

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 25, 2022 5:27 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

You are taking away the ability to successfully harvest a animal. I really disagree with everything you are taking away. You should be able to use any weapon you want during the selected times. To say we can only us guns with no scopes or long bows and other such things is ridiculous. If this passes it will be one of those things that ruins Utah even more.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Are you kidding me????????????????? Do we want an elk heard at all???? Two 7 day hunts back to back. Let's say I obtain a "early season" any bull elk tag. On Friday I'm still hunting but everyone else is showing up to set up camp and start there hunt the next day. Do you understand what kind of cluster F this is going to cause??? People that have hunted elk in this state for years are already irritated with the amount of people they see in the woods! The last 5 years has been soooooooooo freaking frustrating! And now your going to sell even more elk tags that ever???? Tell me again this isn't about the money?? Let me hear again those lies coming out of your mouth! What part of the definition of conversation don't you understand???? If you kill them all off there won't be any for the future! The south slope is struggling after years and years of " antlerless control tag's" I've personally watched as heard sizes went from 20-30 to less than 5! You idiots keep pandering to the wine ██████ that go to the rack meeting saying they need more "opportunity" yet you forget about those who have been your bread and butter for 30+ years! I can't tell you how disappointed I am with this decision! Yours truly "the Utah hunter that used to give a ██████!"

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** This is a horrible recommendation. We have these technologies to take game safe and ethically. This notion that everyone needs to go back in time and be primitive is stupid. You guys should manage your animal herds better by not giving out so many doe and cow tags. Maybe start with giving your residents more opportunity instead of taking opportunity away. Taking away scopes and rangefinders is going to result in more injured animals from hunters. Horrible takes from you people who I believe have no interest in or any knowledge of how to help our wildlife and improve the hunting in utah.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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Form Name:  
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November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 25, 2022 6:21 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

All these proposed changes will not create more opportunities. More people will only want to hunt during any legal weapon season. You can make some changes, but these are too drastic. For example, if you want to change muzzleloader definition, then just make it open sights like most other states. These changes are way to dramatic!!

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 25, 2022 6:31 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Do your biologists even care about animals? Taking optics away from rifles is only going to result in wounding more animals. Also taking away cams pulleys and sights from bows will only hurt more animals as well. Penetration matters and only shooting recurves will cause wounded animals too. I hope this starts a ████ storm for you all because you are hypocrites!!

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I like that we are trying to improve opportunity but it seems like the proposed changes, particularly the increased tags for any bull hunt, will be detrimental to elk numbers and cause extra stress on elk herds instead of allowing them to continue to grow for future opportunity.

I politely ask you not to increase the number of tags so significantly. I would like to see the elk herds expand and increase.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

This seems like an overstepping of limits on what the DWR should dictate. Disallowing compound bows is detrimental for several reasons. It will significantly decrease archery opportunities for hunters since the vast majority of us own compound bows. Second, no sights and dated technology will lead to hunters taking less humane and calculated shots. More animals will likely be injured since accurate ranges and shot placements will suffer. Furthermore, it will devalue the investments many archery hunters have made on their equipment.

Technology is a good thing in moderation. Let us use it. It makes hunting better for everyone.

Please DO NOT restrict compound bows, and please don't restrict sight and scopes on bows or muzzleloaders as long as they don't cause harm to the animals.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Very pleased that the DNR has put a great deal of effort into addressing the right issues that can improve the future of elk hunting in Utah. The only area I see where we are lacking is the dates of the archery elk season (general and limited entry). Right now, every state in the west attempts to time the archery elk season to coincide with the rut (NV is early because their elk rut earlier than most). I now exclusively pay 10x the cost to hunt elk anywhere but Utah because the enjoyment of the most difficult method for hunting elk is worth it when you're experiencing the rut. Every elk expert running a podcast suggests that non-residents apply in Utah as a last resort because of the timing of our season. The challenges of archery elk hunting are enough to keep the herds from being over harvested during the rut. While the 4 day extension for archers is nice, it still makes no sense under ANY circumstances to put rifle seasons or any other season in the month of September. Compare the #'s of non-residents applying for archery elk tags in other states to ours. As mentioned in the presentation, we offer more rifle elk tags in Sept than any other state! WHY?!?!? EVERY hunter, biologist, & game warden I talk to from other states about the Utah archery elk season simply shakes their head in disgust when they hear about the dates of the Utah archery elk season. When are we going to realize that there is a reason they give that time to archers? If we're serious about creating more enjoyable opportunities for a growing population, then this is a huge piece that we're missing. If we keep voting on this, it will continue to be turned down based on the #'s of non-archers alone. Like every other state in the west, I propose that Utah DNR give September to archery elk season, even if that means changing the start date. Until that time, myself and thousands of other hunters will pay whatever is required to other states who acknowledge that the most challenging method for pursuing elk should have the most optimal time to hunt. I've heard that in some states, non-resident \$ represents up to 60% of the revenue for their game divisions from tag sales. Local communities also benefit from the \$ spent in their areas during the archery elk season. Why are we still hunting with rifles in September? Thank you in advance and I look forward to hearing you reply.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

The recommended plan that I strongly disagree with is making the West Desert Deep Creek limited entry unit into a general season area. I've been applying for this unit for many years because I like the area and understand it low density which is appealing. The reservation on the area is not a refuge for elk like the presentation leads the listeners to believe. The reason this area has struggled is due to poor management on the reservation side. If this unit becomes general season it will basically annihilate what is left of the elk out there. Utah needs to stop trying to manage for opportunities and trying to lower success rates and actually issue tags on how many animals they need removed from the population.



**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I don't like the shorten limited entry hunts. I have 22 points and don't mind if it takes me a few more years to draw. I have been putting in for a long time to get the hunt I want. Now you want to shorten it by nearly half! Limited entry elk tags (certain areas) are a once and a lifetime hunt. Why shorten it to make it harder for ones who have been putting in for years!!! I have been donating the last few years. If this passes there will be NO MORE donations from me or my family. I think giving out less tags, and making it so that all elk tags are a draw only is a better option. If we can't hunt some years to help the herds so be it. GIVE LESS TAGS if you need less animals killed.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

I don't like the shorten limited entry hunts. I have 22 points and don't mind if it takes me a few more years to draw. I have been putting in for a long time to get the hunt I want. Now you want to shorten it by nearly half! Limited entry elk tags (certain areas) are a once and a lifetime hunt. Why shorten it to make it harder for ones who have been putting in for years!!! I have been donating the last few years. If this passes there will be NO MORE donations from me or my family. I think giving out less tags, and making it so that all elk tags are a draw only is a better option. If we can't hunt some years to help the herds so be it. GIVE LESS TAGS if you need less animals killed

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I'm not okay with the restrictions on rifles and archery equipment. Success rate is already against us in most areas. GIVE LESS TAGS if you need less animals killed. I have 22 points for limited entry elk. Making it harder for us to be Successful when we have been waiting our turn is unacceptable.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I'd recommend moving the LE early archery elk hunt back at least 7 days (instead of 4). Then the LE early any legal weapon hunt can follow. This will still provide a peak rut experience for rifle hunters, while providing archery hunters with the same experience.

There will need to be a careful balance to retain the quality of the LE hunts as the number of tags increase and the bull elk age drops.

Would it be worth keeping a couple LE units at the current elk age goal to maintain a higher level of quality?

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

I'd recommend moving the LE early archery elk hunt back at least 7 days (instead of 4). Then the LE early any legal weapon hunt can follow. This will still provide a peak rut experience for rifle hunters, while providing archery hunters with the same experience.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 26, 2022 12:48 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** Why take away compound bows? You guys want most of the tags filled that u hand out so why make it harder to fill a tag? It makes no sense. Why take away scopes on any legal weapon? Open sights will lead to more big game animals being injured and/or not recovered if it ends up dying.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I generally feel this presentations proposes several good ideas, and also appreciate some of the realizations the department has made. I feel moving the archery dates four days forward as it allows for a more typical rut-oriented archery hunt, and increases the chance hunters will be harvesting meat when temps should have cooled down and lowers their risk of losing meat to high temps. I also am very intrigued by the late season limited entry archery hunts. This seems like a great compromise to get more archery hunters in the field who are willing to sacrifice the thrill of hunting during the rut. My main concerns would be if the season is long enough to give the hunter a realistic chance to harvest an elk, and also would like to know more about impact on hunting elk who have been heavily hunted that late into the season. I am coming from Montana where they have allowed depredation and damage hunting of cow late into January, and I am ethically opposed to such late hunts as I feel the elk need a break after already very long rifle and archery seasons.

Overall, I feel most hunters are realizing opportunities need to be maximized in a very populous state, and I feel this plan offers an adequate approach that doesn't take away from one particular group of hunter.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I mostly agree with the proposed changes, however, I would suggest an addition of a bull (spike or any bull depending on location) landowner tag that is valid for both the early and late season hunts. That way private landowners (such as myself) and their guests are not limited on their land by the two season strategy. The proposal is to reduce public hunting pressure which does not exist on private land. Not allowing this extended private land hunt could lead to more elk taking refuge on private land and even less public opportunities.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I don't see the need to shorten the LE Elk hunts to 5 days. After waiting 25 years to draw, if/when I do it seems unfair to only have 5 days to hunt. General season tagholders get more time than that? What is the reasoning behind this? Other than hoping that someone who waited essentially a lifetime to draw a tag is unsuccessful in harvesting due to a shortened timeframe which in theory might cycle a few more hunters through the system I'm not sure what the gain would be. And changing the rules this deep into waiting to draw does not sit well with me or many other people I hunt with. Particularly this change.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

While I agree with several of the proposed changes, there are several points I strongly disagree with. First, I think the priority should be maintaining HEALTHY elk populations, despite how many people want to hunt and how long it takes to draw a limited entry permit. This is the single most important factor that should be considered.

Second, the idea of a 'family hunt' is complete BS. Just because all members of a family can't hunt doesn't ruin the hunt. I bring my wife, daughter, dad on my hunts and we have a great time despite them not having a tag. People can still go camping, hike around, and enjoy time in the outdoors with their families. People are just being selfish to want a tag for every member of their family. Along these lines if people are complaining about reducing crowding, how about limiting 1 tag per family? I don't like seeing a family of 7 people hunting on horses in areas that I hunt on foot (yes, I saw this happen this year). People don't see the hypocrisy in their actions.

Finally, I completely disagree with the idea of an unlimited youth general-season elk permit that is valid during all general seasons on both any bull and spike units. This just contributes to the crowding the people are complaining about. The dates for youth hunts should be restricted like others.

I have two other comments. I strongly disagree with the chaining and vegetation removal that is going on around the state. Despite the claim that this is for 'habitat restoration' we all know that this is simply to increase range and forage for cattle. If hunters want more elk and deer, reduce the number of cattle that are allowed to graze on public lands. All hunters should be against chaining and vegetation removal.

Finally, the DWR should invest more resources in monitoring CWD, especially in elk in all units in the state. They should support testing and the quick return and posting of results. This is a serious disease that has a huge potential to spread to all areas of the state and affect the human population.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 26, 2022 10:56 am



**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** Your management plan should include reducing the number of guides and outfitters and only allowing non-res general season tag holders to hunt with a resident guide or guide. Discontinue the 3 season tags, they are ruining the archery elk season.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Your management plan should include reducing the number of guides and outfitters and only allowing non-res general season tag holders to hunt with a resident guide or guide. Discontinue the 3 season tags, they are ruining the archery elk season.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

My experiences with elk hunting are in central Utah (Manti, Monroe, Fish Lake and Wasatch), and have spent an abundance of my time hunting and watching big game in central Utah. My thoughts with this new proposal are that we should not be adding more tags/units. The first point in your power point with the new themes is to increase opportunity. This worries me as I think of increased opportunity, I automatically think of increased tags, which will result in fewer elk. Let's keep our elk herds and draw system to a way we can preserve and maintain the elk herd numbers. There is a reason Utah is known for good elk hunting and I am afraid this new proposal is for the DNR to make more profit with selling/issuing more tags and opening new units. One reason my family and I live in Utah is for the hunting and our deer/elk herds have been on a decline, which worries me that this new proposal will not help our elk hunting here in Utah. I also propose we make hunting more "fair chase", with reducing and/or eliminating guiding/outfitters, limit muzzleloaders to open sights (they are now turning muzzleloaders into single shot rifles with the distance and set-up with scopes people are able to take game with), and I'd even be ok with doing away with trail cameras (even though I thoroughly enjoy seeing my trail camera pictures, even if I don't use them for hunting purposes). My latest experience with outfitters/guides is the lack of respect to other hunters and utilizing additional people for one tag. For example, on my familys' LE elk hunts (2020, 2021 and 2022), guides and outfitters will have 12-20 people assisting one tag and pressuring me to "go somewhere else, this is our bull/elk." How is this fair chase, and how are the rest of us who like to "DIY", compete with the guides/outfitters. If people want to hunt, they should obtain a tag like the rest of us, do the work and find the game, instead of hiring people to do the work for them and show up to harvest the animal. I also propose we obtain spike and any bull tags like we did before COVID and go away from online purchasing as people are able to just get a tag for anybody online (friend, family boss, etc), as long as they have their information and I feel that is how we saw the spike in numbers go so high and why tags were sold out in 5 hours. Let's allow people to physically go purchase a tag. I do like the ideas of putting caps on spike and any bull number of tags and hope to see that statewide and on certain units. I thoroughly enjoy elk hunting in Utah and am ok to wait to hunt trophy size elk, even if it takes me longer to draw out. I'd rather have game and trophy size animals to hunt and see, verses seeing our herds wiped out to provide people with "more opportunity." Just my opinion.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

i was wondering if anyone on the planning committee has any idea what so ever about the demographics on the Oquirrh Stansbury unit as far as the the negative results in putting into a any bull unit. this has been discussed in the last few years and know it rears its head again. as a HAMS unit it was showing progress and all of a sudden when there is only data from one hunting season, they are saying that the hunt is not working and there are few to no mature bull in the herd. which i know is false as i was one of the permit holders from the first year and did indeed harvest a mature 6 by 6 and saw several others. and during the first half of the season during the spike hunt witnessed mature bull on several occasions as a spike unit slash hams unit this unit is building slowly but surely. tge question of why a low harvest rate the limitations on weapons used makes this a very challenging hunt (it took me 17 days to harvest my bull and it was not because of lack of elk are mature bulls. making this unit a any bull unit would result in destroying it as a valuable hunting areas for elk one good season and the bull would be shot out very quick not to mention most of the unit would be shut down to any kind of elk hunting leaving only a very restricted area to hunt. it is just not a option for success only failure and the ruination of another elk unit

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 26, 2022 1:51 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

My name is Kent Bailey. I consider myself to be an avid big game hunter. I would classify myself as a trophy hunter rather than an opportunity hunter. I have spent the last 20 years pursuing the 29 North American Big Game species as well as some international hunting not to mention applying for all the western states for big game draws.

After reviewing the proposal it is clear to me that this proposal is leaning heavily to the opportunity hunter and completely leaves out the trophy hunter. I'm not a max point holder simply because I chose to apply for deer first and then stuck with elk since that time. I now have 23 points. I have remained steady in my course knowing that I would only hunt elk ones in my lifetime but some day I would draw and elk tag with the chance of taking a trophy bull. My definition of a trophy bull is much greater than the 320 bull outlined in the proposal. My definition would be in the 380 and up class. As you know in order for elk to reach this high standard in most cases the age class needs to be 8 years not the proposed 7 years. The current plan only has a hand full of units that are being managed for the 8 year old class. It is obvious by the number of hunters still left in the pool that this state has thousands (2392) of hunters that would rather wait a lifetime with one chance at a bull of this caliber rather than hunt elk twice in a life time only to shot an inferior bull.

Not only are you proposing to drop the age class but you also want to limit the amount of hunting days to harvest a bull during the early any weapon hunt. This is hitting the trophy hunter twice with this proposal. If you must shorten the hunting days I would propose a 7 day hunt. I personally don't hunt on Sunday so your proposed 5 day hunt would then limit me to only 4 days. I'm sure I'm not the only person in the state that doesn't hunt on Sunday.

I realize that the trophy hunter is a small percentage of the total hunters in the state but currently only a small percentage of the units are being managed for 8 year old bulls. As a voice for this elite group I would request that you don't lower the age class on the units that are being managed for 8 year old bulls. I would also request that you re-consider a 7 day hunt on the early hunt or at least move the opening to a Tuesday.

Further-By moving some of the limit entry units to general hunts you have just made the point creep worse because those who were putting in for these units will have to move to other limited entry units. Make the odds worse not better.

I might also suggest that if the largest percentage of hunters just want an opportunity to hunt then you should make them choose between hunting general season and limited entry. That change alone would solve the problem. If they truly are opportunity only and are fine with hunting elk every years hoping to kill a mature bull. Make that change and you will find out real fast where the true percentage split is between opportunity and trophy.

Thank you for considering my point of view.

Kent Bailey

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** Seems a little odd one can use a muzzleloader with open sights and shoot out to 100 yards, but a compound bow with pin sights shooting 60 yards is too much? I think compound bows should be allowed in HAMS units. Less wounded animals, more ethical hunting

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Neither agree nor disagree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 26, 2022 4:30 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly agree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Below I will list my biggest pro's and con's for the management plan. Overall I agree with what has been outlined and I think that the committee came up with some outside of the box ideas to make a meaningful impact on some of the challenges that have arisen in the elk hunting scene over the last few years.

I am however saddened that during this whole process, even with CWMU members on the committee, that there was no contribution from the CWMU's to address point creep, or opportunity for public hunters. The CWMU's are part of this states hunting community but it seems like anytime there is a problem to be solved they pack up their toys and leave the sandbox. I like the CWMU program and I appreciate the opportunities it provides the average public hunter. I'm not ignorant though to the opportunity it provides a small group of private land owners to make an obscene amount of money on a public resource. Because of that, I would like to see more contribution from CWMU's when it comes to solving our issues as a hunting community instead of them just always benefiting more and more without more contribution. An example of how they could contribute would be increasing the tag split on CWMU's by 15%. For an example, in 2020 if the CWMU buck/bull tag split was increased by 15% (From 90/10 to 75/25) then 87 more limited entry bull elk tags would have gone to the public. Of those, 54 of them would have gone to the highest point holders and over 1/3 of the CWMU's enrolled in the program in 2020 wouldn't have seen any change in their permit allocation. We could be doing that every year. It would still leave ample money on the table for CWMU's that on average are charging over \$20,000 (some even a multiple of that number) for each bull tag. I would love to talk more with any of you on my thoughts on CWMU's. I think its a great program but it just needs some adjusting which it hasn't seen since its creation. I've studied the laws and the program, and I'm passionate about finding a solution that works for all parties.

In summery my pros and cons for the proposed Elk management plan are:

**Pros:**

- I think the plan meets the goals and objectives of the state
- Gives more opportunity for hunting
- I like the lowered age class that will still allow great bulls
- I think the season split on the General season any bull hunt is a great idea
- I like giving more opportunities for the youth
- I can support shortening the LE early rifle hunt and adding more mid season hunts.
- I support the boundary/unit changes for the any bull units. Especially moving the Oquirrh Stansbury, Box Elder Sawtooth, and Paunsagaunt to any bull units.

**Cons:**

- I'm saddened by the idea of not having an either sex option on the general archery hunt. Hunters will already be in the field so I don't think that this



takes any pressure off of the herds.

-I would like to see some solutions that the CWMU's are involved in (see my comments above)

-I think there could be a more even tag allocation between the three any legal weapon hunts.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals?** I support everything said in the presentation.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** I think everything outlined in this video is reasonable and is something I can support.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** This committee worries me. I believe there are technologies out there that should be regulated and/or prohibited. But I feel like the standpoint of this committee and the state is "Hey, people are too successful, we want them to be unsuccessful". That doesn't make me want to hunt in this state or pay any money to this state. It makes sense to ban drones, and other devices that obviously gives a crazy unfair advantage but things that allow hunters to be more ethical and cause less suffering for animals shouldn't be banned i.e. scopes on muzzleloaders or even limitations on scopes on rifles. The fact that non-transmitting trail cameras were banned during the season this year is also something that I think was an uncalled for regulation. We need to be careful with how far we take this.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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Form Name:  
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November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 26, 2022 4:39 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

5 days for the LE bull tag/any weapon units??? I don't hunt on Sunday, so after 27 years of patiently waiting for my name to be drawn, I'll get 4 whole days to live it out. Why? This type of thing is making me feel it's time to change hobbies. I've waited forever and you're going to give me 4 short days to try at a lifetime opportunity for me. This is disheartening.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 26, 2022 5:06 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat agree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I am happy with most of the changes proposed and thank all those who have worked on this project. I do want to address two concerns that I have.

I do not agree with making the over the counter archery elk tag a bull only tag. This change does not increase opportunity or quality. The statewide average success rate for over the counter archery elk hunting is 11%. This is when either a bull or cow can be taken. This low of a success rate can not really be a large factor in quality management on units. If you make the tag a bull only tag the success rate will decrease even more.

This change would actually decrease opportunity giving a hunter a less likely chance of actually filling a tag in the field. Even if archery antlerless elk hunts are created for the same time period as the over the counter archery elk hunt it would not be a fair trade. First off by creating those hunts you are openly admitting that allowing cows to be harvested on the over the counter tag was not really affecting quality. Secondly, with two permits two elk could be harvested instead of one. Third, the opportunity cost to hunt cows with archery equipment was just raised in three different ways. First, I am now having to pay an application fee for the antlerless tag, second I am now having to pay two tag fees instead of one, and third I am now having to burn antlerless points to have the tag.

This recommended change to make over the counter archery elk permits bull only tags should not be approved because it does not meet the stated goals of the statewide elk plan to increase opportunity while maintaining quality.

It is shocking to me with such a comprehensive look at how to increase opportunity for elk hunters while maintaining quality that CWMUs were not asked to contribute anything to the hunting community which they benefit from. Last year 1141 Limited Entry bull elk permits were given to CWMUs. Of that only 142 were available to public hunters. That means that statewide only 12.5% of these highly sought after tags were available to the public hunter. This is because of the structure of the CWMU program where operators get to choose which tier of tag splits they want to participate in. The lowest tier, and most often chosen, is the 90/10 split. Meaning the CWMU keeps 90% of the tags offered to it and the public get the other 10%.

Again I am shocked that the Elk Plan committee did not address this or recommend that CWMUs be asked to help address the point creep problem. If this lowest tier split was changed to 80/20, where in, the number of permits given to the public was raised by just 10%, this would bring 85 more Limited Entry bull elk permits available to the resident public hunter. With over 30 of those permits going into the bonus point draw there by increasing the incentive for high point holders to apply for CWMUs and thereby get removed from the point pool. This increase of 85 Limited Entry bull elk permits available to the resident public hunter could be made possible without a single increase in or change of a unit, season, or

weapon class. All it would take is a simple tag allocation change.

If the statewide elk plan is going to change so many aspects of how elk hunting takes place in Utah then the CWMUs should be asked to change as well.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals?** This look great.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Glad to see dates for two years.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** I am glad to see that definitions were defined instead of regulation recommendations made.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 26, 2022 5:53 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly agree  
**regarding the Technology Committee's**  
**recommendations?**

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**Do you have any additional comments** These are great recommendations.  
**about these recommendations?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I am not for the splitting of the general season bull elk hunt it is the best two weeks my family get to spend with there grandparents and aunts and uncles that they don't get to see often

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Neither agree nor disagree

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Utah has the worst elk management of any western state. Archery hunts are supremely difficult, even after 8 or more points of waiting, due to spike hunters and very early seasons. I just experienced it this year. Rifle hunters get the ridiculously prime rut dates, but at the cost of nearly once in a lifetime tags and a worse experience for everyone else. There are very few younger bulls because they're mostly killed as spikes. That creates a herd of half 6 point bulls and half spikes. The resulting rut activity is poor at best. I've hunted most western states for elk over the last 35 years and can tell you personally that Utah is terrible.

This is what you need to do: take the best parts of the western states systems. Get rid of preference points and go to bonus points. That will give everyone a chance to draw while increasing your odds with each unsuccessful season. Pretty hard to tell a 20 year old that he can hunt bull elk in 25 years if he keeps buying points. Set the archery season for Sep 1-30. This will maximize the number of hunters while allowing mature bulls to survive. Muzzleloader season should be Oct 1-14. Rifle should be Oct 15-30. This gives mature bulls a chance to survive by increasing the lethality of the weapon as the vulnerability of the rut wanes. Set the harvest goals for each unit at whatever the biologists say is needed and put the most hunters afield that will achieve the goals.

The only people the current system serves well are landowners, guides, and the rich. Everyday hunters in Utah are getting the shaft.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Yes, I have an idea I'd like to pass on for consideration. The number of permits for the youth any bull elk hunt that must be drawn and takes place close to the rut be increased, points can be accrued in addition to the once in a youth time change. I have three boys I put in every year since age 12 and so far none have drawn. One of the boys is now 20 the other 18 and now hoping my 15 year old will get lucky.

Very happy to see pro active changes being made to open up more opportunities for hunting, especially looking at the future generations.

Would like to see more quality mule deer units, or changes made to at least some of the general season units to increase quality on those. Like a three point minimum requirement or something like that. It seems on many general season units its a race to the nearest two point.

More opportunities for youth on limited entry units for both elk and deer.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 26, 2022 10:20 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

You have already destroyed Utah's elk hunting with what you've done in the past years and what you are proposing will probably finish off what little is left. You lost me a couple of years ago and it doesn't look like you're doing anything to get me back. All you want is to sell tags. Keep this up and you won't be doing that.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** there is to much emphasis on private land hunting opportunity and to little for the public land hunters, there should be more quality tags available to the public

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** i have been applying for LE bull elk for 15 years now i see the proposal of shortening the hunt to 5 days? i am very much against that proposal

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 27, 2022 8:32 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I strongly support a primitive only muzzleloader season for hunting. Improved technology in muzzleloading firearms has made inline muzzleloaders little different than high powered rifles. I support this move back toward traditional primitive fire arms. Additionally I feel the muzzleloader season should be moved back to before the general hunt to provide the primitive hunter an increased opportunity. Thank you!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

We're are you guys seeing all these elk at why are we trying to make it convenient for people in the past 8 years I've put over 100 miles in walking and looking for sheds and every we're I go the herds are gone you guys have and are killing everything so if you want people to enjoy the great out doors thats part of the great out doors is to see wildlife Utah there is none so you have to go out of state come on quite killing are animals dnr needs to go into managlng mosquitos so we don't have any this the dumbest sh\*\* ever you guys needs to get out more quit filling your pockets with money flipping joke Disagree. 100 percent

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I like the idea of "all options on the table".

I like the idea of converting some of the "not so good" limited entry units into general tag units.

I like the idea of splitting up the rifle hunt into two.

I also like that the committee is looking at solutions to point creep, as well as recognizing that 7+ year age objectives is not really necessary.

Just some addition ideas that may tie in with some other proposals from some of the other committes that I would like to propose.

- One of the big problems with hunting big bulls on the LE units, in my opinion, is the use of "party hunting" and "radios" and also guides and outfitters with unlimited resources having their "team" on the units all summer long "keeping tabs" on the big bulls for their clients. What if you set up some restrictions on that style of hunting? For instance, only allow guides (or any other hunters) that utilize "teams" and "radios" to only hunt the "late season" portion of the hunts etc.

- Another idea is to split the archery hunt into two separate dates as well. Allow HAMS style archery equipment to get the first crack, and then the more modern bows for the "late season"

- If you did that, then you could offer more of the "restricted" permits on the early season dates, which would help the point creep issue.

- Another idea is to offer many more, like orders of magnatude more permits if you offered "restricted archery" permits on the premium elk units (Monroe, San Juan, Beaver etc). Basically offer a September 18-30, long/recurve bow only season, with no guides, no radios, no spotters etc. I personally think that hunt would be a very attractive option, get a lot more hunters afield during the peak of the rut (point creep solution) chasing the big bulls, but with the weapons and hunt methods restrictions, the hunt quality (and memories) would be amazing, but the actual number of bulls harvested would be low, to maintain the trophy quality of the units.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 27, 2022 1:10 pm

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 27, 2022 1:17 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I recommend you all read the public comments on KSL RE: big game hunting in Utah, A LOT of unhappy hunters.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 27, 2022 2:02 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Get rid of the multi season tag. It's too much pressure on the elk!!! The elk hunt used to be somewhat successful. Now there is literally no chance of seeing elk and if you do there are 10 other hunters within 500 yards of you. You've already ruined the deer herd in box elder. Don't do it to our elk.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 27, 2022 3:34 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Looking forward to hunting on some actual "primitive" weapon hunts again!!! Thank you!! Less harvest, more opportunity to be in the field. The way hunting is going these days I worry about my kids being able to go more than a few times in their life!! We have traditional archery hunts in Oregon and it is a great way to create opportunity!! I am not a Utah resident but have hunted there and have been applying for tags there for the last 20+ years.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

With so much interest in hunting deer and elk why don't we change general season to a lever action rifle hunt like our grandfathers used? I to have the 1000yd rifles and compound bows, most of us have been caught up in modern technology for quite a while now. I think since the game of this state belong to the people, let's give them more opportunities to hunt and have families and friends make tradition out of hunting. The more permits we sell would benefit rural Utah with revenue from hunters, increase revenue from permits sold and give a lot more hunters the opportunities to hunt our big game!

I'm sitting in my home writing you and I look around my walls and see big game mounts that mean far less to me than the memories of the days spent hunting with my family/friends.

Changing these hunts from the current any weapon to something like lever action 30-30 winchesters and recurve bows, traditional black powder weapons would lower the harvest and increase the amount of hunters that could count on getting permits making they're own memories? Leaving the limited entry as it is to be fair to those that have money and years invested earning bonus points and dreaming of that special hunt?

I think shrinking the permits so that a handful of hunters can get 1 and go alone or have a buddy along does nothing to help the rural communities in Utah sell gas and groceries along with cafe's and diners, would the huge increase in revenue from selling more permits also benefit the wildlife? I think you have done a great job in the past but it's now time to provide opportunities to the hunters that live in this state, pay taxes and long to build a fire camp and hunt as a family? It's gone in the direction of killing far to long, I'm not sure why you still call it "Hunting" I'm average in this hunting community and highly capable of taking game out to

800yds (centerfire)  
300yds (black powder)  
100yds ( compound)

I would welcome a conversation with you and I do understand it would be painful for some, but benefits would out way that. Everyone would have a better opportunity and you would double or maybe triple your revenue for permits!

Dean Smith 801-372-3797  
dsrimfire@gmsil.com  
Thanks!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I appreciate how the committee is trying to balance several different needs with the elk management plan and I think there are some good ideas here (IE- reducing age targets on limited entry units), however I believe the proposed changes to the general bull elk hunt are lopsidedly addressing hunter demand without taking any consideration to hunter crowding. According to this presentation, hunter crowding was your most agreed upon issue from your survey responders.

It has been proposed to break the general hunt into early/late seasons with 15,000 tags issued for the early hunt. This will now force all 15,000 hunters that normally disburse their time hunting across 13 days (some choosing to hunt the first week/others waiting until later in the hunt) to hunt within the same week. The late hunt is proposed as unlimited, so again there will be large quantity of hunters crowding throughout units. While yes, this does address hunter opportunity, this fails to address the most agreed on concern that all of your surveyors responded to - overcrowding. What good is it to have the opportunity to hunt when all you see are mountains painted in orange? The quantity of hunters go up, while the quality plummets.

Are there other solutions to this issue? Offering even more general bull hunts-- IE- four season dates instead of two, spread across the months of October - November with 8000 tags offered in each. Adding additional season dates instead of smashing even more hunters into the original season dates would help eliminate hunter crowding. Adding two additional general bull hunts allows nearly double the current elk tags, while dispersing these hunters throughout units and time.

Part of the proposal offered to assist in alleviating hunter crowding is opening up several new general bull units. Adding these units does little to address hunter crowding as the majority of the units are small with minimal elk populations. Spike bull hunting is also offered on nearly all limited entry units with the majority of limited entry hunts moving to dates to correlate with spike hunters. This again smashes a bunch of hunters onto units where the "quality" of the hunt is supposed to be what we nearly wait a lifetime to draw.

I appreciate the desire to try to allow any and all folks who want to hunt the opportunity, but at what point do we draw the line and stop considering quantity over quality?

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I do not want unlimited tags. I think 17,500 over the counter elk tags is the maximum number. I understand that more people in the field allows the DWR to engage with more Utah hunters. I am certain that we could use the revenue. But I think it will destroy what is starting to become a quality hunt compared to what it was 20 years ago.  
I've been putting in for the elk draw permits for many years. I have over 20 points for elk. I have been talking with other elk Hunters where I work and we all agree that we give up all draw areas in Utah to make it open bull everywhere allowing more people to hunt that way.  
It would be interesting to propose some thing much closer to what we do with the general Deer. It might make more sense if we had a lot more areas to hunt to allow a lot more hunters.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** I am not against splitting the season for elk hunting into two categories really late. I am against unlimited tags.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** I believe that one way to manage for more hunters in the field would be to restrict the use of scopes on high-powered rifles. I'm in favor of reducing the technology to allow more hunters in the field. That allows for us to see more animals while hunting while having a more difficult time harvesting. I would like to see you hunts where no one can shoot 1000 yards. Open sights on hunting rifles would be awesome to allow for more hunters. I think it's better for the genetics of the deer and elk as well because people wouldn't be able to select the biggest buck every single time and remove them from the gene pool.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 28, 2022 9:50 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I completely disagree with making the rifle any bull tags unlimited. I also disagree with changing the hunters choice archery tag. I believe that should stay the same.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I purchase an out of state license and with the proposed changes I will no longer do that as you are making the success of actually getting anything pretty impossible. It is extremely difficult to have success before but it appears that you are concerned about making money on tags and not care if hunters have success. The archery elk should at least still be either sex as the odds are very low anyway. Having that option during archery is really important for families to even have a chance at putting meat on their table.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I agree with most of the recommendations. I would like to see something done about the drones and helicopters consistently flying down into the canyons looking around and coming back out again. Seen several different helicopters this year doing this. Seems unfair to be in there stirring things up for people to watch for shots and then those on the ground take those shots.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals?** on the deer hunts i would like to see a change for 3 points and bigger so people have to look for the older deer not just take the young ones

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** i want to see people who shoot across canyons get fines or lose their hunting privileges with any legal weapon hunts 200 yards or less

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** i think you shou cap the amount of money land owners can ask for on the tags they are given to manage

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I strongly appose changing the general archery tag to a bull only tag. This hunt is already very difficult with very low hunter success. Removing the antlerless option makes this permit useless to me and many other nonresidents paying a large amount of money for near zero hunt odds. I will no longer spend my money in Utah on this tag if this change is implemented. It will be a huge revenue loss to the state.

The muzzleloader restrictions go too far. Modern muzzleloaders should still be allowed incl the use of 209 primers. Elimination of scopes would be sufficient to significantly reduce hunter shooting distance and hunter success.

Archery equipment is already difficult to use and should not be further restricted to primitive style bows only. This is unnecessary and eliminates almost all archery hunters.

The general any bull any legal weapon hunts are already over hunter and I strongly oppose splitting the season into two heavily hunted seasons. This will further degrade a hunt that is already low quality and low success. The increased demand is due to multi season tags which should be eliminated to reduce hunter numbers and overcrowding. Having 15k tags over a short period of 7 days will be a horrible hunting experience and not worth purchasing for nonresident high prices. An unlimited late season is a terrible idea and is just a money maker with no regard to elk hunting quality and experience. This will result in extremely low hunter success and extremely low hunter satisfaction.

5 days is too short for a limited entry early rifle elk tag. These are pretty much once in a lifetime tags and the committee is trying to make them much less enjoyable and successful.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I agree that no additional current technology restrictions are warranted. The use of non broadcasting trail cameras should be restored.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I agree with the DWR about making changes to the give more opportunities for elk hunting across the state of Utah. However, as a professional veterinarian and strong advocate for Elk hunting. The board does not realize that the time frames they have selected will be detrimental for seasonally polyestrous animals (Elk). They are going to apply too much pressure during the copulatory-breeding period-which will reduce the number of offspring from year to year thus greatly reducing the amount of income they can make from tags. This will greatly reduce the herd populations, decimating the herds across the state which will take years to recover. We need to protect the breeding period to maximize successful birth rates to increase the populations for higher tag allotments. As a career professional in this area, I have research and data that would be very useful for the board before they make their decision in early to mid-November. I would love to present you or anyone on the board with more information and the data that I have. Please feel free to reach out to me or put me in contact with someone who I could make an impact on the upcoming ruling.

Kind regards,  
Joseph Cook

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

I agree with the DNR about making changes to give more opportunities for elk hunting across the state of Utah. However, as a professional veterinarian and strong advocate for Elk hunting, the board does not realize that the time frames they have selected will be detrimental for seasonally polyestrous animals (Elk). They are going to apply too much pressure during the copulatory-breeding period which will reduce the number of offspring from year to year thus greatly reducing the amount of income they can make from tags. This will greatly reduce the herd populations, decimating the herds across the state which will take years to recover. We need to protect the breeding period to maximize successful birth rates to increase the populations for higher tag allotments. As a career professional in this area, I have research and data that would be very useful for the board before they make their decision in early to mid-November. I would love to present you or anyone on the board with more information and the data that I have. Please feel free to reach out to me or put me in contact with someone who I could make an impact on the upcoming ruling.

Kind regards,  
Joseph Cook

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

The only feedback I have at this time is about the extended archery hunt. I would suggest allowing the extended archery hunters to hunt statewide in the general season units (no spike only units) outside of/between season dates for other hunts (i.e., muzzleloader and any-legal-weapon) and only being able to hunt the extended areas during those season dates; or just allowing extended archery hunters the ability to hunt statewide in the general season units (no spike only units) and need to wear orange during the other hunts if they are going to hunt on a general season unit instead of an extended archery unit. I would also suggest an expansion of some of the extended archery units to include more public land hunting opportunity for the extended archery hunters, especially if the previous suggestions were not to be implemented.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

To be clear I do not strongly agree with the proposals. However for some reason unless I select strongly agree this comment box does not appear. So I only somewhat agree. I did submit comments earlier but the comment box did not appear because I selected somewhat agree. Here are some of my thoughts.

It is shocking to me with such a comprehensive look at how to increase opportunity for elk hunters while maintaining quality that CWMUs were not asked to contribute anything to the hunting community which they benefit from. Last year 1141 Limited Entry bull elk permits were given to CWMUs. Of that only 142 were available to public hunters. That means that statewide only 12.5% of these highly sought after tags were available to the public hunter. This is because of the structure of the CWMU program where operators get to choose which tier of tag splits they want to participate in. The lowest tier, and most often chosen, is the 90/10 split. Meaning the CWMU keeps 90% of the tags offered to it and the public get the other 10%.

CWMUs should be asked to help address the point creep problem. If this lowest tier split was changed to 80/20, where in, the number of permits given to the public was raised by just 10%, this would bring 85 more Limited Entry bull elk permits available to the resident public hunter. With over 30 of those permits going into the bonus point draw there by increasing the incentive for high point holders to apply for CWMUs and thereby get removed from the point pool. This small 10% change would not even affect about a third of the current CWMUs with another third only having to give up 1-2 more permits and another third having to give up 3-4 more permits.

I would end by making it clear that I like the CWMU program. My family and myself have seen the benefits of it. I do however believe that with so much of how we big game hunt in Utah changed in the last 30 years it is now time for the CWMU program to make a change. A change that reflects the fact that the land is no longer the most valuable resource of the program but, as the CWMU operators know best, the tags are the most valuable resource of the program and these tags should be more equally split between the two benefiting parties.

I would be happy to talk with anyone involved in the decision making process about how some of these ideas I have could be implemented.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I appreciate the effort being made to provide more opportunity. I'm not entirely in favor of not allowing cows to be killed during the general archery. I suggest that maybe make it to where if it's a multi season general tag, it must be bull only. But if it's a single season archery tag, keep it hunters choice.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals?** Would like to see the ALW hunts shortened and maybe allow a restricted weapon hunt in there as well. ALW tags shouldn't get a month to shoot a mtn goat, when it really should only take 3 days at most.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Great new opportunities presented! Thinking outside the box now!  
The only thing I could see maybe to look at in the future is take the LE late muzzy hunt on general units and turn them into a LE archery hunt, and bump the dates back a week. You could issue twice the amount of tags and kill the same amount of deer.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** As long as you keep these "restricted" weapons to LE type hunts, im all for it. But as far as general season goes, the weapons used now are fine.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

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In my opinion the General Season Muzzleloader deer hunt needs to go back to open sights and peep sights. When you see the advanced technology in muzzleloaders and you have a person on YouTube shooting elk in Utah 400 yards wounding the bull and then have to shoot in the head is disgusting. This is just one of the many You Tube and persons talking about how they shoot at deer and elk over 300 yards with a muzzleloader. Muzzleloaders have become as accurate as alot of centerfire rifles. This is taking away the challenge of the hunt.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

There are a bunch of us baby boomers that have hunted elk since legal hunting age 16yrs old. We are only going to draw one limited entry bull elk hunt in our life some of us have 15 to 20 plus points. Now Utah is first going to reduce the number of days to 5 days from 10 day. This change is not good at all because it is really a once in a lifetime tag for us, second reduction of the limited entry units you are recommending is only going to increase the point creep! Same number of people putting in for less units and less tags, "Really?" The last thing I have to say is unlimited youth tags is crazy, They have a lifetime to hunt plus they can shoot an elk off of there dads tag if they don't get one. They also have special tags for the youth 14 to 17 years of age, so if you all want to help point creep make the youth wait until age 18 when they can't put in for the youth tags, also stop giving the youth 20% of the general tags. You all keep forgetting the baby boomers that had to wait until 16 yrs of age to begin hunting and hunted elk when Utah elk herd was nothing close to what it is today. The guys and gals 55 and older need to be the group that gets the breaks not the youth. In fact the 60 and older group should be the unlimited tags not the youth, us older folks are the reason there is elk here a ton of us has spent time and money helping elk, the youth have done nothing but been given a silver spoon for hunting tags in Utah and the number of days they get extra to hunt. Reducing the number hunting days of limit entry early rifle truly hurts us older generation and gives us less chances to shoot a Bull Elk of a lifetime and we have been truly waiting a lifetime for this chance and have earned the right, not the youth. Please consider not changing the number of days and stop giving the youth everything. The older generation paid their debt.

Thanks

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Many hunts in Utah have already been shortened by a substantial number of days. The only hunts that get special attention as to their dates and seasons are the CWMU's. A lot of preparation goes into any big game hunt and to limit it to 6-7 days will make it almost impossible for many to participate. Some people have only weekends to hunt and this would limit them to possibly 2 days to hunt. Keep the number of days the same as it has been - these changes only hurt the ones that hunt the most. The time and money already spent by them to hunt is pretty high - for most. The changes only hurt the manority.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

It appears that once again the DWR is catering to private landowners over the general public (which is the main source of revenue for the DWR). Too much attention given to benefit the private landowners.

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I'm ok with and understand the limits on muzzle loaders, with the new inline muzzleloader / scopes it has become more like it's another rifle hunt.

As far as archery goes limiting the electronic devices ie. Like the garmin range finding sight I agree with not allowing electronic devices on the bow it's self. Taking away compound bows in general I can see a lot of more wounded animals.

I also do not agree with not allowing scopes on rifles, again open sights equals more wounded/ not recovered animals. Maybe limit them to a size/ magnification ie. 4-12x40 or 3-9x40 to limit the cross canyon shooting. I do agree with not allowing electronic devices on a rifle.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 30, 2022 10:53 am

**Which best describes your position** Strongly agree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Which best describes your position** Strongly agree  
**regarding the Technology Committee's**  
**recommendations?**

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 30, 2022 1:30 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Why are we opening the prior limited entry units to general season units with no size regulations? These elk will be slaughtered in a year and the herds will be decimated in these units. If we put a 4 point or better regulation on these units it seems like we can maintain opportunity for many years to come rather than one or two years. If there is something I don't know I would love to be educated.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 30, 2022 8:45 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat disagree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 30, 2022 9:39 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**      Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**      Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**      Neither agree nor disagree

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**      Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**      Neither agree nor disagree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 31, 2022 8:47 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Primitive weapons deserve their own hunt and it doesn't hurt the modern gear guys to let the traditional people have a chance. It's a lot harder with limited range and etc with genuine primitive equipment. Please support this recommendation.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

To put in for a LE Elk hunt for over 20 years and then to cut the hunt down to 5 days makes zero sense to me. Even LE elk hunts are hunts and are dynamic and fluid. It can take several days to learn what the elk are doing. Cutting days down to 5 is a huge punishment to people who have been dedicated and putting in for what is turning into a once in a lifetime hunt. Please reconsider the shortening of this hunt!  
Please at the minimum leave it at 7 days!!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I appreciate the Elk Committee and DWR's efforts in revising the elk plan. It is no small undertaking and is a thankless job. Thank you for your work!

I have made a few suggestions in order to more closely follow the goals of the elk committee and DWR of providing more opportunity for elk hunting while maintaining quality hunting opportunities. I suggest the following:

- Alternate opening hunt dates of the mid-season elk tag and general spike tags. Delay the start of the general season ALW spike hunt by one week to give mid-season hunters an opportunity at a quality experience without several hundred to a thousand individuals chasing and pressuring the same species on the mountain. The general spike hunters would still be allowed two weeks, but would overlap the general deer on the second week and the mid-season limited entry bull on the first week.
  - If the goal is to lower success rates and increase opportunities, then one option is to give more limited entry mid tags and delay spike elk hunters one week. This would maintain quality experience and increase pressure and decrease success.
  - Depending on which studies you read, a significant percentage of elk breed the first week to week and a half of October. Maintaining a sanctuary time period would be paramount in my mind to allow for the reproduction of elk without so much pressure.
  - Delay general ALW any bull elk tags one week to start close to Oct. 15. You can then give out a few limited entry tags on general units the week of Oct. 7 on general units.
  - Create a separate pool of tags for general season any bull elk hunters. It's late season so the logic applied to the unlimited rifle tags should apply to the general season muzzleloader any bull season.
  - put a quota on non-resident general elk tags through a draw
-

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 31, 2022 8:16 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat agree  
**regarding the proposals for the 2023–24**  
**once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

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**Do you have any additional comments**      Would like to see the multiseason either eliminate or a draw this would  
**about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt**      eliminate a lot of over crowding to many in the field now the muliseason  
**proposals?**      has created lots more people make them choose which season

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 31, 2022 8:24 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Take away points

- Elk breed later than people think.
- Their window is very narrow for actual breeding of an individual cow.
- Missing the window will mean less calves and a less healthy population the next year.
- The current proposal puts excessive pressure on when a vast majority of elk are breeding.

I agree that the demand for more opportunities in Utah for elk hunting has increased dramatically over the last 10-years. Increasing the allotment of tags and opening new hunting areas and timeframes for hunters is the best way to maximize opportunity for our growing state. I agree that changes need to be made but I do not think the proposal and current model maximizes the opportunity for tags to be utilized at the appropriate times. Managing an elk herd should be done in a way to maximize the growth and health of the upcoming generation, since elk herds are only as good by the calves that can replace them. The current hunt structure and the proposed changes put excessive pressure on the herds during actual breeding/conception, potentially delaying conception and leading to smaller, less healthy mothers and calves the following year. Which would have detrimental effects on the herds over multiple years.

Peak "Rut" Misconception

If you ask any elk hunter when they think the prime time to hunt elk is they will say sometime around the fall equinox. It has long been described even since the mid-1900s by Murie (1951) that the "found the active breeding season of elk to occur from the first part of September to the latter part of October, and the period from September 20 to 25 to be the peak. He indicated that bugling intensity by the bulls was used to interpret breeding activity."

For most observers and hunters included this may be the time when the most "action or rut" is happening for elk movement and vocalization, but this is not when breeding and conception occurs. Bugling activity does not determine conception and breeding times but happens in the weeks PRIOR to actual breeding as the bulls try to establish their harems before the cows cycle and are bred. Managing the elk herds in Utah should focus on protecting and minimizing disturbances when the majority of the cow elk are actually breeding.

Data taken from the DNR website has shown that historic success rate from the previous 3 years on Diamond Mountain Limited Entry Unit was (not counting fall of 2022 data) 82.5% success rate on the early rifle and 91% on the mid-rifle hunt with 22 tags allocated for the early rifle and 13 tags for the mid rifle hunt. The average age class of the bulls taken was 7.4 years old on the mid rifle. This data suggests such a high success rate because the mid-hunt was over the time closest to the average conception day of the cow elk. Additionally, average elk conception generally occurs not at the end of September but within the first week of October.

Studies have shown from Characteristics of Estrus in Captive Elk by John A. that the actual average conceptions date from two separate elk herds

was Oct. 3rd and 6th respectively. When you take that data and break it down into percentages it looks like this.

From the study, 56% and 23% of the cows from Bison and Gardiner ranges, respectively, had actually bred by Sept 30, with 33% and 50% of the cows, respectively, conceiving AFTER October 5. Across the ranges studied, 66% and 72%, respectively, were bred and conceived between Sept 26 and Oct 15, as opposed to the common misperception of Sept 20-25. In the studies above, only 22% and 5% of cows had conceived by Sept 25.

From behavior studies the main observations are that younger sexual mature bulls come down off their heavily timbered summer grounds first after separating off from their summer bachelor herds. This allows them to reach the cows and calves to first begin to establish harems. All this is done while bugling to establish dominance and as an intimidation tactic. Larger, more mature males tend to come down to the calving grounds later in the season after harems have already been established to compete with the younger bulls and take their harems, allowing the younger bulls to do the majority of the work building the harems. In short, the perceived bugling activity pre-dates the actual breeding by a few weeks.

#### Short Breeding Window

Physiologically cow elk are seasonally polyestrous short-day breeders. This means that the days become shorter, and the fall equinox is reached the angle of light and amount of daylight acts as a trigger for hormones to be released. These changes begin with the fall equinox but take up to a few weeks before the cow cycles and can breed. The hormone cascade begins within the pineal gland within the brain acts on thyroid gland in the neck which will grow and act on multiple endocrine organs until the ovaries are reached to cycle and activate breeding and receptive copulation. Additionally, nutrition plays a larger role than previous expected for breeding of elk.

"Diet failed to affect P4 concentration during pregnancy, but we found evidence that P4 concentrations were positively correlated with body condition (ingesta-free body fat content) during early gestation. Females that did not breed failed to exhibit estrous behavior, and hormone-excretion profiles confirmed that these animals failed to ovulate. These results suggest that inadequate nutrition in summer and autumn reduce pregnancy rates by preventing estrus and ovulation rather than by inducing early-embryo mortality." Canadian Journal of Zoology May 2001  
<https://doi.org/10.1139/z01-050>

Nutrition is critically important as well as the amount of time that the cow elk are in heat. Cow elk reception to breeding has been reported between 14-17 hours. If that window is not met the cow elk will not become pregnant and will not cycle for an average of 21.2 days. If she is not bred at that later date, she will cycle again up to 3 or 4 times within a calendar year.

#### Impact of Missing the Breeding Window

If the breeding window is missed and the cow is bred 21 or 42 or even 63 days later than their first cycle, causing their calves to not be born in the



spring but later in the summer. The majority of elk calves are born late May-Early June but would be born in late June or early July, or even mid-July into August if delayed multiple times. Young calves will emaciate the cows from nursing for several weeks even a few months while supplementing with forage, and late birthing cows will have limited or no recovery time before the rut the following year. These cows will still have suckling or barely weaned calves and will either miss their cycle for that year or be so weak and malnourished they may die during the winter months. Calves born earlier in the year allows for a period for the cows to dry off (stop producing milk), to put on weight and recover their strength before breeding again and winter sets in. This is similar to managing dairy cow herds where one of the most important factors for health of the cows is an adequate drying off and recovery period to maximize growth and stability for large herd management.

#### Impact of the Current Proposal on Diamond Mtn and Existing Structure throughout the State

The 17-hour cycling window for a cow elk to be bred is a very short time. With the new proposed changes to Diamond Mountain (and existing hunting structure around the state), increasing the number of mid-season limited entry hunters, and having the general season spike hunters on the mountain at the same time will cause excessive disturbances to the cows when a large number of them are still breeding (33% on the Bison Range and 50% on the Gardiner Range). This increased stress will increase the number of late calves the next year, malnourished cows and calves, and cows that won't ovulate the following year, decreasing the yearly herd increase and over time, drastically hurting the Utah elk herd size. The impact is drastically increased when considering the number of hunters that a general spike hunt brings (for example, ~20 limited entry bull hunters vs 300-500 spike hunters in that same window).

The impact of increased pressure in early October would be more detrimental to the elk population than increasing pressure in September. It is my professional opinion and belief that there would ideally be no hunting of elk from Sept. 26th-Oct.10th, when most of the elk are breeding, or at least very limited hunting (limited entry tags maybe ok in smaller numbers). Definitely no general season free-for-all during that time slot. If that window is protected, 75%-87% of the elk cows on average will have already conceived by Oct 10th, minimizing the impact of opening a general season hunt after that date. I believe this window should be a fixed window and should not change yearly with the Saturday of the week (not allowing it to creep up before the 10th). Protecting this timeslot would ensure that the vast majority of the cow elk are bred to preserve the upcoming generation. Additionally, it is public hunters' opinion and studies with observations that elk are most vocal before breeding as the harems are being established. By giving more tags during the early hunt you would make more hunters the opportunity to hunt when the bulls are vocalizing and trying to establish harems, giving more excitement and a better quality of a hunt by hunting during this vocalization period. I would propose avoiding the protected timeslot by giving early rifle hunters the time slot of Sept. 18th-24th and the

mid rifle hunters Oct 10th-20th (or the 5th to the 15th in limited numbers) and not running the general spike hunt until Oct 15th-20th or 15th-25th. I would advise against having the spike hunters on any of the LE units overlap so heavily with the mid-hunt. Maybe have the spike archery hunters start their hunt halfway through the mid-season, limited-entry rifle hunt to be completed and the archery dates could slightly run over into the later hunt.

#### Conclusion

In conclusion these are only pieces of the data and information I have collected but all the data points to the same end goal. In the end I want what the DWR wants: to ensure elk hunting opportunities for future generations by protecting the prime breeding window and maximizing the health and protection of the Rocky Mountain elk herds of Utah. The current proposal puts too much pressure on the cows during the prime breeding window, thereby increasing the likelihood of the cows missing their narrow window. This will cause a steady decline in the health and size of the Utah herds over time and will have the opposite of the desired effect by causing a decline in hunt quality and opportunity in the future. If structured correctly, we can increase the tag limit to raise more funds for more sustainable management while giving more opportunities and quality hunts on limited-entry units and general units if we maximize the success of the reproduction cycle of elk by preserving and protecting the prime breeding window for the elk herds across the state.

**Which best describes your position  
regarding the proposed hunting  
seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

---

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Take away points

- Elk breed later than people think.
- Their window is very narrow for actual breeding of an individual cow.
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I agree that the demand for more opportunities in Utah for elk hunting has increased dramatically over the last 10-years. Increasing the allotment of tags and opening new hunting areas and timeframes for hunters is the best way to maximize opportunity for our growing state. I agree that changes need to be made but I do not think the proposal and current model maximizes the opportunity for tags to be utilized at the appropriate times. Managing an elk herd should be done in a way to maximize the growth and health of the upcoming generation, since elk herds are only as good by the calves that can replace them. The current hunt structure and the proposed changes put excessive pressure on the herds during actual breeding/conception, potentially delaying conception and leading to smaller, less healthy mothers and calves the following year. Which would have detrimental effects on the herds over multiple years.

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#### Conclusion

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I believe that if every elk hunter only got one elk tag, then more hunters could hunt. I do not think it is right that some hunters have up to three tags and then some hunters can not even get one. From what I have seen and heard some hunters get three tags every year and other have to go between 4 and 5 years just to get a cow tag. I think you should stop giving a select few all the tags every year. Have you considered having elk hunters hunt every other year? I know that some of the younger hunters say 20 to 25 when they do not draw for a few years you lose them.



**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

I support the DWR's proposal and recommendations. I support the trade lands and tag split when public land is included. I also appreciate the programs and opening of private lands and compensating landowners. With new technology changes I am torn on including publicly accessible public lands in a CWMU boundary unless there is more benefit to the public. Boundaries can be navigated with technology.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I agree with the plan as presented, with the exception of an unlimited amount of any weapon tags for the second general elk season. With current demand, if either the amount of tags or the type of technology used is not limited, this hunt would have a biological impact on the units made up of public land, and create enough pressure that the elk would likely migrate off of some of these units altogether.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I fully support the restricted technology definitions that were developed, and hope that restricted technology units and hunts will be developed across the state.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

1. I would prefer you not drop the age class of elk. During the presentation the word opportunity = Money. I oppose adding opportunity when you don't have enough of the resources to provide an opportunity.

I am ok with the new units.

I am glad to see the dates on the cow tags will be the season they can hunt as well as the archery will be bull only. This is a good change.

We need to grow the resource before you can increase permit numbers on any hunt. You may be able to utilize some of your limited technology hunting to provide more opportunity, this makes sense to me. It has to be more challenging to reduce harvest.

If you are going to change season dates, I feel archery season dates need to be reduced as well. The archery season is too long as is and could use a reduction to stay fair with ALW hunters.

I would change it from a 10 years plan, to a 5 year plan with the option to make adjustments as needed.

Please keep improving the predator plan, I feel this helps drastically with the calf crop as well as deer. Coyotes are lousy, we need to promote more coyote hunting as well.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals?**

I hope you don't just add tags for goats to the Beaver as it was made to seem during the presentation.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

3. I would like to see a fair reduction in the archery hunts to be equal to the reduces ALW hunt dates.

I completely oppose the antlerless hunt in the spring. This is basically killing 2 elk per cow taken, they should mostly have calves in them at this time. Also, they have way too much hunting pressure already.

The way to give more "opportunity" is to increase the population, not just make more hunts.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Definitely headed in the right direction. Additionally I think Outfitters and Guides need to be more closely regulated.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

As an annual multi season general any bull hunter and a limited entry point holder of 14 points, I support the majority of this plan with a few caveats:

- If we are going to put an unlimited hunt in place (referring to second rifle hunt proposed) would like to see more limited entry areas added to the any bull units. The ones being added don't have much public or much elk
- I want to see the archery cow tags unlimited and you have to forfeit your antlerless points

I'm really hesitant to see unlimited otc bull tags but I think in this scenario it could maybe work.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I want to take time and thank the Elk committee for taking the time and coming up with a great proposal. By adding more GS units this will help over crowding tremendously especially out here in the basin on south slope.

Their is only one thing I can see to make it just a little better.

I think it only makes sense to have the GS Muzzleloader Elk hunt first. I really think all of our least successful hunt's should be before rifle hunt starts.

I know you have your hands full other than that, you guys are are doing a wonderful job thank you.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I agree with pretty much all of the proposals. One thing I think should not be shortened are the early rifle dates. They are already planning on cutting tags for those hunts. I think 5 days is too short on what is essentially once in a lifetime.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

In order to maintain quality of limited entry elk mid-season hunts with the increased number of tags and distribution change of tags in the mid-season hunt (30% of overall tags). I recommend changing the spike only ALW tag dates back one week to beginning Oct. 14 in 2023 and maintaining the staggered start date in the future. With the number of mid-season ALW hunts added to the dates the spike hunters typically are out hunting, it makes sense to preserve some sort of quality of hunt during the ALW limited entry elk mid-season hunt, but delaying the start of the ALW general spike elk hunts.



Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 1, 2022 3:25 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I have hunted with traditional blackpowder muzzleloaders since the hunt in 1976 on the Boulder unit. I have hunted with Flintlock only for the last 20 years. With the current muzzleloading season, I am very much at a disadvantage when trying to hunt. I strongly agree with the proposal for primitive weapon regulations and urge the RAC's and the Wildlife Board to implement primitive hunt areas, in each region, this coming season. I would further suggest that the late Muzzleloader season in November be restricted to Primitive muzzleloaders only. Two exceptional areas for primitive weapons would be the Boulder Plateau unit and the Pinevalley unit in the SW corner of the state. I Urge you to approve the primitive proposals and implement them in as many areas as possible. Jim McConnell, Cedar City Utah. harley.jmc@gmail.com

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 1, 2022 3:41 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Do not change the archery general season elk permit to bull only. This hunt provides good opportunity to put meat on the table to support our families.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Over the years I have proposed the very thing Gabe Patterson has proposed in the Technology Committee Recommendations. The only item different than Gabe's ideas was a flintlock only instead of cap lock and flintlock, but I can live with the way it is proposed, I shoot both. I would like to see this tried in a couple of areas for the first year or two to see how this works just like when the Muzzle Hunt started in the mid 70's, there were just a couple of areas where you could use the muzzle loaders. A good area that I would propose is the Bumble Bee Mountain area above New Harmony in Washington and Iron County, and you could call this area a restricted weapon area and just use the same hunt dates as the rest of the State. I have hunted with a Muzzle since about 1975 with my first hunt in the Boulder Mountains and have been shooting a flintlock rifle for over 20 years. I think this is one of the best ideas that has been proposed in years and I would love to see it implemented. Thanks, Ray Bentley, Cedar City, UT david.ray.bentley@gmail.com

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 1, 2022 4:49 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I would like to better understand the driving factors behind changing the general season archery permits to bull only.

This change is very disappointing, and probably to only portion that I strongly disagree with. Would the archery antlerless permits use our antlerless points? Is the intent to help control point creep in the antlerless pools or are you simply looking to sell another tag? If the intent is to help control point creep then I could support the approach. If you are simply looking to sell another tag without utilizing points then I strongly disagree. I similarly am sad to see the flexibility of using antlerless tags go away, but I do see how this could help to issue more tags, and control point creep in those areas. I think it would be helpful to more clearly explain the intent to the public.

I support the age adjustments and push to help move hunters through the limited entry point pools. I also like the multi season opportunity presented for youth.

Thank you for your efforts here.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 2, 2022 8:29 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I strongly support restricting weapon types and definitions to allow more people the chance to hunt while having a lesser impact on herd numbers and animal age class. Thank you so much for developing and explaining this proposal! Put the hunt back in hunting!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

No mention was made to the lottery system or out of state hunter allotments.

Lottery System - I would suggest a higher percentage of tags be allotted to those with the most points. I realize this would represent a short term point-creep band-aid, but if the state would consider using 1/4 of the tags available instead of 1/2 the tags available for the general lottery, while clearing out the high point holders with 75% of the tags, it would go a long way very quickly to fix the high point problem. This combined with the higher number of tags mentioned in the presentation would make huge strides, and finally provide those with high points an opportunity. It is unfortunate that those that have been waiting so long for a premium experience will face a watered down experience with more hunters in the field, but that seems to be the price that will be paid to get objectives back on track, or on a track that is sustainable.

Out-of-state - While these tags don't represent a large percentage of overall tags, they still have an effect. I would recommend cutting the number of these tags in half and allot them to those residents with the most points.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 3, 2022 11:33 am

**Which best describes your position** Strongly agree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

What is the plan to deal with land owner elk tags. Now they can choose which hunt they want the tag for. With all the elk changes I hope that the early Sept Bull hunt will not be an option for the land owner tags. I Hope with only 10 percent of the tags in the early Any weapon that the auction and 5 dollar tags would move out of this season.  
It also seems like these proposals are heavily favoring the archery hunter and not the Muzzle loader guys.  
I think that we still must limit the scopes on Muzzle Loaders, a muzzle loader should not be able to kill elk 700 yrds away.

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Somewhat disagree

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

It seems there are some great new opportunities that might help people draw tags easier and help with point creep. But I believe with doing that we need to make sure we can sustain this number of hunters. So we will need more bulls. I guess the only way to have more bulls alongside more bull tags would be to further limit cow and spike tags. We can also allow for more tags by reducing success, by putting less tags toward the rut rifle hunt and more towards harder hunts like the later rifle hunt, archery hunts, Muzz, etc. And as far as general season goes, I think the bull permit numbers are pretty good and the new season proposed. But I think we need to do more to let those herds grow as well, like killing less cows. I see it has been proposed to remove a cow option from the archery tags, but we need to do away with antlerless elk control permits and we need less mitigation permits, it is just ridiculous that just one person can get the tags to take out 3 elk from a herd. We need to instead find other ways to reduce elk in farm areas. It would probably be cheaper to give farmers money for fencing and other options to keep elk out than it is to pay them for the damage. The general elk areas I hunt are extremely over hunted with most of the bulls being killed every year and tons of cows. But yet they still recover year after year and there are always a few new bulls. This shows that there is great habitat for them and they should be allowed to use that habitat to grow and maintain a healthy herd.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

This management plan is not even close to being called management. Season dates, changes, two different seasons/weeks. Having Unlimited permits for youth AND the second week is RIDICULOUS. I'd rather have a draw system than have UNLIMITED permits in any general season Elk hunt. So my recommendation would be keep giving 15,000 any bull and 15,000 spike only permits and 15,000 YOUTH permits for either spike or any bull. THOSE WHO "WANT" ELK PERMITS WILL GET IN LINE OR ONLINE TO PURCHASE THEIR PERMITS, THAT IS THEIR "OPPORTUNITY." UNLIMITED tag suggestion is ASININE!! KEEP THE SAME THING WE'VE BEEN DOING. It's not about opportunity, its about management and having elk to hunt. PLEASE DO NOT Change the General season elk seasons or have two different rifle weeks. OR unlimited tags PERIOD for youth OR second week. I hunted the full season for rifle any bull this year and there is not enough elk for your "OPPORTUNITY" recommendation. You will ruin the elk herds and wildlife and the landscape if you do so. PLEASE KEEP THE SAME SEASON DATED AND NUMBERS FOR GENERAL SPIKE AND GENERAL ANY BULL AND LOWER THE QUOTA FOR YOUTH TO 15,000 INSTEAD OF UNLIMITED.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

This management plan is not even close to being called management. Season dates, changes, two different seasons/weeks. Having Unlimited permits for youth AND the second week is RIDICULOUS. I'd rather have a draw system than have UNLIMITED permits in any general season Elk hunt. So my recommendation would be keep giving 15,000 any bull and 15,000 spike only permits and 15,000 YOUTH permits for either spike or any bull. THOSE WHO "WANT" ELK PERMITS WILL GET IN LINE OR ONLINE TO PURCHASE THEIR PERMITS, THAT IS THEIR "OPPORTUNITY." UNLIMITED tag suggestion is ASININE!! KEEP THE SAME THING WE'VE BEEN DOING. It's not about opportunity, its about management and having elk to hunt. PLEASE DO NOT Change the General season elk seasons or have two different rifle weeks. OR unlimited tags PERIOD for youth OR second week. I hunted the full season for rifle any bull this year and there is not enough elk for your "OPPORTUNITY" recommendation. You will ruin the elk herds and wildlife and the landscape if you do so. PLEASE KEEP THE SAME SEASON DATED AND NUMBERS FOR GENERAL SPIKE AND GENERAL ANY BULL AND LOWER THE QUOTA FOR YOUTH TO 15,000 INSTEAD OF UNLIMITED.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I applaud the Division, RAC, and Wildlife Board for their ongoing work. LE bull elk tags are very popular in Utah. The more tags that can be issued the better. I agree with less days for Early rifle LE bull elk hunts. Thank you for listening to the hunters that submitted feedback from the survey.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Dear Wildlife Board Members,

I am writing these comments in opposition to the proposed changes to Administrative Rule R657-5 as recommended by the DWR Technology Committee.

First I would like to commend you and the DWR for creating the HAMS Elk Hunt on the Barney Top. I had the opportunity to participate in that hunt this year with a relative who drew the tag. It is a challenging area and a very challenging hunt which is awesome, and I think it is exactly what you had in mind when you created it. I also understand this hunt strategy was also intended to help reduce point creep for limited entry elk hunting.

In my opinion this hunt should remain the way it is with no further weapon restrictions for the following reasons.

- a. It is already a challenging enough hunt with the current restrictions. I would assume the success ratio is fairly low especially for a good bull.
- b. The current restrictions will be more effective in reducing point creep because the proposed restrictions cater to a very limited and select group of hunters. Those hunters could still hunt with those weapons on a HAMS hunt without an unfair advantage.
- c. The new restrictions could result in a greater number of wounded animals and possibly multiple wounded animals from a single hunter with the extended season dates.

The HAMS hunt with the current restrictions is a new hunt and recommend that you wait a few more years before you consider making further changes to such a new hunt.

Thank you for your service and your commitment to the RAC process. We are lucky to live in such a great State with so many hunting opportunities.

Sincerely,

Dave Black

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Agree that technology needs to be looked at. Archery I feel that the new sights with built in range finders should be made illegal. Muzz loaders are tricky. People are taking longer and longer shots with them and they are becoming basically single shot rifles. I would support making scopes illegal on all ML hunts. At least if scopes remain allowed then blaze orange should be now required on all ML hunts. Not sure what to do about rifles and that technology. Hunters are regularly taking shots out to 1000 yards. Some folks can make these shots, but most can't but think they can.

I 100% support the Regulated weapon categories and hope they are somehow incorporated into the general seasons. Maybe something like the last week of the bow hunt is regulated weapons only or the last three days of the ML hunt. Would rather see the regulated weapon hunts be more incorporated into the general seasons than just another limited entry hunt.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 4, 2022 3:46 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Neither agree nor disagree  
**regarding the proposals for the 2023–24**  
**once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

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**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat agree  
**regarding the proposed hunting**  
**seasons and dates?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I don't believe the DWR actually listens or cares what the public says as I have previously attended many rac board meetings and everything that the sportsman were for the DWR was against and even though pretended to listen they didn't really care and made their decision regardless. That being said I don't believe that splitting hunts is not the answer in fact I don't believe we need as many hunts as is offered now. I don't know why there is a late season limited entry bull hunt? It only increased tags and most units can't support that. Get rid of the spike hunt and go 4 point or better like we tried to convince the DWR to do back when they made the change it does not work. You don't put a spike hunt on a limited entry unit. It has completely ruined all limited entry units. Especially the San Juan elk ridge unit. Get away from giving so many antlerless elk permits. There are no heards over 6-7 cows per bull that is very low and sad to see. As far as points go if you designate some units to a lottery system you don't have a point problem. You say you have asked sportsman's on their thoughts but what the DWR is saying doesn't line up with what 90% of the sportsman I discuss these issues with. Most will say you only manage for more revenue and not better game in which seems to be the case especially when you start naming all the paid positions by DWR for all the different comities you have to try and improve the quality of our game but have made no improvements in the last 20 years in fact it has gotten steadily worse. You can't please everyone but your job is to manage game and manage it well which has not been done for years. If you really want to improve the hunting opportunities maybe look at other states such as Colorado and New Mexico who have better hunting opportunities than utah. Just because there are more people applying for tags does not mean you have to increase more hunts or more tags. If you want to manage units for elk that are not in the trophy class then you shouldn't be charging the same amount for that unit as you are for a unit managed for trophy units. I hope that voices are actually heard and taken into consideration.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** Feel this strategy is very well thought out and fully support. I get sick of hearing people complain without an understanding of the challenges. This plan is the best compromise for all parties. My family and I fully support. Good work to all involved and thank you for your time and effort getting us to this point! Love the opportunities for our youth!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Not an easy feat, but this plan hits the mark. No one is going to be 100% satisfied as they're typically looking at things from a very selfish standpoint. This is a great start and fully support the strategy. If people want to harvest larger animals "hunt Harder", don't take opportunities from everyone, especially are youth hunters....

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I think the DWR has a difficult time in management of the elk population. Cudos for increasing the number of Limited Elk Permits and increased elk numbers statewide. I think lowering the target age of bulls one year is in efforts to sell more tags, (DWR says more "opportunity") and generate more \$ for the agency. I think the target age should be 7-8 for a "mature" bull. No Lmtd. Entry unit target age should be below age 6. Sadly, the survey questionnaire the DWR sent out, for only a 31% response is PATHETIC! From these so called, "dedicated elk hunters". Get involved people! If hunting is your livelyhood, prove it, and take/respond to the survey.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I strongly disagree with the following changes to any bull any legal weapon elk hunt. #1 making the any bull elk hunt that is currently a single hunt of 13 days into two separate hunts only 7 days long. #2 give out 15k tags for the first hunt in the first week. #3 give unlimited tags to the second hunt in the second week.

Here are my reasons to leave any bull elk any legal weapon hunt alone. First, this huge demand increase is a result of COVID as Dax Mangus mentioned in the presentation, in the past it took a couple months and now it takes hours to sell out of all elk tags. This is not a long term demand and we should not be drastically changing the elk hunts and Utah's elk strategy around this. Second, there are already too many people. Up by flaming gorge where I hunt you are required to drop your trailer before the hunt starts otherwise you are camping on the road. The proposed changes will make this much worse. Third, this hunt already has a very low success rate. In the Big Game Annual Report of 2020 under "Statewide elk harvest statistics, Utah 19761-2020" in 2020 only 4214 bull elk were taken in the general season harvest and there were 40102 hunters afield which is only a 10.5% success rate. Adding unlimited tags will only decrease the success rate in this hunt. Fourth, with 15k tags in the first hunt and unlimited tags in the second hunt we are increasing stress and pressure on the elk which I think will ultimately start the decline of our elk herd populations due to the thousands of hunters and elk not having safe places to rest except on private land. Then elk hunting will really be in a pickle when the herd numbers decline. Fifth, I believe there will be more conflicts with private landowners as there are no safe spots for the elk and well meaning elk hunters will take a not so good shot at an elk near the private/public boundaries and the wounded elk crosses over into private land.

Elk and other animals are a resource to be used and taken care of but it is a limited resource. Therefore, I object to any and all hunts where there are an unlimited number of tags that treat elk as an unlimited resource. The great American bison were once treated as an unlimited resource and as such were almost extinct. Let's make sure history does not repeat itself.

Please do not go forward with the changes to the any bull any weapon elk hunt. I do acknowledge there is more demand for elk hunting, though I think it's only temporary and short term and to solve this I would suggest we make the elk hunts where hunters are only eligible to do an elk hunt every 2 years. This will protect our elk more and still gives opportunity to all those who want to elk hunt every other year.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 6, 2022 1:36 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I strongly disagree with the following changes to any bull any legal weapon elk hunt. #1 making the any bull elk hunt that is currently a single hunt of 13 days into two separate hunts only 7 days long. #2 give out 15k tags for the first hunt in the first week. #3 give unlimited tags to the second hunt in the second week.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I am concerned with the proposed elk management plan for the following reasons.

1. Splitting the hunt into two one week hunts makes it so there is a shorted hunt period to participate in elk hunting.
2. By drastically increasing the number of elk tags (for the first week) will make the public hunting areas even more crowded and difficult to find camping spots let alone hunting spots.
3. By creating an unlimited number of elk tags (for the second week) will do nothing more than continue to decrease the elk herds and continue to make elk hunts, beginning next season and forward, even more difficult.

I don't believe that we need to make the general elk hunt as difficult to obtain a tag as our limited entry hunts, but I do have great concern in drastically increasing the general elk tag amounts. I say this as a relatively new hunter (5ish years) that has low hopes of actually acquiring enough limited entry points to participate in limited entry elk hunts, and wish to still have at least a chance of being successful in both participating in each general season elk hunt annually and being successful in harvesting an elk for myself occasionally.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 7, 2022 8:52 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I will just comment on the restrictive black powder requirements.  
THANK-YOU!! You have made this a real hunt again! My last kill ( spike elk) was several years ago with my cap & ball CVA mountain man rifle at 75 yards. It took all that day and the next to butch in the field and backpack my harvest back to camp. Thank-you for making it a hunt again and not just a shooting gallery.



**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

in regards to the overall plans for the upcoming elk plans most seem creditable but when i saw it was proposed to add the Oquirrh/Stansbury units into the west desert unit and make them Any bull units really got my attention. first thing i can come up with is that any time you take a limited area bull unit and open it like that is a death sentence. can you imagine the amount of hunters flocking into these units with the chance to harvest a mature bull. the biggest part of this problem is that over half of these units are private leaving very little areas that hunters can get into and these areas will be hammered hard not to mention most of the land owners who have allowed access to hunt elk will shut there properties down i know this for a fact because i live here and talk to alot of them often. law enforcement will be really have there hands full taking care of diffrent items that pop up. i have heard mention that one of reasons these units were suggested is that they don't offer a quality limited area hunt i dont see how this could be since the herds are making a comeback and some of the bulls taken on the H A M S hunt last year were trophies in anyone s book. our group harvested 2 that were qualified for the longhunters records and out of 10 hunter there were 5 that harvest for 50 percent success which is not bad at all for a restricted weapons area. and the preliminary success reports are even better this year. this unit has been limited entry for most of my entire life and I'm 70 and the main reason for the decline was over hunting in the 1990s thru 2010 when there were over 30 permits issued for this small unit. i limented long and loud about over hunting back than and im repeating myself know. this unit works great as a spike unit and a hams unit please dont change things as once the fats in the fire the first casualty will be not only the elk but a shot in the shorts for all the young hunters just coming in to the system. i would really like to talk to someone who spends any quality time on these to units im sure there in agreement that don't fix what's not busted. if we cannot do over the counter deer hunt what in the world make one think it will work on our elk herds.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I agree with the new elk management plan but want to bring up a concern about nonresident hunters. I agree with turning some of the LE elk units with low hunter satisfaction to general season. This will help disperse hunters and will increase the quality of the general hunt considerably. If these changes are accepted and these LE units are pushed into the General thus making the General hunt much better, I fear that many nonresidents will capitalize on the unlimited archery and the proposed second season rifle tags and will overrun the General hunt. Especially the first couple of years, I think many nonresidents will flock to Utah to hunt the General for a chance to hunt units that were LE just a year or two ago. Just like nearly every state surrounding Utah has done, I propose that the State put a 10% cap on the number of nonresident tags. Even the unlimited archery and second season rifle hunts should have a cap for nonresidents. I hunt at least two other states besides my home state of Utah every year and I deal with these 10% caps in these states, its only fair that a 10% cap be placed in Utah. Please consider adding a 10% cap for Nonresident general season elk tags.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I only disagree with the archery definition of restricted. I believe that compound bows should still be allowed and archery in general should be considered restricted. What should be listed for restricted in archery season are electronics on the bow.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 7, 2022 6:12 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 7, 2022 7:53 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I'm fine with most everything in the proposal and validate all the thought, effort and compromise that went into the committee's work. Not quite sure about an unlimited second season, but would be willing to see how it plays out for 1-2 years.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I think a lot of this new management plan is designed to generate revenue instead improve the elk hunting opportunities. I disagree with making the West Desert unit a general season any bull unit. If this passes and you allow unlimited tags for the second season, I believe it will take only one or two years before the elk herds on the Oquirrh/Stansbury range are decimated. This area already gets a lot of hunter pressure just being a spike unit. I also disagree with not allowing a person with a late season antlerless tag to fill said tag during a general season hunt if it is in the same unit. If issuing antlerless tags are your way of controlling elk numbers then why not keep this opportunity to help with the success rate in filling those antlerless tags.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

If you want to solve the over crowding get rid of the [REDACTED] multi season tag. Then divide the tags up for each hunt so many tags for archery so many rifle tags and so many muzzle loader tags. Then keep the youth unlimited. As for changing the muzzle loader restrictions it is a bunch of BS changing anything other than having scopes. If anything should change it should be just get rid of scopes all should e open sight. When it is snowing and you are hunting flint don't work. On top of the fact some people don't have money to go buy a new muzzle loader. We are trying to provide food for our families.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I feel like the committee missed an important piece of the elk hunting puzzle in the state of Utah and that is the Archery General Season Hunter's Choice permit. I say this because archery hunting in the middle of August and beginning of September this last season was a complete waste of time. According to a Desert News article, the five hottest days on record for the month of Sept. in SLC were set this year (2022). In addition, the average temp. was over six degrees higher than the 30 year record. Granted this is in city, but it is also corresponds to an average higher temperature statewide. Any ethically minded person who is out to harvest an animal for meat and not just antlers should be concerned on how quickly their meat will begin to spoil.

In addition to the difficulty of hunting in the low 80's, the general season hunt really misses the peak of the rut. Elk are NOT rutting in August nor are they bugling. Lastly, the extended season is a nice option because the temps have dropped a bit, but whats left of the available hunting grounds is tiny patches of available public lands surrounded by cities and private property.

My suggestion is get rid of hunting in August and allow archers the opportunity to hunt from the second week of September into the second week of October. I think I've strongly outlined the reasons why this change is necessary in my statement above.

Thank you,  
AE

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Dear Wildlife Board Members,

I am writing these comments in opposition to the proposed changes to Administrative Rule R657-5 as recommended by the DWR Technology Committee. (If you have received this twice, I apologize, I'm not sure I submitted it right the first time.)

First I would like to commend you and the DWR for creating the HAMS Elk Hunt on the Barney Top. I had the opportunity to participate in that hunt this year with a relative who drew the tag. It is a challenging area and a very challenging hunt which is awesome, and I think it is exactly what you had in mind when you created it. I also understand this hunt strategy was also intended to help reduce point creep for limited entry elk hunting.

In my opinion this hunt should remain the way it is with no further weapon restrictions for the following reasons.

- a. It is already a challenging enough hunt with the current restrictions. I would assume the success ratio is fairly low especially for a good bull.
- b. The current restrictions will be more effective in reducing point creep because the proposed restrictions cater to a very limited and select group of hunters. Those hunters could still hunt with those weapons on a HAMS hunt without an unfair advantage.
- c. The new restrictions could result in a greater number of wounded animals and possibly multiple wounded animals from a single hunter with the extended season dates.

The HAMS hunt with the current restrictions is a new hunt and recommend that you wait a few more years before you consider making further changes to such a new hunt.

Thank you for your service and your commitment to the RAC process. We are lucky to live in such a great State with so many hunting opportunities.

Sincerely,

Dave Black

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

My comments are on the West Desert elk boundary being changed to open bull and not a spike bull unit, mainly the Oquirrh Stansbury Mountain area. Now I will agree that there is not very big trophy elk in these areas and being a LE unit makes no sense either but making it an open bull unit will destroy the elk in the area unlike other units there is not a lot of places the elk can go to get away from hunters and they will get slaughtered in the first year and slowly the elk herd will not be there anymore it will look like Vernon little to no elk. I hunt this unit every year and talking to others that hunt it also we think keeping it a spike unit is by far the best for not only the elk but the people that live out here.

I think the LE should be closed and maybe have a few years of extended archery hunt to keep it in check maybe if we could plant a few bigger bulls in the areas to get the gene pool back. The Quirrh Stansbury unit used to be a good trophy area but got horribly mismanaged now the herds are coming back and you want to kill off everything it is not a good idea and should not be allowed to happen. thank you for your time

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 9, 2022 6:16 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

The multi-season permit should be eliminated and hunters should have to pick what season they are hunting. The multi-season permit is putting too many hunters in the field. Also hunters should not be able to hunt cow elk on snowmobiles, they are chasing the elk until they are exhausted, which is harassment. The permit process needs attention. I have waited for hours trying to buy a permit (maybe click on type of permit before hand so all applicants are not in same hold process).

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** Multi season any bull tags need to be drastically reduced or eliminated, the quality of the muzzleloader hunt the last 2 years has gone to [REDACTED] to the amount of hunters and pressure

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Deer hunt dates end to early especially the limited entry late muzzleloader hunt, last year the 11th this year the 10th then proposed 9th and 7th. No incentive for higher point guys to burn their points for those dates.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** Strongly oppose restricting muzzleloaders without telling us why or what hunts and species or how it will affect things.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 10, 2022 12:17 am

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I strongly disagree with these proposals. I'm getting tired of the changes that seem to always make it worse instead of better. The biggest concern I have is dropping the limited entry hunt to 5 days. Nobody in my family has been able to draw a limited entry tag or a once in a lifetime tag and now that my wife should draw her very first elk tag next year, you're going to change it after all of the money and years of waiting. The quality on the Wasatch unit has went down and everyone I know and have talked to feel the same way, but for some reason you're talking about possibly adding a late hunt and even allowing the general season elk tags to be unlimited. Anyone who has been up there and put in the time watching the deer and elk know that it has went down hill. After the first hunt starts, a lot of the elk and deer drop into private property or move off, making them extremely hard to find. So saying things like, a lot of people harvest their elk within three to five days, like it isn't a big deal is very upsetting. No hunt is guaranteed and shortening it will just make it that much harder. This seriously has to stop.

During the power point it made me extremely angry when you brought up what it would take to draw a limited entry elk tag if you started putting in for these hunts at the age of 12. The power point showed one unit, I believe, could take up to 130 years to draw and made it seem unfair to the youth. But I say, what about all the people who have been waiting their turn? I understand getting young people involved, but cheating other people out of their opportunity, that they have been waiting years for is not the right thing to do. I started hunting when I was 14 years old and have been waiting for my chance. Every year I look at the numbers that it could take to draw the deer unit I'm putting in for, and there is a chance I won't even draw that unit in my lifetime. I'm tired of hearing how bad the youth have it when we have all been waiting our turn. Even if I can draw a deer tag, I don't think I'll even get a chance to hunt a limited entry elk unit. Nobody in my family has drawn a tag that is a limited entry or once in a lifetime. I think you need to stop adding more to the units that are already over hunted and stop giving priority based on age. Everyone should be on the same playing field and when you go off of peoples age and exclude others based on that, that is AGE DISCRIMINATION!!

My wife's grandfather passed away this year and it was sad because he never got the opportunity to draw. We all think this year would have been the year he drew his once in a lifetime tag, but it never happened. I feel that you are discriminating against people based on their age. When looking how you already set aside tags for the youth on the general deer hunt, and I believe this year you also offered general season unlimited elk tags for the youth, it shows priority based on age and I feel that this needs to stop and be looked into. My father is now getting close to 70 years old and is still trying to draw his limited entry deer tag. Not wanting to go to far back, but when the discussion came up about lowering the age to 12, there were a lot of people, including myself, that thought it should be left alone. While talking with a staff member from the Springville office years ago, they informed us that they wouldn't be changing the age to 12 when it came to the limited entry draw or once in a lifetime, but just the general season. This ended up being a lie. One of the reasons I have lost faith in how things

are being ran is because of this.

We all know that half the tags on a limited entry unit go to the people with the highest points and the other half is a free for all like the lotto. Well there are a lot of people that bank on that and have hope that this year might be the year they get lucky. Then you went and added more people to the pot when the system was already maxed out! Then you complain and sit hear and say how you're trying to create more opportunity and that hunters are just wanting their cake and to eat it to. Well if that's the case and it's not just about selling more tags, then why would you go and add more people to a system that is overloaded already?? And then you talk about trying to come up with ideas on trying to create more opportunity which then makes me sit here and wonder for who? I do not understand why you guys have allowed some of these decisions to go through.

One year you allowed the youth to hunt nine days and we were only allowed five. It cost my dad a deer of a lifetime. We found a nice deer on the last day of the hunt, but since it was a shortened year, he has to continue to wait and hopefully draw a limited tag to have a chance for what he was cheated out of. Now I'm worried your going to cheat my wife out of her chance by cutting the hunt in almost half. I noticed during the powerpoint it was mentioned trying to allow youth to hunt longer on their hunts because they have school and extra curricular activities. But what about all the people who have full time jobs, kids, and various other responsibilities? For a lot of us we are lucky to get any time off and usually get stuck only getting to hunt the weekends. Adults also have responsibilities that they can't miss where missing some extra curricular activities as a kid won't cost you a job!

So I ask that this does not go through and you quit trying to add more hunts and leave it alone. I don't see how this is helping the wildlife. I'm out in the field countless hours every year and watching the quality deteriorate and yet you want to create more hunts and more people in the field. I truly believe that the state is more concerned with making money then in protecting Utah's hunting heritage.

These are my thoughts on several different issues around hunting here in Utah that I wanted to voice my opinion on. I realize these are not all directly related to the most recent proposals, but I still wanted to voice my concerns.

**Which best describes your position  
regarding the proposed hunting  
seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

I strongly disagree with these proposals. I'm getting tired of the changes that seem to always make it worse instead of better. The biggest concern I have is dropping the limited entry hunt to 5 days. Nobody in my family has been able to draw a limited entry tag or a once in a lifetime tag and now that my wife should draw her very first elk tag next year, you're going to change it after all of the money and years of waiting. The quality on the Wasatch unit has went down and everyone I know and have talked to feel the same way, but for some reason you're talking about possibly adding a late hunt and even allowing the general season elk tags to be unlimited. Anyone who has been up there and put in the time watching the deer and elk know that it has went down hill. After the first hunt starts, a lot of the elk and deer drop into private property or move off, making them extremely hard to find. So saying things like, a lot of people harvest their elk within three to five days, like it isn't a big deal is very upsetting. No hunt is guaranteed and shortening it will just make it that much harder. This seriously has to stop.

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So I ask that this does not go through and you quit trying to add more hunts and leave it alone. I don't see how this is helping the wildlife. I'm out in the field countless hours every year and watching the quality deteriorate and yet you want to create more hunts and more people in the field. I truly believe that the state is more concerned with making money then in protecting Utah's hunting heritage.

These are my thoughts on several different issues around hunting here in Utah that I wanted to voice my opinion on. I realize these are not all directly related to the most recent proposals, but I still wanted to voice my concerns.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I think that muzzleloaders should not have scopes over one power. When looking back, I remember muzzleloaders that could shoot out to 100 to 200 yards max. But now I'm seeing guys on the range push out to 700 yards with theirs. I think that once a muzzleloader can shoot out to those distances, that to me is more of a rifle at that point.

I don't believe that certain weapons should be restricted to only certain areas of a unit. Take for instance deer hunting on the Wasatch unit from Alpine to Spanish Fork. To restrict the face of that unit to archery, like it is farther north, only makes it harder to hunt by making more rules to follow and spending more money buying more equipment like a bow. I feel that the firearm safety rule of knowing your target and beyond is the hunters responsibility and we shouldn't be micromanaged.

On any legal weapons, I can understand limiting or restricting scopes that can detect heat and things like that. Having a normal rifle with a 3x9 scope shouldn't be changed or restricted. One of the biggest reasons is because of the cost it can be for people to change their setup. More importantly some people have physical limitations where using a bow may not be possible. I know hunters who want to do archery, but they are limited to having a scope because of their age and eye sight. This helps them to make a clean and ethical shot.

These are my thoughts on several different issues around hunting here in Utah that I wanted to voice my opinion on. I realize these are not all directly related to the most recent proposals, but I still wanted to voice my concerns.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Not a big fan of the Proposed Dec archery elk hunts those hunts will most likely prove to be tough hunts in deep snow on almost all of the units except possibly a few southern Utah areas but those could very well have deep snow as well.

I do like the fact we are keeping the early Rifle hunt for elk and making it a 5-day hunt shouldn't make much of a difference on harvest and that hunt is pretty unique to Utah and. I'm an archery elk hunter! I love to see 4 additional days added to the limited archery hunt in September that should help make these hunts even more enjoyable with the extra days afield while bulls are bugling!

One thing I would love to see in regard to buck deer hunting is more opportunity to hunt in November.

The limited late muzzleloader hunts on the general units are nice but extremely low tag numbers make it tough to pull a tag. It's better than nothing thou and I realize hunting bucks in November is a tough thing to toggle with permit numbers and taking away tags from the October seasons but maybe we could go like 66% October allotment and 33% November allotment. Would be awesome to be able to hunt rutting bucks in November with a muzzleloader even if it was like every 5 or more years.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Year to year we hear about the "point creep" and ways the DWR is going to help mitigate that. But there has never been any discussions CWMU's and their impact on the point creep. All together there is 2,988 tags allocated to PRIVATE CWMU tags... every year. You're proposing 632 more. Year after year.....after year the same people purchase these CWMU tags. My question is why aren't these tags held to the same restrictions as public hunters?

1. Public hunters draw a CWMU tag and burn their limited entry points. CWMU tag purchase holders DON'T lose any points and continue to build points on that species.
2. Public hunters can't apply for more than one limited entry species every year. CWMU tag purchase holders get to purchase a tag and build on their limited entry points for other species.
3. Public hunters have a 5 year wait period when they draw a tag. CWMU tag purchase holders can buy multiple tags year, after year, after year. No wait period.

When will CWMU tag purchase holders burn points and have wait periods like the rest of us and reduce the "point creep"? It seem's like the point creep could be reduced very quickly if these people were held to the same standard.

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Somewhat disagree

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 10, 2022 8:55 am

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat disagree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I appreciate the effort that the committee has put into this plan. If you are seeking to increase opportunity, it hits the mark. If you are intending to reduce quality (not only size of animals, but also the experience), then they hit the mark as well. My wife sits at 26 points for elk. We have had the choice to draw almost any other tag in the State, but have chosen to just wait until the opportunity comes along. I have a friend that has drawn 2 elk tags in the same period of time because he chooses to hunt and take chances on units with lower age objectives. We want the opportunity to hunt when very few people are on the unit. We want that solitary type of feeling without worrying about too many other hunters and parties pushing elk all over the mountain. Increasing tags is not going to make this possible with a 30%-40% jump in tag numbers. If you are going to agree to more tags (and it appears A LOT MORE TAGS), then you need to give more than 5 days for that early season to at least give people an opportunity to separate themselves from others to try and have a quality hunt. In this scenario, the pressure is too high, especially for those that have been waiting more than 20 years for a tag.

Also, I served on the Northern WRAC for 8 years in the past and we have seen the age objectives decreased before. It did not go well because the public wanted better bulls and the objective was raised again in spite of what the science of a 6.5 year old bull says. The DWR surveys sent to hunters confirmed that they wanted, even expected quality. Yes, opportunity was left on the mountain, just like the Henry's and Pauntsugunt for deer, but it is the only way to maintain a quality hunt for size and experience. People want 360 plus animals from these really good limited entry units. Also, if quality diminishes, so too will the dollars made on Auction Tags that support a lot of good habitat restoration in the State. So, if you decide to make the reality a 320 bull because you are concerned about the point creep, get rid of the point system for elk all together, but allow all those with points to still have a weighed chance (given the random numbers to equal the number of points they have) until all individuals with points are gone. This is what the public told me while I was on the WRAC. Point creep is a problem, but if you eliminate the point system, then everyone has an equal chance. Another idea is to put a cap on the number of points an individual can have.....but eventually that would catch up as well and it would basically just go back to zero. not an easy thing to deal with. it sucks that we live in a state where hunting is actually growing in popularity instead of following a national trend. No matter what, you are not going to please everyone. On another note, I have never hunted and never intend to hunt the General Season elk. Too many people in the Any Bull units. A sea of Orange like being in the Clemson football stadium. If you divide this into two seasons now, I am going to stay as far away as possible. People complain all the time about the General Season. It seems absolutely crazy if the early still has the same number of tags and then unlimited tags on the second hunt? I have always defended the DWR in most cases, but this one is not a good look. This has all the makings of a money grab and a lack of respect for the elk. I agree that it seems crazy that tags sold out so quickly, but just put them in a draw....no points attached. We don't need more hunters in the field because the resource

does not support it.....and it will drive hunter ethics in a direction we do not want to see because people will get frustrated and will be encouraged to trespass, shoot longer than their skill level, and herd shooting and lobbing rounds instead of being patient because they see someone else on another ridge where the elk are running.

As far as getting rid of the opportunity to hunt either sex with archery, I am opposed to this. I do not buy them very often because I concentrate on deer so much, but when I do buy one, it is only because an opportunity might presents itself. It is not the focus. If it is Bull only, I am not buying it ever again. If it is a cow archery tag, it has to be a draw because we would shoot too many cows, and a draw for a genera archery cow is too much of a hassle. I am sure if you looked at the success of archery elk hunters, it is very low, only because it is just a extra tag in the pocket in case opportunity came along during a deer hunt. At least, that is all it means for me. Good luck. This is a lot to digest. It is a complete re-tooling of the elk management in Utah. I understand the DWR is in a tough spot. I just hate to see us become a no-name for elk. I also believe if the number of people increase in the mountains, our deer populations will continue to suffer because of the pressure, even if that pressure is not on the deer themselves.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** Thank you for issuing more elk tags giving the general public more opportunity to hunt. I hope these extra tags are going to the general public and not to the CWMU private sector.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** There is CWMU landowner near where I hunt that has not been honest about his property line. Soldier summit cwmu. He is claiming to have of a Spring as part of his property. There is also a tree stand near the Spring where I assume he is bringing his CWMU clients to hunt. He is also damming up this Spring so it no longer runs on Public property. In reality the entire spring is FULLY on public property but he has moved his private property signs claiming it as his own and using CWMU tags to harvest animals from this Spring and he consistently is kicking Public off this property. Is there anything we can do to fix this? We have made multiple complaints but he keeps moving his signs. He supposedly moved his signs again this year but they currently aren't in the right location. 70 yards into public land. What can we do to fix this?

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

First I would like to thank all involved for the work and effort put into this elk plan. I like the majority of the proposals in the plan except for the change to the hunters choice portion of the general season archery elk. I do not really understand why we would take away a hunters choice option, where a nominal number of cows harvested anyway, just to be able to give some antlerless tags later in the season? Don't we use antlerless hunts as a tool to "manage" herds when they are over objective?

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly agree

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I think rangefinders should be addressed and not put a "do not touch" list. This whole committee was brought about because of a local Representative that thinks we have become to "efficient of killers". We have because we KNOW how far things are and dont have to guess anymore. More guessing leads to more missed animals and not more wounded ones, we get more wounded ones from guys who are not as good at long range marksmanship as their equipment is. Also I think the "restricted" weapons proposal need more clarity for what and when it is proposed for.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 10, 2022 4:44 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Make spear season during Archery season.  
Incentivise(somehow) private land owners to allow hunting.  
Lower how many acres owned in order to get tags land owners can sell during other seasons, to push elk off private land.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I strongly disagree with this proposal. Especially the new proposed units. Quit trying to pad your pocketbooks.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Stop destroying our elk heards. Get the SFW out of your pocket. It's keeps getting more and more dirty with you guys and the SFW.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

These animals cannot sustain anymore hunting opportunities. They are being hunted August thru January aggressively. This is taking a toll on the ability of these animals to survive on a day to day basis especially during winter. More hunts are not needed for these animals especially in the limited entry units. I feel that the length of time should not be shortened on the early limited entry any weapon bull elk hunts. Some sportsmen have been putting in for over 20 YEARS for these limited entry units and are now being penalized or discriminated against and will no longer be able to experience a quality hunt due to a shortened hunt window. It's not right to have the opportunity shortened in order to add more hunts. It just won't work and the animals will suffer and so will Utah's hunting economy. Please take what I have said into consideration especially the shortened season hunting date.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

These animals cannot sustain anymore hunting opportunities. They are being hunted August thru January aggressively. This is taking a toll on the ability of these animals to survive on a day to day basis especially during winter. More hunts are not needed for these animals especially in the limited entry units. I feel that the length of time should not be shortened on the early limited entry any weapon bull elk hunts. Some sportsmen have been putting in for over 20 YEARS for these limited entry units and are now being penalized or discriminated against and will no longer be able to experience a quality hunt due to a shortened hunt window. It's not right to have the opportunity shortened in order to add more hunts. It just won't work and the animals will suffer and so will Utah's hunting economy. Please take what I have said into consideration especially the shortened season hunting date.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 10, 2022 10:36 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Doesn't make sense to let archery hunters kill a bull elk and a cow elk with the proposed otc elk tags. This is twice as many elk possibly killed by archery hunters than the previous plan.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2022 8:20 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I would like to object to the ebike use, how are ebikes any worse than boats or air boats on waterfowl wmas? You mean to tell me that a quiet bike causes more stress than a v-8 airboat?!? I hunt with a senior and he gets out enjoying his passion via ebike and now your going to take that away from him and thousands of others. If we can't use e bikes to hunt I guess the state is going to loose out on a lot of income from hunters.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2022 11:47 am

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat agree  
**regarding the CWMU and LOA**  
**recommendations?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I fully support the recommendations in the elk management plan. I believe it will provide more opportunity and still maintain good quality. I like the change to archery needing separate tags for bulls and cows. I believe this will still provide opportunity while keeping track of antlerless take more accurately. I think it is great to provide more any bull opportunity in southern and central utah. I believe separating the rifle seasons and having unlimited tags in the second season is a good compromise so we do not need to go to a draw and will have the potential to decrease some pressure in other hunts. I appreciate the last few seasons the archery season has started later and gone deeper into September and would like to see that trend continue. Thanks to all those who put so many hours into researching and developing these recommendations.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Not sure how to answer if I agree or disagree because there did not seem like any hard and fast recommendations. I think these technologies need to be addressed sooner rather than later. Let's get rolling on some solid recommendations. I would like to see the restrictive muzzleloader definition become the one and only muzzleloader definition. I think it would be great to test some traditional archery seasons or dates that use the restricted bow definition.

I did not see a space for CWMU feedback. I do not support including public land in the CWMUs unless there is some real valuable equity returned to the public. There seem to be a lot of variances and discrepancies in tag allocation. For example I am looking at Jacobs Creek. They are way over objective they don't have any antlerless tags and a 90-10 split on bull tags - so only 2 bull tags for the public compared to 18 for the private. This does not seem equitable for the public. Let's try to be more consistent with the administration of the CWMUs.

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Somewhat disagree



Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2022 12:17 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** I would like to see NON-Cell transmitting trail cameras be unrestricted.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

As I have read through the plan it is apparent the need for income from hunting licenses to fund the DWR is more important than biology and wildlife management. The lowering of the age of elk in limited entry units and the number of age groupings shows the desire for more hunters in the field than the quality of the elk herd health and diversity. The date of the season is better than it has been to limit success but is only being changed to increase the number of hunters in the field to maximize profit. The issue is not more hunters but the state government's lack of funding for a strong DWR focused to maximize the health of all the animal herds. I have hunted the muzzleloader and archery season on LE and archery general elk season and was greatly disappointed in the overlapping seasons that reduce the quality of the experience. Utah has been the go-to state for elk for the last twenty years but with this new management plan, you will only maximize the income for five years and then we will see a crash which in the end will cause the DWR office to reduce its staff and ability to manage the great animal resources and our stewardship of God's great creation.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 12, 2022 8:32 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Please register my support for a restricted archery equipment season, aka traditional archery season.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

The comprehensive group that made up this committee should speak for itself. All parties involved compromised and did a great job of putting their recommendations together. I support nearly 100% of the elk plan recommendations.

A few adjustments I'd recommend:

1. Start by aligning archery tag allocation %'s more closely with the % of the hunting population that prefer archery. Today, that is less than 20%. Please assign and reduce the archery tag allocation %'s to reflect this. Shift more of those tags into rifle hunts.

2. Get rid of the multi season general elk tags. This has undoubtedly caused more hunter crowding vs when hunters were forced to pick one of the seasons solely. You will more than make up this revenue from the unlimited 2nd rifle hunt.

3. If you choose to keep the multi-season, lower the cap down 1,000 tags. And do not let this group hunt the 2nd rifle hunt.

For the record, I purchase the multi season tag and use all weapon types today. But am willing to part with those luxuries for more opportunity AND more quality hunting experiences.

As a Board, PLEASE follow the DWR + RAC recommendations as closely as possible and don't butcher them up. The Wildlife Board today is viewed as a "do whatever you want" board and doesn't listen to the DWR or the RAC feedback. PLEASE PROVE US WRONG (but in a good way).

There is no comment box here for the CWMU portion, so I'll comment here. Keep public lands out of CWMU allocations. Period. If a group doesn't have enough private land on their own to hit the minimum average, please disqualify them.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals?**

Overall solid recommendations here. I'd recommend we remove the archery special tag allocations (like for mountain goats) for once in a lifetime species all together. The success rates are still really high. Let's not cater to a small but vocal minority.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Solid recommendations. I support as presented.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** This process was handled poorly and caused some confusion. The definitions are fine. I'd warn against restricting most hunts in a major way if it causes wounding rates to go up. This will be more part of future conversation, no doubt.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Section I.B. Dates Covered states "The elk plan will be presented to the Wildlife Board on December 1, 2022 and, if approved, will be in effect for 10 years until December 2032. In the spring/summer of 2028 this committee will reconvene to conduct a mid-plan review and will send any recommended changes to the Utah Wildlife Board in the fall of 2028."

I recommend that the last sentence be changed to "This elk management plan will be in effect for 10 years. Five years from release of this elk management plan, a review of the plan will be conducted and any recommended changes will be provided to the Utah Wildlife Board after public comment and Regional Advisory Board review. If the Division of Wildlife Resources determines that an update to the elk management plan is necessary to properly manage Utah's wildlife and/or address public sentiment, the plan can be revised at any time."

Recommend "Dates Covered" be changed to "Effectivity and Updates"

The reason for the recommended change is to allow changes to occur if needed anytime during the 10 year period. If impacts from this updated plan were to be harmful to wildlife we should give ourselves the flexibility to make changes when necessary, not just after 5 years from the release of the plan. Also, the current statement says "this committee", which, is too restrictive because it requires the review to be conducted only by the committee described in Section I.A. The committee will most likely have a different make up so we should allow for a group other than this committee to conduct the review if needed.

The exact recommended wording is not necessary, but the intent is highly recommended.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I like what the northern rac discussed in their meeting about eliminating the possibility of being able to buy bonus points and how that could effect point creep. I also wonder if shortening the application period could help out with point creep as well

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals?** I like the offered archery only hunts I'd hate to see us do away with them do to high success rates. If you have to adjust them (change dates, do restricted hunts, etc...) to meet the lower success rates I'd rather see this than do away with them as was discussed in the central rac

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** The northern rac discussed point creep and the ability to purchase bonus points which I agree with what was discussed about doing away with but, if this is not something that can be done in this round of meetings I'd like to see the extra week or two that is allowed after the application period closes to purchase a bonus point axed

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** I like SFW's proposal on this topic

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

2 things I disagree with. First is splitting the rifle elk hunt. This hunt is already a low success rate hunt. Limiting this hunt to only a week makes it a waste of money to even buy a tag. Its hard enough why make it even harder? From what I understand is this proposal is trying to relieve the pressure on the tags we've seen the past few years. I dont see how this will do that. Everyone will still want the 1st hunt so it'll still be very difficult to get a tag for that hunt. Then the 2nd season will be a waste of time and money. There are 2 better options I've heard. Make muzzleloader tags unlimited. This would relieve some of that pressure on that pool of tags. However the main reason there is so much pressure on that pool of tags is because of the 3 season tag. You have a bunch of archery hunters now buying from that pool of tags you didn't have before. So restricting how many of those tags can be sold as 3 season might help it needs to be reduced more than what is being proposed or it needs to be ran more like the dedicated deer program where you have to commit more than just money if you want to do it.

The second thing I disagree with is ending the ability to hunt cow tags during other hunts you may have tags for. Antlerless tags are ment to control herd numbers and should be designed to be a high success rate hunt. I hunt bulls for fun and I dont rely on those tags to fill my freezer. I hunt cow elk for a freezer full of meat to feed my family that meat is a huge blessing to my family. Making it harder to fill those tags is the wrong way to look at those tags. Please keep it as it is.

Thank you for your time and service and for reading my comments.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I find this new designation of weapons absolutely unnecessary. We already have hams keep it at that no need to complicate it more. Besides hams hunts dont seem to be very popular anyway why create another designation of weapons that will be even less popular. It won't help point creep unless you can get guys with a substantial amount of points to put in for it. Nobody with more than a few points will put in for a hunt like this.



**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** Numerous trophy elk units will be destroyed in 1 years time. They will be decimated. Why ? For one years hunter opportunity ? Very disappointing that these ideas are even being suggested. If you want to give out more quality elk tags then consider getting rid of the spike only hunt in Utah. We are the only state in the west that does spike only hunts for a reason. It doesn't make sense management wise. Raise the price of elk tags for residents and non residents! I do not know one single person who is in agreement with these proposals. Not a single one. Also....lowering the age class objectives is a shame for a multitude of reasons.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** We have got to stop adding hunts every.....single .....year. Why? Our wildlife are a limited resource. We can't chase them non stop from august -January and expect them to do well or recover ! Absolutely no way! Adding December bull elk archery hunts makes zero sense!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** Leave the h.a.m.s. Hunts how they are.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I believe there is opportunity to expand the current archery hunt into two separate 2 weeklong seasons on the LE units, a first season and second season archery hunt. I feel that by doing this you can double the amount of archery tags for almost all the LE units, and you will not affect the quality in any measurable way as archery hunters are more willing to shoot the older bulls that do not have the genetics to grow trophy racks (350-400 class) Most archery hunters will shoot a mature 300-340 bull given the opportunity. This would be a very good way to increase opportunity while not negatively impacting the trophy potential for a given area. This would also help move more people through the points systems and would allow you to issue a lot more tags, and not have overcrowding issues.

Maybe this is something you could direct the Division to look into further and come back with a proposal for next year.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

You guys need to look at the season structure for the North Slope 3 Corners, there really is no reason for this area not to have the same season structure and the rest of the units, currently there is only an archery hunts, a mid-season rifle hunt and a muzzleloader hunt that is in November. I know there is some issue with agreements with the neighboring states, but currently you should be meeting those requirements with the current seasons structure. At the very least move the archery hunt into an all of September hunt, currently there is no elk hunting on the unit from Sept. 19th to Oct. 7th. You could easily add this unit onto the September archery hunts that are aligned with the HAMS hunts.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Your limitations on archery are way to restrictive, there is no reason to not allow a compound bow into these classifications. You could limit them to a 5 pin fixed sight and be ok, but even that is a bit exsessive.

I also do not agree with the extreme limitations on muzzleloaders, being allowed to use a 209 primer ignition, ■ or even a newer veriflame ignition should still be allowed, if you want to remove scopes from these restrictive hunts that is fine, but at least allow people to use the guns they already possess to hunt with. Most people do not own these older style weapons.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I don't have the answer but for myself I would rather only get a tag every couple of years and actually have something to harvest than to get a tag every year and see nothing but a pumpkin patch on the hillside. We put in individually and if only one draws we still go to support the one and have a good outing with the rest. It would be great if the old days of everyone that wanted a tag got one but that's not really. I don't think unlimited tags is the answer. The problem is we as a state have too many people that want to hunt and not enough to go around. It sucks but that's the way it is.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I think having some of the restricted hunts would be great. I am 60 years old and grew up when a Bushell 4x scope was an elite scope. I agree with limiting technologies . It puts hunting back as hunting and not a long-range competition. You have to hit the animal not the electronics. I love to see what is on a trail cam but it doesn't break my heart that the division put restrictions on them during the hunting season. I don't agree with all of your decisions but since I don't have any better ones I hope that inputs from others may help. You have a tough job.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Having viewed several of the RAC meetings I'm disappointed at the regional dissection of the plan. Everyone has a favorite hunting spot. I started hunting elk on the north slope. A transplant to Utah I reinvigorated my in-laws to hunt where they had hunted decades past. They were shocked at the lack of elk and abundance of hunters after their hiatus. We adapted. We hunt spike tags every other year, we try new drainages, opt for alternative tag options and we hope to draw decent tags at some point. I hate seeing others hunters in "my spot" be it newly discovered or well known. But I love elk hunting and so I give it my best. Two specific thoughts about the plan. Surgical precision is being referenced regarding the archery either sex adjustment, I would like to see the cow tags (if offered) be draw based for specific units making archery hunters narrow their geographic focus. That to me sounds surgical. Many times the lack of disturbance to the population has been referenced. Wouldn't unit based tags fit that thinking and also require preference point usage? Additionally, I selfishly want to hunt every year until my tag is punched and I go on the final pack out, however this is about the future for the rising generation of hunters in tandem with the longevity of Utah's elk. In the northern RAC meeting youth numbers were specified. They were shockingly low in my estimation. We need more youth out there! Elk need a rising generation that want to hunt them! The entitled point holders in this state need to get off their UTVs leave their \$3000 camo kits at home, ditch their \$5000 in high end optics, and take a walk through the trees with a kid. We need change, thanks for proposing hard things that aren't as hard as abandoning points altogether, or privatization of wildlife. It is nice to see that passion like mine is represented and logic is still being sought for.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I appreciate the time and energy put forth by the Division of Wildlife Resources, committees and Region Advisory Councils to accommodate hunters desires and supporting wildlife. Here are my comments:

- I support the change of the proposed limited-entry units to general season units. This change will open additional habitat for all elk hunters to enjoy and reduce hunter congestion.
- I support the new age class objectives. I support more hunting opportunity over significant age class objectives (7+ years). I assume that this change will increase the number of tags available on limited-entry units.
- I strongly support continuing to offer a multi-season tag. The multi-season tags do not increase the number of hunters on the landscape during the Any Legal Weapon (rifle) season because the tags come from the Any Legal Weapon tags. One benefit of the multi-season tag is that many hunters that typically only archery hunt now purchase centerfire rifles, muzzleloader rifles, ammunition, and other equipment that increases taxes that can be used for our wildlife. Another benefit is that the multi-season tag allows a hunter to be flexible when they can hunt due to personal circumstances, weather conditions, and other uncontrolled issues. Finally, I recommend keeping the multi-season hunt to include both the mid and late seasons because this will reduce congestion by spreading the hunt out over several days.
- Too many hunters are focused on harvesting world class bull elk. Social media has significantly increased this focus. Focusing on world class bull elk has led to too many hunters building up way to many points to hunt a premier unit (Boulder, etc.) and thus making point creep a significant issue. I ask the Division of Wildlife Resources to consider capping the number of points a hunter can obtain to encourage hunters to start using their points on other limit-entry units instead of holding onto them for premier units.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

- Strongly support the General Season Archery end date extension to 9/19 in 2023 and an extension in future years to allow archery hunters an improved chance to hunt the elk rut. Archery success percentage is around 11%, so allowing archers to hunt more into the rut will likely improve success.
  - The limited-entry muzzleloader season in 2023 is 9/25 - 10/6 which falls between all other limited-entry hunts. Why not do the same for general season muzzleloader and have the season run from 9/25-10/6 which is in the middle of all the general season dates?
-



**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

The plan appears to demise the Elk herd/hunt like what was done previously to the deer herd. Unlimited hunters will cause the elimination of the elk herd and in a few short years elk hunt will be a full draw like the deer hunt is now.

I am puzzled as to the emphasis of a family camping/hunting experience in the presentation. If families want to have a family camping experience, this should take place in the summer and not the hunt.

Please limit the licenses so there will be less hunters in the field.

Make the Multi-season license a draw which would give those who wish this opportunity about a 3 year opportunity.

He mentions that a 325 bull is a prize, which I am and those I associate with disagree. Trophy bulls are around 380. What a disappointment to wait 20 plus years and then only get to harvest a low 300 bull.

For limited entry, give 100% tags to max points for a few years to reduce the high max points. The presentations say it is not fair to increase the percentage, but what is not fair is that those with high or near max points have to continue waiting.

If you approve the 2 season general elk hunt, what about making the first one a roadless hunt, Not allowing any vehicles more than 200 feet off the main road. The side roads are so overrun the elk go nocturnal or private and never seen.

Dial back on the non-resident opportunities, non-residents have greater opportunities than residents.

I had to laugh at Dax's comment that this plan will trick to elk and enable more harvest. My experience is that elk are too smart to be 'tricked'.

Dax's comments are that public want more of everything, everywhere, all the time. We can have the committee just grant this public pressure and demise the hunting in Utah.

Thank you

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Some of my comments for this section, I put in the hunting seasons and key dates... my apologies please see that section, and I wont put them here to be redundant..

I would say limit the number of hunters for the Elk opportunity. Many would rather have to only hunt every other year rather than hunt with so many hunters.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

gentlemen after watching the regional rack meetings i cannot support most of the committee recommendations for the following reasons.

it seems that these recommendations fall as a majority to increase tags but there is no mentions what so ever about how this will effect the local elk herds when implemented. this was very disappointing as after listening to three of the 5 racks not even the racks asked this pointed question.

taking limited area units and hams units and making them general season unit is destroying what the division has been trying to build for the last 30-40 years and saying that these units are not that great is just a matter of there own judgement with no facts to back them.

i ll make a point of this with one particular unit the oquirrh/standbury unit. for many many years there were very little elk hauntable on this unit because the majority of the elk were on private property such as Kennecott and Anaconda leaving very few are in the case of the Stansbury unit practically void of elk.. well in the 1990s there was a increase in the overall numbers and low and behold some of them found there way over to the Stansbury unit and for the most part there was very little are no hunting pressure on them by and by the unit was opened for spike hunting and later the hams hunts the limited area part had been producing bull for decades but know there were enough elk for a spike hunt to. in the late 90s it was deemed that there were to many b ulls and they were hammerd hard on the late season draws causing the bull number s to crash but with the cutting of the late season permits the herd started to make a comeback and at this time we are indeed seeing and harvesting mature bulls. to note this one look at the record books rifle, archery and muzzle loader all have bulls from this unit in them. the largest was taken by george cook out of washington state that net scored 390 and change and of late i know of two bulls taken on the last seasons hams hunt that went 328 and 344 i am sure of that because both of these bulls were taken by out party the largest was one i shot. i could go on forever on this statement but my fingers would get worn out typing.

In short i am ok with more tags but not at the harm of the herd s in the state please look over the facts and make a quality judgment. i do not think these unit s have been judged fairly and to move the hams hunt into november would also more harm than good.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 16, 2022 9:34 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

You guys are giving out way to many big bull tags! First end the limited entry elk hunt in October and the cow hunt in October! Second shorten the rifle General any weapon spike elk hunt! 3rd give the muzzleloader spike elk hunters more time! 4th leave the scopes and bows like they are now! To many hunts going on at the same time!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

My main concern is switching the general season archery tag from either sex to bull only.

What is the driving force behind this?

I know the plan is to have a cow permit option for the same season dates but how hard it will be to get one of those tags? Im assuming it will turn into a 3-4 year wait for units such as the North Slope. Point creep on good general season cow units with lots of public land is getting very high. Drawing a cow tag every 3-4 years is frustrating.

Additionally, the new proposed general season bull elk second season should not be unlimited for non-residents. We cater too much to non-residents and it negatively impacts Utah residents. I understand that non-regs tags generate substantial income for the department but when is enough enough? A general season hunter is already dealing with extreme obstacles to overcome in order to be successful.

The amount cattle grazing on public lands pushing elk to areas most of us cant take our families too is one major issue that needs to be addressed. Trail cameras show once the cattle/sheep move in most elk move out.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Where does this snowball end? We are just kicking the can down the road. We address overcrowding by creating a new hunt, then sell more tags, it gets overcrowded again so we created another hunt. Then again sell more tags and now we're looking at opening up units that used to be some of the best in the state in the name of opportunity. As well as going unlimited on permits what happens when it gets overcrowded again? Are we going to open another unit? Why not skip ahead and make the whole state any bull, and just have a free for all. That's where we are headed. When a unit starts going down hill like the anthro did and the Wasatch and book cliffs is doing now. Instead of managing to bring it back. We adjust the objectives to make it line up. Like the anthro even for as big as it is, the amount of elk that used to be out there, and how sodafter it was. Weve managed it down to only wanting 700 head. (The least amount of any unit its size and habitat) And its been surpassing that by over 50% for years, and we call that not doing well? Show me other units 50% over objectives, lets bring it back for the public and stop favoring leasees. Making these unit anybull and going unlimited will not only cause even worse overcrowding especially on these units, Decimating what's left of state potential But also move people Over to other limited entry, making point creep jump even more.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Having a 9 day LE elk hunt is part of it appeal. No other state does it that long in the rut. Making us one of the most sought after. But I do understand bow hunters come first.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

We do need to get ahead of this Without going to far like what kind of clothes I can wear or eliminating Range finders completely. I worry once the ball starts rolling it's not going to stop. But we do need to do something.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 17, 2022 9:54 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I would like to offer an idea for an additional archery elk opportunity. I believe that providing an early August (roughly 8/1-8/14) archery elk hunt on the LE units would be a great option to hunters of Utah. This would give hunters an opportunity to potentially harvest a velvet bull if they wish. It also would not interfere with other hunts, and due to the nature of the timing, would prove to be a challenging hunt with harvest rates that would likely be similar or lower than the regular archery hunt.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I like the direction things are going and agree with most of the plan. Although not completely in the elk plan it was brought up and written in it. I'd like to see the HAMS hunt weapons definitions stay the way they are, and have the restricted hunts be a separate definition for separate new hunts the division might like to create. I bought a muzzleloader specifically for the HAMS hunt on a unit that I have good odds to draw next year. It is the only muzzleloader I own and the only one I hoped to own. I'm not made of money and I made my purchase with the thought I could use this muzzleloader on the regular muzzleloader hunts in Utah as well. Under the new restricted definition I wouldn't be able to use it on the HAMS hunt because it is not compatible with percussion caps. I would need to buy another muzzleloader that uses percussion caps for one hunt that I will likely only hunt once in my life. I feel that the current HAMS hunt weapons definitions are a big step down in difficulty from other muzzleloader hunts and have functioned well as they currently are. The proposed restricted hunts would be a further increase in difficulty and function well for what they are. Using separate definitions would allow for more unique options with a gradient of difficulty instead of two extremes of either having a multi-powered scoped inline with 209 primers, to an iron sights with percussion caps. Mostly its just hard that a new hunt was recently created, I made plans and purchases to fit the new hunt and having that changed doesn't seem right. The new restricted hunts sound like a great idea and could be their own hunts while HAMS hunts could stay the way they are and be their own hunt.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Strongly agree

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly agree

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree



**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

First as mentioned above regarding the elk plan, I'd like to see the HAMS hunt weapons definitions stay the way they are, and have the restricted hunts be a separate definition for separate new hunts the division might like to create. I bought a muzzleloader specifically for the HAMS hunt on a unit that I have good odds to draw next year. It is the only muzzleloader I own and the only one I hoped to own. I'm not made of money and I made my purchase with the thought I could use this muzzleloader on the regular muzzleloader hunts in Utah as well. Under the new restricted definition I wouldn't be able to use it on the HAMS hunt because it is not compatible with percussion caps. I would need to buy another muzzleloader that uses percussion caps for single hunt that I will likely only hunt once in my life. I feel that the current HAMS hunt weapons definitions are a big step down in difficulty from other muzzleloader hunts and have functioned well as they currently are. The proposed restricted hunts would be a further increase in difficulty and function well for what they are. Using separate definitions would allow for more unique options with a gradient of difficulty instead of two extremes of either having a multi-powered scoped inline with 209 primers, to an iron sights with percussion caps. Mostly its just hard that a new hunt was recently created, I made plans and purchases to fit the new hunt and having that change before I can hunt it doesn't seem right. The new restricted hunts sound like a great idea and could be their own hunts while HAMS hunts could stay the way they are and be their own hunt.

Secondly, I don't think it would be appropriate to vote on the proposals that SFW has presented at the RAC meetings. While they may be great and needed, the public was not given an opportunity to see and make comments on the proposals. The thought that between now and the next round of RAC meetings people are going to be spending "hundreds of thousands" of dollars on new scopes and technology can in no way be true. In the next round of RACs, the proposal can be sent through the public process giving the public the opportunity to see and read them and then make informed comments. While you have the authority to vote and make those decisions, waiting would be more appropriate and true to the public process. The RACs wouldn't need to exist or meet if getting public input wasn't a critical part of the process. To vote on things not presented to the public while allowed, is disingenuous to the indented spirit of Utah's wildlife management.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I appreciate the effort that was put in to compromise a lot of competing factors, desires, and opinions here. I don't agree with all the proposals in the plan, but I acknowledge there is solid compromise here and would ask the board to follow the recommendations except for one aspect.

I do not believe the youth hunt should be unlimited on spike only units. I understand the desire to get and keep youth involved, and I'm very much in favor of the spike hunt generally. That said, there is likely going to be a lot more bull tags issues on the limited entry units. We can't be killing more bulls on the front end and expect more to exist on the back end for the limited entry hunters. I support the unlimited youth tag on general season any bull units, but that should not exist on spike only units.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 18, 2022 12:34 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat agree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Utah Statewide Elk Management Plan.

The mission of RMEF is to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat and our hunting heritage. We represent more than 225,000 members nationwide and over 5,000 members in Utah. Since its inception in 1984, RMEF has permanently conserved or enhanced more than 8.5 million acres of North America's most vital habitat for elk and other wildlife, including over 1.3 million acres in Utah. As such, RMEF has a vested interest in ensuring the sustained productivity of elk and other wildlife in Utah.

RMEF recognizes the work that the Utah Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) has committed to updating the Elk Management Plan. Much has been done already to help make this plan a success.

RMEF strongly supports the following principles in all plans/proposals related to elk management:

- Science-based wildlife management
- Healthy elk populations maintained at both biologically and socially sustainable levels
- Hunting as the primary tool for managing elk populations
- Impactful programs designed to increase hunter access to elk on both public and private lands
- Appropriate distribution of elk on public and private lands
- Maximizing hunting opportunity and quality
- Recognition of the role private landowners play in providing elk habitat during critical seasons
- Simplification of unnecessarily complex hunting regulations

In addition to the above recommended principles, RMEF provides the following specific plan recommendations:

- The methodology used to estimate elk populations (and set objectives) is unclear. Use of sightability (or other statistical) models may be an appropriate method to estimate population abundance and trends by Elk Management Unit (or another spatial scale). Various population models exist that incorporate elk count, herd-composition, and harvest data to improve the understanding of elk population dynamics (Patterson et al. 2022). Additional technology, such as trail cameras, may improve sampling frequency and help account for apparent fluctuations in data rather than populations (Moeller et al. 2018, Tabak et al. 2018).
- If not already in use, RMEF recommends identifying goals for calf-cow ratios based on achieving future population objectives, in addition to other metric. The use of recent research (DeCesare et al. 2012, Lukacs et al. 2018 and others) can help guide ratio management decisions.
- RMEF recommends implementation of a mandatory harvest reporting

system for general-season elk and antlerless elk, which would allow for a substantial increase in data quality and quantity.

- The decision to lower age objectives in some units is intended to increase opportunity while maintaining large antlered bulls. RMEF recommends inclusion of harvest objectives and apparent harvest success in assessing the effectiveness of this adjustment.
- RMEF appreciates the attention to recreation and recommends a strategic response (in coordination with other public land managers) to the increase in general outdoor recreation and varied uses of public lands (multi-use conflict), and impacts to elk population dynamics, distribution, and hunting.
- RMEF appreciates attention to disease as a major threat to elk populations and looks forward to further engagement with DWR on disease management. RMEF encourages continued coordination with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food in developing a CWD strategy for wild and captive herds.
- Wildlife habitat connectivity (big game migration corridors) is increasingly threatened by habitat loss and degradation as well as development activities. RMEF recommends components that recognize the importance of big game movement corridors and include management direction for conserving corridors across state, federal, and private lands.
- Elk and many other wildlife species are sensitive to human travel patterns, especially motorized use. Research from the Starkey Project has done much to quantify effects of roads, trails, and associated motorized (Wisdom et al. 2005) and non-motorized traffic on elk (Wisdom et al. 2018). RMEF supports a balanced approach; multi-use activities occur year-round and RMEF recommends that the DWR provide access for those seeking varied experiences (primitive and roaded). However, RMEF also recommends reassessment of seasonal protection (during critical times) needed for elk and other wildlife from impacts of recreation (via roads, trails, and associated motorized and non-motorized traffic). Timing restrictions should be based on the best available science as well as site-specific factors (topography, available habitat, etc.)
- RMEF is very supportive of active management on our public lands to benefit wildlife habitat and fire risk management. Executing active forest management techniques such as prescribed burns, thinning, and other treatments helps prevent catastrophic wildfires and assists in long-term ecosystem resilience (Prichard et al. 2020, Schultz and Moseley 2019). In addition, managing natural ignitions can help achieve fuels and vegetation goals.
- Aspen stands represent a unique ecosystem, providing a variety of services. With aspen predicted to continue declining, RMEF supports a

focus on restoring prescribed fire treatments, excluding herbivores in clones that are impaired or in decline, and other tools that help improve aspen resiliency.

- DWR partners with private landowners on a number of programs designed to increase tolerance of elk, assist with game damage management, and provide hunting opportunities. However, few of these programs appear to have metrics that would allow assessment of whether the program is meeting the specific landowner and/or DWR elk management goals. RMEF recommends establishing quantitative and qualitative measures of success (biological and social) for each program implemented.
- Identified as a significant barrier to maintaining hunting and angling participants, access to public land plays a critical role in ensuring the future of our hunting heritage (Eliason 2020). RMEF recommends consideration of public land access needs, including close collaboration with federal agencies to improve or maintain access points to public lands that are important for managing wildlife.
- As a long-term partner in lands/realty, RMEF supports continued use of land acquisitions and conservation easements to conserve critical habitat for big game and other wildlife across Utah.
- RMEF appreciates USFS recognition and use of the adaptive management process based on the best available science. Additional citations/references are offered below for inclusion to help guide management.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Hello,

I have several comments & recommendations on the proposed elk management plan.

Please do not change the archery elk tag to bull only. Currently, the two biggest draws for this hunt is that it's either sex & the length of the hunt. It's hard enough to get an elk as it is now. If you change it to bull only, I believe you'll have even more hunters opting for a rifle tag vs. an archery tag. Also, I'm not convinced that the new proposed archery cow permits would be widely accepted as a good alternative since you would be giving up preference points for antlerless rifle hunts. Lastly, I believe the antlerless cow tags should remain open for all hunts in the same area as it increases your opportunity to hunt as well as the chance of success in filling the tag.

The idea of splitting the any weapon hunt into two hunts might be a good idea, if you increase the days for both hunts. The 13 day hunt is short enough as it is. Also, by not capping the 2nd hunt, you may create a crowding problem for that hunt.

I believe the best strategy & biggest impact for all concerned would be to increase the amount of general multi-season tags, no limit at all would be best. This would allow hunters the greatest opportunity to hunt as well as spreading out the hunting pressure & increase the amount of funding received for even more habitat work & research.

Thanks,

Scott

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I'm 58 years old, I'm and extremely avid elk hunter, I was raised in Nine Mile Canyon. I worked on the entire Anthro unit, helping on the clear-cutting crew back when it was 2 separate units. I remember when the dnr made it one big LE unit and it took off. I started grading the roads for the county that cover that entire unit back in 1995. Back then the anthro was really booming. Right up until the dnr started selling a bunch more cow tags because of complaints from the range permit holders. In my opinion they wanted the range, the elk come with it. But since they started selling a lot more cow tags, being out there every day, I've seen a steady decline in elk. At one time you could watch entire mountains move with elk. Now I'm lucky if I see 10 a year. That unit has a lot of potential if only the dnr will allow it. PLEASE start managing for wildlife again. I once was phenomenal. Thank you.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I agree we need to get ahead of the technology trend. I worry the dnr is going to start restricting stuff that's been out for years. Such as all rangefinder, dial up scopes, or even the kind of clothing I can wear.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I grew up in the Uintah Basin. I remember going on mountain drives with my dad to Sowers, Antelope, Gilsonite, and 5 mile as a teen. I remember feeling this was the place to go to see elk. I recently went out with my step brother deer hunting on the anthro unit, it was so nostalgic, other than no elk. What happened? Everything was the same, same water holes, in the same spots. Only thing different was grass quality was a little low. Not all the way gone but a little low. But they still had cows out there. Is that the reason for no elk? Are the rancher and range holders calling the shots now? Its the only thing different.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** We need to manage wildlife not opportunities  
If dwr keeps going we will have no elk left  
Get rid of spike hunts  
Limit the amount of hunters per unit  
Just like deer  
The general season hunts are a joke 17000 hunters for 1700 elk

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals?** Buffalo hunts in roadless bc.  
Need to be early  
No one wants to freeze to death in Oct. Nov

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** These are insane all about opportunities agin  
Le hunts take a lifetime time to draw in Utah they should be 21 days not 7

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** This so confusing no one can understand

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Neither agree nor disagree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 19, 2022 11:35 am

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

To whom it may concern,

I would like to start my comments in thanking the Utah DNR and the supporting wildlife boards and members for the role they play in managing the states wildlife. This is a job and role that I believe takes a lot of time and dedication from people that are passionate about wildlife and is a very under appreciated task most of the time from the general public.

I am also very passionate about wildlife and the outdoors in the state of Utah. So much so that I have attended many RAC meetings and have had many conversations with board members and DNR personnel outside of the meetings. When I read the new proposals for the upcoming elk management plan I had very mixed feelings on this. So mixed in fact that I almost didn't make my comments. After many revisions of my comments and much time and thought put into these comments I decided to finally submit them. I have been working out of state for most of the meetings and was unable to make it to the NER RAC meeting which is where I live.

As I write these comments I struggle to not be emotional in my response to some of the proposals. With that being said my thoughts/concerns and comments regarding the proposed changes and elk management plan are as follow.

Adding six general season bull does give the opportunity for more people to hunt elk in Utah, but by removing the units from the limited entry pool that will increase point creep on the remaining limited entry units. I'm sure this is a conversation that has been had and it looks to me like the answer is to lower the age objectives to allow more tags to be issued and more hunters to be drawn. This idea that a bull reaches his full potential is flawed. Yes they may reach sexual maturity by this age but to reach his peak maturity and antler size by this age is not the case. I know the study has been done by college students and that is the answer to this argument from the divisions point. So In conclusion I do not support this change.

The proposal to change the OTC any legal weapon hunt into two hunts is a good idea, but making it to where there is unlimited tags will be in my opinion detrimental to the elk populations. I understand that there has been a large increase in demand across the west for OTC tags for people to go hunt. But we should not be managing our wildlife on demand of tags or tag sales. The DNR and wildlife boards are to manage wildlife on sound science and in the best efforts to preserve the future of the wildlife. Making a change as a result of an increase in demand is a change being made on social pressure and/or a decision made to make more money. I know that is a very controversial statement but from the outside looking in that is what it feels is being done. If we are going to add more hunts and sell unlimited tags there has to be some kind of a restriction in place that dictates which animals can be harvested like a point restriction of a a 4 point bull or better to ensure that there is not a mass slaughter of the bulls in any given OTC unit. I've heard before that point restrictions don't work, but if that's true why

do states like Colorado use them? They give more tags and have more elk in the units they implement this in. Just an idea.

Adding a spike only bull hunt to the south slope diamond mountain unit will also be detrimental to the elk herd. I know there is a lot of controversy on this unit right now with the LOA and the DNR. I live in vernal and have been watching and hearing about this issue sense it started. The idea of a spike hunt is just a chance to sell more tags and make money. It does absolutely no good for the health of the herd. We need to manage elk herds on our limited entry hunts with bull and cow tags not spike tags. I have watched the book cliffs unit go from one of the best units In Utah where the killed the state record typical bull elk to a unit that is not worth the time it takes to go hunt it. The idea that a spike bull will never be more than a spike is the most ridiculous statements I have ever heard and have yet to find any kind of study or documentation that is valid that supports this. I would like to see a spike bull captured and collard then tracked for several years to see his progression as he matures.

The change in weapon restrictions for the HAMS hunts is a decision that I support. Anyone applying for these hunts need to understand they are a restricted hunt.

I know this is long winded and I will concluded my comments shortly. I have a few ideas i would like to add to the end of this.

The idea of hunting elk in the rut with a rifle is not a sound management plan. I know this would be a very controversial topic to change this if it was ever considered. But the easiest weapon to kill an animal with should be hunted with in the hardest time to kill one in my opinion. Doing this and moving the rifle elk hunt to the later part of October would allow more tags to be given and as a result help with the issue of point creep.

Thank you for the consideration of the comments and all that you do.

Sincerely, a concerned sportsman.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I am an avid archer, and love the changes to the elk plan. I like the idea of making archers take a bull instead of either sex elk during the archery. I think that will help open up more hunting for cow hunters. also love the idea of cutting the rifle hunt on limited entry to 5 days i think that is a great compromise. I also think that CWMUs should follow thw 5 day rut hunt as well. not sure why we allow them to hunt with a rifle during the entire rut. I would also like to add. I think the wasatch front extended season should close for archers during the rifle and muzzel loader buck and bull hunts. I love hunting the extended season but have noticed that us archers getting favored a little to much and need to give the mountain a little break for other hunters.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** I like adding more any bull units, I would prefer over the counter elk was limited and a draw process to create a better hunt. I would rather give up a tag every other year and have less mhunters and more elk, but i think we are moving the right direction.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** I love limiting technology!!! I usually hunt with a 30-30 or a recurve bow. with e bikes and long range weapons it has completley changed the world of hunting in a bad way. it would be great for the guys like me still hunting the old way with a stick bow to have a little more opritunity.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

I dont like trade lands, I have hunted Ingham peak and the land up for trade with the CWMU. the public land they want is great hunting ground and the land they want to trade is asagebrush flat.

also, would like to see more push on these CWMUs to follow the season dates. I think CWMUs are a great tool to help hunters and landowners, but think they need to follow the season dates as everyone else instead of getting a 61 day season with a rifle. for example if a CWMU gets 10 elk tags those 10 tags would need to be divided into archery, rifle, and muzzel loader hunts in the appropriate season and weapon. I think this would help create a better dispersal for hunting pressure. at the same time eliminating such hard rifle elk hunting during the rut. I support the 5 day limited entry rifle elk hunt and think that that needs to be pushed on to the CWMUs as well.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I feel the hunter experience is being degraded with so many people out hunting, and so much pressure. I like the idea of splitting up the general bull elk hunt as well as opening traditional spike units to open bull. Maybe it will help relieve the pressure. I'm all for shorter hunts. I would even add to start hunts in the middle of the week (like is already done with muzzleloader), this seems to distribute hunters a little better throughout the week. It's always tough to make everyone happy, but I think you are trying. I love to hunt, and do feel the pursuit of record bulls is destroying the hunt itself. As a state I feel like we cater completely to big money hunters from out of state. I understand the SFW and likes brings in money, but I think the ethics behind what they do are terrible. They raffle hunts, sell big tags, but how much does that actually benefit most hunters. Very little. I was once a member of the SFW and felt they had a good direction. Unfortunately I no longer believe they should have any input on our wildlife. I also feel that all the CWMU units should have the same hunts at the same times as the public hunts. It makes no sense to allow cwmu operators to hunt bulls for months with a rifle, when on the public land they only get a week. Bottomline, during the archery hunt, cwmu should only be allowed to hunt with archery equipment. During the limited entry rifle hunts, they can use rifles. If there is no active hunt in the area outside of the cwmu, they should not be able to hunt there either. By allowing them to pick and choose hunt dates it allows outside pressure from public land to push all the animal onto the cwmus. That way they don't ever have to hunt on the ranches during high pressure days, so all the surrounding game on public land goes on to private.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

I like the idea of breaking up east canyon/chalk creek units. I would like more hunts opening in the middle of the week to alleviate weekend outdoor pressure. I think the hunters would still hunt, but be distributed throughout the week a little better, and those who want to avoid all the weekend pressure could. Also, the public non hunters would appreciate a little fewer hunters out on the weekend. Don't know if it would work, but I love the good ol' days when the rifle spike hunt opened on thursday.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Need regulations. Unfortunately technology can enhance hunting, but really takes away from outdoor skills. I see too many people that have never hunted, show up with a laser range finding scope, e bike and start blasting at anything moving 1000 yards away with no idea/desire to follow up if the animals were hit or try to locate wounded game. Lets face it, 1000 shots are possible, but more often than not they end in wounded game.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

I made comments earlier, but would like to add to them. I feel that the extended wasatch archery deer/elk should be stopped during the general season muzzleloader deer/elk and rifle deer/elk. In many areas around the wasatch front archery hunters pressure the game non stop from mid august until december. It also causes a lot of negative interactions during the rifle hunts. As a archery/muzzy/rifle hunter I have had conflicts a few times while muzzle loader deer/elk and rifle deer/elk I have seen more camoed out archery hunters than rifle hunters. The main problem with this is that archery/rifle hunters hunt in a different manner. I have hunted with a rifle several times and had my scope on a deer/elk 500 yards away, getting ready to shoot when it gets spooked. A few minutes later an archery hunter comes out. This is dangerous. They do not/are not wearing orange, and are close to game being actively hunted at 500 + yards. It also causes a lot of trail congestion and increased pressue negatively affecting both groups. I would recommend the archery deer hunt pausing from mid september until november. This would give rifle/muzzy hunters more opportunity to hunt with less pressure. I would recommend the archery elk hunt end when the rifle hunt begins. Again, this would decrease pressure during the rifle hunt/muzzy hunt in these units. I think it would also be a great idea to have the extended season as a seperate tag. That way you can choose-archery hunt in august/sept or november? Another way to reduce pressure throughout the season. I think this would give people morehunting options to chose from, better hunting because of less pressure, and safer.

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2022 4:55 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I don't support changing General Season Archery Permits to "Bull Only".  
With archery's low success rates this change doesn't make any sense.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

You repeat that "point creep" is a primary issue being addressed in this new elk plan, yet you're proposing a change that preference points will no longer be used for recipients of antlerless private-land hunts and mitigation vouchers. It doesn't take a genius to recognize that this only will further aggravate point creep issues in the antlerless drawing. I used to get an antlerless tag every year. Now I get a tag every 3-5 years and its only getting worse! I know many of you who make the rules own private land in Utah so this would be a very convenient change in your favor. But the people TRUST you to be unbiased and consistent in your rules i.e. If you get a permit then you lose your preference or bonus points. Stop it with the inconsistencies especially those that further challenge the average public land hunter.

I've hunted private land before and we don't need any help harvesting elk. If there truly is an issue with elk on private land then why not set up a program through which private land owners can be introduced to responsible hunters to hunt elk on their land? It would be every hunter's dream to hunt private land. And there are lots of responsible folks out there who can do it. Maybe create a brief "private land ethics course" similar to the extended archery ethics course.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2022 7:52 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat agree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I strongly support separate bull-only and cow-only tags for the general archery season (including the condition that the cow-only tags would use preference points), and would ask the Board to pass that portion of the plan as presented.

There are a number of GREAT reasons to do this, including the following: (1) Helping biologists direct pressure; (2) Helping biologists meet harvest goals; (3) Enabling general season archers to continue to hunt after their first harvest instead of having to be done; and (4) Reducing point creep in the antlerless draw.

The main argument that I've heard from anyone against that proposal is that they want to be able to hunt cow elk every single year with a bow AND still have the ability to participate fully in the regular antlerless draw. In other words, they want to have their cake and eat it too.

In the 2022 antlerless draw, 35,468 hunters applied for 6,746 tags - roughly 1 cow tag for every 5.3 hunters. When considering those who bought points, it's more like 1 cow tag for every 6.2 hunters. Public land hunts are taking 4+ years to draw, and it's getting worse all the time. In light of those facts, it isn't reasonable to let archery hunters hunt cows every single year AND clog up the antlerless draw at the same time, when the rest of us are waiting years and years for our turn. It's time to make us all pick how we're going to hunt cows and use our points to get a cow tag.

I say this as someone who is tired of seeing archery hunters get everything they ask for, while hunters who use other weapons have to wait years just to draw tags. So tired, in fact, that I'm in the process of buying a bow. I will be archery hunting in 2023 and will be fine however this item goes. That being said, I feel a need to advocate for my friends and family who can't just jump into archery for age/health/financial/time/other reasons.

This is the ONE proposal in the entire elk plan that requires archery hunters to actually make a tiny sacrifice to benefit the wider hunting community in the form of reduced point creep. The proposed plan gives them an entire new December season, steals 4 prime days from the rifle hunt and gives that time to them, and gives them tons of tags and tons of general season hunting opportunities. Archery hunters are giving up almost nothing and gaining everything (all the while still trying to frame it as a "compromise"). PLEASE pass the separate bull/cow general archery tag recommendation as presented so we can reduce point creep. It's not too much to ask. Archers will still get to hunt every single year and can still go after a rifle cow tag if that's what they really want.

I'm not in favor of the proposed 5 day early rifle season. A few years ago, I drew a cow elk tag and got very sick the day before the hunt started. I could barely get out of bed for almost a week straight. My hunt would have been totally ruined if the season was only 5 days long. Please keep it 9 days long and leave the archery dates as they have been.



I think the committee and the Division did quite a good job overall, although it appears that the influence of archery hunters was disproportionately large compared to their actual numbers. Please make sure that archers have to give and sacrifice like the rest of us, and that they are treated in a balanced fashion according to their actual numbers. Thank you.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals?**

I do not support once in a lifetime archery hunts unless they result in significant additional opportunity. So far, the archery sheep and goat hunts haven't provided that. I'm glad the Division is trying to change areas and season dates to increase opportunity. If these proposed season dates don't increase opportunity, then it's time to get rid of archery sheep and goat hunts and go back to any weapon.

One exception to my thoughts above is if there is a significant management need that can't be met another way. For example, the roadless Book Cliffs bison hunt. We need a lot of harvest in a relatively small area, without pushing them all to Ute lands. I think the archery hunt is a good application in that instance.

Thank you.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Please keep the early rifle elk hunts 9 days long. A few years ago, I drew a cow elk tag and got very sick the day before the hunt started. I could barely get out of bed for a week straight. My hunt would have been totally ruined if the season was only 5 days long. Please keep the rifle hunt 9 days long and leave the archery dates as they have been. Thank you.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I strongly support the Division's proposed definition for a Restricted Archery weapon. I think it's ridiculous that SFW, the technology committee, the Utah Archery Association, and others are lobbying to have it changed or removed. I say this as someone who has never hunted with archery equipment, traditional or modern.

One statistic that's been thrown around is that only 3% of archery hunters use traditional equipment. However, I have to believe that if you looked at all the muzzleloader hunters and rifle hunters in our state, you would find that less than 3% of their weapons would match the definition of restricted either. Why would that be? Probably because there's no incentive to use such a weapon. With these definitions in place, that will change. I personally will strongly consider restricted weapon hunts if/when they're offered, even though none of my weapons match those definitions right now.

Another argument that's been presented is that archery is already "restrictive enough." To that I say: "According to who?" A compound bow is an 80-100 yard weapon. A recurve is a 30 yard weapon. That's a big difference, and I think it would make enough of a difference that more opportunity can be offered in restricted archery hunts. That's what we're after, right? It could open up some really neat possibilities. Maybe Utah could even offer an unlimited sheep hunt like Montana does if we made it a Restricted Archery hunt (along with other controls such as horn curl restrictions, quotas, etc. like they do in Montana). How awesome would that be? One thing is for sure - we can't do things like that if we don't have the definitions in place that allow us to. PLEASE pass as presented. All it does is give us more tools in the box. It doesn't hurt anyone.

It's apparent to me that the technology committee, SFW, and certain other special interest groups are packed full of archery hunters who are happy to restrict others but start to freak out when they get a taste of their own medicine. I'm not ok with that. What's good for the goose is good for the gander. If they don't like the definition, they are free to continue with their "standard" archery seasons.

The alternative restricted archery definition proposed by SFW (compound bow, 5 pin fixed sight) is not a meaningful or significant difference from what most "regular" archery hunters use, would not meaningfully affect hunter difficulty or harvest rates, and therefore would not allow the Division to create archery opportunities that are significantly different from what the "regular" archery seasons already are. In other words, it would become a useless definition. There would be no application for it.

I do think it's fair to recognize that a Restricted Archery weapon, as proposed, is not very compatible with the other HAMS weapons. I think "regular" archery is appropriate for the HAMS season.

Thank you. I'm really excited to see what restricted weapon hunts are

offered in the future!

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

I'm disappointed that, as of when I submitted this comment (about 24 hours before the submission deadline), the Division had not provided a summary of the motions made and passed by each of the RACs available for public view. I had to sort through hours of recorded meetings to figure out what had been going on and what motions were made.

It's nice for the public to be able to comment on the Division's proposals, but I think it's also important for the public to be able to give comments to the Board about what happened at the RACs. Most of the general public probably isn't even aware of the efforts being made by various groups to apply a bunch of new technology restrictions, revise the proposed definition of a restricted archery weapon, and give archers more over the counter cow elk hunting opportunities that don't even require preference points. I think you would hear more constructive feedback from the public if a summary of motions was made available several days before comments are due to the Board. If that happened, they would be able to see who is pushing for changes and respond accordingly, rather than be surprised.

Thank you.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I like a lot of what is being proposed here but strongly disagree with lowering the age objectives. It will decrease the amount of older bulls and therefore affect quality. I also think Utah should split the LE Archery elk into two 14 day hunts. An early and a late would be amazing. Two weeks is long enough. I also do not like the idea of General archery not being hunters choice. I think that one is a bad idea. You could still make that hunt two 14 day hunts as well. I appreciate all the time and effort put in and the outside the box thinking here. Thank you!!

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

The proposal to change some of the limited entry units to any bull is a very strong proposal to those who are concerned on both sides. I have taken a lot of trips on any bull units, mostly the South Slope Yellowstone. I've spent a lot of time on horseback traveling to remote and non-remote areas. I've seen the quality and quantity of elk in those areas. There is mostly lower quality elk as would be expected. Yes, there is some high end, phenomenal bulls, but they are few and far between. On the other hand, the limited entry units I've traveled, be it, lion hunting with my grandad, driving around looking for animals, or just going on a mountain drive. The quality and quantity of bulls is tremendously different and there is differently a higher bull to cow ratio and bigger bulls as well. The Anthro for example, you compare it to the South Slope Yellowstone, it's like night and day. The Anthro has the potential to be the best in the state. People put in for limited entry units for quality, do we really want to lower that? We are at a point, with the genetics and quantity that unit has we can be brought back and make it a very sought-after area. If this passes, I feel we will not be able to bring it back for a very long time. So why not bring it back to a unit people actually want to hunt on. Instead of just a unit that you might be able to kill an elk on. If this proposal is financially based, there has to be a better way than losing the quality that is out there. Not only for the hunters but even the people that just want to go take pictures of higher quality bulls close to home and even shed hunters.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 22, 2022 10:02 am

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat disagree  
**regarding the CWMU and LOA**  
**recommendations?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

After watching all five RAC meetings I better understand the intent of splitting the general archery elk tag into a bull tag and a cow tag. I support this proposal as long as it is used to help reduce point creep in the antlerless pool. I do not support this split if purchasing the cow tag does NOT use your antlerless elk points.  
Thank you for your efforts.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

After watching all five RAC meetings I have some feedback regarding this topic. I think the committee's recommendation regarding archery equipment should be followed. I don't think additional restrictions are needed on archery equipment. If there is a traditional archery requirement while an open sight rifle or muzzleloader is an option then most will grab the rifle. Those that want to use traditional archery equipment can do so even if the committee's recommendations are followed.

REGARDING TO THE SFW LETTER...

I appreciate the restraint used by the northern RAC and some other RAC members when considering the application of the public input. I liken the Central region Chair's assertion that "he is the public" to Dr. Fauci proclaiming himself to "be science". The public did not have access to this letter or these recommendations. We were not given the opportunity to read, understand, and comment on the letter. While I believe I agree with the items in the SFW letter (based on discussion during several RAC meetings), I was never able to review those recommendations. If we set the precedent that the RAC chair or RAC itself is the public without actually involving the public then we might not agree with the next random association letter they receive and pass a motion on. I believe a clear message should be sent that people should not overstep their bounds and subvert the actual public's input.

Thank you for your service and consideration.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

The general season any bull elk hunt needs to be split in to units and not statewide. The reason there is more people putting in for tags and seeing more applicants is because of the age limit on hunting. Raise the age limit back up to 14 or 15 years old. Let the children of that age group use their parents tag to hunt off. I disagree with turning Nine Mile/ Anthro in to general season any bull elk THERE will not be any elk left to hunt in years to come out there by doing that. Need to do away with the spike only elk hunts on Limited entry units you have people that wait 10 years for the tag or longer and then have to go deal with spike elk hunters. I think doing away with spike elk hunts will allow your elk to grow again in limited entry units and produce the big bulls that use to be out in The Book Cliffs and ANTHRO. The late season cow elk hunts need to stop since they are killing pregnant cows and that would help bring your elk herds back.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 22, 2022 3:33 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly agree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I have a hard time with adding an additional rifle hunt that will overlap the spike hunts. People wait their lifetime to draw this tag and then have to hunt during the time when there is the most hunting pressure on all the animals. I don't feel that this is fair to the tag holder neither is it fair for the wildlife that are constantly being harassed 365 days a year from horn hunting, to scouting to hunting the long period of time we hunt the big game in the fall/winter. I could support breaking up the rifle hunt to two separate hunts that are not during the same time as the general season spike hunt. I think we cater to the archery hunter's way too much, they don't need to be hunting for almost a month. The archery hunt should be September 1-15 and then do the rifle and muzzleloader hunts followed by the late rifle hunt and late archery. I agree the Late archery will be an extremely difficult hunt. I also support making all of the hunts more restricted when it comes to technology and weapon type. But I think the biggest problem we have with all of the big game hunts is the use of Guides and Outfitters. This takes the sport completely out of hunting, and it ruins 99% of the average hunter's experience when in the field. They are constantly getting interference with the many different guide/outfitter/spotters/off the book help. The hunting and "guiding" has been taken way too far, become too commercialized when the division constantly states they have rules and regulations against the commercialization of wildlife in the state of Utah. Guiding and outfitting IS the commercialization of wildlife in the state. The majority of these guides/outfitters are the people that are causing the resource damage on the landscape, whether it is the wildlife themselves or the public land resources on the ground. They are the ones that are driving motorized vehicles on road to get an advantage over the average hunter or other guides in the field, they are the ones driving E-Bikes on non-motorized trails, they are the ones leaving trail cameras out during the restricted time, they are the ones using thermal optics to aid in taking big game, they are the ones paying for aircraft to fly before and during hunting seasons to locate the animal they want to harvest. Something needs to be done with guides/outfitters because it is a bigger problem for wildlife and hunting in Utah than technology and drought alone. The next point, having a general season elk hunt on the Paunsagaunt unit will completely take away from the premium deer hunt on that unit. It is a completely different situation than having a general season unit on the Henrys. That unit is a lot more isolated with less elk than on the Paunsagaunt. We as sportsmen love the land and wildlife resources we have to death. At some point we need to put the resources FIRST before ourselves and make sure they have what they need to be healthy populations. If that means putting the hunt back in hunting, so be it, they should come first before we worry about what is fair for our selfish purposes of hunting. I have heard so much about hunting opportunity in this plan, but what is opportunity if you hunt the entire hunt and barely see any wildlife. Opportunity is not just having a tag and being able to hunt. There also has to be some sort of quality to the hunt that makes it opportunity. If we have more primitive weapon hunts without all the technology, yes success goes down, you have to work harder to harvest an animal. But it gives the animals a fighting chance to do what they do to live and when the success rates of harvesting are lower,

we can then offer more tags. There is no off season for the resources on the land. We have every mode of transportation at our fingertips to be able to disrupt the wildlife year-round. They need a time to be stress free from human interaction. In short, technology for all types of recreation (hunting and non-hunting) and the commercialization of hunting is going to put an end to our wildlife herds faster than we can stop it. Hunting is called hunting, not killing. seeing wildlife gives the opportunity to harvest an animal, it doesn't guarantee the harvest. If there is very few to no wildlife, then is that "hunting" either?

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

In the proposal I noticed one big contradiction. Yes, people are disappointed in the quality of elk on some LE units. Most, if not all, want 360+ class Bulls after waiting 20 plus years to draw a tag. A 300-330 class bull has never been considered to be very good on these units especially after waiting that long. This issue is already becoming statewide. And changing a unit to any bull because it only has 310 class elk. And at the same time proposing to manage the rest of our LE units to only 320. Makes no sense to me. If 320 is 96% grown how is there the amount 380-400 class bulls we used to see. I spent the weekend in ONE area of public ground on the anthro unit, looking for places to trap. I saw well over 30 Bulls in the 300 class range, and many well over it, just in that area. We need to get back to managing for the interests of the wildlife. Get back to being the division of wildlife, not the division of Hunter opportunity. And if we cant decide what we like and what we dont of these proposals, what is the point of this entire process? Thank you.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I very highly support this. There is a lot of new technologies coming out that go way beyond fair chase. My only concern is it will go too far and we will be regulated on even what kind of socks we can wear, let alone rangefinders, dial-up scopes, or even magnification on spotting scopes.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

This proposal screams Point creep, getting rid of six Limited entry units, will move all the people that were putting in for those tags to the remaining LE units. Making Point creep even worse. Meanwhile proposing to eliminate limited entry units because of low bull quality while also proposing to manage the rest of the LE units to the same quality, makes absolutely no sense. LE units in this state were very sodafter. Known for giant bulls and great genetics. And the fact we are talking about eliminating 6 says alot about where we are now. We need to start managing FOR the wildlife again. The anthro has been brought up numerous times to become any bull. And has been shut down ever time. We know it can come back to what it once was. The leasers wanted the leases, the elk come with them. Why are we here again. And now apparently we can't dispute it? What happened to the public process? Is this the trail cameras all over again?

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I think one thing we can agree on is nobody wants to wait 20+ years to draw a tag to hunt. I disagree with cutting limited entry rifle hunt days down to 5 days. You've been making most of us wait 20 years to draw a tag and now you want to stack even more hunts and pressure on the units and harvest more elk but cut the time frame.. I think there are other ways we can accomplish some of the goals. I think we need to have the conversation on how many tags are allocated each year to conversation groups, that we all love and support as I do, but couldn't many of those tags be placed back into the draw to increase tag numbers, work on point creep for all species and increase better odds for drawing a tag? I know we want to manage for 6 1/2 year old bulls. But many of us have been waiting 20+ years to draw a tag and don't want to hunt 320 bulls. I know they use the wasatch as an example of how this goal can be achieved. But the reality of it is, the wasatch has gone way down hill and your lucky to harvest a 320 bull. Yes the age object stayed the same but the class of bulls dropped dramatically. So yes they are still harvesting 6 year olds but your size is not there. I also think the Deep Creeks and Anthro should stay limited entry units to which those are limited entry hunts I don't have to wait 20 years to draw but still have opportunity to draw with low number of points and hunt mature bulls and isn't that our objective in the first place.



Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 22, 2022 11:31 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

We are talking about eliminating the anthro again? This sounds like a gun control bill that keeps getting shut down but still for some how gets brought back to the floor. The public has made themselves very clear on this, but obviously since we can't dispute it this time. The public process is apparently dead. You really are going to do whatever you want at whatever it cost.

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