probably voted and wanted it closed. All waters are closed during spawning and they need to be protected regardless of biological outcome.
Mark Featherston- Support closing the inlet and protecting spawning grounds. It is wrong to have it open and allow snagging and fishing there.
John Overdiek- There are 11 species in Willard Bay. When there is not enough bait fish, hunger prevails.

RAC Comment

Robert Byrnes- Catch and kill provisions and recommendations for disposal. Burying fish on the shoreline could incur a risk to the people fishing there especially where we have bears. I would definitely encourage the division not to recommend that as a way to dispose of fish.
Jefre Hicks- Possession limit. When you asked for an extra limit during the day, I think he said they were working on making changes on that already. Is it not necessary to make a motion if it is already being considered for further discussion? Did I miss that? I thought you said it was something you are going to be discussing soon. If not, there is no sense in doing a motion.
Robert Byrnes- The proposal is to have a 2 day possession limit on almost all waters. It is in the proposal.
Paul Birdsey- Sorry if I confused the issue. Based on the information we have received through Ken and our discussions with him. We are considering the idea that possession limits are only good until that fish reaches your home and is reduced to groceries at that point and time. I also tried to make it clear that this is just an idea at this point and time that we have a long way to go with working with our regional aquatics managers, law enforcement and members of the general public before we could move forward with that kind of recommendation. We try really hard to listen to the public. That is difficult when you have 500,000 bosses. At the very least what I would ask for if it is up to me to ask, is that you make a recommendation that we look into this further rather than make a recommendation to move forward.
Robert Byrnes- We have had, in the past, several people that were prosecuted for taking lots of fish. They would take them home and have a freezer full of fish. If you change it, if it was changed in the future or made a recommendation to change it now so once it got to the home it was out of that, potentially you could take a limit home every day and have a freezer full of fish. If they are not used then you are still really wasting those fish. In the past, those people were prosecuted for taking too many fish I believe. You proposed cooking them. We understand that.
Ken Strong- There is a difference between what he is saying and what he said.
Jefre Hicks- I do want to see if you want a motion made and I would like a clear idea of what you would like to hear. We cannot make a motion if we do not understand what you would like.
Ken Strong- On November 1st of last year, I made the recommendation to the Wildlife Board that we have a 3 day possession limit at that time. At that time, the Wildlife Board made the recommendation to go through the RAC's. I had proposed the 3 day possession limit.
Jefre Hicks- That is clear. Regarding Willard Bay, I was able to see the carnage circus and unethical behavior that happened. I do not want to see that happen again. It is happening again now. Law enforcement is not there 60% of the time. Biological data is important and catching fish is important. Sometimes, ethics has to trump that. It is something we need to consider closing. It does not make sense to have a spawning area open to people to do what naturally happens out there. I agree with the idea that it might create precedence in other spawning areas. Ethics has to count for something.
Paul Cowley- I would like to comment on recommended disposal. I agree with our chairman that disposing of those fish by burying them along the lakeshore is probably not the proper place. We would recommend that not be listed as a potential disposal.
Jon Leonard- I would second that. I had my black lab roll in one that had been disposed of.
Robert Byrnes- I would like to go over the 5 items that have been raised in comments. The closure of Willard Bay inlet during walleye spawn. Changing the possession limit to potentially a 2 day possession limit in the field and a 3 day in the fridge with no limit on cooked fish. Allowing a 2 day possession limit at Strawberry. Reviewing in 2015 that all catch and kill waters would be open to spear fishing. Possession limit of 3 wiper and 3 walleye at Willard Bay. If there are any of those specific items you would like to cover before we cover the balance of it. Or, if you want to include those in a motion and the balance.
Jefre Hicks- You are talking about breaking them out individually?
Robert Byrnes- If someone wants to make a motion to cover any of those that it is in the motion or covered separately. If someone wants to do the closure of Willard Bay and the balance and not the other ones and no one else wants to hit them, one motion would be fine I think. If somebody makes a motion and is not covering what you want, make a motion to amend to include that and we will do the amendment first.

Motion

Motion: Leonard- Recommend the Wildlife Board adopt the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented with the addition of the following 5 items:

1. Closure of Willard Bay inlet during the walleye spawn.
2. 2 day limit possession in the field and a 3 day limit in the fridge or freezer and no limit on cooked fish.
3. 2 day possession limit at Strawberry Reservoir.
4. In 2015 all catch and kill waters will be open to spearfishing.
5. 3 walleye, 3 wiper daily possession limit at Willard Bay.

Second: Gaskill

Discussion on the Motion

Bryce Thurgood- What is the current limit right now at Willard?
Paul Thompson- Wipers are at 3 right now. We had them at 6 but we haven't had the fish to stock out so we don't have the numbers in the reservoir that we want. If we do get the source again to stock wipers, we would like to raise that back up to 6. Walleyes are at 6.
Robert Byrnes- Walleyes are at 6 presently, they would be reduced to 3. Wipers could only be 3; they could not be increased based upon stocking ability by the division.
Jefre Hicks- From what I understand, they said we are doing fine on walleye with good reproduction. Would there be any valid reason to lower it to 3 that you know of?
Chris Penne- No, none at this time. Right now the walleye population is doing quite well. The current limit has served the reservoir well in the past.
Bryce Thurgood- I would like to either strike that or break this down into pieces.
Robert Byrnes- I think we will have to vote on the motion.
Jim Gaskill- He could amend the motion.
Bryce Thurgood- I would like to amend the motion that we strike the 3 wiper and walleye proposal from it and I am a little bit torn on the 2 day limit at Strawberry. I would like to see maybe a test result from a couple of the waters. Strike those 2 from the proposal.

Motion To Amend

Motion: Thurgood- Motion to amend the original motion: Include in #2, excluding Strawberry Reservoir and Flaming Gorge Reservoir, Remove #3 (2 day possession limit at Strawberry Reservoir) and #5 (3 walleye and 3 wiper possession limit at Willard Bay).
Second: Cowley

Discussion on the Motion

Bruce Sillitoe- I think I am having a discussion on this motion and not the amended motion. Which one are we having a discussion on?
Robert Byrnes- The amendment to the original motion.
Bruce Sillitoe- I would like to have a discussion on the original motion.
Jim Gaskill- I wish you had separated those and made them two amendments because one I like and one I don't like so much. I think I will still vote for it though.
John Blazzard- I would support especially the discussion about extending the limits on Strawberry. I know the DWR has spent a lot of time and money there. To go from their recommendation of one day limit to 3 or 4 kind of concerns me to two day possession limit total.
Robert Byrnes- 2 day possession limit.
John Blazzard- 2 days plus one in the freezer or not?

Robert Byrnes- I think the 2 day, as the original motion was made, the 2 day Strawberry possession limit would restrict even with the 2 day limit in the field.
John Blazzard- We did not mention anything about burying dead fish to dispose of them.
Robert Byrnes- It is not actually in the rule. It was something they were just going to put in there as an advisory. I think the division will remove that based on our comments.
Jefre Hicks- I think I am going to go along and support that. The removal of the Strawberry portion and the removal of the 3 walleye and 3 wiper portion.
Jim Gaskill- Could you please read it to us again?
Robert Byrnes- The amendment would remove the increase in possession limit at Strawberry to 2 day and it would remove the 3 wiper, 3 walleye limit on Willard Bay.
Jim Gaskill- That would revert back to the recommendation of the division.
Craig Van Tassell- Could you read the original amendment again?
Robert Byrnes- The original motion?
Craig Van Tassell- The original motion with the three amendments.
Robert Byrnes- If the amendment passes, the motion under consideration after the amendment passes would be that we would recommend the Wildlife Board adopt the fishing guidebook and rule R657-13 as presented with the following changes: Close the Willard Bay inlet during the walleye spawn. 2 day possession limit in the field and 3 day in the fridge with no limit on cooked fish. In 2015, all catch and kill waters would be open to spearfishing. That is what the original would end up being if the amendment passes. It kind of conflicts with the Strawberry thing because you are saying Strawberry would have a 2 day.
Paul Cowley- 1 day.
Jim Gaskill- Strawberry would have a one day under the division's proposal.
Robert Byrnes- But under number 2, as I read it, a 2 day possession limit in the field could be confused as applying to Strawberry also.
Paul Cowley- Doesn't the amendment pull that back to one day though? The second amendment.
Robert Byrnes- The amendment had a specific item number 3; Strawberry would have a 2 day possession limit separately.
Jim Gaskill- You are right but we could subsequently amend that after we take care of this amendment.
Robert Byrnes- Perhaps we should ask the maker of the amendment.
Bruce Sillitoe- I would clarify that we would not allow the 2 day at Strawberry and go with what the division recommends which is 1 day possession limit at Strawberry.
Robert Byrnes- I think we should just clarify that item number 2, which is a 2 day possession limit in the field and 3 day in the fridge and cooked fish would have no limit would apply to the waters except Flaming Gorge and Strawberry.
Bruce Sillitoe- Thank you.
Robert Byrnes- Is the maker of the motion is agreeable? I will go over it one more time. The original motion, if this amendment passes, would be to accept the divisions presentation with the following exceptions: Close Willard Bay inlet during the walleye spawn, 2 day possession limit in the field and three day in the fridge with no limit on cooked fish excluding Strawberry and Flaming Gorge, and in 2015 all catch and kill waters would be open to spearfishing. If this amendment passes. Is everyone clear?
Bruce Sillitoe- I am assuming the reason you limit the amount of fish in the freezer is because you don't want to have a huge amount of fish taken from the field. If that is the case, it makes no sense to me why you would allow unlimited processing other ways. Like bottling, canning and so forth which would fall under cooking.
Robert Byrnes- If you legally harvest just one limit of per day, you are not breaking any rules and if you just keep those in the fridge, eventually you might waste them but they are not wasted yet I would guess.
Bruce Sillitoe- I understand the motion. You said fridge but I think we all interpreted that as in the home, being preserved in a freezer. So, if you are only allowing a certain amount of fish to be preserved in the freezer, why would we recommend allowing unlimited preservation of fish by cooking them? I understand there is a thought there that would be simply be that I did not finish eating the fish. I think that could be considered processing fish in a cooked manner. It seems confusing to me.

Robert Byrnes- That was his recommendation so that is how I wrote it down.
Bruce Sillitoe- Therefore, I would recommend that we do not just say cooked fish.

Motion to Amend Passes: Unanimous

Discussion on the Amended Motion

Jefre Hicks- On the walleye inlet closure portion, would we need to say specific dates we need to include in that motion?
Robert Byrnes- I am pretty sure that the fisheries people have a good idea when the spawn occurs and they would probably close it a little before and a little after to be safe. They can say better than I can. We would have to ask them for specific dates. It is going to change year to year a little bit.
Drew Cushing- It historically had a set date which included March and April. It was inclusive to those two months. It was only a year ago so we would go back to those dates I assume.
Jefre Hicks- I am wondering if in our recommendation to the wildlife board in a motion, if we need to say go back to the historical closure it was for the last 34 years. Would that leave us open to interpretation.
Robert Byrnes- I think the only interpretation that could happen is that someone would say we said the spawn. The division is going to go back to what was in existence before. I think the Wildlife Board would follow that recommendation.
Jefre Hicks- I just wanted to make sure we did not leave ourselves open to interpretation that rendered our motion.
Robert Byrnes- I think we are covered. We won't have to have another amendment.
Jim Gaskill- I like the motion but I also want to make it clear that I do not think the walleye fishery will be affected one way or the other by this. I appreciate the people who have taken the time to come and speak to us. I appreciate their passion. Basically, since we did not have anybody from the fishing community who came and told us they wanted it open, that maybe it is kind of our responsibility to go with those who are passionate. At the same time, I do not want the division to think that we are always going to go along with someone because they are emotional.
Jon Leonard- I am still somewhat troubled by the possession limits at home, in your freezer whether they are pickled or bottled or whatever. I am willing to go along with what was proposed under the assumption that the division is going to work to rectify that.
Robert Byrnes- I am sure the division is going to, based upon our motion and if it passes, they will be prepared when they get to the Wildlife Board to provide any additional clarification they feel is needed. It might not soothe your worries completely but I am sure they will be thinking about what the possibilities are based upon our recommendations today.
Jefre Hicks- I think it might be a good idea to expand the idea of the possession limit. If a guy comes home with 2 days worth of trout and has 5 people in his family, that is not going to do much. If you had an extra day of possession limit, you could keep the small fish. That is the reason I think there is a possibility for extending the extra day. We don't all catch huge fish.
Jon Leonard- I think that we are losing a lot of privacy from our home and our castles so to speak. A lot of us fish other states. You go to Alaska and come back with 100 pounds of fish; you are not going to consume those. How do they know where they were taken? It is just a can of worms as far as I'm concerned for a very miniscule law enforcement problem. I hope they work diligently, judiciously and rapidly on getting rid of that rule.
John Blazzard- When you go upland bird hunting, you have a bag limit and possession limit. Is that treated any differently than the fish in the freezer or if you had grouse in the fridge?
Justin Dolling- With upland game, you have a daily bag limit but you can only be in possession of 3 times the daily bag limit either in your freezer or if you are in the field for three consecutive days.
John Blazzard- So, once I get 6 grouse in my freezer, I am done for the year right?
Justin Dolling- Your limit is 4, so you could have 12 in your freezer.
Jim Gaskill- If you know where you can get 12 pheasants, you let me know.
Jon Leonard- What you are required to consume, all the big game within one year?

Justin Dolling- To my knowledge, that is not a requirement.
Jon Leonard- So, with big game, you can keep that indefinitely in your freezer?
Robert Byrnes- With the tag.
Jon Leonard- With a tag, right.

Amended Motion Passes: For: 11, Against: 1, Sillitoe- I do not understand the benefit either financial or biological to allowing unlimited possession of wildlife species simply because it has been processed.

Robert Byrnes- Thank you for your participation.
Jim Gaskill- At least a couple of us on the RAC were concerned about the region specific items. I think sometimes it is appropriate. I am quite interested in Yuba Reservoir. You could say that I could go to the central region but it is not the same as being on the RAC and having a discussion. Some of these region specific items are ok but we need to be really careful about region specific items that really do apply statewide.
Paul Cowley- I would second that having sat through part of the central region RAC yesterday. There is some value, especially in those action items to be brought statewide.
Robert Byrnes- The council members especially if you see something that is of interest to you, you should be able to contact the people at the division office to flesh out any information you need. We can always make motions. It might not be a pertinent to the wildlife board if we are talking about something in the southeast but we still weighed in. If you think it is important.
Jim Gaskill- We can make a motion and we can weigh in but we did not hear the presentation.
Robert Byrnes- Not quite all of the information but if it is really important to you, please pursue it in advance so you have the knowledge.

Meeting Adjournment
Motion: Cowley- Move we adjourn.
Second: Gaskill
Motion Passes: Acclamation by RAC Chair

Meeting Ends: 8:50 p.m.

FISHING GUIDEBOOK 2014

Warmwater Sportfish Coordinator
Drew Cushing
Coldwater Sportfish Coordinator
Paul Birdsey

STATEWIDE SURVEY

- We conducted an online survey of anglers from May 10 – June 10, 2013.
- We asked 8 questions regarding possible regulation changes and one question on the management direction at Scofield Reservoir.
- There was also space provided for general comments.
- A total of 1,158 people participated in the survey.

POSSESSION LIMIT

- An action item from the 2012 Wildlife Board meeting directed the DWR to investigate the possibility of increasing the possession limit to accommodate anglers that may travel to a water for multiple days.
- We developed three alternative approaches to this issue through consultation with our Aquatics Managers and members of the public.
- The alternatives were included on our statewide angler survey for broader public input.

POSSESSION LIMIT SURVEY RESULTS

POSSESSION LIMIT

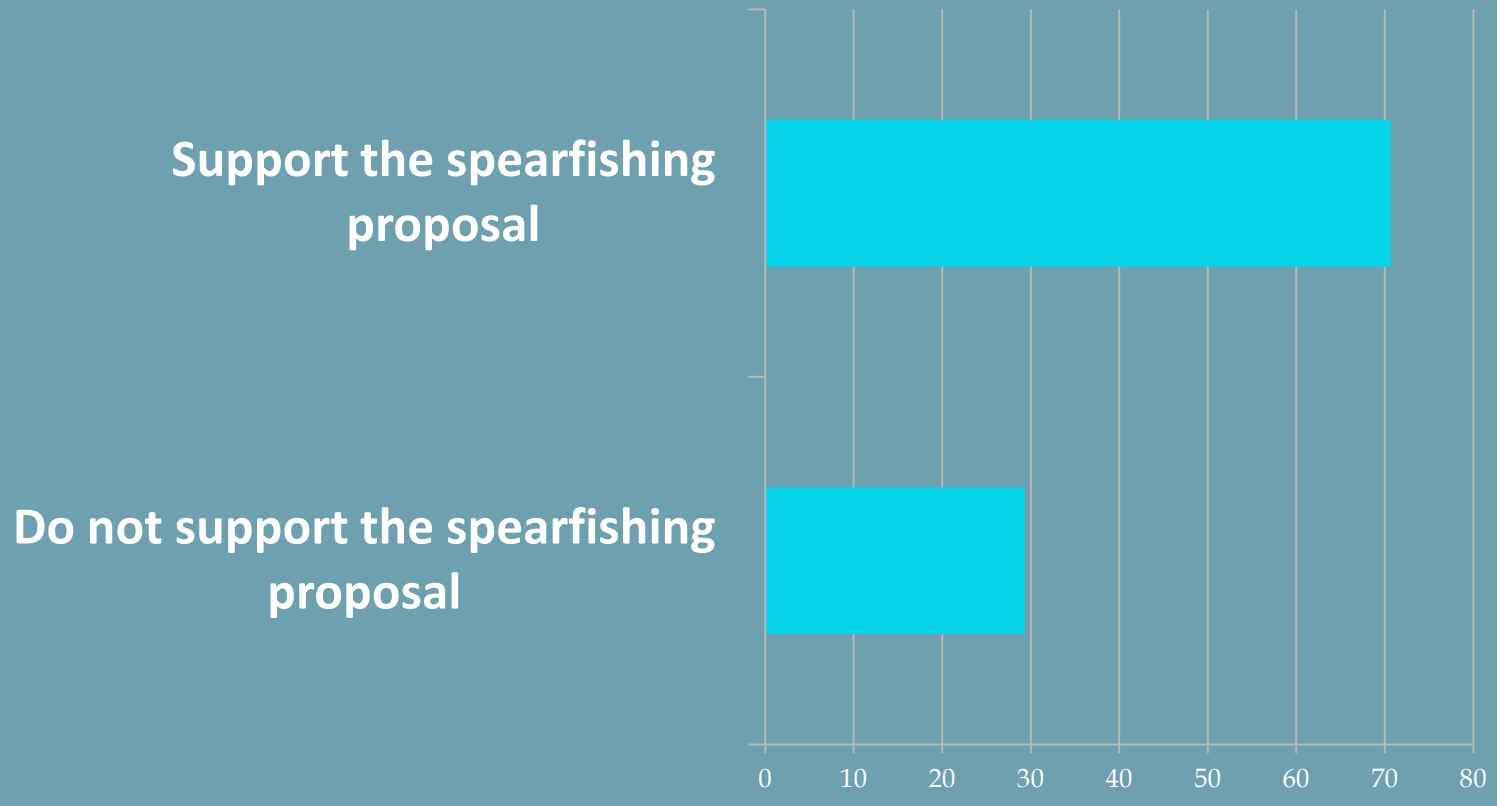
In addition to one (1) legal daily limit of unprocessed fish, a person may possess one (1) additional limit of processed fish provided the processed fish were caught during a previous day provided they are within the legal limit of fish species and water body where the angler is fishing.

The only exceptions to this rule are Strawberry Reservoir and Flaming Gorge where you may only have one daily limit in your possession.

UNDERWATER SPEARFISHING

- In 2012, the Wildlife Board directed the DWR to review the underwater spearfishing rule with an eye to providing more opportunities to spearfishermen.
- We met with a group of spearfishermen and anglers during the winter and spring of 2013 to review the rule.
- The final proposal generated by the group is a compromise of widely different points of view on the issue.
- We would like to thank the members of the public who participated in the committee to draft the rule.

UNDERWATER SPEARFISHING



Underwater Spearfishing Seasons and Waters

January 1-December 31

- Big Sandwash Reservoir
- Blue Lake (tilapia only)
- Brown's Draw Reservoir
- Causey Reservoir
- Electric Lake
- Grantsville Reservoir
- Ken's Lake
- Newcastle Reservoir (wipers and rainbow trout only)
- Porcupine Reservoir
- Recapture Reservoir
- Red Fleet Reservoir
- Sand Lake
- Smith – Moorehouse Reservoir
- Willard Bay Reservoir
- Yuba Reservoir

Closed to black bass (largemouth and smallmouth) from April 1-fourth Saturday in June

- Deer Creek Reservoir
- East Canyon Reservoir
- Echo Reservoir
- Flaming Gorge Reservoir
- Lake Powell
- Pineview Reservoir (Closed to the take of tiger musky Jan 1-Dec 31)
- Rockport Reservoir
- Starvation Reservoir
- Steinaker Reservoir

UNDERWATER SPEARFISHING CLOSURES

Close Jordanelle and Lost Creek Reservoirs to underwater spearfishing for gamefish.

Carp may be taken in any water statewide with an open fishing season!!

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF FISH

Catch-and-Kill Provisions.

(1) The Wildlife Board may designate in guidebook or proclamation waters that anglers are required to kill any fish caught belonging to a specified species.

(2) A person shall immediately kill a fish caught in waters identified by the Wildlife Board as catch-and-kill for that species.

Recommendations for Disposal of Fish:

A person may either consume or dispose of a dead fish subject to a catch-and-kill regulation at the following locations:

(a) in the water where the fish was caught;

(b) a fish cleaning station;

(c) the angler's place of residence; or

(d) another location where disposal is authorized by law.

DISPOSAL ALLOWANCE WATERS AND SPECIES

All waters statewide: Common carp

- Blue Lake (tilapia)
- Deer Creek Reservoir (white bass, black bullhead)
- Flaming Gorge (burbot)
- Grantsville Reservoir (smallmouth bass)
- Lake Powell (striped bass)
- Red Fleet Reservoir (walleye)
- Utah Lake (northern pike)

DISPOSAL ALLOWANCE WATERS AND SPECIES

The mainstem of the Green, Colorado, and San Juan Rivers and the following tributaries

Green River Tributaries:
- Ashley Creek
- Brush Creek
- Duchesne River
- White River
- Willow Creek
- Price River
- San Rafael River
- Range Creek
- Nine Mile Creek

Colorado River Tributaries:
- Dolores River
- Mill Creek
- Dirty Devil River

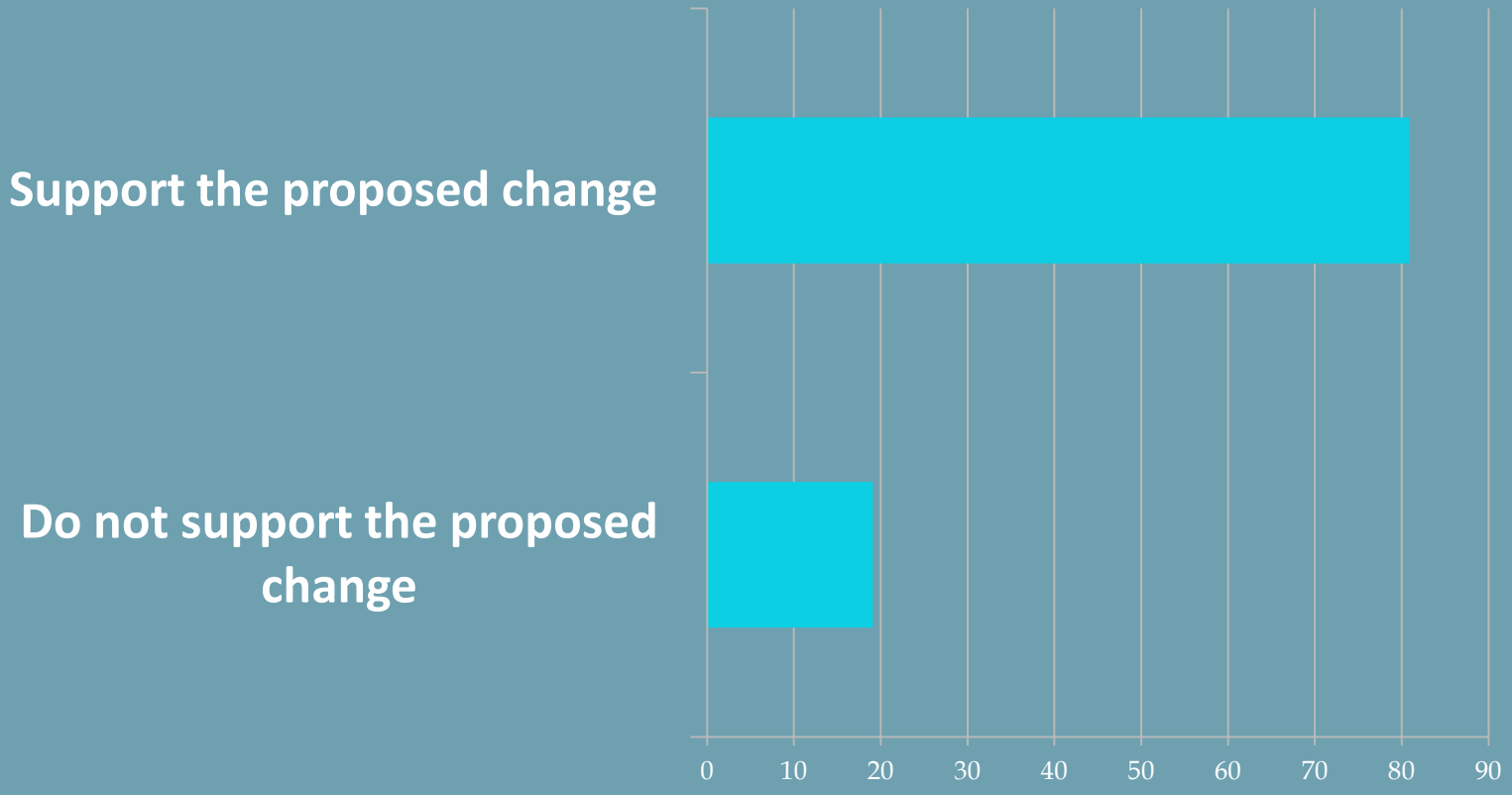
San Juan River Tributaries:
- Comb Wash
- Montezuma Creek
- Recapture Creek

(burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye)

COLORADO, GREEN, AND SAN JUAN RIVERS AND THEIR TRIBUTARIES

- No limit for channel catfish
- No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed

COLORADO, GREEN, AND SAN JUAN RIVERS AND THEIR TRIBUTARIES



COLORADO, GREEN, AND SAN JUAN RIVERS AND THEIR TRIBUTARIES

Green River, Carbon, Daggett, Emery, Grand, San Juan, Uintah and Wayne Counties, From the Flaming Gorge dam down river to the confluence of the Colorado River.

AND

Green River tributaries:

Ashley Creek, Uintah County

Brush Creek, Uintah County

Duchesne River, Duchesne and Uintah Counties

White River, Uintah County

Willow Creek, Uintah County

Price River, Carbon and Emery Counties

San Rafael River, Emery County

Range Creek, Carbon and Emery

Nine Mile Creek, Carbon and Duchesne Counties

COLORADO, GREEN, AND SAN JUAN RIVERS AND THEIR TRIBUTARIES

Colorado River: **Garfield, Grand, San Juan, Wayne Counties**, From the Colorado state line down river to the Hite bridge on State Highway 95

AND

Colorado River Tributaries:

Dolores River, Grand County

Mill Creek, Grand County

Dirty Devil River, Garfield and Wayne Counties

San Juan River, San Juan County, from Lake Powell to the Colorado/Utah state line

AND

San Juan Tributaries:

Comb Wash, San Juan County

Montezuma Creek, San Juan County

Recapture Creek, San Juan County

SOUTHERN REGION

Brian Head Pond, Iron County

- Limit 2 fish (Community Fishery)

SOUTHERN REGION

Fishing from boats and float tubes is PROHIBITED

Aspen-Mirror Lake, Kane County

Duck Creek Springs Lake, Kane County

Pine Valley Reservoir, Washington County

SOUTHERN REGION

Fishing from a boat with a motor of any kind is PROHIBITED

Anderson Meadow Reservoir, Beaver County

Barney Lake, Piute County

Boulder Mountain Lakes, Garfield and Wayne Counties (EXCEPT, Wide Hollow Reservoir, Pine Lake, and Lower Bowns Reservoir)

Little Reservoir, Beaver County

SOUTHERN REGION

Lake Powell, Garfield, Kane and San Juan Counties:

- Currently chumming is only allowed at Lake Powell and only with anchovies.
- Recommendation: All legal baits may be used as chum at Lake Powell (for example, Utah suckers, carp, redside shiners, commercially prepared baitfish etc)

NORTHEAST REGION

Currant Creek, Wasatch County confluence with Water Hollow to the headwaters

- Limit 4 trout

NORTHEAST REGION

Red Fleet Reservoir, Uintah County

- No limit for walleye. Anglers must not release any walleye they catch. All walleye must be immediately killed. "Catch and Kill"

CENTRAL REGION

Wasatch Mountain State Park Pond, Wasatch County

Limit two fish (Community Fishery)

CENTRAL REGION

Yuba Reservoir, Juab County:

- Limit 20 northern pike, only one northern pike over 36 inches
- Over 80% support on the on-line survey

NORTHERN REGION

Lost Creek Reservoir, Morgan County

Anglers may not fillet trout and salmon. Anglers may not remove their heads or tails while in the field or in transit.

NORTHERN REGION

Stateline Reservoir, Summit County

CLOSED to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.

Over 90% support on the on-line survey

NORTHERN REGION

Willard Bay Reservoir and inlet channel, Box Elder County

Possession and use of commercially sold, preserved gizzard shad is allowed, otherwise possession of gizzard shad, dead or alive is unlawful

NORTHERN REGION

ADDITIONS TO THE NON-GAME SPECIES RESTRICTED POSSESSION LIST

Add the following waters to the list where carp are the only nongame fish that can be taken:

Raft River, Box Elder County From the Utah/Idaho stateline (including all tributaries)

Weber River, Weber and Summit Counties

Yellow Creek, Summit County

SOUTHEAST REGION

Electric Lake, Emery County

- CLOSED to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.
- Over 90% support on the on-line survey

SOUTHEAST REGION

Electric Lake Tributaries, Emery County
From Electric Lake upstream to the headwaters

CLOSED to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September

Over 90% support on the on-line survey

SNAGGING RULE

It is unlawful to intentionally snag or attempt to snag any fish. Fish hooked anywhere than the mouth must be released immediately.

"Snag" means to hook a fish elsewhere than in the mouth. The only exception to this rule is at Bear Lake for Bonneville cisco.

Thank You!!!!

Share your ideas with the DWR by June 15 annually

Share ideas at RAC meetings

E-mail ideas to: **dwrcomment@utah.gov**

Mail ideas to:

Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator

Division of Wildlife Resources

PO Box 146301

Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301

Web based survey to seek public input on line

http://wildlife.utah.gov/dwr/

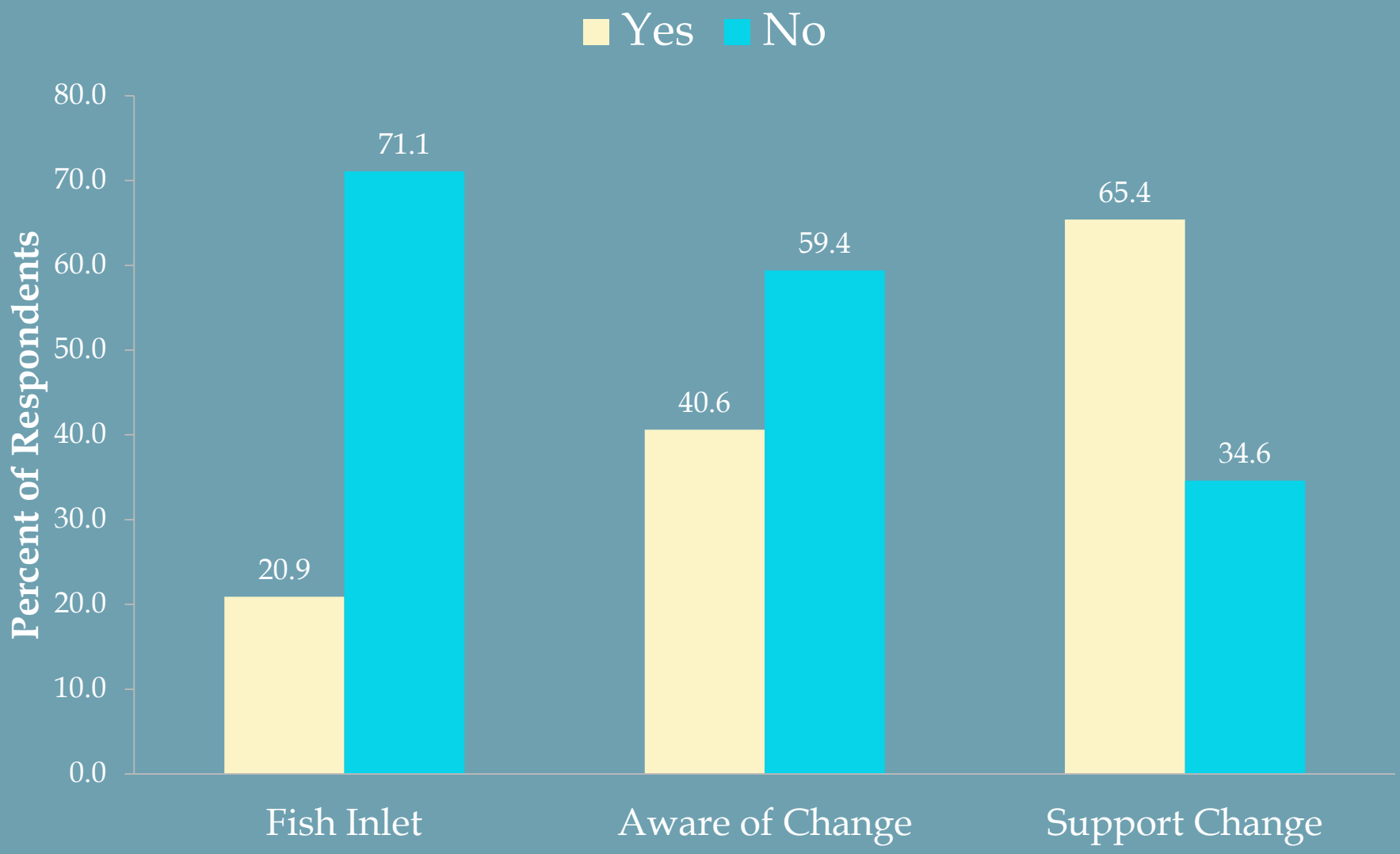
Scofield Reservoir

- Since 2005 the DWR has been attemtping to use tiger trout to control Utah chubs at Scofield Reservoir
- Bear Lake cutthroat trout were added as an additional predator in 2009.
- Rainbow trout have been in decline in the reservoir since 2010. Most likely due to competition with chubs.
- Beginning in 2011, a study was undertaken in cooperation with USU to determine if the biological control of chubs is possible.
- This year we asked anglers if they would support ceasing rainbow trout stocking for three to five years in favor of adding additional predators to the reservoir.
- 90% of the respondents were in favor of the change.
- We are only contemplating this change if the results from the USU study indicate that biological control can work.

WILLARD BAY INLET CHANNEL

- The opening of the Willard Bay Inlet Channel to angling:
- Does not adversely impact the walleye fishery
- Presents an additional angling opportunity
- Is supported by a majority of anglers (65% support versus 35% oppose)
- Can have acceptable compliance rates (15 citations from 610 contacts; 98% compliance)
- Can be effectively patrolled by law enforcement personnel

Fished Willard in 2012 or 2013
N = 326



Utah Fishing Regulation Recommendations for 2014

Spearfishing

The following waters are open to spearfishing from January 1 through December 31. Unless otherwise noted, spearfishermen may take any legal species within the limits imposed for the waters: Big Sandwash Reservoir, Blue Lake (tilapia only), Brown's Draw Reservoir, Causey Reservoir, Electric Lake, Grantsville Reservoir, Ken's Lake, Newcastle Reservoir (wipers and rainbow trout only), Porcupine Reservoir, Recapture Reservoir, Red Fleet Reservoir, Sand Lake, Smith – Moorehouse Reservoir, Willard Bay Reservoir, Yuba Reservoir.

The following waters are open to spearfishing from January 1 through December 31. **Closed to the take of black bass (largemouth and smallmouth) from April 1 through the fourth Saturday in June.** All other limits apply: Deer Creek Reservoir, East Canyon Reservoir, Echo Reservoir, Flaming Gorge Reservoir, Lake Powell, Pineview Reservoir (Closed to the take of tiger musky January 1 through December 31), Rockport Reservoir, Starvation Reservoir, Steinaker Reservoir

Close Jordanelle and Lost Creek Reservoirs to underwater spearfishing for sportfish.

Catch-and-Kill Provisions.

(1) The Wildlife Board may designate in guidebook or proclamation

waters that anglers are required to kill any fish caught belonging to a specified species.

(2) A person shall immediately kill a fish caught in waters identified by the Wildlife Board as catch-and-kill for that species.

Recommendations for disposal

A person may either consume or dispose of a dead fish subject to a catch-and-kill regulation at the following locations:

(a) in the water where the fish was caught;

(b) a fish cleaning station;

(c) the angler's place of residence; or

(d) another location where disposal is authorized by law.

Waters and species of fish where disposal will be permitted.

All waters statewide: Common carp

Blue Lake (tilapia), Deer Creek Reservoir (white bass, black bullhead), Flaming Gorge (burbot), Grantsville Reservoir (smallmouth bass), Lake Powell (striped bass), Red Fleet Reservoir (walleye), Utah Lake (northern pike)

Green River, Colorado River, San Juan River and the following tributaries, Green River tributaries: Ashley Creek, Brush Creek, Duchesne River, White River, Willow Creek, Price River, San Rafael River, Range Creek, Nine Mile Creek, Colorado River Tributaries: Dolores River, Mill Creek, Dirty Devil River, San Juan River Tributaries: Comb Wash, Montezuma Creek, Recapture Creek (burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye)

New Snagging Language

It is unlawful to intentionally snag or attempt to snag any fish. Fish hooked anywhere than the mouth must be released immediately. "Snag" means to hook a fish elsewhere than in the mouth. The only exception to this rule is at Bear Lake for Bonneville cisco.

Add the following waters to the list where carp are the only nongame fish that can be taken:

Raft River from the Utah/Idaho stateline (including all tributaries)

Weber River

Yellow Creek

Wildlife Board Action Item: Two day possession limit

In addition to one (1) legal daily limit of unprocessed fish, a person may possess one (1) additional limit of processed fish provided the processed fish were caught during a previous day provided they are within the legal limit of fish species and water body where the angler is fishing. The only exceptions to this rule are Strawberry Reservoir and Flaming Gorge where you may only have one daily limit in your possession.

Chumming at Lake Powell, Garfield, Kane and San Juan Counties

Presently chumming is only allowed for taking striped bass at Lake Powell and you can only chum with anchovies.

Recommendation: At Lake Powell, you may chum only with baits listed as legal in the bait rule R657-13-12

Brian Head Pond, (Iron County) (Add to Community Fisheries List)

Limit 2 fish

Fishing from boats and float tubes is PROHIBITED

- **Aspen-Mirror Lake** (Kane County)

- **Duck Creek Springs Lake** (Kane County)
- **Pine Valley Reservoir** (Washington County)

Fishing from a boat with a motor of any kind is PROHIBITED

- **Anderson Meadow Reservoir** (Beaver County)
- **Barney Lake** (Piute County)
- **Boulder Mountain Lakes** (Garfield and Wayne Counties) (EXCEPT, Wide Hollow Reservoir, Pine Lake, and Lower Bowns Reservoir)
- **Little Reservoir** (Beaver County)

Currant Creek (Wasatch County) confluence with Water Hollow to the headwaters

Limit 4 trout

Wasatch Mountain State Park Pond (Wasatch County) (Add to Community Fishery)

Limit two fish

Yuba Reservoir, Juab County)

Limit 20 northern pike, only one northern pike over 36 inches may be in possession

Lost Creek Reservoir (Morgan County)

At Lost Creek Reservoir anglers may not fillet trout and salmon, anglers may not remove their heads or tails while in the field or in transit

Stateline Reservoir, Summit County

CLOSED to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.

Willard Bay Reservoir and inlet channel, Box Elder County

Possession and use of commercially sold, preserved gizzard shad is allowed, otherwise possession of gizzard shad, dead or alive is unlawful

Electric Lake, Emery County

-CLOSED to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September.

Electric Lake Tributaries, Emery County, from Electric Lake upstream to the headwaters

CLOSED to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color Aug. 15 through 6 a.m. on the last Saturday of September

Green River, Carbon, Daggett, Emery, Grand, San Juan, Uintah and Wayne Counties, From the Flaming Gorge dam down river to the confluence of the Colorado River.

AND

Green River, Carbon, Daggett, Emery, Grand, San Juan, Uintah and Wayne Counties, From the Flaming Gorge dam down river to the confluence of the Colorado River.

AND

Green River tributaries: Ashley Creek, Uintah County, From the confluence with the Green River upstream to the town of Vernal, **Brush Creek, Uintah County**, From the confluence with the Green River upstream to Red Fleet Dam, **Duchesne River, Duchesne and Uintah Counties**, From the confluence with the Green River upstream to the Knight Diversion, **White River, Uintah County**, From the confluence with the Green River to the UT-CO border, **Willow Creek, Uintah County**, From the confluence with the Green River upstream to the confluence with Hill Creek, **Price River, Carbon and Emery Counties**, From the confluence with the Green River upstream to the Farnham Dam/Diversion near Wellington Utah, **San Rafael River, Emery County**, From the confluence with the Green River upstream to the Hatt's Ranch Diversion near State Highway 24, **Range Creek, Carbon and Emery Counties**, From the confluence with the Green River upstream to headwaters, **Nine Mile Creek, Carbon and Duchesne Counties**, From the confluence with the Green River upstream to headwaters.

Colorado River: **Garfield, Grand, San Juan, Wayne Counties**, From the Colorado state line down river to the Hite bridge on State Highway 95

AND

Colorado River Tributaries: Dolores River, Grand County, From the confluence with the Colorado River upstream to the Colorado State line, **Mill Creek**, **Grand County**, From the confluence with the Colorado River upstream to headwaters, **Dirty Devil River**, **Garfield and Wayne Counties**, From the State Highway 95 bridge upstream to the Hanksville Diversion.

San Juan River, San Juan County, (from Lake Powell to the Colorado/Utah state line.

AND

San Juan Tributaries: Comb Wash, San Juan County, From the confluence with the San Juan River upstream to headwaters, **Montezuma Creek**, **San Juan County**, From the confluence with the San Juan River upstream to headwaters, **Recapture Creek**, **San Juan County**, From the confluence with the San Juan River upstream to the Recapture Reservoir dam.

No limit for channel catfish

No limit for burbot, northern pike, smallmouth bass or walleye. Anglers may not release any of these fish, which must be immediately killed

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor
SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2013 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for FNAWS was Don Peay. All information requested was promptly provided. FNAWS was given **23** of the 316 permits for 2013. At the time of sale division staff independently verified auction prices of **12** permits sold and compared that with the prices being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	$ 519,500.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	($ 51,950.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	($ 155,850.00)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	$ 311,700.00
Carry-over funds	$ 274,163.79
Total:	$ 585,863.79
Open Invoice – unpaid	$ 114,164.03
Less 2013 Projects paid	($ 66,749.00)
Funds remaining for projects	$ 633,278.82
Verified Bank Statement Balance	$ 633,159.47
Adjustments	$ 119.35
Bank Statement Balance after payment received	$ 633,278.82

1594 West North Temple, Suite 2110, PO Box 146301, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301
telephone (801) 538-4700 • facsimile (801) 538-4709 • TTY (801) 538-7458 • *www.wildlife.utah.gov*

Findings and Recommendations

All 2013 projects were approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account. There were two adjustments identified though the reconciliation as follows:

There is a small discrepancy between what DWR calculates versus what is identified in the bank statement. Bank balance is $235.85 less than what DWR has calculated.

Interest earned is equal to $116.50.

We recommend the following:

- As per rule R657-41 payments of invoices need to be received within 90 days of approval.
- For next year's reconciliation please provide one bank statement for every calendar month.
- Additional work to identify the $235.85 discrepancy will need to take place between DWR and FNAWS.

We sincerely thank FNAWS for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan
Wildlife Board Members
FNAWS

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor
SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS)

From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Subject: 2013 Conservation Project Fund Balance

November 7, 2013

Dear Foundation for North American Wild Sheep,

It has been determined from the 2013 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account should equal a total of $ 633,278.82 . This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Foundation for North American Wild Sheep concur on the above state Project Fund balance.

FNAWS – Please Print Name

FNAWS - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

1594 West North Temple, Suite 2110, PO Box 146301, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301
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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2013 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Ducks Unlimited (DU)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Ducks Unlimited (DU) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for DU was Barry Crose. All information requested was promptly provided. DU was given **4** of the 316 permits in 2013. At the time of sale division staff independently verified auction prices of **1** permit sold and compared it to the price being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	$ 12,430.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	($ 1,243.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	($ 3,729.00)
Total eligible to be retained by organization for project(s):	$ 7,458.00
Carry-over funds	$ 5,529.00
Total:	$ 12,987.00
Funds remaining for projects	$ 12,987.00
Verified Bank Statement Balance	$ 12,992.00
Adjustment	($ 5.00)
Adjusted Bank Balance	$ 12,987.00

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Findings and Recommendations

Ducks Unlimited did not have any approved projects for the 2013 fiscal year. Their funds are placed in a secure, separate account. There is one adjustment identified through the reconciliation as follows:

Maintenance fee reversal	($5.00)

We recommend the following:

- All administration costs should be withdrawn from the Administration Account, and not from the Project Acct. (bank fees, printing fees, overdraft fees, etc).
- For next year's reconciliation please provide one bank statement for every calendar month.
- As per rule R657-41-9 (ix) "Retained revenue must be completely expended on or committed to approved eligible projects by September 1, two years following the year in which the relevant conservation permits are awarded to the conservation organization by the Wildlife Board."

We sincerely thank Ducks Unlimited for their time, their prompt response, and willingness to provide the information requested. If you have any questions, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan
Wildlife Board Members
Ducks Unlimited

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor
SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Ducks Unlimited (DU)

From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Subject: 2013 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Ducks Unlimited,

It has been determined from the 2013 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of $ 12,987.00 . This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Ducks Unlimited concur on the above Project Fund balance.

_____ _____

DU– Please Print Name DU- Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

1594 West North Temple, Suite 2110, PO Box 146301, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301
telephone (801) 538-4700 • facsimile (801) 538-4709 • TTY (801) 538-7458 • *www.wildlife.utah.gov*

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Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2013 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Safari Club International (SCI)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Safari Club International (SCI) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for SCI was Don Isgar. All information requested was promptly provided. Safari Club International was given **21** of the 316 permits for 2013. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	$ 128,747.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	($ 12,874.70)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	($ 38,624.10)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	$ 77,248.20
Carry-over funds	$ 2,100.00
Total:	$ 79,348.20
Funds remaining for projects	$ 79,348.20
Verified Bank Statement Balance	$ 118,613.99
Adjustments	($ 39,265.79)
Adjusted Bank Balance	$ 79,348.20

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telephone (801) 538-4700 • facsimile (801) 538-4709 • TTY (801) 538-7458 • *www.wildlife.utah.gov*

Findings and Recommendations

All 2013 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account. There were four adjustments identified through the reconciliation as follows:

Check 110 to DWR (30% of auction proceeds) - Not Cleared	($38,624.10)
Check 109 to SCI (withdraw of admin. proceeds) - Not Cleared	($ 190.00)
Interest earned that needs to be placed in Admin Acct.	($ 467.28)
Printing check fee (Admin Acct.)	$ 15.59
Total Adjustments	($39,265.79)

We recommend the following:

- 30% transfers should take place on or before 09/01 of each year.
- All administration costs should be withdrawn from the Administration Account, and not from the Project Account (bank fees, printing fees, overdraft fees, etc).
- For next year's reconciliation please provide one bank statement for every calendar month.

We sincerely thank Safari Club International for their time, their prompt response, and willingness to provide the information requested. If you have any questions, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan
Wildlife Board Members
Safari Club International

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor
SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Safari Club International (SCI)

From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Subject: 2013 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Safari Club International,

It has been determined from the 2013 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of $ 79,348.20 . This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Safari Club International concur on the above Project Fund balance.

SCI – Please Print Name

SCI - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

1594 West North Temple, Suite 2110, PO Box 146301, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301
telephone (801) 538-4700 • facsimile (801) 538-4709 • TTY (801) 538-7458 • *www.wildlife.utah.gov*

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Governor
SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2013 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Utah Bowmen for Habitat

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Utah Bowmen for Habitat (UBH) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for Utah Bowmen for Habitat was Kevin Adamson. All information requested was promptly provided. UBH was given **13** of the 316 permits in 2013. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	$53,525.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	($ 5,352.50)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	($16,057.50)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	$ 32,115.00
Carry-over funds	$ 2,848.07
Total:	$ 34,963.07
Funds remaining for projects	$ 34,963.07
Verified Bank Statement Balance	$ 34,963.07

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Findings and Recommendations

All 2013 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We recommend the following:

- For next year's reconciliation please provide one bank statement for every calendar month.

We sincerely thank Utah Bowmen for Habitat for their time, their prompt response, and willingness to provide the information requested. If you have any questions, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan
Wildlife Board Members
Utah Bowmen for Habitat

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Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Utah Bowmen for Habitat (UBH)

From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Subject: 2013 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Utah Bowmen for Habitat,

It has been determined from the 2013 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of $ 34,963.07 . This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Utah Bowmen for Habitat concur on the above Project Fund balance.

_____ _____

UBH– Please Print Name UBH- Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

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Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2013 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for SFW was Byron R. Bateman. All information requested was promptly provided. SFW was given **124** of the 316 permits in 2013. At the time of sale division staff independently verified the auction price of **47** permits sold and compared that with the price being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	$ 1,083,725.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	($ 108,372.50)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	($ 325,117.50)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	$ 650,235.00
Carry-over funds	$ 23,257.71
Total:	$ 673,492.71
Interested donated to the DWR	179.46
Less 2013 Projects billed	($ 45,385.54)
Funds remaining for projects	$ 628,286.63
Verified Bank Statement Balance	$ 628,286.63

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Findings and Recommendations

All 2013 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We recommend the following:

- For next year's reconciliation please provide one bank statement for every calendar month.

We sincerely thank SFW for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan
Wildlife Board Members
Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife

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Governor
SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW)

From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Subject: 2013 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife,

It has been determined from the 2013 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of $ 628,286.63. This amount includes $179.46 in interest that was donated to the division to be used for future projects. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Sportsmen for Wildlife concur on the above Project Fund balance.

SFW– Please Print Name

SFW- Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

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Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2013 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Mule Deer Foundation (MDF)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the Mule Deer Foundation (MDF) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for MDF was Eric Tycksen. All information requested was provided. MDF was given **84** of the 316 permits in 2013. At the time of sale division staff independently verified auction prices of **35** permits sold and compared that with the prices being reported. The bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	$ 971,285.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	($ 97,128.50)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	($ 291,385.50)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	$ 582,771.00
Carry-over funds	$ 399,008.41
Total:	$ 981,779.41
Funds remaining for projects	$ 981,779.41
Verified Bank Statement Balance	$ 981,744.77
Adjustments	$ 34.64
Adjusted Bank Balance	$ 981,779.41

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Findings and Recommendations

All 2013 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account. There is one adjustment identified through the reconciliation as follows:

> Too much money was transferred to the MDF Administration Account. The Project account should be reimbursed $34.64 .

We recommend the following:

- For next year's reconciliation please provide one bank statement for every calendar month.

We sincerely thank MDF for their time, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan
Wildlife Board Members
Mule Deer Foundation

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Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Mule Deer Foundation (MDF)

From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Subject: 2013 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Mule Deer Foundation,

It has been determined from the 2013 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account should equal a total of $ 981,779.41 . This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Mule Deer Foundation concur on the above Project Fund balance.

_____ _____

MDF – Please Print Name MDF - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2013 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for RMEF was Shane Cronk. All information requested was promptly provided. RMEF was given **26** of the 316 permits in 2013. At the time of sale division staff independently verified the auction price of **4** permits sold and compared that with the price being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	$ 275,135.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	($ 27,513.50)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	($ 82,540.50)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	$ 165,081.00
Carry-over funds	$ 28,898.02
Total:	$ 193,979.02
Less 2013 Projects billed	($ 22,299.77)
Funds remaining for projects	$ 171,679.25
Verified Bank Statement Balance	$ 507,414.15
Adjustments	($ 335,734.90)
Adjusted Bank Balance	$ 171,679.25

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Findings and Recommendations

All 2013 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account. There is one adjustment identified through the reconciliation as follows:

Transfer out of the Project account not posted until 10/09/2013	($ 135,534.48)
Transfer out of the Project account not posted until 10/09/2013	($ 177,900.65)
Transfer out of the Project account not posted until 10/09/2013	($ 22,299.77)

We recommend the following:

- Payments must post to the Project account at the time checks and disbursements are issued.

We sincerely thank RMEF for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-4837.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan
Wildlife Board Members
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

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Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF)

From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Subject: 2013 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation,

It has been determined from the 2013 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of $ 171,679.25 . This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation concur on the above Project Fund balance.

_____ _____

RMEF – Please Print Name RMEF - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

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Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2013 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for NWTF was Brandon Houck. All information requested was promptly provided with the exception of Bank Statements. NWTF was given **21** of the 316 permits in 2013. At the time of sale division staff independently verified auction prices of **4** permits sold and compared them to the prices being reported. We reviewed the unofficial bank ledger provided. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	$ 104,535.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	($ 10,453.50)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	($ 31,360.50)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	$ 62,721.00
Carry-over	$ 334.27
Total:	$ 63,055.27
Funds remaining for projects	$ 63,055.27
Bank Statement Balance according to Ledger	$ 63,055.27

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Findings and Recommendations

All 2013 projects were properly approved. We will follow-up with a request for the bank statements where we will verify the permit account balance and that project funds were kept separate and secure.

We recommend the following:

- For next year's reconciliation please provide one bank statement for every calendar month.

We sincerely thank NWTF for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan
Wildlife Board Members
National Wild Turkey Federation

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor
SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY SHEEHAN
Division Director

November 7, 2013

To: National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF)

From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Subject: 2013 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear National Wild Turkey Federation,

It has been determined from the 2013 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account should equal a total of $ 63,055.27 . This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and National Wild Turkey Federation concur on the above Project Fund balance.

_____ _____

NWTF – Please Print Name NWTF - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

1594 West North Temple, Suite 2110, PO Box 146301, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301
telephone (801) 538-4700 • facsimile (801) 538-4709 • TTY (801) 538-7458 • *www.wildlife.utah.gov*

Conservation Permit Audit - Executive Summary

Organization	Total # of Permits	2013 Funds Available to the Organization (60%)	Carry over Funds from preivous years	Available Funds from 2011-2013	Adjustments	Required Fund Balance per Audit
FNAWS	23	$311,700.00	$274,163.79	$585,863.79	$47,415.03	$633,278.82
Mule Deer Foundation	84	$582,771.00	$399,008.41	$981,779.41	$0.00	$981,779.41
National Wild Turkey Federation	21	$62,721.00	$334.27	$63,055.27	$0.00	$63,055.27
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	26	$165,081.00	$28,898.02	$193,979.02	$22,299.77	$171,679.25
Safari Club International	21	$77,248.20	$2,100.00	$79,348.20	$0.00	$79,348.20
Sportsmen for Wildlife	124	$650,235.00	$23,257.71	$673,492.71	$45,385.54	$628,107.17
Ducks Unlimited	4	$7,458.00	$5,529.00	$12,987.00	$0.00	$12,987.00
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	13	$32,115.00	$2,848.07	$34,963.07	$0.00	$34,963.07
Total:	316	$1,889,329.20	$736,139.27	$2,625,468.47	$115,100.34	$2,605,198.19

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GREGORY S. BELL
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY J. SHEEHAN
Division Director

October 17, 2013

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Utah Wildlife Board Members

FROM: Bill Bates, Wildlife Section Chief

SUBJECT: 2013 Single-Year Conservation Permits

Last year, the Board allocated 299 multi-year permits amongst 6 conservation groups participating in the 3 year program. This year, the Division is recommending the distribution of single-year conservation permits for 2014 amongst 2 conservation groups. The table below detail how the permits will be distributed amongst the participating conservation groups. The division is recommending the distribution of 18 of 26 available permits at the December Board meeting.

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2014 Single Year Conservation Permits Request and DWR Recommend
10/16/2013

Agency	Species	Hunt Area	Condition	Permits	Bid	P.F.	Adjusted	DWR Recommend
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bear	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Premium	1	$3,000.00	116.65%	$3,499.50	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bear	Wasatch Mountains, West	Premium	1	$3,000.00	116.65%	$3,499.50	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Buck Deer	Book Cliffs	Archery	1	$4,800.00	116.65%	$5,599.20	X
Ducks Unlimited	Buck Deer	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Any Season	1	$3,500.00	98.18%	$3,436.30	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	***Buck Deer***	***West Desert, Vernon***	***Archery***	***1***	***$3,500.00***	***116.65%***	***$4,082.75***	***X***
Ducks Unlimited	***Buck Deer***	***West Desert, Vernon***	***Any Weapon***		***$3,500.00***	***98.18%***	***$3,436.30***	
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek South	Archery	1	$5,000.00	116.65%	$5,832.50	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Manti	Archery	1	$5,000.00	116.65%	$5,832.50	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bull Elk	La Sal, La Sal Mountins	Archery	1	$3,500.00	116.65%	$4,082.75	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bull Elk	Plateau, Fish Lake, Thousand Lake	Any Weapon	1	$6,000.00	116.65%	$6,999.00	X
Ducks Unlimited	Bull Elk	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Season Choice	1	$5,000.00	98.18%	$4,909.00	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bull Elk	Southwest Desert	Archery	1	$6,000.00	116.65%	$6,999.00	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	***Bull Elk***	***Wasatch***	***Archery***	***1***	***$6,000.00***	***116.65%***	***$6,999.00***	***X***
Ducks Unlimited	***Bull Elk***	***Wasatch***	***Any Weapon***		***$5,000.00***	***98.18%***	***$4,909.00***	
Ducks Unlimited	Bull Elk	West Desert, Deep Creek	Any Weapon	1	$5,000.00	98.18%	$4,909.00	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Cougar	Wasatch, Manti Management Area		1	$2,500.00	116.65%	$2,916.25	X
Ducks Unlimited	Pronghorn	Cache, North Rich		1	$1,500.00	98.18%	$1,472.70	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Pronghorn	Plateau	Archery	1	$1,500.00	116.65%	$1,749.75	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Turkey	Central Region		1	$500.00	116.65%	$583.25	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Turkey	Southern Region		1	$500.00	116.65%	$583.25	X

Utah's Conservation Permit Program

FY 2013 Annual Report

Program overview

Conservation permits are hunting permits auctioned annually at banquets, fundraisers and other events sponsored by various conservation groups. Since the program began in 1981, these permits have raised more than $32 million. The majority of that revenue—more than 90 percent—has gone toward projects that directly benefit the species for which the permit was issued. These projects include:

- Habitat enhancement and restoration
- Species transplants
- Radio telemetry studies and research projects
- Aerial surveys
- Education efforts

The Conservation Permit Program funds important wildlife and habitat projects with minimal impact to Utah hunters. In April 2012, the conservation and sportsmen groups that participate in the program allocated more than $1.53 million toward DWR-approved projects for the coming fiscal year (FY 2013).

Using revenue from conservation permits, the DWR is studying mule deer survival statewide.

How the program works

Although the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) distributes conservation permits, the Utah Wildlife Board has authority over the number and type of permits issued. Board members have adopted a detailed administrative rule that determines how many conservation permits are available and how they are distributed.

The conservation groups that partner with the DWR in this program can then auction the permits to members of the public who attend their annual banquets and fundraising events. Conservation permits are available for the following species: bear, bighorn sheep (desert and Rocky Mountain), bison, cougar, deer, elk, moose, pronghorn, Rocky Mountain goats and turkey.

After the permits are auctioned, the funds are allocated as follows:

- The group that sold the permits retains 10 percent of the proceeds to cover administrative costs. The group can keep that money for its own use, but groups sometimes donate it back to the DWR.
- The DWR receives 30 percent to benefit the species for which the permits were sold.
- The remaining 60 percent may be kept by the group that sold the permits. Those funds **must be spent on DWR-approved wildlife projects or activities.** Groups must follow the administrative rule to continue participating in the Conservation Permit Program.

For 2013, the Utah Wildlife Board approved 316 conservation permits, 211 of which were for limited-entry or once-in-a-lifetime big game hunting. (To put this in perspective, the DWR issues approximately 6,500 limited-entry hunting permits each year.) For detailed information about conservation permit numbers and revenue from 2001–2013, see the end of this report.

Program benefits

Because of the funding it generates, the Conservation Permit Program benefits all Utah hunters:

Conservation permits helped fund mountain goat transplants in 2013.

- The program's revenue has been critical in keeping permit fees low and ensuring that most permits go to Utah residents. The percentage of Utah permits available to nonresidents is among the lowest in the western states.
- All hunters have benefited from abundant wildlife numbers enhanced by the use of conservation permit funds, resulting in the opportunity to hunt mule deer, elk, black bear, bighorn sheep, bison, moose and mountain goats. The Conservation Permit Program has funded transplants of 624 bighorn sheep, 350 pronghorn and 80 bison to provide some of these additional opportunities. Already in FY 2014, 86 mountain goats have been moved using conservation permit funds. Plans are also in place to move 50 to 120 bighorn sheep.
- Utah leads the West in habitat work, restoring more than 1.2 million acres of wildlife habitat since 2005. The Conservation Permit Program contributed to 340 different habitat projects from 2006–2013.
- Utah has launched numerous studies and research projects to better understand changes in big game populations. The program is currently funding studies on highway mortality, bison, moose and deer survival, and the effects of predators on mule deer.

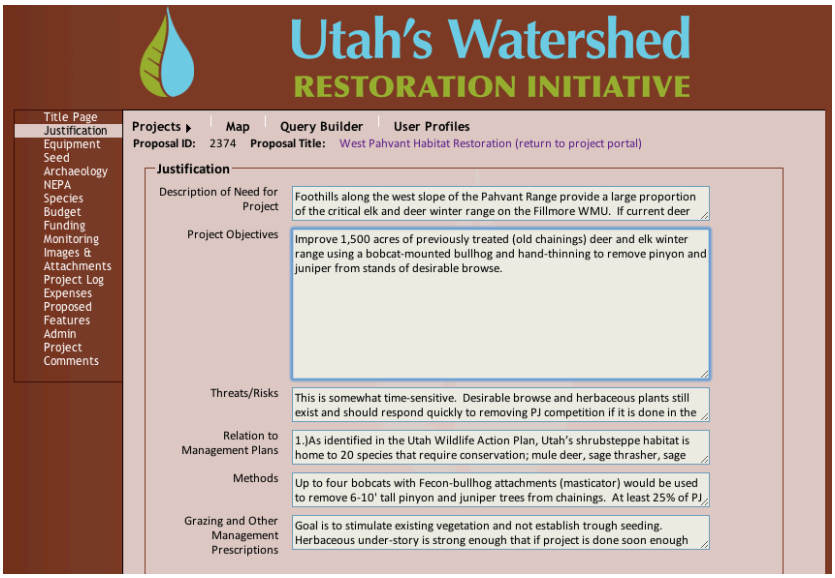
Revenue from the Conservation Permit Program provides funding for projects that could not otherwise be funded under the DWR's normal operating budget. Without the program, Utah's general deer and elk permit fees would likely increase by an additional $15 to $20, or a larger percentage of those permits would have to go to nonresidents, who pay higher permit fees.

Participating conservation and sportsmen groups

The Conservation Permit Program relies on partnering with conservation and sportsmen groups who raise funds by auctioning conservation permits at banquets held throughout Utah. In FY 2013, seven groups participated in the program, including Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, the Mule Deer Foundation, Utah Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the National Wild Turkey Federation, Ducks Unlimited and the Utah Bowmen's Association.

Detailed information about projects

After they auction conservation permits each year, members of the participating conservation groups meet with the DWR to decide how to spend the 60 percent of permit revenue that funds many wildlife projects. The groups' representatives discuss proposals and then indicate which habitat and wildlife projects they want to fund.



The online database contains in-depth information about the habitat-restoration projects funded by the Conservation Permit Program.

The DWR tracks detailed information about all of the habitat-restoration projects using the Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative's online database (located at *wildlife.utah.gov/watersheds*). The DWR and its partners launched the initiative in 2005. Since then, the initiative has generated approximately $130 million to restore more than 1.2 million acres of habitat. The Conservation Permit Program has provided more than $6.6 million of the $130 million. When possible, the DWR uses the conservation permit revenue to obtain matching funds and donations from other agencies and the federal government.

In April 2012, the conservation and sportsmen groups in the program allocated $1.53 million toward DWR-approved projects for the coming year (FY 2013). The screen shot above provides a quick look at one of the projects supported with conservation permit funds. On the project pages, you can click the items in the left column to learn more about necessary equipment, budget components, affected species, proposed features and other relevant project details.

The tables at the end of this document list all of the projects (habitat and research) that each of the groups contributed conservation permit funds to in FY 2013.

Program audits

The Utah Legislature audited the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and specifically reviewed the Conservation Permit Program (pages 27–30). The auditors released their final report in November 2011. They reached the following conclusion:

The sale of conservation permits promotes habitat improvement on public lands with no expense to the taxpayer, while negligibly reducing the public's opportunity to draw a permit for a limited-entry hunting area. We would encourage the division to continue to support this program.

The DWR annually audits the Conservation Permit Program and presents the results to the Utah Wildlife Board.

DWR personnel use a bullhog to improve wildlife habitat on the Henry Mountains.

2001–2013 Conservation Permit Revenue and Number of Permits by Organization

Updated: October 17, 2013

	Sportsmen for Fish & Wildlife Inc.		Mule Deer Foundation		FNAWS		Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation		Safari Club International		National Wild Turkey Federation		Ducks Unlimited		Utah Bowmen Association	
YEAR	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits
2001	$188,539.00	55	$158,400.00	29	$283,880.00	17	$168,665.00	43	$15,770.00	4	$101,398.00	68	$0.00	0	$0.00	0
2002	$429,038.00	97	$90,964.00	63	$252,950.00	8	$119,915.00	61	$28,700.00	8	$120,112.00	57	$0.00	0	$0.00	0
2003	$656,521.00	197	$51,853.00	43	$226,500.00	5	$270,205.00	54	$1,250.00	5	$51,835.00	26	$0.00	0	$0.00	0
2004	$848,790.00	135	$252,310.00	41	$291,320.00	9	$300,770.00	97	$0.00	0	$46,312.00	14	$0.00	0	$0.00	0
2005	$522,647.00	178	$622,040.00	82	$310,600.00	10	$175,975.00	27	$28,500.00	11	$19,901.00	26	$0.00	0	$0.00	0
2006	$710,875.00	109	$932,400.00	113	$258,650.00	14	$306,445.00	47	$710,875.00	22	$91,035.00	56	$0.00	0	$0.00	0
2007	$1,039,552.00	102	$913,220.00	151	$405,870.00	24	$336,775.00	30	$81,515.00	8	$82,670.00	37	$19,000.00	4	$6,000.00	2
2008	$1,079,055.00	102	$976,510.00	152	$382,650.00	24	$288,390.00	30	$83,760.00	8	$89,425.00	37	$14,625.00	4	$10,250.00	2
2009	$860,000.00	102	$822,802.00	152	$390,075.00	24	$250,675.00	30	$72,055.00	8	$66,365.00	37	$26,200.00	6	$6,750.00	2
2010	$948,400.00	116	$900,020.00	95	$502,090.00	43	$262,095.00	39	$148,850.00	7	$68,085.00	32	$18,300.00	6	$15,400.00	4
2011	$799,290.00	116	$754,695.00	97	$486,785.00	43	$235,000.00	39	$102,500.00	7	$65,470.00	32	$0.00	0	$28,700.00	7
2012	$876,600.00	104	$968,715.00	92	$494,400.00	41	$247,740.00	38	$93,500.00	6	$70,210.00	31	$9,215.00	3	$37,500.00	7
2013	$1,083,725.00	124	$971,285.00	84	$519,500.00	23	$275,135.00	26	$128,747.00	21	$104,535.00	21	$12,430.00	4	$53,525.00	13
	$10,043,032.00	**1537**	**$8,415,214.00**	**1194**	**$4,805,270.00**	**285**	**$3,237,785.00**	**561**	**$1,496,022.00**	**115**	**$977,353.00**	**474**	**$99,770.00**	**27**	**$158,125.00**	**37**

	California Deer Association		Boone & Crockett		Total	
YEAR	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits
2001	$0.00	0	$0.00	0	$916,652.00	216
2002	$14,010.00	5	$0.00	0	$1,055,689.00	299
2003	$27,565.00	10	$0.00	0	$1,285,729.00	340
2004	$3,270.00	8	$0.00	0	$1,742,772.00	304
2005	$0.00	0	$0.00	0	$1,679,663.00	334
2006	$10,500.00	20	$11,500.00	1	$3,032,280.00	382
2007	$0.00	0	$0.00	0	$2,884,602.00	358
2008	$0.00	0	$0.00	0	$2,924,665.00	359
2009	$0.00	0	$0.00	0	$2,494,922.00	361
2010	$0.00	0	$0.00	0	$2,863,240.00	342
2011	$0.00	0	$0.00	0	$2,472,440.00	341
	$55,345.00	**43**	**$11,500.00**	**1**	$2,797,880.00	322
					$3,148,882.00	316
					$29,299,416.00	**4274**

Conservation Permit Funds Allocated to FY 2013 Projects

Project #	Title	Amount	Region	Group
2207	Moab Guzzler Restoration/Installation	$ 8,000.00	SER	FNAWS
2426	Kaiparowitz Bighorn Guzzlers Yr1	$ 42,000.00	SR	FNAWS
2341	Guidelines for Effective Placement and Use of Wildlife Water Developments	$ 22,708.65	SLO	FNAWS
	North San Rafael Bighorn Sheep Study	$ 60,000.00	SLO	FNAWS
	Collars for Bighorn Sheep Capture and Relocation	$ 32,390.00	SLO	FNAWS
	Nevada Desert Bighorn Sheep Transplant to Utah	$ 31,600.00	SLO	FNAWS
2432	Limiting Factors for Utah Moose	$ 30,000.00	SLO	FNAWS
		$ 226,698.65		
2220	Onaqui East Bench Sagebrush Habitat Enhancement	$ 10,000.00	CR	MDF
2221	Clover Creek Bullhog Phase 4	$ 5,000.00	CR	MDF
2214	Dairy Fork Habitat Improvement Phase 2	$ 10,000.00	CR	MDF
1707	Manti Face Lop and Scatter	$ 5,000.00	CR	MDF
2352	Maple Canyon WMA Habitat Improvement	$ 2,500.00	CR	MDF
2242	12 Mile Habitat Improvement	$ 2,500.00	CR	MDF
2293	West Vernon Part 2: Black Crook	$ 3,000.00	CR	MDF
2223	Chriss Creek PJ Removal Phase 2	$ 5,000.00	CR	MDF
2208	Stockton Bullhog Phase 2	$ 9,000.00	CR	MDF
2235	Central Region WMA Browse Enhancement	$ 10,000.00	CR	MDF
2219	Little Jim Bullhog	$ 10,000.00	NER	MDF
2218	Moon Ridge Chaining	$ 20,000.00	NER	MDF
2203	Pine Springs bullhog phase II	$ 5,000.00	NER	MDF
2282	Burnt Mill Spring Ponderosa Pine Thinning Project	$ 2,500.00	NER	MDF
2298	Taylor Mountain Greater Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement	$ 2,500.00	NER	MDF
2274	Bottom Canyon Bullhog Phase II	$ 2,500.00	NER	MDF
2271	Book Cliffs Aspen Exclosures Phase II	$ 2,500.00	NER	MDF
2267	Moonshine Bullhog Phase II	$ 4,300.00	NER	MDF
2297	North Book Cliffs Wildlife Guzzler Project Phase II	$ 10,000.00	NER	MDF
2305	Tabby Mountain WMA Fencing Phase 3	$ 5,000.00	NER	MDF
2322	Millville WMA shrub planting. Phase 2	$ 6,079.53	NR	MDF
2224	North Grouse Creek Bullhog	$ 10,000.00	NR	MDF
2294	Hardware Plateau Shrub project	$ 8,210.00	NR	MDF
2275	Brushy Basin Habitat Improvement Project Phase II	$ 5,000.00	SER	MDF
2160	Gordon Creek Lower Fields	$ 10,000.00	SER	MDF
2258	Nash Wash WMA Phase II	$ 5,000.00	SER	MDF
2177	Beef Basin Phase I	$ 10,000.00	SER	MDF
2069	Hatch Bench Vegetation Enhancement Phase I	$ 10,000.00	SR	MDF
2311	South Canyon (Hillsdale)	$ 2,500.00	SR	MDF
2231	Edward Springs Prescribed Burn Seeding Phase 2	$ 2,500.00	SR	MDF
2227	South Beaver Vegetation Enhancement Year 7	$ 20,000.00	SR	MDF

2373	Panguitch West Bench Habitat Improvement	$	2,500.00	SR	MDF
2359	Pine Point Handthin	$	5,000.00	SR	MDF
2059	Bucket Hollow Lop and Scatter	$	5,000.00	SR	MDF
1998	Annual Habitat Restoration Project Maintenance	$	16,410.47	SR	MDF
2111	Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project	$	5,000.00	SR	MDF
2354	Petrified Hollow Bullhog	$	10,000.00	SR	MDF
2256	Grass Valley/Rocky Knoll Phase II	$	2,500.00	SR	MDF
2197	Whiskey Creek Lop n Scatter Project Phase I	$	2,500.00	SR	MDF
2383	Buckskin Lop and Scatter FY13	$	20,000.00	SR	MDF
2239	Antimony PJ reduction and riparian improvement (Phase V)	$	5,000.00	SR	MDF
2374	West Pahvant Habitat Restoration	$	5,000.00	SR	MDF
2303	Duncan Creek/Hwy 56 Interface - Phase 1	$	10,000.00	SR	MDF
2344	US 89 Paunsaugunt Wildlife/Highway Crossings Phase 1	$	50,000.00	SR	MDF
2358	Pahvant Mountain Water Developments	$	2,500.00	SR	MDF
2411	Wildlife Crossings FY13	$	10,000.00	SLO	MDF
2430	Bear Population Estimation Improvement	$	3,000.00	SLO	MDF
2432	Limiting Factors for Utah Moose	$	20,000.00	SLO	MDF
2367	Aspen/Elk Interactions	$	5,000.00	SLO	MDF
		$	395,000.00		
2242	12 Mile Habitat Improvement	$	2,500.00	CR	NWTF
2203	Pine Springs bullhog phase II	$	2,500.00	NER	NWTF
2282	Burnt Mill Spring Ponderosa Pine Thinning Project	$	2,500.00	NER	NWTF
2248	Ouray NWR Russian Olive Removal	$	2,500.00	NER	NWTF
2250	Green River Cottonwood Restoration III	$	1,000.00	NER	NWTF
2275	Brushy Basin Habitat Improvement Project Phase II	$	2,500.00	SER	NWTF
2258	Nash Wash WMA Phase II	$	1,500.00	SER	NWTF
2265	Johnson Creek Hazardous Fuel	$	15,000.00	SER	NWTF
2310	Castle Creek Fuels Reduction	$	5,000.00	SER	NWTF
2231	Edward Springs Prescribed Burn Seeding Phase 2	$	2,500.00	SR	NWTF
2111	Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project	$	20,000.00	SR	NWTF
2197	Whiskey Creek Lop n Scatter Project Phase I	$	2,500.00	SR	NWTF
2239	Antimony PJ reduction and riparian improvement (Phase V)	$	5,000.00	SR	NWTF
2374	West Pahvant Habitat Restoration	$	2,500.00	SR	NWTF
2303	Duncan Creek/Hwy 56 Interface - Phase 1	$	5,000.00	SR	NWTF
2358	Pahvant Mountain Water Developments	$	2,500.00	SR	NWTF
2410	FY13 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	$	5,000.00	SLO	NWTF
		$	80,000.00		
2214	Dairy Fork Habitat Improvement Phase 2	$	5,000.00	CR	RMEF
1707	Manti Face Lop and Scatter	$	3,000.00	CR	RMEF
2352	Maple Canyon WMA Habitat Improvement	$	5,000.00	CR	RMEF
2208	Stockton Bullhog Phase 2	$	5,000.00	CR	RMEF

2219	Little Jim Bullhog	$	5,000.00	NER	RMEF
2218	Moon Ridge Chaining	$	10,000.00	NER	RMEF
2203	Pine Springs bullhog phase II	$	5,000.00	NER	RMEF
2282	Burnt Mill Spring Ponderosa Pine Thinning Project	$	5,000.00	NER	RMEF
2301	Calder Reservoir Terrestrial Habitat Improvement Project	$	3,500.00	NER	RMEF
2274	Bottom Canyon Bullhog Phase II	$	3,900.00	NER	RMEF
2271	Book Cliffs Aspen Exclosures Phase II	$	5,000.00	NER	RMEF
2267	Moonshine Bullhog Phase II	$	4,300.00	NER	RMEF
2297	North Book Cliffs Wildlife Guzzler Project Phase II	$	10,000.00	NER	RMEF
2161	Bitter Creek Phase II	$	5,000.00	SER	RMEF
2275	Brushy Basin Habitat Improvement Project Phase II	$	5,000.00	SER	RMEF
2160	Gordon Creek Lower Fields	$	2,500.00	SER	RMEF
2177	Beef Basin Phase I	$	5,000.00	SER	RMEF
2311	South Canyon (Hillsdale)	$	5,000.00	SR	RMEF
2231	Edward Springs Prescribed Burn Seeding Phase 2	$	5,000.00	SR	RMEF
2227	South Beaver Vegetation Enhancement Year 7	$	5,000.00	SR	RMEF
2359	Pine Point Handthin	$	5,000.00	SR	RMEF
2059	Bucket Hollow Lop and Scatter	$	5,000.00	SR	RMEF
1998	Annual Habitat Restoration Project Maintenance	$	5,000.00	SR	RMEF
2111	Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project	$	5,000.00	SR	RMEF
2374	West Pahvant Habitat Restoration	$	5,000.00	SR	RMEF
2370	Kingston/Black Canyon WMA Seeding Phase II	$	4,000.00	SR	RMEF
2384	Pherson Cove Guzzler Reconstruction	$	5,000.00	SR	RMEF
2358	Pahvant Mountain Water Developments	$	5,000.00	SR	RMEF
2411	Wildlife Crossings FY13	$	10,000.00	SLO	RMEF
2341	Guidelines for Effective Placement and Use of Wildlife Water Developments	$	5,000.00	SLO	RMEF
2432	Limiting Factors for Utah Moose	$	4,800.00	SLO	RMEF
2367	Aspen/Elk Interactions	$	10,000.00	SLO	RMEF
		$	171,000.00		

1707	Manti Face Lop and Scatter	$	2,500.00	CR	SCI
2352	Maple Canyon WMA Habitat Improvement	$	1,000.00	CR	SCI
2293	West Vernon Part 2: Black Crook	$	1,000.00	CR	SCI
2292	East Vernon Habitat Restoration	$	1,000.00	CR	SCI
2235	Central Region WMA Browse Enhancement	$	1,000.00	CR	SCI
2218	Moon Ridge Chaining	$	2,000.00	NER	SCI
2302	Horse Ridge Lop and Scatter Phase 3	$	1,000.00	NER	SCI
2305	Tabby Mountain WMA Fencing Phase 3	$	1,000.00	NER	SCI
2224	North Grouse Creek Bullhog	$	2,000.00	NR	SCI
2294	Hardware Plateau Shrub project	$	2,000.00	NR	SCI
2275	Brushy Basin Habitat Improvement Project Phase II	$	1,000.00	SER	SCI
2160	Gordon Creek Lower Fields	$	1,000.00	SER	SCI
2177	Beef Basin Phase I	$	2,000.00	SER	SCI

2207	Moab Guzzler Restoration/Installation	$	4,000.00	SER	SCI
2311	South Canyon (Hillsdale)	$	1,000.00	SR	SCI
2197	Whiskey Creek Lop n Scatter Project Phase I	$	1,000.00	SR	SCI
2426	Kaiparowitz Bighorn Guzzlers Yr1	$	5,000.00	SR	SCI
2411	Wildlife Crossings FY13	$	2,000.00	SLO	SCI
2341	Guidelines for Effective Placement and Use of Wildlife Water Developments:	$	10,000.00	SLO	SCI
2410	FY13 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	$	2,000.00	SLO	SCI
2430	Bear Population Estimation Improvement	$	5,000.00	SLO	SCI
2432	Limiting Factors for Utah Moose	$	10,000.00	SLO	SCI
2367	Aspen/Elk Interactions	$	2,000.00	SLO	SCI
		$	60,500.00		
2220	Onaqui East Bench Sagebrush Habitat Enhancement	$	2,500.00	CR	SFW
2221	Clover Creek Bullhog Phase 4	$	2,500.00	CR	SFW
2214	Dairy Fork Habitat Improvement Phase 2	$	5,000.00	CR	SFW
1707	Manti Face Lop and Scatter	$	2,500.00	CR	SFW
2352	Maple Canyon WMA Habitat Improvement	$	2,500.00	CR	SFW
2242	12 Mile Habitat Improvement	$	2,500.00	CR	SFW
2293	West Vernon Part 2: Black Crook	$	1,500.00	CR	SFW
2292	East Vernon Habitat Restoration	$	1,500.00	CR	SFW
2223	Chriss Creek PJ Removal Phase 2	$	5,000.00	CR	SFW
2208	Stockton Bullhog Phase 2	$	5,000.00	CR	SFW
2235	Central Region WMA Browse Enhancement	$	5,000.00	CR	SFW
2219	Little Jim Bullhog	$	25,000.00	NER	SFW
2218	Moon Ridge Chaining	$	25,000.00	NER	SFW
2203	Pine Springs bullhog phase II	$	20,000.00	NER	SFW
2282	Burnt Mill Spring Ponderosa Pine Thinning Project	$	2,500.00	NER	SFW
2301	Calder Reservoir Terrestrial Habitat Improvement Project	$	3,500.00	NER	SFW
2302	Horse Ridge Lop and Scatter Phase 3	$	2,500.00	NER	SFW
2298	Taylor Mountain Greater Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement	$	2,500.00	NER	SFW
2274	Bottom Canyon Bullhog Phase II	$	6,400.00	NER	SFW
2271	Book Cliffs Aspen Exclosures Phase II	$	5,000.00	NER	SFW
2267	Moonshine Bullhog Phase II	$	4,300.00	NER	SFW
2297	North Book Cliffs Wildlife Guzzler Project Phase II	$	10,000.00	NER	SFW
2322	Millville WMA shrub planting. Phase 2	$	6,000.00	NR	SFW
2224	North Grouse Creek Bullhog	$	5,000.00	NR	SFW
2294	Hardware Plateau Shrub project	$	8,210.00	NR	SFW
2161	Bitter Creek Phase II	$	2,500.00	SER	SFW
2275	Brushy Basin Habitat Improvement Project Phase II	$	5,000.00	SER	SFW
2160	Gordon Creek Lower Fields	$	10,000.00	SER	SFW
2258	Nash Wash WMA Phase II	$	5,000.00	SER	SFW
2177	Beef Basin Phase I	$	10,000.00	SER	SFW
2069	Hatch Bench Vegetation Enhancement Phase I	$	10,000.00	SR	SFW

2311	South Canyon (Hillsdale)	$	2,000.00	SR	SFW
2231	Edward Springs Prescribed Burn Seeding Phase 2	$	2,500.00	SR	SFW
2227	South Beaver Vegetation Enhancement Year 7	$	50,000.00	SR	SFW
2373	Panguitch West Bench Habitat Improvement	$	2,500.00	SR	SFW
2359	Pine Point Handthin	$	2,500.00	SR	SFW
2059	Bucket Hollow Lop and Scatter	$	10,000.00	SR	SFW
2111	Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project	$	5,000.00	SR	SFW
2354	Petrified Hollow Bullhog	$	10,000.00	SR	SFW
2256	Grass Valley/Rocky Knoll Phase II	$	2,500.00	SR	SFW
2197	Whiskey Creek Lop n Scatter Project Phase I	$	5,000.00	SR	SFW
2383	Buckskin Lop and Scatter FY13	$	10,000.00	SR	SFW
2239	Antimony PJ reduction and riparian improvement (Phase V)	$	5,000.00	SR	SFW
2374	West Pahvant Habitat Restoration	$	5,000.00	SR	SFW
1958	Kanosh Bench/Eight Mile Point Project	$	5,000.00	SR	SFW
2344	US 89 Paunsaugunt Wildlife/Highway Crossings Phase 1	$	50,000.00	SR	SFW
2358	Pahvant Mountain Water Developments	$	5,000.00	SR	SFW
2411	Wildlife Crossings FY13	$	5,000.00	SLO	SFW
2341	Guidelines for Effective Placement and Use of Wildlife Water Developments	$	1,000.00	SLO	SFW
2410	FY13 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	$	5,000.00	SLO	SFW
2430	Bear Population Estimation Improvement	$	10,000.00	SLO	SFW
2432	Limiting Factors for Utah Moose	$	40,000.00	SLO	SFW
	Monroe Deer Fawn Survival Study	$	100,000.00	SLO	SFW
	Strawberry Valley Sage Grouse Project	$	25,000.00	SLO	SFW
	Henry Mountains Water Well	$	4,500.00	SER	SFW
2367	Aspen/Elk Interactions	$	10,000.00	SLO	SFW
		$	576,410.00		

2223	Chriss Creek PJ Removal Phase 2	$	2,500.00	CR	UBH
2235	Central Region WMA Browse Enhancement	$	2,500.00	CR	UBH
2302	Horse Ridge Lop and Scatter Phase 3	$	2,500.00	NER	UBH
2271	Book Cliffs Aspen Exclosures Phase II	$	2,500.00	NER	UBH
2177	Beef Basin Phase I	$	5,000.00	SER	UBH
2111	Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project	$	2,500.00	SR	UBH
2374	West Pahvant Habitat Restoration	$	2,500.00	SR	UBH
2411	Wildlife Crossings FY13	$	2,000.00	SLO	UBH
2430	Bear Population Estimation Improvement	$	2,000.00	SLO	UBH
2367	Aspen/Elk Interactions	$	2,000.00	SLO	UBH
		$	26,000.00		

GRAND TOTAL: $ 1,535,608.65

Draft 2014 RAC & BOARD MEETING TIME LINE (Revised 9/23/2013)

RAC Meeting Month	Agenda Item	Rule 5 Year Lapse Date	Mngrs Mtg (TBA by program mngr.)	Regional Recs Due to Program Coordinator (Mondays) - 2 wks to Brown Bag -	Review Program Recs with Director- no later than	Brown Bag (Tuesdays)	Final Draft Due to Rules Coord. for mailing	Powerpoints Due to Rules Coordinator	RAC Meetings	Board Meeting Year 2013 (Thursdays)	Final Review of Proc. with PRC (Mondays)	Content Online	Guidebook to Printer (Thursdays)	Guidebook Distribution	Application Period	Comments
December	Falconry Recommendations - 2014			10/28	11/8	11/12	11/14	11/30	12/3-12	01/09/2014						RAC order is CR, NR, then SR, SER, NER
December	Bear Recommendations & Guidebook (not on the agenda until 2015)			10/28	11/8	11/12	11/14	11/30	12/3-12	01/09/2014				01/30/2012	Feb.	3-yr guidebook started 2012
January	No meetings															
February	No meetings															
March	No meetings															
April	Big Game Permit Numbers for 2014 season			03/03	03/14	03/18	03/20	04/03	04/8-16	05/01						
April	Big Game Field Regulations Guidebook- 2014			03/03	03/14	03/18	03/20	04/03	04/8-16	05/01						
April	CWMU Rule Amendments & 5yr			03/03	03/14	03/18	03/20	04/03	04/8-16	05/01						
May	Fishing Informational - Online Survey			03/31	04/11	04/15	04/17	05/01	05/6-15	06/05				06/30	July	
May	Upland Game, Turkey & Crane Recommendations & Guidebook -2014/2015			03/31	04/11	04/15	04/17	05/01	05/6-15	06/05						3-yr guidebook started 2011
May	Wildlife Action Plan - Jimi Gragg			03/31	04/11	04/15	04/17	05/01	05/6-15	06/05						NRO RAC on Thursday
May	Waterfowl Recommendations & Guidebook - 2014/2015			03/31	04/11	04/15	04/17	05/01	05/6-15	06/05						3-yr guidebook started 2011
May	Turkey Management Plan			03/31	04/11	04/15	04/17	05/01	05/6-15	06/05						
May	Turkey Transplant List Proposal			03/31	04/11	04/15	04/17	05/01	05/6-15	06/05						
May	Turkey - Action Log Items			03/31	04/11	04/15	04/17	05/01	05/6-15	06/05						
June	No meetings															
July	Furbearer Recommendations (contingent) Bobcat Harvest Recommendations - 2014/2015			06/30	07/11	07/15	07/17	07/24	07/29-08/06	08/28	Tri-state Aug. 18-20, 2014			09/01		3-yr guidebook started 2010
July	Cougar Recommendations -2014/2015			06/30	07/11	07/15	07/17	07/24	07/29-08/06	08/28				09/01	Oct.	3-yr guidebook started 2010
July	Proposed Fee Schedule			06/30	07/11	07/15	07/17	07/24	07/29-08/06	08/28						
July	Convention Permits Audit (Board Only)			06/30	07/11	07/15	07/17	07/24	07/29-08/06	08/28						
July	Convention Permits Allocation (Board Only)			06/30	07/11	07/15	07/17	07/24	07/29-08/06	08/28						
August	No meetings															
September	Fishing Recommendations & Guidebook - 2015			08/11	08/22	08/26	08/28	09/04	09/9-17	11/06				12/09		
September	Conservation Permit Audit - 1yr permits (Board Only)			08/11	08/22	08/26	08/28	09/04	09/9-17	11/06						
September	Conservation Permit Allocation - 1yr Permits (Board Only)			08/11	08/22	08/26	08/28	09/04	09/9-17	11/06						
September	Conservation Permit Allocation - 3yr Permits (Board Only) (happens in 2015)			08/11	08/22	08/26	08/28	09/04	09/9-17	11/06						
September	Conservation Permit Annual Report (Board Only)			08/11	08/22	08/26	08/28	09/04	09/9-17	11/06						
September	Board Approves 2015 Meeting Dates (Board Only)			08/11	08/22	08/26	08/28	09/04	09/9-17	11/06						
October	No meetings															
November	Hunting Guidebook and Rules - 2015			10/06	10/17	10/21	10/23	10/30	11/5-13	12/4						
November	Big Game 2015 Hunt Tables and Dates			10/06	10/17	10/21	10/23	10/30	11/5-13	12/4						
November	CWMU Management Plans			10/06	10/17	10/21	10/23	10/30	11/5-13	12/4						RAC order is NR, CR then SR, SER, NER
November	CWMU and Landowner Permit Recommendations			10/06	10/17	10/21	10/23	10/30	11/5-13	12/4						
December	Falconry Recommendations			10/27	11/7	11/11	11/13	11/27	12/2-11	01/08/2015						RAC order is CR, NR, then SR, SER, NER
December	Bear Recommendations & Guidebook (not on the agenda until 2015)			10/27	11/7	11/11	11/13	11/27	12/2-11	01/08/2015				01/30/2014	Feb.	3-yr guidebook started 2012

Revised 09/30/2013

2014 WILDLIFE BOARD/RAC SCHEDULE

All information is subject to change and all agendas are tentative. Please check the DWR website often at www.wildlife.utah.gov for complete agendas and meeting locations posted prior to meetings. **Unless otherwise noted, all Wildlife Board meetings are on Thursdays in the DNR Salt Lake office auditorium, 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City.** Board meetings begin at 9 a.m, unless otherwise indicated. Additional meetings may be scheduled if necessary. RACs meet at the locations and times listed below unless otherwise noted. Scheduling changes will be posted on the DWR website. Please check it often.

SR RAC – 7 PM
Beaver High School
195 E. Center St., Beaver

NER RAC – 6:30 PM
Wildlife Resources NER Office
318 North Vernal Ave, Vernal

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

NR RAC – 6 PM
Brigham City Community Center
24 N. 300 W., Brigham City

CR RAC – 6:30 PM
Springville Public Library Meeting Room
45 S. Main Street, Springville

Schedule & Tentative Agendas

January –

Board Meeting Thursday, January 9, 2014:

- Bear Proclamation & Rule (contingent)
- Falconry Rule (contingent)

No RAC meetings scheduled.

February – No Board or RAC meetings scheduled.

March – No Board or RAC meetings scheduled.

April –

RAC meetings:

- Big Game Permit numbers.
- Big Game Recommendations and Guidebook - 2014
- Antlerless Recommendations and Guidebook – 2014
- Antlerless Permit numbers
- CWMU Rule Amendments and 5 yr review

8 - SR – 5:00 pm
9 – SER – 6:30 pm
10 – NER – 6:30 pm
15 – CR
16 – NR –

No Board meeting scheduled.

May –

Board meeting May 1

- Big Game Permit numbers.
- Big Game Recommendations and Guidebook - 2014
- Antlerless Recommendations and Guidebook – 2014
- Antlerless Permit numbers
- CWMU Rule Amendments and 5 yr review

RAC meetings:

- 2015 Fishing informational – online survey
- Upland Game & Wild Turkey Guidebook (contingent)
- Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule – 2014/2015
- Turkey Management Plan
- Turkey Transplant List Proposal
- Turkey – Action Log Items

6 – SR
7 – SER
8 – NER
13 – CR
15 – NR – THURSDAY

June –

Board meeting June 5

- 2015 Fishing informational – online survey
- Upland Game & Wild Turkey Guidebook (contingent)
- Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule – 2014/2015
- Turkey Management Plan
- Turkey Transplant List Proposal
- Turkey – Action Log Items

No RAC meetings scheduled.

July –

No Board meeting scheduled.

RAC meetings:

- Cougar Guidebook & Rule
- Cougar Management Plan
- Furbearer Guidebook & Rule
- Fee Proposals

July 29 – SR
July 30 – SER
July 31 – NER
Aug 05 – CR
Aug 06 – NR

August

Board meeting August 28

- Cougar Guidebook & Rule
- Cougar Management Plan

- Furbearer Guidebook & Rule
- Fee Proposals
- Convention Permit Audit
- Convention Permit Allocation

No RAC meetings scheduled.

September No Board meeting scheduled.

RAC meetings:

- Fishing Recommendations and Guidebook –2015

9 – SR
10 – SER
11 – NER
16 – CR
17 – NR

October - No Board or RAC meetings

November – **Board meeting November 6**

- Fishing Recommendations and Guidebook –2015
- 2015 meeting dates approval
- Conservation permit Allocation 1 yr
- Conservation permit Allocation 3 yr (scheduled for 2015)
- Conservation permit annual report

RAC meetings:

- Big Game 2015 Hunt Tables and Dates
- Hunting Recommendations and Guidebook - 2015
- CWMU Recommendations

5 – NR - WEDNESDAY – MOVED BECAUSE OF ELECTION DAY
6 – CR – THURSDAY
11 – SR
12 – SER
13 – NER

December – **Board meeting December 4:**

- Big Game 2015 Hunt Tables and Dates
- Hunting Recommendations and Guidebook – 2015
- CWMU Recommendations

RAC meetings:

- Bear Guidebook & Rule (contingent)
- Falconry Guidebook & Rule (contingent)

2 – CR DIFFERENT RAC ROTATION TO ACCOMMODATE BOARD MTG.
3 – NR

9 – SRO
10 –SERO
11 –NERO

January - **Board Meeting January 8, 2015:**

- Bear Guidebook & Rule (contingent)
- Falconry Guidebook & Rule (contingent).