

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

December 2, 2015, DNR, Boardroom
1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

Thursday, December 2, 2015, Board Meeting 9:00 am

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| 1. Approval of Agenda
– John Bair, Chairman | ACTION |
| 2. Approval of Minutes
– John Bair, Chairman | ACTION |
| 3. Old Business/Action Log
– Kirk Woodward, Vice-Chair | CONTINGENT |
| 4. DWR Update
Greg Sheehan, DWR Director | INFORMATION |
| 5. Waterfowl Recommendations and Rule Amendments - 2016
- Blair Stringham, Waterfowl Program Coordinator | ACTION |
| 6. Gunnison Bend Reservoir
- Blair Stringham, Waterfowl Program Coordinator | ACTION |
| 7. Statewide Elk Management Plan Revisions
- Justin Shannon, Big Game Coordinator | ACTION |
| 8. Bucks, Bulls & OIAL 2016 Season Dates, Application Timeline,
and R657-5 Rule Amendments
- Justin Shannon, Big Game Coordinator | ACTION |
| 9. SER Deer Management Plans
- Guy Wallace, Southeastern Region Wildlife Manager | ACTION |
| 10. CWMU Management Plans
- Scott McFarlane, Public Wildlife/Private Lands Coordinator | ACTION |
| 11. Landowner Association Permit Numbers for 2016
- Scott McFarlane, Public Wildlife/Private Lands Coordinator | ACTION |
| 12. R657-37 CWMU Rule Amendments
- Scott McFarlane, Public Wildlife/Private Lands Coordinator | ACTION |
| 13. Conservation Permit Season Variance Request
- Bill Bates, Wildlife Section Chief | ACTION |
| 14. Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan Letter
- Martin Bushman, Asst. Attorney General | ACTION |
| 15. Process and Procedure for Expo Contract/Board Meeting – Time Certain 1:00 p.m.
- Martin Bushman, Asst. Attorney General | INFORMATION |
| 16. Other Business
– John Bair, Chairman | CONTINGENT |

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
December 2, 2015, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
Summary of Motions

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

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

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

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

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the October 1, 2015 Wildlife Board Meeting as presented.

3) Waterfowl Recommendations and Rule Amendments – 2016 (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Byron Bateman, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the 2016 Waterfowl Recommendations and Rule Amendments as presented by the Division.

4) Gunnison Bend Reservoir (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Gunnison Bend Reservoir clarification as presented by the Division.

5) Statewide Elk Management Plan Revisions (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Donnie Hunter and failed to pass. Calvin Crandall, Kirk Woodward, and Mike King opposed. Chairman Bair broke the tie and the motion failed.

MOTION: I move that we leave the Monroe Unit in the higher age class at 7.5-8.

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the Statewide Elk Management Plan Revisions as presented by the Division.

- 6) Bucks, Bulls & OIAL 2016 Season Dates, Application Timeline, and R657-5 Rule Amendments (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Byron Bateman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we incorporate the dead zone around the Black Rock into the Antelope unit.

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the balance of the Bucks, Bulls and OIAL Season Dates, Application Timeline, and Amendments to Rule R657-5 as presented by the division.

- 7) SER Deer Management Plans (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the SER Deer Management Plans as presented by the Division.

- 8) CWMU Management Plans (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the CWMU Management Plans as presented by the Division plus include an action log item for the Division to review the CWMU permit allocations and the entire process to ensure all CWMUs are on the same page and measured by the same mark.

The following motion was made by Byron Bateman, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we put on the action log item that the Division review the allocation process for moose, once-in-a-lifetime species, and other species to ensure equal distribution of permits.

- 9) Landowner Association Permit Numbers for 2016 (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 4:1. Kirk Woodward opposed.

MOTION: I move that we approve the nine elk permits requested for the Book Cliffs.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Byron Bateman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the balance of the Landowner Association Permit Numbers for 2016 as presented by the Division.

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

MOTION: I move that we put on the action log item that the Division revisit the entire Landowner Association Permit Rule.

- 10) R657-37 CWMU Rule Amendments (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Byron Bateman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the CWMU Rule Amendments R657-37 as presented by the Division.

- 11) Conservation Permit Season Variance Request (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Conservation Permit Season Variance Request by the Division.

- 12) Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan Letter (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Byron Bateman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Mexican Wolf Plan Letter presented by the Division in support of the Governor's letter.

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1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
http://wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings/board_minutes/audio/15-12-02.mp3

Wildlife Board Members Present

John Bair – Chair
Kirk Woodward – Vice Chair
Greg Sheehan – Exec Sec
Calvin Crandall
Mike King
Steve Dalton
Byron Bateman
Donnie Hunter

RAC Chairs Present

Southern – Dave Black
Southeastern – Kevin Albrecht
Central – Richard Hansen
Northern – John Cavitt
Northeastern - Randy Dearth

Public Present

Lee Tracy – UWC Dave Freiss Auburn Binette
Jon Larson – SFW Floyd Hatin Aly Bywater
Troy Justensen – SFW Brady Clement
Sterling Brown – Farm Bureau Clay Batty
Ben Lowder – UT Bowmen’s Association
Mark Hill – Book Cliffs Landowner Association
Ash Jenkins – Scofield Canyons CWMU
Kirk Robinson – Western Wildlife Conservancy

Division Personnel Present

Mike Fowlks Teresa Griffin
Mike Canning Randy Wood
Rory Reynolds Dustin Schaible
Staci Coons Dax Mangus
Bill Bates Covy Jones
Kenny Johnson Avery Cook
Rick Olson Jason Robinson
Kevin Bunnell Kent Hersey
John Fairchild Clint Sampson
Boyde Blackwell Ben Nadolski
Justin Dolling Bryan Christensen
Dean Mitchell Jason Robinson
Blair Stringham Mike Christensen
Justin Shannon Paul Gedge
Guy Wallace Scott McFarlane

Therese Meyer
Judi Tutorow
Kim Hersey
Lindy Varney
Anita Candelaria
Martin Bushman
Greg Hansen
Karen Caldwell
Phil Gray
Mark Hadley
Debbie Marchese
Sid Groll
Braden Sheppard
Mike Styler
Leslie McFarlane

Ken Clegg Jason Hawkins
Chase Hill Jeff Hilbert
Travis Adams Aaron Albiste
Ray Matthews Tyrell Abegglen
Robert Byrnes Riley Roberts
Ray Eteheverry George Behunin
Daniel Richins Wade Heaton
Chris Carling Ken Strong

Chairman Bair called the meeting to order and welcomed the audience.

- 1) Approval of Agenda (**Action**) **00:00:43 – 00:01:17 of 06:35:56**

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

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

- 2) Approval of Minutes (**Action**) **00:01:18 – 00:01:53 of 06:35:56**

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the October 1, 2015 Wildlife Board Meeting as presented.

3) Old Business/Action Log (**Contingent**) **00:01:59 – 00:03:47 of 06:35:56**

Kirk Woodward brought up action log items for the Manti Unit split and lead impact study. Justin Shannon confirmed that the Manti would be discussed in one of the presentations today. The lead impact study will be discussed at a later date.

4) DWR Update (**Informational**) **00:03:50 – 00:14:46 of 06:35:56**

Greg Sheehan updated the Board on the wolf incident in Rich County; rotenone treatment at Red Fleet; cancellation of the antelope trap at Parker Mountain on December 15; a possible meeting on December 18 to discuss Expo Permit bid; big game transplants ongoing in the state; and expressed appreciation to the Board for their service.

5) Waterfowl Recommendations and Rule Amendments - 2016 (**Action**) **00:14:51 – 00:28:18 of 06:35:56**

Blair Stringham presented the 2016 Waterfowl Recommendations and Rule Amendments.

Board Questions 00:24:00 – 00:24:31

Mike King asked how many participated in the survey.

RAC Recommendations 00:25:03 – 00:26:07

All RACs unanimously passed the recommendations and rule amendments. Southern RAC requested the Director make an emergency change to clarify the Gunnison Bend closure to the high watermark prior to the 2016 snow goose hunt.

Public Comments 00:26:10 – 00:26:45

Public questions were accepted at this time.

Board Discussion 00:27:11 – 00:28:18

The following motion was made by Byron Bateman, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the 2016 Waterfowl Recommendations and Rule Amendments as presented by the Division.

6) Gunnison Bend Reservoir (**Action**) **00:28:19 – 02:24:25 of 06:35:56**

Blair Stringham presented the Gunnison Bend Reservoir closure clarification.

Board/RAC Questions 00:30:26 – 00:57:22

The Board asked about the high watermark, property ownership, enforcement, and the term “effective immediately.”

Board Discussion 00:33:37 – 00:37:32

There was some discussion about shooting areas and what is allowable near the boundaries.

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Gunnison Bend Reservoir clarification as presented by the Division.

Greg added to his update the Division’s efforts with the waterfowl and the pheasant release program. He also thanked those who have assisted in the program, especially former Board Chairman Jake Albrecht.

7) Statewide Elk Management Plan Revisions (**Action**) **00:37:33 – 02:24:25 of 06:35:56**

Justin Shannon presented the Statewide Elk Management Plan Revisions.

Board/RAC Questions 00:52:45 – 01:15:55

The Board asked about measuring and quantifying goals, habitat restoration, data accountability, processes and procedures for making changes/adjustments to the elk plan, objective numbers.

The RAC asked about landowner association permits

Public Questions 01:15:57 – 01:44:26

Public questions were taken at this time.

RAC Recommendations 01:44:29 – 01:48:12

Northern, Central, Southeast, and Southern RACs unanimously passed the Statewide Elk Management Plan Revisions. Northeast passed it 5:4. Southeast added youth 17 years and younger be given preference for antlerless elk permits in the drawing.

Public Comments 01:48:16 – 01:58:25

Public comments were taken at this time.

Board Discussion 01:58:27 – 02:11:04

Chairman Bair reviewed the discussions and comments. The Board asked for clarification on the Southeast’s request for youth permits. They delved into the Monroe unit further.

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Donnie Hunter and failed to pass. Calvin Crandall, Kirk Woodward, and Mike King opposed. Chairman Bair broke the tie and the motion failed.

MOTION: I move that we leave the Monroe Unit in the higher age class at 7.5-8.

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the Statewide Elk Management Plan Revisions as presented by the Division.

- 8) Bucks, Bulls & OIAL 2016 Season Dates, Application Timeline, and R657-5 Rule Amendments (**Action**) **02:11:46 – 03:06:10 of 06:35:56**

Justin Shannon presented the recommendations for the Bucks, Bulls & OIAL 2016 Season Dates, Application Timeline, and R657-5 Rule Amendments.

Board/RAC Questions 02:26:15 – 02:39:12

The Board asked for further clarification and explanation of the proposed rule amendments and how it may affect the mentor program. They also asked about the purpose of the midseason hunt.

The RAC posed questions about boundary adjustments.

Public Questions 02:33:06 – 02:50:36

Public questions were accepted at this time.

The Board debated how to proceed next as there was a time certain agenda at 1:00 p.m.

RAC Recommendations 02:53:09 – 03:00:50

All RACs passed the recommendations with varying dissent, motions, and stipulations.

The Board broke for lunch and planned to return at 1:00 p.m. to address agenda item #15 before continuing with public comments from agenda item #8.

03:00:57 – 03:17:04 agenda item #15 presented and discussed

Public Comments 03:17:06 – 03:37:40

Public comments were taken at this time.

Board Discussion 03:37:44 – 04:04:47

Chairman Bair reviewed the comments and recommendations. The Board discussed boundary

proposals, Wasatch and Manti units, and muzzleloader magnification.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Byron Bateman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we incorporate the dead zone around the Black Rock into the Antelope unit.

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the balance of the Bucks, Bulls and OIAL Season Dates, Application Timeline, and Amendments to Rule R657-5 as presented by the division.

Mike King left the board meeting after the motion was approved.

9) SER Deer Management Plans (Action) 04:04:54 – 04:20:52 of 06:35:56

Guy Wallace presented the SER Deer Management Plans.

RAC Recommendations 04:23:07 – 04:24:47

All RACs unanimously passed the SER Deer Management Plans with exception of Northeast RAC. They had one abstention.

Public Comments 04:24:55 – 04:27:19

Public comments were taken at this time.

Board Discussion 04:27:20 – 04:30:00

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the SER Deer Management Plans as presented by the Division.

10) CWMU Management Plans (Action) 04:30:06 – 05:15:36 of 06:35:56

Scott McFarlane presented the CWMU Management Plans.

Board Questions 04:46:06 – 04:48:04

The board asked how permits are determined and justification for increases.

RAC Recommendations 04:48:06 – 04:51:18

All RACs passed the 2016 CWMU Management Plans with varying dissent and stipulations.

Public Comments 04:51:20 – 04:53:15

Public comments were taken at this time.

Board Discussion 04:53:16 – 05:14:25

The Board pondered the request by the Scofield Canyons CWMU for two permits and the process for determining who and how permits are allocated.

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the CWMU Management Plans as presented by the Division including an action log item for the Division to review the CWMU permit allocations and the entire process to ensure all CWMUs are on the same page and measured by the same mark.

The following motion was made by Byron Bateman, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we put on the action log item that the Division review the allocation process for moose, once-in-a-lifetime species, and other species to ensure equal distribution of permits.

- 11) Landowner Association Permit Numbers for 2016 (Action) **05:14:26 – 05:56:11 of 06:35:56**

Scott McFarlane presented the Landowner Association Permit Numbers for 2016.

RAC Questions 05:20:05 – 05:22:10

RAC questions were taken at this time.

RAC Recommendations 05:22:19 – 05:23:43

All RACs unanimously passed the 2016 permit numbers. Northeast RAC included a motion to address the Book Cliffs LOA.

Public Comments 05:23:44 – 05:26:10

Public comments were taken at this time.

Board Discussion 05:26:13 – 05:49:15

The Board discussed the Book Cliffs situation further and also pondered how to create consistency across the board.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 4:1. Kirk

Woodward opposed.

MOTION: I move that we approve the nine elk permits requested for the Book Cliffs.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Byron Bateman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the balance of the Landowner Association Permit Numbers for 2016 as presented by the Division.

The following motion was made by Byron Bateman, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we put on the action log item that the Division revisit the entire Landowner Association Permit Rule.

12) R657-37 CWMU Rule Amendments (Action) 05:49:17 – 06:10:39 of 06:35:56

Scott McFarlane presented the R657-37 CWMU Rule Amendments.

Board Questions 06:05:33 – 06:06:51

Kirk Woodward asked for clarification on the terms landowner and CWMU.

RAC Recommendations 06:07:02 – 06:07:53

All RACs unanimously passed the rule amendments. Southeast and Southern RAC had one abstention each.

Public Comments 06:07:54 – 06:09:24

Public comments were taken at this time.

Board Discussion 06:09:43 – 06:10:39

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Byron Bateman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the CWMU Rule Amendments R657-37 as presented by the Division.

13) Conservation Permit Season Variance Request (Action) 06:10:40 – 06:12:11 of 06:35:56

Bill Bates presented the Conservation Permit Season Variance Request.

Board Discussion 06:13:10 – 06:13:36

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed

unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Conservation Permit Season Variance Request by the Division.

14) Mexican Wolf Plan Letter (Action) 06:13:38 – 06:23:11 of 06:35:56

Martin Bushman presented the Mexican Wolf Plan Letter for Board approval.

Public Comments 06:22:20 – 06:32:12

Public comments were taken at this time.

Board Discussion 06:32:14 – 06:35:33

Edits from the Board have been incorporated into the draft letter.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Byron Bateman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Mexican Wolf Plan Letter presented by the Division in support of the Governor's letter.

15) Process and Procedure for Expo Contract/Board Meeting – Time Certain 1:00 p.m.
(Information) 03:00:57 – 03:17:04 of 06:35:56

Martin Bushman explained the Process and Procedure for Expo Contract/Board Meeting.

Board Questions/Discussion 03:14:11 – 03:17:04

Board asked about limitations and conflicts with membership in organizations. Martin Bushman emphasized the need to avoid the appearance of impropriety.

16) Other Business (Contingent) 06:35:37 – 06:35:56 of 06:35:56

Meeting adjourned.