

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
August 31, 2017, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
The meeting can be viewed live at <https://youtu.be/gguENO7PPpI>

AGENDA

Thursday, August 31, 2017, Board Meeting 9:00 am

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|---|--------------------|
| 1. Approval of Agenda
– Kirk Woodward, Chairman | ACTION |
| 2. Approval of Minutes
– Kirk Woodward, Chairman | ACTION |
| 3. Old Business/Action Log
– Byron Bateman, Vice-Chair | CONTINGENT |
| 4. DWR Update
– Mike Fowlks, DWR Director | INFORMATION |
| 5. R657-23 – Hunter Education Rule Amendments
- Gary Cook, Hunter Education Coordinator | ACTION |
| 6. R657-11 – Furbearer Rule Amendments
- Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator | ACTION |
| 7. Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations for 2017-2018
- Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator | ACTION |
| 8. Cougar Recommendations and Rule Amendments for 2017-2018
– Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator | ACTION |
| 9. Beaver Management Plan
- Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator | ACTION |
| 10. Expo Permit Audit
- Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief | ACTION |
| 11. Expo Permit Allocation
- Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief | ACTION |
| 12. Other Business
– Kirk Woodward, Chairman | CONTINGENT |

Details of the specific recommendations can be found at www.wildlife.utah.gov

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

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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 Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.

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

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Karl Hirst and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the June 1, 2017 Wildlife Board Meeting.

3) R657-23 – Hunter Education Rule Amendments (**Action**)

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

MOTION: I move that we approve R657-23 Hunter Education Rule Amendments as presented by the Division.

4) Furbearer Rule Amendments (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Donnie Hunter and failed. Karl Hirst, Byron Bateman, and Steve Dalton opposed. The vote was 3:3. Chairman Woodward broke the tie in opposition of the motion.

MOTION: I move that we table the vote at this time and revisit it at the September 28 board meeting.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Byron Bateman and passed 4:3. Donnie Hunter, Calvin Crandall, and Kevin Albrecht opposed. Chairman Woodward broke the tie in favor of the motion.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Furbearer Rule Amendments as presented by the Division.

5) Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations for 2017-2018 (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Kevin Albrecht and passed unanimously.

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

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

MOTION: I move that we amend the agenda to switch the presentation order of items 8 and 9.

6) Beaver Management Plan (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Kevin Albrecht, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Beaver Management Plan as presented by the Division.

7) Cougar Recommendations and Rule Amendments for 2017-2018 (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Kevin Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Cougar Recommendations as presented with a reallocation of permits on the Southwest Manti by four for a total of 12 permits, and on the Southeast Manti by two for a total of 18 permits. In addition, the Northwest and Southwest Manti units will be changed to split-season units.

8) Expo Permit Audit (**Action**)

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the Expo Permit Audit as presented.

9) Expo Permit Allocation (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Expo Permit Allocation with the listed changes for next year's expo tags.

10) Other Business (**Contingent**)

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

MOTION: I move that we add to the action log item a report in spring 2018 from DWR's big game coordinator on the review of big game baiting issues.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we authorize the Chairman of the Wildlife Board to draft a letter to the Parks Service expressing our support for translocating sheep out of Zions National Park into predetermined areas of the state of Utah.

Approved

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Attendance

Wildlife Board

Kirk Woodward – Chair
Byron Bateman – Vice-Chair
Mike Fowlks – Exec Sec
Kevin Albrecht
Calvin Crandall
Donnie Hunter
Karl Hirst
Steve Dalton

RAC Chairs

Central – Ron Camp
Southern – Dave Black
Southeastern – L Kent Johnson
Northeastern – Dan Abeyta
Northern – Bryce Thurgood

Division Personnel

Rory Reynolds
Mike Canning
Bill Bates
Boyde Blackwell
Kevin Bunnell
Justin Dolling
Jason Vernon
Chris Wood
Martin Bushman
Greg Hansen
Justin Shannon
Rick Olson
Kenny Johnson
Robin Cahoon
Teresa Griffin
Riley Peck
Randy Wood
Dax Mangus
Guy Wallace
Mike Christensen
Paul Gedge
Staci Coons
Thu Vo-Wood
J Shirley
Scott White
Sarah Scott
Linda Braithwaite
Lindy Varney
Gary Cook
Darren DeBloois

Public Present

Rich Peterson
Amanda Plustwik
Thomas Plustwik
Bob Brister
Ron Holt
Amy O’Neill
Ken Strong
Brian Fienhold
David Earl
Annette Davis
Jerry Davis
Erin Alberty
Rod Deder
Ryan Benson
Todd Parker
Robert Trotman
Morgan Fosberg
Christine Helfrich
Sheri Morgan-Perkes
Denise Peterson
Angelika Davis
Jan Ellen Burton
Dan Cockayne –UT Houndsmen Association
Sherri Morgan-Perks – Voices of Wildlife
Bryan Perkes – Voices of Wildlife
Sterling Brown – UT Farm Bureau
Mike Cori
Nick Gallegos
Mike Worthen – Iron County Commission
Chris Carling – SFW
Scott Bye – Voices of Wildlife
Al Robb – UT Trappers Association
Brett Selman – UT Wool Growers Association
Kirk Robinson – Western Wildlife Conservancy
Jeremy Snitker – MDF
Bill Christensen - RMEF
Erika Wangsgaad
Paul Zuckerman
John Ziegler
Sundays Hunt – Humane Society of US
Ivan Hunt
Deann Shepherd- Humane Society of Utah
Allison Jones – Wild Utah Project

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00:00:16 Chairman Woodward called the meeting to order, welcomed the audience, and had each member of the board and RAC introduce themselves. He reviewed the protocols of the public process and encouraged the public to get involved.

00:05:09 **1) Approval of Agenda (Action)**
The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

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

00:05:30 **2) Approval of Minutes (Action)**
The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Karl Hirst and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the June 1, 2017 meeting as presented.

00:06:15 **3) Old Business/Action Log (Contingent)**
None at this time.

00:06:37 **4) DWR Update (Informational)**
Mike Fowlks announced changes in DWR staffing, welcomed new board members, updated the board on several litigations, SITLA access agreement, property acquisitions, construction projects, and the start of the hunt season. Byron Bateman summarized his attendance at WAFWA and Tri-State.

00:24:48 **5) R657-23 – Hunter Education Rule Amendments (Action)**
Gary Cook presented the Hunter Education Rule Amendments.

00:30:17 **Board Questions**
The board asked about online and classroom course options, furharvester education, military exemptions for live fire training, and staffing to support application verification.

00:36:00 **RAC Recommendations**
All RACs unanimously approved the rule amendments.

00:37:11 **Board Discussion**
Chairman Woodward reviewed the regional votes.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve R657-23 Hunter Education Rule Amendments as presented by the Division.

00:38:00 6) R657-11 – Furbearer Rule Amendments (Action)

Darren DeBloois presented the rule amendments for R657-11. He noted recommended changes that were incorporated following the RAC meetings.

00:50:10 Board Questions

The board asked about unintended trappings of other animals, comparison of the current and new rule, the Utah Trappers Association letter, and cooperative and coordination efforts with the Department of Agriculture.

01:06:11 Public Questions

Public questions were accepted at this time.

01:12:35 RAC Recommendations

Each RAC passed the rule amendments with varying stipulations.

01:19:40 Public Comments

Public comments were accepted at this time.

01:38:26 Board Discussion

Chairman Woodward summarized the RAC motions and vote. The Board discussed authority to apply rule, trap check times, livestock owners' concerns, and postponing vote until more research is done.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Donnie Hunter and failed. Karl Hirst, Byron Bateman, and Steve Dalton opposed. The vote was 3:3. Chairman Woodward broke the tie in opposition of the motion.

MOTION: I move that we table the vote at this time and revisit it at the September 28 board meeting.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Byron Bateman and passed 4:3. Donnie Hunter, Calvin Crandall, and Kevin Albrecht opposed. Chairman Woodward broke the tie in favor of the motion.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Furbearer Rule Amendments as presented by the Division.

02:07:23 7) Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations for 2017-2018 (Action)

Darren DeBloois presented the harvest recommendations.

02:14:49 Public Questions

Public questions were accepted at this time.

02:15:42 RAC Recommendations

Northern, Central, Southern, and Southeast RACs unanimously passed the harvest recommendations. Central requested an extension on the closure date. Northeast passed the recommendations with one dissent.

02:17:32 Public Comments

Public comments were accepted at this time.

02:21:18 Board Discussion

Chairman Woodward summarized the RAC votes. The board discussed concerns about random jaw samples and its purpose, and pine martin harvest.

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Kevin Albrecht and passed unanimously.

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

For timing purposes, Chairman Woodward suggested switching the next two items of discussion to allow for uninterrupted discussion on cougar recommendations and rule amendments after the lunch break.

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

MOTION: I move that we amend the agenda to switch the presentation order of items 8 and 9.

02:31:22 8) Beaver Management Plan (Action)

Darren DeBloois presented the beaver management plan.

02:40:53 Board Questions

The board asked about relocating beavers.

02:41:56 Public Questions

Public questions were accepted at this time.

02:42:56 RAC Recommendations

All RACs passed the plan unanimously.

02:43:46 Public Comments

Public comments were accepted at this time.

02:44:15 Board Discussion

The following motion was made by Kevin Albrecht, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Beaver Management Plan as presented by the Division.

03:42:30 9) Cougar Recommendations and Rule Amendments for 2017-2018 (Action)

Darren DeBloois presented the cougar recommendations and amendments.

04:01:36 Board/RAC Questions

The board asked about hound restrictions on the new Salt Lake unit, concerns with permit increase in relation to cougar population, public safety data, and overall increase in permit numbers.

04:05:21 Public Questions

Public questions were accepted at this time.

04:23:15 RAC Recommendations

All RACs except Central and Southeast unanimously passed the cougar recommendations and rule amendments. Southeast passed in favor 10 to 2 and included an increase in permit allocations and unit change. Central passed it 8 to 1.

04:26:00 Public Comments

Public comments were accepted at this time.

05:15:00 Board Discussion

Chairman Woodward summarized the RAC votes. The board discussed livestock depredation in correlation to cougar population, the purpose and impact of harvesting cougars, estimate of annual harvest for this year, public comments and opportunities to address issue, and scientific data.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Kevin Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Cougar Recommendations as presented with a reallocation of permits on the Southwest Manti by four for a total of 12 permits and on the Southeast Manti by two for a total of 18 permits. In addition, the Northwest and Southwest Manti units will be changed to split-season units.

05:31:30 10) Expo Permit Audit (Action)

Kenny Johnson presented the permit audit.

05:48:40 Board Questions

The board discussed presenting the audit as an informational item at the RAC for transparency and public support.

05:56:27 RAC Questions

Ron Camp asked for clarification on project selection based on fund deadlines and proper separation of expo and conservation funds.

05:59:40 Public Comments

Public comments were accepted at this time.

06:05:40 Board Discussion

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the Expo Permit Audit as presented.

06:06:11 11) Expo Permit Allocation (Action)

Kenny Johnson presented the permit allocation.

06:08:35 Public Comments

Public comments were accepted at this time.

06:09:40 Board Discussion

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Expo Permit Allocation with the listed changes for next year's expo tags.

06:10:43 12) Other Business (Contingent)

Chairman Woodward opened a discussion on the cougar management plan presentation cycle and baiting. He proposed creating an action log item for baiting issue. Further discussion ensued.

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

MOTION: I move that we add to the action log item a report in spring 2018 from DWR's big game coordinator on the review of big game baiting issues.

Donnie Hunter opened a discussion on Zion National Park's open comment period for big horn sheep management. He proposed the board submit a letter of support.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we authorize the Chairman of the Wildlife Board to draft a letter to the Parks Service expressing our support for translocating sheep out of Zions National Park into predetermined areas of the state of Utah.

06:29:30 Meeting adjourned.