

# The Utah Upland Game Advisory Committee

## Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2004

### Opening

A meeting of the Utah Upland Game Advisory Committee was held on this date.

#### **Present:**

Blanchard, Richard  
Gaskill, Don  
Gaskill, Jim (Chair)  
Mitchell, Dean (DWR Upland Game Program Coordinator)  
Perkins, Ernie  
Proctor, Travis  
Sanslow, Terry  
Sorensen, Ryan (Secretary)  
Staley, John



### Old Business

#### **2004 Chukar/Guzzler Study Status**

Initial setup and field work has begun for the 2004 study. There is indication of guzzler usage by chukars during Fall 2003 and Spring 2004, based on the presence of droppings. In addition, motion cameras have been placed at specific guzzler sites to collect images of guzzler usage. So far this year no chukar sitings have been captured on camera. Chukar and brood usage is anticipated to begin in July.

#### **Utah Chukar Foundation Field Projects Update**

The Utah Chukar Foundation has signed an agreement with the BLM for \$25,000 of fund matching in accordance with volunteer hours. These funds will be used for water development projects and habitat restoration. Discussions on guzzler ownership, locations, and processes are underway with the DWR and BLM. The Foundation is hopeful to begin associated projects in July 2004.

Volunteers are planning to help with a Sage-grouse brood flushing study to be held on Saturday July 17, 2004 on the Parker Mountain. This study will be conducted on 16 habitat treatments to objectively examine which habitat treatments the hens with broods are selecting.

The Utah Chukar Foundation will co-sponsor the 2004 Youth Pheasant Hunt. Five volunteers signed up for the Willard Bay Youth Pheasant Hunt and seven signed up for the Walt Fitzgerald Youth Pheasant Hunt.

#### **Sharp-tailed Grouse Lek Count Report**

The data collected by volunteers is being reviewed. The total number of birds counted by volunteers went up from 291 last year to 350 this year.

#### **Walk-in Access Update**

Efforts continue with the hiring of a Walk-in Access coordinator. There was discussion about the pending federal legislation known as the "Open Fields" initiative. If passed, the "Open Fields" will provide funds to states for access programs. The committee supports this initiative and Chairman Jim Gaskill will submit a letter to Utah senators and representatives to support the pending "Open Fields" legislation.

## **Dog Training**

### **Rule R657-46 The Use of Game Birds in Dog Field Trials and Training**

The regulations pertaining to dog training are up for renewal and will go before the RACs and the Wildlife Board, starting on September 13<sup>th</sup> 2004. Please send comments, suggestions, and changes to Dean Mitchell. [deanmitchell@utah.gov](mailto:deanmitchell@utah.gov)

## **New Business**

### **Meeting Minutes Procedures**

Meeting minutes will be distributed within two weeks of the Upland Advisory Committee meeting.

## **Upland Game on the Internet**

You can get more Utah upland game information at <http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/uplandgame/> including the past minutes for this committee, news, proclamations, and information about upcoming public meetings.

## **Agenda for Next Meeting**

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. at the DWR State Office at 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City. Future meetings will be held the second Tuesday of each month unless otherwise agreed upon.

Topics will be:

Everyone is invited to attend these meetings; it's an opportunity for you to get any issues you know about onto the table.

Let us know of donations, projects, etc., made by your group – we want to publicize good activities!

If you know of other interested parties who should get copies of the minutes, and who are involved in upland game organizations or programs, please get us their name. If you want to make an electronic mail input, please send it to one of the following:

Dean Mitchell [deanmitchell@utah.gov](mailto:deanmitchell@utah.gov)  
Hal Smith [hmsmith@allwest.net](mailto:hmsmith@allwest.net)

Ryan Sorensen  
Jim Gaskill

[ryan@mybirddog.com](mailto:ryan@mybirddog.com)  
[jhgaskill@weber.edu](mailto:jhgaskill@weber.edu)

Respectfully submitted ...

Ryan Sorensen