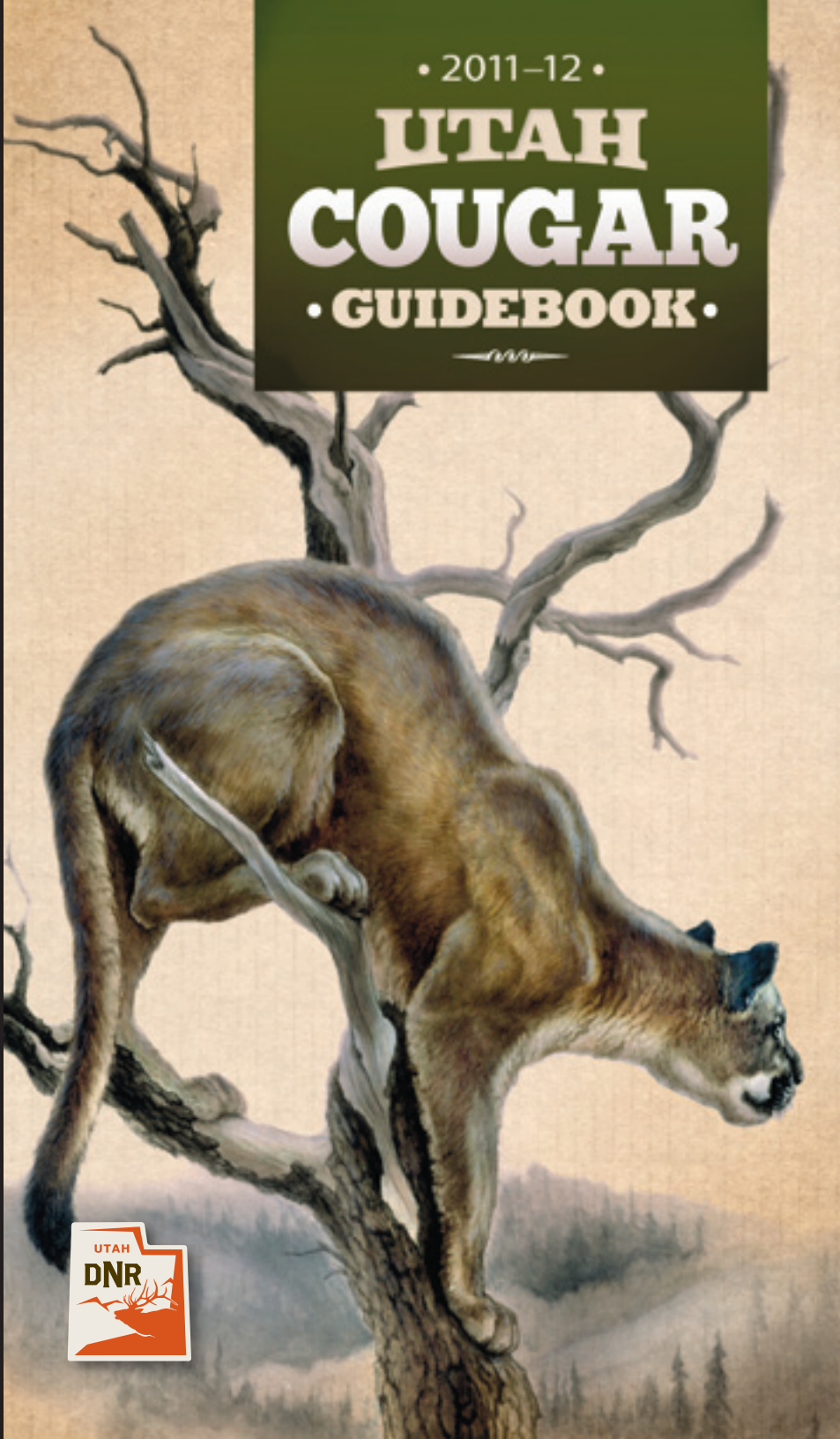
• 2011–12 •

UTAH COUGAR GUIDEBOOK



UTAH DNR

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources • Turn in a poacher: 1-800-662-3337 • wildlife.utah.gov

CONTACT US

Division offices

Offices are open 8 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday through Friday

Salt Lake City
1594 W North Temple
Box 146301
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301
801-538-4700

Central Region
1115 N Main Street
Springville, UT 84663
801-491-5678

Northeastern Region
152 E 100 N
Vernal, UT 84078
435-781-9453

Northern Region
515 E 5300 S
Ogden, UT 84405
801-476-2740

Southeastern Region
319 N Carbonville Road, Ste A
Price, UT 84501
435-613-3700

Southern Region
1470 N Airport Road
Cedar City, UT 84721
435-865-6100

Washington County (Field Office)
451 N SR-318
Hurricane, UT 84737
435-879-8694

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CHANGES TO COUGAR MANAGEMENT

In spring 2011, the Utah Wildlife Board requested that the Division link cougar management to the management of deer, their primary prey. The Division recommended some management changes, which the Wildlife Board approved in August 2011.

Among the biggest changes is the creation of eight large cougar management areas that mirror the areas where an adult deer survival study is now underway. Those cougar management areas contain the limited-entry, split and harvest-objective hunting units that cougar hunters are likely familiar with. There is also one cougar management area made up of units that are home to large numbers of bighorn sheep. You can see a map of all nine cougar management areas on pages 24–25.

There are additional changes that involve harvest quotas and when the Division will close a cougar management area for the season. **Before you hunt any of these areas—particularly their harvest-objective units—call 1-888-668-5466 or visit *wildlife.utah.gov/cougar* to make sure they are still open.**

For detailed information on all of the management changes, see the article on page 23.

HIGHLIGHTS

What's new this season?

Changes to cougar management: In August 2011, the Utah Wildlife Board approved changes to the Cougar Management Plan. These changes link cougar management to adult deer survival across the state. The changes also create large, new cougar management areas. For details, see the article on page 23 and the map on page 24.

Area closures available online: Any area or unit closures will be listed on the cougar hotline (1-888-668-5466) and posted at *wildlife.utah.gov/cougar* by noon daily. Closures will take effect the following day.

Purchase pursuit permits by phone: You can now purchase a cougar pursuit permit over the telephone. Just call 1-800-221-0659. The line is staffed 24 hours per day, seven days per week. You will be charged a $2 transaction fee for each item you purchase.

Check the season dates: Season dates and hunting unit boundaries change every year. For details, see the tables that start on page 26.

Keep in mind

Hunting license required to apply: Before you can apply for a 2011 cougar permit or bonus point—or purchase a pursuit permit—you must have a valid Utah hunting or combination license. Please see page 6 for more information.

Apply for permits online or by phone: If you hope to harvest a cougar on a limited-entry unit this year, the application period opens on Sept.

Who makes the rules?

The Utah Wildlife Board passes the rules and laws summarized in this guidebook.

There are seven board members, and each serves a six-year term. Appointed by the governor, board members are not Division employees.

The Division's director serves as the board's executive secretary but does not have a vote on wildlife policies.

Before board members make changes to wildlife rules, they listen to recommendations from Division biologists. They also receive input from the public and various interest groups via the regional advisory council (RAC) process.

If you have feedback or suggestions for board members, you can find their contact information online at *wildlife.utah.gov*.

Wildlife Board members

Jake Albrecht
John Bair
Calvin Crandall
Bill Fenimore
Michael King

Del Brady, *Chair*
Ernie Perkins, *Vice Chair*
James F. Karpowitz, *Division Director*
Executive Secretary

Take a closer look at the rules

This guidebook summarizes Utah's cougar hunting laws and rules. Although it is a convenient quick-reference document for Utah's cougar regulations, it is not an all-encompassing resource.

For an in-depth look at the state's cougar hunting laws and rules, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/rules*.

You can use the references in the guidebook—such as Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Administrative Rule R657-10-13—to search the Division's website for the detailed statute or rule that underpins the guidebook summary.

If you have questions about a particular rule, call or visit the nearest Division office.

19, 2011. You must apply for a permit online or by phone no later than Oct. 12, 2011. There's an 11 p.m. deadline for online applications and a 5 p.m. deadline for phone applications. To apply, simply visit *wildlife.utah.gov* or call any Division office.

Boundary maps and descriptions online

Looking for a map or description of your hunting area? Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/maps*. You'll find the information you need to plan your hunting trip.

Your wait is over: If you last obtained a cougar limited-entry permit for the 2007–2008 season, your waiting period is over and you're now eligible to apply again.

Purchase harvest-objective permits: Harvest-objective permits may be purchased beginning Nov. 1, 2011 at *wildlife.utah.gov*, from license agents and at any Division office. If you purchase a harvest-objective permit, you may hunt statewide on any harvest-objective unit that's still open to hunting. If you purchase a cougar harvest-objective permit after the season opens, the permit is not valid until seven days from the date of purchase.

Corrections: If errors are found in the printed guidebook, the Division will correct them in the online version. Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks* to view all of the Division's guidebooks.

Don't lose your hunting and fishing privileges

If you commit a wildlife violation, you could lose the privilege of hunting and fishing in Utah. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources can suspend the license of anyone who knowingly, intentionally or recklessly violates wildlife laws. Your license can be suspended for a wildlife violation if:

- You are convicted.
- You plead guilty or no contest.
- You enter a plea in abeyance or diversion agreement.

Suspension proceedings are separate and independent from criminal prosecution. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources may suspend your license privileges whether or not the court considers suspension in your criminal case. You will be notified of any action against your privilege after criminal proceedings conclude. And remember, if your license is suspended in Utah, you may not be permitted to hunt or fish in most other states. (Visit *ianrc.org* to see a map of participating states.)

Protection from discrimination: The Division receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, or if you desire further information, please write to:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office for Diversity and Civil Rights Programs—External Programs
4040 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 130
Arlington, VA 22203

Private lands: The Division cannot guarantee access to any private land. If you plan to hunt—or engage in any other wildlife-related activities—on private lands, you must obtain WRITTEN permission from the landowner or the landowner's authorized representative.

Division funding: The Division is mostly funded by the sale of hunting and fishing licenses and through federal aid made possible by an excise tax on the sale of firearms and other hunting- and fishing-related equipment.

KEY DATES

Hunt applications

Application available online	Sept. 19, 2011
Application deadline	Oct. 12, 2011
Drawing results available	Oct. 27, 2011
Harvest-objective permit sales begin	Nov. 1, 2011

Season dates

Opening day	Nov. 16, 2011
Opening day for harvest-objective hunting on split units	March 5, 2012

LICENSE FEES

Resident fees

Hunting license (under 14 years of age)	$11
Hunting license (14 years of age and older)	$26
Combination license*	$30

Nonresident fees

Hunting license (all ages)	$65
Combination license (all ages)*	$80

** A combination license allows you to fish, to hunt small game and to apply for big game and other hunting permits.*

PERMIT FEES

Resident fees

Cougar limited-entry permit	$58†
Cougar harvest-objective permit	$58
Cougar pursuit permit	$30
Cougar damage permit	$30

Nonresident fees

Cougar limited-entry permit	$258†
Cougar harvest-objective permit	$258
Cougar pursuit permit	$135
Cougar damage permit	$30

† You will be charged an additional $10 nonrefundable application fee.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

Are you thinking about hunting cougars in Utah this year? If so, you'll need to make sure you meet Utah's age, hunter education and license requirements before you apply for a cougar permit.

Are you old enough?

Utah Code §§ 23-19-22.5 and 23-20-20

To hunt a cougar in Utah, you must be at least 12 years old by Dec. 31, 2011.

Note: If you're 11 years old, but you'll be 12 by Dec. 31, 2011, you may apply for and obtain a cougar permit this year. To learn more about Utah's age requirements, see the information box below.

Adults must accompany young hunters

Utah Code § 23-20-20

While hunting with any weapon, a person under 14 years old must be accompanied by his or her parent, legal guardian or other responsible person who is 21 years of age or older and who has been approved by the parent or guardian.

A person at least 14 years old and under 16 years old must be accompanied by a person 21 years of age or older while hunting with any weapon.

The Division encourages adults to be familiar with hunter education guidelines or to complete the hunter education course before accompanying youth into the field.

While in the field, the youth and the adult must remain close enough for the adult to see and provide verbal assistance to the young hunter. Using electronic devices, such as walkie-talkies or cell phones, does not meet this requirement.

Have you passed hunter education?

Utah Code § 23-19-11 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-23

If you were born after Dec. 31, 1965, you must provide proof that you've passed a hunter education course approved by the Division before you can apply for or obtain a hunting license or a cougar permit.

Proof of hunter education

You can prove that you've completed hunter education by obtaining a hunter education course Certificate of Completion (this certificate is called a "blue card" in Utah) or by using a hunting license from a previous year with your hunter education number noted on the license.

How to take hunter education

If you were born after 1965, you must take and successfully complete the state's hunter education course. It's an easy process:

1. Obtain a hunter education registration certificate. Each certificate costs only $10, and you can obtain it online, at any Division office or from a license agent.
2. Register for a class with your local hunter education instructor.
3. Take your registration certificate to your instructor on the first night of class.
4. Successfully complete the course—your instructor will then validate your certificate. The validated certificate serves as your hunting license.

Both the registration certificate and the corresponding hunting license are valid for 365 days from the date of purchase. The license enables you to apply for or obtain permits in the Division's hunt drawings. In order to maximize your hunting opportunities, you should register for and complete the hunter education course as soon as possible after purchasing your registration certificate.

After completing the course, you will receive your official hunter education card (commonly known as the "blue card") by mail. It will be sent to the address listed on your registration certificate. This card certifies that you passed hunter education.

You should also keep the following in mind:

- Hunters under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult while hunting.
- Regardless of when a student graduates, all hunting regulations (such as season dates and bag limits) will apply.
- Students who are planning to hunt out of state should allow enough time for their hunter education card to arrive in the mail.

You can see a list of hunter education courses at *wildlife.utah.gov/huntereducation*. You can also contact your local Division office or call 801-538-4727.

New to Utah?

If you become a Utah resident, and you've completed a hunter education course in another state, province or country, you must obtain a blue card before you can buy a resident hunting license or obtain a cougar permit. You can obtain a Utah blue card at any Division office by providing proof that you've completed a hunter education course approved by the Division. The card costs $10.

Do you have a license?

Utah Code §§§ 23-19-1, 23-19-22.5 and 23-20-25

You must have a current Utah hunting or combination (hunting and fishing) license before you can apply for a permit to harvest or pursue cougar in Utah.

To purchase a license, visit *wildlife.utah.gov*, a license agent or any Division office. You can also buy a license over the telephone. Just call 1-800-221-0659. The line is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition to the fee for the license, you'll also be charged a $2 transaction fee for each item you buy.

Carry your permit

If you are successful in obtaining a cougar permit, you must have it on your person while hunting or pursuing cougar. You cannot alter your license or permit, nor can you sell, transfer or loan either of them to another person.

Helping wildlife makes you look good.

(Now your car wants a turn.)

Show off your sense of style, your favorite activity or even your patriotic side with one of Utah's wildlife license plates. Choose from a bald eagle, cutthroat trout or Rocky Mountain elk. Learn how to get your new plate at *wildlife.utah.gov*.

COUGAR PERMITS

In Utah, you must have a valid permit on your person in order to harvest or pursue a cougar. This section describes Utah's various cougar permits and explains how you can obtain them. You should apply for or purchase the type of permit that best fits your needs.

Limited-entry permit

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-3 and R657-10-26

The cougar limited-entry permit is only available through the state's cougar hunt drawing. To enter the drawing, you must apply for a permit online at *wildlife.utah.gov*.

If you are successful in the drawing, your permit will allow you to take one cougar on a specific limited-entry or split hunting unit, during a specified season. For more information on these hunting units and season dates, see the hunt tables that begin on page 26.

Before you can apply for either a permit or a bonus point, you must have a valid Utah hunting or combination license. If you don't already have one of these licenses, you can buy one online when you apply.

Split hunting units

A split hunting unit is one that begins as a limited-entry unit and then transitions into a harvest-objective unit.

With a valid cougar limited-entry permit for a split unit, you may hunt only the unit listed on your permit during the limited-entry season (Nov. 16, 2011–Feb. 29, 2012). Then, beginning on the split-unit transition date, you may also hunt on any harvest-objective units. The split-unit transition date for the 2011–2012 season is March 5, 2012.

If you possess a valid cougar limited-entry permit for a split unit—and you choose to hunt on any harvest-objective unit (including the unit for which the limited-entry permit was valid) after the transition date—you are subject to all area closure and reporting requirements.

For more information on when split units will close, see the article on page 23.

September 19: Apply online for a permit or bonus point

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62

Beginning Sept. 19, 2011, both residents and nonresidents can apply for a cougar limited-entry permit at *wildlife.utah.gov*. You can also apply by calling any Division office.

To apply for a resident permit, you must be a resident on the date the permit is purchased. October 27, 2011 is considered the purchase date of the permit and the date by which you must establish residency in the state of Utah. Only nonresidents may apply for nonresident permits. Please see the definition of residency on page 35 to learn whether you qualify as a resident.

You may not apply for or obtain more than one permit to harvest cougar during the 2011–2012 season.

Here's what you need to know in order to apply for a cougar limited-entry permit or a cougar bonus point:

- You may select up to three hunt units when applying for a cougar limited-entry permit. Your hunt unit choices must be listed in order of preference.
- You cannot apply for both a cougar limited-entry permit and a bonus point.
- Group applications are not accepted.
- If you are unsuccessful in the limited-entry hunt drawing, you can purchase a cougar harvest-objective permit beginning Nov. 1, 2011.
- The last day you can purchase a harvest-objective permit for this season is Nov. 5, 2012.
- You may obtain a cougar pursuit permit in

Take the voluntary cougar-hunting course

The Division offers a voluntary orientation course for cougar hunters. By taking the course, you will learn more about cougar identification, target selection and how to have a successful hunt. Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/cougar* to take the course today.

addition to either a limited-entry permit or a harvest-objective permit.

When you submit your application, you'll be charged a nonrefundable $10 application fee. If you purchase your hunting or combination license during the application process, you'll also be charged a license fee. Permit fees will be charged after the drawing, if you are successful.

You can use American Express, Discover, MasterCard and VISA credit or debit cards as payment, and they must be valid through December 2011. You can also use a pre-paid credit card. If you have questions about using a pre-paid credit card, check with your financial institution for more information.

October 12: Deadline for permit applications and bonus points

Your application for a cougar limited-entry permit or a cougar bonus point must be submitted through *wildlife.utah.gov* no later than 11 p.m. on Oct. 12, 2011. Please remember that you must have a hunting license or a combination license to apply for a bonus point.

Withdrawing and resubmitting your application

Did you make a mistake in your online permit application? Simply withdraw your original online application and submit a new, correct application before 11 p.m. on Oct. 12, 2011.

In order to withdraw your application, you must have the confirmation number from your original application. You must also have your customer ID and your date of birth. For each new application you submit, you will be charged a $10 application fee.

If you need help with your online application, please call any Division office before 5 p.m. on Oct. 12, 2011. A Division employee will be available to assist you!

October 12: Deadline for withdrawing your application

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-10

If you decide not to hunt, you can withdraw your online permit application until 11 p.m. on Oct. 12, 2011.

Please remember that the fees you submitted with your application are not refundable.

Residency

Utah Code § 23-13-2(37)

Before you purchase a license or permit, it's important to know whether you are a legal resident of the state of Utah. See the definition of residency on page 35 to determine whether you are a resident or a nonresident.

October 27: Drawing results available

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-10

You'll be notified of the drawing results by email. Beginning Oct. 27, 2011, you can also learn the drawing results by calling 1-800-221-0659 or by visiting *wildlife.utah.gov*.

If you draw a permit, you'll receive your permit in the mail in November.

Please be aware that if you receive your permit, and then the credit card you used for payment is refused, your permit becomes invalid and you may not participate in the cougar limited-entry hunt. If this happens, please call 1-800-221-0659 to resolve the problem.

If you are unsuccessful in the cougar drawing, your credit or debit card will not be charged for the permit; however, the $10 application fee and the Utah hunting or combination license fee are nonrefundable.

November 9: Remaining permits available

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-13

Any cougar limited-entry permits remaining after the drawing may be obtained beginning at 8 a.m. on Nov. 9, 2011 at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices.

Remaining permits are available on a first-come, first-served basis to both residents and nonresidents. You must have a valid hunting license or a combination license to buy one of these permits.

If you purchase a remaining limited-entry permit, you will lose any bonus points you've accrued and begin a waiting period.

Any cougar limited-entry permit purchased after the season opens is not valid until seven days from the date of purchase.

A list of license agents is available at *wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/agent.html*. Before you

visit any of the agents, contact them to verify their hours of operation.

Harvest-objective permit

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-27 and R657-10-28

The cougar harvest-objective permit allows you to take one cougar on any harvest-objective hunting unit until the season ends or the cougar management area's harvest objective has been met.

The harvest-objective permit is available to all eligible hunters, except those who drew a cougar limited-entry permit.

You may not apply for or obtain more than one permit to harvest cougar during the 2011–2012 season.

November 1: Purchase a harvest-objective permit

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-28

Both residents and nonresidents can purchase a cougar harvest-objective permit beginning Nov. 1, 2011. You can purchase this permit from license agents, Division offices and at *wildlife.utah.gov*.

Remember that any cougar permit purchased after the season opens is not valid until seven days from the date of purchase. As a result, the last day to purchase a 2011–2012 harvest-objective permit is Nov. 5, 2012.

Ongoing: Cougar management area closures

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-29

Before you begin a hunting trip to a harvest-objective unit, you must call 1-888-668-5466 or visit *wildlife.utah.gov* to verify that the cougar management area (the larger area that contains the harvest-objective unit) is still open. The phone line and website will be updated each day by noon. Updates become effective the following day, 30 minutes before official sunrise.

A harvest-objective unit is open to hunting until one of the following events occurs:

- The cougar harvest objective for that cougar management area is met.
- The female subquota for that cougar management area is met.
- The hunting season ends. For season dates, see the hunt tables that begin on page 26.

Poaching-reported reward permits

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-32

If you provide information that leads to someone's arrest and successful prosecution for wanton destruction of a cougar on a limited-entry cougar unit, you may receive a permit from the Division to hunt cougar on the same unit where the violation occurred.

As used above, "successful prosecution" means the screening and filing of charges for the poaching incident.

For more information on how the Division issues poaching-reported reward permits, see Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-32 online at *wildlife.utah.gov/rules*.

After a cougar management area closes, you may not use your harvest-objective permit to harvest a cougar in that area. However, with a valid pursuit permit, you may pursue a cougar on that area during the pursuit season. For a complete list of pursuit season dates, please see pages 33–34.

For more information about all of the changes to cougar management, see the article on page 23.

Units with a minimum harvest quota

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-29

There are harvest-objective units in some cougar management areas that are home to populations of bighorn sheep. Those units have a minimum cougar harvest quota. They will remain open—even if the larger cougar management area closes—until the minimum harvest quota has been met.

Nearly all of the harvest-objective units have a minimum harvest quota. For details, see the hunt tables that begin on page 26. **To determine whether these units are open, you must call 1-888-668-5466 or visit *wildlife.utah.gov/cougar* before you hunt.**

Guides and outfitters

Guides must be licensed by the state of Utah—and operate under a state-licensed outfitter—before they can legally take cougar hunters into the field. Guides may not operate independently.

The Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing is the regulatory agency for this law. To learn more about becoming a licensed guide or outfitter, please visit *http://go.usa.gov/0Dd*.

If you are a licensed guide or outfitter—and you charge a customer more than $100 for a cougar hunting or pursuit trip—you do not have to purchase a separate cougar pursuit permit.

If you are a hunter who wants to use a particular guide or outfitter, please visit *http://go.usa.gov/0Dv* to determine if he or she is licensed to operate in Utah.

Conservation and sportsman permits

Utah Admin. Rule R657-41

Conservation permits for taking cougar are often available through official tax-exempt conservation organizations. These groups sell the permits at auction or use them in wildlife-related fundraising activities.

Sportsman permits are available through the sportsman permit drawing. The results of this drawing will be available on Dec. 1, 2011, which is shortly after the cougar limited-entry season begins. For more information about participating in this drawing, see page 23 of the 2011 Utah Big Game Application Guidebook located at *wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks*.

A complete copy of the conservation and sportsman permit regulations (Utah Admin. Rule R657-41) is available at Division offices or at *wildlife.utah.gov/rules*.

Harvest reporting

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-35

If you take a cougar, you must contact the Division within 48 hours. You will need to report where the cougar was taken and meet with a Division employee to have a permanent tag affixed to the carcass. For more information on the tagging process, see page 19.

It is illegal to inaccurately report—or neglect to report—the correct hunting unit where the cougar was killed. If you are convicted for failure to accurately report, your hunting privileges could be suspended.

Pursuit permit

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-25

A cougar pursuit permit allows you to pursue a cougar; it does not allow you to kill a cougar. You can obtain a valid cougar pursuit permit at *wildlife.utah.gov*, from a Division office or participating license agent, or by calling 1-800-221-0659. The phone line is staffed 24 hours per day, seven days per week, and you will be charged a $2 transaction fee for each item you purchase over the phone.

If you already possess a cougar limited-entry permit or a harvest-objective permit, you may pursue cougar on the unit for which the permit is valid. If you want to pursue cougar on a different unit—or after you harvest a cougar—you will need to purchase a cougar pursuit permit.

Guides and outfitters

If you are a Utah-licensed guide or outfitter—and you charge a customer more than $100 for a cougar hunting or pursuit trip—you do not have to purchase a separate cougar pursuit permit to guide that customer in the field.

Guides and outfitters must be licensed to operate in the state of Utah before they can legally accompany hunters in the field to pursue or harvest a cougar.

The customer must accompany the guide at all times during the pursuit.

To learn more about this requirement, see the adjacent information box.

Waiting period

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-23

The waiting period keeps successful applicants out of the drawing for a few years. This gives unsuccessful applicants a better chance at drawing a permit in the future.

The waiting period for the cougar limited-entry hunt is three seasons. If you last obtained a cougar limited-entry permit for the 2007–2008 season, your waiting period is over, and you're now eligible to apply again.

Permits obtained after the drawing

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-14

If you're under a waiting period for cougar, you can still obtain any limited-entry cougar permit that remains after the drawing, but your waiting period will begin again.

For example, if you have one season left on your cougar waiting period, and you buy a cougar limited-entry permit that remains available after the drawing, you'll begin a new three-season waiting period.

The new waiting period will prevent you from applying for a cougar limited-entry permit for the next three seasons.

You may obtain a harvest-objective permit while under a waiting period for a cougar limited-entry permit. You will not begin a new waiting period if you purchase a harvest-objective permit.

Bonus points

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-8

The cougar bonus point system increases your chance of drawing a cougar limited-entry permit.

Bonus points in the cougar drawing apply to limited-entry hunts only.

If you are eligible to obtain a cougar limited-entry permit, you are eligible to apply for a cougar bonus point.

Bonus points are not transferable, and group applications for bonus points are not accepted.

How to obtain bonus points

- You receive a bonus point if you submit a valid application for the cougar drawing, but you do not draw a permit.
- If you don't plan to hunt a cougar during the upcoming season, you may apply for a bonus point only. Simply select the appropriate hunt choice code (CGR) on the application and pay the $10 application fee. You must have a current Utah hunting or combination license in order to apply for a bonus point.
- You may apply for either a cougar limited-entry permit or a bonus point, but not both.

You cannot apply for a hunt or receive a bonus point if either of the following conditions apply:

- You are currently under wildlife license suspension.
- You are currently under a waiting period for cougar.

How your bonus points work in the drawing

Here's a quick look at how your bonus points work in the drawing:

- Fifty percent of the permits for each limited-entry hunting unit are reserved for applicants who have the greatest number of bonus points.
- You receive a random drawing number for your current cougar application and a random drawing number for every cougar bonus point you have. Your lowest random number is then used in the drawing. (The lower your number, the better your chance at drawing a permit.)

If you draw a cougar limited-entry permit—or obtain a remaining limited-entry permit—you lose any bonus points you've accumulated. You'll start earning bonus points again the next time you're eligible to apply for a cougar limited-entry permit and are unsuccessful in that year's drawing.

You will not lose your bonus points if you obtain a conservation permit or a cougar harvest-objective permit.

Sales final: Exceptions and refunds

Utah Code § 23-19-38 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-42

In most cases, the Division cannot refund the cost of the license or permit, but there are some exceptions. To determine whether you are eligible for a refund or to download a refund-request form, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/refund_surrender*.

Surrender of licenses and permits

If you obtain a license or permit and decide not to use it, you may surrender the license or permit to any Division office. If you do so before the season opening date, the Division can waive the waiting period and reinstate your bonus points.

Reallocated permits and costs

When the Division receives a surrendered limited-entry permit, the agency reallocates the permit through the drawing process. The Division will make a reasonable effort to contact the next person listed on the alternate drawing list. Any person who accepts the offered reallocated permit must pay the applicable permit fee. The reallocation process will continue for all surrendered limited-entry permits until the Division has reallocated the permits or the season closes.

Please see Utah Code § 23-19-38 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-42 at *wildlife.utah.gov/rules* for more information on permit surrender and reallocation.

Duplicate licenses

Utah Code § 23-19-10 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-42

If your valid license, permit or tag is destroyed, lost or stolen, you may obtain a duplicate from a Division office or license agent for $10 or half of the price of the original license or permit, whichever is less.

The Division may waive the fee for a duplicate unexpired license, permit or tag, provided you did not receive the original document.

To obtain the duplicate license, permit or tag, you may be required to complete an affidavit testifying to its loss, destruction or theft.

Hunters with disabilities

Utah Admin. Rule R657-12

Utah provides special hunting accommodations for people with disabilities.

For a complete copy of these accommodations and what's required to qualify for them (Utah Admin. Rule R657-12), please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/rules* or call any Division office.

If you want to hunt it tomorrow, help us protect it today.

UTiP

1-800-662-3337

Turn In a Poacher

COUGAR IDENTIFICATION TIPS

Get a good look before you harvest the animal you've been pursuing.

You've already done the hard part. For hours, you pursued the cougar across all kinds of terrain. Now, it's treed, and you need to decide if this is the animal you want.

Before you pull the trigger, grab your binoculars, take a close look at the cougar and consider the following questions:

- Is the cougar legal? The cougar is not legal if it has spots, is accompanied by young or is accompanied by an adult.
- Is the cougar an adult? You will be able to tell by looking at its head, overall size and teeth.
- Is the cougar male or female? Key identifiers include body and head size and a noticeable genital spot on male cougars. This is important because the Division encourages hunters not to harvest female cougars.

The following descriptions and photos should help you better identify cougars in the field.

Body and head size

Older cougars are broader, more muscular (especially in the front shoulders and chest) and generally larger than other cougars. Dogs often prove helpful in comparing size:

- Juvenile cougars are about the same size as a dog.
- Young males and adult females are about one-and-a-half to two times larger than dogs.
- Adult male cougars are two to three times larger than dogs.

When assessing head sizes, keep in mind that a mature male's head is larger and rounder than the heads of younger males and females.

Take the new, voluntary cougar-hunting course

For cougar identification tips, complete the voluntary orientation course at *wildlife.utah.gov/cougar*.

Adult female

Photos by Byron Bateman

Adult male

Adult female head

Adult male head

Condition of teeth

Older cougars' teeth are thicker and often more worn and yellow than the teeth of younger cougars.

Ernie Milkcate

Female kitten

Photos by Byron Bateman

Young female

Adult male

Location of genital spot

When treed, a male's genital spot is often visible. This is because it's located four or five inches away from the anus. In contrast, a female's genital spot is only about an inch below the anus and is less noticeable.

Photos by Colorado Division of Wildlife

Female

Male

Size of a male

An adult male cougar is two to three times larger than a dog.

Byron Bateman

FIELD REQUIREMENTS

Several rules govern cougar hunting in Utah. These rules exist to help keep you safe and to ensure an ethical hunt. Please be familiar with the requirements for carrying and using firearms and archery tackle. You should also know the different types of hunting methods you may use and what you're required to do with any cougar you take.

Firearms and hunting equipment

Several rules apply to the firearms and archery tackle you can use to take cougar in Utah.

Firearms and archery tackle

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-6

A person may use any of the following weapons to take cougar:

- Any firearm not capable of being fired fully automatic
- A bow and arrows

Traps and trapping devices

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-7

You may not take cougar with a trap, snare or any other trapping device, except as authorized by the Division. Any cougar accidentally caught in any trapping device must be released unharmed, and must not be pursued or taken.

You must obtain written permission from a Division representative before you remove the carcass of a cougar from any trapping device. The carcass remains the property of the state of Utah and must be surrendered to the Division.

Loaded firearms in a vehicle

Utah Code §§§§ 76-10-502, 76-10-504, 76-10-505 and 76-10-523

You may not carry a loaded firearm in or on a vehicle unless you meet all of the following conditions:

- You own the vehicle or have permission from the vehicle's owner.
- The firearm is a handgun.
- You are 18 years of age or older.

A rifle or shotgun is considered to be loaded when there is an unexpended cartridge, shell or projectile in the firing position.

Are you allowed to possess a weapon?

Utah Code § 76-10-503

It is illegal under Utah Code § 76-10-503 to possess or use a firearm, muzzleloader, archery tackle or any other dangerous weapon if you:

- Have been convicted of or are under indictment for any felony offense;
- Are on probation or parole for a felony offense;
- Are on parole from a secure facility;
- Have been adjudicated delinquent (juvenile) in the last seven years of an offense that, if committed by an adult, would have been a felony;
- Are an unlawful user of a controlled substance;
- Have been found not guilty by reason of insanity for a felony offense;
- Have been found mentally incompetent to stand trial for a felony offense;
- Have been adjudicated mentally defective as provided in the federal Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act;
- Have been committed to a mental institution;
- Are an alien who is illegally in the United States;
- Have been dishonorably discharged from the armed forces; or
- Have renounced your United States citizenship.

The purchase or possession of any hunting license, permit, tag or certificate of registration from the Division does not authorize the holder to legally possess or use a firearm, muzzleloader, archery tackle or any other dangerous weapon while hunting if they are otherwise restricted from possessing these weapons under Utah Code § 76-10-503.

A muzzleloading firearm is considered loaded when it is capped or primed and has a powder charge and ball or shot in the barrel or cylinders.

The firearm restrictions in this section do not apply to concealed firearm permit holders carrying a concealed weapon in accordance with Utah Code § 76-10-504, provided the person is not utilizing the concealed firearm to hunt or take wildlife.

Carrying a dangerous weapon while under the influence of alcohol or drugs

Utah Code § 76-10-528

You may not carry a dangerous weapon or hunt cougar while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Please see Utah Code § 76-10-528 at *wildlife.utah.gov/rules* for more information.

Areas with special restrictions

Although many areas are open to hunters, some areas have hunting, weapons and access restrictions.

Areas where you cannot discharge a firearm

Utah Code § 76-10-508 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-12

You may not discharge a dangerous weapon or firearm under any of the following circumstances:

- From a vehicle
- From, upon or across any highway
- At power lines or signs
- At railroad equipment or facilities, including any sign or signal
- Within Utah state park camp or picnic sites, overlooks, golf courses, boat ramps or developed beaches
- Without written permission from the owner or property manager, within 600 feet of:
    - A house, dwelling or any other building
    - Any structure in which a domestic animal is kept or fed, including a barn, poultry yard, corral, feeding pen or stockyard

State parks

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-8 and R651-614-4

Hunting any wildlife is prohibited within the boundaries of all state park areas, except those designated open to hunting by the Division of Parks and Recreation in Utah Admin. Rule R651-614-4.

Hunting with rifles, handguns or muzzleloaders in park areas designated open to hunting is prohibited within one mile of all park facilities, including buildings, camp or picnic sites, overlooks, golf courses, boat ramps and developed beaches.

Hunting with shotguns or archery tackle is prohibited within one-quarter mile of the above areas.

Hunting hours and methods

Hunting hours

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-5

You are permitted to pursue or take cougar anytime between 30 minutes before official sunrise until 30 minutes after official sunset.

Prohibited methods

Utah Code §§ 23-20-3, 23-20-12 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-9

Cougar may be taken or pursued only during open seasons and open hours, using only the methods listed in this guidebook. Otherwise it is unlawful for any person to:

- Possess, capture, kill, injure, drug, rope, trap, snare or in any way harm or transport a cougar
- Restrict or hinder a cougar's ability to escape after it has been pursued, chased, treed, cornered or held at bay
- Engage in a canned hunt
- Take cougar from an airplane or any other airborne vehicle or device, or from any motorized terrestrial, aquatic or recreational vehicle
- Use electronic locating equipment to locate cougars wearing electronic radio devices
- Harvest a cougar wearing a radio collar on the Oquirrh-Stansbury hunting unit

Spotlighting

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-10 and Utah Code §§§ 23-20-3, 76-10-504 and 76-10-523

You may not use spotlighting to take cougar.

You may not use a spotlight, headlight or other artificial light to locate any protected wildlife while having in your possession a firearm or other weapon or device that could be used to take or injure protected wildlife.

The use of a spotlight or other artificial light in any area where protected wildlife are generally found is prima facie evidence of attempting to locate protected wildlife. (Prima facie evidence means that if you're spotlighting, the burden of proof falls on you to prove that you were not attempting to locate protected wildlife.)

The provisions of this section do not apply to the use of the headlights of a motor vehicle or other artificial light in a usual manner where there is no attempt or intent to locate protected wildlife.

In addition, the above restrictions do not apply to concealed carry permit holders carrying a concealed weapon in accordance with Utah Code §§ 76-10-504 and 76-10-523. See *wildlife.utah.gov/rules* for more information.

Party hunting

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-11

A person may not harvest a cougar for another person.

Use of dogs

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-12

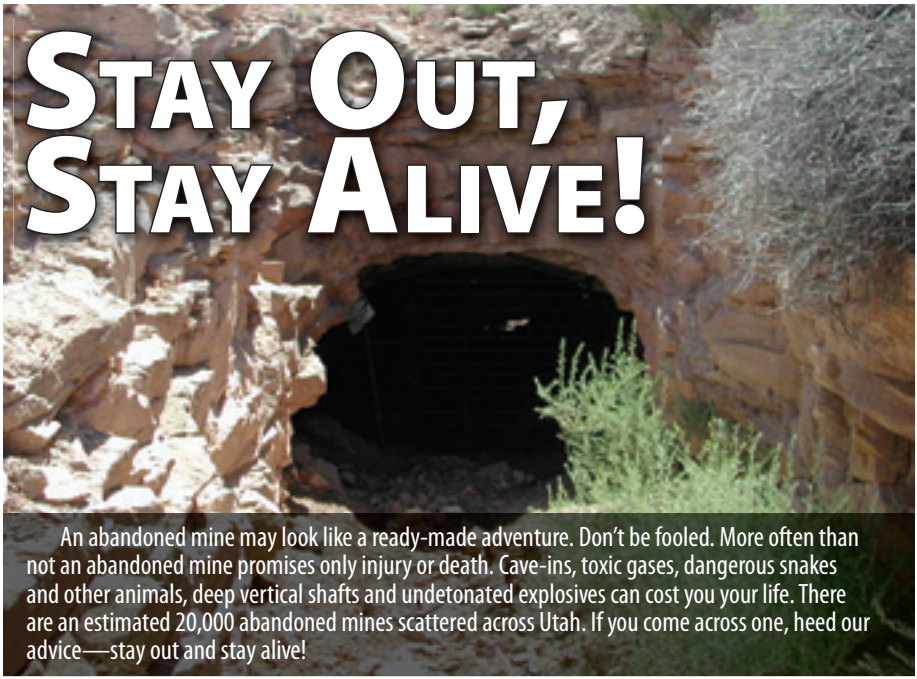
You may use dogs to take or pursue cougar only during the open seasons and hours listed in this guidebook.

If you are the owner or handler of the dogs, you must have a valid cougar hunting permit or cougar pursuit permit in your possession while you are taking or pursuing cougar.

When dogs are used to pursue a cougar, the licensed hunter who intends to take the cougar must be present when the dogs are released. Then, the licensed hunter must continuously participate in the hunt until it ends.

When dogs are used to take a cougar—and there is not an open pursuit season—the owner or handler of the dogs must either:

- Have a valid pursuit permit and be accompanied by a licensed hunter; or
- Have a valid permit to harvest cougar



An abandoned mine may look like a ready-made adventure. Don't be fooled. More often than not an abandoned mine promises only injury or death. Cave-ins, toxic gases, dangerous snakes and other animals, deep vertical shafts and undetonated explosives can cost you your life. There are an estimated 20,000 abandoned mines scattered across Utah. If you come across one, heed our advice—stay out and stay alive!

Harvest and pursuit restrictions

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-23 and R657-10-25

If you have a valid permit to harvest cougar, you may take only one cougar during the 2011–2012 season—and it must be from the area specified on your permit. You may only pursue a cougar if you have a valid cougar pursuit permit. The cougar pursuit permit does not allow you to kill a cougar.

Whether you are harvesting or pursuing cougar, **you may not**:

- Pursue or take a female cougar with kittens (or any cougar accompanied by young).
- Pursue or take kittens with spots (or any cougar accompanied by an adult). See page 35 for the definition of a kitten with spots.
- Repeatedly pursue, chase, tree, corner or hold at bay, the same cougar during the same day after the cougar has been released.
- Harvest a cougar wearing a radio collar on the Oquirrh-Stansbury hunting unit.

With a valid cougar limited-entry permit for a split unit, you may hunt on all harvest-objective units beginning on the split-unit transition date. The split-unit transition date for the 2011–2012 season is March 5, 2012. If you possess a valid cougar limited-entry permit for a split unit—and you choose to hunt on any harvest-objective unit (including the unit for which the limited-entry permit was valid) after the transition date—you are subject to all area closure and reporting requirements.

If you are a Utah-licensed guide or outfitter, you may not need to purchase a separate cougar pursuit permit. For details, see the information box on page 11.

Possession and transportation

Once you've harvested a cougar, there are several rules governing its possession and transportation.

Tagging requirements

Utah Code § 23-20-30 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-13

Before you move the cougar's carcass or leave the site of the kill, you must tag the carcass with a temporary possession tag. The tag is only valid for 48 hours from the time of kill and must remain attached to the pelt or unskinned carcass until the permanent possession tag is attached.

To tag a carcass with a temporary possession tag, you should perform the following steps:

- Completely detach the tag from the permit
- Completely remove the notches that correspond with the date the animal was taken and the sex of the animal
- Attach the tag to the carcass so that the tag remains securely fastened and visible

Note: You may not remove more than one notch indicating date or sex, nor tag more than one carcass using the same tag.

You may not hunt or pursue a cougar after any of the notches have been removed from the tag or after the tag has been detached from the permit.

Make it easy, make an appointment

Please call the nearest Division regional office for an appointment to tag your cougar. This will save you time and ensure that a wildlife biologist or conservation officer will be available.

Evidence of sex and age

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-14

Evidence of the cougar's sex must remain attached to the cougar's carcass or pelt until a Division employee attaches a permanent tag.

The pelt and skull must be presented to the Division in an unfrozen condition. This allows Division biologists to gather management data.

A Division employee will remove one of the cougar's teeth (pre-molar 1) at the time of permanent tagging. This tooth helps biologists determine the cougar's age. If possible, please use a stick or other object to prop open the cougar's mouth so the tooth may be easily removed.

The Division may seize any pelt not accompanied by its skull.

Permanent tag

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-15

The permit holder must take the harvested cougar to a conservation officer or Division office within 48 hours of the time of kill. A Division employee will affix a permanent possession tag to the pelt or unskinned carcass.

If you need to reach a conservation officer after regular business hours, over the weekend, or on a holiday, contact your local police dispatch office.

You may not possess an unskinned carcass or a green pelt after the 48-hour check-in period without a permanent tag. In addition, you cannot ship a green pelt out of Utah or present it to a taxidermist if the pelt does not have a permanent possession tag attached.

Transporting cougar

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-16

If you are a permit holder who has legally harvested a cougar, you may transport the carcass under the following conditions:

- The cougar is properly tagged.
- You have physical possession of the appropriate permit.

Exporting a cougar from Utah

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-17

You may export a legally taken cougar or its parts if you have a valid permit, and the cougar is properly tagged with a permanent possession tag.

You may not ship a cougar pelt from Utah without first obtaining a shipping permit issued by a Division office.

Administrative checkpoints

Utah Code §§ 23-20-25 and 77-23-104

To help the Division fulfill its responsibility as trustee and custodian of Utah's wildlife, Division conservation officers and biologists monitor the taking and possession of cougars and the required permits, firearms and equipment used for hunting. You should expect to encounter conservation officers and biologists checking hunters in the field and at checkpoints.

If you're contacted by a conservation officer, you must provide the officer with the items he or she requests, including any licenses and permits required for hunting, any devices used to participate in hunting and any cougars you've taken. These contacts allow the Division to collect valuable information about Utah's cougar populations.

Participating in surveys

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-22

If the Division contacts you about your cougar hunting experience, please participate in the survey regardless of your success. Your participation helps the Division evaluate population trends, assess harvest success and collect other valuable information.

It is illegal to inaccurately report—or neglect to report—the correct hunting unit where a cougar was killed. If you are convicted for failure to accurately report, your hunting privileges could be suspended.

Disposal of wildlife

Donating

Utah Code § 23-20-9 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-18

A person may only donate protected wildlife or its parts to another person at one of the following locations:

- The residence of the donor
- The residence of the recipient
- A meat locker
- A storage plant
- A meat processing or taxidermy facility

A written statement of donation must be kept with the protected wildlife or parts showing all of the following information:

- The number and species of protected wildlife or parts donated
- The date of donation
- The license or permit number of the donor and the permanent possession tag number
- The signature of the donor

A green pelt of any cougar donated to another person must have a permanent possession tag affixed. Along with the pelt, the recipient must also retain the written statement of donation.

Purchasing or selling

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-19

You may purchase or sell legally obtained, tanned cougar hides.

You may not purchase, sell, offer for sale or barter a tooth, claw, paw or skull of any cougar.

Waste of wildlife

Utah Code § 23-20-8 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-20

You may not waste—or permit to be wasted—any protected wildlife or its parts.

Note: The skinned carcass of a cougar may be left in the field and does not constitute a waste of wildlife.

Aiding or assisting

Utah Code § 23-20-23

You may not aid or assist another person to violate any provisions of the Wildlife Resources code, rule, proclamation or guidebook.

The penalty for aiding or assisting is the same as that imposed for the primary violation.

Livestock depredation

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-21

If a cougar is harassing, chasing, disturbing, harming, attacking or killing livestock, or has committed such an act within the past 72 hours, livestock owners have the following options:

- In depredation cases, the livestock owner, an immediate family member or an employee of the owner on a regular payroll (not someone hired specifically to take cougar), may kill the cougar.
- A landowner or livestock owner may notify the Division of the depredation or any human health and safety concerns. The Division can then authorize a local hunter to take the offending cougar or notify a USDA-Wildlife Services specialist.
- The livestock owner may notify a USDA-Wildlife Services specialist of the depredation, and the specialist may then take the depredating cougar.

A depredating cougar may be taken at any time by a USDA-Wildlife Services specialist. This individual must be supervised by the USDA-Wildlife Services program and be performing their assigned duties in accordance with procedures approved by the Division.

A depredating cougar may be taken with any weapon authorized for taking cougar. It may also be taken with snares, if the Division director provides written authorization. The use of snares will be authorized only when numerous livestock have been killed by a depredating cougar, and the kills have been verified by Wildlife Services or Division personnel.

The cougar carcass must then be delivered to a Division office or employee within 72 hours.

The pelt of the depredating cougar shall remain the property of the state, unless the Division issues a cougar damage permit to the person who killed it. A person may acquire only one cougar annually.

Extended and preseason hunts

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-24

The Division may authorize an extended or preseason hunt on selected cougar management areas to control depredation or nuisance problems.

The Division director may authorize only those hunters who drew a limited-entry permit or who purchased a harvest-objective permit to participate in a preseason or extended season hunt on a particular area.

Trespassing

Utah Code § 23-20-14 and 23-20-3.5

While taking wildlife or engaging in wildlife-related activities, you may not do any of the following activities:

- Enter upon privately owned land that is cultivated or properly posted without the permission of the owner or the person in charge of the land
- Refuse to immediately leave the private land if requested to do so by the owner or person in charge
- Obstruct any entrance or exit to private property

"Cultivated land" is land that is readily identifiable as land whose soil is loosened or broken up for the raising of crops, land used for the raising of crops, or a pasture that is artificially irrigated.

"Permission" means written authorization from the owner or person in charge to enter upon private land that is cultivated or properly posted. Permission must include all of the following details:

- The signature of the owner or person in charge
- The name of the person being given permission
- The appropriate dates
- A general description of the land

"Properly posted" means that "No Trespassing" signs—or a minimum of 100 square inches of bright yellow, bright orange or fluorescent paint—are displayed at all corners, on fishing streams crossing property lines, and on roads, gates and rights-of-way entering the land. If metal fence posts are used, the entire exterior side must be painted.

You may not post private property you do not own or legally control or land that is open to the public as provided by Utah Code § 23-21-4. In addition, it is unlawful to take protected wildlife or their parts while trespassing in violation of Utah Code § 23-20-14.

You are guilty of a class B misdemeanor if you violate any provision described in this section. Your license, tag or permit privileges may also be suspended.

Division-owned management areas

Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-31

Most Division-owned wildlife management areas (WMAs) are closed during the winter months to protect big game animals. Contact the nearest Division office to see if any WMAs are open near you.

You may not use motor vehicles on WMAs closed to motor vehicle use without first obtaining written authorization from the appropriate Division regional office.

The Division may, at its sole discretion, authorize limited motor vehicle access to its WMAs under the following circumstances:

- The person seeking access possesses a valid cougar permit for the area.
- Motor vehicle access is necessary to effectively utilize the cougar permit.
- Motor vehicle access will not interfere with wildlife or wildlife habitat.

Utah Wildlife in Need

Help protect Utah wildlife

Protecting and preserving Utah's threatened wildlife is up to each of us, and together we can make a difference. Please join Utah Wildlife In Need as we work together to help ensure Utah's wildlife treasures are part of the legacy we leave for our children and grandchildren.

Visit *www.uwin.org* to learn more about Utah's threatened species and about how you can help sustain Utah wildlife for all to enjoy!

CHANGES TO COUGAR MANAGEMENT

New cougar management areas—and overall harvest—are now linked to adult deer survival.

In spring 2011, the Utah Wildlife Board requested that the Division link cougar management to the management of adult deer, their primary prey. The Division recommended some management changes, which the Wildlife Board approved in August 2011.

What has changed?

There have been a handful of changes, and they will affect you if you hunt cougars with either a split-unit permit or a harvest-objective permit. The changes include:

- The creation of new cougar management areas
- The timing of hunt closures

These changes will not affect you if you obtain a limited-entry permit. Limited-entry units only close on a pre-determined date (see the hunt tables that begin on page 26.)

New cougar management areas

Among the biggest changes is the creation of nine large cougar management areas (see the map on page 24).

Eight of those areas match the locations of an adult deer survival study that is now underway. The Division wants to determine whether cougar predation plays a role in preventing the growth of deer herds. The cougar harvest quotas in these areas are linked to the data that the Division obtains from the deer study.

The new cougar management areas contain the limited-entry, split and harvest-objective hunting units that cougar hunters are likely familiar with. (For a list of the units in each cougar management area, see the hunt tables that begin on page 26.)

The last cougar management area is made up of three units that are home to bighorn sheep and have very few deer.

Going forward, there will not be a harvest quota assigned to harvest-objective units or the harvest-objective portion of split units. Instead, there will be a total harvest quota for each cougar management area.

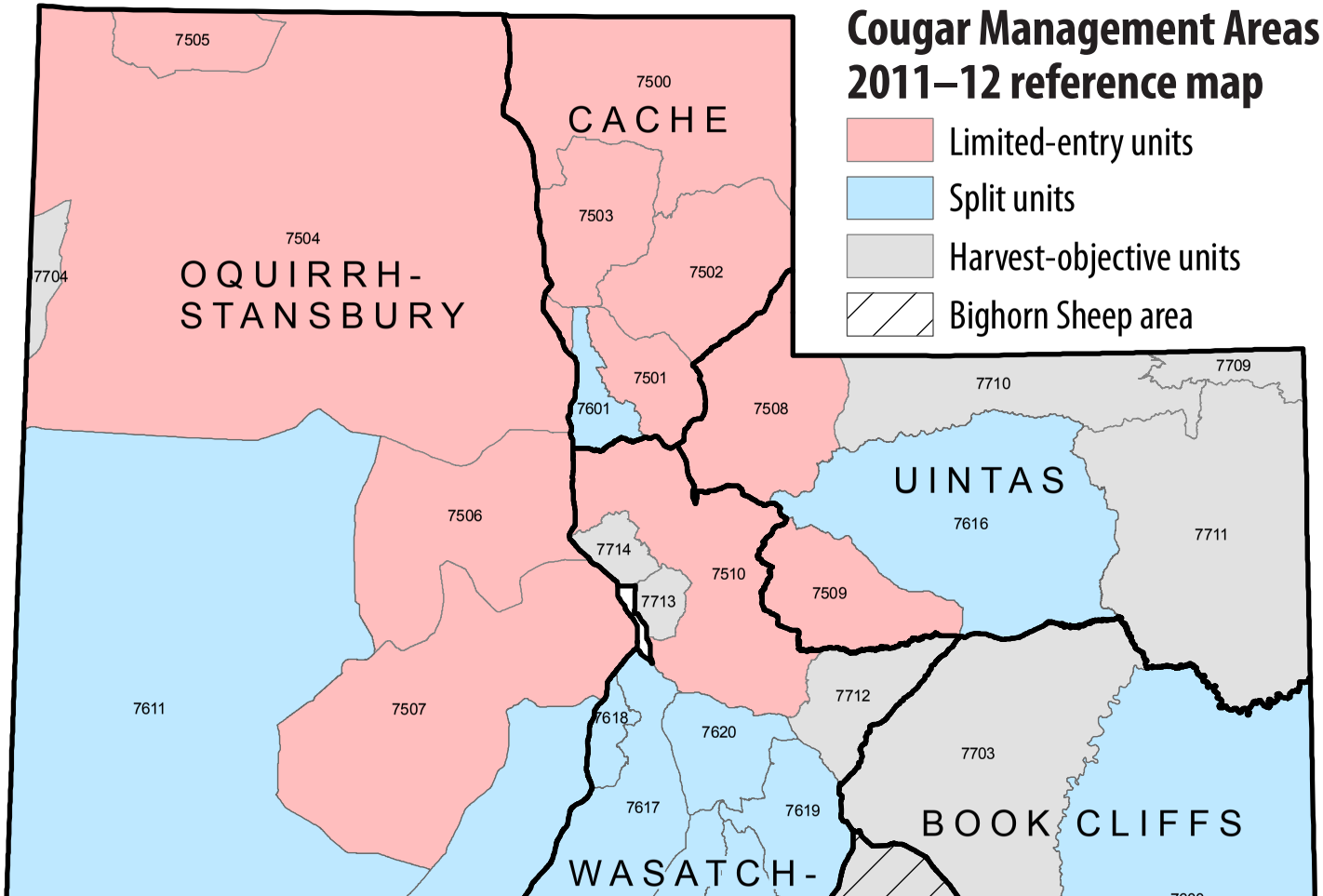
When will the hunts close?

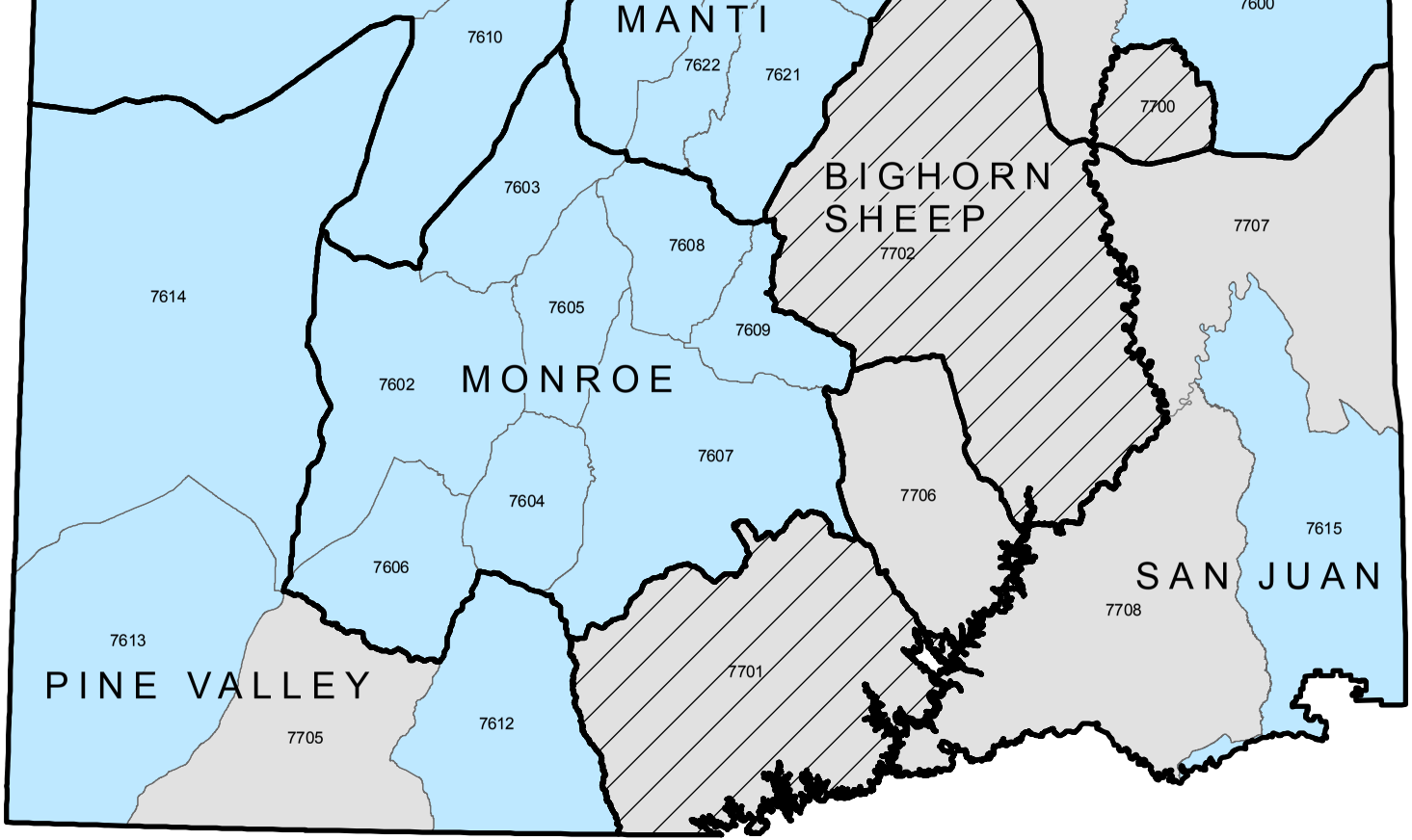
Cougar hunts on split units and harvest-objective units will close if any of the following events occurs:

- **The season ends.** All season dates are listed in the hunt tables that begin on page 26.
- **The total harvest quota for the cougar management area is met.** There are no quotas on individual harvest-objective units. The total harvest quotas for each cougar management area are listed in the hunt tables that begin on page 26.
- **The female harvest subquota is met.** Each cougar management area has a female harvest subquota. If hunters harvest too many female cougars in an area — and reach the female harvest subquota — the area will be closed before it reaches its total harvest quota. The Division urges hunters to avoid harvesting female cougars. To better identify cougars in the field, see the identification tips on page 14.

The only time an area may not close is when hunters haven't met the minimum harvest quota on its bighorn sheep units. There is a minimum harvest quota on most units that are home to bighorn sheep. (Those units are labeled in the hunt tables that begin on page 26.)

You can determine if a cougar management area — or any of its units — are open by calling 1-888-668-5466 or by visiting *wildlife.utah.gov/cougar* by noon each day. Area closures will take effect the following day.


Cougar Management Areas
2011–12 reference map
Limited-entry units
Split units
Harvest-objective units
Bighorn Sheep area
7505
7500
CACHE
7503
7504
7704
OQUIRRH-
STANSBURY
7502
7501
7601
7508
7710
7709
UINTAS
7616
7711
7506
7714
7510
7713
7509
7611
7507
7712
7618
7620
7703
7617
7619
BOOK CLIFFS
WASATCH-



This map is for general reference only. Before you hunt any of these areas—particularly their harvest-objective units—call 1-888-668-5466 or visit wildlife.utah.gov/cougar to make sure they are still open. The Division does not guarantee access to any private or public land. Hunt unit boundaries may include private property, Native American Trust Lands or other excluded areas. Hunters must research land accessibility before applying for or obtaining a permit.

HUNT TABLES

The Division does not guarantee access to any private or public land. Hunt unit boundaries may include private property or other excluded areas. Hunters must research land accessibility before applying for or obtaining a permit.

Bighorn Sheep Cougar Management Area

Harvest quota: **21**, Female subquota: **11**

Harvest-objective units

Hunt #	Unit name	Minimum harvest	Harvest-objective season dates
7700	Book Cliffs, Rattlesnake Canyon	7	11/16/11–11/11/12
7701	Kaiparowits	7	11/16/11–11/11/12
7702	San Rafael	7	11/16/11–11/11/12

Book Cliffs Cougar Management Area

Harvest quota: **26**, Female subquota: **13**

Split units

Hunt #	Unit name	Res.	Nonres.	Minimum harvest	Split-unit season dates
7600	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	13	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12

Harvest-objective units

Hunt #	Unit name	Minimum harvest	Harvest-objective season dates
7703	Nine Mile	13	11/16/11–11/11/12

The Division does not guarantee access to any private or public land. Hunt unit boundaries may include private property or other excluded areas. Hunters must research land accessibility before applying for or obtaining a permit.

Cache Cougar Management Area

Harvest quota: **43**, Female subquota: **11**

Limited-entry units

Hunt #	Unit name	Resident	Nonresident	Limited-entry season dates
7500	Cache	13	1	11/16/11–5/31/12
7501	East Canyon	4	0	11/16/11–5/31/12
7502	Morgan-South Rich	5	1	11/16/11–5/31/12
7503	Ogden	13	1	11/16/11–5/31/12

Split units

Hunt #	Unit name	Res.	Nonres.	Minimum harvest	Split-unit season dates
7601	East Canyon, Davis	4	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12

HUNT TABLES

The Division does not guarantee access to any private or public land. Hunt unit boundaries may include private property or other excluded areas. Hunters must research land accessibility before applying for or obtaining a permit.

Monroe Cougar Management Area

Harvest quota: **93**, Female subquota: **28**

Split units

Hunt #	Unit name	Res.	Nonres.	Minimum harvest	Split-unit season dates
7602	Beaver	11	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7603	Fillmore, Pahvant	8	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7604	Mt Dutton	14	2	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7605	Monroe	11	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7606	Panguitch Lake	10	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7607	Plateau, Boulder	13	2	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7608	Plateau, Fishlake	7	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7609	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	9	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12

HUNT TABLES

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Oquirrh-Stansbury Cougar Management Area

Harvest quota: **33**, Female subquota: **8**

Limited-entry units

Hunt #	Unit name	Resident	Nonresident	Limited-entry season dates
7504	Box Elder, Desert	5	1	11/16/11–5/31/12
7505	Box Elder, Raft River	4	1	11/16/11–5/31/12
7506	Oquirrh-Stansbury*	4	0	11/16/11–5/31/12
7507	West Desert, Tintic-Vernon	4	0	11/16/11–5/31/12

Split units

Hunt #	Unit name	Res.	Nonres.	Minimum harvest	Split-unit season dates
7610	Fillmore, Oak Creek	7	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7611	West Desert, Mountain Ranges	4	0	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12

Harvest-objective units

Hunt #	Unit name	Minimum harvest	Harvest-objective season dates
7704	Box Elder, Pilot Mtn	4	11/16/11–11/11/12

** You may not harvest a cougar wearing a radio collar on the Oquirrh-Stansbury hunting unit.*

HUNT TABLES

The Division does not guarantee access to any private or public land. Hunt unit boundaries may include private property or other excluded areas. Hunters must research land accessibility before applying for or obtaining a permit.

Pine Valley Cougar Management Area

Harvest quota: **48**, Female subquota: **19**

Split units

Hunt #	Unit name	Res.	Nonres.	Minimum harvest	Split-unit season dates
7612	Paunsaugunt	8	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7613	Pine Valley	13	2	15	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7614	Southwest Desert	5	1	6	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12

Harvest-objective units

Hunt #	Unit name	Minimum harvest	Harvest-objective season dates
7705	Zion	18	11/16/11–11/11/12

San Juan Cougar Management Area

Harvest quota: **28**, Female subquota: **8**

Split units

Hunt #	Unit name	Res.	Nonres.	Minimum harvest	Split-unit season dates
7615	San Juan, Abajo	9	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12

Harvest-objective units

Hunt #	Unit name	Minimum harvest	Harvest-objective season dates
7706	Henry Mtns	5	11/16/11–11/11/12
7707	La Sal	7	11/16/11–11/11/12
7708	San Juan, Elk Ridge	10	11/16/11–11/11/12

The Division does not guarantee access to any private or public land. Hunt unit boundaries may include private property or other excluded areas. Hunters must research land accessibility before applying for or obtaining a permit.

Uintas Cougar Management Area

Harvest quota: **65**, Female subquota: **26**

Limited-entry units

Hunt #	Unit name	Resident	Nonresident	Limited-entry season dates
7508	Chalk Creek/Kamas	9	1	11/16/11–5/31/12
7509	Wasatch Mtns, Currant Creek	6	1	11/16/11–5/31/12

Split units

Hunt #	Unit name	Res.	Nonres.	Minimum harvest	Split-unit season dates
7616	South Slope, Yellowstone	7	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12

Harvest-objective units

Hunt #	Unit name	Minimum harvest	Harvest-objective season dates
7709	North Slope, Three Corners	10	11/16/11–11/11/12
7710	North Slope, West Daggett/Summit	10	11/16/11–11/11/12
7711	South Slope, Bonanza/Diamond Mtn/Vernal	-	11/16/11–11/11/12

HUNT TABLES

The Division does not guarantee access to any private or public land. Hunt unit boundaries may include private property or other excluded areas. Hunters must research land accessibility before applying for or obtaining a permit.

Wasatch-Manti Cougar Management Area

Harvest quota: **129**, Female subquota: **39**

Limited-entry units

Hunt #	Unit name	Resident	Nonresident	Limited-entry season dates
7510	Wasatch Mtns, West	10	1	11/16/11–5/31/12

Split units

Hunt #	Unit name	Res.	Nonres.	Minimum harvest	Split-unit season dates
7617	Central Mtns, Nebo	13	2	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7618	Central Mtns, Nebo-West Face	22	2	24	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7619	Central Mtns, Northeast Manti	11	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7620	Central Mtns, Northwest Manti	12	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7621	Central Mtns, Southeast Manti	10	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12
7622	Central Mtns, Southwest Manti	7	1	-	**Limited-entry**: 11/16/11–2/29/12 **Harvest-objective**: 3/5/12–5/31/12

Harvest-objective units

Hunt #	Unit name	Minimum harvest	Harvest-objective season dates
7712	Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin	13	11/16/11–11/11/12
7713	Wasatch Mtns, Cascade	12	11/16/11–11/11/12
7714	Wasatch Mtns, Timpanogos	12	11/16/11–11/11/12

2011–2012 pursuit seasons

The Division does not guarantee access to any private or public land. Hunt unit boundaries may include private property or other excluded areas. Hunters must research land accessibility before applying for or obtaining a permit.

Hunt #	Unit name	Season dates	Comments
7800	Beaver	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7801	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7802	Book Cliffs, Rattlesnake Canyon	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7803	Box Elder, Desert	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7804	Box Elder, Pilot Mtn	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7805	Box Elder, Raft River	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7806	Cache	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7807	Central Mtns, Nebo	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7808	Central Mtns, Nebo-West Face	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7809	Central Mtns, Northeast Manti	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7810	Central Mtns, Northwest Manti	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7811	Central Mtns, Southeast Manti	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7812	Central Mtns, Southwest Manti	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7813	Chalk Creek/Kamas	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7814	East Canyon	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7815	East Canyon, Davis	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7816	Fillmore, Oak Creek	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7817	Fillmore, Pahvant	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7818	Henry Mtns	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7819	Kaiparowits	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7820	La Sal	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7821	Monroe	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7822	Morgan-South Rich	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7823	Mt Dutton	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7824	Nine Mile	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7825	North Slope, Three Corners	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7826	North Slope, West Daggett/Summit	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7827	Ogden	11/16/11–5/31/12	

HUNT TABLES

2011–2012 pursuit seasons (continued)

The Division does not guarantee access to any private or public land. Hunt unit boundaries may include private property or other excluded areas. Hunters must research land accessibility before applying for or obtaining a permit.

Hunt #	Unit name	Season dates	Comments
7828	Oquirrh-Stansbury	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7829	Panguitch Lake	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7830	Paunsaugunt	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7831	Pine Valley	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7832	Plateau, Boulder	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7833	Plateau, Fishlake	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7834	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7835	San Juan, Abajo	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7836	San Juan, Elk Ridge	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7837	San Rafael	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7838	South Slope, Bonanza/Diamond Mtn/ Vernal	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7839	South Slope, Yellowstone	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7840	Southwest Desert	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7841	Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7842	Wasatch Mtns, Cascade	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7843	Wasatch Mtns, Currant Creek	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7844	Wasatch Mtns, Timpanogos	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11
7845	Wasatch Mtns, West	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7846	West Desert, Mountain Ranges	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7847	West Desert, Tintic-Vernon	11/16/11–5/31/12	
7848	Zion	11/16/11–11/11/12	Closed 8/14/11–10/31/11

DEFINITIONS

Utah Code §§ 23-13-2, 23-24-1 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-10-2

Canned hunt means that a cougar is treed, cornered, held at bay or its ability to escape is otherwise restricted for the purpose of allowing a person who was not a member of the initial hunting party to arrive and take the cougar.

Carcass means the dead body of an animal or its parts.

Cougar means *Felis concolor*, commonly known as mountain lion, lion, puma, panther or catamount.

Cougar management area means a group of units under the same cougar harvest quota.

Cougar pursuit permit means a permit that authorizes a person to pursue cougar during designated seasons.

Evidence of sex means the sex organs of a cougar, including a penis, scrotum or vulva.

Green pelt means the untanned hide or skin of any cougar.

Harvest-objective hunt means any hunt that is identified as harvest-objective in the hunt table of this guidebook.

Harvest-objective permit means any permit valid on harvest-objective units, including limited-entry permits for split units after the split-unit transition date.

Hunting means to take or pursue a reptile, amphibian, bird or mammal by any means.

Kitten means a cougar less than one year of age, or a cougar accompanied by an adult.

Kitten with spots means a cougar that has obvious spots on its sides or its back.

Limited-entry hunt means any hunt that is identified as limited-entry in the hunt table of this guidebook, not including harvest-objective hunts on split units.

Limited-entry permit means any permit obtained for a limited-entry hunt by any means, including conservation permits and sportsman permits.

Livestock means cattle, sheep, goats or turkeys.

Nonresident means a person who does not qualify as a resident.

Permit means a document, including a stamp, which grants authority to engage in specified activities under the Wildlife Resources Code or a rule or proclamation of the Wildlife Board.

Pursue means to chase, tree, corner or hold a cougar at bay.

Resident means a person who has a fixed permanent home and principal establishment in Utah for six consecutive months immediately preceding the purchase of a license or permit, AND DOES NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

An individual retains Utah residency if he or she leaves Utah to serve in the armed forces of the United States, or for religious or educational purposes, and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

Members of the armed forces of the United States and dependents are residents as of the date the member reports for duty under assigned orders in Utah, if:

- the member is NOT on temporary duty in Utah and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.
- the member presents a copy of his or her assignment orders to a Division office to verify the member's qualification as a resident.

A nonresident attending an institution of higher learning in Utah as a full-time student may qualify as a resident if the student has been present in Utah for 60 consecutive days immediately preceding the purchase of the license or permit and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

A Utah resident license or permit is invalid if a resident license for hunting, fishing or trapping is purchased in any other state or country.

An individual DOES NOT qualify as a resident if he or she is an absentee landowner paying property tax on land in Utah.

Split unit means a cougar hunting unit that begins as a limited-entry unit then transitions into a harvest objective unit.

Tag means a card, label or other identification device issued for attachment to the carcass of protected wildlife.

Take means to hunt, pursue, harass, catch, capture, angle, seine, trap or kill any protected wildlife or to attempt any of these actions.

Trapping means taking protected wildlife with a trapping device.

Use means participating in the activity.

Waiting period means a specified period of time that a person who has obtained a cougar permit must wait before applying for any other cougar permit.