

**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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

Making it illegal to shoot trumpeter swans because it limits opportunity makes no sense. The reason people don't fill their tags is because they're at home on the couch. It's a known thing that the season can get shut down early, and people still wait around and ask on social media "Are the swans here yet?" Instead of going out and trying to get one themselves. The people who don't fill tags have nobody to blame but themselves for not filling tags. Now my other point is, how did we go 40 years without the season getting shut down (When public shooting grounds wasn't in the boundary) to it getting shutdown every year since 2019? (In other words, when PSG got included in the boundary). You guys literally show the numbers in the video, if you truly care about if trumpeter swans get killed, the obvious answer is to get rid of PSG as an option. When PSG by itself, has almost as many trumpeters shot there as every other place combined, that tells you everything you need to know. I agree with the way it is now, where there is a waiting period if you shoot a trumpeter. If I had to change anything, I'd shutdown PSG for swan hunting, and keep the same waiting period in place. I understand making it illegal, but accidents do happen, and with Tundra vs Trumpeter, it can be very hard to tell if they're making no noise. I know people say you can tell by the size, but not all birds are created equal meaning some trumpeters you wouldn't know until you grabbed it that it was a trumpeter because it could be a smaller trumpeter.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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

Your data shows plain and simple that once public shooting grounds opened up, the trumpeter swan count went up and seasons closed early. Over 32 percent increase from public opening alone. Why label someone a poacher if they shoot a swan that ends up being a trumpeter rather than close public shooting grounds to swan hunting like before. Unless a swan makes a noise or its close enough to see the eye patch, which both scenarios are very rare, a large white quiet swan though to be legally shot will then deem you criminal. THIS IS INSANE.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

May 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
May 3, 2023 5:00 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?**

Strongly agree

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

I strongly agree that the Trumpeter Swan hunt should be illegal. I go out to the bear River bird refuge multiple times per month and have noticed the decline in the trumpeter swans. I appreciate you guys taking the conservation efforts towards protecting their species and I really hope this passes. Thank you so much!!

**Which best describes your position regarding the wild turkey management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the turkey recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the upland game recommendations for 2023–25?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these waterfowl recommendations?** The only thing this will do is cause people to not report their harvest or throw the bird in the reeds of they take a trumpeter. The reason the quota has been hit for the last 4 years is the numbers have grown of trumpeters and you opened box elder 5 years ago. Close that down and see if the quota gets hit again. Outlawing trumpeters will cause the waste of birds because they don't want to get in trouble for taking a trumpeter.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed revision to the pen-reared gamebird rules?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the animal collection, importation and possession rules?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU variance requests?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the translocation management plan for desert tortoises?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Parowan Front WMA habitat management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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

There is no science behind making the trumpeter harvest illegal. There has been no firm data showing where these birds are coming from or the population of that area.

In the presentation the last even says there has been 100,000 more trumpeter swans coming thru utah. That obviously shows the population is up from the past.

When the quota is set by the US fish and Wildlife, that quota is set based on a number that will not hurt the population.

All wildlife changes should be based on science, not a political knee-jerk.

Obviously the number of trumpeter swans harvested come from public, so move the boundary back. Is it true they are not wanting to move the boundary back to Forest St because the division is catering to private clubs in the Corinne area? Should the private clubs for the rich come before the wildlife and the majority of other hunters?

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

May 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
May 3, 2023 9:24 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly agree  
**regarding the waterfowl rule and swan**  
**hunt recommendations?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the wild turkey management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the turkey recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the upland game recommendations for 2023–25?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these waterfowl recommendations?** There is no reason for new changes

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed revision to the pen-reared gamebird rules?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the animal collection, importation and possession rules?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU variance requests?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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

I disagree with making Trumpeter swans illegal to harvest. We have an increase of 100k Trumpeters and we are not going to manage them? Trumpeters are not listed as endangered or even a threatened species, other states have tried to implement a season on them and were unsuccessful due to anti-hunting pressure. The Central Flyway portion of Montana has even lifted the restrictions on the taking of Trumpeter swans and we are going backwards?

I also believe you are not comparing apples to apples on bird identification, ducks and geese are highly distinguishable from one another. I have guided and hunted swans for 30 years, if a Trumpeter is silent or not flying with Tundra swans, they can be almost impossible to tell apart on the wing. We have made it unsportsmanlike to land birds and shoot them on the water and this would be the only way to be 100% certain, after viewing it in binoculars to tell them apart.

If we must wait on FWS to come back with isotype testing and by the data I would rather see tag numbers reduced and a closure of the Northern boundary. I would like to see Utah work closely with FWS and push for an increase of study to see what population of Trumpeters we are harvesting; do they need to be managed?

In addition, I think waterfowlers would like to know...

Will citations be issued to those that take Trumpeter swans?

What would the fine be and if it is considered poaching would one lose his license for 3-5 years?

Will enforcement be stepped up on WMA's to discourage wanton waste of those who accidentally shoot one?

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**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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

Making it illegal to shoot/harvest Trumpeter Swans will without a doubt lead to an increase in waste of birds. Some people who mistakenly shoot a Trump will no doubt leave that swan to waste because of this proposal. It is highly encouraged by all sportsmen to keep the rules that are currently in place regarding the harvesting of Trumps-5 year wait list for those that do shoot one, and close the season when the numbers are met. I would much rather be on a 5 year wait if I were to mistake the identity of a swan, than to have my harvest taken from me entirely, not getting to consume the swan how I see fit. There will be more swans being shot and wasted, I guarantee that. I have already seen swans being shot and be wasted last year, and I do not want to see anymore.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

May 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
May 5, 2023 9:11 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?** Strongly agree

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

This would be an important step toward protecting a recovering migratory species. I fully support banning hunting of Trumpeter Swans.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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

Trumpeter swans are consistently regarded as "rare". They should be protected, meaning NOT HUNTED AT ALL. In this case, hunters in Utah are overly accommodated at the expense of everyone else who strongly want to protect these beautiful and rare birds.. Please, don't allow hunting them..  
Thank you for your consideration.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

May 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
May 5, 2023 5:05 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?**

Strongly agree

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

I have been waiting for sometime to be done about , the people that are are targeting these bird and bragging about it.Thank you for seeing this.A concerned waterfowl sportsman.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

May 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
May 6, 2023 7:48 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these waterfowl recommendations?** Strongly agree. Watching guys target trumps on purpose, and closing a season for everyone else was beyond frustrating. Good on the DWR for addressing this

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**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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

The issue between ducks and swans is that the ducks have different colors and body shapes so you can pick them out while in the air. The swans look the same in the air and the only way to tell the difference is for them to be calling. You can not see a yellow spot on the bill while they are in the air. I suggest making the penalty for killing one longer like 10 years. You can also change the boundary back to the way it was.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

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

I would like to see the penalty for harvesting a trumpeter swan more severe. I think that if you harvest a trumpeter swan, you're right to apply for a swan permit in the future should be terminated. In other words, you cannot hunt tundra swans ever again. Also, I think that the penalty for not reporting the harvest of a swan should be very severe also. Such as a \$1000 fine for not reporting the harvest of a swan. Hopefully that would discourage people shooting a trumpeter swan and leaving it in the field. I don't think there should be a fine for shooting a trumpeter swan other than you lose your hunting privileges for life for swans. Also, I feel like the best way to distinguish between a trumpeter swan and a tundra swan is the call that they make. I think more emphasis should be put on your training video to distinguish between the call of the trumpeter swan and the tundra swan. It is extremely difficult to determine the species of swan while they are in flight other than the sound that they are making. It is easy to distinguish between the two once you are trained to listen to the calls.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU variance requests?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU variance requests?**

These lands have been open to the general public and not posted for years. Furthermore allowing non-contiguous parcels to be added to CWMU's will completely open a can of worms. There will be applications from every CWMU in Box Elder County requesting the same things. This CWMU also is supposed to have "trade lands" available to the public. Since the mess last month in regards to this CWMU, there has been absolutely no Trade Land Maps available to the general public from the UDWR.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

May 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
May 11, 2023 8:39 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU variance requests?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU variance requests?**

Our family hunts and recreates a lot in this exact location they are trying to put in the CWMU I stirringly disagree I have put a ton of money buy conservation tags for grouse creek and won't be putting my money towards auction tags anymore if this goes thru you are more then welcome to contact me my name is Benji Eames 435-994-1988

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

May 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
May 11, 2023 8:41 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Strongly disagree  
**regarding the CWMU variance**  
**requests?**

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

May 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
May 11, 2023 8:48 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the CWMU variance**  
**requests?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU variance requests?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU variance requests?**

We strongly disagree with this proposal, it is public land and our family has been hunting it for years, they posted it in the early 2000s as cwmu under twin peaks but that went south in two years after everyone disagreed. You as the division should stand up for the public once! You let the ranches out west in the grouse creek valley run all over you, pay for hay with public's money, fences, depredation. Then you give them bull tags to sell for twenty thousand or more to hunt Utah's public land and YOU LET THEM PUT IT IN CWMU L! Everyone needs to look at all the public land on north peaks, river view ranch and double cone cwmu and realize who is getting screwed on public land!

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

May 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
May 11, 2023 9:08 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU variance requests?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU variance requests?**

This is land that has been hunted by people in the past with permission from the land owner there is know reason they should take those parcels away from the public people. This is just taking away more land that's just not close enough to the unit. I strongly disagree with this idea.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

May 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
May 11, 2023 9:38 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the CWMU variance**  
**requests?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the turkey recommendations for 2023?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the upland game recommendations for 2023–25?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these waterfowl recommendations?** Need to have more data on where trumpeter swans are coming from before making a decision.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU variance requests?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU variance requests?** North Peaks CWMU has 2,040 acres of public land, not landlock, and is accessible to the public hunter incorporated into the CWMU. As of now, there has never been a process to evaluate the tradelands and if it is equal habitat for the public land they have Incorporated into the CWMU.

These two pieces of private land actually give the public hunter good huntable habitat with a county road thru it. It supplies good hunting for both elk and deer. Also, these 2 pieces of land used to show up on a tradelands map and were available to the public hunter. Apparently, the map has been deleted from Utah Hunt Planner. They claim it was wrong, but the map has been available to the public on the Utah hunt planner since the fall of 2019. Because these lands show up as tradelands for a good part of the application process and because there is no process for the Division of Wildlife to actually evaluate these lands, and no Wildlife or habitat biologists signed off on this. then I believe it should not be passed.

**Which best describes your position regarding the translocation management plan for desert tortoises?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Parowan Front WMA habitat management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the wild turkey management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the wild turkey management plan?** Appreciate the way the DWR has created such a fun and productive hunting opportunity through the turkey management plan.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the waterfowl rule and swan hunt recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these waterfowl recommendations?** 100,000 more trumpeters migrating through? The Rocky Mountain population is just shy of 12,000 birds according to the Pacific Flyway RMP management plan. If 100,000 trumpeters are migrating through Utah, then, the quota is meaningless.

Additionally, it is important to better publicize the fact that even at 11,700 birds, the quota could be harvested every year and would have absolutely NO IMPACT on the RMP of trumpeters. The media does NOT publicize that fact and makes it sound like the 20 birds harvested are threatening an endangered species.

Why is th radio isotope survey taking so long? There are at least 3 years of data already. We've been told for two years now that we will have data, "in a few months," or, "later this year." What is the hold up?

- 1) Given that the majority of trumpeter swans are being killed at Public Shooting Grounds, the most simple, and easily enacted change is to remove PSG from the boundaries of the hunt unit. Return to the boundaries that were in effect when few trumpeters were being killed.
- 2) Enforcement will be difficult. People will leave trumps to be eaten by eagles, harriers, and raccoons. This will further deplete the Rocky Mountain population.
- 3) Start the swan season two weeks later. Prior to the recent changes, the hunt started later.
- 4) Split the hunt unit into two units; a northern GSL unit with an earlier start and finish dates; a southern GSL unit with a later start/finish date.

FINALLY, I appreciate the work that DWR is undertaking to deal with this issue and to preserve a unique and thrilling opportunity to hunt swans--my favorite waterfowl hunt.

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