

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

October 1, 2015, DNR Auditorium
1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

Thursday, October 1, 2015, Board Meeting 9:00 am

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| 1. Approval of Agenda
– John Bair, Chairman | ACTION |
| 2. Approval of Minutes
– John Bair, Chairman | ACTION |
| 3. Old Business/Action Log
– Kirk Woodward, Vice-Chair | CONTINGENT |
| 4. DWR Update
– Greg Sheehan, DWR Director | INFORMATION |
| 5. Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13
– Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator | ACTION |
| 6. Hunting Technologies Discussion
– Rick Olson, Captain | INFORMATION |
| 7. Conservation Permit Annual Report
– Bill Bates, Wildlife Section Chief | ACTION |
| 8. Conservation Permit Audit
– Mike Fowlks, Deputy Director | ACTION |
| 9. Conservation Permit Allocation – 1 & 3 year
– Bill Bates, Wildlife Section Chief | ACTION |
| 10. 2016 RAC/Board Dates
– Staci Coons, Wildlife Board Coordinator | ACTION |
| 11. Mexican Wolves
– Martin Bushman, Asst. Attorney General | ACTION |
| 12. Other Business
– John Bair, Chairman <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Winter WAFWA | CONTINGENT |

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

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Summary of Motions

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

The following motion was made by Byron Bateman, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

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

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

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the August 27, 2015 Wildlife Board Meeting as presented.

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

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Fishing Recommendations and Rule R657-13 as presented by the Division.

4) Conservation Permit Annual Report (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Byron Bateman, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the findings of the Conservation Permit Annual Report as presented by the Division.

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

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the findings of the Conservation Permit Audit as presented.

6) Conservation Permit Allocation – 1 & 3 year (Action)

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Conservation Permit Allocation for 1 & 3 year as presented by the Division.

7) 2016 RAC/Board Dates (Action)

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

MOTION: I move that we approve 2016 RAC/Board Dates as presented by the Division.

8) Mexican Wolves (Action)

The following motion was made by Byron Bateman, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we support a letter to the US Fish and Wildlife Service from the Wildlife Board that includes the following four points: identify historic range, replace some committee members with neutral members, select neutral meeting location, and recover Mexican wolves exclusively south of Interstate 40.

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http://wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings/board_minutes/audio/15-10-1.mp3

Wildlife Board Members Present

John Bair – Chair
Kirk Woodward – Vice Chair
Greg Sheehan – Exec Sec
Mike King
Calvin Crandall
Byron Bateman
Donnie Hunter
Steve Dalton

RAC Chairs Present

Central – Richard Hansen
Southern – Kevin Bunnell
Southeastern – Chris Wood
Northeastern – Randy Dearth
Northern – John Cavitt

Division Personnel Present

Mike Fowlks	Justin Dolling	Paul Birdsey
Mike Canning	Chris Wood	Karen Caldwell
Staci Coons	John Fairchild	Richard Hepworth
Rory Reynolds	Kevin Bunnell	Krystal Tucker
Mike Christensen	Boyde Blackwell	Ben Nadolski
Drew Cushing	Roger Wilson	Greg Hansen
Martin Bushman	Tony Wood	Debbie Marchese
Bill Bates	Anita Candelaria	Trina Hedrick
Kenny Johnson	Lindy Varney	Craig Schaugaard
Rick Olson	Mike Slater	Mark Hadley
Kim Hersey	Justin Shannon	Mike Styler
Monson Shaver		

Public Present

Ron Camp	Chris Carling	Melissa Kemp
Ken Strong, SFW	Don Peay	Jason Hawkins
Jon Larson, SFW		Lee Tracy, UWC
Miles Moretti, MDF		

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

- 1) Approval of Agenda (**Action**) **00:03:45 – 00:04:15 of 03:24:40**

The following motion was made by Byron Bateman, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

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

- 2) Approval of Minutes (**Action**) **00:04:17 – 00:04:53 of 03:24:40**

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the August 27, 2015 Wildlife Board Meeting as presented.

- 3) Old Business/Action Log (**Contingent**) **00:04:55 – 00:05:07 of 03:24:40**

None

4) DWR Update (**Informational**) **00:05:09 – 00:31:16 of 03:24:40**

Greg Sheehan acknowledged the technical staff for assisting with the board meetings, providing audio and webcasting support. He also thanked the communication team.

He updated the Board on the federal announcement not to list sage-grouse, the status of the Expo permit RFP, aquatic invasive species, fall deer hunts, Saturday opener of the duck hunt, upcoming meeting on recovery of Mexican wolves, the conclusion of the elk committee to develop a statewide plan, fishing, and upland game hunts. He also announced that the aquatics section chief, Roger Wilson, will be retiring at the end of December.

Kirk Woodward expressed his appreciation for the COR program that extended hunt days for a disabled young man in Vernal which enabled him to take a two-point deer.

5) Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 (**Action**) **00:31:16 – 01:11:06 of 03:24:40**

Drew Cushing presented the fishing guidebook and rule R657-13.

Board Questions 00:44:34 – 00:52:30

The Board asked about the kokanee regulation pertaining to water bodies, the mobile fishing app, and preventative measures on harassment of kokanee during spawning season.

Public Questions 00:52:36 – 00:56:20

Public questions were accepted at this time.

RAC Recommendations 00:56:32 – 01:01:02

All RACs passed the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13. Central RAC had one abstention. Southern RAC recommended an emergency limit suspension on lakes and reservoirs with a high likelihood of winter kill.

Public Comments 01:01:04 – 01:04:16

Public comments were accepted at this time.

Board Discussion 01:04:17 – 01:12:48

Calvin Crandall asked if regulations could help address interest in the use of corn as bait. Mike King asked about DWR's stance on Southern RAC's proposal about winter kill.

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Fishing Recommendations and Rule R657-13 as presented by the Division.

Greg Sheehan commented further on DWR's app and future editions.

6) **Hunting Technologies Discussion (Information) 01:12:48 – 2:10:58 of 03:24:40**

Rick Olson opened the discussion on hunting technologies.

Board and RAC Questions 01:39:12 – 01:48:04

Greg Sheehan gave some background that brought about this topic.

The RACs had lengthy discussions – the impacts of harvest, wounding, etc. Many expressed concern about the additional use of power scopes on muzzle loaders.

Mike King pointed out that the fisheries RAC meeting in the southeast region was poorly attended thus input from the public was minor, but the RAC members had a lively discussion amongst themselves.

Public Questions/Comments 01:48:06 – 01:57:19

Public questions and comments were accepted at this time.

Board Discussion 01:57:20 – 02:10:58

The Board discussed recommendations based on the survey as well as other considerations. They touched on unintended impacts and consequences and preventative measures in creating new weapons or augmenting capabilities of existing weapons. Chairman Bair expressed his opinion on weapons and usage.

7) **Conservation Permit Annual Report (Action) 02:12:33 – 02:26:35 of 03:24:40**

Bill Bates presented the annual report for the conservation permits.

Board and RAC Questions/Discussion 02:17:13 – 02:26:35

The Board discussed acreage of habitat improvement in the state compared to other states and the ability to accomplish much needed projects/research as a result of the conservation permit program. There needs to be a greater outreach effort to the public about the program – purpose, goals, and achievements.

John Cavitt asked if funding can be or has been used for land acquisition.

The following motion was made by Byron Bateman, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the findings of the Conservation Permit Annual Report as presented by the Division.

8) Conservation Permit Audit (Action) 02:26:36 – 02:44:00 of 03:24:40

Mike Fowlks presented the conservation permit audit.

Board/RAC Questions 02:33:00 – 02:37:30

The Board asked about interest accrual in the accounts, who receives it, and how it's applied. There was also some discussion on percentage disbursements and project allocations once permits are sold, and project time limits.

Public Comments 02:37:31 – 02:43:28

Public comments were accepted at this time.

Board Discussion 02:43:30 – 02:44:00

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the findings of the Conservation Permit Audit as presented.

9) Conservation Permit Allocation – 1 & 3 year (Action) 02:44:18 – 03:01:50 of 03:24:40

Bill Bates presented the conservation permit allocation for one and three year.

Board/RAC Questions 02:51:56 – 02:56:58

The board and RAC asked about remaining permits and the number of multi-season permits allotted to the conservation permit program.

Public Comments 02:57:00 – 03:00:50

Public comments were accepted at this time.

Board Discussion 03:00:51 – 03:01:50

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Conservation Permit Allocation for 1 & 3 year as presented by the Division.

10) 2016 RAC/Board Dates (**Action**) **03:02:00 – 03:05:20 of 03:24:40**

Staci Coons presented the 2016 RAC/Board dates.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve 2016 RAC/Board Dates as presented by the Division.

11) Mexican Wolves (**Action**) **03:05:21 – 03:23:15 of 03:24:40**

Martin Bushman presented the Mexican wolves issue.

Board Questions/Discussion 03:11:16 – 03:20:44

The Board asked for justification of keeping the wolves south of I-40; who is collaborating with the letters; will the letter clearly state their stance on the issue; and if actions from other states, namely Arizona, would affect the Board's action.

The following motion was made by Byron Bateman, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we support a letter to the US Fish and Wildlife Service from the Wildlife Board that includes the following four points: identify historic range, replace some committee members with neutral members, select neutral meeting location, and recover Mexican wolves exclusively south of Interstate 40.

Public Comments 03:20:45 – 03:23:15

Public comments were accepted at this time.

12) Other Business (**Contingent**) **03:23:18 – 03:23:24 of 03:24:40**

The Board discussed the upcoming winter WAFWA conference in San Diego. The conference runs January 7-10, 2016. Byron Bateman will attend for the Board.