

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

March 5, 2015, DNR, Boardroom
1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

AGENDA

Thursday, March 5, 2015

1. Approval of Agenda **ACTION**
– Jake Albrecht, Chairman
2. Approval of Minutes **ACTION**
– Jake Albrecht, Chairman
3. Old Business/Action Log **CONTINGENT**
– Bill Fenimore, Vice-Chair
4. DWR Update **INFORMATION**
– Greg Sheehan, DWR Director
5. Utah Prairie Dog Management Plan **ACTION**
- Kevin Bunnell, Southern Region Supervisor
6. R657-70 Taking Utah Prairie Dog – New Rule **ACTION**
R657-19 Taking Nongame Mammals – Amendments
R657-3 Collection, Importation, Transportation and Possession of Animals – Amendments
- Kevin Bunnell, Southern Region Supervisor
7. Legislative Request of the Wildlife Board regarding primitive weapons **INFORMATION**
- Robin Cahoon, Legislative Liaison
8. Other Business **CONTINGENT**
– Jake Albrecht, Chairman

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
March 5, 2015, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
Summary of Motions

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

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.

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

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the January 6, 2015 Wildlife Board Meeting as corrected.

3) Utah Prairie Dog Management Plan (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we put on the action log item: the Division will research the potential impact of lead poisoning on wildlife killed in the field (i.e., prairie dogs) as proposed by Derris Jones in the Southeast RAC and report back to the Board at a later time.

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the Utah Prairie Dog Management Plan as presented by the Division.

4) R657-70 Taking Utah Prairie Dog, New Rule; R657-19 Taking Nongame Mammals – Amendments; R657-3 Collection, Importation, Transportation and Possession of Animals - Amendments (**Action**)

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

MOTION: I move that we approve new rule R657-70, with the amendment to method of take, and rules R657-19 and R657-3 as presented by the Division.

- 5) Legislative Request of the Wildlife Board regarding primitive weapons
(Information)

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we put the following on the action log item to be presented at the August 2015 Wildlife Board: The Division will prepare an informational status review of allowable primitive and non-primitive weapons usages compared with other states. Additionally, the Division will prepare a review of evolving technologies in hunting weapons and related peripheral devises and optics. That review should include, but not be limited to, the use of crossbows of various categories of archery hunts, magnified optics on muzzleloading rifles, calibers of firearms allowed on rifle and pistol hunts, draw poundage and sighting devises on archery equipment, as well as the use of self firing rifles.

Approved

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http://wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings/board_minutes/audio/15-3-5.mp3

Wildlife Board Members Present

Jake Albrecht – Chair
Greg Sheehan – Exec Sec
Bill Fenimore – Vice Chair
Mike King
Calvin Crandall
Kirk Woodward
John Bair - Excused
Steve Dalton

Division Personnel Present

Mike Fowlks
Rory Reynolds
Mike Canning
Staci Coons
Thu Vo-Wood
Kevin Bunnell
Robin Cahoon
Justin Shannon
Bill Bates
Kenny Johnson
Martin Bushman
Dean Mitchell
Rick Olson
Roger Wilson
Judi Tutorow
Lindy Varney
Ashley Green

Justin Dolling
Ben Nadolski
Chris Keleher
Mitch Lane
Greg Hansen
Mark Hadley
Mike Styler
Adam Kavalunas
Jessica van Woert

RAC Chairs Present

Northeastern - Boyde Blackwell
Southern – Dave Black
Southeastern – Robert Edgel
Central – Gary Nielsen
Northern – John Cavitt

Public Present

Larry Crist, Fish & Wildlife Service
Commissioner Miller, Iron County
Commissioner Pollock, Garfield County
Laura Romijn, US Forest Service
Brett Prettyman, SL Trib

Robert Byrnes
Ken Strong, SFW
Allison Jones
Brian Brenner
Lisa Taylor
King Smith

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

- 1) Approval of Agenda (**Action**) **00:02:58 – 00:03:19 of 02:13:48**

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.

- 2) Approval of Minutes (**Action**) **00:03:21 – 00:04:17 of 02:13:48**

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the January 6, 2015 Wildlife Board Meeting as corrected.

- 3) Old Business/Action Log (**Contingent**) None.
- 4) DWR Update (**Informational**) **00:04:21 – 00:10:05 of 02:13:48**

Greg Sheehan mentioned the upcoming aquatics summit on March 19 in Central Region.

Big Game application period ends tonight at 11:00 p.m.

The Division is accepting nominations for the Wildlife Board. Nomination forms are available online.

Greg reassured the Board that DWR employees are able and capable of managing and addressing Utah prairie dog issues.

- 5) Utah Prairie Dog Management Plan (**Action**) **00:10:07 – 00:35:58 of 02:13:48**

Kevin Bunnell presented the Utah Prairie Dog Management Plan and transitioned into item 6 without breaking.

- 6) R657-70 Taking Utah Prairie Dog, New Rule; R657-19 Taking Nongame Mammals – Amendments; R657-3 Collection, Importation, Transportation and Possession of Animals - Amendments (**Action**) **00:35:58 – 02:05:31 of 02:13:48**

Kevin Bunnell presented the rule amendments relating to the take of Utah prairie dogs.

Board Questions 00:39:38 – 00:51:32

The Board asked for further explanation about the options for lethal removal, prairie dog counts, and trapping methods.

Public Comments 00:51:33 – 00:59:31

Chairman Albrecht changed the format of the meeting to allow the commissioners from Iron and Garfield Counties to make comments. Board questions continued afterward.

Board/RAC Questions 00:59:32 – 01:06:02

The Board asked for more details on the take of prairie dogs and survival rates after translocation. Cavitt asked what the impacts would be for moving the buffer zone.

Public Questions 01:06:04 – 01:09:31

Public questions were accepted at this time.

RAC Recommendation 01:10:35 – 01:13:02

All RACs passed the management plan. Northern and Northeast RAC were unanimous. The other RACs had varying dissent.

All RACs passed the amendments. Northern and Northeast RAC were unanimous. Central RAC voted unanimously for R657-19 and R657-3. There was varying opposition in Southern and Southeast RAC.

Public Comments 01:13:06 – 01:42:17

Public comments were accepted at this time. Chairman Albrecht read the letter from the Humane Society into record.

Chairman Albrecht asked Martin Bushman to address methods of take. The board continued to discuss the Forest Service's request to change language in the new rule R657-70-14. Both parties agreed to the change.

Board Discussion 01:42:19 – 02:05:31

Chairman Albrecht reviewed the RAC votes. He asked the Division to address the Southeast's recommendation for proper disposal. Mike King expanded on the Southeast's recommendation and cautioned the Division on how to approach a resolution.

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we put on the action log item: the Division will research the potential impact of lead poisoning on wildlife killed in the field (i.e., prairie dogs) as proposed by Derris Jones in the Southeast RAC and report back to the Board at a later time.

1:52:26 Law enforcement issues were discussed as well as the education component of the plan and annual review process.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the Utah Prairie Dog Management Plan as presented by the Division.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve new rule R657-70, with the amendment to method of take, and rules R657-19 and R657-3 as presented by the Division.

- 7) Legislative Request of the Wildlife Board regarding primitive weapons
(Information) 02:06:04 – 02:13:48 of 02:13:48

Robin Cahoon presented the legislative request to the Board. Greg Sheehan prepared a statement for the action log item.

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we put the following on the action log item to be presented at the August 2015 Wildlife Board: The Division will prepare an informational status review of allowable primitive and non-primitive weapons usages compared with other states. Additionally, the Division will prepare a review of evolving technologies in hunting weapons and related peripheral devices and optics. That review should include, but not be limited to, the use of crossbows of various categories of archery hunts, magnified optics on muzzleloading rifles, calibers of firearms allowed on rifle and pistol hunts, draw poundage and sighting devices on archery equipment, as well as the use of self firing rifles.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved