

**Utah Wildlife Board Meeting  
June 9, 2011, DNR Auditorium  
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah**

**Thursday, June 9, 2011 – 9:00 am**

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|--|--------------------|
| 1. Approval of Agenda<br>– Rick Woodard, Chairman  | <b>ACTION</b>      |
| 2. Approval of Minutes<br>– Rick Woodard, Chairman   | <b>ACTION</b>      |
| 3. Old Business/Action Log<br>– Ernie Perkins, Vice-Chair  | <b>CONTINGENT</b>  |
| 4. DWR Update<br>– Jim Karpowitz, DWR Director   | <b>INFORMATION</b> |
| 5. Board Variances – Time Certain 9:30 am  | <b>ACTION</b>      |
| 6. 2011 Upland Game, Turkey and Crane Recommendations<br>-Justin Dolling, Wildlife Program Coordinator   | <b>ACTION</b>      |
| 7. 2012 Buck Deer Unit Boundaries<br>- Anis Aoude, Wildlife Program Coordinator  | <b>ACTION</b>      |
| 8. 2012 Dedicated Hunter Program Proposals<br>- Rhianna Christopher, Program Coordinator   | <b>ACTION</b>      |
| 9. 2012 Lifetime License, Landowner Permits and other changes<br>required to implement buck deer unit hunt strategies<br>- Greg Sheehan, Administrative Services Section Chief | <b>ACTION</b>      |
| 10. R657-12 Rule Amendment - Veterans Fishing License<br>- Kenny Johnson, Business Analyst   | <b>ACTION</b>      |
| 11. 2011 General Season Extensions for Hunters with Disabilities<br>- Kenny Johnson, Business Analyst  | <b>ACTION</b>      |
| 12. CWMU Advisory Committee Recommendations<br>- Boyde Blackwell, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator  | <b>ACTION</b>      |
| 13. CWMU Advisory Committee Membership<br>- Boyde Blackwell, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator   | <b>ACTION</b>      |
| 14. Other Business<br>– Rick Woodard   | <b>CONTINGENT</b>  |
| • <b><i>Election of Chair and Vice Chair</i></b>   |                    |

**UTAH WILDLIFE BOARD MOTIONS**  
June 9, 2011, DNR Auditorium  
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

1) Approval of Agenda (Action)

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

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

2) Approval of Minutes (Action)

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the May 4, 2011 Wildlife Board Work Session as corrected.**

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the May 5, 2011 Wildlife Board meeting as corrected.**

3) Board Variances

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the variance request of Lonnie Strasburg for his limited entry bull elk permit on Central Mountains Manti unit.**

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we deny the variance request of Lonnie Strasburg for his general buck deer muzzleloader hunt in Central region.**

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed 4 to 1 with Ernie Perkins opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we deny the variance request of Monte Allred for his Once-in-a-Lifetime Henry Mountains Bison permit.**

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the variance request of Skyler Skog for his CWMU antlerless elk permit.**

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we grant the variance request of Robert Rowley for his CWMU bull elk permit.**

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that the Division consider amending Rule R657-50 to add CWMU permits to the list of authorized permits.**

4) 2011 Upland Game, Turkey and Crane Recommendations

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we put the hunting of turkeys with falcons proposal on the action log for consideration.**

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Keele Johnson and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the 2011 Upland Game, Turkey and Crane Recommendations as presented by the Division.**

5) 2012 Buck Deer Unit Boundaries (Action)

The following motion was made by Keele Johnson, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the 2012 Buck Deer Unit Boundaries as presented by the Division.**

6) 2012 Dedicated Hunter Program Proposals (Action)

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Keele Johnson and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the 2012 Dedicated Hunter Program Proposals as presented by the Division with the exception that we reduce the number of service hours to 32 hours, 8 the first year, 16 the next and 8 the third year.**

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the additional wording for R657-38.**

- 7) 2012 Lifetime License, Landowner Permits and other changes required to implement buck deer unit hunt strategies (Action)

The following motion was made by Keele Johnson, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the 2012 Lifetime License, Landowner Permits and other changes required to implement buck deer unit hunt strategies as presented by the Division.**

- 8) R657-12 Rule Amendment – Veterans Fishing License (Action)

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve R657-12 Rule Amendment – Veterans Fishing License as presented by the Division.**

- 9) 2011 General Season Extensions for Hunters with Disabilities (Action)

The following motion was made by Keele Johnson, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the 2011 General Season Extensions for Hunters with Disabilities as presented by the Division.**

- 10) CWMU Advisory Committee Recommendations (Action)

The following motion was made by Del Brady, seconded by Keele Johnson and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the CWMU Advisory Committee Recommendations as presented.**

- 11) CWMU Advisory Committee Membership (Action)

The following motion was made by Del Brady, seconded by Ernie Perkins and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the CWMU Advisory Committee Membership as presented.**

12) Emergency Amendment R657-60 Invasive Species – New Mexico (Action)

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the listing of the entire state of New Mexico as infested with infected species once it has been declared as infested by New Mexico's Director.**

Approved

**Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**  
**1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah**  
**Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**  
June 9, 2011, DNR Auditorium  
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

**Wildlife Board Present**

Rick Woodard (Chair)  
Ernie Perkins (Vice Chair)  
Del Brady  
Jake Albrecht  
Keele Johnson  
Bill Fenimore  
Jim Karpowitz (Exec Sec)  
Tom Hatch (excused)

**RAC Chairs Present**

Steve Flinders – Southern  
Terry Sanslow – Southeastern  
John Fairchild – Central  
Robert Byrnes – Northern  
Floyd Briggs – Northeastern

**Public Present**

Dwaine Beebe  
Mike Christensen  
Ben Lowder

**Division of Wildlife Resource**

Anis Aoude  
Staci Coons  
Cindee Jensen  
Judi Tutorow  
LuAnn Petrovich  
Dean Mitchell  
Kevin Christopherson  
Charlie Greenwood  
Justin Dolling  
Lacy Welch  
Rhianna Christopher  
Boyd Blackwell  
Greg Sheehan  
Martin Bushman  
Bill Bates  
Doug Messerly  
Anita Candelaria  
Alan Clark  
Craig Clyde  
Jason Robertson  
Bryan Christensen  
Kenny Johnson  
Jim Parrish  
Randy Wood

1) Approval of Agenda (Action)

Chairman Woodard welcomed the audience. He excused Tom Hatch and read an email from him. The email expressed thanks to the Board members and Division employees for their friendship and dedication to wildlife in our state. Today would have been his last Board meeting due to his resignation. Chairman Woodard echoed Mr. Hatch's comments and said it has been great to work with everybody over the years. Chairman Woodard introduced the Wildlife Board members and RAC Chairs, and then went over the agenda.

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

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

2) Approval of Minutes (Action)

Work Session – May 4, 2011

Mr. Perkins submitted corrections by email for both sets of minutes. They were both accepted.

On p. 6, 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph change “Mr. Bunnell to Mr. Christopherson.” P. 9 the same change of names in paragraph 6 and 9.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the May 4, 2011 Wildlife Board Work Session as corrected.**

Board Meeting – May 5, 2011

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the May 5, 2011 Wildlife Board meeting as corrected.**

3) Old Business/Action Log (Contingent)

Mr. Perkins said there are three items coming due today, first is surrendering of individual permits. He turned the time over to Mr. Sheehan.

Mr. Sheehan, Administrative Services Chief said this action item addresses surrender of limited entry permits within 30 days of the hunting season opening. They have collected some data as far as how many permits are being surrendered before 30 days when you can get a refund less \$25. Less than 30 days you can surrender those permits and you retain your points with no refund. One of the issues that have come up, if people are surrendering those within 30 days, is there a fair opportunity to reallocate them to other hunters. We have done some research on how many get reallocated before the 30 days and within the 30 days and it is inconclusive. We need to get better research to find out exactly why they are being surrendered. We know exactly how many and some of the reasons, but we would like to hold off until we can get some better data. We are going to try to determine if these are maximum point holders and a few other things we can look at. At that point we could bring this back to the Board on one of the Work Session agendas and have a discussion on it. This is more a social issue than biological.

Mr. Perkins said he discussed this with Mr. Sheehan briefly yesterday. They would look for a proposal to come back in December 2011 after more research.

Mr. Perkins said the next item is the Paunsaugunt / Range Trend Crew Visits.

Ms. Coons said they would split it into two field trips. The Range Trend Crew can accommodate the Board the first week in August, so the current Board members and the three new Board members will receive an email to set up a date then for a tour up North. Shortly after that we will set another field trip day for the Paunsaugunt. That will impact the new Board.

Mr. Perkins said the next item is preference point on youth upland game hunts. He turned the time over to Justin Dolling.

Justin Dolling said as he presents the recommendations for upland game and turkey they are considering removing the organized youth hunt and moving toward a statewide youth hunt patterned after waterfowl. In the event that the Board approves that recommendation this action log item will be resolved. If it is not approved and we go back to the original youth hunt then preference points can be looked at.

Mr. Perkins said there will be a couple of new action log items during the meeting.

4) DWR Update (Information)

Jim Karpowitz, DWR Director thanked Mr. Johnson, Chairman Woodard and Mr. Hatch for their service on the Wildlife Board since this is their last meeting. They all appreciate their concern for wildlife throughout the years. They have always tried to do their best for wildlife in the state. At that point they were each presented a plaque and a wildlife print.

Mr. Johnson said he agrees with the things Mr. Hatch said in his email. It has been a great opportunity to sit on the Board and has been very educational. It has been great to work with the Division and other board members. He has made a lot of good friends with people in the DNR and DWR.

Chairman Woodard said early on he came to respect the Division employees. The DWR staff has always been great to work with and very responsive to the issues that arise. He thanked everyone.

Director Karpowitz said they have three new Board members coming on in August. The latest is Calvin Crandall from Utah County. He is a farmer and rancher and is well known. Dr. Mike King and John Bair are the other two new Board members. There are also changes in the RACs. They are waiting for approval for RAC Chairs in a couple of the regions. They will be in place for the July RAC meetings.

He went on to update the Board on the budget situation in the DWR. They are undergoing a perfect storm of revenue loss. There is a 3.4 million dollar cut from the



FY2012 budget and it will have a real impact on the agency. They have been able to do this without cutting any full time employees, but have had to cut several temporary positions. By the end of FY2012 they will be down 25 FTE's and reduced the budget by 3.4 million dollars. There are problems on the horizon in federal budget cuts and in continued loss of revenue. License sales are down this spring. If they don't bounce back this summer we will have more cuts to make. We have been able to retain a surplus from year to year and we will use it to get us through a tough couple of years. We will do it without a license increase this next year. We will ask the legislature to allow us to dip into our surplus to get us through and then hopefully things will have stabilized in the federal and state budgets and we can get back to where we were. This has been very difficult impacting people's lives, but we are in the process of down sizing the agency.

There is flooding on several WMAs around the state. Some are experiencing considerable damage. WMAs around the Great Salt Lake are flooded. We had to breach the dikes at Ogden Bay to allow the flood waters to pass through there. That came at considerable expense and there will be an additional expense to rebuild it. Farmington Bay will probably need to be breached in the next few weeks to let the water pass through there. We do have damage occurring at numerous WMAs around the state, whether it is to roads, fences or other infrastructure. We expect this to continue for 2-3 weeks. The snow melts in the highest elevations from about 8500 feet up and has not started to melt to any extent. A lot of the flooding is yet to come, at least in northern Utah. It is slowing in Central and Southern Utah. There is about 1.5 million dollars worth of damage in WMAs around the state. It is great to have all the water and it will help the range and fishing, but presently we are experiencing some more flooding.

The legislature overturned the Governor's veto and State government will be returning to a five day work week after Labor Day Sept 6, 2011. That won't impact the Division too much and we will retain maximum flexibility in employees' schedules. Our offices will have to be open on Fridays and they will have to be staffed. The Governor said he wants the flexibility maintained.

Mr. Fenimore asked about licenses being down.

Director Karpowitz said license sales are down in all areas. Combination and fishing are down. Our hunting applications were actually up a little, but residents were down and nonresidents were up. Turkey permit sales are way down. We could get a good bounce this next month as the weather warms up in fishing licenses. Fishing is better around the state than ever right now and great opportunities are available. We have been kept out of the high country because of snow, but things will get better.

Chairman Woodard said we will do the Board variances at this point.

5) Board Variances – Time Certain 9:30 am (Action)

Ms. Tutorow, Licensing Coordinator said we have four variances, three are in the packet and one was sent by email. These have been through the variance committee, have been

denied and are here for the authority of the Board. She said the hunters are here to present their variances. First is Mr. Strasburg.

Lonnie R Strasburg presented his request. His hunt was interrupted by the death of his uncle and then a close friend passed away. He didn't get to hunt and would like to request his two hunts be extended to next year.

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the variance request of Lonnie Strasburg for his limited entry bull elk permit on Central Mountains Manti unit.**

Mr. Perkins said he would not recommend approving the muzzleloader deer permit because it is general season and also because that permit was good through October 17 with more than a week after the circumstances.

Mr. Strasburg said he understands.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we deny the variance request of Lonnie Strasburg for his general buck deer muzzleloader hunt in Central region.**

Monte Allred presented his variance request for his Henry Mountain bison permit. He has been putting in for this permit for years. He did hunt, but did not see any buffalo. He then hired a guide the second week. They saw some buffalo, but they were way up on the mountain, three thousand yards away. There was no access for him to get to the buffalo. He hunted 10 days. After all these years of waiting to draw his bison permit he would like another opportunity.

Mr. Fenimore said it is unfortunate that he did not have a successful hunt, but there is no guarantee in hunting.

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed 4 to 1 with Ernie Perkins opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we deny the variance request of Monte Allred for his Once-in-a-Lifetime Henry Mountains Bison permit.**

Mr. Brady said he would like to hear from some Division people on the success of that hunt.

Mr. Allred said he read in the handbook the year before, it was a 99% success rate.

Chairman Woodard asked if he had opportunity to scout the area.

Mr. Allred said he had the COR extension so he had a week advance hunt. He did not go down prior to that.

Mr. Aoude said the Hunter's Choice hunts run in the high 80% and into 90% success rate.

Skyler Skog's father, Tyler spoke for him. He said he drew a cow elk permit on the Grass Valley Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit. They called the owner in December and he said he would be sending out the information for the hunt which would start in January. They were not contacted to go on this hunt, so they called again and the owner said the hunt was over. He said Skyler was never on his list of people to send the hunt information to. Based on the miscommunication, the operator said he will work with Skyler to hunt next year.

Chairman Woodard said there is no biological issue with another cow tag.

Mr. Albrecht asked why he wasn't notified if he had a permit.

Mr. Skog said Skyler was not on his list.

Mr. Perkins said if this had been on a limited entry hunt instead of a CWMU hunt, the Board would not be seeing this request.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the variance request of Skyler Skog for his CWMU antlerless elk permit.**

Ms. Tutorow said this request came in this past week from Robert Rowley. His son Burt will speak to the variance by phone. They will call him now. She said this is asking for an additional permit on a CWMU, because his permit was reallocated due to some miscommunication. August 19<sup>th</sup> he surrendered his permit based on an injury he had. The permit came to the Salt Lake Office and it said he was going to apply for an injured or ill form. That tells us that we can reallocate that permit. The permit was reallocated on October 5<sup>th</sup>. November 18<sup>th</sup> they received a fax from the Rowley's with a variance form and the injured form both filled out. At that point we recognized that the permit had been reallocated and he was contacted and told the permit was no longer available. He then waited for the drawing to see if he could draw out. He didn't. He contacted the Division on May 31<sup>st</sup> and he feels like there was enough miscommunication in this instance and he wanted to address the Board for an additional permit. The CWMU said that would be okay.

Chairman Woodard asked what types of ramifications this will have.

Ms. Tutorow said this happened with a few this past year, three or four that came in on the ill or injured forms and then the permit was reallocated. Then they called the Division when they found out they could have had a variance. Once they found out, they

took it in stride and said if that was what they applied for and they got their money back and their points, they just accepted it. Mr. Rowley just feels like there was more miscommunication and he wanted the Board to hear his request.

Mr. Perkins asked if she believes there was a communication problem with this.

Ms. Tutorow said that is correct.

Mr. Perkins said this request is similar to the last one they heard. If this would have been on a limited entry hunt instead of a CWMU we wouldn't have heard this. It would have been taken care of by the Division Committee in accordance with our rules. He will make a motion to approve this without contacting Mr. Rowley.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we grant the variance request of Robert Rowley for his CWMU bull elk permit.**

Mr. Perkins made the following motion for the action log.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that the Division consider amending Rule R657-50 to add CWMU permits to the list of authorized permits.**

6) 2011 Upland Game, Turkey and Crane Recommendations (Action)

Justin Dolling, Wildlife Program Coordinator presented this agenda item. (See Powerpoint Presentation) Upland Game and Turkey Hunt recommendations were covered. Mr. Dolling reviewed common research supported beliefs associated with the management of upland game. He then presented the general recommendations and presented species recommendations on chukar and Hungarian partridge, pheasants, quail, cottontail rabbits, snowshoe hare, forest grouse, turkey, sharp-tailed grouse, sage grouse, white-tailed ptarmigan, mourning dove, band-tailed pigeon and sandhill crane. He then went on to summarize the recommendations.

Mr. Fenimore asked why we would extend ptarmigan statewide if they do not occur statewide.

Mr. Dolling said it was a way to simplify. The boundary was called out on county lines which are difficult to follow. In the guidebook there will be distribution map inserts that will direct hunters to the areas where ptarmigan are.

Mr. Fenimore asked about #8 shot on turkey. That seems very light.

Mr. Dolling said the shot shell manufacturers say they have a good blended load of heavy shot that is very effective on turkeys.

Mr. Fenimore said the Division needs to be commended for the success we have had in turkey hunting through the years. This is a great gateway for youth to hunting. Pheasants used to be a wonderful hunting opportunity that doesn't exist anymore, but perhaps turkeys is another way to gain some ground with the youth. The Turkey Federation and Walk in Access programs could be utilized to get more people out there.

Director Karpowitz said relative to Walk in Access, we have expanded that program statewide and we have a two million dollar grant to build that program over the next two years to expand it greatly. It will create a lot more hunting opportunity and angling for youth and everyone.

Mr. Albrecht asked about CWMUs that have turkeys on their property. Are they required to take turkey permits?

Mr. Dolling said they are not required to but if they want to be part of the turkey program they can make application for it.

Mr. Albrecht said if they are a CWMU with turkeys, can they allow public hunters on their ground?

Mr. Dolling said they can either join the CWMU turkey program or just hunt turkeys.

Mr. Albrecht asked if permit numbers have been consistent for the last few years.

Mr. Dolling said yes.

Mr. Albrecht asked with the winter we have had in southeast and southern areas, are the turkey numbers high enough to support the permit numbers?

Mr. Dolling said yes. We only hunt the tom turkeys in the spring and biologically they can withstand the regional hunt followed by over the counter hunting.

Mr. Johnson said in the southeast area, how are we looking on the turkeys we have left?

Mr. Dolling said with the high winter loss two winters ago, they did transplant about 60 turkeys from South Dakota there this last spring. It is going to take awhile for the population to jump start. They got the word out to hunters to avoid Monticello, San Juan and the La Sals. The biologists said they had very little pressure in those areas.

Mr. Johnson asked about the turkey on the Manti.

Justin Shannon said the turkeys on Manti are doing a little better this year.

Mr. Johnson asked about Eurasian doves. Is there some indication that they are competing with mourning doves.

Mr. Dolling said yes, but nothing studied at this point, it is more observational. They tend to focus in on the urban environments, but also in agricultural areas during certain times of the year.

Mr. Fenimore gave some background on the Eurasian dove. They were introduced in the 80's in Florida and have spread north to Pennsylvania and west to California. They have been found in every county throughout Utah. One of the reasons they think the expansion has been so rapid is they are occupying a niche that has been made vacant by the extinction of the passenger pigeon.

Mr. Brady asked what the take is on hen turkeys.

Mr. Dolling said our regulations say you're allowed to harvest a bearded turkey. There are a percentage of hens that have beards and that would be a legal hen. He does not have a good feel for how many. He would have to ask law enforcement if there are many citations for the take of female turkeys.

Mr. Brady said in northeast it seems the hens disappear as fast as the toms.

Mr. Dolling said the hens are going off to nest and lay eggs that time of year. That might be what you're seeing.

Mr. Brady asked about the Sandhill cranes in Uintah County. 138 is quite a bit higher than what it was when hunting first started out there.

Mr. Dolling said when he generated permit numbers for Sandhill cranes; he tried to maximize the number of hunters they could get into the field. The Sandhill crane hunt for the Uintah Basin has been growing over the last decade. They are doing very well. Last fall the numbers went down slightly.

Mr. Brady said there is a huge population of them out there.

Mr. Perkins said we get our number of kills statewide on Sandhill cranes from the flyway.

Mr. Albrecht asked about the sage grouse on Parker Mountain.

Mr. Dolling said they are still collecting data for 2011. Lek data is trickling in and statewide it looks like the decline is continuing. It might be because access to get to the leks was difficult due to snow conditions.

Mr. Albrecht asked what kind of permit numbers they have on Parker Mountain. In the RAC there was concern about having another week extension on Parker Mountain. They are afraid the sage grouse will land on the ESL.

Mr. Dolling said last year there were 241 permits and this year it will be down slightly from that. On sage grouse harvest, the species can sustain up to a 15% harvest rate based on the annual population. We are conservative and go for 10% harvest. We don't feel like hunting sage grouse is influencing the way that population fluctuates.

Mr. Albrecht asked what type of habitat damage is done with ATV use on Parker Mountain during this hunt.

Mr. Dolling said it is habitat modifications, habitat loss, wildfire and other issues. Parker Mountain is fairly pristine. In other areas of the state there is oil and gas development occurring and those are some of the threats on forefront on sage grouse.

Mr. Brady asked about the Strawberry Valley sage grouse.

Mr. Dolling said that population is migratory and they migrate into the upper Strawberry Valley. When winter hits they migrate into the Fruitland area. That population has been growing and it is over 500 individuals. Randy Larsen, the professor involved in that research said they have identified one or two new leks. They are doing well.

Mr. Johnson asked what they are doing to increase sage grouse population, especially with the Gunnison's.

Mr. Dolling said they do predator control focusing on ravens and red fox. There is also a lot of aggressive habitat work going on to create more of a mixed age class of sage brush that sage grouse depend on. Those are probably the two biggest things that are going on. Also they are trying to minimize impacts.

Mr. Johnson asked about the future for Gunnison sage grouse on the San Juan as far as being listed.

Jason Robertson, Upland Game biologist said in San Juan County we have a carry over of Gunnison sage grouse from Colorado. The Utah population is less than 100, but they have been stable for last few years. As far as the listing goes, they have updated information to the USFS; however, the last indication they had is they might be moving forward with a listing decision, although it is not for sure. Getting information on critical habitats is an important part of identifying areas for preservation of the species.

Mr. Albrecht said on the 10% harvest on sage grouse, are you hitting it?

Mr. Dolling said they are below, ranging between 7 and 9 %.

Mr. Albrecht said so with a week extension they will still be low.

Mr. Dolling said yes. We look at the two year model and adjust numbers based on that.

Mr. Fenimore said he went down in the spring to look for Gunnison sage grouse with Guy Wallace. He said working with the Nature Conservancy they have protected 68,000 acres of core habitat. One of the county commissioners has some of the land where one of the battles has been to help ranchers and farmers see the benefit of keeping some of the sage brush and some of that habitat in tact as opposed to plowing it up, since they are worried about it becoming a listed species.

Mr. Perkins complimented Justin Dolling, Jason Robertson and Dave Olson for the work on the three year revision and working well with the upland community.

### **RAC Recommendations**

Northern – Mr. Bynes said they had two motions and one side item. The first motion was to accept the recommendations excluding the limited entry and it died for lack of a second. The second motion was to accept as presented and it passed 6 to 2. There was some interest from a member of the public on hunting turkeys with falconry. The RAC discussed that and would like the Wildlife Board to consider adding it to the action log.

Northeastern – Mr. Briggs said there were some comments on harvesting bearded turkeys only. The motion passed 9 to 1 to accept as presented.

Southeastern, Southern and Central accepted the proposal unanimously.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we put the hunting of turkeys with falcons proposal on the action log for consideration.**

This is commonly done in other states. Usually a falconer gets a permit for two turkeys annually.

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Keele Johnson and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the 2011 Upland Game, Turkey and Crane Recommendations as presented by the Division.**

7) 2012 Buck Deer Unit Boundaries (Action)

Mr. Aoude said he will be presenting the general season unit boundaries. These went through the RACs with fairly few recommended changes. There is one change he will discuss in Southeastern region. They recommended 30 general season permit units



statewide. These units were chosen to encompass movement of deer within that region and also to have an enforceable hunt boundary. We don't want hunters crossing boundaries without knowing they have done so. Some of the units and sub units were combined based on specific needs. For example, in Northern region we have a big block of private land units that make sense to combine, so hunters that do draw those units, that don't have access to private lands can still get an opportunity to hunt. He then showed a table of the units (included in the RAC packet) and went over the units that have been combined or separated according to need. He went through the maps for each region and explained the various hunt units and boundaries. (See May 2011 RAC Packet for Maps) This concluded the presentation and he asked if there were any questions.

### **RAC Recommendations**

Southern – Mr. Flinders said they had some discussion and passed the proposal as recommended unanimously.

Southeastern – Mr. Sanslow said they had a motion to accept the boundaries as presented except for the La Sal/Abajo boundary west of 191 and it has been adjusted by the Division. The vote was unanimous. They also had some discussion on what was being left out of the maps and the motion was made to show the National Parks, Military Installations, etc and as he understands that has been done by the Division also. That motion passed unanimously also. The reason was that in the maps, the military installations wasn't shown in the maps, giving the public the idea that the unit was bigger than it really was.

Ms. Coons said in regards to the boundaries, the descriptions we sent out in the RAC packets do not include the full legal statement that we place on all the boundaries which excludes hunting on Tribal lands and military installations. It will be included when it goes out to the public.

Northern – Mr. Byrnes said they accepted the unit boundaries unanimously.

Northeastern – Mr. Briggs said they accepted the unit boundaries unanimously.

Central – Mr. Fairchild said the motion to accept the recommendations passed 5 to 3.

### **Public Comment**

Ben Lowder, UBA supports the Uintah boundaries with one exception, the archery portion of the Wasatch Mountains West Unit. They would like to see it pulled out and made its own unit. They are concerned about that portion being underutilized. They are concerned about bow hunters that want to hunt the archery only portion of the Wasatch West Unit during the general season. They would end up competing with tags against others wanting to hunting the remainder of the unit. They believe that this will be one of the most popular and most difficult units to draw due to the proximity to Salt Lake and Utah counties.

Craig Clyde, Regional Wildlife Manager addressed this issue. They put a lot of thought into this unit. It does have 35 bucks per 100 does and is managed differently where as it is an archery only; however, as they collect data for that unit, they collect it as extended archery unit which also includes an area that goes into Park City. As they collect data they don't get really good information to come up with a number of hunters that they would want to put into that unit. They did not want to fix something that is not broken. It receives a lot of day use about 19,000 days of hunting with 3,000 hunters. After the general season is over, anyone in the state that has an archery tag can hunt that unit. He has noticed that during the early portion of the hunt on that unit, most people go hunt with their families, camping along dirt roads and spending time with their hunting groups. That unit does not lend itself to that type of hunting, therefore they like to hunt the rest of the Wasatch unit and then on an extended hunt, hunt that area later in the year. It gets hunted a lot with most of the hunting during the later portion. If they make it a separate unit it would eliminate the Dedicated Hunters. They wouldn't want to put in for that because that would limit them to archery only and during the extended portion only.

Chairman Woodard asked about the 3,000 hunters. Are they rifle and muzzleloader?

Mr. Clyde said they don't have good data on it, because the rifle and muzzleloaders could hunt the Park City portion of that. For the most part, they are probably archers.

Mr. Aoude said Mr. Lowder said it would be harder to draw if we lump it in, but actually it would be harder to draw if you made it a separate unit. People who hunt that area would have to pick it, and then they would hunt it. It may actually go contrary to what they think would happen if they made it a separate unit. He wanted to clarify that.

Mr. Clyde said relative to competing with the tags, if an archer draws out on Wasatch unit and just hunts that particular area, he wouldn't be killing a buck on the regular Wasatch West, therefore the buck/doe ratios would go up and they would increase opportunity for that portion of the unit, so competition would be less.

Chairman Woodard summarized. He said this basically passed all RACs except for Central. We have heard response on the Wasatch West unit.

Mr. Johnson said he is comfortable with changes on the San Juan. He would like to see them stay with the Wasatch West as presented and look at it in a few years.

Mr. Albrecht said he agrees with Mr. Johnson. We have to start somewhere and the Division has done a good job. There might be some changes down the road if necessary.

The following motion was made by Keele Johnson, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the 2012 Buck Deer Unit Boundaries as presented by the Division.**

#### 8) 2012 Dedicated Hunter Program Proposals (Action)

Rhianna Christopher, Program Coordinator presented this agenda item. (See Powerpoint Presentation) She said the reason we are changing this program is due to changing the hunt structure from regional hunting to unit hunting. She reviewed the current program then went on to cover the changes being proposed. Dedicated Hunters must draw a preferred unit in order to join the program. The Dedicated Hunter application is included in the big game application. She also addressed existing participants. They will allow existing participants to select a unit and handle it like lifetime license holders. They must keep the same unit for the remainder of the enrollment period. Currently 2,519 will expire in 2012 and 1,140 will expire in 2013. She then summarized the changes comparing them to the old program. (See Chart in Powerpoint)

Mr. Albrecht said if a Dedicated Hunter fills out his five units, doesn't get his first or second choice, and turns his tag back in, will it go back into the general season pool at that point? Once he buys into the system he must go with the 1-5 choice.

Ms. Christopher said that is correct. He can put just one unit choice if that is what he chooses to do.

Ms. Christopher said the permits not drawn through Dedicated Hunter will go back into the general season pool.

#### **RAC Recommendations**

Central – Mr. Fairchild said they approved the recommendation with the exception of the service hours being reduced to 32 hours and must be completed before Dedicated Hunter could get their second year tag. It passed 5 to 3. That was in recognition of the supply and demand issue.

Southeastern – Mr. Sanslow said they had some good discussion on this concerning the point system. The RAC felt with the lower number of permits and being able to have preference points, if you drew either Dedicated Hunter or general season, all points would be purged. They didn't want to make it so it would take 5-6 years to draw a general season. MOTION: To accept the Dedicated Hunter as presented by the DWR with the exception that the general season deer points and Dedicated Hunter points, once a person draws either one, will be purged. It passed unanimously.

Southern – Mr. Flinders said there was lots of public comment on this issue with folks passionate about it on both sides. Ultimately it passed with 10 in favor and one opposed based on the presentation.

Northeastern – Mr. Briggs said they passed the proposal unanimously.

Northern – Mr. Bynes said they passed the proposal with the exception of the reduction of services hours to 32. This was driven by the drop in the number of participants when they increased the service hours.

Chairman Woodard asked of those service hours, how many in Northern and Central region are Dedicated Hunters?

Ms. Christopher said 60% roughly.

### **Public Comment**

Mike Christensen spoke in support of the reduction of service hours. It is hard for a younger man who is raising his family to do the 40 hours. He asked if there is a way to stagger the 15% over the three year period of time. It would come into play maybe three years down the road, but maybe there was 5% of the tags available to Dedicated Hunters per year and over the course of three years you would run people through their three year program. That would also stagger out those hours. That was an issue that came up at the Central RAC. You're going to have a big influx of hours every 2-3 years, but if you could stagger that out, 5% a year, then it would be easier on the Division to coordinate programs. It is possible to hit the 15% cap one year, so there are no tags available in the subsequent years.

Chairman Woodard summarized the RAC comments.

### **Board Discussion**

Mr. Johnson asked about staggering the tags over a time period.

Ms. Christopher said there will be people coming and going in and out of the program over the next few years. She is not sure how that would work any differently than it would in the way we have already proposed. It's going to take a few years for us to see how this is going to play out and how many people will join. Over the next 3-5 years we will see the fluctuation that is Mr. Christensen's concern.

Mr. Johnson asked if someone could go work a full week on a project and fill the forty hours.

Ms. Christopher said yes.

Director Karpowitz asked is it possible if on a unit we fill all 15% of the permits in 2012 that there would be no permits for the applicants in that unit the following year?

Ms. Christopher said that is a possibility but we are working with 3,600 participants and she anticipates that the existing participants who are rolling out will open some spots in those units soon there after. She doesn't anticipate that there will be a unit in the next

few years that won't have anything available during the application period. She could be wrong, but it is doubtful.

Director Karpowitz asked about the disadvantage of staggering the permits.

Mr. Aoude said the disadvantage for staggering them is that first year you can only have 5% of the total, so you would limit the number so there could only be 30% of the hunters be Dedicated Hunters. If you did stagger it, you would have 5% the first year, 10% the second year and then 15%, but once it fills up then you're back at the same point. You might as well just do it as proposed, opening up positions as people leave the program.

Mr. Albrecht asked on service hours, how do they get recommended? There are some really good projects and some that are really poor.

Ms. Christopher said each of the regional supervisors works with the regional biologists to establish projects throughout the year. As new project proposals come to them, they have to evaluate them, compare with what is going on and do some prioritizing. It is up to the regional volunteer services coordinator in coordination with the regional biologist.

Mr. Albrecht said as he remembers the rule it says "what is beneficial to wildlife, fishery and beneficial to the Division." You could just do banquets and get all the hours done. He noticed there were also service hours to be done setting up chairs for RAC meetings. Are there better projects?

Ms. Christopher said they have a program with several thousand individuals with varying capabilities. We have to have a variety of projects to fill the needs of those people. What might not look like a good project to one person is wonderful for somebody who cannot do something more demanding. It is all very subjective. We have to fulfill projects for varying abilities.

Mr. Albrecht said he is not really against the banquet part, but he is against the accountability part. He has watched people sign in on a project then they're gone all day, then come back and sign out. He thinks there are some projects that would be better than those on the list.

Ms. Christopher said they will look into that.

Mr. Perkins asked about the motion in Southeast Region on drawing both general season deer and Dedicated Hunter.

Ms. Christopher referred it to Mr. Sheehan.

Greg Sheehan, Administrative Services said they could do this, but it is a major philosophical shift of the way we conduct our draws. We let people put in for lots of things in the big game draw and if you draw something, you paid \$10 for all those other applications that you may now become ineligible for. We still let you earn those points

for some future opportunity. This is no different with what the RAC came up with. Our thought is, it is not fair to our applicants, and for example, if you draw a limited entry deer tag, and you had a general season application in, we have always allowed you to earn a point for the general season deer tag. He does not think there is any huge benefit in taking other points away or invalidating other things. He is not sure we're solving that much in doing that.

Mr. Johnson asked how you let participants know there is a project going on in a different region. 50% of the people live in Central Region and they might be interested in doing a project into another region.

Ms. Christopher said all the preapproved projects are listed on the web page. We also send out emails to specific groups. Everything is posted to the public online. We also get phone calls asking as well.

Chairman Woodard said they have letter from the Forest Service to the Wildlife Board members. Everyone received this.

Mr. Albrecht said we do an online course before you can become a Dedicated Hunter. When this changed they did away with the RAC meeting required attendance. How does the Division feel about that change?

Ms. Christopher said when she took that rule out, it was apparent across the state; there were people who wanted to be there and a lot more who didn't want to be there. Forced attendance wasn't that beneficial.

Mr. Johnson asked about the old attendance requirements.

Ms. Christopher said one RAC meeting before they received their second permit.

Mr. Fenimore said when the requirement was there, the room would fill up. But now often the Division and RAC people who are there out number the public. He wishes there was a way they could get more people interested and attending.

Chairman Woodard said he felt when there was the required attendance it got more people engaged in listening. He agrees with Mr. Fenimore.

Director Karpowitz said it got more Dedicated Hunters there, not general public. We didn't hear from the general public as much. He felt like when they did away with the requirement, it leveled the playing field. The fact that people don't show up is a problem. A solution to that is the Board needs to send a strong message to the public that if they want to be heard, they need to attend the RAC meetings. When the Board follows those RAC recommendations, the public finds out they better be at the RAC meetings. If the Board ignores the RACs and makes decisions independent of them, people lose interest. He tells sportsmen's groups and others that all the time. If they don't go, they shouldn't expect the outcome to go their way. That is the message we need to send.

Mr. Fairchild said it is a totally different dynamic when there are large numbers at a RAC meeting. It is hard for some of the sportsmen's groups to voice their ideas and proposals to the RAC when there are 100's of hunters in the audience. You get a different exchange with the people who do show up when they're there for the right reason. It is better with 50 or so people who really want to participate. 50-60 people is really ideal if we can get them to show up.

Mr. Perkins asked what we are really getting from the online course. Would an either/or option be a possibility with RAC attendance or online course. This could be a future discussion.

Mr. Fenimore said he had an email from a TU member complaining about not being able to participate in a project, because they had to give opportunity to Dedicated Hunter. The Division's response is they need to give opportunity for project work to Dedicated Hunters first. He would like to see us be able to accept everybody who wants to come out and help us as opposed to having to belong to a group. He also thinks Mr. Fairchild's comments are accurate as well. He has seen people be intimidated when they wanted to get up and make a comment.

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Keele Johnson and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the 2012 Dedicated Hunter Program Proposals as presented by the Division with the exception that we reduce the number of service hours to 32 hours, 8 the first year, 16 the next and 8 the third year.**

Director Karpowitz asked about the six hours on the last year. What about when we need people for an eight hour project and then they just leave. He would hate to see that last year if people just left when their hours were over even if the project wasn't complete.

Ms. Christopher said unfortunately that happens a lot anyway. There are people who need two hours and then they're done. The Division preference was 8, 16 and 8.

Mr. Albrecht adjusted his motion.

- 9) 2012 Lifetime License, Landowner Permits and other changes required to implement buck deer unit hunt strategies (Action)

Greg Sheehan presented this agenda item. This information will outline how we will address the various permits as we move to unit by unit, specifically lifetime licenses, youth hunters, landowner permits and some additional changes. (See Powerpoint Presentation) There are various rules that will be affected. He then went over the various recommendations in the above listed categories including general season applicant group size

Mr. Albrecht asked if they have a number of people who put in at 10 in a group.

Bryan Christensen said there were 23 groups of 10 and 94% of the groups are 4 or less. 9 had 36 groups and the number increases slightly as you go down.

Mr. Sheehan said we are just trying to make sure we get as many families and groups as possible. He went back to the additional general season deer recommendations. A chart showing the possible general season permit distribution on a unit was also discussed.

Mr. Albrecht asked if there is a large amount of lifetime license holders that are Dedicated Hunters.

Mr. Sheehan said probably 50-100, not a large amount. He continued the presentation. According to our survey last year we didn't have more than 12% of the lifetime license holders on any one of the 30 units that are out there. Right now there are no more than 12% but if the numbers go up and it becomes problematic in the next few years, we may have to come back to the Board and make adjustments. For now we would rather not make any changes on this.

Mr. Johnson asked if they are getting many lifetime license holders going out the top.

Mr. Sheehan said sometimes the family does let the Division know if they have passed away, but others they're not sure on. Roughly 300 have exited the program, 91 are deceased.

Mr. Johnson asked if there are lifetime license holders that don't hunt.

Mr. Sheehan said there are between 3,900-4,100 lifetime license holders who hunt each year. There are some that aren't using them at all.

He went on to say they had some good public feedback at the Central Region RAC and they want to adopt those recommendations. Some lifetime license holders enter the Dedicated Hunter program. For example, they may forego their lifetime status to enter the Dedicated Hunter program because they may want to hunt all three seasons. We allow them that. The way the rule is written now if you forego lifetime to apply to Dedicated Hunter, what we say is if you are lifetime and you apply in any general season, all you can be eligible after that is any leftover permits. Some lifetime people said that is not fair. They want to be lifetime, and a crack at the Dedicated Hunter, and then if I don't make it in I still want to hunt wherever I've hunted. We actually feel like that is a good recommendation, so we would like to make that modification in the rule and proposal. It says if you're lifetime, you try for it and don't draw it; you can still have your choice of a unit. We are not talking a lot of people in this situation. This ended the presentation.

Mr. Perkins said he understands how they got down to 4 from 10 on the group size application, but was any significant public input that drove that?

Mr. Sheehan said that was the Division. It developed internally. We are trying to make as much general opportunity as we can.



Mr. Perkins said it is intuitive that if you have smaller units with less tags in a unit, there is a greater disadvantage in applying in a larger group than there is in applying in a smaller group. When they fill out the group application, is there a warning that applying as a group could put them at a disadvantage?

Mr. Sheehan said we do not clearly tell them that in the application. They could tell them that, but a lot of the public wouldn't understand the problem. He explained the situation with an example. If there aren't enough permits available when they come to a large group, they skip on to a number they can fill. That is a bigger issue in the limited entry hunts we do now. On these units, the smaller end of what is going to be available is about 500 permits then it will go up to quite a few thousand.

Mr. Perkins said so statewide we have somewhere in the order of 150-200 groups of people that are making this application for groups of larger than four. Probably none of them know we are about to change what they have been doing for the last 20 years.

Mr. Sheehan said yes, that's true.

Chairman Woodard asked if there were any questions. He asked the RACs specifically on this issue.

Mr. Flinders said they had some good discussion on how many lifetime license holders there are and the change the Division made was appropriate.

Mr. Sanslow said they didn't have any questions or comments dealing with that, so there wouldn't be any problem with it.

The remainder of the RACs were okay with the change.

### **Public Comment**

Dwaine Beebe said many in their family have lifetime licenses and many are Dedicated Hunters. They do a large amount of service hours. He was one of those who made the recommendation to accommodate the lifetime license holders and Dedicated Hunters. He thanked the Board and Division for the public process and the work they do.

### **RAC Recommendations**

Southern, Southeastern, Central and Northeastern accepted the recommendations unanimously as presented.

Northern – Mr. Bynes said the proposal passed with the exception that the group size remain at 10.

Mr. Perkins said we have several hundred groups between 4 and 10. We are going to aggravate a lot of people. Is it worth making the change? It might be better to just add the warning that if they put in with 10 it could work against them getting the permits.

Director Karpowitz asked if they want fewer groups or more groups out there. He is wondering if people will be upset when they see 10 people from that family got to go and none from mine got to go. The reason for the recommendation is for more people to be able to go by splitting the groups. This new regulation will make it harder for big groups to go. Whichever way you go it is a concern because people will be affected.

Mr. Johnson said it will be more difficult to hunt in the state until we get the deer herds back. He enjoys just being out there. You can be in the camp and just be there.

The following motion was made by Keele Johnson, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the 2012 Lifetime License, Landowner Permits and other changes required to implement buck deer unit hunt strategies as presented by the Division.**

Lunch break

Rhianna Christopher said going back to the slide that was added to the presentation on Dedicated Hunter, but was not included on the RAC tour about being able to be flexible with our dates on the Dedicated Hunter rule, it works better with big game application and drawing dates. Along with needing some flexibility and the dates they added wording related to the hunting license. She went over additional wording that will allow them to issue a Dedicated Hunter permit and have some set dates in which they need to have a hunting permit to be eligible for their license. A Dedicated Hunter who has their license during the big game application period will be eligible for their Dedicated Hunter permit upon completion of their requirements when we go to print permits. (See Attachment #1)

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the additional wording for Dedicated Hunter Program R657-38.**

10) R657-12 Rule Amendment – Veterans Fishing License (Action)

Kenny Johnson, Business Analyst presented this agenda item. He referenced a letter from Dennis McFall the Deputy Director of the Utah State Department of Veterans Affairs. He wanted to express their support for this license for veterans with disabilities. He went

on to give a brief history on this discounted fishing license. He went over the specifics on the license. (See Powerpoint Presentation)

Mr. Perkins said there was some comment in one of the RACs about being sorry it isn't a bigger discount for the veterans. The Division has already committed that as soon as they get a look at how many of these are actually issued, to go back through Veteran's Affairs and relook at it.

### **RAC Recommendations**

All the RACs passed this recommendation unanimously.

Mr. Fairchild said that recommendation came from Central RAC that we do something of a significant standard for the veterans on this issue.

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Del Brady and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve R657-12 Rule Amendment – Veterans Fishing License as presented by the Division.**

#### 11) 2011 General Season Extensions for Hunters with Disabilities (Action)

Kenny Johnson presented this agenda item. The Division currently provides accommodations for hunters with disabilities. The general season deer and elk hunting seasons are extended to provide increased opportunity. A chart with the extended general season dates for 2011 was presented. It is right in line with what we had last year. (See Powerpoint Presentation)

### **RAC Recommendations**

All the RACs passed this recommendation unanimously.

The following motion was made by Keele Johnson, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the 2011 General Season Extensions for Hunters with Disabilities as presented by the Division.**

#### 12) CWMU Advisory Committee Recommendations (Action)

Boyde Blackwell, Private Lands/Public Wildlife coordinator presented this agenda item. The CWMU Advisory Committee met at their annual meeting to discuss complaints and compliments. The recommendations are in the packet. There were some complaints on the Minnie Maud with improper posting and trespass issues. They made recommendations on State Corner CWMU, Emma Park CWMU and Minnie Maud

CWMU (see handout). Most of the problems that they have on CWMUs are related to communication problems.

Mr. Fenimore asked if they get written communication or a phone call.

Mr. Blackwell said it can be both. It should be both. Many of the CWMUs send out a map and their rules. On Mr. Nelson's situation, he knew it was made up of a couple of different landowners. He knew one of the landowners and had been out on the property a few times, so the operator said he was welcome to the area and you can go on. It was left at that, but it wasn't enough. He discussed the recommendations of the advisory committee. He went on to discuss the problems on Emma Park CWMU. This concluded the presentation.

Chairman W asked if any of these are repeat offenders.

Mr. Blackwell said Minnie Maud has been on probation and that is why they recommended that they stay on probation and we look at it again in November. If they haven't signed their property properly then we would recommend denial of their COR for the coming three years. Other than that, there were no repeat offenders.

The following motion was made by Del Brady, seconded by Keele Johnson and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the CWMU Advisory Committee Recommendations as presented.**

12) CWMU Advisory Committee Membership (Action)

Mr. Blackwell presented this agenda item. He hates to say goodbye to the folks who have done such a great job on this committee. The bulk of these individuals participated in our rule changes. These have been very good, helpful changes. He read the list of those who will be leaving the advisory committee. (See handout in packet) Each of these folks will receive a special plaque and a letter of appreciation from the Director for their efforts. He also read the list of those who will be serving on the committee.

Mr. Albrecht asked where the new members are from.

Mr. Blackwell went on to give those areas. They're from the areas that have the bulk of the CWMUs.

The following motion was made by Del Brady, seconded by Ernie Perkins and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the CWMU Advisory Committee Membership as presented.**

13) Emergency Amendment R657-60 Invasive Species – New Mexico (Action)

Larry Dalton, AIS Coordinator presented this agenda item and said that it seems New Mexico is about to join our ranks in having these invasive mussels in their state. He described Sumner Reservoir in New Mexico. It is a Bureau of Reclamation reservoir operated by New Mexico parks as a state park. It is drawn down considerably for irrigation. Last year they had the first sign that some veligers were present. This year they are getting the same kind of evidence. They have not come up with anything conclusive, but they did close the reservoir to boating before Memorial Day. No boats from Sumner Reservoir have visited Utah at this point. They are asking the Wildlife Board to give the Division authority to list Sumner Reservoir and the entire state of New Mexico as infested once it has been declared infested by New Mexico's Director.

Mr. Fenimore commended the Division for the war they have been conducting in protecting Utah waters from infestation. He recently read were two boats that were coming into the state that were caught with quagga mussels and were decontaminated. Do we have any kind of a fine system in place for boaters that knowingly bring in something like that?

Mr. Dalton said we do have a penalty system and if a boater does it knowingly and with intent it can be a Class A Misdemeanor. If it is inadvertent, then it can be a lesser violation.

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the listing of the entire state of New Mexico as infested once it has been declared infested by New Mexico's Director.**

Chairman Woodard asked about Sand Hollow Reservoir and the follow up on invasive species there.

Mr. Dalton said we did find that single live mussel last year. We have had numerous water samples in the interim and have not detected any evidence before or since that mussel was found. We have plankton samples that have been analyzed this year and they are negative and the Water Conservancy District in Washington County advised him yesterday that their dive team did an inspection and could not determine anything. Our protocol is to watch it for three years to see what happens. This is year three for Electric Lake and Red Fleet Reservoir. The results thus far have been negative. They do not have sample results for them this year yet.

14) Other Business (Contingent)

a) Jake Albrecht said he received an email from Shane Scott who is an officer with the Richfield City Police department. He works with the youth a lot and owns a guide

operation. He asked that Mr. Albrecht hand this email out to the Board and look at for future consideration.

b) Current status of wolves, new Wildlife Chief and situation on bears

Wolves

Director Karpowitz said wolves are now delisted by Congressional action in the Northern Rockies which includes Montana, Idaho, our little piece of Northern Utah and eastern Oregon and Washington. Those areas now go back under state control. This implements the actions in our management plans, but not all of the objectives, because we have a state law that says the objective there will be zero until the rest of the state is delisted. There are other things happening with the USFWS. The Director, Mr. Bushman and Mr. Bunnell are going to a meeting in Grande Junction next week for a two day meeting with the FWS to talk about Mexican wolves and other delisting potentials around the country. They are going to lay out a new plan for us and he will have more information at the next board meeting.

Also at this legislative session we are going to ask them to approve a fee for a wolf permit. Once that is in place it would give the option to establish hunts in the delisted area. We know there are some wolves in Utah, they come and they go. We expect some to show up this year in both areas. They have had questions as to whether they can hunt wolves at this point. The answer is no. They are a protected species. We will use Wildlife Services to deal with livestock depredation and remove any wolves involved there. We will address the others as they arrive. We get a lot of wolf sightings that don't turn out to be wolves. We are right back to where we were two years ago.

Mr. Albrecht asked if they get sightings from all over the state.

Director Karpowitz said mostly in northern and central Utah, some over in the Basin. We know we've had radio collared wolves travel clear through the state.

Mr. Fenimore asked if there is a timeline for the delisting of the rest of the state.

Director Karpowitz said they will hear more about that next week. There is no evidence that there have ever been Mexican wolves in Utah and we are resisting attempts to make that part of the recovery zone. Our plan has never been reviewed or accepted by USFWS. Part of the Congressional legislation said that it acknowledged the decision that validated the Wyoming plan. So in other words that legislation is requiring movement toward Wyoming's management plan and delisting in Wyoming. Negotiations are ongoing and they will probably be delisted. There will be hunts in Idaho and Montana this fall and they will manage according to their plans.

Bears

Director Karpowitz said bears are out now and they are on the move and hungry. He expects to see more of them this summer. There is a lot of green spring feed they are utilizing.

#### Wildlife Chief

Director Karpowitz said there will be interviews next week with four applicants. They will have a decision within a week or two.

#### c) Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Chairman Woodard said the majority of the Board said they wanted to move forward with this. He would entertain a motion.

Mr. Fenimore said he would prefer to wait, but if they want to move forward, he would nominate Ernie Perkins.

Chairman Woodard asked who would like to move forward. Three raised their hands.

Mr. Johnson nominated Del Brady.

Secret ballots were taken and Del Brady was voted the new Board Chair.

#### Nominations for Vice Chair

Mr. Brady nominated Ernie Perkins.

Mr. Albrecht moved to vote in Ernie Perkins by acclamation.

#### d) San Juan Elk Committee

Mr. Johnson said on the San Juan working group, he attended the meeting. Mr. Bates did a great job of running the meeting. He asked Mr. Bates to comment on this and what the Board needs to do.

Mr. Bates said they tried to have a discussion on any bull north of highway 491. They were evenly split after a couple of hours of being everywhere. They tried every kind of strategic method they could in coming up with a decision, but stayed split right down the middle. The only option is for the region to come up with a recommendation, bring it to Salt Lake and then take it through the RAC process. We will follow whatever direction Director Karpowitz gives us.

Director Karpowitz said that makes it difficult since they didn't make a recommendation. They have tossed it back to us and we'll have to follow state law. There should still be some continued discussion on exploring some alternatives. We'll just have to keep the lines of communication open and follow what code allows us to do. They are going to

ask the Board to make a rule change on depredation. An individual of concern from down there has been coming back about every 90 days and we are going to ask the Board to clarify that rule in the near future. There are a lot of options available to the landowner. We will continue to deal with it according to code.

Mr. Bates says there are other landowners that have similar concerns that are more open to some of these other programs. We might be able to make some progress with them. Perhaps work one on one and then go back to the group.

Director Karpowitz said there are lots of options. We have not left anyone without options, helping landowners who have depredation problems on their crops.

Mr. Johnson said they have a good opportunity down there and one person is holding things up.

e) Guides and Outfitters Board

Ms. Coons said she talked to the coordinator of the DOPL Board. They need a current Wildlife Board member to serve on that Board. You will need to replace Rick Woodard. They will allow us to do that at the August Board meeting with the new Board members.

Mr. Perkins asked Ms. Coons to send out an email for anyone who is interested.

Chairman Woodard said the Guides and Outfitters Board deals with all the cases on questionable outfitters. If there are concerns with them that DOPL does not want to handle or deal with, they come to them. The interaction and function of the Board comes from the discussion of the members in their areas and how they would deal with them. They look closely at whether they have had any wildlife violations. They get the headache issues. It is generally a short meeting held in downtown Salt Lake City.

The meeting was adjourned.