

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

November 1, 2012, DNR, Boardroom
1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

Revised October 23, 2012

Thursday, November 1, 2012, Board Meeting 9:00 am

1. Approval of Minutes **ACTION**
 - Del Brady, Chairman
2. Old Business/Action Log **CONTINGENT**
 - Ernie Perkins, Vice-Chair
3. DWR Update **INFORMATION**
 - Jim Karpowitz, DWR Director
4. Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 **ACTION**
 - Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator
5. Illegal Species Movement in Utah **INFORMATIONAL**
 - Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator
 - Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator
6. Centerville City Hunting Closure Proposal **ACTION**
 - Neal Worsley, Centerville Police Chief
7. Conservation Permit Audit **ACTION**
 - Greg Sheehan, Administrative Services Section Chief
8. Conservation Permit Allocation – 1 year and 3 year permit **ACTION**
 - Kevin Bunnell, Wildlife Section Chief
9. Conservation Permit Annual Report **ACTION**
 - Kevin Bunnell, Wildlife Section Chief
10. 2013 RAC/Board Dates **ACTION**
 - Staci Coons, Wildlife Board Coordinator
11. Other Business **CONTINGENT**
 - Del Brady, Chairman
 - Winter WAFWA

Thursday, November 1, 2012, Board Appeal 1:00 pm

1. Board Appeal — **Time Certain 1:00 pm** **ACTION**
 - George Jay Simon
2. Board Appeal — **Time Certain 4:00 pm** **ACTION**
 - Jack Bennett

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
November 1, 2012, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
Summary of Motions

1) Approval of Minutes (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the August 15-16, 2012 Wildlife Board Meeting as corrected.

2) Old Business/Action Log (**Contingent**)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we close #2 on the action log “Conservation Permit Program Report”.

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we close action log item #3 “Convention Permit Meeting”.

3) Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 (**Action**)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed 3 to 1 with Mike King opposed.

MOTION: I move that we open Joe’s Valley to fishing beginning with the 2013 Fishing Guidebook.

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

MOTION: I move that we ask Southern Region to address the Duck Creek issues and report back to the board within a year from now. This is to be placed on the action log.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that the division look at a proposal that will allow disabled hunters to take carp with a crossbow. This is to be placed on the action log.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that the division look into the issue of fishing possession limits. This is to be placed on the action log.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the balance of the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented by the division.

- 4) Centerville City Hunting Closure Proposal (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Centerville City Closure Proposal as presented.

- 5) Conservation Permit Audit (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Conservation Permit Audit as presented by the Division.

- 6) Conservation Permit Allocation (**Action**)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the conservation permit allocation as presented by the division.

- 7) 2013 RAC/Board Dates (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the 2013 RAC/Board Dates as presented by the Division.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
November 1, 2012, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

Wildlife Board Members Present

Del Brady – Chair
Ernie Perkins – Exec Sec
Jim Karpowitz
Jake Albrecht
Bill Fenimore (excused)
Calvin Crandall (excused)
John Bair
Mike King

RAC Chairs Present

Southern – Bruce Bonebreak
Southeastern – Derris Jones
Central – Fred Oswald
Northern – Robert Byrnes
Northeastern - Boyde Blackwell

Public Present

Tyler Reist
Lauren Reist
Josh Thornton
Paul Dremann
Troy Justensen
James Gilson
George Sommer
Daniel D Smith
Brent McNee
Miles Moretti
Bill Christensen

Division Personnel Present

Judi Tutorow
Staci Coons
Cindee Jensen
LuAnn Petrovich
John Fairchild
Anis Aoude
Justin Dolling
Mike Fowlks
Robin Cahoon
James Parrish
John Shivik
Dean Mitchell

Public (continued)

Brett Prettyman
Roy Hampton
George Kinney
Quinn Woodmansee
Bob Knight
Brent Daybell
Dorothy Sackett
Clifford Sackett
Sterling Brown
Dale A Jones
Ryan Foutz

Chairman Brady welcomed the audience and introduced the Wildlife board and RAC Chairs.

- 1) Approval of Minutes (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the August 15-16, 2012 Wildlife Board Meeting as corrected.

2) Old Business/Action Log (**Contingent**)

Ernie Perkins covered this agenda item. We have four items to mention today. The first item will be on the work session next month. It is the preference point system with the 30 unit deer plan. The second item is Conservation Permit Program report and it will be presented today and will be completed.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we close item #2 on the action log “Conservation Permit Program Report”.

Mr. Perkins went on to say the third item on the action log is the Convention Permit meetings and the Director will report on that.

Director Karpowitz went over a letter in response to the Board’s request. They followed a three step process in meeting with the convention groups and with United Wildlife Cooperative. He first met with them separately and talked about options, looking for resolution. They then meet collectively and narrowed the concerns, trying to look for common ground to address the public’s concerns. In the end they identified four primary areas that are outlined in the letter, that UWC felt like if those were part of the contract they would be satisfied with the program, at least for the time being. They had Mr. Bushman draft a voluntary amendment to the contract and the groups agreed to it and signed it. It is now complete and in effect. The amendment also includes the Board motion on an annual report. (See Board Packet for letter under Action Log section) He is hopeful that this will put this issue to rest. He complimented the convention groups on their willingness to make these voluntary changes.

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we close action log item #3 “Convention Permit Meeting”.

Mr. Perkins said the last item is an interim report as proposed by the Division on female harvest of cougars. This will be addressed today.

John Shivik addressed the Board relative to the Cougar Plan and response to that discussion in the last Board meeting. In summary, looking at the cougar data and biology and understanding the situation and the size of the units, we’ve acknowledged that the plan with cougars is aggressive, but we’re following the plan and just about to get to the end of the three year cycle this next year. We will have good data at that point to put together strong recommendations. He wants to do those recommendations with the houndsmen, going through the regular public process. We should be able to incorporate a lot of their suggestions and it is just a matter of timing at this point. The largest part of this inquiry had to do with timing in that is there an emergency, or can we do it right now

or according to the plan? There is no imminent threat of losing cougars in the state and we can make our adjustments according to the plan this spring/summer. Finally, he did want to propose increasing the relationship in working with the houndsmen. He would like to do a more detailed study on the Wasatch / Manti, getting the houndsmen involved in treeing, getting biological samples and a marked recapture genetic analysis so we are all on the same page. He has done what he can so far to find funds to do that. (See Board packet for letter under the action log section) He then asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Bair said he has a letter from Andy Lyon. The west Manti units are perfect cougar units and houndsmen would always hunt the Manti units verses the Cascade sheep units. The houndsmen have concerns about letting this go another year. Is there any reason we couldn't make a few changes without ruining the plan and messing up the data.

Mr. Shivik said it's not about ruining the plan. He still stands by his recommendation. We have a plan and a process and we need to stick with it, especially when we're talking about controversial animals like predators. It is really important to have good data and numbers as we go forward and make recommendations. His job is to protect cougar populations. He doesn't want to get us into a place where we are making rash and immediate decisions without all the information or without indication of a real emergency.

Mr. Bair said he understands the importance of sticking to the plan, but having hunted these units and sharing the same concerns as the houndsmen, being the pressure we want on the sheep units is going to the two Manti Units which can take 10-12 years to draw a tag on. He is leery about letting that problem go another year.

Mr. Shivik said again he considers it a matter of timing. There are a lot of good ideas out there and they look to propose some of those suggestions to separate out this situation. This is not an emergency situation and we can make our adjustments next spring.

Mr. Bair said the houndsmen do consider this a dire emergency and just to be clear, Mr. Shivik does not feel that letting it ride for another year will decimate the lion population.

Mr. Shivik said it will not bring it to an unrecoverable point. He is confident we can make adjustments in the spring and get back on top of it.

Mr. Bair said we have some comment cards and it is clear where he stands on this issue.

Chairman Brady said it is an action log item and we will hear the comments, limiting it to three, with only three minutes each. The Board cannot make any decision at this point in time.

Mr. Bair said he feels they deserve to be heard.

Kevin Bunnell said the idea of not putting pressure on sheep units and putting the demand on the Manti, if he thought it was really occurring. The reason he doesn't think

it is, is because the Manti Units are all split units, so up until the end of February if you want to harvest a cat, unless you have a limited entry tag, you have to go to those sheep units. Granted, if you have a late snow year you can have significant harvest after, but during the best time of the year, January/February you have no choice but to go to the sheep units. It's not like it's that way year round, it occurs after the transition of the splits.

Mr. Perkins said there is still an emergency shut off switch throughout next spring in terms of the Director doing an emergency closure on any unit. That is always an option if a much higher than expected harvest occurs. On the public comment, we'd be interested in new information rather than a repeat of information we've already received.

Public Comment

Jason Adamson from Sanpete County addressed the Board. This is a real problem and where Mr. Bair has had some experience down there, he understands. He distributed some information he gathered from the internet on these cats. As for Mr. Shivik's letter, he is doing his best, but he has only been in this job for a little over a year. A lot of us have a lot more experience than that. He's been chasing cats for over 35 years. The Board was given a handout with information relative to his viewpoint. He then went on to quote from the letter to illustrate that cougars are born and stay in the same units. If we wipe out these units, we wipe out the seed too. When they're traveling that far we've taken away these areas that these cats are staying in and are going to reproduce in these areas. Those cats are killed out, if they're traveling that many miles. He talked about the cougar population history in Yellowstone. He then compared the Oquirrh to the Monroe. He also discussed some collared cougar harvest and information. He feels adaptive management is needed in this situation.

Chet Young is the Utah Houndsmen representative and he addressed the Board. It is not so much the plan that is the problem. The situation with the Manti Units has been going on since 2009. He read from the 2009 minutes of the Wildlife Board. It was to put the Manti Units on a straight up harvest objective and the Board changed it to a split. In 2009 Justin Shannon said when they went to harvest objective there, they killed cats very quickly and it was closed in just over a week. The percent females taken increased substantially and in the following years the age and the animals decreased quite a bit. When you go to harvest objective on the Manti you affect the population quickly because of access and the success that is possible. In talking with local biologists, they did not see response in the deer herd. Mr. Bunnell said despite reduction in the cougar density, we say very little response to the deer herd, cougars are not the problem. Director Karpowitz said we need to do the right thing for the deer herd. He has been a proponent of accelerated cougar harvest over the years. He is for doing all we can to help the deer herd, but let's be sure we are doing the right thing. Back in 2009 when the Manti Units became a split, we had people who were worried that we were going too far at the time. Now we are combining these units with the sheep units at a real high harvest rate. This really scares them as houndsmen. Mr. Shivik said he can see that this is an issue to be addressed next year, why not do it now and plane the problem off? The letter from Andy

Lyon is the houndsmen's position. They'd like to see the sheep units split away. You still have the same amount of tags for all nine units.

Mr. Bair said he does not want to let this go another year. He understands they are split units and we need to adjust the harvest objective side of the season. He doesn't like where it's headed.

Mr. Perkins said it would be inappropriate for us to take any action at this meeting, because we would be cutting out a huge number of the public. We could ask the Division to take a proposal out through the process, the November RAC and December Board meeting.

Director Karpowitz said he sees a few options for the Board and one is to do nothing and let it go another year as had been recommended. It would be problematic to try and change the direction of the plan, unit boundaries, season dates that are already in print. That becomes a law enforcement issue and a big concern. The one step between those two is to adjust the harvest objective quota through the RAC/Board process now, or leave it to the Director to do an emergency closure at whatever point necessary. The quota could be adjusted.

Mr. Bair said he would like to adjust the quota or put some type of stipulation on it during the harvest objective part of the hunt. His preference would be to lower the quota to be sent out at the next round of RACs.

Director Karpowitz said the next round of RACs is the Big Game meeting and it would most likely be a different group attending with a different perspective.

Mr. King asked what information they would use to lower the quota. Is there a good biological basis to do this and set a number?

Mr. Shivik said we have our plan and we will have the numbers and it might tell us to reduce the numbers by 20-25%. He might look at it and through discussion we might want to redefine what our baseline is for these permits numbers, but for right now the biological basis is what is in the plan which they are trying to follow.

Mr. King asked what would be the basis for an emergency closure.

Mr. Shivik said if the cougars don't move around over the entire unit that might be the trigger situation, but we are talking about a pretty small area in the state and some people that are passionate about this one unit. He is thinking on a bigger scale in terms of time and the state. He doesn't know how to answer this question because the numbers are okay.

Mr. Bair asked if they kill 10 cats one week into harvest objective and they are all on the Manti, will we be concerned. This is worst case scenario and that is what the fear is.

Mr. Shivik said he is having difficulty answering this, as the plan is we're looking at it as an area, but it is important, especially with the species to follow our process and if we need to adjust permits, do it according to the plan. He worries about being arbitrary about these kinds of things.

Chairman Brady said we have seen Director Karpowitz exercise his emergency authority when necessary. He is totally confident in the leadership of the DWR and their ability to manage whatever situation arises. He is more comfortable in staying with the plan and if we see a real problem they will act on it.

Director Karpowitz asked if they see circumstances with the harvest results coming in with perhaps a large number females or juveniles and hearing there are no tracks, could you see recommending to the Director an emergency closure.

Mr. Shivik said if they start blowing past a quota. It is difficult to argue, when we're nowhere near quotas, that there is an emergency. If all of a sudden that whole area starts really getting hammered, they would take care of these populations and deal with the situation.

Mr. Bunnell said in response to the Chairman Brady's comment, we don't like to put the Director in that situation, so if the Board is concerned that we're going to get there we would like to put something in place. If you're afraid that might develop, we would prefer to take it out through the process.

Mr. Bair asked them to look at one thing. It is a big unit. When we put these numbers together we anticipate the harvest being spread over the whole unit.

Mr. Bunnell said if we saw a big number of females coming from a small area that would send up red flags.

Mr. Bair said that is what we would ask. The north and south Manti are going to take the brunt of that harvest. If the limited entry guys fill up and we have good snow with the cats coming in off the Manti, particularly females, that is our concern. We can't let this happen. If we can commit to the houndsmen that we can keep a sharp eye on this that would be acceptable.

Mr. Shivik said he wants to make it clear that we are keeping an eye on this, discussing this and responding to it. It is their job to protect the resource. He said he will provide the Board with the real time numbers on cougar harvest during the hunt.

Mr. King asked how that information will be communicated.

Ms. Coons said they will add a file to their drop box and the information will be available that way.

Mr. Perkins said this closes this action log item for today, and it will remain on the action log for fall 2013 as published.

3) DWR Update (**Informational**)

Jim Karpowitz, DWR Director said we are mindful of Bill Fenimore who is having surgery today. He also thanked LuAnn Petrovich for doing the minutes over the past years.

First of all, he wants to update on the deer hunt since we've gone to a new system. We saw some interesting things this year. We saw a significantly improved deer number with numbers of deer coming through the checking stations increased. Last year at several of our deer checking stations we checked 552 deer and this year at those same stations, 910. That is a significant increase in deer harvest with quite a few older bucks than we've seen in the past. We also have the preliminary muzzleloader harvest data and that success rate increased from 20% to 32%. As we do our post season deer classifications, we'll see what the buck/doe ratios look like after the hunt. The deer coming through the checking stations were in relatively good shape with an average amount of fat on them despite the drought and summer conditions.

Relative to law enforcement, there were very few problems with boundaries considering we went to the 30 units. Hunters understood the boundaries and stayed with their units. The jury is still out as to whether people like the new system. We had a lot of mixed reports. We still didn't experience many problems, although that doesn't mean there were a lot of law enforcement concerns during the hunt. We still responded to a lot of illegal kills and illegal activity, but not related to unit boundaries.

On our fire rehab efforts, we burned almost 1/2 million acres in Utah this summer. We have a very good habitat program and were able to respond to it very quickly. Today we've mixed 1.1 million pounds of seed and distributed it to be put on the ground by aircraft and by ground. We have two shifts working night and day. Chains, harrows and equipment are responding quickly. We're running out of time now and have a lot to do and have about half the seed out. We are concerned about the BLM being short on budget and cannot get fire rehab done on BLM lands. We are going to try to make up for their shortage. We are working on money we don't have, with a commitment from the legislature, and look to get reimbursed from the legislature.

Fall fishing is in full swing and is phenomenal around the state. This is a real credit to our aquatics personnel that are doing a great job.

On the Coyote Bounty program, we have already bountied over 1000 coyotes. They are starting to come in big numbers now as furs become prime and trappers are getting started. We also have 50 Desert bighorn sheep in transit to Utah as we speak for release on the Kaiparowitz Unit.

Today is Director Karpowitz's last Wildlife Board Meeting after 34 years with 7 1/2 years as Director. He said this is the best Board he's worked with and they've done a great job.

He wishes them the best of luck. We will have a new Director announced shortly and the interviews have taken place. He sent out a list to his employees last week on the major accomplishments of the Division over the last 7 years. It is a very impressive list and he is very proud of the Division and all they have accomplished. We have hit some huge milestones with over one million acres in habitat improvement. It is great to see Kevin Conway's dream fulfilled in improving habitat in the state. All fish hatcheries are up and running for first time ever in more than a decade. 20,000 acres of fragmities have been treated to improve waterfowl hunting in the state. Community fishing ponds have increased from 19 to 50. Walk in Access has 80,000 acres in it with 40 miles of fishing streams. This is a great credit to our people in this agency that work so hard. We have increased anglers by about 90,000. We also have more people applying in our big game draw every year, 330,000 and there is still high interest in our State of Utah in fishing, hunting and other wildlife activities.

There are a lot of challenges ahead, but this agency is up to it. We have a great public process in place and it allows lots of public input, contributing to the agency's success. He thanked the Wildlife Board, the Division employees, all the sportsmen, conservation groups, all those who love wildlife. We have a lot of good things going in Utah because people in this state are passionate about wildlife and what we do. The results have been amazing. He wished the new Director luck in the future.

Chairman Brady said he first heard Jim's name in the 70's relative to the sheep program. As we associate with other states, they are blown away by the things Utah is doing. We as sportsmen of the state of Utah owe Director Karpowitz a big thank you.

4) Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 (**Action**)

Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator presented this agenda item. He recognized his counterpart Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator. He went on to discuss the guidebook and rule. (See Powerpoint Presentation) He went over disposal of fish in various situations, the taking of game fish, and restrictions on taking fish and crayfish. He then talked about taking carp with a bow which is a crossover sport, prohibited fish and regional recommendations. This concluded the presentation on recommendations.

He then went on to discuss the Public Statewide Survey which was online to solicit public input. They also encouraged them to hard mail the Division, held a number of open houses in each region where people could come in to discuss things with the local personnel, solicited email, phone calls and internet forums. The survey was open for just over a month and they had 1,367 people participate. He went over the types of questions and the results. There were a few "write ins" that we need more law enforcement presence, they love community fisheries, and encouragement in preserving stream access.

He then went over the Utah Lake Survey Comments. 50% would support a change and 50% were opposed and that's why they followed up with the additional survey. They honed in on who the bass fishermen are on Utah Lake. The other issues was the same as

statewide, wanting carp removal program to continue, more law enforcement and more access around Utah Lake. As a result of this survey, we need to educate folks to make the relationship between regulations and populations.

Mr. King said at the beginning of the presentation he referred to the 3-5 rig lines. If you have a multiple hook rig in possession are you in violation or only if you use it.

Mr. Cushing said he wasn't sure. Mr. Fowlks said he thinks it's only if it is used, but he'll look into it.

Mr. Perkins asked for an update on the Utah Lake carp removal program in terms of how well it is doing and finding a funding off set.

Mike Slater said it is going very well. We have one of our biologists out there with the Loy Fishery Company on a weekly basis monitoring what we're seeing and catching both by catch as well as the carp. We are looking forward to the ice fishing season and they catch a lot more carp through the ice than in open water. The market for the carp is a perennial issue. We're still addressing that and have Director Styler involved with a group, trying to investigate what are some opportunities to get others involved in funding this program and ultimately marketing the carp themselves. Rather than it being just the DWR trying to use the fish, there might be people like Utah County, the businesses; those associated with Utah Lake have something to gain with the removal of the carp. They are trying to investigate that presently to see if that's a way they could utilize some money from some other sources to provide some kind of facility right there on the lake to process those fish, considering various scenarios.

RAC Recommendations

Southern – Mr. Bonebrake did a short summary with the proposal passing unanimously.

Southeast – Mr. Jones said they did not have a quorum, so were unable to vote on recommendations. They heard the presentation and discussed with those present.

Central – Mr. Oswald said the proposal passed unanimously. They had a second motion that had to do with wheelchair bounds groups and crossbow fishing. The motion was to ask the Division to meet with groups and formulate a plan to see how the rule fit and it passed unanimously.

Northeastern – Mr. Blackwell said they had two motions. The first was to accept as presented, but to add the two day possession limit. It failed 2 to 4. The subsequent motion was to accept as presented and that passed unanimously.

Northern – Mr. Byrnes said after discussion on the disposal method, they had a motion on the proposal with the opportunity to comment on disposal method once it is determined.

Chairman Brady asked if there were any questions from the audience.

James Gilson asked Mr. Cushing to address their RACs discussion on the Joe's Valley closure and what the Division feels about it being open next year.

Mr. Cushing said they did a tiger muskie introduction in Joe's Valley a few years ago. It is doing well and the anglers are happy about it. The tiger muskies are approaching 40 inches. The splake fishermen have converted over to tiger muskie. There were about six people present at Southeast RAC and they all had a similar comment to remove the closure for splake fishermen on Joe's Valley in the fall, to extend the opportunity for tiger muskie fishermen to fish in the fall. The biologists talked about that from a biological standpoint and they support it. They are relatively in favor, but it hasn't gone through the public process. They suggested it be taken through the next RAC cycle with the survey, then go from there.

Mr. Gilson asked if there are any other lakes that are closed for that same season to protect splake in the state and have there been.

Mr. Cushing said there are portions of reservoirs that are closed around the state. The one that comes to mind is Flaming Gorge with a closure on Linwood Bay for Lake Trout. It is a night time closure.

Public Comment

Ken Strong representing himself addressed the Board. He thanked Director Karpowitz for his service. He talked about fish limits relative to trout which is the smallest limit of all species. Presently if you catch a limit of fish, you have to bottle, smoke or consume them and until then they remain on your limit. We used to have a limit of 10 fish. His concern is anybody that bottles fish is doing them four at a time or breaking the law by stock piling. In Idaho, the law reads that the number of fish that may be legally harvested by one person a day is the bag limit and the bag possession limit is the maximum number of fish that may be in possession of a person while they are in the field or transporting the fish for consumption or storage. So once they hit the house they're no longer considered part of the limit. His proposal is to change the possession limit so we can have several possession limits in our freezer or preserved some other way, so we can have fish throughout the winter.

Paul Dremann, Chairman of the Utah Anglers' Coalition thanked Director Karpowitz for his support and service. They have had the opportunity to meet with the Division and fully support all their regulations. They do have a few comments, one being that there be no changes on the large mouth bass regulations at Utah Lake or perch regulations at Forsyth Reservoir until there's a lot more study done on these issues. The other issue is the harvest of yellow perch as a means of population control is an ineffective management strategy. They appreciate and support the work done by the aquatics people.

Terry Reese representing Utah Spearfishing Association addressed the Board. He is a sportsman and loves to hunt and fish often with his family. He loves the outdoors and appreciates the wildlife resource management, but the current regulations on spearfishing for June to November are restrictive. The September cut off for Fish Lake is even more so. There are bag and possession limits for all waters in Utah and he believes they should also apply to spearfishermen. Line fishermen use the spawning in September at Fish Lake to their advantage. He believes there is a false perception that spearfishing is easy, but it's not. If limits need to be in place they should apply to everyone. He's asking the Board to base decisions on facts and biology, not hear say. Spearfisherman are just like anyone else, they want appropriate and logical game management to preserve our valuable natural resources. All waters should be open to all legal forms of take and should apply to everyone equally. Through the ages spearfishing has been one of the most sustainable types of fishing known. 90,000 fishermen have been added to Utah fishing, but we might add 50 spearfishermen a year. Rules for spearfishing are limited and restrictive and not equal to other fishermen.

Clifford Sackett said he knows a lot of people like to keep fish. He likes to keep bass, but the limits on them now are very restrictive, so many under 12 inches and only one over. In a lot of ways it's quite confusing to people who haven't fished for bass before. We also have the slot limit on trout. With the bass, nobody really likes catching 10-11 inch fish. There is not much meat on them either. If you have a 14-20 inch bass size limit, where you could keep one, then fill up your limit with the others, it would make it better for the fishermen.

James Gilson from Castledale asked the Board to consider a change to the proposal for 2013 and return Joe's Valley to year round fishing. If we have to wait a year, there is no biological reason and it's debatable whether it was necessary in the first place. We can't fish for six weeks now and if we don't address it until next year, we won't have this time either. There is also some interest from businesses where they would like to have it open also. Some of these businesses have contributed to this fishery and would like to enjoy the benefits.

George Sommer representing Utah Bass Federation thanked Director Karpowitz for his years of service. The Utah Bass Federation is opposed to liberalizing any rules relative to spearfishing. Utah allows more opportunity for spearfishing than any of the surrounding states. Their intention is to take this to the RACs next year to address and review current regulations and conflicts we're having with hook and line anglers. The conflict with hook and line angling is the main difference is no take and release with spearfishing.

Dan Smith works at Fish Tech Outfitters in Salt Lake City. They get a lot of comments on spearfishing and fishing for a record that leads to wasting. He gave some examples of situations where they're fishing for records. Their recommendation is to do away with the records. Once you shoot a fish, you can't let it go. It takes about five years for a bass to get 12 inches long and be able to spawn. We want to preserve that gene pool. As a tackle store, they are worried about losing customers because the big fish will be gone.

James Gilson said he has some time left and asked if they received the letter from the Emery County Public Lands Council supporting opening Joe's Valley.

Board Discussion

Chairman Brady summarized the RAC recommendations.

Mr. Bair asked how many spear fishermen there are in the state.

Josh Thornton from Dive Addicts said they sell more equipment in the state than anybody and he would guess there are around 200.

Mr. Bair said if we don't take action on Joe Valley today, next year at this time it will still be closed.

Mr. King asked if there isn't a time when this could be addressed before then, after it has been looked into and had more public input. Those who spoke for it at the RAC were a small group.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins and died for a lack of a second.

MOTION: I move that the Division consider removing the fall closure on Joe's Valley by running it through a RAC meeting in the near future, or no later than next year when it can be adequately considered.

Director Karpowitz said if we approve the guidebook today, it will be printed as closed and there's not opportunity for a Board process. If the Board decided to go with a fall opening, it would have to be handled through the media and signage. It will be in print that it is closed.

Mr. Perkins said he recognizes that, but this would allow both going through the full public process at some point earlier and it wouldn't take two years to get implemented.

Director Karpowitz said it is possible, but we do get complaints when it's in the guidebook. It is possible that it could go through the public process next spring or summer and have it open in the fall.

Mr. Albrecht said on Mr. Perkin's motion it would be closed this fall and open next year if the proposal is addressed.

Mr. King said he has not problem with opening the reservoir, but hasn't heard anything from the Division yet as to the biological reason either way. This has not been through the process and he'd be hesitant to make any decision at this point.

Chairman Brady said this was a bad time for the Southeast RAC not to have a quorum and asked Mr. Jones to pass that along to the RAC members.

Mr. Jones said those individuals who spoke for this opening were very passionate about it and is probably the most interest we've ever had on fishing. It is probably due to the addition of tiger muskees and fall is the best time for them. Other things that have affected this is the loss of a big fishery in Huntington Canyon due to the Sealy fire and had a die off at lower Fish Creek, because of the shut off at Scofield dam. People are looking for places to fish. Joe's Valley has turned into a trophy fishery and it's going to get more and more popular as people learn about the big splake and tiger muskees there. If there's a way to handle this with only this year's closure, we need to work toward having it open next year. The anglers in Emery County understand if nothing can be done this year, but they'll be very disappointed if we go one more fall without it open or at least addressed. The RAC members who were present were in favor of opening.

Mr. Bair said he's uncomfortable with making a decision now, but doesn't want to leave it until next year either. He would like to open it up for next year even if it's on an experimental basis and continue gathering information.

Mr. Cushing said they have discussed this with Southeastern extensively and there were more people there at the RAC than we've ever had. Biologically they don't believe there is an issue. The rule was put in place because of the public perception more so than the impact on the fishery. Mr. Bates said if they're going to open it, they should just do it, but the fear is that there is a contingency of folks out there who are opposed to it, but we just don't know. Chances are there's not, but we don't know.

Mr. Perkins said with the Division's support, they indicated this could go out in the November RAC meetings being handled by the regional fisheries biologist, would probably get full approval by the RACs and come to the Board for vote in December.

Mr. Cushing said the only drawback is it will be printed as closed in the guidebook.

Mr. Perkins said however we've got multiple corrections posted to guidebooks on the internet for this year's regulations. News of this would spread like wildfire.

Mr. King said he admits the public support was much greater than at the meeting before, but his concern is this not having gone through the process. We stuck to the plan with the cougar and the houndsmen would have liked us to act on their recommendation. It would be inconsistent to act on this, even though he would support opening the lake to fishing.

Director Karpowitz said there is no biological concern and you're not taking away anyone's opportunity. Mr. Jones said the public has voiced support. He thinks this is different than what happened with the houndsmen. The guidebook is already in print and with their request we'd have to have changed the plan to do everything they wanted. He sees this as an expansion of opportunity not a limiting of it. He doesn't think it would be a problem in changing this for next year. He is nervous about printing the guidebook, then changing it. He doesn't think the Board would be way out of line by expanding some fishing opportunity, if there is no biological reason to do otherwise.

Chairman Brady said in receiving this information, there does not appear to be conflict or a problem. Also it is an additional opportunity in Southeast region.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed 3 to 1 with Mike King opposed.

MOTION: I move that we open the Joe's Valley to fishing beginning with the 2013 Fishing Guidebook.

Mr. King said he opposed the motion based on circumventing the process. He is not against the opening of the reservoir.

Mr. Perkins withdrew his previous motion at this point.

Those who voted for it said they would have preferred to see this go through the RAC/Board process first, but couldn't see a problem on this issue.

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

MOTION: I move that we ask Southern Region to address the Duck Creek issues for ice fishing on the lake and report back to the board within a year from now. This is to be placed on the action log.

Chairman Brady said this would be put on the action log.

Mr. Bonebrake said they already have this in motion.

Mr. Bair said he cannot imagine that we have enough spearfishermen in this state to have any kind of adverse effect on the fishing business or the population of walleye or lake trout. Is he wrong on this?

Chairman Brady said yes he's wrong.

Mr. Cushing said they worked with the spearfishermen four years ago to create a list of waters where the species need to be taken. They've talked to spearfishermen in the Northeastern RAC about revisiting that list. However, there is a problem with public perception and a disagreement between 450,000 anglers and 100. The people who pay the bills should be heard. There is a real issue between the spearfishermen and the regular anglers. They need to work together.

Chairman Brady referred to the problems that we had at Fish Lake where out-of-state hunters were coming in and taking the spawning population of lake trout.

Mr. Perkins said he agrees with Chairman Brady. He started spearfishing 52 years ago, but this must go through the entire public process with opportunity for public input from all anglers.

Mr. Bair asked what types of discussions have taken place at this point.

Mr. Cushing said since this first came up at least three years ago, we have encouraged both types of fishermen to get in the same room and work together. The spearfishermen came to one meeting, are part of our angling public, but they need to be part of the team and work together on things. He agrees that it needs to go through the public process.

Chairman Brady said that Mr. Weylan had his eyes open after talking with Mr. Cushing.

Mr. Cushing said he did have his eyes opened. We told him we'd be happy to sit down with the spearfishermen and go over that list again. We will do that. It is a fairly liberal list compared with other states. We are committed to including this and will come back with a recommendation next year. One thing that has influenced this was the survey, to get an idea of what we'd lose or gain in public opinion and support by supporting this type of recommendation.

Mr. Bair asked if there were any planned talks.

Mr. Cushing said we have done this before, and can do it again.

Mr. Bair said he hates to see two groups of sportsmen/fishermen who do not work together.

Mr. Cushing said they've worked with both groups productively. With regular fishing, catch and release is possible, not so with spearfishing. We talked to one spearfisherman about a tag system which is something we might think about in the future. If this is truly a hunt, there are some trophy fish out there.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that the Division look at a proposal that will allow disabled hunters to take carp with a crossbow. This is to be placed on the action log.

Director Karpowitz said the disabled rule is on the December RACs.

Mr. Bair asked if he catches his limit and keeps over that in his freezer, is he in violation?

Mr. Cushing said yes.

Mr. King asked what the rationale is behind that.

Mr. Perkins said there was a recent bust up in southern Davis County with a couple that had just over 1,000 trout in the freezer.

Mr. Cushing said there are people who will just keep taking fish and piling them up. It's to prevent things like that. Other states have a two day possession limit, but we don't. It came up in the Northeast RAC and it is worth considering.

Mr. King asked if there was any evidence that those who had 1,000 fish in their possession had harvested them illegally.

Mr. Cushing said it was at a community fishery in Murray and they were catching four a day, and the freezer was full with 100's of fish.

Chairman Brady said where he has been, the possession limit is most often 2-3 days bag limit. He doesn't have a problem with that and would like to see that.

Mr. Cushing said Idaho and Oregon have a two day possession limit on fish and on game birds as well. It creates a situation in their state where if you go out for multiple days you could have a limit for each day you were there. It is worth considering and biologically there are a lot of waters where we need harvesting.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that the Division look into the issue of fishing possession limits. This is to be placed on the action log.

Mr. Cushing said it needs to be on the survey also.

Mr. Perkins asked for confirmation that everything in the FWS letter is included in the Division proposal.

Mr. Cushing said it is.

Director Karpowitz said on the Joe's Valley issue, Southeastern did not vote on it. He sits on 2-3 other Boards and there is a process for ratification of Board motions. The potential exists here for the Board to ask the region to take that out at the next RAC meeting for ratification if you're concerned that there hasn't been enough public input. What he doesn't know is what happens if the RAC refuses to ratify.

Mr. Perkins said the answer to that would be in emergency closure.

Director Karpowitz said so if the Board thinks the public ought to weigh in on this and based on the input they already have, it is likely they will ratify what the Board did. The Board could ask the RAC that when they have a quorum to ratify this decision and take public input at that time. It is a local issue and Southeast should handle it. Where two

Board members mentioned the lack of public input and Southeast did not vote on it, it could be an issue. The Southeast needs to address this at their next RAC.

Mr. King asked if you're going to ask the RAC to ratify the Board's decision or ask them to ratify the proposal that was made.

Director Karpowitz said it's not really ratification; it's a recommendation from the RAC to support the Board decision, if you feel that strongly. It may just muddy the waters and open a door down the road that you don't want, but you could ask them to at least discuss this and get public input at their next meeting.

Mr. Albrecht said if there is no biological reason and if the RAC doesn't provide a vote for input, it is up to the Wildlife Board to move forward and make a decision.

Chairman Brady said with the RAC not having a quorum, what it really did was not support the public in that region, and the Board is trying to go beyond that and support the public input. What the Director is trying to do is add an additional layer of support to that motion.

Director Karpowitz said he agrees with Mr. Albrecht.

Mr. King said in the minutes there was input from the RAC members that were there and they supported it, along with the public.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the balance of the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented by the Division.

Mr. Cushing said it is legal to have multiple hook rigs in possession at any area, as long as they are not used illegally.

5) Illegal Species Movement in Utah (**Informational**)

Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator and Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator presented this agenda item. (See Powerpoint Presentation) This goes along with the catch and kill things we have going on, and is the first effort to educate the public starting with the Board and RAC members. We will briefly talk about illegal species introductions. This is the biggest threat to fishing across the country. He presented a list of waters that have experienced illegal introductions, but it changes continuously. Every time they go out there is a new illegally introduced species. There are several categories that contribute to this. A number of these are reproducing quite well and impacting our fisheries. There is a great cost related to this problem and it continues to increase. We also lose revenue when fishermen get frustrated and no longer fish in these areas.

Some of things they are doing are chemical treatments, physical removals, use of sterile fish like the tiger muskee and the wiper, use of super males, complete water closures and potential regulation changes, such as the catch and kill that we have in place. To have a no limit is a benefit to the fisherman because he can take these unwanted species home wholesale. We're hoping this would create a situation for the fisherman where the act isn't rewarded.

Mr. Albrecht asked what the penalty is for people who get caught doing this.

Mr. Cushing said for moving \$2,500 and Class B and \$5,000 Class A for stocking.

Mr. Albrecht asked if they lose their license for doing this.

Mr. Cushing said it is up to the Division's discretion.

Director Karpowitz said our penalties are all in law. Wyoming increased their penalty, but have not made many cases. Just increasing the penalty might not accomplish what we're trying to do, but it is an option.

Mr. Albrecht asked if they catch people doing this.

Mr. Cushing said yes, they have a case in Layton presently where an individual has done both of these things. The penalty isn't really the answer because if you don't have a court system that is receptive to a \$5,000 fine for someone having a live fish in transport, it's not the penalty we need to address, we need to educate. We need to do a better job of educating the public and the law makers then we'll get the penalties.

Mr. Perkins asked if the super male technology has a potential on carp and burbot.

Mr. Cushing said he's hoping so. It's been done on one species and hopefully can be done on these invasive fish.

Mr. Perkins asked if the other states are working on this.

Mr. Cushing said Idaho is the only one he knows of.

Mr. Albrecht thanked the fisheries section for doing a great job in our state.

6) Centerville City Hunting Closure Proposal (Action)

Neal Worsley, Centerville Police Chief presented this agenda. He said he is here representing Centerville hunters, recreationalists, bicyclists, joggers, etc. Their proposal is to close to hunting certain parts of Centerville City. (See Powerpoint Presentation) He also referred to a request letter that is in the Board packet. The proposed ordinance is in the letter. There are a few things that are contrary to hunting completely. We want

people to be able to fish and trap. He then went over the map illustrating this request, including the buffer zone. Privately owned property owners want their land closed because they are in the process of improving that area and for the most part it has been posted. There is a lot of recreational use on the trail system itself. The city currently has an ordinance in place that bans any discharge of firearms within the city limits. That's where the hunting closure needs to come into play. The private properties are individually described and they are in agreement on it. He continued to describe the area based on the maps included in the packet. Through public hearings it was brought up that they want access to Farmington Bay. The reason we'd closed that out is that is Legacy Preserve and it is posted no hunting, no shooting. There is an entrance area on the south end of that where people can walk down through and shoot. The bay and anything east of the firebreak would remain open. These are definitive lines that people can recognize. This concluded the presentation.

Chairman Brady asked for input from Mr. Dolling.

Mr. Dolling referred to the response letter that is in the packet. They have worked with the city and feel comfortable with this proposal. They are comfortable with the firebreak road being a strong delineation even though it is not the border of the city proper.

RAC Recommendation

Northern – Mr. Byrnes said he lives in Centerville and the firebreak road goes along the foothills on the east. He did attend the public meetings on this issue. This is a very agreeable boundary for the waterfowl people and the city. Our RAC voted unanimously to accept this proposal.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Centerville City Closure Proposal as presented.

Mr. Bair said he never likes to vote to close areas to hunting, but this seems well thought out and the logical thing to do.

7) Conservation Permit Audit (**Action**)

Greg Sheehan, Administrative Services Section Chief presented this agenda item. He gave some background on the audit and we've done it for the past eight years. (See Audit in Board Packet) There is a copy of this audit of all of the groups available to anyone who wants one. He summarized the table with the total amount of revenue being 2.8 million dollars last year, which is up about \$400,000 from the prior year. The amount of funds they are able to retain is listed. One change we did this year according to a rule that went into effect in August is where we came to an agreement that we would bill them for the amount of projects they agreed to and the money is collected accordingly. Every

group was in good shape and has done a good job. The only thing they noticed is Safari Club elected to keep some of the money, about 3%, where in the past they returned all of it to the Division. Mr. Sheehan thanked Sarah Scott for doing most of the work to compile this audit.

Mr. King asked where a person would go for a list of all the projects that were done.

Mr. Sheehan said Mr. Bunnell has posted these on the website annually in the past and will continue to do so.

Public Comment

Miles Moretti thanked Director Karpowitz for his great service to the state. He thanked the Division for the Conservation Permit Program and it is the envy of the west. They are able to put a lot of money to work for habitat. He knows there has been a lot of controversy around the program the last while, but the audit process keeps us transparent and accountable. Those that criticize the program don't take the time to realize what it is all about and how much good we accomplish.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Conservation Permit Audit as presented by the Division.

8) Conservation Permit Allocation (**Action**)

Kevin Bunnell, Wildlife Section presented this agenda item. (See Powerpoint Presentation) He gave some history of the program and a general overview of its accomplishments. The funds generated from this program have contributed to 322 different projects that account for over 302,000 acres in the last five years. We've accomplished a lot of big game transplants. It also helps us fund a lot of research that we couldn't do otherwise.

He went on to say that the permit "draft" was held in August for 2013-2015 following the established process. He went over the various groups and the permits that were awarded. 317 permits were allocated and 316 were distributed. There was a single cow elk permit left on the table, because nobody had enough money left to pick it up. This concluded the presentation.

Mr. Bair said he read in the audit that the Division attended some of the banquets and auctions, checking on the process.

Mr. Bunnell said they have a policy that if any of our people that go to the banquets report back.

Mr. Sheehan said in the audit that Sarah put together identifies how many of the permits that were allocated that we verify at some of the different banquets. It is a spot check.

Public Comment

Roy Hampton of Utah Bowman's Association said they applied for 14 tags. The 14th was a San Juan archery deer tag that they were issued two years ago on a variance. They are requesting it again if the Board will give them a variance. They donate it to the Pope Young Convention which makes it available to a nonresident. Their banquet is in Dallas, Texas. It sold for over \$6,000 when they auctioned it off the first time. They had the tag for two years. There were no archery permits in that area on the list this year. There are asking for a variance to get this tag back.

Mr. Bair said they donate their 10% to Pope and Young.

Mr. Hampton said yes and the 90% comes back to the Division. The 10% they raise on their other tags they donate to the NASP Program.

Director Karpowitz said a few years ago we made a special provision for Pope and Young who were bringing their national convention to Utah. He thinks they developed a separate rule for that. Does anyone recall what we did that year and if that provision is still around?

Mr. Hampton said he doesn't know. The Board did give them a variance two years ago.

Mr. Perkins said it was a one year variance for one tag if he remembers right.

Mr. Hampton said they kept it for two years. They auctioned it off last year.

Mr. King asked why it wasn't included this year.

Mr. Hampton said it wasn't in the one year program.

Mr. Bunnell said the rule doesn't define what goes into the one year program. They go through and pick the units that have the most conservation tags allocated to them. They take some of those out and give those opportunities to the single year program whereas that unit doesn't qualify for many tags, it's not one we allocated for the single year program.

Mr. Albrecht said if that tag had been part of the process, he would have to have drawn that as part of his allocation or traded for it some way.

Mr. Bunnell said that's only with the multiyear program. He explained how the one year tags work.

Mr. Hampton said this is Pope and Young's national convention. It gives Utah a very good look on what we're doing. We're actually going to send two tags back there; one will be an elk tag and hopefully this deer tag.

Director Karpowitz said so the variance would be two parts. You'd have to allocate a permit to a unit that doesn't qualify for then turn it into a conservation permit that would be beyond the allocation. Why did it last two years and then go away?

Mr. Clark said the provision for having a special tag above and beyond the limit applies to a statewide tag for a convention or event held here in Utah. Since that event isn't being held in Utah it doesn't trigger that provision of the rule. We also try to look for hunts where if added it goes to no more than 5%, then we look at dividing it between single and multiyear. He doesn't know the specifics on that one tag.

Director Karpowitz asked why they had it for two years and not now.

Mr. Bunnell said the San Juan Elk Ridge only qualifies for three deer tags, but we didn't choose to allocate one of those to the single year program. We made the decision based on the process we described. What would need to happen to stay within the rule is one of the multiyear groups that chose a San Juan mule deer tag would have to be willing to trade for or give it up. That's the only way we could stay within the rule, because this would push us over the 5%.

Mr. Bair asked if there's another tag we could issue that wouldn't put us in violation.

Mr. Bunnell said the program qualified for 317, so no.

Mr. Perkins said he has some reservations from the perspective of what's fair for you should be fair for every other organization. If you're bringing a convention to Utah, then we'll make a tag available. He's not in favor of expanding this on the spur of the moment.

Mr. Hampton said he understands that the Board has the authority to grant this type of variance. Isn't that right?

Director Karpowitz said yes the Board would have to grant a variance that goes beyond what the rule allows.

Mr. Hampton said they can work it out and give them a tag from their pool, but he felt it was worth is to ask. It has done really well with Pope and Young and they really appreciate it, but he understands the rule.

Mr. Clark said in the past when an additional tag became available it was because there were more public tags which they would make available to the one year program. This is probably how this because available.

Mr. Bair asked how often Pope and Young has a convention.

Mr. Hampton said every two years.

Mr. King said we've done it once, but it was a different process.

Mr. Bushman said he doesn't remember the specifics of this, but bear in mind the Conservation Permit Rule doesn't have variance authority in it. The variance rule has been changed. He's not sure this request falls within the variance authority of the rule today.

Mr. Bunnell said he doesn't think it was a variance when last granted, but an extra tag, but the Division's recommendation is that we stick with the rule for the sake of the future of the program.

Mr. Bair said Mr. Bushman has informed us that we don't have the authority to make the change necessary to grant this variance.

Mr. Hampton said UBA will be fine with this.

Public Comment

Miles Moretti, MDF said they support the Division's recommendation on the Conservation Permit Program.

Mr. Bair said we have made some positive changes this year and this audit has been very effective.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the conservation permit allocation as presented by the Division.

9) Conservation Permit Annual Report (**Informational**)

Kevin Bunnell, Wildlife Section Chief presented this agenda item. (See Powerpoint Presentation) This report is to promote and increase understanding of the program. He asked that the Board look through this proposal and feel free to give input. Within the report there is an overview of the program, permits and money, lists of participating groups, detailed information about the projects that are done, auditing and a table of projects for each group. He has had some suggestions from participating groups on how these projects might be presented. Over the next several weeks he would be available to feedback. This concluded the presentation.

Mr. Bair suggested including pictures illustrating the various habitat improvement techniques that are involved. He is excited to see this happening.

Mr. Perkins said as he first looked through it, it's an excellent job.

Mr. Bunnell said Amy Canning deserves a lot of credit for this and he used her information for this report.

10) 2013 RAC/Board Dates (**Action**)

Staci Coons, Wildlife Board Coordinator presented this agenda item. (See Board Packet) The Board was sent a list of the upcoming dates that are very similar to this year's. She asked if there were any questions or comments.

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the 2013 RAC/Board Dates as presented by the Division.

11) Other Business (**Contingent**)

There was no other business discussed.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Approved