

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

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.

ACTION LOG
Wildlife Board Motions

Following is a summary of Wildlife Board motions directing the Division to take action and the response to date:

Fall 2012 – Target Date – Preference Point Presentation

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to give a presentation on the preference point system relative to the new 30 unit deer plan.

Assigned to: Greg Sheehan

Action: Under Study

Status: Scheduled for November 2012 RAC Meetings/ December 2012 Board Meeting

Placed on Action Log: June 6, 2012

Late Fall 2012 – Target Date – Conservation Permit Program Report

MOTION: I move that the Division publish an annual report in reference to the conservation program that lists from start to finish how the permits are allocated, the percentages that are allocated, where the money goes and what projects are accomplished with that money.

Assigned to: Kevin Bunnell

Action: Under Study

Status: Scheduled to be presented to the Wildlife Board November 1, 2012

Placed on Action Log: June 6, 2012

Spring 2013 – Target Date – Convention Permit Meetings

MOTION: I move that we add to the action log a request that the Division have a two- part meeting; the first meeting between the Mule Deer Foundation, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife and United Wildlife Cooperative to identify the main issues and concerns. The second meeting will be between the Division and the Mule Deer Foundation to discuss possible voluntary changes to the current contract to address the issues identified. The Division will report back to the Board within one year.

Assigned to: Jim Karpowitz

Action: Under Study

Status: Letter to be presented to the Wildlife Board November 1, 2012

Placed on Action Log: August 16, 2012

Summer 2013 – Target Date – Additional Take of Sandhill Cranes and Swans

MOTION: I move that we put the issue of swans and sandhill cranes on the action log to see if there could be additional take in other parts of the state.

Assigned to: Blair Stringham

Action: Under Study

Status: Pending

Placed on Action Log: August 16, 2012

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Nine Mile Range Creek

MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to report back on the Nine Mile Range Creek change to any bull relative to all issues of hunting, including trespass, harvest, and hunter satisfaction.

Assigned to: Anis Aoude

Action: Under Study

Status: Pending

Placed on Action Log: December 1, 2011



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREGORY S. BELL
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 23, 2012

To: Wildlife Board

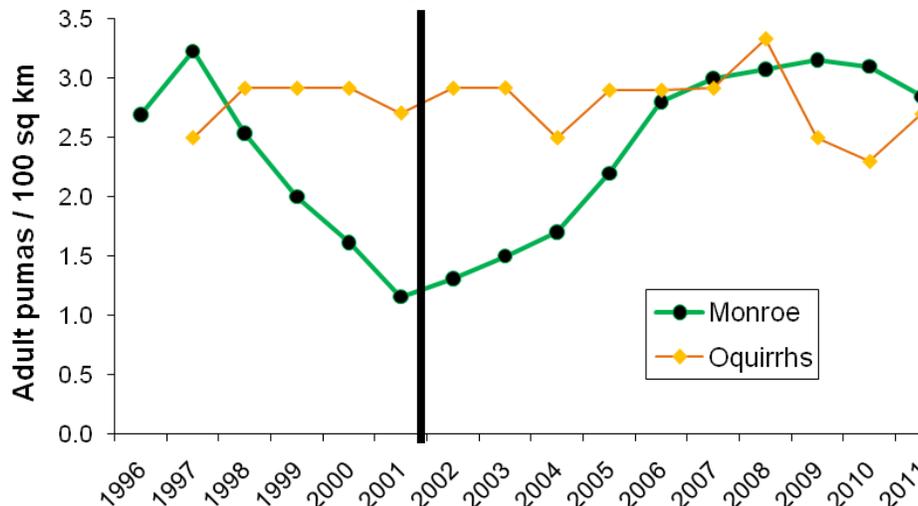
From: John Shivik, Mammal Coordinator

SUBJECT: Clarification on Interim Review of Female Cougar Harvest

At the meeting of the Wildlife Board on 12 September, 2012, there was a significant amount of comment and discussion about cougar management. Given the amount of concern for immediate action, the Division acknowledges the need to present a more thorough analysis of female cougar harvest (with particular reference to the Wasatch-Manti Cougar Management Area) and why an emergency change is not needed.

Utah's Cougar Plan operates on large management areas due to the scale of cougar home ranges and movements. Cougar home ranges in Utah are on the order of 250 to 300 square miles. Dispersal distances for cougars range up to 600 miles. One female Utah cougar wandered a path 833 miles long during the course of a year while dispersing to a point 221 miles away from where she was born. Cougars can move between most management units in the state fairly easily and rapidly, and female cougars are actually drawn into areas with lower densities, allowing local populations to quickly rebound if sub-populations are low.

Because of their dispersal and reproductive capabilities and the tendency to live in areas that are difficult for human access, cougar populations can respond and grow relatively quickly if hunting pressure is reduced. For example, in the data set below, it took several years of intense harvest (pre-2002 on the Monroe Unit) to bring cougar populations to a low level. Equally important, when hunting pressure was reduced, populations returned to previous high levels within 3-4 years.

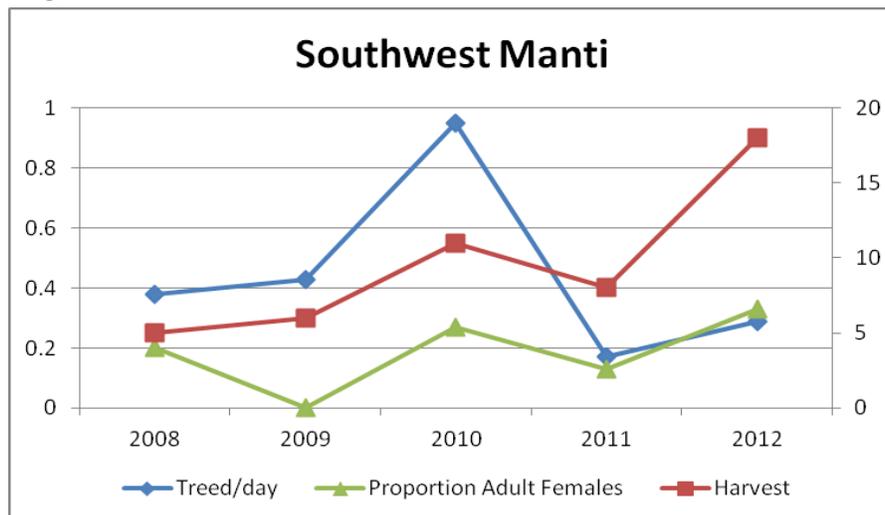


The Cougar Management Plan also relies upon a 3-year data collection period because cougar populations and hunting success can vary considerably due to variation in weather and snow cover. It takes several years of data collection to develop precise estimates of population parameters. A complete data set and precise estimates is essential for making strong management recommendations, especially on a species that can be controversial.

The plan employs biological indexes to adjust permit/quota numbers. The performance targets are *percent adult females* and *cougars treed per day*. Summarizing the first 2 years of the current management cycle in the table below, some areas are receiving significant hunting pressure, and it is likely that the Division will recommend reducing quotas on them in 2013. In other areas hunting pressure is less significant and recommended quotas are likely to be increased in 2013. It is better to wait for additional data at this point, but even if the plan were on a two year cycle, on only one of the management areas (and not the Wasatch-Manti) would permits be adjusted by the maximum amount.

Management Area	% Adult Females	Cougars Treed/Day	Potential Adjustment
Oquirrh-Stans	0.24	0.18	< 25%
Cache	0.22	0.19	<15%
Uintas	0.21	0.25	<10%
Wasatch-Manti	0.31	0.25	<20%
Book Cliffs	0.15	0.35	>15%
Monroe	0.30	0.28	<20%
Sheep Units	0.17	0.20	No change
San Juan	0.11	0.30	>20%
Pine Valley	0.24	0.27	<20%

The Southwest Manti in particular was the unit that seemed to be the greatest focus of discussion. The Southwest Manti, for example, is only about 60 miles long and 10 miles wide, a relatively small area when managing cougars that have home ranges exceeding 250 square miles. As shown in the graph below, there was a high harvest of 18 cougars in 2012, but the cougars treed per day and proportion of adult females is continuing to trend upward, indicating that even with the high harvest, there are still adult female cougars in the area.



Another complicating factor is that the Cougar Management Plan assigns permit adjustments on the Area scale while simultaneously calling for units under Predator Management Plans (PMP) to be managed more aggressively (>25% adult female harvest). Separating PMP units from the remaining units, such as in the Wasatch-Manti, reveals that the desired effect is being achieved, a heavy harvest of cougars on the Wasatch-Manti PMP units (proportion adult females = 0.40; cougars treed/day = 0.22), but a lighter harvest on the non-PMP units there (proportion adult females = 0.22; cougars treed/day = 0.27).

One final question that came up during discussions was what females are counted when analyzing harvest data. When calculating the proportion of adult females, only females ≥ 3 years old are considered for two reasons. First, younger animals are more prone to disperse and it is not appropriate to count animals that are only passing through and are not necessarily residing in an area. Second, because sub-adults are more transient, they are more susceptible to mortality. Adult females are the stable and resident animals that are responsible for reproduction in an area, and therefore provide a barometer to the status of the population, whereas earlier ages classes are not producing young, are not necessarily residents of the area, and are more likely to die before contributing kittens to the population.

The Division acknowledges significant harvest on the Southwest Manti and other units, but there is no evidence of an immediate threat or irreparable damage to cougar populations based on current data and cougar ecology. There is no evidence of a female overharvest that requires emergency management action. The level at which populations are being impacted will not be known at a precise enough level to make management decisions until the spring of 2013. At that time, adjustments in permit numbers and potential improvements in how units are grouped together will be considered, while incorporating input from the houndsmen and other interested individuals and groups.

Finally, to address outstanding questions, the Division will consider initiating a study, working in close collaboration with houndsmen from the Wasatch-Manti area, to use genetic sampling and mark-recapture methods to estimate actual cougar numbers in the Wasatch-Manti. Such data will help inform the public and help the Division improve estimates of performance targets in the Cougar Management Plan



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

October 24, 2012

To: Utah Wildlife Board

From: Jim Karpowitz, Director 

Subject: Report on action log item concerning convention permits

At the August 16, 2012 Wildlife Board meeting the following motion was made:

MOTION: I move that we add to the action log a request that the Division meet with the Mule Deer Foundation, Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife, and United Wildlife Cooperative to discuss issues and topics that have been raised including transparency. This will be accomplished by meeting with the three groups collectively to identify issues of concern and by meeting with MDF to discuss possible voluntary changes to the current convention contract. The Division will report back to the Board within one year.

In order to address this action log request a three step process was followed. I first met with the three groups separately to discuss issues of concern and to see if there was any common ground on which they could all agree. These meetings were very productive and all three groups expressed an interest in trying to find a resolution to this situation.

I then met with all three groups collectively to discuss their issues and concerns in an open meeting format. It was a very productive meeting and we were able to have an open and frank discussion. All three groups expressed a desire to find a resolution to this matter and all agreed it would be in the best interest of their organizations to put this issue to rest so they can all get back to focusing on the missions of their individual organizations.

At this group meeting we attempted to narrow the concerns of UWC. They said they are supportive of both the convention and the convention permit program. However, they believe the program needs additional oversight and more transparency is needed in regards to the application fees generated by the convention permit drawing.

At this meeting a list of four potential voluntary changes to the existing convention contract were discussed. After much debate, UWC agreed that if these stipulations were added to the convention contract it would address their major issues and concerns until the convention permit rule and contract are up for renewal.



The four stipulations are as follows:

1. Funds obtained from convention permit applications should be held in a separate bank account like we do with conservation permit funds (this is already being done by the convention groups).
2. The convention groups should be allowed to retain an amount equivalent to that which is paid to our regular drawing contractor to cover administrative costs associated with the drawing (currently \$3.12 per application).
3. The remainder of the \$5 application fees should be spent on projects that will benefit wildlife in Utah and sportsmen.
4. All projects must have prior written approval by the Division director before they are expended (the same as conservation permit projects).

After these new stipulations were discussed, we thanked UWC for coming and then met separately with the convention organizations. The convention organizations indicated that they would be willing to accept these new stipulations even though they are not required to do so. They are very hopeful that by doing so that the negative comments about the convention will subside.

Marty is drafting an amendment to the convention contract that we will ask MDF to sign as the convention contractor. It will also add the stipulation approved by the Board requiring an annual report from the convention groups. I hope this will now put this issue to rest until a new contract for the convention is developed in 2016. I sincerely hope this will reduce the conflict that has existed between these sportsmen organizations, and they can now refocus on their missions of helping wildlife and sportsmen in Utah.

Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Premium Limited-entry deer tags

MOTION: I move that we have placed on the action log that the Division look into a premium limited entry deer tag similar to the premium limited entry elk tag.

Assigned to: Anis Aoude
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: May 3, 2012

Summer 2014 – Target Date – Hunting Turkeys with Falcons

MOTION: I move that we put the hunting turkeys with falcons proposal on the action log for consideration when the Upland Game Guidebook comes up for review.

Assigned to: Jason Robinson
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: June 9, 2011

Summer 2014 – Target Date – Additional Benefits for Limited-Entry turkey tag holders

MOTION: I move that we have placed on the action log that the Division look into the possibility and feasibility of a limited entry turkey permit holder who is unsuccessful to turn in their limited entry tag and purchase a general season tag.

Assigned to: Jason Robinson
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: May 3, 2012

Fall 2014 – Target Date – Management Buck Tags on the Book Cliffs

MOTION: I move that the Division be asked to review the buck management tags on the Book Cliffs. People are always reporting the presence of big two and three point bucks in that area. Perhaps these permits could be given to youth. This is to be addressed during the revision of the Deer Management Plan in 2014.

Assigned to: Anis Aoude
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: December 1, 2011

Fall 2014 – Target Date – Cougar Data – Female Harvest

MOTION: I move that the Division do an expeditious review of the data and to provide the board members their analysis, conclusions and recommendations concerning the possible over harvest of female cougars.

Assigned to: John Shivik
Action: Under Study
Status: Letter to be presented to the Wildlife Board November 1, 2012
Placed on Action Log: August 16, 2012

On going – Target Date - Multi-year guidebooks and rules

MOTION: We ask that the Division look toward multi-year guidebooks and rules and that they present a plan on how that multi-year guidebook and rule will work as each is presented.

Assigned to: Staci Coons
Action: Under Study
Status: Wildlife Board Updated – January 12, 2012
Placed on Action Log: August 20, 2009

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

August 15-16, 2012, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

Revised Aug. 13, 2012

Wednesday, August 15, 2012 – 1:00 pm - **Canceled**

1. Approval of Agenda **Canceled** **ACTION**
2. Board Appeal – George Simon - **Canceled** **ACTION**

Thursday, August 16, 2012 – 9:00 am

1. Approval of Agenda **ACTION**
– Del Brady, Chairman
2. Approval of Minutes **ACTION**
– Del Brady, Chairman
3. Old Business/Action Log **CONTINGENT**
– Ernie Perkins, Vice-Chair
4. DWR Update **INFORMATION**
– Jim Karpowitz, DWR Director
5. Board Variances – Time Certain 9:30 am **ACTION**
6. Bobcat Harvest Recommendations **ACTION**
– John Shivik, Mammals Coordinator
7. Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule R657-09 **ACTION**
– Blair Stringham, Waterfowl/Upland Game Coordinator
8. Pineview Reservoir Hunting Closure Proposal **ACTION**
– Becky Wood, Landowner
9. Conservation Permit Allocations for 2013-2015 **ACTION**
– Kevin Bunnell, Wildlife Section Chief
10. Convention Permit Audit **ACTION**
– Jim Karpowitz, Director - Alan Clark, Assistant Director
11. Convention Permit Allocation **ACTION**
– Alan Clark, Assistant Director
12. United Wildlife Cooperative Proposal **ACTION**
– Tye Boulter, UWC - Martin Bushman, Assistant General Attorney – Jim Karpowitz

- 13. CWMU Advisory Committee Membership **ACTION**
 - Scott McFarlane, Private Lands, Public Wildlife Coordinator

- 14. Broadmouth CWMU request for Additional Bull Moose Permit **ACTION**
 - Garet Jones, CWMU Operator

- 15. CRC – Recommendation – Scales and Tails **ACTION**
 - Staci Coons, CRC Chair

- 16. Request for Additional Antlerless Elk Permits **ACTION**
 - Anis Aoude, Big Game Coordinator

- 17. Other Business **CONTINGENT**
 - Del Brady, Chairman

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.

Summary of Motions
Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
August 15-16, 2012, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

1) Approval of Agenda (Action)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded Ernie Perkins and passed 4-2 with John Bair and Jake Albrecht opposed.

MOTION: I move that the Division do an expeditious review of the data and to provide the board members their analysis, conclusions and recommendations concerning the possible over harvest of female cougars.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda as presented, including the Stipulations and Orders, and the September emergency meeting to be discussed under “other business.”

2) Approval of Minutes (Action)

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes from the June 6, 2012 Wildlife Board Meeting as corrected.

3) Board Variances – Time Certain 9:30 am (Action)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Mike King and passed with the vote being 3 to 3 with Calvin Crandall, John Bair and Mike King in favor. Chairman Brady broke the tie in favor of the motion. Ernie Perkins, Bill Fenimore and Mike King were opposed.

MOTION: I move that we reinstate Brad Miller’s bear bonus points and waive the waiting period.

4) Bobcat Harvest Recommendations (Action)

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

MOTION: I move we accept the Bobcat Harvest Recommendations as presented by the Division.

5) Waterfowl Guidebook and rule R657-09 (Action)

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we put the issue of swans and sandhill cranes on the action log to see if there could be additional take in other parts of the state.

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's recommendation on the Waterfowl guidebook and Rule R657-09 as presented.

6) Pineview Reservoir Hunting Closure Proposal (Action)

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

MOTION: I move that we direct the Division to work with the landowners and Forest Service in this area to address the hunting problems and deny the request for the hunting closure on Pineview Reservoir.

7) Conservation Permit Allocations for 2013-2015

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously. John Bair recused himself from the vote.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Conservation Permit Allocations for 2013-2015 with the addition of 20 antlerless elk permits to be distributed at the discretion of the Division.

8) Convention Permit Audit (Action)

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously. John Bair recused himself from the vote.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Division recommendation adding the contract stipulation for the annual report to the Wildlife Board to include the total amount of funds raised by the application fee, cost of administering the drawing and expenditures on wildlife conservation activities

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously. John Bair recused himself from the vote.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Convention Permit Audit for 2012 as presented by the Division.

9) Convention Permit Allocation (Action)

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously. John Bair recused himself from the vote.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Convention Permit Allocation as presented.

10) United Wildlife Cooperative Proposal (Action)

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed 4 to 1 with Jake Albrecht opposed. John Bair recused himself from the vote.

MOTION: I move that we add to the action log a request that the Division meet with the Mule Deer Foundation, Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife, and United Wildlife Cooperative to discuss issues and topics that have been raised including transparency. This will be accomplished by meeting with the three groups collectively to identify issues of concern and by meeting with MDF to discuss possible voluntary changes to the current convention contract. The Division will report back to the Board within one year

11) CWMU Advisory Committee Membership (Action)

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the recommendations as provided by the Division.

12) Broadmouth CWMU request for additional bull moose permit (Action)

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

MOTION: I move that we grant the additional bull moose permit to the Broadmouth CWMU.

13) CRC – Recommendation – Scales and Tails (Action)

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the variance request for Scales and Tails as presented by the Certification Review Committee.

14) Request for Additional Antlerless Elk Permits (Action)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move we accept the Division's recommendations on the additional antlerless elk permits.

15) Other Business (Contingent)

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the stipulations as presented by the Assistant Attorney General.

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the dismissals as presented by the Assistant Attorney General.

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we schedule September 12, 2012 at 9:00 am as an Emergency Wildlife Board Meeting to address additional antlerless elk and bison concerns as deemed necessary by the Division.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
August 15-16, 2012, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

Wildlife Board Members Present

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

RAC Chairs Present

Southern – Steve Flinders
Southeastern – Bill Bates
Central – Fred Oswald
Northern – Robert Byrnes
Northeastern – Floyd Briggs

Public Present

Byron Bateman
Paul Niemeyer
Lee Tracy
Bill Christensen
Tony Abbott
Jason Hawkins
Jim Bowcutt
Olivia Buttars
Jeremy Hanson
Kris Marble
Tye Boulter
Jerry Hill
Landon Robison
Jason Lowe
Jason Adamson
Tammara Mohr
Kurt Wood
Jeff Hunt
Lonne Rasmussen
Rusty Haw
Jared Provost

Division Personnel Present

Judi Tutorow
Staci Coons
Cindee Jensen
LuAnn Petrovich
John Fairchild
Anis Aoude
Justin Dolling
Boyde Blackwell
Kevin Bunnell
Lindy Varney
Craig Clyde
Blair Stringham
John Shivik
Anita Candelaria
Greg Evans
Robin Cahoon
Darren Debloois
Randy Wood
Greg Hansen
Martin Bushman
Tony Wood
Scott White
Justin Shannon

Public Present (continued)

Rachel Thayne
Travis Ryan
Shane Richins
Carl Ingwell
Bryce Pillins
DeLoss Christensen
Troy Justensen
Ken Strong
Justin Oliver
Matthew Peterson
Ben Armstrong
Perry Hanks

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

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

Chairman Brady reviewed the agenda. Under “other business,” Stipulations and Orders will be presented by Martin Bushman. Also a WAFWA report from Mr. King and Awards Selection will be addressed.

Director Karpowitz said the WAFWA report could be at lunch and there is another item to be discussed under “other business.” They may need to schedule an emergency meeting in September due to drought related issues.

Mr. Perkins suggested doing the awards selection during lunch also.

Chairman Brady asked if there were houndsmen present and three hands were raised. The Board and the RACs have received significant input regarding houndsmen and the cougar item. In the RAC meetings 5 of the 7 Board members heard those presentations and discussions. All of the Board members have read the emails that they’ve received relative to that issue. The Division has heard the concerns and recommendations of the houndsmen and has already agreed to consider them in the upcoming three year review. One concern raised by the houndsmen warrants priority review and that is regarding the alleged female overharvest of cougars. As Chairman he is asking the Division to do an expeditious review of the data and provide the Board members their analysis and conclusions. At that point Board members can contact him if they think further actions are warranted. He then asked if the Board was satisfied with that. This is not an agenda item.

Director Karpowitz said this sounds like an action log item.

Mr. Bair said this was a mistake to not have this on the agenda. The houndsmen went to the RAC meetings and presented their case. This is a biological issue and needs our attention, even though we are busy today. When a group shows up and attends all the RAC meetings they deserve to be heard.

Chairman Brady said he appreciates Mr. Bair’s comments but because we are in the middle of that three year plan, we will put this on as an action log item.

Director Karpowitz said it will be addressed quickly but it is not likely to effect changes this year without going back through the process.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded Ernie Perkins and passed 4 to 2 with John Bair and Jake Albrecht opposed.

MOTION: I move that the Division do an expeditious review of the data and to provide the board members their analysis, conclusions and recommendations concerning the possible over harvest of female cougars.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda as presented, including the Stipulations and Orders, and the September emergency meeting to be discussed under “other business.”

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

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes from the June 6, 2012 Wildlife Board Meeting as corrected.

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

Mr. Perkins, Vice Chair said there are no items that are due to come out today. He has a request for the Board in that the first action log item has a target date of fall 2012. That is asking the Division to give a presentation on the current preference points system for general season deer units and how far down you can be on your choices and still get a preference point. If we don't hear the proposal until this November, it will be another year before any change desired by the Board could take effect. He proposed that instead of asking the Division for a presentation to the Board, that the Board just ask the Division to take this information out to the November RAC meetings as a presentation of the current system as well as an action item with one or two options. That takes care of the action log.

Director Karpowitz said that is what they planned on doing.

4) DWR Update (**Information**)

Director Karpowitz said in the interest of time he would only discuss one topic and then answer any questions the Board might have. We are in the middle of one of the worst droughts in the history of Utah. It is wide spread and intense in certain parts of the state. It is also one of the worst fire years on record. We have now burned about one half million acres, some of it very important big game winter range and some summer range. A lot of the fires occurred early in the year. Mike Styler gave a report to the legislature this week on the financial impact of what that means. The financial impact is huge, not only fighting the fires, but in rehabilitating those ranges. There have also been a number of emergency orders for fishing actions, either eliminating the limit or raising the limit on waters that are rapidly being dewatered.

Utah is in a better position to address fire rehabilitation than any other state in the west. Because of our watershed initiative and our habitat improvement programs that are in place, we are ready and anxious to get about the work of fire rehab. We have five million dollars worth of seed that has been delivered to our warehouse this week. We have the people, the equipment and the expertise to know how to get this done. Over the past several years we have put into place a process and a program where we can go about this very rapidly. This program does not exist in other wildlife agencies. Some of the fires have proved beneficial for wildlife. He saw pictures of the Sealy fire on the north end of the Manti. There are already aspen sprouts three to four feet high.

Later today we are going to talk about the need for additional antlerless permits. We have a lot of winter ranges that are in bad condition and a lot of animals poised to move early to those ranges that will probably be in poor condition. We will ask for more antlerless harvest and watch the winter conditions very carefully to see if we need to initiate some winter feeding. Fortunately we have received quite a bit of rain in southern and southeastern Utah with improvement in the winter ranges in the last few weeks. Still we are running out of time and after September 1st the rain will not do much good toward things growing this year. We have been working on all of these issues.

We are going to take a risk and put the seed in the ground without an appropriation. We will have to go to the legislature, make sure that money is returned to us and we don't exceed the appropriation. Director Karpowitz is confident the legislature will come through and appropriate that money, so we can get it done. He then asked if there were any questions.

Mr. King asked which reservoirs have been affected by fire.

Director Karpowitz said he couldn't list them all. He has done about a dozen, where they've either raised the limit or done away with it. Recently they did Echo and he asked if there is anybody that knows what all of the waters are that we have signed emergency orders on. Mr. Bates said Kent's Lake. He will get the list to them at lunch. A bunch of them are being dewatered, waters where we either don't have conservation pools or streams that are being completely dewatered. We have also lost some fisheries. We lost one of our best Blue Ribbon Fisheries this year, Huntington Creek. After the fire we got some intense thunder showers and it sent all that silt down the stream killed all the fish. Also it killed fish over in the Mud Creek drainage, so there are lots of impacts with these fires for both fish and wildlife. It is pretty scary. We are almost in a no win situation. If we get a hard winter, we're in trouble and if we don't we're in trouble. There are going to be losses to wildlife and fish. You can't have this intense of a drought situation and not have significant impacts. This concluded the update.

- 5) Board Variances – Time Certain 9:30 am (Action)

Ms. Tutorow presented this variance request for Brad Miller. (See Board Packet) The committee's recommendation is to deny the request. She then turned the time over to Mr. Miller.

Brad Miller said he'd set up his camera and the bait for his bear permit, but no bears came in until he was in the hospital with his illness. He sent his son and son-in-law down to check the cameras and the bear had come. At that point there were two days left in the hunt, but he was never able to hunt because of the illness. He knows he was in the field, but he never took his bow because there were no tracks in the snow or sign of visiting bears. When he was in the field it was basically scouting and managing the bait.

Mr. Bair clarified that he never sat in the tree stand and waited for them to come. He asked Mr. Miller if he feels like he hunted at all.

Mr. Miller said no.

Mr. Bair asked what a bear permit qualifies for.

Ms. Tutorow said it can be an extension of the season, or restoring the bonus points and waiving the waiting period.

Mr. Bair asked what Mr. Miller is requesting.

Mr. Miller said he would like to waive the waiting period and restore the points.

Mr. Perkins asked how far away he lives from the unit.

Mr. Miller said he lives in Lehi and was driving down 1-2 times a week to check the bait and the bear situation.

Mr. Bair said if he'd carried his bow with him, he would have hunted, but where he didn't have his weapon with him, he wasn't hunting.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Mike King and passed with the vote being 3 to 3 with Calvin Crandall, John Bair and Mike King in favor. Chairman Brady broke the tie in favor of the motion. Ernie Perkins, Bill Fenimore and Mike King were opposed.

MOTION: I move that we reinstate Brad Miller's bonus points and waive the waiting period.

Mr. King said the Board had this discussion in the last Board meeting. This is one of those gray areas and what constitutes hunting and what doesn't.

Ms. Tutorow said the new rule will go into effect August 21. She quoted from the new rule, “the hunt day means spending any time in the field hunting the permitted animal species in a single day during lawful hunting hours.” That’s what the new rule says.

Mr. Bair said this is a gray area, but where he draws his conclusion is the fact that he didn’t have his bow with him.

Mr. Crandall asked how long the season is.

Mr. Miller said mid-April to June, roughly 45 days. He checked and baited for six weeks.

Mr. Perkins said the fallout we are going to get from this is when somebody decides to go hunt day 14 or 15.

Chairman Brady said he can see Mr. Bair’s logic, but it is a difficult decision for the Board to make. We have no agenda other than trying to keep things fair. We have all types of these situations come before the Board, but we need to make a decision. The vote was taken at this point.

Mr. King said he thinks we need to evaluate the definition of hunting a little bit more. Is it carrying a weapon or is it spending time out during the season trying to figure out where the animal is. It is hard to vote against something when the definition is unclear.

Mr. Bair said he agrees with Mr. King.

Ms. Tutorow said we have taken this rule out and we have defined some better areas. We think these variances will go smoother in the future. We should have Mr. Bushman speak to this.

Marty Bushman, Utah Attorney General’s Office said hunting is defined in Utah Code, “to take or pursue an animal.” Take means “to hunt, pursue, capture, kill, injure.”

Mr. King asked if pursue is defined.

Mr. Bushman said no.

Mr. King asked if baiting is pursuing.

Mr. Bushman said it could be, because at that point you are engaged in trying to take a bear. It is up to the Board to decide what “pursue” denotes.

6) Bobcat Harvest Recommendations (**Action**)

John Shivik, Mammals Coordinator presented this agenda item. (See Powerpoint Presentation) He went over the 2007-2016 Bobcat Plan starting with performance

targets, then 2012 Data - Performance Targets. Adjustments were made according to the plan. He then presented the 2012-2013 recommendations which are to be consistent with the previous year including permits and seasons.

Mr. Crandall asked if all 4,600 permits are taken.

Mr. Shivik said yes, all are sold.

RAC Recommendations

Southern, Central, Northeastern and Northern unanimously approves the Division's recommendation.

Southeast – Mr. Bates said they had two motions, one to reduce the number of bobcat tags by 1 and it failed 5 to 1. The other motion was to accept the recommendations and it passed 5 to 1.

Mr. Albrecht asked if they had a quorum at the Southeast RAC.

Mr. Bates said they had 7 of 14, which is not a quorum, so it was just advisory.

Chairman Brady called for any questions from the public.

Jason Adamson said when the days in the field are 400 and your target is 197, almost double, and you're off on two of the points, also your kittens coming into it, how do you not reduce it? You're double on one of those stats.

Mr. Shivik said the range on set days per bobcat is 171-220. The other good point about that question is any one of those variables, especially set days for bobcat variable is impacted by the number of people in the field, and pelt price. If you have a high pelt price you have a lot of new people come into the field that aren't as familiar with what they're doing and that changes that number quite a bit. That's why we don't rely on any one metric, but all four. Not any one has all the weight. That's how we come up with recommendations.

Mr. Perkins said when the plan was adopted with those performance standards, it was supported by the houndsmen and trappers.

Mr. Shivik said they were all on the committee to formulate the plan.

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

MOTION: I move we accept the Bobcat harvest recommendations as presented by the Division.

- 7) Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule R657-09 (**Action**)

Blair Stringham, Waterfowl/Upland Game Coordinator presented this agenda item covering the Utah Waterfowl Hunting Plan for the Great Salt Lake Waterfowl Management Areas for 2012-2017. (See Powerpoint Presentation) He gave an update on two important surveys they follow each year. One is a habitat survey which is a measure of the May pond count in the U.S. and Canada. He went over waterfowl regulations, May ponds, and goose and swan status with swan populations up. On the duck breeding populations he went over the various species and their current population status. Mallards are up and the pintail population is down, as they have been over the past decade. They use the mallard counts as an index to overall waterfowl populations. The regulation is for a liberal package from Fish and Wildlife Service, which is a 107 day season with a maximum bag of seven birds. He then went over the restrictions on several species in our flyway. Season dates and specifics were presented.

Some WMAs may have temporary closures to accommodate phragmites burns during the season. The Northern region RAC had some specific recommendations last year concerning the Antelope Island Causeway and some bird species that were using the causeway. Safety hazards were brought to their attention with people hunting along that causeway as well as people who were viewing birds there. Randy Berger from Northern region addressed this issue, brought together a group of interested parties and decided that a 600 ft buffer from the road, beginning at the fee booth and ending at the island would be the best way to address this issue. This concluded the presentation.

Mr. Albrecht asked why the swan area is the Great Salt Lake area only. Why isn't it statewide?

Mr. Stringham said they work closely with the Fish and Wildlife Service on that issue. They require us to do several things in order to have the swan season, one is several different annual surveys, and one is to monitor hunter success. In order to do that, they have to take measurements off each swan to determine whether it is a tundra or trumpeter swan. The best way to do it is have people come into our regional offices in the northern part of the state. It is the highest concentration of swans in the state. That's why the hunt season is only around the Great Salt Lake marshes.

Mr. Albrecht asked if it wouldn't be allowable to have additional permits in the Garfield County area with the region office in Cedar City, as well as other parts of the state.

Mr. Stringham said it would possibly be allowable, but there is really little opportunity to harvest swans around different parts of the state. A lot of those swans show up after the second Saturday in December and that's another part of the FWS regulations that the season not go past that Saturday.

Director Karpowitz said he is the Pacific Flyway representative on the North American Wetlands Council and he had the opportunity to fly the Prairie Pothole region in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota, and see the good conditions there. Long term, there are some big issues that are going to effect waterfowl populations. Lots of

that area is going back into crop production. The long term future of waterfowl in North America is dependant on what happens in the Prairie Pothole region. The Farm Bill will be debated in Congress and what happens there will have a dramatic effect on what happens with waterfowl. Congress needs to act on that. It has good conservation measures in it that provide incentives for landowners to leave their land in conservation for waterfowl and other wildlife. The Senate version of that bill has better conservation measures than the House Bill.

Chairman Brady asked if trumpeters are being harvested.

Mr. Stringham said there are. We are allowed up to 10 per year, but after that we'd have to close the season. We have not ever reached that limit.

RAC Recommendations

Northern, Central and Northeastern voted unanimously to accept the Division's recommendations.

Southern – Mr. Flinders said they voted unanimously to accept and part of the motion was to look at tundra swan and sandhill crane hunting in Southern region.

Southeastern –Mr. Bates said they were in favor of the recommendation, but didn't have a quorum.

Public Comment

Paul Niemeyer said traditionally we had swan hunting in Southern Utah then several years ago it was moved to this small area up north. There are a lot of people who would like the opportunity. The Sevier River Ducks Unlimited Chapter asks the Division to look at swan hunting in other parts of the State, especially down south. The other item is concerning sandhill cranes which are considered upland game, so this might not be the right place to discuss them, but they are getting a lot of natural reproduction down there from Wayne County through Sevier and Sanpete. He counted 400 sandhill cranes when he was hunting geese. They have birds wintering in Piute County. They ask that this issue be put on action log to look at opportunity to take some of them. The population is increasing. The season would be better a bit later, perhaps in October.

Mr. Perkins said on sandhill cranes, is it based on flyway population as well as local counts.

Mr. Stringham said every year they do a survey from Sept.10 through Sept. 15 across the flyway to get an overall estimate for swans.

Mr. Perkins asked if we are counting down in the area that was referred to by Mr. Niemeyer.

Mr. Stringham said we did last year, but only counted about six. We will look to extend the count further south in the future.

Mr. Perkins asked if the FWS prohibits hunting after that date or are there steps that can be taken to continue to hunt.

Mr. Stringham said currently within the guidelines they publish, it has to end on the second Sunday in December. It is something where we could submit a recommendation to the FWS and it may be adopted.

Mr. Fenimore said the USFWS is the one that would make a decision on expanding or contracting swan hunting areas. Even if we made a recommendation to them, it is their call.

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we put the issue of swans and sandhill cranes on the action log to see if there could be additional take in other parts of the state.

Chairman Brady said in the Northeast region farmers have already contacted him early this spring about the damage the sandhill cranes have caused. There are a lot of them in their area.

Mr. King asked if there are depredation claims from southern Utah on cranes.

Mr. Stringham said they do occasionally. It is a big issue for people growing corn and it is widespread.

Mr. King asked what the process is for working with the FWS.

Mr. Stringham said it is a committee that meets for the entire flyway with the states in the flyway. They meet several times a year and discuss various issues. They can put forth various recommendations to them which they can adopt, then it would go onto the Service for consideration.

Mr. King asked if they've had recent discussions relative to sandhill cranes or increased swan opportunities.

Mr. Stringham said not to his recollection. The season would have to be within the framework allowed. Based on our populations there we get an allotment of the number of cranes we can harvest each year. This year it was 126 so we recommend a certain number of tags that will closely hit that target range to harvest that many. If we were to do a season down there in the future we'd have to adjust permit numbers accordingly and remove permits from other areas we are hunting now so we wouldn't go over our allowed harvest.

Mr. King said some of the current harvest is probably based on depredation concerns. He knows there are concerns in northern Utah.

Mr. Stringham said that is why they have all those hunts now is to address depredation issues.

The action log motion was then voted on.

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's recommendation on the Waterfowl Guidebook and Rule R657-09.

8) Pineview Reservoir Hunting Closure Proposal (**Action**)

Lieutenant Scott Davis of the Northern region is here to represent the Division's recommendation. It came into them in June this year from a landowner, Becky Wood who resides in Huntsville and lives adjacent to the shoreline at Pineview Reservoir. He then turned the time over to Ms. Wood.

Becky Wood is a full time resident of Huntsville, Utah, which is a small town encompassed by the Pineview recreation area, part of the Cache National Forest. She thanked the Board for allowing her to be here. She went to the RAC meeting and asked for a ban on hunting. She was not aware of the total effect this proposal would have on other areas that have had hunting closed. At the RAC it was made clear to her that there was a concern that if they granted this ban on hunting, there is a fear that it would start a snowball effect. She then said there are two things about that argument. She did not come to the RAC meeting as part of a domino effect, she had no idea what areas in Utah had been closed to hunting or why, she came only to talk about the Pineview Reservoir area. She feels it should be considered a unique area and on its own merits. Ms. Wood then showed a map of the area and described it. Today she proposed that the Huntsville River Bottom, about a five block square area be closed to hunting, rather than the entire area as she proposed at the RAC meeting. She went on to make her case for the proposal and the rational surrounding this issue. This area is considered a nature trail. She showed several pictures of signs that the Forest Service posts supporting her proposal.

Mr. Davis thanked Ms. Wood for her presentation. The Division does not support this proposal. He gave the reasons for this denial. (See Board Packet) The Division however will commit to help resolve the citizen issue by increased patrol efforts at Pineview during the hunting season and responding as quickly as possible when notified of a violation or of a situation where the safety of person or property has been compromised.

Mr. King asked who owns the property.

Mr. Davis said the Forest Service.

Mr. King asked what communication they have had with the Forest Service.

Mr. Davis said they tried to meet with them in July, but were unable to meet with them. There have been a lot of fires they have been dealing with.

Mr. King asked if there have been other members of the community worried about the hunting that would lead us to believe this is a big problem.

Ms. Wood said she has talked to people in town about this. She talked to the mayor, but he lives on the other side of the peninsula and said he was too busy to attend these meetings. It is hard to mobilize people. People like to talk about it and complain, but don't necessarily want to do anything about it.

Mr. King asked if she has talked to the Forest Service.

Ms. Wood said several Forest Service representatives, Mitch Lane and Kevin, came to her home to discuss this. Mr. Calley asked them to come and speak to her about this. Mitch said he had done a study that indicates there is no need for a closure. She disagrees with this. It is dangerous to shoot guns down in that area where so many people just like to go for a stroll. It wouldn't take a large area of land away for people who do like to hunt. It's very pretty there and very immediate to where we live. It is mostly used for a nature trail.

Mr. Bair said Ms. Wood has alluded several times to hunting noises, gun shots? How often?

Ms. Wood said it starts in September through January. She has seen deer hunters down there and thought it was illegal. The area is mainly used for people to take a stroll and escape for a while. You can't have a good experience when there is hunting going on. She also heard that there are places around reservoirs that are closed to hunting.

Mr. Perkins pointed out there are probably two sources for this problem, recreational shooting and hunting. The Wildlife Board has no authority over recreational shooting. He is not sure the Board can really discuss this problem. He asked Mr. Davis if he could discuss other aspects of recreational verses hunting and also the hunting area, estimate the distance from the houses.

Mr. Davis said they have had reports where some guys were shooting clay pigeons near this campground on the South Fork of the Ogden River. It is not unlawful to discharge a firearm in that area, but it is a littering problem. Weber County Sheriff's Office has jurisdiction over this area. He called to see if they'd responded and nobody knew.

Mr. Perkins said Ms. Wood showed a picture of some damage. It did not appear to be a shotgun hunter.

Mr. Davis said it could have been a deer hunter. Sergeant Lane measured the distance from Ms. Woods's house to this area where they hunt on the South Fork and it is about 1,600 feet. That is not a problem with the 600 ft law. Most activity relative to hunting is in December and January. As the reservoir freezes the river stays moving and they put their decoys in the river and hunt ducks.

RAC Recommendations

Northern – Mr. Byrnes said they had discussion on safety issues and who controls the land. The Regional Advisory Council was sympathetic to Ms. Woods being able to come and make her proposal, but our motion was to recommend the Wildlife Board not adopt the hunting closure proposal. It carried unanimously.

Chairman Brady said there are no comment cards from the audience.

Mr. King asked what the DWR is committed to do as far as alleviating some of the concerns of Ms. Wood.

Mr. Davis said as he mentioned earlier, if they have people who are hunting in violation of the 600 ft. rule they will respond. There are two deputies that live in the upper valley near Huntsville who are available.

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

MOTION: I move that we direct the Division to work with the landowners and Forest Service in this area to address the hunting problems and deny the request for the hunting closure on Pineview Reservoir.

Mr. Bair said he appreciates Ms. Woods coming to the Board meeting, but the rule is in place to regulate hunting in that area, but closing hunting is not the thing to do.

Mr. Crandall said even if we closed the area to hunting, someone could still be target shooting in that area. The Forest Service would have to address that issue.

9) Conservation Permit Allocations for 2013-2015 (**Action**)

Kevin Bunnell, Wildlife Section Chief gave some background on the conservation permit program. They are trying to make the best use of the funds that come from this program. (See Powerpoint Presentation) He presented charts and went over the permit allocations for the various species. In summary, the number of permits recommended for the next 3-year allocation is a reduction of 56 big game permits and overall reduction of 45 permits,

totaling 297 for the next three year cycle. These recommendations follow the new rule. This concluded the presentation.

Director Karpowitz said at the last Board meeting, there was discussion about the new rule bringing a big increase in the number of conservation permits. That is not how it worked out. There are fewer big game permits available for the next three year cycle. Is that correct?

Mr. Bunnell said yes and they followed the table with the exception of pulling out Oakcreek deer and elk tags, they followed the rule exactly. Now the table is part of the rule the process is a lot more straight forward.

Chairman Brady said they have 16 less bucks/bulls/OIAL tags which are big dollar items, so we could anticipate that the dollar value will be lower due to this.

Mr. Bunnell said he cannot anticipate that, but there are many other factors that go into that. Sometimes fewer means more because of supply and demand, plus the economy situation.

Public Comment

Eric Tycksen, Chief Operating Officer for Mule Deer Foundation (MDF) said they are in support of the conservation permit program, mostly in support of the conservation permit allocation with one exception. They would like to petition the Board to put the antlerless elk permits back into the program. One reason was because of the confusion on the regional antlerless elk permits. They can include the antlerless elk permits, but include them unit by unit, instead of regional. If they do this we enjoy taking these permits to their fund raiser around the state of Utah. They give them to a youth with one of those hunts or opportunity for the average individual to purchase a conservation permit for antlerless elk.

Bill Christensen, Regional Director for Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) thanked the Division for one of the most successful conservation permit programs ever in the 30 years he has been involved in wildlife. He has been involved in the evolution of this program and compliments the Board and Division for their efforts. It is a great program with 90% of the funds going back on the ground. They are totally in favor of this program. He would also like to have antlerless elk tags put back in the program because it is an affordable way for the average hunter to bid and have fun at the banquets.

Byron Bateman, President of Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW) said this is one of the greatest programs ever. We raised over 8 million dollars in the last three years. It's great to know we have the money to help mitigate some of the problems we have in wildlife with fires and drought. They accept the recommendations made by the Division on the conservation permits. It is sad that we lost some of the permits, because more does mean more in the long run.

Jerry Hill (Chairman Brady read from an email from Mr. Hill) Permits given out of a public resource should benefit the public and the wildlife resources. Funds raised from these public tags should go back to the DWR to benefit wildlife. Accountability of these funds raised should be shown to the public.

Chairman Brady said the three primary conservation groups, MDF, RMEF and SFW are annually audited by the Division and we see those figures each year. Utah is light years ahead of the rest of the states because of this program. He appreciates these groups and what they do, and the accountability is there as he sees it. This concluded public comment.

Mr. Perkins asked Mr. Bunnell to respond to the antlerless elk issue.

Mr. Bunnell said they were not part of the program originally. The groups requested them along the way. We've kind of gone back to our original proposal, but we don't have any strong objections to antlerless elk being part of the program. If the Board puts them back in they would ask that they not be a regional tag, but on a unit basis, making it a less complicated process.

Mr. Bair said it is confusing when hunters get an antlerless tag at auction, because they are regional. Also, relative to having the tags, it is fun to see a young person able to obtain a tag at a banquet.

Mr. Bunnell said our units don't even follow a regional boundary. Also to help eliminate some of the confusion with the cougar tags, the recommendation now is to put those based on our cougar management areas, not on our administrative boundaries. This is another change that will simplify.

Mr. King said later today we're going to talk about some antlerless elk tags to be made available, how will that affect the ability to sell antlerless tags at an auction?

Mr. Bunnell said they're really not related. It is more a philosophical question as to whether antlerless tags should be part of this program. The argument for it allows some tags to be part of the program and fight against the perception that it's only for the guys with a lot of money. In terms of impact 20 tags spread across the state are not going to impact the resource. The tags have always sold in the past.

Mr. Albrecht asked if 20 is a set number.

Mr. Bunnell said that is what has been done in the past and he would like it to stay around that number.

Mr. Perkins said if the Board authorizes some tags, the unit selection process would be good public access, large units with large numbers of permits on them already and distributed around the state so banquets all over would have a few tags.

Mr. Bunnell said that is the criteria they would use with units over objective.

Chairman Brady said it is fun to see Mom and Dad or Grandma and Grandpa bid for the youth to get a tag and go on an elk hunt. This is a great way to recruit.

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously. John Bair recused himself from the vote.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Conservation Permit Allocations for 2013-2015 with the addition of 20 antlerless elk permits to be distributed at the discretion of the Division.

Mr. Bair said he is an auctioneer and sells these tags for these sportsmen's groups, so he would like to recuse himself from the vote.

10) Convention Permit Audit (**Action**)

Jim Karpowitz and Assistant Director Alan Clark presented this agenda item. Director Karpowitz said to introduce this topic he'd like to take a few minutes and go back and review the history of the convention permit program. He thinks this information will be important as we go through the next three agenda items. One thing that became clear as he has done a lot of research on this topic is that there is a great deal of confusion among the public, the Board and the Division as to the difference between conservation permits and convention permits. Everyone of us has used the wrong term at different times so it is not unreasonable that the public is confused on this. There is also a lot of misinformation out there that has led to misunderstanding about both of these programs, so he'd like to mention a couple of things as a preface to this. He went over the history of the convention permit program. (See Powerpoint Presentation). First of all he wants to talk about the meeting, March 31, 2005. This is where the convention permit program was approved by the Wildlife Board. This was just before he became Director and before any of the current Board members were on the Board. So he has had to go back and reconstruct what happened. He has looked at the minutes of all of the RAC and Board meetings pertaining to convention permits over the past eight years and listened to the recordings of many of those meetings and he's talked to many of those who were at the meeting on March 31, 2005.

Out of that meeting came three main issues that were discussed by the public and the Board and concerns from the public and the Board. One was how the drawing would be conducted, then how the convention would raise funds for wildlife and whether there should be an audit. There were two motions that came out of that meeting that were approved by the Board. The first motion was to accept the rule as presented and then right at the end there was an additional motion made that said, "We ask the Division in the contract negotiations with the representing organizations that the annual audits be accomplished in a similar way that is done for conservation tags." He would like to talk for a minute about this last motion. Without going into a lot of detail he can tell you that it is not easy to understand exactly what was meant by this last motion because the rules

for the two programs are so very different and it did not make much sense that the audit should be done exactly like it was being done for conservation permits. It added to the confusion when the Division asked the maker of the motion earlier in the meeting to clarify what he thought should be in the audit. He stated that he did not think the \$5 application fee was the issue at all.

So after researching this meeting and what went on there and talking to a lot of people that were there, he has concluded that at least the Division people who were at that meeting left there unclear of exactly what the intent of the Board was beyond the requirements that were in the rule they had just approved. However, he thinks that nearly everyone at that meeting had understood that the \$5 application fee would be used to cover both the costs associated with the drawing and to fund wildlife conservation activities. It's also reasonable to assume that the Board knew that most of the \$5 application fee would be used to pay for costs associated with the drawing since the Division application fee was \$5 at the time. It currently costs the Division more than \$5 to administer the regular drawing. It should be remembered that this is an application fee, it is not a license or permit fee and it is not state funds as such. The groups are not allowed to keep any of the associated license and permit fees which are state funds, nor are they allowed to auction the permits like they do conservation permits.

So, moving on, in January 2006 the first convention contract was signed with the organizations. There was a provision in that contract for annual audits. In January of 2007 the first convention was held in Salt Lake City. Then from 2007-2009 the first three conventions, the Division conducted informal audits of the convention especially focused on what happened with the drawing.

We carefully monitored the application and drawing procedures to make sure that the drawing occurred fairly and accurately. We also tracked the funds raised by the application fee. We knew how much funds the convention was making and were working with the convention groups to identify wildlife and habitat projects for funding with convention dollars. If you look at the lists that the groups have supplied in the past and the ones they are going to give to the Board today, many of those projects were identified and proposed by the Division. We were grateful to have those convention groups fund those projects.

It should also be pointed out that there was a Board meeting each of these years to discuss the convention permit program and to approve the annual allocation of permits. The Board had ample opportunity to make a course correction and provide the Division with additional direction concerning the convention permit program if they felt like we were not following their intent. So we believed at that time that we were following the intent of the Board.

In May of 2010 the Division decided that we should be providing the Board a written audit of the convention program and that we should clarify in rule what exactly the audit should encompass in the future. So in May and June of 2010 we took the audit and the rule amendment out for to the public for review. There were questions and concerns

expressed by some RAC members at three of the RAC meetings; however all five RACs voted to approve the rule amendment as presented and the Board also approved the rule amendment. So in September 2010 a new contract was approved with the convention, MDF being the lead on that contract for the years 2012-2016. At that meeting the groups passed out a list of project expenditures for 2007-2010. It was presented to the Board and available to the public at that meeting. Then again, in August of 2011 a written audit of the convention program was presented to the Board. Then he wants to make this one final point. It is important to note that no one from the public voiced any concern at any of these public meetings with either the audits or the rule amendment. Thus they were passed by both the RACs and the Board.

So onto the current situation, in the past several months some members of the public have expressed concern over the convention permit program and the need for more oversight of the \$5 application fee. The Division recently met with the convention groups and they have volunteered to provide a more detailed report for 2011 and 2012 which will include 3 things, the total amount of funds raised by the application fee, the costs of administering the drawing, and expenditures on wildlife conservation activities. He understands that they are prepared to submit that report to the Board today.

He has seen that report and he went back and added up all of the project expenditures that will now have been reported to the Board from 2007 to the present and it adds up to 1.62 million dollars. So, he is pleased to see that the groups are voluntarily providing this information, but he also believes that it is appropriate for the Board to make this report a requirement in the convention contract. He believes the contract allows for the Board to make a stipulation to make this a requirement. So the Division is recommending to the Board today, as part of your approval of the 2012 audit, that you add a stipulation to the convention contract making this annual report a requirement beginning in 2013. The Board can then review that annual audit and judge whether the groups are using these funds appropriately. Ultimately it will be the Wildlife Board that will determine whether there will continue to be a drawing at the convention. That's what we are recommending to the Board in regards to this audit.

Are the conservation groups doing what they were set up to do by rule? He thinks it is worth discussing just for a minute whether the convention has achieved its purposes stated in the rule. The rule states that the convention was authorized for two purposes, one is to generate revenue to fund wildlife conservation activities and to attract a regional or national convention to Utah. Now just a few comments about the convention, he wants to take the second part of that first. It has certainly attracted a very large convention to Utah that has great value to the state of Utah. It is attended by 20,000-30,000 visitors each year and it is safe to say that convention permits have provided an incentive to attract visitors to this convention and they have been a big part of making the convention successful. Just a comment about the economic value of this convention, a 2009 report by the Beber Institute at the University of Utah showed that there was 8.5 million dollars spent by visitors at this convention, over 19,000 hotel nights which generated 774,000 tax dollars and provided 155 jobs for Salt Lake County. And then an important note that the convention has grown by 40-50% since 2009. It is fair to increase

all those numbers by 40-50%. So the convention permit program has helped attract a big convention to Utah and that convention has in turn generated a lot of revenue for the state. The convention also showcases Utah's wildlife management programs and our outstanding big game opportunities in Utah and has generated a lot of interest in what is going on in Utah. He also thinks it is fair to say that the convention is a public/private partnership that is working towards a common objective of enhancing wildlife populations and habitat in Utah.

Now as to the first objective of the conservation permits program. Does it generate revenue for wildlife conservation? Well the part that is most discussed, of late, is the revenue from the \$5 application fee. He can tell you that many good projects have been funded by the conservation groups that were good for wildlife and sportsmen and after you see the list today, that adds up to 1.62 million dollars. There is also increased revenue from hunting licenses that were purchased in order to be able to put in for permits in the convention. That has only existed since 2008, but everybody that puts in for a convention permit has to buy a base \$26 hunting license in Utah or a \$30 combination, and nonresidents have to pay the nonresident fees which are much higher. There is also increased revenue, he believes from conservation permits that are auctioned at the convention. The convention generates so much interest and excitement that we've seen permits sell at that convention at high prices and as we just discussed previously, 90% of that money comes back to wildlife projects. The other thing we've seen is, he believes there has been increased participation in Utah's regular big game drawing because of the convention. It is interesting that applications in Utah's drawing have increased by 49% since the first convention, while other states have declined. Our interest has grown steadily over the years in our big game drawing. In summary, he believes the convention has been good for the state of Utah and good for wildlife in Utah. The Division has made sure the convention groups have followed the convention permit rule over the years and made an annual report to the Board every year since 2007. The Division is now proposing that we add a mandatory reporting requirement to the contract. He then turned the time over to Alan Clark for the 2012 audit and then they can answer any questions that the Board or the public may have.

Assistant Director Clark then presented the Wildlife Convention Audit for 2012. Greg Sheehan performed the audit and Mr. Clark reviewed this information with him. There are written copies of the audit available for the public. He then went over the background and overview of the audit. (See Powerpoint Presentation) R657-55 was adopted in 2005 to provide up to 200 limited entry permits for a variety of species, for issuance at a wildlife convention to be held within the state of Utah with anticipated attendance of at least 10,000 people. Details of the rule were reviewed. The rule was amended to continue doing the convention. The current status of the program was then reviewed. After the completion of the original five year contract, the rule was revised to allow for a second five year convention permit series. Although the Rule defined this contract and permit series as "convention permits" they are often referred to as the "hunt expo" permits as that is the name of the convention being administered by MDF and SFW.

The Division has conducted an audit of the 2012 convention. Mr. Clark went over the criteria for the audit. Drawing information was presented in terms of application data, success by resident/nonresident and other information. There were 925 hunting licenses sold at the Hunt Expo totaling \$37,023. Others were sold in advance of the Expo as people pre-registered. All of these funds were returned to the Division. In conclusion, all sensitivity and confidentiality measures were complied with as identified by the audit review. No other findings or recommendations were made. This concluded the presentation. This item did not go to the RACs. This audit is provided to the Wildlife Board. Mr. Clark than ask if there were any questions.

Mr. Perkins said at some point he'd like to get the permit holder MDF's response to the Division's recommendation.

Director Karpowitz said they have a comment card from them.

Questions from Public

Tony Abbott, representing himself asked if there has been an audit for each individual year from the inception of the program.

Director Karpowitz said in 2010 the convention groups provided the Division a list of expenditures for 2007 to 2010. Today the groups will provide 2011 and 2012.

Mr. Clark said to clarify, Mr. Sheehan went back and did a similar audit for those years as well.

Lee Tracy from Cedar City asked what the cost is to the contractor who does the Utah draws. How much of the \$10 do they get and how much do we keep?

Director Karpowitz said it is about 2.5 million dollars. He asked if someone would get the exact dollar amount for him.

Ms. Tutorow said she doesn't have the exact amount with her.

Director Karpowitz said in addition to that the Division has a great deal of expense associated with the drawing. Our total costs of administering the drawing are closer to \$10 dollars than \$5. Our drawing is much more complicated than the convention drawing.

Jason Lowe asked what the percentage is in comparison to the \$10 if you would break that down.

Director Karpowitz said we have about 330,000 applicants. It costs us about 2.5 million dollars to contract with Nevada to do the drawing. In addition to that, we have full time personnel who do nothing but work on drawing and licensing issues, a whole section of the agency works on nothing but the draw. Our total costs of administering the drawing

are closer to \$10 per application. Director Karpowitz said he sees he didn't answer his question.

Mr. Lowe said he would like him to break it down so they have an idea of how much time is spent with that and what kind of percentage.

Director Karpowitz said they are much closer to \$10 than \$7. We have never added up our total costs of administering the regular drawing, but he asked Mr. Sheehan that question the other day and he said we are closer to \$10 than \$5. He does not know what the purpose would be in analyzing that, because we have to administer the drawing and make sure it is done right. We spend whatever it takes to get it done right. Right now the total costs are approaching \$10 per application.

Mr. Perkins said in terms of setting fees for the drawing, the same approach is used as setting all other fees like license fees. If every about 8 years there is a request for a license adjustment, you not only start with what it is costing today, but what is the rate of increase that can be anticipated over the next 8 years. You have to break even over that 8 year period.

DeLoss Christensen from Glenwood, Utah said he is still confused about the \$10 fee that is paid to the people who run the regular draw process. His understanding is that group received revenue for doing that service. Is that correct?

Director Karpowitz said yes.

Mr. Christensen asked if that is a portion of the \$10 fee or is that a different amount.

Director Karpowitz said of the \$10 fee generates on 330,000 applications about 3.3 million dollars. Our contract with Nevada is roughly 2.5 million. He would appreciate it if someone from the Division would go find that number.

Mr. Christensen said so that organization keeps somewhere in the neighborhood of 2 million plus dollars.

Director Karpowitz said the Division's contract with them is 2.5 million dollars. The rest of the \$10 application fee is used internally with the agency to work with the contractor and deal with licensing and permitting issues associated with the drawing. He thanked Mr. Christensen for clarifying that issue.

Mr. Clark said all \$10 comes back to the Division and then we pay Nevada the fee negotiated in the contract for the number of applications. That contract is issued every five years, but they go through an annual review process with them that is very arduous.

Mr. Christensen asked if anyone has asked what that organization does with the revenue received. Has anyone asked to see their check register of what they spend their money for.

Director Karpowitz said no. They are a contractor and we pay them to provide certain services. In essence, the convention groups, by keeping the \$5 application fee they also become a contractor to conduct that portion of the drawing at the convention.

Mr. Christensen said so we have a public resource that generates revenue for an independent organization and we don't ask what they do with their earnings.

Director Karpowitz asked if he is talking about Nevada.

Mr. Christensen said yes.

Director Karpowitz said that is correct.

Mr. Christensen said so we think that's ok and don't mind or care what that group does with public money that is paid to them?

Director Karpowitz said only that we make sure that they provide the services we've contracted with them to do.

Mr. Christensen asked if that group ever does anything with wildlife conservation with their earnings. Do they give us money back to increase habitat or improve hunting?

Director Karpowitz said no. They're a computer company.

Tye Boulter said he got a breakdown from Mr. Sheehan and he said it was just over \$3 of the \$10 goes to the Nevada company. Is that accurate?

Director Karpowitz said he doesn't know. Has anyone gone and found that number yet? He understands it is around 2.5 million dollars, but if he is wrong we need to correct the record right now.

Mr. Boulter asked if the administrators of the expo pay someone to run the draw or do they do it themselves.

Director Karpowitz said they administer the entire application and drawing procedure, and do have contracts for that. Other parts of it are done internally by the organizations.

Mr. Boulter asked if the company they contract puts any money into wildlife.

Director Karpowitz said not to his knowledge. They are also a computer company.

Jason Hawkins asked Director Karpowitz to talk about the audit and the money generated from the convention permits. What does the audit consist of and if the groups are segregating the money out, how do you audit it? Is the money sitting in a separate pool

that is segregated out and you're tracking the money and where it is spent, or is it a function of what projects have been funded?

Director Karpowitz said it is the latter. We don't audit their actual expenditures on projects. They have reported those to the Board in the past and they are going to report it in more detail today for 2011 and 2012.

Mr. Hawkins said the audit is really a representation of projects funded during that year that did not come from conservation permit monies.

Director Karpowitz said that is his understanding of what the groups have provided us in the past.

Mr. Clark said most of the audit is a performance audit which is, are they following the rule? The other stuff is somewhat peripheral to what the purpose of the audit is.

Mr. Boulter said to be clear, we don't do a financial audit on the convention. Does Fallon receive any tags?

Director Karpowitz said no. Neither do the convention groups receive any tags. They are only allowed to conduct a portion of our big drawing at the convention. They are not given tags, nor are they allowed to keep any of the public funds associated with those tags, permit fees, license fees or any of that.

Chairman Brady asked if there are any other questions.

Public Comment

Eric Tycksen, Chief Operating Officer of MDF said he is authorized to speak for their Board of Directors. MDF is honored to play a role in Utah wildlife conservation. They consider it a privilege to work with the DWR, other conservation groups and the general public in an effort to preserve our hunting heritage. In the spirit of transparency and accountability, MDF and SFW voluntarily submit this report to the Wildlife Board, showing all revenue, direct expenses and funding of conservation related activities related to the 200 convention permits that are available by application through the Western Hunting Conservation Exposition. (See Attachment #1) In addition, the numbers that are reflected in this report for 2011 and 2012, part of that report contains information that should and could be considered proprietary since this process is an open application process for any conservation group to come and apply for these tags. MDF and SFW would like to ask the Wildlife Board to direct the DWR to add a stipulation to the contract requiring that this annual report be supplied to the Wildlife Board annually. On the 2012 report, all of the revenue is stated first and the expenses only related to the 200 tags are listed below, not entire expenses related to the expo. The remaining funds are what are considered available for conservation related activities. On the conservation related activities, there is a true definition of what those activities might be. The majority

of the time he spends on his job is on conservation related activities as defined. Some of the expenses do include administration.

This may or may not satisfy some of the groups that are petitioning the Board today, but we also have a section that talks about the benefits of the convention on the handout. The reason for stating these benefits is some of us who have participated in the expo have felt personally attacked through some of the communication that has gone on as well as the organization. He feels the intent of the proposed change in the rule is not just for transparency and accountability, but also with good information on email and the cloak of a log in through public forums is to get rid of the convention and expo tags all together. It wasn't until last night and this morning that he was told otherwise. With that in mind he would ask the Board to accept this recommendation and direct the Division to call this report mandatory.

Tony Abbott representing himself said he was one of the three people who created the conservation expo. If he runs out of time he would hope for some latitude because he is privy to some information that a lot of people aren't, quite frankly privy to. The audit is something that he and Mr. Peay discussed at great lengths. The Board at the time of the establishment of this rule had a great concern over these things. In the past he used words like substantial, significant, accountability, transparency and lion's share as he traveled to the RACs pushing this through. The intent of this program and auditing was to benefit wildlife and the expo is not in question. He does not want the expo to go away. He wants to see the accountability of the groups. Two years ago he tried to get accountability from both of the major groups. None of them responded to him. There has been great concern over this. The expo needs to be transparent and the money needs to be put on the ground for wildlife. He apologizes for the fact that he didn't stand up for his beliefs 6-7 years ago when he said we need to run this like the conservation permits. He backed down and didn't stand on the principles that he thought needed to be there. This discussion may have been avoided.

Jason Hawkins, representing himself said he has been following this issue of the convention permits for four years now. During that time he has had a chance to talk to many of the groups and individuals involved. He is here to comment on Item 12 which is the UWC's proposed rule amendment which is asking for transparency and accountability with regard to the convention permits. They've been asking for that for years with these groups and have been repeatedly told no, that it is not required by rule. Now that they have a proposed rule amendment before the Wildlife Board, we come to the meeting today and as part of Item 10 we have this proposal between the DWR and the two groups to have this annual audit/report voluntarily produced by the groups. The timing of this is probably not a coincidence. Obviously they are addressing this concern. He is concerned about agenda item 12 and its role in the present issue. He would ask the Board to hold off on voting for the present agenda item until #12 is heard. They are not here to do away with the expo or getting rid of those tags.

Tye Boulter, UWC expressed his gratitude to MDF for proposing that they have a yearly accounting and say that UWC supports that. In regards to our group and others

associated with us, they do not want to do away with the expo or the tags. They just want accountability on the funds that are generated there. Regarding the project expenses listed on their handout, we have no way to ascertain that these projects are funded directly from the proceeds of the expo. It is not in a separate account, but there is no way we can know if this is other expenses for other things smashed into this for accounting purposes. A 990 tax form can look a lot of ways depending on what your end goal is. Also on the expenditure sheet under expenses related to the expo, only the 200 tags, again there are no details to tie the expenses to the applications. We need details to ascertain the validity of these expenses as well. If we are to have a yearly accounting it needs to be detailed and verified to hold up to scrutiny.

Byron Bateman, President of SFW said what the Director gave in his presentation answered a lot of the questions that the public has had. We are a service provider just like Fallon, Nevada, for the 200 permits. We are 110% compliant to the contract that we have with the state of Utah. MDF is our contract partner. The audit information is 110% compliant to the contract. What everyone else is talking about is how we should spend the money that we earn at the expo by providing a service, which is another drawing for the state of Utah. The drawings run concurrently. We have more than exceeded the minimum expectations for the Expo. There are not many of the originators of the conservation groups who started all this back in 2005 and they put up a lot of money, at the same time taking a big risk to getting things going to help benefit wildlife in Utah. He went over many of the things they do that are not reflected in the audit. He discussed many of the extra services they do that benefit wildlife. They do a lot for families and military. People came from 35 states to the Expo. They bring people and money to Utah which is part of what the Expo was intended to do. There were five people from foreign counties who came and applied for tags. What these people are talking about is the money we raised by providing a service, they want 100% of it to go back to wildlife. We do too, but we have costs just like the state does, although ours are much lower. For the state, based on the revenue that is generated 3.3 million dollars, 75% goes back to Fallon, Nevada. They are under attack and there are people who would like to get rid of the Expo. If this happens all of us will lose. We need to stand by our investment and get a return on it to get things off the ground. At their banquets and on their website they have a list in the auction catalog of items they do every year. Transparency is only as transparent as you want it to be. It is transparent when it comes to SFW and MDF.

Bill Christensen of RMEF complimented the Division and Board for the way they've handled the convention permit process. No rules have been broken. A few months ago the RMEF issued a press release relative to transparency in the use of public hunting permits. This wasn't geared toward Utah, but toward multiple states in the west where there have been attempts to circumvent programs that have been in place with public permits. It has been erroneous that some groups after this press release came out individuals took exception with RMEF and for our call for transparency. That he does not understand. There is no reason for any group or individual to take offense at increasing their transparency. The Elk Foundation will continue to be so to our members, volunteers and the public at large. There have been no problems with the convention permit program and it is the right thing for the Division to ask for more transparency.

RMEF supports the conservation permit program and supports the convention permit program with the addition of increased transparency and reporting auditing. RMEF is not out to shut down the Hunt Expo or attack any other group. They ask for transparency from not only the public agencies, but also from our brother and sister conservation groups. It is imperative that people know where their money is going and we always be involved in that.

Lunch Break

Director Karpowitz clarified the costs of the regular drawing. Our direct costs associated with the drawing are about 2.8 million dollars. That doesn't include a lot of our other personnel that are involved in the drawing and licensing issues. We have 330,000 applications so that comes out \$8.50 per application. That is only our direct charges. Our actual contract with Nevada is 1.6 million. We have almost \$400,000 in credit card fees and \$70,000 in postage.

Board Discussion

Mr. Albrecht asked Director Karpowitz to bring up the slide with the Division's recommendation.

Director Karpowitz said they are recommending that the report that has been provided to the Board today voluntarily which includes the total amounts of funds raised by the application fee, the costs of administering the drawing and the expenditures on wildlife conservation activities become a stipulation in the convention contract making this annual report a requirement beginning in 2013.

Mr. Fenimore said it says annual report, is that really an audit?

Director Karpowitz said it's not really an audit. It is a report to the Board of what their expenditures were for both administering the drawing and on conservation activities. In the past they provided some of that information voluntarily. We're now asking that it be a requirement that they do that each year. It would occur at this meeting when the Board considers the annual allocation of convention permits.

Mr. Crandall said there is an annual audit which is in rule, on the draw itself. What the Division wants is a financial report.

Director Karpowitz said they are recommending that the Board can add stipulations to the contract. We think this is an appropriate stipulation. The groups we contract with have agreed with that.

Mr. Perkins said he heard Mr. Hawkins' request that we wait to hear item 12, but he doesn't think anything would be done here to supersede anything that could be done on item 12.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously. John Bair recused himself from the vote.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Division recommendation adding the contract stipulation for the annual report to the Wildlife Board to include the total amount of funds raised by the application fee, cost of administering the drawing and expenditures on wildlife conservation activities

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously. John Bair recused himself from the vote.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Convention Permit Audit for 2012 as presented by the Division.

11) Convention Permit Allocation (**Action**)

Alan Clark presented this agenda item. He gave some background on rules for allocation. Since that first year, 2007, we have adjusted permits as necessary. This year, because so much time has gone by and we had some major changes, we decided to take a fresh start, using a set of criteria. They are recommending 200 permits. Hunts and permits are based on 2012 permits. He did consult with Mr. Aoude asking him to indicate any hunts that he thought a significant change was going to occur between 2012 and 2013, and we did incorporate that into it.

They came up with some rules of thumb for permits to be given. For example, for a bison hunt to have a permit go to the convention there had to be at least 10 permits total in the hunt. If it was going to be a nonresident permit there had to be at least two resident permits. Permit recommendation guidelines and results were presented on the various species. (See Attachment #2) Big game permits in 2012 was 142 and in 2013 they're recommending 123. In 2012 OIAL species there were 17 and in 2013 there are 13. They still preserved the five nonresident permits that are eligible to nonresidents only for the special draw. There were no permits for the convention on the Fillmore/Oakcreek because of the fire. This concluded the presentation. He asked if there were any questions.

Director Karpowitz said the total number of big game permits is down and turkey, cougar and bear are up. Is that correct?

Mr. Clark said yes.

Mr. Albrecht asked what made the elk permits go down.

Mr. Clark said they capped the number of permits in any one hunt. There are certain things that are down such as pronghorn. They came up with a criteria and this is how it

came out. This will ensure that it is done consistently. We do maintain a good split with resident and nonresident permits.

Questions from Public

Tony Abbott asked if 200 is a not to exceed number. Have there been 200 at every expo?

Mr. Clark said yes to both.

Mr. Abbott asked the groups if they took a few permits back out and gave them to those who don't come to the expo and give them that chance, would that affect the money generated?

Nobody answered.

Public Comment

Director Karpowitz said Jerry Hill's comments were already read under item #10.

Mr. Abbott said the 200 permit number was pulled out of the air when this all started. He wanted it to be less permits, but we did agree on that number. The first 200 permits generated about \$980,000 and the cost of the expo was just under \$90,000. The groups had an agreement amongst themselves to split the revenue 40% SFW/30% FNAWS/30%MDF. The reason was FNAWS and MDF had a national convention the year before in Reno. We brought a big base of people and experience of doing a convention with a bunch of booth applicants as well. SFW at that time wasn't in that ring and he tried to level the playing field. The concern he has is that the 200 convention permits is going to stay that way. We had a decrease in big game permits, but made up for it in other permits. It is not a required number. Just because we lose 5-10 or so permits, it doesn't mean the Expo will fail.

Byron Bateman President of SFW thanked the Division for doing the audit and also the recommendation for 200 permits. Mr. Abbott is right and those splits he stated were correct, but the reasoning behind that is not as Tony stated. Now we're an equal partnership with the split at 50/50.

The potential to increase opportunities for wildlife jobs in the state of Utah is exponential. We can continue to grow. He encouraged the Board to stay with the numbers we have because it gives more opportunity with the more species that are available. Let's keep with the contract we have.

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously. John Bair recused himself from the vote.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Convention Permit Allocation as presented.

12) United Wildlife Cooperative Proposal (**Action**)

Tye Boulter, UWC presented this agenda item. UWC supports the Expo and the permits. This is about the fiduciary responsibility associated with the income from these tags. He then referred to the proposal. (See Handout in Board Packet) They are asking that the Expo tags be allocated and rule read, "to mirror the conservation tag program," with 90% going back to wildlife and 10% being kept for administrative purposes. This is a starting place and we appreciate the information given to us by MDF. Still, we don't have a way to prove and track where the monies come from and where it goes. We have no way to tell. They ask for a separate account for the money so they can track it. This is a gray area. We looked at the 2010 Audit for the Expo tags and in looking at that there was \$800,000 in expenditures for projects out of 3.2 million dollars. Of those expenditures a lot of them were not wildlife related. To summarize, there were some to cancer research, scholarship funds, endowments and things like that. While all noble causes, they don't have to do with wildlife. He has talked to a lot of people that feel the money should be going to wildlife. In our proposal we've asked that you allocate these funds under the same stipulations as the conservation tags.

Martin Bushman, Utah Attorney General's Office presented the next part of this agenda item. First of all, on the proposal that is before you from the UWC it is a completely appropriate policy concern for the Board to look at, how should money be spent and should an organization be able to keep it. These are matters within the Board's purview, but the problem lies in the timing of this. At this point, the Division has a contract with MDF until 2016. No where in the contract or the rules that are incorporated into the contract is there a requirement that the MDF use the money or any specific percentages derived from the application fees that it generates for particular causes. There's a purpose statement in the rule, one is to attract a convention to Utah and the other is to generate revenue for conservation activities. That is about as specific as you get. The problem is if the Board was to entertain some kind of requirement that MDF take a percentage of the application fee and put it toward particular projects, is it would run contrary to the contract. When the organization entered into it, it was with the understanding that money would not have restrictions on how it was spent and they made business decisions and executed contracts relying upon that. If we now impose a rule to put restrictions on it, it would be equivalent to coming into the middle of a contract and telling MDF that we are now taking \$900,000 you thought you had for any purposes and overhead. That could have severe effects on the convention itself and whether it could continue to sustain itself.

Mr. Bushman's legal opinion on this is if the Board wants to make some kind of change, they can't do it until the contract expires. That would be fair to all involved because they'd understand the rules upfront. To do it mid stream is an entirely different matter.

Mr. Fenimore asked if the Division and the involved parties were all in favor of making changes and renegotiating the contract, could they do it.

Mr. Bushman said yes. There are two clauses in the contract that relate to amendments. One clause says that the parties to the agreement are subject to the rule and any future stipulations of the Wildlife Board. That could be looked at in isolation and think that the Board can make any stipulation it wants and change the contract, but later in the contract is a provision that is entitled, "Amendment" and it states that an amendment can't be made to the agreement unless both parties agree to it and in writing. You have to try to reconcile those two clauses. Both clauses have meaning. Any kind of an amendment that has significant effect on the viability of the group, that is significant. That has to be accomplished through an agreement of the parties. That's how he sees those two provisions working together.

Mr. Crandall asked if they wanted to make some change, would it be appropriate to sit down with the groups, figure it out, and then bring it to the Board.

Mr. Bushman asked to make change in 2017 or before that.

Mr. Crandall said to make change now.

Mr. Bushman said yes. To do it any other way would be a breach of contract.

Chairman Brady asked if Mr. Tycksen wanted to make any comment at this point.

Eric Tycksen of MDF referred to Attachment #1 relative to this agenda item. He went over more benefits of the successful Hunt Expo, reading from that list. He then went over a list of risks involved in offering convention permits through the Expo and the financial risks associated with selling convention permits. Any changes to the Convention Permit Rule have a direct impact on the success, quality, and size of the Expo. There is a distinct difference between the risks associated with the convention permits versus the conservation permits. The reason he brings this up is because they have entered into an agreement and are contracted through 2016 with the groups that help us pull off the Expo and the tag drawing. It is their recommendation that the Board deny this proposal to split the money and require that 90% go directly on projects and 10% for administration.

Chairman Brady said he has about 25 comment cards and at three minutes a piece, it will be 1 ½ hours. He asks that the participants keep their comments brief and to the point.

Public Comment

Jerry Hill is the comment that was read in previously.

Lee Tracy of UWC Southern region said he has three items. They appreciate the presentation from the Director on the convention permits. They support the audit of the application fee. They believe the funds that are attached to the convention permits are not attached to the convention itself and should not be used to pay convention expenses. They can be used to administer the draw. The entry fee and ticket and booth sales should

be used to cover the convention, but not the permit fees. For your information, per Bryan Christensen of the Salt Lake Office, the cost to the Nevada company to administer the DWR draws is only \$2-\$3 per application that includes the process itself, the overhead expenses and the profit. The organizations putting on the convention are nonprofit, so we question the amount of the \$5 that is used for the draw itself. We believe the percentage of permits pulled from the public draw should be calculated from the specific pools they belong to. There has been a lot of talk about 200 tags being a small amount of tags, but if you have 13-14 moose points, it's not a small amount.

Perry Hanks, representing himself said it seems an important facet of this has been ignored, that being the hunters of Utah. We are forgetting about who makes these conservation groups come into being. Hunters are concerned about where the money goes from the tags that are generated from the conservation groups. It is awesome that the MDF has voluntarily come forward with these reports. We want to be able to look at an audit and see that the tags have generated a certain amount of dollars. We want an accounting of that. We don't care about pats on the back and what these organizations do for wildlife conservation at 9 or 10 pm, we want representation from the conservation groups as members. If this can't go through this year, he asks MDF to step up and volunteer to do an annual audit, meet with DWR and represent their membership.

Cody Burns, representing himself said he loves the convention. The issue is the financial transparency of the funds. The funds that are spent on the tags should be put forth for wildlife projects on the ground, the same as the conservation tags.

Ben Armstrong representing himself said with this process, it is something we've needed to fix for a long time. Taking of a public asset and giving money over to these associations needs to be closely monitored. Allowing any group to have free reign over the money that comes from these tags is not right. We need accountability for these funds. We need to have an independent agency come in and tell us where the money is going. In 2005 this was discussed and it never happened. To help the sportsmen feel comfortable he'd like to see a retroactive financial audit. There seems to be a lack of transparency and that is the feeling the Division and the groups are giving off to the public. He knows the contract can be amended so we can all get on the same page.

Ken Strong, representing himself said he has followed this on Monster Mulies. His problem with the proposal from UWC is the money that is raised on the \$5 cannot be used for predator control or feeding deer or elk. It must be used for big game conservation. The money can't be used for the archery in the schools, fishery projects, community fisheries, and hunts for youth or veterans if these stipulations are put in place. We should be able to continue using the \$5 fee for great projects like the ones that have been done in the past.

Dave Woodhouse said he does not support the proposal that is being discussed. There needs to be some freedom with how the \$5 fee is used. The projects that get done outside the conservation tag money the state has are substantial in our state. He has personally been involved with Salem Pond where handicapped people can be provided for. He

personally donates a lot of time and labor through his business and the money that SFW allowed us to do that. 1,500 handicapped children were able to come in and fish for a day and the DWR supplied the fish. This money goes toward some of the handicapped people we take hunting or the disadvantaged. It's not just that we take this person and they get to hunt for OIAL, but many of these kids are terminally ill. At the same time some of these families have in turn come back and volunteered with the DWR and SFW, putting in time on projects that they wouldn't have done. This money might not go directly onto the ground but in turn, the lives that have been affected look for ways to get involved with the DWR and help out. This is a great program. Would we have the predator control program today without this Expo? He doesn't think so because there were legislators that were swayed because of the value the Expo brought to Salt Lake. It brought in more money for the predator fund than we took out of the general fund for the mule deer initiative. Also changing the rule to allow for more transparency, to allow the competition to see exactly how I've spent my money in my business would not be right.

Joel Taylor representing himself said he has been a life long hunter in the state of Utah and by trade he is an attorney in the private sector. His reading of the contract with the MDF allows the Wildlife Board to impose a stipulation to ensure that the funds raised from the \$5 application fee go back to conservation projects in Utah. These are Utah tags and Utah public assets. There have been good projects done in the past, but it shouldn't be Utah's responsibility to put almost a quarter of a million dollars into wolf delisting for the west or the country. He knows people who won't buy tags at the Expo because they don't know where the money is going. If they knew, they would buy tags. He finds it hard to believe that SFW and MDF live and die over a \$5 fee. He would ask the Board to impose an additional stipulation in the contract with the MDF to ensure that the money raised goes back on the ground for habitat.

Christopher Hatch, representing himself said since he started hunting he has always taken pride in knowing that the time and money he puts in goes to wildlife. He is unhappy to know that the groups might be taking advantage of the money that should be going to wildlife. He is in favor of accountability for any organization. It is all about the wildlife and he's glad that his hard earned money is going to help.

Jason Hawkins, representing himself said he's been following this issue for a number of years. Until recently when we've asked for an audit, we've been told the rule does not call for it. Now at the late hour, MDF comes and volunteers the information that they want to give. It is not an audit, an accounting done by a third party, it is their own information they want to provide. It is not a true accounting. He has also researched the Wildlife Board minutes back to 2005 and found the motion that was to assure the right for everyone to know how the money has been spent with the same annual auditing requirements that applied to the conservation permits. We have heard today that the DWR wasn't really clear what was intended by that, but if that's the case they should have come back and asked for clarification. The Wildlife Board is the governing body for the DWR and when there's a directive it should be included. Those who have been telling us for 3-4 years that we didn't have a right to see how that money is spent were at that meeting and heard the motion. He referred to the contract and the cap being up to

200 permits, not necessarily a required number. Amending the rule is also allowed at any time. The Wildlife Board also has power to give any future stipulations. He helped draft this amendment and feels it addresses these issues. He'd be happy to answer any questions on it.

Tony Abbott said he has been before the Wildlife Board many times and great things have happened through the years. He has been part of those great things and it comes down to the intent of those involved. He was part of those great things. There isn't anyone in this room who doesn't have good intent for wildlife. How we go about that is a different thing. Things should not get rubber stamped in life, not UWC proposal or the Division's proposal. When he gets the feeling things get rubber stamped it makes him wonder why he gets involved. The intent of himself and the MDF when the Expo was created was to put the lion's share of the money raised into the hands of the Division. He would like to see it done that way. He asks that the Division, MDF, SFW, UWC and RMEF to get together and come to an agreement because we have a conservation permit rule that works, that's a good model.

Jason Lowe said he shares his gratitude with the Wildlife Board for their time and expertise. People enjoy attending the Expo and to pay the \$5 for the chance to hunt their public resource. There have been great projects done with this money. If these organizations are willing to do more habitat work, let's take it to the 90%. We're talking about a \$5 fee. If they're doing so well, what is the problem with letting the general public know that we're willing to give your application towards true conservation in Utah. Message on the internet sent out yesterday that if people would come today and support the Expo they would get a hat from MDF. He would love to wear that hat if they would actually volunteer to take the \$5 and put it where it needs to be.

Wes Bennett, representing himself echoes the need for complete transparency. A few years ago he attended a meeting with SFW and the purpose of the meeting was to be open and transparent. It was anything but that. As you follow this debate on the forums there is a criticism of anybody who asks for this transparency. The opinion now is that it is the official position of the DWR to criticize those who ask for this transparency also. He would encourage the Board to support UWC's proposal. Your obligation is to manage the public resource for the public benefit, not subsidize private industry. He has been in the guiding industry for 16 years and exhibited at a number of expos in various states. None of them are dependant on the expo tags to the extent that Utah's expo is. If there is nothing to hide, open the books and show where the money is going.

Tye Boulter, of UWC said in these comments people continue to talk to the Expo and permits. This is about the money and where it is going. He has applied for these tags in the past and has quit applying for them on principle because of the lack of accountability. Through the years some of the issues that the two sportsmen's groups have lobbied the legislature to make changes that are philosophically different than his perspective. To say I had the same opportunity to apply for these tags, it's true, but it's going against my principles. This is a public asset and the tags and their proceeds should go to the public.

Chairman Brady said he has several comment cards that say they want to turn their time over to someone else. If you want to speak for yourself, you are welcome to speak. If you're going to just go in favor of someone else, let us know. Please briefly get your point across.

Mike Christensen said he was present in 2005 when the convention tags came about. They talked about ear marking monies for wildlife, but at that point they didn't know how successful it was all going to be so how can we earmark something that is unknown. Now we have six years of data. The Division has set up many good councils that oversee funds generated by our wildlife, for example the Habitat Council. Whether or not you want to alter your contract right now, it would behoove all the parties involved for the Division to have all parties sit down and come to a consensus on how the money will be used to sustain the expo, show the public where the money is going and actually put money on the ground, whether it is a handicapped fishing pier in Salem, or if it is planting bitter brush on Millville Face. We have great direction in the DWR to direct the use of funding and show how it's been handled. He hopes the Board will direct the Division and parties involved to do this.

Landon Robison said he supports what UWC is doing. He is totally in favor of the Expo. Just show what is happening with this money. Imagine what could be done if we were using the entire 90% for wildlife. Please choose the right in this situation.

Wynn Zundell of UWC said we just want to know where the money is going. This proposal will bring transparency to the monies. People who can't get to the convention could use an electronic means to apply for these permits even though they can't get here. That would generate more revenue.

John and Tracy Zundell and Phillip Crandall support Tye Boulter and UWC.

Jeremy Hansen supports UWC.

DeLoss Christensen, representing himself said he would like to give some history relative to the decisions the Wildlife Board has made over the last 4-5 years that individual groups and individuals have opposed. Philosophically one of the members from UWC said he disagrees with some of these decisions. He listed some of the various proposals that have occurred including recommendations ending the statewide archery hunt. What have galvanized otherwise individual people are those issues. They blame SFW because they believe SFW influences the Board against those people. The hate for SFW has grown every year as this Board has made decisions influenced by them. This was an effort and they used social media to gather the common interest that dismantled the influence that SFW has on the Board. That's what this is about. That is an effort to move influence back to a group of people who have lost it. He is opposed to the proposal on that basis.

Rusty Hall said he has had opportunity to participate in the Expo for years, one 20 years ago in Salt Lake and three in Arizona with the Arizona Mule Deer guys. With his

businesses he attends SCI both Dallas and Reno, and the elk show. This Expo is one of the top. The money he can generate for his business at the Expo is awesome. He promotes it wherever he goes. The tags are great for the outfitters and the tags that are sold. Other states don't have that. He's not opposed to paying SFW and MDF for a job well done. We shouldn't dictate how they spend their money. It's all intertwined. He is in favor of having them keep their \$5. You're not going to be able satisfy everyone. Why would we hamper them?

Don Peay, representing himself said he doesn't have much to do with the Expo anymore. He asked the Director how much they have been worth to the DWR and landowners. 100 million dollars increased in conservation because we have worked to solve problems, and been partners with the Division and the legislature. He has spent a lifetime trying to give sportsmen a voice. He has traveled lots of miles on planes and in cars trying to talk to people. It was time to give sportsmen a voice. The legislature gave two recognitions a few years ago. One was to Larry Miller and one to Mr. Peay because they built some things for the state. Senator Margaret Dayton and Brad Dee gave them an award letter. He read from this award letter, "where as Don Peay's leadership has developed a can do and market approach that is sustainable and extremely successful, public and private partnership. He envisioned and brought the Expo to Salt Lake City. He was listed in Outdoor Life as one of the top 25 conservationists in North America." He continued to read from the letter. We have turned a few million into 100 million. In summary the Nevada Wildlife Commission asked him to come down and speak to them last year. They have two national conventions and couldn't get the governor's or the legislature's attention or any money for anything. They asked Mr. Peay how he was getting money for wildlife. It is because we do an Expo and things beyond that. Their solution was double the tags on a declining deer herd. What we have here is very special. If the Board wants to make some changes, ask some people who know how it works before you do.

Paul Niemeyer, representing himself said there were a couple of slams directed at the past Wildlife Board when this program was put in place. The conservation groups came to them with the idea of having a big convention. Somebody came up with the permit idea in that group. At that time, the Board thought of two things, what can we do for wildlife and what will it do for the general economy of Utah which sooner or later comes back to wildlife in some way? We passed that and when we were looking at the \$5 fee, we thought they would go broke. We thought they were never going to be able to get it done. Those who made it successful treated it like a business and ran with it. When you get state or federal government trying to do the same thing they have to jump through so many hoops, it often never happens. They have turned it into something very special. He hates to tie their hands. He went on to talk about some of the great things the conservation groups have done. We have a good thing going and he doesn't support the proposal.

Byron Bateman, President of SFW handed out a poem by Theodore Roosevelt. It is still applicable today. There have been lots of critics in the social media of SFW, the Board and the Division. They are performing a service, just like Fallon, Nevada for a \$5 fee. They have expenses and costs just like any other business. It takes money to make things

happen and involvement from all sides. For one group to accuse them of not being transparent is not right. They haven't taken anything from anybody and want to continue to give to the people of Utah. Let's not amend this contract, keep what we have and build on it. The buzz in the hunting industry is that the Expo is #2 in the nation. We have had a lot of competition and a lot of critics. There is confusion on the conservation permit and the convention permit. A convention permit is a contract they have with the Division to process an application for \$5. They are not processing an asset. We cover our expenses, make some money and give a lot back.

Jim Orwin, representing himself said he's never been to an Expo and he's never going to because of this, the \$5. If he goes to the Expo he'd love to get a chance at a tag. When he gets to the door they hit him for \$7-8 dollars to give them the \$5. We are already giving them a public asset to draw people there. Am I wrong?

Chairman Brady yes you are. You buy your \$5 tag before you enter. There was then a ten minute break.

Chairman Brady said we've heard public comment and the next step is Board discussion and motion. Before that he will turn it over to Director Karpowitz.

Director Karpowitz said he is glad to see so many people here. He's glad we had this discussion today in an open public meeting. Way too much has gone back and forth on the internet and through email. Everybody hopefully understands better where everybody is coming from. He is convinced that there is still a bunch of misinformation out there. The Division of Wildlife will offer to facilitate a meeting between the two convention organizations and UWC to see if we can't come to some kind of agreement on something that could be done voluntarily in the contract between now and the time it expires. He has no false pretense that it will go anywhere special, but we'll give it our best shot and talk some of these things through.

Board Discussion

Mr. Crandall said he appreciates the Director's willingness to have a dialog with these organizations. It requires more discussion at this point and now is not a good time to make a change.

Director Karpowitz said the Board cannot make a rule change today. The purpose of the meeting was for the Board to hear the proposal and then for the Board to decide when and how they would like the public to hear it. Rule change must go through the RACs first. What the Division is looking for is what process does the Board want them to follow at this point now you've heard the public comment.

Mr. Bair said he appreciates Mr. Tycksen bringing the list of expenditures and projects from MDF. Since we have reporting and the audit in place, when the contract comes due again we'll have a good idea of where the money is going and if the groups are living up to the contract. The discussion today has been very beneficial. After a few more years

on this contract we'll have more information to look at. The confusion on the convention and conservation permits is still a problem. He recused himself on any vote at this time.

Mr. Perkins said he has four things that are really important. First, we shouldn't make any changes in the contract at this point. That is when the new set of permits will be offered for the convention, if it is renewed and if permits are authorized. It would be nice to see more partner organizations. He would like to personally say, "UWC, why don't you jump in on the band wagon too, and become a conservation organization?" That would be a chance to continue to partner with the Division and other organizations. The second thing is we owe the permit holder and partner organizations some lead time. They are already negotiating the 2016 contract with the Salt Palace. We should do a review earlier than 2015 so we don't adversely impact the plans of the groups or the success of the conventions. We also need to be responsive to the public, which is very diverse. Let's not wait until too late in the time period. We won't have a change until 2017, but need to start as early as 2014 or around that time period.

Mr. Fenimore thanked the Director for the offer to get the groups together. From today's meeting it is overwhelmingly apparent that more information is needed and shared. The work SFW and MDF has done is wonderful. People want a better understanding of how the money is being utilized and what projects are being done to benefit wildlife as we're all committed to.

Mr. King said he has enjoyed the discussion even though it has been long. He wishes his students could be here to see the process in action as we make policy and manage wildlife in North America. We have the benefit of hearing the input from the DWR which is our trust manager on the ground, getting things done and providing us with the data that we need to make decisions. We have a Wildlife Board that has been entrusted with the responsibility to make policy for the Division by the legislature. He complimented the audience for their participation in being here. We are listening and have been part of this very important process. We all want to find ways to benefit wildlife, but have different ideas on how to do it.

Mr. Albrecht said he's enjoyed the conversation today, but is worried that some of the public is misinformed as to what goes on at the convention and where some of those dollars are spent. We have a lot of doers in our major conservation groups and they should be awarded for the things they've done for the state. Some on the sidelines are always the talkers. He talked about some of the projects that have been done. It's hard to criticize what the groups have done for Utah. He is not going to vote to change the contract. When the new one comes up we'll decide on that. He applauds the conservation groups.

Director Karpowitz said it doesn't sound like the Board is going to make a motion. He doesn't want to leave this topic without some clear direction. He feels it would be appropriate that the Board make an action log item with a deadline on it. He would like to have between now and this time next year to see if we can't work something out voluntarily and come back to the Board.

The following motion was made by Ernie Perkins, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed 4 to 1 with Jake Albrecht opposed. John Bair recused himself from the vote.

MOTION: I move that we add to the action log a request that the Division meet with the Mule Deer Foundation, Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife, and United Wildlife Cooperative to discuss issues and topics that have been raised including transparency. This will be accomplished by meeting with the three groups collectively to identify issues of concern and by meeting with MDF to discuss possible voluntary changes to the current convention contract. The Division will report back to the Board within one year

Director Karpowitz said he was suggesting that they get together and look at what can be done within the current contract voluntarily between the parties, and it not be limited to just transparency.

Mr. King said he has a question. What he heard is working with the contractors, SFW and MDF. Who does that involve?

Director Karpowitz said it would include inviting UWC also and see if we can't come to some sort of agreement.

Mr. Bair said it sounds like the Board wants no changes to the contract. Are we trying to work out the kinks so that when we renew it all these things are satisfied and it goes more smoothly? If there are things that are agreed upon by everybody then they would be implemented into this contract.

Director Karpowitz said based on what Mr. Bushman said we can only do some things voluntarily within the present contract. If it is a significant change it must be voluntary between both parties in the contract. The future contract is wide open. Also when this does get decided in 2015, six of the present Board members will be gone.

Mr. Perkins said what the Division is able to accomplish over the next year could include both of the categories that you described. One might be things that everybody agrees to right now and others might be things they are prepared to seriously discuss and implement in a new contract.

At this point Director Karpowitz asked Mr. Perkins to restate his motion, just to be clear.

Mr. Perkins said, the Wildlife Board would ask that the Division facilitate discussions between MDF, UWC and SFW, and on the issues and topics including transparency that have been raised, and report back to the Board within a year progress other significant information.

Eric Tycksen said he would recommend that the Division facilitate a discussion with the current contractor to take a Board action and include another conservation group in

contract negotiations whether voluntary or not, is not right. He would request if there is going to be negotiations to the contract that MDF currently holds, we can do that with the Division to see if there is something we can do voluntarily without having another conservation group outside of this process involved in the negotiations.

Mr. Bair said he brings out a good point, because in those discussions there could be proprietary information that could be used against them when the bid process comes open again in a couple of years.

Mr. Perkins asked if there might be areas and topics that could include all three where UWC could be included, and there's other that would not.

Mr. Tycksen said he has no problems with having discussions with UWC but as far as contract negotiations, they will do it on their own. They have had discussions with UWC to get a perspective of what it is they want. They want to represent the general public. We have several thousand members in the state of Utah as well that support what we're doing. So if they want to supply a list of topics to discuss we can sit down with UWC and discuss those items, but as far as contract negotiation with the state of Utah, we'll negotiate those changes if in fact we will voluntarily take those actions.

Director Karpowitz asked if he has any objective to a two part process to identify issues with UWC preliminarily, but the second part of the process would be for the Division to work with you the contractor to see what issues we can address.

Mr. Tycksen said yes, that's just fine.

Mr. Perkins asked Ms. Coons to take these three motions and word it accordingly. This motion will be reviewed by the Board members in very short order to make sure there is consensus that that was what was said. The following motion was agreed upon and approved by the Wildlife Board through electronic means following the conclusion of this meeting:

MOTION: I move that we add to the action log a request that the Division meet with the Mule Deer Foundation, Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife, and United Wildlife Cooperative to discuss issues and topics that have been raised including transparency. This will be accomplished by meeting with the three groups collectively to identify issues of concern and by meeting with MDF to discuss possible voluntary changes to the current convention contract. The Division will report back to the Board within one year

Chairman Brady said he was in Reno many years ago with FNAWS and Don Peay and Lee Howard. That was the first time he heard about this convention. After going to Reno for many years and seeing what they do, he thought they were biting off a big chunk, but you have done a fantastic job. He commended Mr. Peay and the conservation groups for their efforts. He hopes everybody here recognizes that we're all in the same

boat working for wildlife, rather than getting antagonistic but try to work together for wildlife. As he sees the money that is being asked to be pulled out of there, he's not sure you can do much with it, any better than it is being done. He asks for open mindedness as you meet and work together. He also appreciates those who have commented today.

The motion was then voted on.

13) CWMU Advisory Committee Membership (**Action**)

Scott McFarlane, Private Lands, Public Wildlife Coordinator presented this agenda item. Today they'd like to submit two names to replace two members on the CWMU Advisory Committee because their term limits have been completed. He explained the CWMU Advisory Committee and what they do. The two they need to replace are the CWMU representative and the RAC Committee member. Wade Heaton would replace Dan Jorgenson and Gary Nelson replacing Fred Oswald on the advisory committee. Gary Nelson is a Central region RAC committee member and comes highly recommended. These are the recommendations.

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the recommendations as provided by the Division.

Mr. Oswald thanked the Board for the time he was able to spend on the CWMU Advisory Committee. It has been a valuable and rewarding experience.

14) Broadmouth CWMU request for Additional Bull Moose Permit (**Action**)

Garet Jones, CWMU Operator gave some history and information on this CWMU. He had a discussion with their biologist in July 2011 and talked about adjusting the number of moose tags they were taking. He mentioned that the state might drop a tag if they dropped a tag. He mentioned that they would prefer to drop tags later on in the three year cycle. He said he would check on that and get back to him. Not having heard from him, he assumed they would proceed as in the past and sold two moose permits like they had for many years and did not find out until a month or two ago that one of the tags had been taken away. Their CWMU works on a very low profit margin and damage could be done to their company's reputation if this permit is withdrawn. It is so close to the season the hunter has no doubt made preparations as well as time off work and looked forward to his hunt for many months. He would be very disappointed. With the tag allotment as it is now it is about 55% private to the 45% public. With the addition of the one tag to private, they are exactly at 60/40 split. This is the same amount of animals they have harvested for many years and is very sustainable for their CWMU. They have a high average age harvested, 6 years or older are usually harvested. They regret doing this so late in the season, but it seems to be the only solution for them.

Mr. Fenimore asked how you sell a permit that you do not have in your hand, as in possession of the voucher.

Mr. Jones said often in the hunting industry deposits are made a number of years in advance. They don't get the vouchers until about two months before the hunt and we sell the hunts well before that.

Mr. Bair said they took the deposit on the presumption that they had the same number of tags as in the past, two moose permits. He asked what the misunderstanding was between Mr. Jones and the biologist.

Director Karpowitz said the number of permits that would go to that unit was decided in a Board meeting one year ago.

Mr. Jones said he received no notification until he got the vouchers a few months ago. Typically they sit down with the biologist and adjust the numbers of animals the area is capable of sustaining. They cut back the deer and elk tags around July 2011. They talked about adjusting the number of moose tags, but no decision was made at that time. His understanding was that nothing had changed.

Darren Debloois said he is the biologist in question and they did leave that meeting with two distinctly different impressions about what they decided. Having said that, adding an additional moose permit would not violate the CWMU rule, but bring it to the 60/40 split. This is not a biological concern. The problem is that by the time we were aware that Mr. Jones had a different understanding than he did, it was too late for them to simply change it. It had to come to the Board.

Chairman Brady asked if they are saying that the splits are 2 and 2 this year and 2 and 2 next.

Mr. Debloois said he wouldn't have had any problem doing it 2 and 2 if he'd understood it that way. He does not remember the conversation as well as Garet does.

Mr. Bair says this really does feel like a misunderstanding.

Mr. Debloois said if he'd been aware that Mr. Jones thought something different had happened, he would have contacted him and let him know that something had changed.

Mr. Albrecht asked if they CWMUs don't get notification until two months before the hunt.

Randy Wood said the number of permits is on the application. It was signed by the Division and the CWMU that indicated the splits would be a total of three permits per year, 1 private, 2 public the first year and the next two years it would switch and go 2 private and 1 public. We would ask the Board to change that application.

Mr. Albrecht asked his question again.

Mr. Wood said they leave with the application and the numbers are on it. The application is how the vouchers go out.

Mr. Bates said we notify the operators if things change.

Mr. Perkins asked Mr. Wood to restate the permits for the three years.

Mr. Wood said the way the application reads the first year in the split there's three permits and there are three permits for every year. The first year 2 public, 1 private, the next two year that switches. With keeping with the rule the first year you can never fall below the 60/40 split, so the first year they are asking to add one permit to the private which will make it a 50/50 split that first year.

Mr. DeBloois said Mr. Jones left the meeting having signed for that split. Mr. Jones had an impression that something else might happen and he didn't have the same impression.

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

MOTION: I move that we grant the additional bull moose permit to the Broadmouth CWMU.

15) CRC – Recommendation – Scales and Tails (**Action**)

Staci Coons, CRC Chair presented this agenda item. The request is from M. Shane Richins (Scales and Tails Utah) for the possession and exhibit of one Morelet's Crocodile for commercial and educational purposes. (See Board Packet for CRC Stipulations) Mr. Richins came to the Board a couple of years ago and requested the possessions of two alligators and that was granted then. The committee met with him on July 16, 2012. They did not have a lot of concerns about his knowledge of the animal or his handling of the animal. They were very confident in those areas. The committee did support the request for Mr. Richins with a few stipulations which he has been made aware of. We've asked him to present a plan to the Division with how he plans to deal with the animals as they get too large to take to birthday parties and that sort of thing. He has agreed to do that.

Mr. King asked how he knows when they get too large to take to a party.

Mr. Richins said it depends on which entertainer he sends. Each time they go and work with the animal, they deal with the confidence level they have on that particular animal. A couple of his entertainers that have been working with the larger alligator have already recessed them to only working with the smaller alligator because they weren't confident. They are not the ones who have been to the training down in Texas although all his

employees have gone down to work with adult crocodilians. He works with each individual with their confidence level verses the temperament, size and species of the animal.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the variance request for Scales and Tails as presented by the Division.

16) Request for Additional Antlerless Elk Permits (**Action**)

Anis Aoude, Big Game Coordinator presented this item. (See Powerpoint Presentation) The rationale for recommendations are to mitigate for drought conditions, avoid habitat damage, reduce potential depredation and reduce potential competition with deer. He then showed a map of the state and the drought conditions. He then presented the permit recommendations as received from the regions in various units across the state.

In summary, they are recommending a total of 1450 additional permits, NER 1160, NR 175 and SER 115. Permits will be available over the counter and online September 6 on a first come first serve basis. There will not be an additional drawing. This is an attempt to get the permit in the hunter's hand before the hunt starts. This concluded the presentation.

Mr. Albrecht asked about hunting dates.

Mr. Aoude said these are existing hunts. The regions were asked to make them all before November to get these animals harvested before they started going onto winter ranges.

Mr. Perkins said this is all drought related. Are any fire related?

Mr. Aoude said there is some potential on fire related stuff, but not a lot of winter ranges burned in Southeast or Northern region and presently these are drought areas. There is some transitional ranges that burned.

Mr. Perkins said we may be seeing some addition permits being issued.

Mr. Aoude said that is possible depending on how the summer progresses. We left the late hunts alone, but could add permits then if we needed to. We are seeing some improvement in the Southern part of the state because of increased precipitation. Also, with the exception of the Book Cliffs all of these units are over objective.

Mr. Perkins asked about deer.

Mr. Aoude said most of our deer are below objective and most of their winter range is already there, not being affected as much by the precipitation. Mother Nature will take

care of the deer if there are too many, they will succumb to the winter. Elk usually do not succumb to the winter and over damage the habitat.

Mr. Bates said relative to the fire in Southeast region, the Forest Service would like us to harvest more elk, but we have a problem in that we can't get people into those areas to hunt during the general season. We're holding off until some of these fires are resolved.

Director Karpowitz said the Division could do this with an emergency declaration, but it is important that the Board authorize this, so the public knows it's not just the Division acting independently.

Chairman Brady asked Mr. Briggs from Northeastern to weigh in on this issue.

Floyd Briggs said he definitely has some great concerns with this. He was on a committee once where they wanted to increase the resident herd, but they did a count in the winter and it was way over what they wanted to increase it to. But the problem we have in that area is we border Colorado and Wyoming, so are we going to be killing off our resident herd to accommodate the other states wintering elk herds? Is that going to have an adverse effect on our resident herd? He doesn't think we're at objective on the West Daggett yet, so we increase the numbers there. Right now we have a resident herd that is within a mile of Manilla. In the area where he lives, maybe depredation tags are the way to go than killing off the resident herd. Daggett County is not in extreme drought, because they had a good snow pack. He is hesitant to say how the hunters in Northeastern are going to feel about this.

Mr. Aoude said we're talking an additional 20 permits on the Daggett which may kill five elk. These are measures trying to increase permits slightly, so we make sure these elk aren't harming ranges. There are some units where we may not need as many killed, but again they're just trying to stay ahead of it and make sure the ranges are preserved. As far as resident and nonresident elk, if the habitat is there the elk will rebound quickly.

Charlie Greenwood, Wildlife Manager from Northeastern region said the North and South Slope elk herds are tied in together. We know we have elk that move between those units. He disagrees in that the Brown's Park area is in severe drought. We have elk off these units that winter there. That is critical deer winter range and the sage brush is in bad shape. In 2003 we had a sage brush die off and talking to the BLM range people, this die off might be even worse on some of our browse and habitat. We do have range damage and that's why we're recommending these permits.

Chairman Brady said on the South Slope Diamond, where is the boundary? Are the landowners aware of what is being proposed?

Mr. Greenwood said it's up on the Diamond. We went ahead and included that hunt because it is the early part of November. He hasn't made the landowners aware. Once again it affects critical range on both sides of the mountain, Red Fleet and Brown's Park. We have concerns on the mid-elevation range where the elk transition, the grass didn't

grow as it should have, permittees have been taking cuts on BLM and Forest Service ground, so we believe it's the responsible thing to do based on range conditions.

Chairman Brady asked if they need that help in the Pelican Lake area.

Mr. Greenwood said some of these will overlap that area.

Chairman Brady asked Mr. Byrnes to weigh in.

Mr. Byrnes said considering the conditions of the range on the three units in the Northern regions, even if they killed every one of those elk, we would still be over objective. In other parts of the state where he spends a lot of time, if we can help preserve some of that range and help our deer that are going to struggle a lot this year. He would support it and feels his council would also, given the conditions.

Mr. Bates said he did bring this up with some members of the Southeast RAC and he's sure they would support it especially the Forest Service and BLM. The one on the Book Cliffs, the BLM actually asked us to do that. We have spoken with the BLM and Forest Service representatives, asked them about what they intend to do with taking permittees off early or not letting them onto the BLM allotments. He feels they have support. He has also spoken to some of the livestock operators who felt this would be a good thing to do since they have to take animals off the range.

Mr. Crandall asked if this is enough in these areas or are there other areas that need attention to help livestock. Do you need to look at other areas and maybe look at a depredation later on in the year?

Mr. Aoude said they asked all the regions to look at it and all had initially had some areas they were concerned about, but we asked them if these are areas you could deal with it with depredation and other methods, don't add permits. We don't like to have emergency hunts. These are permits on public land where depredation cannot be used.

Mr. Perkins asked if there are plenty of hunters available to take care of depredation.

Mr. Aoude said he hasn't looked, but that has never been a problem.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move we accept the Division's recommendations on the antlerless elk permits.

Mr. Tracy commented that the only thing he wanted to say was in addition to those benefits biologically this gives 1,400 hunters opportunity to hunt.

17) Other Business (**Contingent**)

a. Summer WAFWA

Mr. King reported to the Board about Summer WAFWA that was held on the Big Island in Hawaii. It was very worthwhile giving them opportunity to meet with the other commissioners and Board members from 23 states and provinces. Ecologically it is a very unique place for this meeting. If you go on the east side of the island they get 240 inches of rain a year. If you go up over the two volcanoes to the other side they get 10 inches of rain a year. Hawaii has tremendous challenges to deal with including nearly 400 endangered species, which governs everything they do. There are cultural and social things that factor into what they do also.

They had two sessions dealing with human dimensions in wildlife management and working across boundaries to development partnerships to deal with all these unique situations that they have. What we've been through today in our meeting is largely a discussion in those same areas. He placed a summary of the meetings and a host of supporting documents in the drop boxes of the Board members. As they met with the commissioners they had two big issues, one was the North American Model of Conservation and how it is being applied. The Wild Horse and Burro Act came up and also the reintroduction of Mexican gray wolves. There is opposition to controlling those problems coming from a nonconsumptive public.

Use of social media was also a topic. There were a lot of social issues that were discussed one was an attempt to form a Commissioners Political Action committee, contacting Senators, Commissioners and others when there was a need for action. It was a good discussion but ultimately it was rejected. They look for better communication between these participants. It was an interesting five days of meetings, including an interesting field trip also.

Director Karpowitz said in the business meeting there was a resolution on Mexican wolves. It said that WAFWA would only support recovery of Mexican wolves in their historic range and that does not include Utah and Colorado. All of WAFWA voted for that resolution and it was forwarded to the USFWS.

Mr. Perkins said Hawaii Fish and Game is funded totally with general fund dollars. Hunting licenses are \$10, fishing licenses are free and if you draw a permit on limited entry hunts, that's free too. Their whole concept is different.

Director Karpowitz said their game animals are domestic sheep, pigs, feral goats, 15 species of exotic upland game and a variety of exotic deer.

Mr. Perkins said he heard several agency and commissioner comments that were almost indignant that they were being questioned by the public. It's a bad trap to get into. The Nevada commissioner talked for ten minutes about a problem they have been trying to get out of because they did not listening to the public.

b. Stipulations and Orders

Martin Bushman presented this agenda item. We've had five individual matters, three stipulations and two dismissals that come out of two criminal episodes. Individuals who have asked that their appeal be dismissed are Shawn Mark Peterson and Barry Vern Atkinson.

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the stipulations as presented by the Assistant Attorney General.

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

MOTION: I move that we accept the dismissals as presented by the Assistant Attorney General.

c. Emergency Meeting in September

Director Karpowitz said we are going to need an emergency meeting in September. We can handle as an onsite meeting or possible do telephonic for those who live away from the Wasatch Front. We have one agenda item for sure. We recently completed our bison count and had more than the management plan allowed for and are going to recommend more permits. He could do that with an emergency declaration, but is not comfortable doing it without the Board review and endorsement. It came up yesterday which is not enough time to get it on today's agenda.

He also suspects that if the drought gets worse we're going to be talking about additional antlerless elk removal. With that in mind, we should schedule a day for that. He asked Mr. Bushman to go over the rules for the meeting.

Mr. Bushman said there has to be an anchor location where the public can come and attend which would probably be here. We would have to have at least a Board member to act as the officiating person. The others could call in by telephone.

Director Karpowitz said we should limit this and make sure it's an emergency meeting, dealing with emergency issues. If those who live on the Wasatch Front could come to the anchor location, the others that live further away can call in. It will probably be a very short meeting. Several dates were discussed and they decided on September 12, 2012 at 9 a.m.

The following motion was made by Jake Albrecht, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we schedule September 12, 2012 at 9:00 am as an Emergency Wildlife Board Meeting to address additional antlerless elk and bison concerns as deemed necessary by the Division.

Mr. Bates asked if they might want to do the meeting on a video conference call.

Director Karpowitz said yes and if they went to one of the regional offices we could see you. If not it can be done over the telephone.

The meeting was then adjourned.

UTAH WILDLIFE BOARD MEETING
September 12, 2012, DNR Room 2000
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

Wildlife Board Members

Ernie Perkins – Vice Chair (Salt Lake)
Jim Karpowitz – Exec. Sec (Salt Lake)
Calvin Crandall (Salt Lake)
Jake Albrecht (via telephone)
John Bair (via telephone)
Del Brady – Chair (teleconference)
Mike King (teleconference)

Public Present

Dan Cockayne
McCrae Christiansen
Tammara Mohr
Jason Adamson
Andy Lyon
Austin Lariton
Kyler Wheeler
Sterling Brown
Robert Olson
Robert Byrnes
Chad Spencer
Ryan Foutz

Division of Wildlife Resources

Judi Tutorow
Kent Hersey
Craig Clyde
Linda Varney
Dean Mitchell
Dana Dolsen
Staci Coons
Kevin Bunnell
Greg Sheehan
Cindee Jensen
LuAnn Petrovich

1) Approval of Agenda (Action)

Ernie Perkins, Vice-Chair said we are here in Salt Lake and we are here for a Wildlife Board meeting which will be conducted with the aid of teleconferencing. He then introduced the Board members, doing a roll call to those who are participating via teleconferencing. He then said we will approve the agenda. He noted that we're correcting the printed agenda to show that he is serving as acting Chair for this meeting. He said they will do a roll call vote on the action items, calling for each member by region.

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

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

2) DWR Update (Information)

Jim Karpowitz, DWR Director said he appreciates everyone getting together for this electronic meeting. We are experiencing some unusual conditions with drought and now with some flooding. We have to react quickly with conditions that are constantly changing around the state this year. At the last Board meeting we talked about some additional antlerless permits. Today we'll talk about some late season antlerless permits. With what we do today that should be all we need for the remainder of this year. Drought conditions have improved in the Southern part of the state, but are still tough in Central and Northern. Fires have also impacted our areas extensively.

As far as bison tags, we have a recommendation for the Board to deal with that now. The antlerless and bison tags could be done by Director decision, but we want the Board to weigh in on this issue. There may still be a need for some emergency action by the Director, but hopefully we've covered all of it now.

Director Karpowitz said he appreciates the public here to talk about cougars and to have some more dialog.

There is just one other thing he'd like to mention that is important to the future of wildlife conservation in Utah. There is an email going out today to the DWR announcing a new program within the Division. It will be followed up with a news release in the next few days. One of the top priorities in this agency has been to recruit new anglers and hunters and to encourage people to be supporters of wildlife conservation. There is a real need to continue to have people interested

in those sports because that has been the primary support for wildlife conservation for more than a century. We need to keep people interested in angling, wildlife watching and other things that increase their interest in wildlife conservation.

We have looked at our neighboring states and talked about recruitment and retention. We'll be announcing to the Division today and to the public within a couple of days, a new Wildlife Recreation program within the Division. It will unite and coordinate all of our recruitment and retention efforts into one place, our Outreach Section. We will hire a new coordinator for this program which will combine the current programs of community fisheries and youth fishing clubs, dedicated hunters and volunteers, event coordination, expos, the Great Salt Lake Nature Center at Farmington Bay, hunter education, shooting ranges, shooting sports and watchable wildlife. The goal of this program is to provide hands on wildlife experiences for young hunters and anglers, and even for people who have left the hunting and fishing programs, to encourage them back.

The Division can't do this alone. This requires a large volunteer effort across the state with all the conservation groups in the state and people who are not affiliated with conservation groups that want to participate in helping raise interest. It will be a big part of what we do over the next few years.

The North American Model of Wildlife Conservation is built upon hunters and anglers who have stepped forward and funded wildlife conservation across the continent. We are in danger of losing that funding base with kids being drawn into sports and other recreational opportunities. We need to make sure we are giving kids every opportunity to participate in hunting and angling. We are going to call on the public to help us in a massive way. We need to re-attach our young people in this state to hunting and fishing opportunities.

A lot of things work as a gateway to bring them back as lifetime hunters and anglers. For example, the archery in the schools program, shooting sports and watchable wildlife programs bring kids into these activities. We are going to combine all of our efforts that have been spread all over our agency and put them in one department. We will hire a new person to get this going over the next several years. The future of wildlife in this state depends on young people participating in hunting and fishing, and engaging in outdoor activities. The demographics are telling and our hunter public is aging. We are excited about this internally. We will get new ideas within and from other states. We are going to move forward on this rapidly and are very excited.

Mr. Perkins asked if there are any questions. He addressed each of the board members. There were no questions, with general positive response on this item.

Director Karpowitz said we have been doing recruitment and retention in bits and pieces all over the agency. This will pull it together into one place, one coordinated program with the responsibility to make it go forward. By doing that and adding some resources to it so we can give it added emphasis.

Jason Adamson of Sanpete Valley Houndsmen said they'd like to be part of this. As houndsmen they are the only non-consumptive program. They want to be able to show groups of kids a big cat or a bear. All of them here today would volunteer their time to be part of it. It's an easy hunt that kids can go on and enjoy, and it's exciting to them.

3) Additional late Season Antlerless Elk Permits (Action)

Anis Aoude, Wildlife Program Coordinator presented this agenda item which is to propose a few additional permits for some antlerless elk. At our last Board meeting 1,450 permits which were mostly early season hunts were approved. They asked their managers to recommend early season hunt permits first, and then let summer get basically done and then re-evaluate whether they needed additional permits. They have done that and have come back with a request for a few more permits. There are three units where they are recommending additional permits, two Manti Units where there was a large wildfire that burned some transitional deer range where elk usually winter. To deal with that they'd like to harvest a few more elk to make sure that we're not over utilizing the areas that burned and keep those elk from perhaps dropping down on deer that might be a little lower. The third unit is in Northern region, the Henefer/Echo WMA where, because of drought conditions, the winter forage is not going to be there. We want to take a few elk to keep them from affecting deer. A lot of this is precautionary depending on what the winter brings. One thing that changed from the memo that went out to the board members is the date that these permits will go on sale, not October 18, but September 20, 2012. They will sell on a first-come first-serve basis.

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Director Karpowitz said there will be a news release out today relative to these permits to notify the public. We also want the public to know there are still some general season antlerless elk tags available, as well as some spike bull and any bull permits.

Mr. Aoude said on the Manti Unit, the Forest Service has asked permittees to get off the fire area so it can come back. The region has talked to the local sportsmen and they do agree it would be a good thing to take some pressure off that area.

Mr. Crandall said these last 205 permits will go on sale September 20 and the other 1,450 are already on sale with some left.

Mr. Aoude said that is correct. There is a pretty high demand for antlerless elk permits, because it is a hunt where you can get a good amount of meat in your freezer.

Mr. Crandall said these last 205 were from a fire related issue. Statewide there is big concern about the drought and winter feed. A number of livestock men have been told their permits are going to be cut. Are these antlerless permits enough? Is this going to be enough to mitigate that?

Mr. Aoude said they believe it is as far as the elk population goes. We already had 13,000 permits initially, so these are in addition to those. On a population of roughly 75,000 elk, we're putting a good dent in it. We won't really know if it's enough until we're into the winter. We'll try to harvest animals before they reach the winter range. Again we have quite a few permits already in place on units where we're over objective, so hopefully we have enough to deal with the issue.

Director Karpowitz said we'll keep watching it and can react fairly quickly if we get into some dire circumstances.

Mr. Aoude said Southern region has reported a lot of good regrowth from the last few storms.

Mr. Crandall said he's talked to folks in southern region who've had lots of rain and the range is looking better.

Mr. Perkins then went through each individual board member and asked if there were any questions on the presentation. There were no questions with some general comment in support.

Mr. Perkins said on the Henefer/Echo hunts there has been some limited ATV use allowed under Division supervision to access the area. Is that going to be true again this year?

Mr. Justin Dolling, Northern Regional Supervisor, said this year it will be accessed only by foot or horseback. There were a few years we allowed ATV access, but not this year.

Mr. Perkins asked if there were any questions from the audience.

Jason Adamson said we've killed a lot of elk over the last five years. We can sell these permits on short notice. He is from Manti and they have fewer elk than a

few years ago. To issue more tags planning on a bad winter, why we can't be optimistic about this and hope we have another medium winter. We have far fewer elk there than five years ago and can easily handle more. We've had substantial rains and its greening up again. We are getting some good forage and can handle the elk that are there now.

Justin Shannon, Southeastern Region Wildlife Manager, said we had the 50,000 acre Sealy fire and some of it burned hotter than others. We would like to keep the pressure off of it for the next three years to let it grow. We are trying to be surgical and direct the hunt at the elk that will use that specific area. They're not trying to wipe out the whole mountain. The Forest Service and the sportsmen are on board and it is wise management to give that ground a little bit relief to grow more grass. We are slightly higher than objective in that area. That has been an extremely stable unit for us. Locally, or on a given drainage that might not be the case, but on the entire Manti unit we're slightly higher than five years ago.

Mr. Adamson asked where the elk will be taken.

Mr. Shannon said these hunt boundaries are already preset and they're on that Sealy fire area, so we won't be killing elk on the southwest Manti, it'll be elk adjacent to that fire.

Andy Lyon from Manti asked who the sportsmen are that are on board with this recommendation.

Mr. Shannon said we have several people locally in Carbon and Emery that we deal with and we also checked with Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife and others. They understand what we're up against and are okay with this recommendation.

Mr. Aoude said they are not planning for the worst case scenario. This is very few permits in the big scheme of things. There are 11-12 thousand elk on a unit, so 200 permits will probably kill 100 cows. It really is not extreme. Mortality is fairly constant. Elk populations continue to grow and we want to put a lid on it.

Mr. Adamson asked about elk being killed in the fire.

Mr. Shannon said they heard rumors of many elk that were lost, but they could never verify it.

Mr. Adamson said there were elk killed on the West Nebo when the fire came through.

Mr. Shannon said he doesn't know about that one, he thought we were talking about the Sealy fire.

Mr. Boyde Blackwell, Northeastern Regional Supervisor, said those listening through teleconferencing cannot hear the conversations that are going on. The speakers need to sit by a microphone or turn up the volume.

Craig Clyde, Central Region Wildlife Manager, said they did lose 65 head in the Wood Hollow fire. Some of those elk do migrate off that side and we did not offer extra cow tags in that area because of the loss. There was good regrowth with the late rain we got. We have looked at it surgically in certain areas.

Mr. Adamson said there was probably some loss from the Huntington fire also.

Mr. Clyde said most likely there would be some with elk and deer. We probably lost all of the fawns on the Wood Hollow fire because they cannot outrun the fire. Elk migrate and move in from drainage to drainage because of new growth. It can be over grazed quickly when that occurs.

Mr. Adamson said if you've lost your calf drop, can't we look at it optimistically and not take the extra permits?

Mr. Clyde said it can be and we're looking at that. We will monitor the winter situation.

Sterling Brown, Utah Farm Bureau, said 205 was the number. Is that the total of those three units?

Mr. Aoude said that is the total, 75 on the Gordon Creek/Price Canyon unit, 100 permits on the Mohrland-Stump Flat unit and 30 on the Henefer/Echo Unit.

Mr. Perkins said there are no comment cards from the public. Are there any members of the public at the other locations? There were none.

Board Discussion

Mr. Perkins said this is about trying to save deer, as opposed to taking more elk. If we have even a medium winter, the deer will suffer when the elk take over the entire good browse. He is in favor of taking care of the deer. We don't have any

problem growing elk herds any time we want to, but we are struggling to get the deer herd back up.

Jake Albrecht said a year ago they had the Clear Creek fire in Sevier County. People were concerned about the habitat and the difference that one year makes in an area like that is incredible. He thinks it is good the Division is ahead of the game in making sure we keep some of those animals off those burns to make sure the growth comes back as it is supposed to. He supports this proposal.

The following motion was made by Del Brady, seconded by Jake Albrecht and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the additional late season antlerless elk permits as presented.

4) Increased Bison Permits on the Henry Mountains (Action)

Justin Shannon, Wildlife Regional Manager presented this agenda item. They took a flight in early August on the Henry Mountain Bison unit and there were more bison than what the model had previously indicated should be there. We went back and reworked the model and came up with an estimate of 48 animals over objective. The purpose of this recommendation is to add 60 additional permits in addition to a fourth season on that unit, so we can be at or below objective of our population post season. The recommendation is an increase of 15 hunter's choice and 45 cow permits, going from 60 to 120 total. They met with the bison committee and they were comfortable with the fourth season and the additional 60 permits.

Mr. Perkins asked if there were any questions from the Board.

Mr. Albrecht said a year ago we were concerned that we were going to kill too many bison. What has changed on this? Are we able to track those collared animals?

Mr. Shannon said they've used a model for the past five years. Every year we have flown the model has been higher than our survey, so we've gone with our model which is the more liberal of the two. Last year when we flew we had 27 GPS collars out on the ground and saw 25 of them from the air which is about 92%. We felt very good about that but it was still under the model estimate. This year when we flew we found 33 of 33 GPS collared animals so he is extremely comfortable with this flight. He is really glad we have this USU study going on because it helps us identify, are we counting the collared animals and what is our

sightability? He is glad they have the ability to catch this now where we can handle it with the hunt structure for this fall.

Mr. Albrecht asked if these animals are maintaining their collars or are they losing them.

Mr. Shannon said Utah State has been frustrated with losing them and malfunctioning collars. That's why they're going with the GPS. We still have 33 well functioning collars and that is still a good sample size.

Mr. Fenimore said chart says 116 permits sold, but Mr. Shannon said 120.

Mr. Aoude said there are four conservation permits also.

Mr. King asked what the current range condition is on the Henry's. Has it been affected by the drought? Do they expect that these additional permits will help the range or at least not deteriorate it further.

Mr. Shannon said in June it looked pretty rough. They have had some monsoonal rains that have helped. The north end of the Henry's is looking fairly green presently. There are still some issues with drought on the southern end but the rains have helped. As a manager the most appropriate thing he can do for the range is be at or below objective and these 60 permits will help. It's about what they can fit in the four season framework and still give Once-in-a-Lifetime hunters a quality opportunity. He feels comfortable with the recommendation.

Mr. Crandall asked what the projection is for total numbers.

Mr. Shannon said the model said we should be at 384, and we counted 410. They sat down with Kent Hersey and the model says they should be at 432. We're not saying that is 100% sightability.

Mr. Crandall asked what the population objective is.

Mr. Shannon said after the hunts are done, they should be at 325 adult animals.

Mr. Crandall asked what percentage is the harvest.

Mr. Shannon said somewhere between 95-100%. There is some associated natural mortality which is included. It is hard to predict hunt success, recently 93% hunters' choice, 78% first cow hunt and last hunt 60% success.

Mr. Aoude said as we go this information is helping us improve our model and sightability as well. Set backs are only helping how we manage that herd. Because of the collars we know that survival is better than we thought. As this study goes on it will just get better.

Mr. Albrecht asked about the Henry Mountain bison committee's agreement. Was that fairly close to consensus?

Mr. Shannon said the BLM and the sportsmen said they were ok with the 60. One permittee didn't think 60 permits was enough, but by the end of the meeting he was ok with it. Also, if there are drought conditions there he is not opposed to being more aggressive with it to help the range. For this year doubling permits is maximizing to help us get to objective and keeping a quality hunt. We can look at it again next year.

Mr. Albrecht said he is supportive of what the Division is proposing. He's been on the Henry's a lot with bison and when you get too many people down there it is frustrating. He heard some higher numbers from some of the permittees than what are being proposed, but we'll get through this year and move on.

Mr. Crandall said that was his concern too in talking with some of the permittees, they asked if this is enough? One guy has 100% cut on being unable to use some of the land there. Is the sportsmen/wildlife keeping up?

Mr. Aoude said when the 325 objective was set, there are a lot more AUMs that could be used by bison that are not being used. It does take into consideration the drought years and everything. They tried to set an objective aligned with what the range can carry.

Mr. Crandall asked if the 60 permits varies each year.

Mr. Shannon said it changes with calf production from the previous year.

Sterling Brown said the doubling of permits brings us to objective, right?

Mr. Aoude said that is correct.

Mr. Perkins said there were no comment cards. Does someone want to talk from the public?

Public Comment

Mr. Brown, Utah Farm Bureau, said concern has been expressed in the discussion today and as we compare what's taking place with wildlife numbers and livestock numbers, livestock is taking 100% cuts and doubling the bison permits is not adequate, if we are looking at taking care of the habitat.

Mr. Perkins said he received a phone call from SFW yesterday and they are supportive of the Division's recommendations. Also under the additional antlerless elk, they are supportive.

Board Discussion

Mr. Fenimore asked if the BLM and Forest Service have signed off on this.

Mr. Shannon said BLM is on the committee and they were in favor.

Mr. Crandall said back to Mr. Brown's comment, if this just brings us back to even, should we be looking at this many permits all the time? Maybe we need to be below objective for a couple of years.

Mr. Shannon said we have lots of AUMs on that mountain that are allocated for bison that are not being used. In addition to that, they also look at balancing the quality of those hunts. They can address this moving forward. The habitat is what is really important, not where we're at on the AUM scale. This is a very appropriate proposal.

Mr. Crandall said it was a concern of a rancher on the bison committee, that this should be done sooner and not allow the herd to get over objective.

Mr. Shannon said to clarify, last year we had a great flight with 93% sightability, but the model still said we had more objective.

Mr. King said these numbers are fairly aggressive and he is supportive of it. To get some perspective, if you have 400 animals in this population with 160 bulls to 240 cows, of those cows, you are issuing 90 permits.

Mr. Shannon said 60 hunter's choice and 60 cow permits, and some of the hunter's choice do harvest cow.

Mr. King said they are taking a large number of cows with a population of 240. 420 animals is not a really large number for a sustainable population to begin with. He feels the permit numbers are quite aggressive and will make significant impact.

Mr. Bair said he agrees with Mr. King and this is extremely aggressive. The fact that the Division has gotten everybody to the table and agreed is a miracle. If you tried to increase permits on any other Once-in-a-Lifetime species by 100%, you'd have complete chaos. This is a good thing and the conditions warrant it. He is in favor of the increase at this point.

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

MOTION: I move that we approve the increased bison permits on the Henry Mountains.

5) Action Log Item – Harvest of Female Cougars (Informational)

Mr. Perkins said there will be no action on this item today. It is informational only.

John Shivik, Mammals Program Coordinator presented this issue on the possible over harvest of female cougars. (See Board Packet) There are few ways to look at it, the first is to look at the quotas in each of the units statewide to see where the number of females being taken relative to the quota. The quota statewide, there is still another 52 females that could have been taken. He then looked at each cougar management area and none of them were to the quota of females taken.

Another way to look at it is relative to how we look at the numbers in the cougar management plan. Within the plan we look at some other targets, not just numbers. The data are very preliminary at this point. Some units are higher, some are lower and it seems we are right on target plan wise statewide.

Based on those two bits of information, there is no evidence for any emergency action. Next year we will probably make some changes on numbers.

Mr. Perkins asked if there were questions.

Mr. Bair said some of the concerns he has are on the Wasatch and the Manti. Along the Wasatch Front, we have sheep units with very liberal harvest objective quotas on them and then down the road we have the Manti that is some of the best cougar hunting in the world as far as access and the general overall country. By opening this whole area and putting it under one quota system, he can't

imagine why anyone would hunt on the Cascade or Timpanogos when they can go down on the Manti. He worries that will take the pressure off the sheep units where we want to harvest the cats to help the sheep and pile all that pressure down on the Manti which is already an extremely popular place to hunt. If we're going to make a change, we should carve out the sheep units and make them separate. Allowing those and the Manti to run together is a mistake.

Mr. King asked what the overall male harvest is on these units.

Mr. Shivik said it is essentially flat, looking at the statewide data. What has happened is 2010 and 2011 was a late snow year. There was significant cougar harvest. Over the last few years on males and females, it has been flat according to the numbers we have so far.

Mr. Crandall asked why the sheep units aren't hunted as well, comparing Wasatch and Manti.

Mr. Shivik said there are all those access issues. He thanked the houndsmen for being here and their communication and effort. Mr. Bair has a good point and we need to look at it in context to the plan as we move forward. What he is proposing is that we stay the course with our plan. There is no reason for an emergency but we will look at it next year when we develop our recommendations to get things grouped a little bit better.

Mr. Crandall said there is a huge human population in these areas, do we need to keep the cougar numbers lower so we have less human/cougar interference.

Mr. Shivik said those are exactly the things we need to think about for recommendations for next year. We need to stick with the plan now. If he'd looked at the numbers and they were over they would have reacted, but the way the numbers came out, he would like to make the decisions based on a three year cycle and the data involved.

Mr. Perkins asked if next year is when they convene the group or will the plan then be addressed.

Mr. Shivik said they'll know in late spring 2013 at the end of our three year cycle and they'll continue working on it.

Public Comment

Dan Cockayne, Lions Coordinator for the Utah Houndsmen Association said they would like to be a partner with the Division in getting the youth involved. That is exactly what they are about, educating and helping. They appreciate Mr. Shivik and his efforts, and also Mr. Bunnell before him. They agree with John in that one of the unintended consequences of the Cougar Management Plan was we took these lions that were intended to be killed on the sheep units and they've been moved down into the Manti Units that are accessible and easy to hunt. They feel it is an emergency. They've talked to houndsmen that are there all the time and if a lion walks through that country he leaves a track and they know it. Presently they feel it is about a 36% chance that they are killing the females. On the Timp Unit there were only two lions killed. The plan has created a sync source where there are areas where these cats can live and areas where they're harvested. The area where they're living will feed the area where they are being harvested. The source area is the sheep and goats and that would raise it to the level of emergency. The reason they don't get hunted is its steep and hard access. (See Attachment #1)

Jason Adamson, Sanpete Valley Houndsmen said they live in this area and Mr. Bair is right on with his insight. The sheep units have had very high quotas for years and we've worked to get rid of the cats. Now when you combine that with the Sanpete areas, the sheep units are rough and burn off regularly. It's a rough place to kill a cat. We need to create a way to force guys to hunt the sheep units. If they have the option of hunting the Manti, that's where they'll go. On the Timp Unit they only killed two cats and what's that going to do to the sheep over time? Plus you have the Salt Lake Unit where you can't turn a dog loose. It is the best seed unit and it borders the Timp Unit, which is not getting hunted. In the meantime Sanpete cats are getting annihilated, with 94 cats harvested. Out of the 94, 2 came off Timp. Mr. Perkins brought up the fact that the male harvest stayed the same. It stayed the same because the better areas were put into it. If we stay with this plan one more year, there won't be a cougar to hunt. We have watched this happen. We are not exterminators. 36 females out of 94 on the Manti were taken. Average age was 1.9 years old and it's counted as a tom. Why aren't females counted as females?

Mr. Shivik said there is a difference and what drives the populations is the reproductive age of females, not the young ones. At age 3 the females are counted as such.

Mr. Adamson said the female subquotas don't mean anything. They shouldn't even be taken. The system is broke. A 1.9 year old female is considered a tom.

Mr. Perkins said they are counted as a juvenile. This system of breaking animals into adult males, adult females and juvenile females with a break off age of three is how Utah has managed cougars for two decades.

Mr. Bunnell said we just started using adult females in the most recent plan two years ago.

Mr. Shivik said all females are counted toward the quota. So when we're setting quotas there's a proportion of the quota of all the females, but only a proportion of those that are the adult that help us make the permit adjustments based on the plan.

Mr. Adamson said so there are 36 females taken of the 94, and then to keep the toms on a flat line, they put premium units in it that weren't part of it before. Now the premium units have been lumped in with the Timp sheep units which are the objective unit and they're not getting touched. Only 2 cats were harvested off that unit. Hunters go where it's easy and they're doing their best to educate the houndsmen to leave these females alone. We need everybody's help. What they propose is to get a subquota introduced into these units so the Manti would shut down and it would force people to hunt the other units rather than focus on the one easy one and destroying that population. If they fill the 129 quota and do the same percentage you'll be at 26 cats just off the southwest Manti. That is far too many. With Mr. Shivik's numbers it's supposed to be at 17% females. We're at 36.

Mr. Perkins pointed out that the 17% are adult females and the 36 is all females.

Mr. Adamson said to him everything should be counted female. He was told that they reproduce at two years so 1.9 is just barely under that. 2 out of 94 on sheep permits is way out of wack. They are the only nonconsumptive permits that the Division sells. They also love to deer hunt. They also want to be part of introducing kids to this sport. In the direction we're heading in the state of Utah, it will be hard to show a kid a cat. John is already seeing that the plan needs to be reduced at least 25% and that takes it back to where the kill is right now. We killed 94 of 129. He thanked the Board and said Sanpete can't take another year of this.

Mr. Shivik said he pulled the age numbers. Mean age is 3.3, 2.6, 3.0, 3.1, 3.4, 3.2, 3.0 going through the units. So actually the mean age over those units is more like 3 over the last several years. He continued to go over the numbers from this past year.

Mr. Adamson said keep in mind it was a limited entry hunt at that time when people had time to be more selective.

Andy Lyon from Manti is representing himself. If we go on for another year like this on the southwest Manti Unit, it is going to be too late. This unit has been

over harvested for the past three years and it is taking the brunt of this new plan. Looking at the numbers from the Wasatch units that are attached to the Manti units, they're not getting hunted at all. By placing the Manti with the sheep units we have been dealt a death sentence as the numbers clearly indicate. Those who hunted the Wasatch are now hunting the Manti. He asked the Board to consider this an emergency and allow Manti units to be changed to subunits and be closed when they reach quota on the individual units on the Manti. This will ensure the lions will not continue to be over harvested on those units and place the hunters back on the Wasatch units to harvest there. This would be beneficial to all parties.

Earl Hanson from Fairview said he doesn't see any guides or outfitters present with the houndsmen. They continue to invite them to their meetings and try to educate. As he sees the hunt going from the Wasatch down to their area in Sanpete, he was talking to an outfitter who is ecstatic. They can bring their clients to their area, they don't have to hike the Wasatch area, and are glad to harvest cats. That's why they aren't here today. He asked how they'd like them to hunt in their area up in Idaho and he said he wouldn't want them up there. He would like the Board to look at this as an emergency. We are bringing in guides and outfitters and their clients from Idaho, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming and other areas. Please consider this an emergency and make some changes.

Mr. Bair said having the sheep units included with the Manti is a bad thing. We are taking pressure from where we want it and putting it on one of the best units in the world where there is already plenty of pressure. He would hate to see it go another year like that if there's any way we could address it. He hopes the Division has gotten the message to separate that unit and the quotas.

Director Karpowitz said he is not hearing much objection to the limited entry part of this plan plus it opens November 14th. The next Board meeting is November 1, 2012 which would be the first opportunity that the Board could do anything about this. Harvest objective opens March 4, 2013. Long term, all agree that there needs to be a re-examination of how we've combined these units. Short term you could address the quota.

Mr. Shivik said he would still like to stay within the plan. One difficulty is if someone in another region has a favorite unit, we could end up chasing our tails constantly. As a biologist, he looks at this on a larger scale and more long term. There are bumps in years and adjustments that need to be made, but within the plan there are adjustments that we know need to be made. There can be wiggle room within the plan.

Director Karpowitz said there are a couple of issues, one is the units being combined and the other is the quota. We've just adjusted elk and bison numbers

up to accommodate situations. There is an opportunity to let the plan run the course, not mess with the separation of the unit, but perhaps address the total quota as a temporary measure.

Mr. Shivik said we'll make our recommendations this next cycle and the quota adjustments are part of that. We can make the adjustments on the next rotation of the cycle and get things more in alignment. When he looked at the numbers and the way the quotas have come up, it is what has been done historically. We know more about the system now because of the information we've been gathering. We can make some better recommendations next year.

Kevin Bunnell gave some history on the cougar plan. They made an amendment to the plan about 1 ½ years ago at the request of the Board and combined these units. You can't look at cougar harvest one year at a time. In the winter of 2010-2011, with the same female subquota, the same unit alignment with Wasatch/Manti combined, we would have shut that unit off prior to eight females being killed and would have killed 35 fewer cougars overall. That is one year different from this year. This is a different groups of houndsmen here today. Those he was working with were begging for a female subquota which we put in place last year after we combined the units. We tried doing female subquotas in the past and it didn't work. We closed units down within 48 hours of them being open and had over harvest. Administratively we can't track 50 subquotas, but can put it on larger units. When we put this in place we were worried about this from the other end, that we meet female subquotas and shut the whole unit down before we had any harvest on the sheep units because that's what we'd seen the year before. This is an example of why the three year cycle helps us make adjustments that are meaningful. He agrees with Mr. Shivik and does not see this as an emergency.

Mr. Adamson said the Southwest Manti has been over harvested the last three years. He went over the circumstances for each of these years.

Mr. Bunnell said the Southwest Manti is a small enough area that we don't look at cougar numbers on that scale. You have to look at them on a larger scale. We may over harvest small areas from time to time, they're not worried about that, and they'll fill back in.

Mr. Adamson said so let's introduce the Henry's into the general season deer and see what happens.

Director Karpowitz said since this is an informational item and the Board is not going to act on it, we have a good idea of what the public's concerns are, but we're not as clear as to what the Board wants. We can go back and look at this

and see if we need to take action. John Bair has made his concerns known, but not the other Board members. We need that information.

Mr. Perkins asked Mr. Shivik to characterize the female harvest off of these units compared to the last five years. Has that harvest jumped under this new management? We have narrowed the discussion down to this one area of concern relative to adult female and total female harvest.

Mr. Shannon gave a three year average of percent female in the harvest. On the northeast Manti it is 57, southeast is 30, northwest Manti is 16 and southwest Manti is 16. You have highs and lows within that unit. If you look at the percent of adult female in that harvest, northeast Manti is 36%, southeast is 13%, northwest is 12% and southwest is 4%.

Mr. Adamson said of those three how many years are as a limited entry unit?

Mr. Shannon said they asked for the five year history, is that correct?

Mr. Perkins said what's happened since we instituted this plan.

Mr. Shannon said he has last year's, this year is not completed. Across the Manti for percent female in harvest we were at 60, 18, 30 and 13.

Director Karpowitz said we've only had one year combined with the Wasatch.

Mr. Shannon said we don't have those numbers yet.

Mr. Bunnell said we have total female harvest, but not adult females.

Mr. Shivik said we have an estimate. What it looks like going back a few years the percent of adult female, on the Wasatch/Manti it was .12, .17, .24, then we had that big year in 2010-2011 where it was .37. This year's estimate is exactly what it was two years ago at .24. It's the standard bumping around.

Mr. Adamson said there have only been two years of considering sub-adult females as adults.

Mr. Bunnell said sub-adult females count against the female quota. They're not considered toms and if you kill a certain number of them the unit shuts down.

Mr. Lyon said during the course of a plan we have to recognize if it needs to be adjusted. We can't keep it going the way it is just because we need to go through three years.

Director Karpowitz said what you've just described is adaptive management, but the question is if now is the time to make that adjustment on an emergency basis. We agree that we need to be adaptable. Given the information we heard here today, he still needs some more information from the individual Board members. We can go back and consider our options.

Mr. Crandall asked how far north and south is it from Manti to the next sheep unit. How far will they migrate from the Wasatch or south of the Manti, to the Manti.

Mr. Shivik said the design of the plan in modern cougar management is exactly what he's saying with the source/sink population. They have a map from Utah State where all the cougar habitat is mapped out. Some parts are marked as greater than 25% harvest and some is cougar habitat without the high harvest rate. You can then break it down within the Manti and you have sources and sinks. Some drainages will get hit very hard, but there are pools of cats that will fill in.

Mr. Adamson said the maps Mr. Shivik is using are at 9,000 to 10,000 feet and there are no cats there during winter time. Those pools don't exist.

Mr. Shivik said those areas aren't counted as cougar habitat. He also referenced reports showing how quickly cougar rebound. We have some leeway and can allow these cougars to come back.

Mr. Perkins said the crux of the discussion is we have members of the public who believe the Southwest Manti cannot stand another year of harvest under this system. The Division biologists feel that we do not have a biological problem and although the harvest may be higher than they'd like to see in the future, it doesn't warrant an emergency change and getting a three year data set on what this produces. He then asked each of the Board members to state where he is at on this issue.

Mr. Brady said they need to seriously look at breaking out the northern sheep units. He feels we need to continue to look at the data as the Division proposes. If there needs to be some emergency action they will do it, but now we need to take some more time and look at the data with the idea that we move toward separating the sheep units from the Manti.

Mr. King says he agrees with Mr. Brady. He has only been on the Board for just over a year and at least half the meetings they are urged to make changes in the middle of a plan. Three years is not a long time when talking population biology. These issues that have been brought up are important and need to be addressed.

Mr. Bair said he made his point clear before. We definitely need to get the sheep units separated. The houndsmen hit it on the head to get the pressure off the Manti and get the number of permits off the quota that ends up being pressure on the Manti that shouldn't be there.

Mr. Albrecht said looking at the numbers, he's always into bringing back the deer herds no matter what. We need to stick with the plan. He doesn't mind if the Division works on the Timp Unit to make sure we get the right amount of pressure there, but he's for staying with the plan.

Mr. Crandall said he agrees we should stick with the three year plan unless something very extreme occurs. The issues need to be addressed. Would it be hard to do those adjustments at the next meeting?

Mr. Bunnell said the guidebook is already published with all the maps and boundaries.

Director Karpowitz said in an emergency its way easier to adjust permit numbers or quotas than it is to start changing boundaries. On a short term you can deal with permit numbers and quotas, but boundaries are much harder. From a long term perspective, over the years he has been doing this for 34 years and he has seen this continuous cycle over the years of we're swimming in cougars, we're out of cougars, repeated over and over. What the plan tries to do is take those fluctuations out of it. That doesn't mean there can't be adjustments, but at some point we need to take those wild swings out of it. There still is plenty of concern about too many cougars and their effect on mule deer. We are concerned about both species. Sometimes you have to stick with something to see if it's working, but still within that context if there is an emergency it needs to be looked at. There is time for us to deal with this. The harvest objective season doesn't start until March. We don't want to come across as inflexible.

Mr. Fenimore said he is in favor of sticking with the plan so we can get better data and management decisions, but is also sensitive to what the houndsmen have been talking about in this particular area. Maybe there is a way the Division can look at how permits could be issued in these different subsets to try to ease that pressure and push it where it's more desired in the sheep units.

Mr. Bunnell said that is exactly what they'll do in the next recommendation cycle.

Mr. Perkins said he is in favor of staying the course. He is convinced the comments are accurate and the harvest is higher than anybody wants right now, and there is probably good merit in discussing changing the split of the units, but he is not sure it warrants an emergency change at this point.

Mr. Fenimore asked about the outfitters coming down to hunt this area. Do we regulate those out of state outfitters? We did something on the La Sals to alleviate the situation.

Mr. Bunnell said on the La Sal and San Juan we dealt with pursuit only, because it is not a commerce issue. With guides it is a commerce issue and it goes against the commerce clause in the constitution only in terms of regulating interstate commerce. We'd like to have some more control there, but we can't do that especially with guides.

Greg Sheehan said what the Board did a few years ago was create a nonresident pursuit permit at \$135 to keep some of the nonresidents out.

Mr. Perkins said we've had enough discussion on this. We have information from the various groups. This might be a topic for the November 1, 2012 Wildlife Board meeting to address through an action log item. This will conclude this informational discussion. He thanked the public for attending. Is there any Board member that would like to see an action item go out on this issue for the next round of RACs.

Director Karpowitz said if we're going to recommend a course of action it would have to be in November. When is the deadline for the RAC meetings?

Ms. Coons clarified that the next round of RACs this could be included in would be in mid November before the December Board meeting.

6) Other Business (Contingent)

Mr. Brady asked if Ryan Foutz had some information he needed to share with the Board. Mr. Foutz said that has been taken care of.

There was no other business.

The meeting was then adjourned.

**Regional Advisory Council Meeting
Summary of Motions
September 2012**

1. FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13

SRO, NERO, CRO

MOTION: To accept the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented.

VOTE: Passed Unanimously

CRO

MOTION: That the appropriate Division personnel meet with the wheelchair bound groups and formulate a crossbow permit to allow wheelchair bound people to bow fish with a crossbow

VOTE: Passed unanimously

NRO

Motion: Recommend the Wildlife Board approve Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented with an opportunity to comment on the disposal method.

VOTE: Passed Unanimously

2. CENTERVILLE CITY HUNTING CLOSURE PROPOSAL

NRO

Motion: Recommend the Wildlife Board approve the Centerville City Hunting Closure Proposal as presented.

VOTE: Passed Unanimously

Southeastern Regional Advisory Committee did not have a quorum in attendance and therefore were unable to vote on the agenda items.

**Southern Regional Advisory Council Meeting
Richfield High School
Richfield, UT
September 18, 2012
7:00 p.m.**

1. REVIEW & ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES AND AGENDA

MOTION: To accept the minutes and agenda as written.

VOTE: Unanimous.

2. FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13

MOTION: To accept the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented.

VOTE: unanimous

**Southern Regional Advisory Council Meeting
 Beaver High School
 Beaver, UT
 September 20, 2011
 7:00 p.m.**

RAC Members Present	DWR Personnel Present	Wildlife Board Present	RAC Members Not Present
Chairman Steve Flinders Harry Barber Sam Carpenter Brian Johnson Mack Morrell Clair Woodbury Mike Worthen	Giani Julander Mike Hadley Richard Hepworth Drew Cushing Roger Wilson Lynn Chamberlain Paul Birdsey Branden Davis Vance Mumford Stan Beckstrom Gary Bezzant Bruce Bonebrake	Jake Albrecht	Rusty Aiken Dale Bagley Dave Black Cordell Pearson Mike Staheli Layne Torgerson

Steve Flinders called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 4 interested parties in attendance in addition to RAC members, members of the Wildlife Board, and Division employees. Steve Flinders introduced himself and asked RAC members to introduce themselves.

Steve Flinders: Shall we get this started tonight? I'm Steve Flinders; I'm the Chair. I represent the Fish Lake and Dixie National forests. I'd like to start out by introducing the RAC. How about we start down on this end Brian.

Brian Johnson: Hello. Brian Johnson, Cedar City, non-consumptive.

Mike Worthen: Mike Worthen, Cedar City, public at large.

Clair Woodbury: I'm Clair Woodbury from Hurricane. I represent the public at large.

Sam Carpenter: Sam Carpenter from Kanab. I represent sportsman.

Harry Barber: Harry Barber, I represent BLM.

Bruce Bonebrake: Bruce Bonebrake, regional supervisor, DWR.

Mac Morrell: Mac Morrell representing agriculture.

Steve Flinders: I'd like to recognize Jake Albrecht with the Wildlife Board, in the audience. We've got a few from the public. Talk about how this meeting is going to proceed; we'll hear presentations from the Division of Wildlife. I'd ask you to hold your questions and comments until after they're done. And fill out a comment card, one of these yellow cards here on the table, if you want to make a comment. We'll move things right along.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda and Minutes (action)

Steve Flinders: We've got a fairly short agenda. I'm looking for a motion on the agenda and minutes from the last meeting guys.

Mike Worthen: I move that we approve the minutes from the last meeting.

Steve Flinders: Motion by Mike. Seconded by Sam. All in favor? It's unanimous.

Mike Worthen made the motion to accept the agenda and minutes as written. Sam Carpenter seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Wildlife Board Update:

-Steve Flinders, Chairman

Steve Flinders: In the way of Wildlife Board update; the last meeting was on bobcat recommendations and waterfowl recommendations as you recall. The Wildlife Board passed things as we did as a RAC. There was a lot of discussion about convention and conservation permits. If you want to hear more go to the website; it went on and on and on. Unless there are any questions about that we're ready for a regional update.

Regional Update:

-Bruce Bonebrake, Regional Supervisor

Bruce Bonebrake: All right, I don't have too much tonight. But a couple of things that I wanted to point out, one was the new program that the director unveiled last week. I don't know how many of you saw it in the paper but it's a push called the wildlife recreation program. And what it's going to do is it will be housed within conservation outreach but it rolls together several programs. It takes community fisheries program, the dedicated hunter program, youth fishing clubs, hunter education, shooting ranges, shooting sports, watchable wildlife program, volunteer program, Great Salt Lake nature center, and special events and rolls them all under one program. The main emphasis of the program is hunter and fisherman retention. The director's office has uh, recognizes that we've been kind of falling a little short on those and they want to put some direct emphasis in it. They will be hiring a coordinator for that;

announcements should be out this week, and then on rolling out the program. Um, a couple of things coming up, I don't know how many of you have heard of the Leave It To Beavers Festival. It's going to be the 21st through the 22nd in Escalante. That's this Friday and Saturday. We will have a booth there. There will be some festivities and stuff like that, but it's trying to promote the beaver as an ecological tool for fisheries and for other wildlife values. They're great habitat managers. And lastly, I just wanted to mention that we've been very busy, Gary Bezzant, who's here, particularly on fire rehab in the region, as you all know we've had some major fires this year. Just a few of them that we're working on, the Clay Springs fire, which is over by Oak City, New Harmony fire, Quail fire, White Rocks fire, which took out some sage grouse habitat. The quail fire took out some desert tortoise habitat and endangered species concerns there. The Baboon fire had sage grouse and winter range for deer. And the Shingle fire of course had big game summer and winter range. So we've had some pretty major, that's just some of them, there's been a lot more than that. So a lot of the seed will be going out in the next couple of months. And if anybody has any questions on that Gary could probably answer those for you. And that's about it for the regional update. Yes.

Sam Carpenter: Have you got any information on the coyote program, and also have they sold out on spike elk tags yet? Do we still have some of those available? I've been asked by a few people.

Bruce Bonebrake: Yeah, the last time I checked there were still around, well it's probably less than that now, but there were about 4,000 spike elk tags still left. There were still quite a few any bull tags left, till about the same. As far as the coyote program, I mean we've been moving ahead with that. I don't really know what the numbers are that were actually turned in but I know it was over 500 in the first two weeks. So it's been, we've had people bring in one and then one guy brought in, I think, 43. So they've been turning in a lot of coyotes. Any other questions on anything? Okay.

Steve Flinders: Thanks Bruce. Nice questions Sam. Anything else? We'll move into the meat of this agenda with the first action item, Fishing Guide Book and Rule. Drew, no that's Paul. I was reading ahead.

Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 (action) 6:37 to 28:20 of 1:14:17
-Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator
(See attachment 1)

Questions from the RAC:

Steve Flinders: We can act on this I think while it's fresh in our minds. Anybody have any questions? Go Clair.

Clair Woodbury: Just two questions. One was concerning the carp; you said you were considering the use of crossbows for the disabled only. And if we're interested in getting rid of all of the carp we can why not just open that up to anyone? And two, on the East Boulder Creek, if we're wanting to remove those brookies while having a limit of four, why not just open that up?

Paul Birdsey: Let me address that first one part, in discussion with some the Wildlife Board members on crossbows, as well as our attorney general representative, there is some concern that if we open up the use of crossbows to anyone for carp it's going to spill over into a desire to use crossbows for deer, or big

game hunting. And nobody is quite ready to take that step yet, if ever. So this is just a cautious approach I think. It does accommodate a segment of the population that we've made accommodations for in other areas without moving into an area that, frankly, has a lot of people nervous. The second part of that is, you know, a very valid point. But at some point in time in the past there was a decision made by the administration to say that if we're going to have a bonus limit of fish that number was going to be four. And it's just a standardization issue. It really has no biological concept or backing. And that four has been around for a long time. So people are just used to if there's a bonus limit they know that number is four.

Steve Flinders: Sam.

Sam Carpenter: Okay, my question really doesn't pertain to anything in the presentation. Do you want me to address that now Steve?

Steve Flinders: What's that?

Sam Carpenter: My questions don't really pertain to the presentation. One of them does pertain to Panguitch Lake.

Steve Flinders: Sure, ask it now, absolutely.

Sam Carpenter: Might as well just do it. Okay. What I'd like to know is if there's any biological reason that Duck Creek pond cannot be open to winter fishing? And if there's any possibility that anything can be done on moss treatment there? I've fished that all my life and it's got now to where it's even hardly fishable with the moss. Even down stream, you go down stream a quarter mile or so you just can't, there's a little channel out in the middle and the rest of it is moss from there on. And the other question while you are there is on the Panguitch Lake on these slot limits. I probably fished twenty times up there this year and boy, I see so many of those Bonneville's floating around you know. They're just getting slaughtered. We've got vultures living up there now on the shore. It's a cache for them.

Richard Hepworth: I'll tackle one at a time. The first one on Duck Creek, the winter fishing issue. It was open to winter fishing at one time. UDOT, the Department of Transportation came to us and said we've got a real problem up here with parking. We can't keep an area cleaned off enough and it's a dangerous situation the way people are pulling off the highway. So . . .

Sam Carpenter: Can I make a comment about that? Because now they've got, up there today they have these chili cook offs, their traffic is a problem. That highway is so narrow and we have bikers. It just doesn't make sense that they can go up and do everything else but they can't fish. It's a problem, winter or not, I understand you know you have to clear an area and sometimes you have six or eight foot bank there but people can park responsibly if they want to fish. It's still, you know, there's a lot of people in that area now and I think we need to take a look at possibly opening that back up for the fisherman and address the problems with UDOT as they pop up..

Richard Hepworth: Let me visit with UDOT again. I'll report back to you. Look into that a little bit more. But that was the reason it was closed. It's been a number of years back now; it was a safety issue from UDOT's standpoint. You got a comment there or? Okay, the week issue, you know, there's not a lot we can do. Some years it's a lot worse than other years. Years like this year when we have low water, we

have warm temperatures, the weeds are a lot worse. But really there are not a lot of other good options with the weeds up there. I mean we've got that at Fish Lake, we've got that at Navajo Lake; it's just part of the ecosystem. In a way, and the way I tell a lot of people, it's kind of like going up and cutting down all the trees to make the deer hunting easier.

Steve Flinders: We do some of that.

Sam Carpenter: I don't guess we have a fish we could put up there that eats moss then that could help? t

Richard Hepworth: Not really, no. There's a grass carp but we wouldn't allow it up there. What was the last part? There was one other thing . . . oh, Panguitch lake. The slot limit we know there's going to be hooking mortality associated with that. We see it at the other lakes where we've got it. We do lose fish but if we don't have the slot limit we lose 100 percent of the fish. Right now it's probably somewhere around 10 percent of the fish that are caught die. Without that slot limit it's closer to 100 percent. Does that make sense? You know we can reuse those fish a lot of times.

Sam Carpenter: I'd probably argue the 10 percent though, the number that I see floating around. But I have no idea and I'm sure you keep track of that stuff.

Richard Hepworth: Yeah, it's pretty close to 10 percent. And certain times of years it's higher, other times of years it's a lot lower.

Sam Carpenter: Well what about barbed hooks and regulations that way? Can you, I actually squeezed the barbs down and then I had trouble keeping a worm and stuff on there.

Richard Hepworth: Yeah, and some literature on the barbed hook stuff says it doesn't make that big a difference.

Harry Barber: I just want to go back to the Duck Creek piece for just a second. I spend quite a bit of time up there in the winter and I think the perception is that if you're a fisherman you don't know how to park. But if I go up there with my snow machines and trailers, and if I go up there with boy scouts and snowshoes it's not a problem. Obviously you guys know how to park but if you bring a fly rod or something like that you don't know how to park and you can't fish. And so I hope you take that seriously when you talk to UDOT. There are a lot of people using that area for a lot of reasons. I'm going to go up there and grouse hunt, I hope, in the wintertime. I've got to park my vehicle somewhere. But if I go up there with a fly rod in hand I'm going to get a ticket because I don't know how to park.

Richard Hepworth: You know people change, things change in these different departments and maybe we'll have somebody right now that's a lot more willing to work with us and figure something out there. But I'll definitely go to UDOT and talk with them about this. It's really easy, they're in the same off we are.

Harry Barber: And if there were a biological reason, you know, that would be awesome.

Richard Hepworth: It's not biological.

Harry Barber: It just seems like it's kind of backwards to (unintelligible) to that.

Steve Flinders: Other questions from the RAC?

Questions from the Public:

Steve Flinders: Questions from the audience? Jake and Lee.

Jake Albrecht: Jake Albrecht. On the Panguitch Lake, the 8 people that attended your meeting, how many of them were business owners or had something to do with the process around the lake?

Richard Hepworth: We had one of the lodge owners, him and his wife, did show up at that meeting.

Jake Albrecht: So overall what did the people want changed in the management plan on the Panguitch Lake then?

Richard Hepworth: What we had is we had 24 people that wanted that changed. 13 of them wanted more restrictive regulations. 13 of them wanted us to protect the rainbow trout, the bottom line. Put them in the slot with the cutthroat. 11 of the people I got comments for wanted us to take the cutthroat out of the slot and not have a slot at all. So, does that answer your question? It was really split. Some people want more restrictive, some want less.

Jake Albrecht: (off mic) What did the business owner want?

Richard Hepworth: I got comments, I got one from the lodge, the big lodge right as you're coming in from the west side, they wanted to remove the cutthroat. The main lodge down by the new marina area, Panguitch Lake Resort, that gentleman sent me an email, he wanted to include the rainbow trout in the slot. So of the two business people we talked to we were split there as well. And I'll look at that data again to make sure I'm telling you right, and if I'm wrong I'll send you an email letting you know.

Steve Flinders: Lee.

Lee Tracy: Lee Tracy, United Wildlife Cooperative. I have two questions. One of them is kind of a generic question. I'm not sure who can answer that but I've looked for quite a few years through that fishing regulations and I have a question about the method of measuring fish and why that was placed that way. It seems to me that the more you handle those things the worse chance they have of surviving. Is that pretty standard or statewide or what; where you have to pinch the tail? It seems to me like uh, you know, measuring a man by having him stand on his tippy toes.

Paul Birdsey: Paul Birdsey. There are 3 standard ways to measure fish, scientifically; one is called the total length, which is what we recommend as part of the regulation. That is from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail with the tail squeezed together. The other one is called the fork length, which would be from the tip of the nose to the deepest part of the indentation on the fork. And finally there's the standard length, which is from the tip of the nose to the end of the spinal cord, which is in the caudal peduncle of the fish. The total length is actually the easiest one for people to understand and it is a standard method that has been used for over one hundred years in fisheries management and that's why we have used that.

Lee Tracy: Okay, my other question is for Richard. Could you give us an update on Navajo?

Richard Hepworth: Yes, that's easy. I did that all day today. What's going on right now, the bid is out to patch the hole up there. That closes on the 25th and will be awarded right there the 25th, maybe the 26th, is when the bid will be awarded. Construction to patch the hole should start by the 1st. It may be even a little earlier, right there about the 1st of October. And chances are it's not going to take them much more than a week to two weeks to get that patched.

Steve Flinders: Other questions?

Mark Fuller: Mark Fuller, US Fish and Wildlife Service from Vernal, Utah. This has, this pertains to the limit that is to be changed on the non-native fish in the Green River drainage. When those limits were set it was assumed that having a limit would result in more take because anglers, because of the anglers that wished to hit their limit, to take their limit. Does this have any merit and if so would it be better to just change the limits so that they can take more numbers?

Paul Birdsey: That was true 20 to 25 years ago, that people had a real desire to take their limit. I remember when I was working up at Bear Lake, the guy I worked for's father got very angry at the aquatics manager in the Northern Region when the limit on Kokanee trout at Porcupine Reservoir was increased from 12 to 24. Because he said there is no way I can catch 24 trout, or Kokanee and then I can't come home. So, but that was a case 25 years ago. What we find now is that over 50 percent pushing 70 percent in some surveys that people like to release fish. And the way that we need to compensate for that is by telling them that in this particular case on this body of water for this species it is illegal to release the fish. So it's just a change in the paradigm of the fisherman that's causing us to move that direction.

Steve Flinders: Other questions? I've got no comment cards.

Brian Johnson: I've got a question. Just a dumb one.

Steve Flinders: Jump in there Brian.

Brian Johnson: So we force them to not turn them back and then we still put a limit on so the poor guy has to go home early?

Paul Birdsey: No, there is no limit on it. There is no limit on that catching, catch and kill regulation, no limit, just what you have to kill everyone of them, you cannot take it home, or I mean cannot release it.

Comments from the public:

Steve Flinders: Lee. It's the only comment card I've got.

Lee Tracy: Lee Tracy, United Wildlife Cooperative. We have taken a similar survey of our membership and here's the statement that they've asked me to read. Based on member input received through the internal survey and comments, the United Wildlife Cooperative has the following positions on the RAC agenda items listed below. Number 1: We support the changes proposed for the Blacksmith Fork. Number 2: We support the changes proposed for the Weber River and recommend that this approach be

considered for other trout streams with small native cutthroat populations. We support the proposal to permit nighttime bow fishing for carp. We support also the changes proposed for Fish Lake. And item number 5, while not an agenda item; although we heard about it, our survey indicates that a large majority of our members favor no changes to the regulations at Minersville Reservoir.

Steve Flinders: Thanks Lee. Those are the comment cards that I have.

RAC discussion and vote:

Steve Flinders: Discussion. Motions from the RAC? We heard about, a few things we've heard about for years. It's a little (unintelligible) than it has been. But things are working pretty well.

Clair Woodbury: In spite of my questions on the Boulder Creek, and I love the brook trout; I think it's been a great success story. But I also understand what we're doing over there with the Colorado Cutthroat. So rather than muddy up the water I would just make the proposal that we accept the recommendations as proposed on the Fishing Guide.

Steve Flinders: Motion by Clair. Seconded by Sam. Further discussion? All those in favor? Unanimous

Clair Woodbury made the motion to accept the Fishing Guidebook and Rule as presented by the Division. Sam Carpenter seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Flinders: Thank you. Let's talk about illegal species movement.

Illegal Species Movement in Utah (informational) 45:59 to 52:40 of 1:14:17
-Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator
(see attachment 1)

Questions from the RAC:

Steve Flinders: That's interesting. Clair.

Clair Woodbury: Yeah, I've got to know more about that super-male. Does that cross several species? Is that just one species that they've worked with?

Paul Birdsey: Right now all they've managed to do it with is Brook trout. It is a concept that is entirely unique and it seems like it is something that we want to pursue in the future with a bunch of different species.

Clair Woodbury: I'd haul them a bunch of Utah Chub males real quick if I were you. Have them test those.

Paul Birdsey: Yeah, Utah Chubs, Yellow Perch, there's a whole bunch of them that are on the list there.

Steve Flinders: Other questions?

Questions from the Public:

Steve Flinders: Questions from the audience? It's just an informational item. Time well spent.

None.

Steve Flinders: Moving on. Monroe Mountain Working Group. Tell us what's going on up there Bill.

Monroe Mountain Working Group Update (informational) 53:46 to 58:25 of 1:14:17

-Tutor Ogden, Sevier County Commissioner

-Bill Christensen, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

(see attachment 2)

Questions from the RAC:

Steve Flinders: I want to open it up to other RAC members to ask questions and respond to that question. Maybe we'll sum up at the end. Go ahead Mike.

Mike Worthen: I'm not sure I can respond to the question but I do have a question for you. Is this project for the whole mountain or is it just for a few permittees, or allotments, or how is it set up?

Tudor Ogden: This is for the whole Monroe Mountain. We've identified various areas on the whole project. It's basically for the whole Monroe Mountain area.

Mack Morrell: Just a comment. On the West Boulder, we've used rest rotation grazing, and in the last 20 some odd years or so, and what we have found is that there is no rest in rest rotation. There is on the forest where (unintelligible) is concerned, but the pasture that we rest that's where the wildlife comes and goes.

Tudor Ogden: Yeah, we're addressing that concern in this livestock management plan. They've restructured a lot of this on the Monroe Mountain. And we do have two or three pastures on the Monroe Mountain that we are doing some rest periods but we are also addressing the concerns with the elk and the deer and trying to monitor that as well. So that is in the plan.

Steve Flinders: As I understand there's a number of enclosures, some for cattle, some for all ungulates, some control areas.

Tudor Ogden: It's basically for, we've identified everything on the Monroe Mountain. There are areas that the elk are more concentrated than others. And we hope that through some of this fire and mechanical work, possibly we can maybe deter the elk and the deer to some of these other areas that hopefully once we have fire, fire and mechanical is a great thing for the aspen restoration, we're hoping that some of that's going to help in this process.

Steve Flinders: Sam.

Sam Carpenter: Is this aspen restoration problem just on the Monroe or is this going on throughout the west, and what are they doing about it in say, Colorado and other areas where?

Tudor Ogden: I think they're, this specific group, if we're successful in this, with the parties that are involved, we hope that this will be something of a kind of a model for some of these other areas. Yeah, it's a concern. I think the aspen on the Monroe Mountain is at about 50 percent of what it should be because of the conifer encroachment. You've got a lot of the sub-alpine fir that's crowded it over and so we've got to take that out to try to get this back to an aspen stand.

Steve Flinders: Harry.

Harry Barber: I'm not as familiar with this area as I am with Kane; Kane county is where I spend most of my time, parts of Garfield. I see BLM is not listed as a participant. Is there not any BLM land involved?

Tudor Ogden: Not on this project.

Steve Flinders: There would be winter use by elk on BLM lands adjacent to the project area. I . . . What do you guys think about our interaction with this group? I guess I see them as an extension of the elk plan, elk management plan working group. Or the Division's integrated with them as recommendations are made for antlerless harvest that we might, that we're involved in, you know, to know what discussions went on there, and adjustments in the elk management plan itself, or antlerless harvest. I'm trying to think where else it might go. I . . . Whether the Division has their support or not. Uh, they may have to get creative in ways to move elk from certain favorite areas up there. This has been tried in the last decade. I know with trying to herd elk, and they may have to get creative and this is where we may see some of these recommendations in the future, is that right? Any other thoughts or questions? I think it's a great effort. I think it probably will be the model for every herd unit in the state of Utah. Everyone I've worked on there's aspen recruitment issues.

Tudor Ogden: Well we're really excited about this. We're now approaching going into the mechanical side of this and also the fire side. So we're hoping to have a proposal together by the 1st of November and going forward.

Steve Flinders: Thanks very much commissioner for your time. When we talked about elk management plans this was one of the limiting factors to herd expansion in many areas. It's always a struggle. Sure Sam.

Sam Carpenter: Just one comment, I've read quite a bit about this particular problem. And just about everything I've read they just seem to want to blame the elk on this. I wonder how the elk foundation feels about that and if they're going to be a participant what are they willing to do to try to turn that one around?

Bill Christensen: Great question. I think that we're still gathering information because there's a lot of incomplete data out there. There's a lot of little pieces of data that can't be pulled together into one big whole. Sam St. Clair and other people from BYU are involved with other projects that will tie into what we're doing and tie in with the Forest Service supporting this and the other groups. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation really feels strongly and wants to work closely with the Division of Wildlife. We feel like that there are still answers that we need and we're gathering those. But when we do receive answers we need to act on them. We need to be prepared to do it but we need to do it in a holistic manner so we don't . . . There's a lot of people that say it's all elk and a lot of hunters say it's all cows.

Frankly it's a combination of that; but loss of habitat is the biggest issue. Conifer encroachment, improving the distribution of aspen, regenerating young aspen, new buds, new saplings, is of utmost importance. So yeah, we are going to certainly defend, if elk are unfairly focused too much. But we have to accept the fact that elk are part of the issue here and we need to manage them like we do everything else. So it's important. I think I made that clear last time I spoke to this RAC. I spoke in favor of supporting larger elk numbers on one elk herd unit and then a minute later I supported the local elk group in reducing those elk numbers. My opinion is once we get the information we need the best decisions are going to be made locally with input from groups like our group that can bring about, I think, the answers we need to make, I think, very informed decisions while making sure we have good input from the public who use those lands and who hunt elk and otherwise enjoy it, and never forgetting the permittees and the people that make a living on that land as well. So I hope that answers your question Sam.

Sam Carpenter: Yeah it does. One other thing maybe Steve can answer this. Are they still considering one of the old ways of taking care of these conifer problems, things like timber sales and things of that nature? Is that on the board?

Steve Flinders: Yeah, they're doing some creative things up there. There's some stewardship contracts that the Turkey Federation, of all entities, that are helping to remove and stimulate aspen. There was a prescribed burn last year that was one of those that escaped and took off and some think did nothing but good. It did (unintelligible) some private property. But as Bill mentioned it's an ocean of opportunity to increase aspen where they've been over topped by conifers for decades now. So Harry had something to add.

Harry Barber: A couple of things. If you don't mind I'd still like to at least give this piece of paper that we were given to the BLM. I think where they're only involved in the periphery, not specifically in the project where winter ranges are concerned; I think there's still going to be a connection there. I'm the field manager in Kane- Garfield County on the Kanab side but I'll give this to Wayne Wetzel who's the acting field manager in this area.

Bill Christensen: I believe the BLM has received copies of the guidelines. They were produced about a year and a half ago and those could be used by any organization, NGO that's interested in this.

Harry Barber: Okay. And then secondly, as a manager and having to deal with a variety of groups I admire your courageousness when I look at the variety of groups here. Good luck.

UNKNOWN: Off the mic.

Harry Barber: I have my own and when I said the names there I like 50-year plans because they keep us busy.

Questions from the Public:

Steve Flinders: Sure. Come to the mic over here. John Keeler, do you have anything to add back there as well? Sure Lee.

Lee Tracy: Lee Tracy. We also have the same problem up on Cedar Mountain, but we also have that

pine beetle problem as well. Is there any of that sort of thing going on Monroe, the pine beetles and all that? And how does that affect the recruitment of the aspen?

Steve Flinders: Yeah, there is some of that. Our forest pest people come down every three years and document which species of forest pests we have and where they're hitting the spruce on Monroe. But they don't really stimulate the aspen. They often die and then adds to the fuel condition, the fuel loading to help some of these burns. But it's nature's way of taking care of the problem eventually. But it's really until a forest fire comes through to kill everything before you get the aspen regeneration.

Steve Flinders: Sure Commissioner.

Tudor Ogden: One more comment. If you want to see a success story with the stewardship with the Turkey Federation up on the Monroe Mountain, go up there and look at that fence project and how that's turned out. We certainly can't fence the whole Monroe Mountain because it's so expensive but it's one great success story that's happened up there on the Monroe Mountain. You've got a stand of quakes coming in there of all different lengths and sizes. You can get your recruitment to about five feet or to seven feet and then it's in the safe zone.

Steve Flinders: Sure Sam.

Sam Carpenter: Now on fencing, so you're fencing out everything? I mean all the wildlife, there's nothing getting in there?

Tudor Ogden: On this project yes. They've fenced the wildlife out; they've fenced everything out. But that's, there again, we can't fence everything on the Monroe. They do have a project up there that they've got about another \$300,000.00 dollars to fence it but it's about \$4.00 a foot by the time you get that 8 to 10 foot post and two wraps of fencing around it. Yeah, that net wire.

Steve Flinders: Net wire. Yeah, but it shows you what the site's potential is. It's dramatic. You drove all this way John. We've got to hear from you.

John Keeler: Well thank you, I wouldn't want to miss the opportunity. You know there's been a lot of skeptics with this group and I've been skeptical of some of the things because it's such a diverse group and very polarized by some groups. But anytime you get a group like this together and you really have a desire to solve the problem you're going to come up with some good things even though there may be a few little skepticisms along the way. But you know we've taken a look at a lot of different things. We've incorporated an individual into the mix who was doing some monitoring statewide and he set up some plots so that that's taken care of because you need monitoring along with it. We've talked about a lot of things that exist out there in management; things like once aspen have regenerated after a fire or a mechanical treatment, there are certain chemicals that can be sprayed on the new shoots that make it so that they are not palatable to the ungulates. So there are a lot of interesting things out there and you can try some of these things because it is, like you say, a pilot program. And hopefully we can find the answers that we need. But all of us, I think, would wish that as we find those answers, just like Bill has mentioned, you know, let's not be afraid because of our own positions on certain things. Let's not be afraid to face up to the problem and let's really solve it. And I think that's the great thing about this group. I think people are willing to do that. I think it's the desire of most of the members on that group to find these answers because that is a problem, and there are other things that I think we all recognize

that we may not find the answer to. There are changes in precipitation and some people feel like that's as big a factor as anything. And maybe some of those answers are long time in coming. But we know that we can treat the landscape and we know that the aspen will sprout, regenerate, if we can just get them up to the point where they're above the browsing height, you know, then it will be successful. So it's a great group. And I hope that each of you would find a way of participating, if you will, and when we do find some answers I hope we're willing to solve the problems.

Steve Flinders: Thanks. We appreciate all of you for coming tonight. And we absolutely want to hear the solutions. Any other follow-up dialogue? We appreciate everybody coming out.

Other Business
-Steve Flinders

Steve Flinders: I don't have any other business. Looking for a motion to adjourn. Motion made.

Harry Barber: Motion to adjourn.

Steve Flinders: Motion made.

Sam Carpenter: I'll second it.

Steve Flinders: You can go home.

Harry Barber made the motion to adjourn. Sam Carpenter seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

**Southeast Region Advisory Council
Emery County Building
75 E. Main
Castle Dale, Utah
Sep. 19, 2012 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.**

Motion Summary

No motions were made, since there was no quorum.

Members Present

Seth Allred, At Large
Bill Bates, Regional Supervisor

Blair Eastman, Agriculture

Jeff Horrocks, Elected Official
Todd Huntington, At Large
Derris Jones, Chairman

Christine Micoz, At Large

Members Absent

Kevin Albrecht, USFS

Sue Bellagamba, Environmental

Wayne Hoskisson, Environmental

Kenneth Maryboy, Navajo Rep.
Darrel Mecham, Sportsmen

Travis Pehrson, Sportsmen
Pam Riddle, BLM
Charlie Tracy, Agriculture

Others Present

Mike King

1) **Welcome, RAC introductions and RAC Procedure**

-Derris Jones, Chairman

Derris Jones: We are going to go ahead and get started. We have a problem with a quorum tonight. We didn't have a quorum last month in Moab either. What we are going to do is go ahead and go through the agenda and we will do everything to take public comment and RAC comment except we just won't vote on it. Hopefully, through the discussion, I will get some kind of idea to present to the board as far as what people's feelings are on it and any problems anybody sees in the presentation or the recommendations. We can at least carry it forward to the wildlife board. So with that said what the process will be tonight is, we will have a presentation from the division on the recommendation and then we will have questions from the RAC and then we'll have questions from the audience (the public). At this point, just keep it questions and that will be for clarifications on recommendations from the division. Then, after the questions are over, if anybody wants to make a comment from the public, I request that you fill out one of these cards. It helps Brent keep track of the minutes and gets spellings and names correct. You'll have an opportunity to present your comments to the RAC and the division after all the comments has been listened to. We will close it to the public and open it to the RAC for discussion and like I mentioned earlier, we will do everything but take a vote on it. We can't approve the agenda minutes because we don't have a quorum. We will go ahead and go to the wildlife board update and the regional update from Bill Bates. I wasn't at the last board meeting. Bill represented our region at the last board meeting, so Bill will give the wildlife board update.

2) **Approval of the Agenda and Minutes (Action)**

-Derris Jones, Chairman

VOTING

No motion was made due to a lack of quorum.

3) **Wildlife Board Meeting Update**

-by Derris Jones, Bill Bates and Justin Shannon

Bill Bates: I have a lot more respect for Derris' job of making this report and what Mike does. It's actually quite involved. I'm probably not going to do it justice, but I will tell you what I can. We actually had two wildlife board meetings during the interim and so I will give a quick update on both. The first was held August 15th and 16th in Salt Lake City. I will just go through the summary of motions and if you have any questions go ahead and ask them and I will try and clarify as best as I can. The first thing that we looked at was the action log. If you remember at the RAC in Moab we had a discussion about female cougar harvest. There was a little discussion that we were taking too many cougars. There were some misunderstandings about when we count if it's an adult female or not, but at the board meeting, the motion was made to do an expeditious review of the data to provide the board members with the analysis and conclusions and recommendations, concerning the possible over-harvest of cougars. Agenda and minutes

were approved. There was one variance. Brad Miller had bonus points and waiting period reinstated. Next thing was bobcat harvest and the bobcat recommendations were passed unanimously as presented by the division which was the status quo. There was some discussion at our RAC about the bobcat harvest. Wayne felt that we should actually drop the number of permits further, but due to changes in the plan, if you were moving toward a target; we would maintain the course rather than continue to take away permits. So that was passed. The next thing we talked about was the waterfowl guidebook and that passed unanimously. There was very little discussion on the waterfowl guidebook. The next thing we talked about was a motion made by Jake Albrecht and seconded by Calvin Crandall that we put the issues of swan and sandhill cranes on the action log to see if there could be additional birds taken in other parts of the state. So that was just put on the action log, but other than that, the waterfowl guidebook passed as presented. Moving on, there was a proposal made to close an area around Pineview Reservoir to hunting and that was denied unanimously, or died for lack of a motion actually. The motion was made to direct the division to work with landowners and the forest service in this area to address the hunting problems. The next thing we talked about was conservation permits and permit allocations and there was quite a discussion on this one, and I couldn't do it justice but the only motion that came out of it was a motion by Jake Albrecht. He moved that we approve the conservation permit allocations with the addition of 20 antlerless elk permits to be distributed at the discretion of the division. That was to cover drought conditions and I don't even remember which units they were thinking about. Mike, do you have recollection?

Mike King: I can't remember exactly but it was in the southern region.

Bill Bates: It was in the southern region, wasn't it? Yeah, because we were talking about additional antlerless elk permits and they kind of felt that permits should be on the CWMUs as well. The one that took the most discussion was on the convention permit audit. We talked for hours about this. Ernie Perkins made a motion which was seconded by Jake Albrecht that passed unanimously that we accept the division's recommendations, adding that contract stipulations for the annual report that it should include the total amount of funds raised by the application fee, cost of administering the drawing, and expenditure on wildlife conservation activities. What the division did was make a recommendation to make the audit a little more transparent by having a disclosure on how the permits fees were used. If you recall there is a \$5 permit fee but basically with the contract the division is actually giving the Mule Deer Foundation and Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife \$5 per application. It's just like the fee we are paying to have them run that drawing. But it was felt that in the next proposal by the Utah Wildlife Cooperative that there should be more disclosure on how those funds are spent. There was another motion on the convention audit and that was made by Ernie Perkins and seconded by Mike King that the convention permit audit be accepted as presented, and that passed unanimously. Jake Albrecht made the motion, which was seconded by Mike King. The motion was to approve the convention permit allocation as presented. Now, the United Wildlife Cooperative was concerned with several things and their proposal, I don't remember the meat and potatoes of their proposal really, but in essence they wanted better disclosure on how those funds are spent and also that 90% of the money raised from the convention permit funds should be returned to the division. Our attorney Marty Bushman who works for the Attorney General's office said that would be a breach of contract. We are in the second year of a five-year or maybe four-year contract. I am not sure on the actual numbers. But we are in the middle of a contract, and it would be a

breach of contract for us to change it right now, so after much discussion a motion was made by Ernie Perkins and seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed 4 to 1. It was moved that we add to the action log a request that the division meet with the Mule Deer Foundation, Sportsman's for Fish and Wildlife, and United Wildlife Cooperative both individually and collectively to identify issues of concern, and discuss possible voluntary changes to the current contract and then have the division report back to the board within one year. What Jim offered to do was facilitating a meeting to see if we could come up with an agreement on how to resolve their issues. Mike, do you have any thing else you would like to add to that discussion?

Mike King: I think that pretty well summarizes what went on but the United Wildlife Cooperative, like you said, was very concerned about the way that the money was being spent. Also the amount of money was not coming back to the state similarly to what happens with the conservation permits and I think they wanted to bring the convention permit program more in line with what the conservation permits were. But it's my understanding that, and I don't know if they have had this meeting yet, that the United Wildlife Cooperative and Sportsman's for Fish and Wildlife and the division would talk about the issues that they have and then hopefully they'd be able to work something out that would be agreeable to all the parties. But ultimately if there is to be a change made it will be something that the division and the Mule Deer Foundation and Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife can agree upon, but there is that effort to try and do some thing that can satisfy some of the concerns that the United Wildlife Cooperative has, and I don't know if they have had that kind of discussion.

Bill Bates: I don't think they have had the meeting yet; at least I haven't heard about it,

Unknown: Will that be an open meeting?

Mike King: I don't know that. I would be surprised if it is to begin with. The decision ultimately, if there are changes to be recommended, will come forward in an open meeting to renegotiate that contract.

Bill Bates: Any of those things will come back through the RAC process and through the wildlife board but I don't know. I know I wasn't invited to the meeting if it's been held.

Derris Jones: Mike, I don't mean to put you on the spot but were there any examples by the Wildlife Coalition of things they thought the money shouldn't have been spent on that Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife or the Mule Deer Foundation spent money on?

Mike King: The only one I remember was coming up was \$300,000 that was spent on anti-wolf campaigns. That's a considerable amount of money. Beyond that, I don't remember anybody talking about anything specifically. The listing of projects that they presented to us were all good creditable programs as far as I was concerned. The wolf issue was one you could question a little bit I think.

Derris Jones: You either love them or hate them.

Mike King: Yeah, yeah exactly. But I think some of the concern was that a lot of that money, particularly with the wolves, was that it might not have any ultimate benefit to the state. Some of that money, or most of that money, would be spent somewhere besides Utah specifically, and that was just one example of what they thought might not have been an appropriate use of the money.

Derris Jones: Did the wildlife board have any kind of discussion of the projects and say this was good and this was bad?

Mike King: No. No we didn't have that kind of discussion at all.

Derris Jones: Okay.

Bill: The Mule Deer Foundation and Sportsman's for Fish and Wildlife came forward on their own and offered up a list of what projects they spent their money on and let them know how much money they had raised.

Mike King: I know that the two groups were actually talking to each other at the meeting as well and it sounded like they were both in favor of having some good discussion. I think there was quite a bit of misunderstanding about what was actually happening to raise that \$5 dollars I think in many peoples' mind the Mule Deer Foundation and Sportsman's for Fish and Wildlife were selling permits, which is not the case. They were accepting an application fee, a brokering fee really, for running the drawing similar to what the group in Nevada does for the general drawings.

Derris Jones: They charge \$10 dollars versus \$5 dollars.

Mike King: So they were being paid a fee to run the drawing not to sell permits and that was a big concern to a lot of people. They felt Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife and the Mule Deer Foundation were selling public hunting permits which is not the case.

Mike King: I think the United Wildlife Cooperative got this thing going and brought it to the forefront and that's what got the Mule Deer Foundation and Sportsman's for Fish and Wildlife to come forward. I don't think they were going to do that on their own.

Todd Huntington: I think it was a good example of how the public process ought to work. You had both sides of a controversy coming before the wildlife board, and you had both sides presenting with lots of discussion. Eventually some compromises were made. It was a good chance for something to be aired out that may not have happened otherwise.

Mike King: As far as I understood the issue, it was just a matter of accountability and transparency. The people in these groups felt like there wasn't any transparency and no accountability for that \$5 dollars and as far as I understand that's what they wanted.

Bill Bates: The next item they talked about was the CWMU advisory council, community membership and there was some changes made with members and I don't have written down who they were but the recommendations made were passed unanimously. The ? CWMU had a request for an additional bull permit and Ernie Perkins made a motion which was seconded by Jake that they grant the additional permit. The scales and tails--I don't even remember what that is about but it was approved.

Drew Cushing: They wanted to get an alligator.

Bill Bates: Oh Okay

Drew Cushing: They just had an addition to their COR and it was approved.

Bill Bates: The next motion was for additional antlerless permits. We had additional 1450 permits that the division recommended be added in different units across the state to deal with both drought and fire issues and that was passed unanimously. Those went on sale on September 6th and we sold out by 11 am, so it went very quickly. We had some on the La Sals and San Juan in our region. There was other business, but I will just skip that because I don't really understand what it was. I don't know what those were about. They probably matter but I don't know what they were.

Jeff Horrocks: You said something about two board meetings.

Bill Bates: We had another emergency board meeting in the middle of all of this.

On September 12, a meeting was called because of the survey done on bison down on the Henry Mountains. Once again we counted more than we thought were down there, and based on the model and with our sightability with the GPS collars that we had on the bison, we estimated about 40 some animals over the objective and so we asked for an emergency meeting and the wildlife board granted that. Jim could have actually gone ahead and approved these additional permits under his emergency authority but he felt it

was very important to have the wildlife boards' voice in the matter so we had three agenda items. The first item was more additional late season antlerless elk permits. These were mostly out of our region. The USFS got with the division here in Price and asked us to consider more antlerless elk permits in the area where the Seeley Fire burned. They have been working with livestock permittees up there trying to keep livestock off of some of that new growth and they felt that with the 48,000 acres that was burned it would be good to reduce the amount of grazing pressure so we made a proposal to have an additional 100 permits on the Mohrland Stump Flat unit and an additional 75 permits on the Gordon Creek/Price Canyon unit. That was approved unanimously and those go on sale September 20th. We are expecting a little bit of a crowd. You can also get those online or at any license agent. A person can have up to two elk permits. If you already have one and you would rather trade it for one of these you can take your chances and go get in line and try and change it. You'll forfeit the \$50 dollars you paid for the original permit but you can make that change if you want. We are expecting a crowd on the 20th because we've had lots of calls on the telephone about it. The next item we talked about was increased bison permits on the Henry Mountains as I explained we counted more animals than we thought we would.

Todd Huntington: How many more?

Bill: It was 42 or 48 more. I actually have the data here. I can give it to you or we can go through it. We estimated the preseason population would have 384 bison, and as I recall, it doesn't say, but I recall that was going to be 42 or 48 over-objective. So what we recommended was an additional 60 permits to take into account hunter success. With 60 permits we are anticipating we are going to be below the objective.

Unknown: (Inaudible. From the audience. No microphone.)

Bill Bates: That also passed unanimously. The third item that came up was not an action item. It was just an informational item but we talked about the harvest of female cougars and John Shivic did the analysis the wildlife board had asked for at the last board meeting, and it came back that the increase in harvest was not significant. For instance, in the quota, we have a total of about a 163 females and we harvested 111 so there were 52 permits remaining on the units they were concerned about. For instance, the Wasatch unit had a quota of 39. There were 36 harvested, so there were still 3 remaining, so we really never went over the quota in those units. There was some concern that opening the Manti up to a quota reduces hunting pressure on some of those Bighorn Sheep units where we want to have pressure. That was actually a really good point because it is a lot easier to hunt on the Manti than to go hunt on Timpanogos or over in the Bighorn Benches or Rattlesnake units which are tough places to hunt. So that is something we will go back and look at for next year, but there were no changes made. The wildlife board felt comfortable that we are not overharvesting females or the data wasn't significant enough to require an emergency change midseason. That pretty much sums it up, right Mike?

Mike King: That and the fact you are almost ready to change and make some adjustments in the plans this coming year, the board just felt like it didn't make sense changing it.

Bill Bates: Just wait another year.

Derris Jones: As far as the 60 bison permits, it seems like we only gave out about 40 originally or something like that. Who gets them and what's the season? How do they plug them in and the dates and all that?

Bill Bates: We originally gave out 60 permits. There were 56 that were allocated through the drawing process and there were four conservation permits. So it's essentially a

doubling of the permits. We added a fourth season, another late season cow hunt. They will be allocated to people who already applied in the draw based on their draw number.

Derris Jones: The hunter choice tag, is that after the third season?

Bill Bates: No, those were added to the two existing seasons. What we did was added 6 permits to the first hunt and 8 permits to the second hunt.

Derris Jones: Then added another late season cow hunt after the original cow hunt?

Bill Bates: And that one has 25 permits and so we added 20 permits to the existing cow hunt.

Derris Jones: So how many cow hunters on the first cow hunt?

Bill Bates: We will have 34.

Derris Jones: So there are more cow hunters on the first season than the second season?

Bill Bates: Right. But hunter's success is a lot better in that first one than in the second one. The only other thing that I thought I better bring back, and I was lectured and take responsibility for this), I said we could go ahead and vote on it but at our RAC in Moab we went ahead and voted on a cougar issue when it wasn't an action item. I said we can vote on whatever we want but apparently that's not true. We can only vote on the agenda. I stand reproved.

Derris Jones: So when people bring something that's not on the agenda, we can talk about but we can't vote about it.

Christine Micoz: On the additional bison tags. It seems like we talked about a year or two ago the concern about the pressure on the mountain and driving the bison off. Is that going to be a concern?

Bill Bates: Back in those years we were really concerned. We had about 160 permits and we are at about 120 this year.

Christine Micoz: We're down?

Bill Bates: It's still a lot of pressure but it's not as much as it was for those three years. So I think we will be alright.

Derris Jones: Any questions about the board update? Let's go ahead and do a regional update, Bill.

**4) Regional Update (Informational)
-Bill Bates, Regional Supervisor**

Bill Bates: Brent do you want to just advance the slides and I'll just sit here. Go ahead with the first one. Our aquatic section has been very busy. They have been investigating the situation up at Huntington Canyon with Huntington Creek and also on the Price River. They did some fish stocking just yesterday and they found quite a good population of fish above the fire and they are here if you want to ask them questions. I think the number and the species mix look good up there but in the middle section around the Stuart Guard section they didn't find any fish. It still looks degraded. There was some more significant flooding over Labor Day. Huntington Canyon was closed for over a week. I was actually at Rolfson Canyon when the storm hit when that hit, and I'll tell you that was a heck of a storm. We've got a lot of concern with the Huntington Creek drainage. The Forest Service and Emery County have been working hard, trying to shore up the river itself and the road and taking some measures to stop erosion in some of those major drainages like Engineer Canyon, Flood Canyon, and South Hughes. Justin Hart and

Calvin Black are here if you have questions for them. They could answer those questions because they have been actively involved in it. They've been doing some investigations on the tiger muskies or maybe it's just creel surveys but it's interesting now that those finger-sized tiger muskies we released in 2009 are now over 30" long up at Joes Valley. We also found the mud snails in the Loa fish hatchery that's being quarantined and Drew could answer any questions you have about that, but it's going to be cleaned and hopefully brought up to production here the not too distant future. Brent's section has been busy. We had just a new major intuitive rolled out by the director's office. It's the Wildlife Recreation Program. What we are going to do is change the Conservation Outreach focus a little bit. We are taking Hunter Education, Hunter Recruitment and Retention and putting all those under one umbrella. There's going to be a new coordinator hired to head up that effort and most important thing for our agency is to make sure that we have our funding base perpetuated into the future and also somebody take care of wildlife and if we don't have hunters or anglers our funding goes away. Also it's the heritage that we've had and we would like to see that maintained so we are having a major effort there. The State Fair just concluded and we had about a quarter of million people go through our building up there. There will be a raptor watch day up at Orem. Brent, did you check out another site on the Skyline Drive?

Brent Stettler: I just haven't had the time

Bill Bates: Ok

Brent Stettler: Yes, I am looking at South Skyline Drive.

Bill Bates: Ok. Brent will have more information. It's not on here but you have a shooting day? Is that still coming up?

Brent Stettler: Yes, on September 29th. It's going to be at the North Springs Shooting range.

Bill Bates: And that's for youth?

Brent Stettler: Yes, 18 years of age and younger. They have to preregister so I know how many kids to plan on and I am going to have 10 kids shoot at a time at hour blocks.

Bill Bates: So if you have any young men or young women between 12 and 18 that would like to go learn how to shoot or participate in that just have them give Brent Stettler a call and we will get them signed up for that. Law enforcements been busy with lots of cases. We had a Mr. Robinson that was convicted of repeat trespass. We had a bear shot by a convicted felon, a deer shot on the wrong unit, somebody shoot a bear with an arrow and then shot it with a rifle. We had one really big case that was just concluded or just went to adjudication. Mr. John Mogul had a CWMU permit down in San Juan County and he shot the deer off of the CWMU and it was video recorded. They picked it up and carried it across the fence and gutted it on the CWMU and he was found guilty or he actually pled to the charge and was given \$8,000 in restitution and \$1,800 in fines and lost his rifle. It was a good case. The habitat section has been really busy. They are preparing for a prescribed burn down in the Moab Matheson Wetland. They have been making wood duck boxes at Desert Lake. At Horse Canyon we have had a fuel reduction project to improve habitat for winter range. There will be plantings of cottonwoods right away on a couple of WMAs. They are also spraying and drilling seed in Bitter Creek in Dark Canyon. They are working on some water improvement projects. They are working on a pond at Nash Wash and they are disking and reseeding the lower fields at the Gordon Creek Wildlife Management area. They are working on the lighthouse fire in Range Creek and they are helping with the Forest Service on the Seeley Fire. What we have done is offered to provide seed and whatever help they would like us to do. The

Wildlife section is in the middle of building a new cabin down on the Henry Mountains. Derris is our example on this. He and Jim Karpowitz, Guy Wallace, and Ron Hudson build a cabin down on the Delores Triangle and they did it in four days. That's what I heard. I don't know if that's really true though.

Derris Jones: It was more like four months.

Bill Bates: Four months. I can believe four months. It's going slow but it's looking really good. It's got a good foundation and they have a bunch of the logs up today. The youth Chukar hunt will be the 22nd of September at Gordon Creek if you have youth. I think it's filled up already. I think we had over 100 applications for 20 openings. There will be a youth Pheasant hunt on the 13th of September and I don't have the details on that. Maybe Brent does.

Brent Stettler: Brad Crompton has yet to give me the details on that one.

Bill Bates: Get with us if you have questions and we will let you know. We've started our coyote check-in with the new bounty program. We have so far checked in 453. We have spent over \$22,000 dollars already. At \$50 dollars apiece we've had 82 people check them in. We had someone bring in as many as 45. Most of them have brought in about 2. In our region we had 57 that checked in at Monticello, we had 50 checked in at Price, and we had 1 in Green River. We expected more there and maybe they are saving up for later. Upland game hunts are getting underway. I think that's all we have unless you guys have any questions. We have epizootic hemorrhagic disease that has been discovered in deer and elk in San Juan County caused by the biting midge. I think it's actually the little nose-seeums. But there is really not much you can do about it. Once the animal becomes infected, it gets symptoms similar to meningitis and it infects the brain and they start spinning in circles, they go for water, it's also called sore mouth or blue tongue. It causes a lot of mortality. We have found some mortality this year. The duck and goose hunt will begin on October 6th and the water levels at Desert Lake are coming up and should be ample for a good duck hunt out there, and the muzzleloader deer hunt begins soon. Now I think we are done, unless anyone has any questions?

Derris Jones: I've got one for the fisheries guys. How long before the rehabilitation can begin there? Is that just anybody's guess?

Justin Hart: We're going to have to watch the runoff next spring. We are going to restock that and get it going again but until the massive debris flows and the flash flooding becomes minimized any fish we stock are not going to make it. So we will watch it really closely next spring and optimistically and possibly next summer more likely the year after is when we are looking to get fish back in there. There will be some natural recruitment out of the left fork and the upper to the right fork but we plan on bolstering that with some supplemental stocking. It's hard to say for sure but probably the year after next we would be my best guess. From that point the fish we'll stock will be a fingerling size fish you are probably looking at two years from the date we stock until you get a catchable size fish that's attractive to people.

Derris Jones: So no change in management strategy as far as species?

Justin Hart: Probably not. We haven't stocked that stream forever. I don't even honestly know the last time it was stocked. It's a natural reproducing population. It's always been a really good fishery and you know one good thing about with it being devoid at this once we get fish back in there they will grow quickly. It will be pretty high quality for a while. But it's probably a couple years out unfortunately.

Derris Jones: Thanks, Justin.

Unknown: Is there any fish in the left hand fork then?

Justin Hart: Yeah, we sampled 5 or 6 weeks ago and we found fish just 10 ft. from the main stem just up into the left fork. There was some fire up there but what we think now is that even with the flash flooding and some of the rain events that it wasn't major impacted by that. You know that might change there might be an event in there that really causes some problems. But a large portion of that wasn't really affected in the fire at all. But we think there is still fish in there I am not exactly sure how access is going to be handled with the Forest Service. There's been some talk of a day use or limiting access just for public safety reasons but in the right fork basically from the Hughes Canyon area up to the dam, there's fish. That area hasn't been affected, but the majority of the main stem of the right fork is a complete loss.

Derris Jones: I guess Drew you're going to do the presentation.

Drew Cushing: Yeah

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

-Drew Cushing, Aquatics Program Coordinator

-Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Coordinator

Questions from the RAC

Derris Jones: Questions from the RAC of DWR and the presentation? Maybe the region wants to answer this but if you are comfortable, go ahead Drew. Just from what I am seeing from the comment cards there are some people here tonight to talk about Joes Valley. Could you just enlighten the RAC here and could you go over the current regulations on Joes Valley so that we are all up to speed on what's going on.

Drew Cushing: The Tiger Musky limit or just generally?

Derris Jones: I'd say in general. Let's get the whole picture of Joes Valley.

Justin Hart: Start with the Tiger Musky. That's a new addition to Joes Valley and Tiger Muskies statewide regulation is one fish over 40". Couple years ago we changed from a slot limit based regulation on splake it used to be a 15" to 22" slot limit. Those fish had to be released. We changed that to one over 18" so you can keep two fish over 18" and any fish below, which allowed people to keep some of those intermediate size fish up to 15" to 17" that are a little bit higher quality and better table fare than the fish before that were really skinny. We also have a seasonal closure from not for sure of the exact wording 1st weekend, November 2nd weekend in November through the first of the year that closes fishing at Joes Valley. I think historically that regulation was put in place to protect really large old high quality trophy size splake they can't spawn they are sterile but they still simulate or do a pseudo spawn and those fish would tend to congregate in some area where there was a perceived snagging problem and those larger size fish at the time were felt to be easy to target and they felt like they were being over harvested so that regulation was put in place to help protect some of the larger trophy sized high quality fish that were in there. That's basically the current regulations we have there now.

Derris Jones: So the closure is just to protect the splake

Justin Hart: Primarily it was just the large trophy size fish for being over harvested

Questions from the Audience

Derris Jones: Alright. Any questions on the Joes Valley things?

James Gilson: Are you planning on removing that limit or are they going to keep it there?

Derris Jones: We will get to public questions here in just about two seconds. Are there any questions from the RAC? Ok we are going to go to the public and I ask that you just make it questions at this point and we will get the comments right after the questions.

Anybody have a question on the fishing guidebook and rule?

James Gilson: I am just here to represent myself and some of the local fisherman. I talked to Justin yesterday about opening this back up and could you expand on your thoughts, what we discussed or your concerns about opening it up or not opening. It's just a question I'd like to know so everyone will know.

Derris Jones: Your question is what would happen if we did open it up?

James Gilson: Would the division consider opening it up or not and why or why not?

Derris Jones: Go ahead Justin

Justin Hart: I have been here 10 years and the regulations been in effect the whole time I have been here and honestly that whole period I really haven't heard anybody that had a preference one way or the other. With that being said I talked to James a little bit on the phone yesterday and have thought about it and did a little looking it to our data. Yeah it is definitely something we would consider changing. Based on our regulation we currently have that only allows the harvest of one fish over 18" there is some protection for the large trophy size fish. Based on what we think the current level of fishing effort is out there we think it could probably be justified and then there has been one major change that has happened since that regulation has been placed and that was the mercury advisory that's on Joes Valley reservoir. Currently I think it any fish over 12" has a consumption advisory and I think it's one 8 oz. meal for an adult and they recommend children and pregnant women don't even consume larger splake from Joes Valley. Mercury is something that is present in a lot of our fisheries and it bio-accumulates over time and the large long live fishes tend to have high concentrations of it. A splake at Joes Valley to me is a trophy something for your wall and probably not being consumed in large amounts. You combine those three factors and it's defiantly something we would consider.

Derris Jones: Thanks Justin Hart. Any other questions from the public? You might as well hang around Justin.

Steven Christensen: You can call me a passionate bass fisherman. But I have been catching those Tiger Muskies. They are probably about the most exciting fish in a hundred mile radius. That being said I would like to see that closure reopened and my question was perhaps we could open it and just close or just say maybe say no splake. Just ban the catching of splake during that period. Also make it catch and release and use of artificial lures possibly during that time if the splake was still a concern.

Derris Jones: Thanks Steve. Is there any other question and I promise you guys can talk all you want comment wise as soon as the question time is over but for now let's get the questions out of the way and if more questions come up when the comments start coming we can ask more questions but for right now let's keep it to questions.

Dennis Fuller: My comment is and question is when they are doing the surveys for the fish and game some of these census that were being taken and some of the reviews that are being done are just on these card. An a lot of the people in Provo and Salt Lake are affecting the out skirting areas and some of the decisions that are being made and so I think that if we could comment online and that it could be taken as a comment card is

here that we would have an online place that people in the rural areas could that's my comment. The question; is that in place? Do we have a place online that we can place are comments with the fish and game and make it count as a vote toward the things that happen throughout the year?

Drew Cushing: A lot of these recommendations are result of that online survey that we did do and we also accept email suggestions and hard mail or anything else so that's how a lot of these recommendations are formulated. Or we come up with a recommendation and then bounce it off the public and then receive that feedback so yes and we do a 5 year angler surveys statewide too that we did this year. Does that help?

Dennis Fuller: Yes also to comment or question on the boat thing that is taking place where everybody has to fill out these forms. We filled out a form for the whole year and it's just very difficult on a lot of the boaters that are taking care of this problem. I understand that the problem is great with these zebra mussels and they are trying to address the problem with it but it is also causing a lot of frustration and anger in this boating world and so it making it some of them are not doing what is appropriate and it's not taking place the way you would like it. We are having a hard time with the fish and game is what I see is taking care of chub and perch and these other large things and we got something that is so small that you can't see it on boats and I am thinking we are having a problem with the fisherman and the comprehension between fisherman and boaters of getting this taken care of in a more proper way. I think we could adjust that better so that's just a comment I have. Thank you

Derris Jones: Any other questions from the public. I want to hear a question mark at the of it James

James Gilson: I have a question for Justin. What would be the opposition of doing this, this year? We talked about that I like to just let have you tell the RAC and that what your concerns were. Could you tell us what those were?

James Gilson: Justin and I talked about this yesterday and it just hasn't been through the public process and it wasn't part of the online survey or any of the open houses. My suggestion would be to carry it through next year or a later RAC without going through the public and having the public have time to weigh in it would be something we would oppose right now.

Comments from the Audience

Derris Jones: Any other questions from the public? Okay we are going to go to comments now if anybody has a comment I'd ask that you fill out one of these yellow card and give them to me. Steve Christensen did you have anything else to add Steve?

Steve Christensen: I can understand going through the process and everything. We just want to get the ball rolling if we could possibly get the fishing open so people could go up and enjoy the lake at Joes Valley and catch the other trout species and release the splake to protect them if that still a major concern at the same time catch the Tiger Musky which is pretty exciting now days. That's my comment is just wanting to get the ball rolling.

Derris Jones: Thanks, Steve. James Gilson?

James Gilson: Can I ask another question?

Derris Jones: Sure

James Gilson: So if we come to the RAC meeting and it's for public input and recommendation from the public, are they telling us that these public recommendations

are not going to be considered until it goes through the next process for a full year? Is that what we are hearing? We can't make a recommendation tonight if it hasn't been through and gone through a full year and all this process?

Drew Cushing: Two years ago we had the spring informational RAC where we encouraged people to come provide us with their recommendations and they didn't. So we went with the online survey and some other mechanisms. The open house is to solicit and collect that input in a better way where we can interact with more of the public, which they have. That's how we came up with this fall RAC. It isn't that I am not supportive because I am. I just want to make sure that we give the public time to weigh in.

James Gilson: Ok, well my comments are about the bass clubs up at Provo and how they use local input and so that is what we are here tonight to do. We would like to see the lake open. We would like to see the RAC open it this year. One of the things Justin and I talked about yesterday was the public lands council. I was on the lands council when this was first presented and we wrote letters and supported this and then also I was involved in raising some extra money to get it to happen. We got great success from that. It's kind of something I have been involved in for quite a while. One of the things Justin was concerned about was the public lands council so I did some checking today. Did we talk today or yesterday?

Justin: Yesterday

James Gilson: It's on the lands council agenda for the first Tuesday in October. The Wildlife Board doesn't meet on this till November 1st so we can get it through the local area it is a local issue. I know there are people that come down here from up North but there no reason to wait a year. I see and I have been in this process and in your seats for 8 years and I see items like this come in and go through and I don't think we need to wait a year. I'd hope that you'd consider the local public request and then let us take it to the lands council. The three people I talked to today had no opposition and then if it that's approved you could do a caveat if it's ok and goes through the lands council and then the board could go ahead and approve this to open for this year. Thank you.

Derris Jones: Thanks James. Danny Curtis?

Danny Curtis: I'm here to represent myself and probably 20 local fishermen that I know around this area that I've contacted recently and they all agree that they would like to see Joes Valley left open and not have a closure. I also contacted some of the businessmen because I was curious. I asked Leroy that runs Food Ranch if he notices a difference in the fall when the Joes Valley was closed down in his revenues and he said yes I can tell and it hurts my business when the lakes closed down. Pat Jones from Ace Hardware said the same thing and they both told me they would be here tonight if they possibly could but apparently they possibly couldn't. That's a couple of my ideas or comments. I fish Joes Valley a lot and I can fish that place 100 times in a year and I never ever catch a splake that's over a pound or two. In the fall time, sometimes you can catch a fish that's worth keeping and you bring your friend and get something for them to have a trophy and make it be something. Since that's been closed down I mean it broke my heart and this snagging thing I took some off of the fish and game people up there Dennis and I did some of the DWR officers and showed them what we was doing and showed them how we caught those fish and we did occasionally snag a fish. It was quite a big scandal in that meeting and I was very heart broken and dismayed about what people were saying and doing. It was like there was some people that were jealous that some of us were catching some of those fish and they couldn't do it. That's what it seemed to me like. We

have a problem up there with the irrigation and the water people up there they think they don't want anyone anywhere around that lake they are up there building giant fence back around in there spending I don't know how much money tax payers money rebuilding the fence around that thing. For what reason can we put a snowmobile or a four wheeler on there, it's just like that lakes up there and we are getting denied use here there and there and you can't do this and you can't do that. I know that when that lake was built my grandfather and my uncle owned that property up there and each one of them donated 1,000 shares of water to that thing to get it to go. I mean there's been lots of sacrifice given for that lake and I think we should get to use it more. I also think that it needs to be open this year because of all the loss of all the opportunities in Huntington Canyon and sometime you can't even get up to it Electric Lake or anywhere up there and that's where else is there around here. Another comment I'd like to have is considering the cost and the all the effort to get those Muskies in there that I'd like to see consider to increase the length of keeping a legal fish in there so they can have more chance to do what they want them to do and not cost so much by trying to replace all the time. If we had fish that were 50" in there it'd be a great boon to the county. It really would I know there is people that's already coming from all over the state to be here and even further to fish it already. Derris Jones: Your recommendation would be 50" instead 40?"

Danny Curtis: Just increase it to something yeah 50" would be cool but maybe not quite. I know that there are people that are keeping those fish up there regardless. I have people call me and say oh I caught one of those Tiger Trout up to Joes Valley and when I got it in the boat and took my pictures and stuff and messed around it for 10 minutes it wouldn't swim back in the water so I put it in the cooler. What should I do? And I said well I'd probably tell you to quit telling people that you've kept them you know. Then I've seen pictures of people that are keeping them. Those fish when you catch them, they fight really hard, until they tire out and then they will kind of play dead for a while. They're are not dead and people think they are or they are dying. If you put them back in the water expediently and play with them a little bit and hold them upright. All the ones I've ever caught have revived and swam away. I use heavy line and stuff and try to get them in the boat but I think increase the regulation and make something special up there like we had with the splake would be neat.

Derris Jones: So you'd like Joes Valley to be special with the Tiger Musky compared to the rest of the state? Like a trophy Tiger Musky type. Ok

James Gilson: Yes

Derris Jones: Any other comments from the public. Mr. Lessar, could I get you to fill out a yellow card after you get done doing your comment?

Gene Lessar: Are you taking comments for other areas besides southern area

Derris Jones: Yes

Gene Lessar: On August the 2nd I sent a letter or emailed the Utah Department of Natural Resources in Salt Lake. I asked the about the rumors about poisoning Forsythe and if there is any other fisheries scheduled to be poisoned. On the 9th of August I did receive a comment back that says the DWR would like to sincerely thank you for your comments and input we really appreciate your thoughts and suggestions I have passed your e-mail on to the appropriate folks again thank you for your e-mail. Well as of now I still haven't heard from them and its obviously they have poisoned and drained Forsyth but my question is I wish they would made some comments to go utilize them fish if they could like they do at Mill Meadows and that was my comment. Oh one more I talked to Justin

he gave a telephone number of some people to find about a stocking and I lost it maybe they can help me.

Justin Hart: I think you thought they stocked Forsyth right before the treatment with some trout.

Gene Lessar: Yeah according to fish stocking report they put in 8,800 5" Tiger Trout on August 9th and I think they chemically treated it and drained it on the 20th. I don't know how much truth there is or fact there is to that. Thank You

Derris Jones: I hope none. Any other public comment on the fishing guidebook and rule? With no other public comment we are going to close it to public comment and open it up to RAC discussion and James I know you came in just a little bit after we got started but I want you to know we don't have a corium here tonight so we are not going to be able to vote but we are going to take all the public comment and we are going to listen to the RAC comment and I am going to at least take that sentiment forward to the board. With everything I can. But we can't have a motion and a vote.

RAC Discussion

Derris Jones: Okay do we have any discussion items?

Todd Huntington: If we could vote I would recommend that we vote or we could pass the information along that we open that up this year. We had an emergency wildlife board meeting a week ago where we got 60 more bison permits and who knows how many antlerless elk permits that are for this year.

Bill Bates: 205

Todd Huntington: 205 that didn't go through the full public process we didn't have a RAC on that there's no reason why something like this can't be done this year.

Derris Jones: Anybody have any differing opinions

Unknown: No but I'd like to support what Todd had to say. I think that local people in the area like the surveys that were done in Salt Lake and Utah counties should be done here and think if that what the locals want on that reservoir then it's not going to harm the quality of fishing that we have up there. We should consider that and go ahead and open that this year.

Todd Huntington: Anyone else?

Public not at microphone: I'd like to ask a question of the aquatics guys. If this was going to be done by the board would you prefer to see a catch and release on the splake or you think that the slot limit thing is sufficient to protect it.

Justin Hart: I think that sounds good but I think from a law enforcement stand point that would be really tough to enforce. People are out there fishing and it would be really hard to say who's fishing for Tiger Muskies, who's fishing for splake and expecting our guys to get out there and try and help us enforce it. I think it would be better just to lift it.

Todd Huntington: I'm not saying close it to splake but if you did catch a splake you'd have to release all splake you wouldn't be able to keep anything in the trophy category during that what you now have as a closure period.

Justin Hart: So you are saying to fish over 18" just during the period that's now closed.

Derris Jones: Yeah

Justin Hart: I think it's too complicated

Jeff Horrocks: If you leave it in there where it's one splake over 18" one Tiger over 40"

Justin Hart: It just is the general regulations year round. Probably what we prefer to go for.

Derris Jones: The other question I have is right now we haven't had any Tigers over 40" yet. We are getting really close. Is that what I am hearing?

Justin Hart: I've heard some rumors but I've haven't personal seen one. But I don't think it's impossible but I think the majority of the fish aren't quite there yet. But there very likely could be a few.

Derris Jones: Once we get them to 40" I don't know anything about Tigers. Is 50" realistic?

Justin Hart: 50" is really big and I think what we are going to see is once those fish start getting over 40" you are not going to be catching 7 of them consistently in an afternoon. They become a little harder to catch. So that's not to say we wouldn't support some sort of different regulation from the statewide but I think we would prefer to maybe watch it for a while and try to see. I don't think some bodies going to go up there any catch 17 40+" Tiger Muskies in an afternoon. I might be wrong but that's my gut feeling.

Public: I beg to differ there's not too many people that would go up there and catch 17 in an afternoon.

Justin Hart: It's going to get harder to get them. When they are bigger it's going to be harder to get those fish.

Public: One of the things I failed to mention and I am sorry for the inconvenience. Fall fishing for Muskies is one of the peak best times to chase Muskies colder temperatures is real good trolling and real good fishing. That's the other thing is it gives us an opportunity to use the resource when it's even better fishing.

Justin Hart: Yeah I don't think this request is unreasonable in any way. We have greatly appreciated the opportunity of throwing ideas past the public lands council and working with the county and you know we want to make sure we aren't doing something that's going to be perceived as sliding something through we want to make sure that what we change is in order and that's where we are coming from here.

Public: Will you make that happen in the short term?

Justin Hart We'll try and do what we can.

Derris Jones: So your feelings are right now if they lift that you go to your same regulations one tiger over 40" stay with splake over 18". You are not going to be detrimental hitting that trophy splake classification? Taking to many fish out.

Justin Hart: No that was kind of a locally generated regulation to start with the way the way I understood I wasn't here but from what I have read and heard that. A lot of our regulations have a social component to them and a biological one and this is a perfect example. It's kind of a mix it's got a social purpose and a biological one. You know based on what we know now we will have to look into it a little deeper. Probably something that we can make happen at some point.

Public: On that mercury poisoning or mercury content we said on the splake. Is it affecting the tiger trout and cutthroats and all the fish?

Justin Hart: The last time we sampled it, it was just the splake. When the regulations first came out on splake in general and I worked for a couple of years to try and get a handle on it. You know if you looked at the sample we took from the fish, it was just extremely large 5, 6, ant 7+ lbs. The smaller fish that were not as old were fine. What we ended up getting was anything over 12 didn't exactly do what I was told. It very well could be. The longer they stay in the tiger Musky could be the same way. What we think is it atmospheric deposition of the mercury, it builds up in the sediments and gets cycled through the food chain and spreads it to the fish. They are at the top of that they are the ones most affected.

Brent Stettler: Unless you're on the microphone we can't pick it. So all we get is half part of conversation

Derris Jones: Any other comments from the RAC. It sounds to me like the majority of the sentiment of the RAC here tonight is in support of the public recommendation of doing away the closure the current closure that's on Joes Valley. If I am speaking out of turn and someone has a different opinion I'd really like to have it on the record.

Blair Eastman: So why don't you guys put together a proposal. I think we would be more than happy to look at it as a RAC at our next meeting.

Derris Jones: Well by then the boards already met on it.

Todd Huntington: Isn't there another Wildlife Board meeting in November that they could look at this.

Derris Jones: But the proclamation is all said already. It will be out by the next

Unknown: It's something that needs to execute

Derris Jones: If it's going to happen this year the board has to do something on the November 1st meeting.

Seth Allred: I think we would be more than willing to help you. Time is the essence. The closure is in November 1st.

Todd Huntington: The only way we could have helped them is if we would have had a quorum here that we could have made a vote to send up.

Derris Jones: There is probably nothing that could be done about this year's closure we are talking about 2013. Time is of the essence for the next guidebook but it is because it will be 2014 if we wait another year before the closure is taken off.

Derris Jones: If I have the opportunity what the feeling of the RAC was without a corium I will certainly pass on the passion of the public here tonight to remove the closure for the 2013 season. As far as 2012 the coming up closure it's already been said it would take an emergency amendment to the guidebook to change that and that's not in our purview. Ok we will move on the next item then which is illegal species movement in Utah.

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

-Drew Cushing, Aquatics Program Coordinator

-Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Chief

Questions and Comments from the RAC and Audience

Derris Jones: Does the public have any questions on the invasive species.

Dennis Fuller: On the illegal fish that are introduced in the waters there's a penalty for introducing illegal fish in the waters and are kids that take their gold fish to the ponds are they subject to these penalties.

Drew Cushing: Yes and yes

Dennis Fuller: How much is it?

Drew Cushing: I'll tell you what it is and I'll tell what happens when it goes through the court system. Which this education that we are talking about it right now the total penalty is about \$2500 for transporting a fish from point a to point b so if it's in transit its \$2500 dollars if you are caught illegally putting in a fish in a water I believe that is an additional \$3000 dollars for a total of \$5500 dollars that's what you could be penalized. We have actually caught people with fish in transit and we write them a ticket. It goes through the court system as that amount and then they access what the guy will be charged and it

comes out the other end often as \$50 dollars which is the minimum. That's the first part and kids would be subject to this because it is against the law. I don't believe that any of our law enforcement officers would write a kid a ticket because there is discretion in law enforcement but they have to know too and that's part of the education component which is probably the largest thing we need to do. We need to educate the kids, aquarium owners, anglers, court systems and our folks on how serious this is.

Dennis Fuller: Also on the other fish that were illegal fish. Flaming Gorge they have burbot and they are being encouraged to be taken and yet you want to penalize them for taking them as I understand. Is this just live fish or is this dead one as well?

Drew Cushing: What you saw up there is just a theory I mean it's a possibility. Right now we have a catch and kill on Burbot which is probably not the right regulations for Burbot. Likewise we have catch and kill regulations on yellow perch that's probably not the right regulations for yellow perch because I'm a perch angler and when I go perch fishing I want to take something home to eat it. Matter of fact I want to take a bunch home. If you have water where you have catch and kill regulation it's probably isn't a disincentive to anyone who is going to move fish. Because moving them to a new water and go fishing them at that water probably is a benefit to you.

Danny Curtis: Some of these illegal fish like the Utah Chub in Joes Valley and the Perch and the Walleye in Starvation they have led to some fantastic trophy fishing and there's a lot people that fish for trophy fish and that's their love and they spend a lot of money on boats and gas and stuff and I think we ought to consider them in the management as well as the family and the recreational fishermen. They don't put out nearly as much money or time or effort in it. I agree that they maybe some of the ones that have profligate these things seem to me like a Chub and Perch are big fish feed and I don't understand maybe why we go to all the lengths to get rid of something that makes such a great fishery. Over at Starvation great fishing now and even putting with all the fish there is in there even putting the new rainbows in the past few years there growing fantastically its seems to me like it a good thing.

Derris Jones: Looks like educational program needs to continue. I'd like to before we adjourn make sure everyone knows Tom Ogden. You are still the blue ribbons fishery guy? Couldn't sucker anybody else into doing it?

Tom Ogden: I think they are trying to appoint some body but they haven't done it yet officially.

Derris Jones: But Tom is this regions representative on the blue ribbon fisheries council and Justin I don't know how many of these fishermen and our RAC members have met your new fisheries biologist. You want to introduce Calvin so everyone knows who he is?

Justin Hart: Paul Birdsey used to be the fisheries manager here. He moved up to Salt Lake he's working with Drew now. I took Paul's job and Calvin just came down and replaces my vacant position. He's our cutthroat, sport fish biologist for the region. Calvin worked in Vernal for a lot of years on native cutthroat and sport fish and we are thrilled to talk him into coming down to this region so I'm sure a lot of you will get to know him as time wears on.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.
Public in attendance

The next Wildlife Board meeting will take place on November 1, 2012 at the DNR Salt Lake office Boardroom at 1594 West North Temple at 9 a.m.

The next southeast regional RAC meeting will take place on November 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the John Wesley Powell Museum in Green River.

NORTHEASTERN RAC MEETING SUMMARY – MOTIONS PASSED
Vernal Northeastern Region Office, Vernal / September 20, 2012

5.FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13

MOTION: To go with the fishing regulations as presented, only add a two-day possession limit.

Failed 2-4

Beth Hamann: I don't think it would make a difference and would be a lot of work

MOTION: to accept as presented

Passed unanimously

NORTHEASTERN RAC MEETING SUMMARY
Wildlife Resources NE Region Office, Vernal
September 20, 2012, 6:30 pm

RAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Floyd Briggs, RAC Chair
Ron Winterton, Elected Official
Rod Morrison, Sportsmen
Carrie Mair, At Large
Mitch Hacking, Agriculture
Beth Hamann, Non-Consumptive
Brandon McDonald, BLM

UDWR PERSONNEL PRESENT:

John Owen, NER Conservation Officer
Trina Hedrick, NER Aquatics Manager
Drew Cushing, SLO Aquatic Program Cor
Gayle Allred, NER Office Manager
Boyde Blackwell, NER Supervisor

RAC MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Wayne McAllister, At Large
Andrea Merrell, Non-Consumptive
Kirk Woodward, Sportsmen
Bob Christensen, Forest Service

WILDLIFE BOARD MEMBERS:

Del Brady

1. WELCOME, RAC INSTRUCTIONS AND RAC PROCEDURE: Floyd Briggs

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES: Floyd Briggs

Beth Hamann: Motion to approve
Carrie Mair: second
Passed unanimously

3. WILDLIFE BOARD MEETING UPDATE: Floyd Briggs

There was quite a bit of discussion regarding conservation permits. There was an addition of 20 antlerless elk permits. And there were the additional cow elk permits of over 1400 because of the drought issue and the elk having nothing to eat. The ranchers are coming off early as well. All areas are over-population on elk but it was more so driven because of the drought.

4. REGIONAL UPDATE: Boyde Blackwell

Wildlife: We're well underway on our hunts. We don't have much information yet. The deer opener is in less than four weeks. We'll have the usual check stations.

Habitat: We're finishing several lop and scatter projects

Aquatics: We're pleased with the aquatics section. They've been working a whole year, two people down, and just finished a Sheep Creek project that took 60 people.

Ryan Mosley collected kokanee salmon eggs during the Sheep Creek spawn
We have as good fishing here as anywhere in the state.

5. FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13: Drew Cushing

Northeastern Region changes:

Green River

-No limit on northern pike. Anglers must not release any northern pike they catch. All northern pike must be immediately killed.

-No limit on walleye. Anglers must not release any walleye they catch. All walleye must be immediately killed.

-No limit on channel catfish

Vernal Game Farm Pond

-Limit 2 fish regardless of species (community fishery)

Questions from RAC:

Mitch Hacking: I have a question on two hooks; it was always illegal to have three. Why?

Drew Cushing: At one time, if you allowed 10 hooks while ice fishing, they might put on too many and remove fish wholesale. The decision we came to is we have limits for a reason. Whether you have two hooks or three, the limits are what they are. The method of getting your limit is not what's important; it's the limit itself, so we moved it up a notch.

Mitch Hacking: Does the light bring the fish to the surface?

Drew Cushing: No. At night fish are really visible. When you put a light on them down into the water you can see every fish in them if the water's clear. I didn't realize it was such a big deal and that there is an organized group that champions this.

Mitch Hacking: On the Green River and tributaries, do you have any trouble with otters?

Trina Hedrick: We only notice it when we're actively sampling, trying to remove northern pike. You'll also get razorback fish that don't have spines, so we do have otter problems then, so we switch to electro fishing, or call the sensitive species biologist to help us out.

Mitch Hacking: At Red Fleet we've had otters show up and the fish are dwindling.

Drew Cushing: It could be the walleye too. We've never seen a real problem. We did the math just looking at otter densities, and what they could possibly do in a stretch. They're generally not a thick enough population to do any damage.

Boyde Blackwell: The otter population has been growing and we're doing some trapping. Some were sent to the Southern region, some went to the Provo and they're looking for some on the Blacksmith. Populations are healthy enough that they're looking at potentially offer a trapping permit.

Rod Morison: What are the fish possession limit regulations in Utah if you're camped on the mountain for several days to a week?

Drew Cushing: One limit.

Carrie Mair: Is that in possession?

Drew Cushing: If you cook it then that no longer counts.

Carrie Mair: On the Fish Lake limits, you said it's biologically warranted to get more relaxed.

Drew Cushing: No, this doesn't relax the limit, it makes it simpler. Right now it says splake or lake trout; it protects it under the same statement.

Carrrie Mair: The last reservoir we talked about was Utah Lake. Is it going to be detrimental to that body of water?

Drew Cushing: No. On a 50,000 acre lake, you're not going to remove enough to make a difference. We figured there was one angler hour per acre last year. It neither benefits nor harms Utah Lake. The survey told us that everybody was reasonably happy with the limit the way it was. If we changed it we would immediately have problems with a vocal half. We need to educate them.

Brandon McDonald: Regarding target fish for Green River is this to better manage for federal fish?

Drew Cushing: No. We have a recovery team that removes more fish than anglers ever will. We just want the public to know we're not going to manage them.

Brandon McDonald: Smallmouth bass is not a sport fish. Do we have regulations for sport fish?

Trina Hedrick: A few years back we did this with smallmouth in the Green. We probably should have done northern pike and smallmouth at the same time. It's just making that consistent for non-native predators. We're sending that message that they're all in that same boat. We're not going to manage for them in the river.

Brandon McDonald: I know the bass are increasing big time.

Trina Hedrick: Every time there's a low water year they get off a really good spawn. This is the highest spawning rate since I've been in the region the last six years.

Floyd Briggs: On catfish on the Green, how far north?

Drew Cushing: Just outside of town.

Trina Hedrick: Above the confluence at the Yampa we start seeing the trout taper off and catfish coming on in the Gates of Ladore Canyon.

Floyd Briggs: Looks like you need to read your regulations every time before you leave the house. The High Uintas fish are getting very small. Have the regulations been relaxed?

Drew Cushing: In some we have a bonus limit which is supposed to reduce the density, but brook trout reproduce faster than anglers can ever pull them out.

Questions from Public:

Mike Weyland (Atlantis Divers): I spearhead the spear fishing program out here. Every so often I heard stories that we'd like to reduce carp but we are limited on the bodies of water that we can spear fish. If you want the carp removed we have to have more flexibility on areas we can spearfish and help the cause. We promote filleting them, smoking them, etc. They are not indigenous to this continent. I spoke with a father and son from Germany. Carp is a traditional Christmas dinner there. So let's harvest a few more. If they're detrimental to other species, let's harvest more. We're willing to help but this body has got to make some changes so we can help.

Mitch Hacking: Why is it illegal for spearfishing in these lakes?

Mike Weyland: I was told we can only fish in 12 bodies of water, statewide.

Drew Cushing: You can spearfish underwater in any water that's open to fishing during the season it's open to fishing. The list is where sport fish are allowed and we've expanded that list. We identified waters where more harvest of sport fish would benefit those fisheries, like

Starvation, Flaming Gorge, Yuba, and some others where we felt they could go up there and take some sport fish at the same limits anglers could take them wouldn't be a detriment to the waters.

Beth Hamann: So they can take carp anywhere?

Drew Cushing: Carp can be taken anywhere. It's the sports fish they can't.

Mitch Hacking: My son did some spear fishing and there can be contention between anglers and spear fishing.

Drew Cushing: There's contention both ways. The divers have a diver down flag, and often times because of the contentious issue, people don't adhere to the diver down flag. I've had complaints that way. Likewise, I've had complaints from anglers about spear fishermen themselves. An angler if they catch a fish feels like they have a reasonable opportunity to release a fish alive. Spear fishermen, according to the anglers can't. We have issues at one lake where we have a fish in there that doesn't matter to us, Tiger muskie that have escaped from Johnson Reservoir to Fish Lake. We still have the same limit of one over 40" and the anglers and biologists find 38" tiger muskies that have been speared and left. Biologically it's not an issue but the phone calls are an issue.

Mike Weyland: I would hand carry a person down to you folks if I knew they were poaching.

Mitch Hacking: What's your recommendation?

Comments from Public:

Mike Weyland: We want to have competitions with a point for fish and a point per pounds. Little carp aren't going to give us a lot of points. Big carp are going to give us a lot of points.

Carrie Mair: Is the spear fishing community interested in pursuing invasive species if they're not being managed?

Boyde Blackwell: They'd have to talk about it.

Beth Hamann: Didn't they open that up for spear fishermen on Flaming Gorge to take burbot?

Boyde Blackwell: Yes. They can do that. Perch in an area, that's something they're going to have to say, "Let's add this."

Floyd Briggs: Looks like it could be tough to identify. Like duck hunting.

Mike Weyland: To a certain extent that's true. One thing we do is with youth, we put them with a treble hook and pole spear and they point it at the fish and release and the three prongs will nail the perch. That can help and help the kids have a hoot.

Comments from RAC:

Rod Morrison: I would like to see going to a two-day possession limit. Fish is a healthy food. When you're camping you should be allowed to take more fish.

Beth Hamann: When families go fishing, the whole family can fish. It's not like the whole family only gets one fish.

Floyd Briggs: The limit is less on fisheries because they're working to keep the numbers up.

Rod Morrison: We're paying for that.

Carrie Mair: If you get your bag limit and go home then you want to go back.

Rod Morrison: I don't think a two-day limit is that much of an impact on the trout lakes on the Uintas here.

Floyd Briggs: If you make it specific to the high country.

Beth Hamann: I don't think I would want to eat a fish that came off the horse after two days. If they're in a cooler, but otherwise, you're going to eat them that day and have enough for everybody.

Rod Morrison MOTION to go with the fishing regulations as presented only add a two-day possession limit.

Second: Mitch Hacking

Favor: Mitch Hacking, Rod Morrison

Opposed: Carrie Mair, Beth Hamann, Brandon McDonald, Ron Winterton

Motion failed.

Beth Hamann: I don't think it would make a difference and would be a lot of work

Beth Hamann MOTION to accept as presented
Carrie Mair: Second
Passed unanimously

**6. ILLEGAL SPECIES MOVEMENT IN UTAH: Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program
Coordinator (INFORMATIONAL)**
(See handout)

Questions from RAC:

Carrie Mair: What is the personal liability for transferring fish to a body of water illegally?

Drew Cushing: We have a guy in the court system now. The maximum fine is \$3000 for that. To catch him stocking fish is an additional \$2000. The problem is when we have caught people moving fishing the past. It came out a \$50.00 fine. The education isn't just you guys and the public. It's the judicial system, our folks, it's everybody. About 50 years ago, poaching big game was where you looked the other way for food for the family. It wasn't legal but it wasn't considered a serious offence. Over the last few years it's gotten serious. Now I believe it's a \$10,000 fine and you lose your gear potentially. If you poaching a big game animal, it's a serious offense and drive over highway 6 there are probably a lot that got hit on the highway. Is that as much an impact as illegally stocking that will cost millions of dollars to treat and restock?

Carrie Mair: What needs to be done?

Beth Hamann: Did he get to keep his fishing license

Drew Cushing: I'm sure he did. There's a serious lack of education about this problem. In the past people didn't really recognize it as a serious problem until the last five years. On that list of fish, probably half of those fish aren't sport fish, they're aquarium fish. It's the same penalty as illegally stocking; probably done by kids and aquarium owners who don't fish. They're prohibited in Utah but they're sold anyway. It is done beneath the radar. There's bartering, swaps, internet sales, not regulated by the dept. of Agriculture. A guy in Idaho can give them or sell fish to someone without an oversight. The District Attorney and judge need to understand the severity of the situation. Using angler groups to help understand.

Carrie Mair: Is there a 1800 NUMBER?

Drew Cushing: The help stop poaching number.

Carrie Mair: can you make a specific number for fish?

Drew Cushing: We've thought about that.

Carrie Mair: If you turn in someone for poaching you get a reward. Is there something in place for fish?

Drew Cushing: We have about a \$\$10,000 reward for successfully prosecuted person with fish. We haven't had anything yet.

Brandon McDonald: Could you partner with the Invasive species, the mussels?

Drew Cushing: Money is tight with the dVision. One concept is to bring on a person to just deal with this problem because it's an issue that you can't even begin to comprehend. The coordinator would supervise the AIS position. The State of Nevada declared this act to be part of the invasive system. We've instructed people on the ground to look in live wells and find out if people are moving fish. Our AIS guys, if someone said no, you can't look in my live well, you can't.

John Owen: If they give consent, great. If not, we have to get a warrant.

Carrie Mair: Is there any communication with pet stores?

Drew Cushing: I have an employee who works for me I wanted to know how many pet stores, how many species they stock and what threat they are. 500 pet stores in Utah like Pet Smart. Some fish like goldfish are harmful but not global threats. There were about 12 mom and pop type of stores where it's minimal store in the state of Utah and those are where a lot of the issues exist. We did find fish that are prohibited fish in Utah. They had a yellow bullhead and were selling it as an aquarium fish butterball catfish. We contacted law enforcement officer who contacted them, and they really didn't know. We are initiating a group to work with those buys. Bonneville Aquarium Society and aquarium aficionados where they swap fish among themselves. That also is a real loophole in fish movement and fish getting into Utah. We're going to work with them and have them understand what the issue is there. One of the culprits over the past 10 years has been the internet. You could get any fish you want regardless of where it is and where it's prohibited with no oversight. You just have to pay the money. That's huge. And it's a rough problem but I think if we provide the people in Utah with education as to what the problem is and how severe it is we can make some problem.

Carrie Mair: You need to have a place for people to bring illegal fish.

Drew Cushing: We have a place called Sea Base like a humane society for fish where people can get rid of them.

Next RAC meeting Nov 15, Bucks, Bulls, OIAL, hunt strategies, units. Won't be permit numbers until May. It will be really important. If you have any questions, give us a call and let us answer your questions. I can have a biologist come talk to you but let's be ready to go November 15.

Beth Hamann: Are you going to start that one a little bit earlier?

Boyde Blackwell: We'll probably also move it to another venue at UBATC and we could start it earlier if you need to.

Beth Hamann: 6:00 would be better.

We'll let you know, probably back at the college.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Central Region Advisory Council
Springville Public Library
45 S Main Street, Springville
September 11, 2012 @ 6:30 p.m.

Motion Summary

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

MOTION: To accept the agenda and minutes as written
Passed unanimously

Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13

MOTION: That the appropriate Division personnel meet with the wheelchair bound groups and formulate a crossbow permit to allow wheelchair bound people to bow fish with a crossbow
Passed unanimously

MOTION: To accept the Division's recommendations as presented
Passed unanimously

Central Region Advisory Council
Springville Public Library
45 S Main Street, Springville
September 11, 2012 @ 6:30 p.m.

Members Present

Matt Clark, Sportsmen
Timothy Fehr, At large
Sarah Flinders, Forest Service
Richard Hansen, At large
Kristofer Marble, At large
Gary Nielson, Sportsmen, Vice Chair
Fred Oswald, Non-consumptive, Chair
Duane Smith, Non-consumptive

Members Absent

Larry Fitzgerald, Agriculture
Michael Gates, BLM
George Holmes, Agriculture
Karl Hirst, Sportsmen
Jay Price, Elected

Others Present

Calvin Crandall, Wildlife Board Member

1) **Approval of the Agenda and Minutes (Action)**

- Fred Oswald, RAC Chair

VOTING

Motion was made by Gary Nielsen to accept the agenda and minutes as written

Seconded by Duane Smith

Motion passed unanimously

2) **Wildlife Board Meeting Update (Information)**

- Fred Oswald, RAC Chair

3) **Regional Update (Information)**

- John Fairchild, Central Regional Supervisor

Wildlife

- Coyote check-in program began September 1
 - Number of people submitting coyotes: 82
 - Number of coyotes submitted: 453
 - Median coyotes per person: 2.5
 - Max for one person: 45
- Highland City deer control planning process
- Upland game hunts beginning
 - Forest grouse, doves and rabbits on now
 - Chukar Sept. 29
 - Quail and pheasants Nov. 3
- Additional antlerless elk and bison permits to be considered by the Wildlife Board in emergency meeting tomorrow (drought related)

Habitat

- Working with private landowners and state and federal agencies on the following fire rehabilitation projects in the region:
 - Wood Hollow (north and east of Fountain Green)
 - Ophir Canyon

- Dump Fire (Saratoga Springs)
- Dallas Canyon (Cedar Mtns.)
- Strawberry Highlands Development
 - Evaluating impact of 7000-acre project on fish, wildlife and sportsmen
 - Recommending ways to lessen/mitigate impacts

Aquatics

- Fishing improves as water temps drop at reservoirs, good time to get out
- Yuba Fishery Working Group continues to meet
 - Purpose statement for Yuba Reservoir Fishery Management Plan
 - To determine if we can develop a quality fishery that will attract anglers to Yuba while maintaining existing water rights and other uses, and if so, develop and implement a plan.
 - Next meeting of the working group is September 17
- Silver Lake stabilization project completed
 - Cooperative project with the Forest Service
 - Will maintain a natural lake that will support brook trout, grayling and possibly native cutthroat trout
- Sanpitch River restoration project – maintenance required to fix damage following high flows of 2011
- June sucker recruitment documented at Red Butte Reservoir (first time since the filling in 2006)
- Fall stocking of rainbows at community fishing ponds underway through Sept.
- Fire and drought impacts on fisheries
 - Wood Hollow Fire devastated brown trout fishery in Sanpitch River and greatly reduced native fish populations
 - Reservoirs ok in Central Region due to good carryover from 2011, but lake levels could be problem in 2013 if we have another dry winter
- FLW National Guard College Fishing Series Western Regional Championship on Utah Lake September 1st
 - CSU Long Beach team took first
 - Bagging daily weights of 8-5, 5-14 and 7-5 the champs ended with a total weight of 21-8 and a winning margin of 5-2

Conservation Outreach

- Kokanee Salmon Viewing Day at Strawberry Sept. 22
- Hunter Ed Plus mentored hunts Sept. 22-23 and Oct. 12-13

Law Enforcement

- Multiple shootings and poisoning of bald and golden eagles results in \$2500 reward and coverage by the Associated Press
- So far, deer and elk archery hunts going ok, low number of violations

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

- **Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator**
- **Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**

Questions from the RAC

Kristofer Marble – Is there a bag limit for crocodiles? Why was it ever illegal to bow fish for carp at night?

Drew Cushing – This is a hunting oriented state and I think it is a fairly new interest at least here. In our statute it doesn't specifically say anything about fishing with a light at night. It does say it

is illegal to spotlight at night for certain species of animals. What we are going to do in gear it so it includes this in that statute.

Kristofer Marble – Do you know from other states at what rate there could be a misidentification of species?

Drew Cushing – Certainly there is. We have had instances here in Utah. We had a report of a June sucker in a tributary being shot by an archer, or at least they suspect it was by an archer and that is why we closed the tributaries. If you look at it the same as spear fishing, if they did kill a game fish it would count toward their bag limit.

Kristofer Marble - Is there anything that says at night that could be at a higher rate?

Drew Cushing – I did read up on this and I can tell you that it is very popular back east. I didn't read any negative feedback from other state agencies about this act and I would imagine it's much the same as we see here. Back there they have lakes where carp are an issue and it just so happens that these guys probably frequent those waters that carp are an issue. If you are after a bag of fish that weighs the most or you want to pursue a fish that you can have a good time on you aren't going to take one that is scarce, you are going to take the one that is most abundant.

Matt Clark – Can you explain disposal? If you go out and shoot a bunch of carp can you leave them there, can you put them in the dumpster?

Drew Cushing – Right now they basically work with the state parks for tournaments they have during the day. They put them in a dumpster and they haul them to a landfill. We will have to spell that out in statute. At Lake Powell there has always been an unwritten rule that if you kill a striped bass that is really skinny and the meat isn't any good it's been one of those under the table things that you puncture the air bladder and release it so it sinks to the bottom. That would be the preferred way to dispose of it.

Matt Clark – So throwing them on the bank or leaving them in the water is not the way to do it.

Drew Cushing – Leaving them in the water if you puncture the air bladder would be an appropriate way to dispose of them.

Mike Slater – This group of people are not the problem. It's the weekend warrior that goes out and kills a bunch of carp and just leaves them on the bank and then we get calls about all the dead fish and people think there is a problem. We are trying to address that and tell people how to get rid of those fish legally. If you can't take them home and dispose of them then puncture the air bladder and leave them in the water.

Questions from the Public

Josh Noble – With the legalization of bow fishing for carp at night what are the legalities and how are you planning on working with the state parks as far as trolling under power at night with the high wattage lights that we have that blind the navigation lights?

Drew Cushing – That's not our authority. That will have to be worked out with state parks. They have their own regulations for boating.

Josh Noble – So we are going to legalize it but then we are going to have to go through another step with the state parks, understanding that we don't sit idle. We are going to be under power of some sort whether it is a trolling motor or an airboat.

Drew Cushing – I would be happy to talk to state parks with you. They are not unreasonable any more than we are and they look at this as a gate fee for them too. It's not impossible. I have heard you have already done this before so it's already taken place.

Josh Noble – Like Matt mentioned we need more clarification on disposal of common carp. We understand that you can't throw them on the bank but again we need a black and white paragraph in the guidebook that says exactly what we are supposed to be doing understanding that bow fishing is growing year after year. We want to educate the recreational bow fisher on the proper disposal of these carp so we don't leave them on the bank.

Drew Cushing – We'll do it.

Comments from the Public

Pat Scouten – My comments have to do with bait regulations on Utah lake. First, to allow the use of corn for carp fishing. It's a non-trout lake and corn is very good for carp. A lot of times I try to get fathers and their kids into some fish down there and that's all they care about is being able to catch a big fish even if it's just for bait. It's hard to see the downside of using corn for carp. The second one is, if carp are the cockroaches of Utah Lake then white bass are the sand fleas. Since there is no limit on white bass and they are a detriment to the June suckers it's good to remove as many as possible. I go down with a cast net and fish baskets to catch baby carp to use as bait but at this time of year all I get are a bunch of three or four inch white bass. Those have to be released by law but I was hoping for a relaxing of that regulation during times of the year when there are swarms of baby white bass to be able to keep some that you catch to use for bait because they are very good for catfish and walleye. Lastly, there was a comment as to why bow fishing at night was outlawed. I have been fishing Utah Lake since back in the 1960's and I was also a bow fisherman at that time. The explanation I received from a DNR officer at that time was that they were trying to avoid having people shooting walleye at night. When you shine a light on a walleye at night their eyes shine back at you so it makes them an easy target for bow fishermen.

Kenneth Vaughn – Thank you. I represent an organization called Chair bound Hunters and I have several of my members here tonight. We have partnered with a nonprofit called Hand-in-Hand Outdoors and we now have an eleven foot by 35 foot pontoon boat that we in the process of making wheelchair accessible. One of the things we are excited about is maybe being able to do some bow fishing. As it turns out there is a restriction on using a crossbow for bow fishing. Some of our members are quadriplegic and some are paraplegic and they can't handle a regular bow but they can handle a crossbow. We would like to propose that there be an allowance for them to use a crossbow similar to what archers use for deer. Someone would have to go to the DWR and show that you fall within this category and this would help you bow fish. We have some equipment we would like to take some people out on and we certainly wouldn't want to do anything illegal. We would like you to consider this allowance for those who cannot use regular archery equipment. You could limit it to paraplegics or quadriplegias and those confined to a wheelchair. I would appreciate your consideration.

Barry Rimmash – representing the United Wildlife Cooperative. We did an independent survey of our members and had the following results and hence our organization supports these following items. Our members definitely support what is proposed for the Blacksmith Fork. There was also strong support for what is proposed for the Weber River but in addition our survey indicates that there is support for this approach being considered for enhancing cutthroat populations in other streams that have small populations that are perhaps suppressed by the browns or harvest or any number of possible causes. Hence hopefully increasing the number of reproductive Bonneville cut populations that we have available to us. Our survey did support allowing nighttime bow fishing for carp. We definitely support that. There was support also for the Fish Lake proposal as well. Finally, this is not an agenda item for this meeting however our survey indicates strong support among our members for not changing the regulations at Minersville Reservoir. We are aware of a movement going afoot down there for regulations to be changed and our organization at this time would not support that.

Greg Porter – I want to talk about spear fishing and a proposal to have the spear fishing season regulations mirror the hook and line regulations. The current opening of the spear fishing season is the first Saturday in June and this last year was a good example for us where the weather was so good early and we missed a lot of what traditionally would have been the spear fishing season this year. We also are very pleased with the allowance of spear fishing at Blue Lake. We would like to have the spear fishing year round as well.

Doug Burrell – I represent the local dive shop here in town, Scuba Teds. We also would like to mirror the comments made by this gentleman. Also a lot of our motivation for Blue Lake is that before tilapia was introduced the water was clear and now with the tilapia and their nesting patterns it is murky and not a great place to dive in. We are motivated to remove that fish from the lake and would like to promote that. Thank you.

Jay Ashworth – I appreciate Drew making the comments he has made. I didn't hear anything about the wipers. I read in the regulations this year and I couldn't help but laugh about what happened last year when you tried to produce wipers here in Utah. I would like to find out what we are doing there. My second question is about the community fisheries. You have Bill Loy taking out carp and white bass by six million pounds a year. You could introduce white bass into the community fisheries and then up the limit. The problem with the community fisheries is that people can only catch two fish there. You have millions of pounds of white bass in Utah Lake; could we introduce those to the community fisheries without having a catastrophe? Thank you.

Josh Noble – President of the Utah Bow Fishing Association – Speaking for our member group, we support Drew and the Division in their recommendation for legalizing bow fishing at night for common carp.

George Sommer – Utah Bass Federation - We support the Division's recommendations for the fishing regulations and guidebook.

Jared Golding – Drew, if you have too many fish in Blacksmith why don't you electroshock them and take them to Sanpitch where they all died off from the fire.

Drew Cushing – There are disease issues. The ash flows are probably a little high still in the Sanpitch. We will introduce fish but it's just a matter of when.

RAC Discussion

Duane Smith – Drew, would it be any problem to include crossbow fishing for the wheelchair bound hunters?

Drew Cushing – We already have an allowance for the use of a crossbow. I just need to go see what the legalities are with this and fishing. I would assume you would just have to get that same permit. I did get his contact information and I will check and get with him.

Duane Smith – I would like to include that in our motion.

Drew Cushing – I think it would be appropriate for the RAC to recommend for us to work with this group to pursue an allowance for bow fishing with a crossbow.

Public – There are specific regulations that would have to be addressed such as there must be a line attached to the arrow and the minimum/maximum poundage would be different for bow fishing.

VOTING

Motion was made by Duane Smith that the appropriate Division personnel meet with the wheelchair bound groups and formulate a crossbow permit to allow wheelchair bound people to bow fish with a crossbow

Seconded by Richard Hansen

In Favor: All

Motion passed unanimously

**Motion was made by Gary Nielsen to accept the Division's recommendations as presented
Seconded by Matt Clark**

In Favor: All

Motion passed unanimously

5) Illegal Species Movement in Utah (Informational)

- **Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator**
- **Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

45 in attendance

Next board meeting November 1, 2012 9 a.m. at the DNR boardroom, Salt Lake

Next RAC meeting November 8, 2012 ****Thursday meeting****

6:30 p.m. at the Springville Public Library

Northern Regional Advisory Council

Sept 12, 2012

6:00 P.M.

Place: Brigham City Community Center

RAC Present

John Blazzard- Agric
Robert Byrnes- Chair
John Cavitt-Noncon.
Paul Cowley- Forest Service
Joel Ferry- Agric
James Gaskill- At Large
R. Jefre Hicks- At Large
Ann Neville- Noncon.
Bruce Sillitoe- BLM
Bryce Thurgood- At Large
Craig Van Tassell- Sportsman
John Wall- At Large

DWR Present

Jodie Anderson
Justin Dolling
Drew Cushing
Paul Birdsey
Craig Schaugaard

Wildlife Board

Ernie Perkins

RAC Excused

Russ Lawrence- At Large
Jon Leonard- Sportsman

RAC Absent

G. Lynn Nelson- Elected

Meeting Begins: 6 p.m.

Number of Pages: 13

Introduction: Robert Byrnes-Chair

Agenda:

Review of Agenda and Aug 8, 2012 Meeting Minutes
Wildlife Board Meeting Update
Regional Update
Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13
Illegal Species Movement in Utah
Centerville City Hunting Closure Proposal

Item 1. Welcome and Introductions

Introduction of RAC Members

Item 2. Review and Acceptance of Agenda and Aug 8, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Motion

Motion- Gaskill- Move to approve the agenda.

Second- Neville

Motion Carries- Unanimous

Motion- Thurgood- Approve the amended minutes from Aug 8, 2012.

Second- Cowley

Motion Passes- For: 9 Abstain: 2

Item 3. Wildlife Board Update

Email sent out.

Thurgood- When there are additional permits in our region, doesn't that come through us?

Byrnes- The director could have just, by his authority, changed those numbers because of the emergency conditions.

Thurgood- They added a moose permit.

Byrnes- That was a specific request by the CWMU operator.

Thurgood- That is one I am wondering why it did not come through us because that is not an emergency.

Byrnes- When you listen to the meeting minutes, there was perceived to be a misunderstanding between the division and the operator as far as what the numbers were going to be. The operator actually sold the tag already. But, when went and looked at his paperwork, he did not actually have that tag. So, he asked the Wildlife Board to make that change. It actually brought his numbers in line with the correct split. He was actually below what the split would be, I believe. Typically, it would come to us.

Thurgood- I think that would open a can of worms. It just seems like it did not go through the right process.

Byrnes- They did have discussion about changing the numbers. The operator had assumed the change had been made but when it was presented and approved, it actually had not changed. I cannot remember what the split was.

Ernie Perkins- 60/40

Byrnes- He was actually below what the permits he would have gotten at that split. Do you want to hit anything on that Justin?

Justin Dolling- I think what it boiled down to was a little bit of timing. By the time he recognized that the application he signed did not reflect what he really wanted. By the time he got an opportunity to talk with our biologist, the RAC meeting had already occurred. So, as a result, there was only an option to go before the board. I know the board was very reluctant to approve that permit but in the end they decided to based on his discussion and our biologist feeling like there was a communication breakdown. It was unfortunate timing and in the future, hopefully we can communicate better and bring that through this RAC process before it goes to the board. Our apologies.

Ernie Perkins- I think it covered it well but the only other thing I remember that is important and significant was that the division said there was no biological significance in the additional permit. That it was purely a social question.

Thurgood- Our moose numbers have gone down and all of the sudden we are issuing more permits. I did not like the way they did it.

Byrnes- If they could have scheduled it for our meeting and known about it in time, I am sure it would have come here.

Neville- Did legal have the chance review that as far as any type of procedures are concerned? At the moment was it not much of an issue.

Byrnes- I don't think it was a legal issue because Marty was at the meeting. The Wildlife Board has the authority to do those types of things.

Item 4. Regional Update

-Justin Dolling, Regional Supervisor

Director of Wildlife announced a new program known as the Wildlife Recreation Program. This program will be a way to consolidate all the recruitment and retention activities that we have going on in the agency. As part of this new program, we are looking at Conservation Organizations to help us make this successful. We are hiring one new program coordinator in Salt Lake that will oversee this effort with Wildlife Recreation and the development of this program.

Aquatics- Treatment on the right hand fork of the Logan River September 19th and 20th. Fishing at Willard is starting to pickup for wipers. Tiger Muskie at Pineview should start to pick up as well.

Wildlife- Emergency Board Meeting. Division recommended an additional 205 permits based on additional analysis. 30 permits would be on the Henefer/Echo Wildlife management area. Increase in the Bison permits on the Henry Mountains. The Bison permits were recommended to increase by 60 and that passed. The plan is to go off the alternate list because it is a OIAL hunt opportunity. Discussion about lion population and some concerns from the Houndsmen organizations, in particular what they feel is uneven pressure to get supplied to certain parts of the unit. They feel there are impacts that need to be mitigated immediately. We are in year 2 of a 3 year cycle. We felt comfortable with maintaining status quo and going with the permits

recommended. We did agree to give a good look at and work with the houndsmen as the cougar proclamation goes back through the process next year. No changes made there, just an informational item.

Waterfowl- Youth Fair at Farmington Bay will be September 15th. The youth hunt will occur on September 22nd and the youth chukar and Hungarian partridge will occur on September 22nd.

Habitat- Working with BLM on rehab projects on mule deer and sage grouse ranges.

RAC Questions

Gaskill- How are the sales of those elk tags? Are they pretty well sold out?

Dolling- They went very fast. The majority of them are sold out. I understand there are a few still left.

Gaskill- Thanks.

Blizzard- Were those elk tags cow tags or bull tags?

Dolling- They were cow tags.

Byrnes- On those cow tags, we did have some in the northern region. Are those all sold out on the private lands on Chalk Creek?

Dolling- Yes, I am not sure which units currently have tags. I know that the day they went on sale, there was a huge rush and the line share was sold off within a couple of hours. I cannot speak whether those private land tags went. My guess is that those are what are remaining because of access issues.

Sillitoe- Want to reiterate that small statement you said about working with BLM and the state. I don't think it can be overstated that without that partnership, those federal dollars we receive would have never got spent this fall. It is imperative we had those spent. Much appreciation on that.

Dolling- You are welcome. You are an important partner out there.

Gaskill- Were all of those tags sold to individuals that already have a cow tag?

Dolling- I can't tell you that. You can purchase 2 tags.

Gaskill- Was it just restricted to those that already had a tag or was it open to everybody?

Dolling- It was open to everybody who qualified.

Item 5. Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13

- Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator

- Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator

See Handout

Public Questions

Josh Noble - Utah Bowfishing Association- In the proposed regulation change, allowed the disposal of common carp. What we are requesting is a little bit more clarification on what that means. If it is legal to just throw them on the bank or put them back in the water. We would like a better description in the guidebook so that when we get new bowfisherman that they are disposing of those fish in a proper manner.

Birdsey- That is a good question and something that we have wrestled with. I can tell you that throwing them on the bank is not the right answer.

Josh Noble- Right.

Birdsey- What we are looking for is something like puncture their bladder and put them back into the water. For the larger tournaments, that is probably not going to be what we would like to see happen.

Josh Noble- During those tournaments, we have other channels of disposal. What we are talking about is just recreational weekend warrior style bowfisherman. We need a black and white description.

Birdsey- We will go back and meet with our legal council to answer some of these questions and draft the language for the rule change which would include what goes into the guidebook and then that is what gets presented to the board meeting November 1st. At which time, we should have that answer. Right now, we are asking if people want to be able to dispose of carp as opposed to "how do I dispose of carp".

Josh Noble- That makes perfect sense. On the legalization of bowfishing, again we discussed this last night. Meeting with the state parks understanding that the artificial light we are using blinds the navigation lights. We need to have some clarification on that understanding that we are not stationary when we are night bowfishing. We are moving and need some clarification on how fast we can run.

Birdsey- That is something that we are going to have to have the parks boating coordinator take up. We will finish up these RAC meetings next week and then we will have about a 5 week window until the Wildlife Board. It might be advisable for you to talk to Drew, myself and then we will try and get the boating coordinator of the parks department and we can sit down and talk about this. The Wildlife Board cannot act on that but can make recommendations that this is what we are thinking about.

Josh Noble- That is all we are asking.

RAC Questions

Gaskill- In the really significant Blue Lake Tilapia, can they shoot as many as they want?

Birdsey- Yes, there is a catch and kill on those. That species in that lake right now, we don't want to manage them. We encourage anglers to take as many as they want. Spear fisherman would fall into that group.

Gaskill- Okay.

Hicks- Follow up on Josh's question of disposal of carp. We are going to vote on amending the code which allows disposal and that's all this is. I am wondering if we get a chance to talk about how the disposal occurs later, before it is amended. Or, is that something we have to accept.

Birdsey- With the code change, ultimately all the Wildlife Board is going to be able to do is make a recommendation to the legislature. Assuming legislature approval, we will have to have draft language done for the legislature to review and a sponsor found for the bill by the middle of December and have them introduce the bill. We do have a lot of work to do in terms of identifying what that wording needs to be. We hope to have that wording finalized before the board meeting on the first. I don't see any reason why we could not have that posted on our website before then so that people could review it. Anytime you open up a code, it is pretty tricky.

Hicks- When we reach that point that you say this is exactly how you dispose, is that going to go out to public comment or will that be brought up by DWR and then the Wildlife Board will vote on it. Is it going to have public comment?

Birdsey- I think, at that point, the comment will be primarily through the Wildlife Board. If we post it on the website, we will certainly ask for people to make comments to us. It is going to be outside of a meeting situation. The actual formal public comment process will be at the Wildlife Board.

Byrnes- For clarification so people understand, is this the wasting of wildlife in the Utah state code. Is that correct?

Birdsey- That is correct.

Byrnes- So, you are going to have to ask the legislature to change that state code to allow the Wildlife Board to set a rule or they will specifically state the conditions under that Wildlife can be wasted?

Birdsey- That is correct. What we would like is as much of that authority that is currently contained in the code passed back to the Wildlife Board. The legislature said many times throughout our code that this can be done by the Wildlife Board without legislative action. They will grant authority to the Wildlife Board to say that in this set of circumstances, using these methods, it is ok to waste wildlife.

Byrnes- But it will be totally dependent on the legislature to make that change and how they want to make that change.

Birdsey- That is correct and ultimately it is going to rely on the wise men on the hill.

Hicks- I am interested in the Weber River cutthroat change. I have actually caught a couple of cutthroat in that area recently. Does that mean there is a thriving reproductive base there?

Birdsey- There is a reproducing population of Bonneville Cutthroat trout in the Weber River. Craig can let me know when I say something wrong. It is very small. Right now, under the current regulation, people can catch and harvest 4 of those fish. Those fish that live in the main stem ascend to tributaries and are reproduced in those tributaries. What we want to do is protect that main stem population so they can ascend the tributaries and reproduce there. What was your population estimate in the main stem Craig?

Craig Schaugaard- Last year, the population estimate we had from a capture estimate was just over 500 fish. This year, we have been able to do a lot more extensive work and it is a little bit higher but is still under 1,000. It is not a very big population. This is a population that moves from the main stem of the river upstream, spawns and then comes back to the river. It is a life history that is kind of falling out of our systems because we have so much blockage of our tributaries that they are not able to do this. We have found this and think it is worth trying to save and that is why we have made these recommendations.

Hicks- Why only take it to Echo dam?

Craig Schaugaard- That is where we are really only seeing it.

Hicks- We have lost it from Echo dam up?

Craig Schaugaard- Yes, most of the them are just resident fish. They are not moving up the tributaries necessarily. These are big fish. Those that are up higher in the drainage, they are not nearly as big so they are not going to be targeted as heavily.

Cowley- My question deals with the Blacksfork River in Cache Valley and the East Fork border where we have these additional bonus limits. If we are really trying to remove more brown trout and brook trout, why wouldn't we say at least 6 fish have to be those species vs. just holding that to a minimum of 4?

Birdsey- It is more for standardization than anything else. In other waters where we have bonus limits of fish. For example, a number of waters on the Manti have a 4 fish bonus limit of brook trout. Just in keeping with some kind of standardization statewide which we tried very hard to do over the last few years. If we are going to have a bonus limit, 4 is the magic number.

Hicks- What good will the treatment do to get rid of browns in that when they can swim out of the Logan back up? It is not a very big creek. How are you going to keep them out?

Craig Schaugaard- We put a fish barrier that is about ¾ mile up from the confluence of the Logan River that fish will not be able to cross over.

Hicks- Like a waterfall type of thing?

Craig Schaugaard- Yes, it is probably as tall as I am.

Public Comment

Chadd Vanzanten-Trout Unlimited/Cache Archers- Cache anglers support the regulation change concerning Blacksmith Fork River (bonus limit on trout).

Guy Perkins- Encourage the adoption of the rule change. One suggestion I have in regards to disposing of fish is what I call “cut and sink”. Someone in the division said that it was ok and that I could do that. These fish are going to the bottom and not coming to the top. Something is eating them.

Josh Noble- Utah Bowfishing Association- Support the Division in the code change and legalization of night bowfishing.

Stephen Shemanski- Utah Bowfishing Association- Support night bowfishing and legal use of lights for taking common carp at night.

Chuck Harsin- Utah Bowfishing Association- Strongly support the legal use of artificial light to bowfish for non-game fish.

RAC Comment

Gaskill- I think there is enough concern about this disposal thing that we should deal with it separately. Do I need a motion?

Byrnes- No, we can just handle it as we go. I think we all understand the situation where it has to go to the legislature. It think it is mostly a support issue that the RAC recommends the Wildlife Board support it and it will proceed.

Gaskill- I would like to dispose of carp and do it in a good way. I am not comfortable with anything more than saying we recommend a way to make something legal. We would certainly like to have more specifics before we recommend something.

Byrnes- Okay.

Thurgood- This summer, we camped up north of Soda Springs. I think a lot of them were in a fishing tournament on the Black Fork Reservoir. I was amazed at how many carp these guys brought out and I think it is a huge service to all fisherman in general getting rid of that many carp. I don't know how else you would do that. Hopefully, they will hold these tournaments more often and get rid of them. I fully support it and think they should be able to shoot them at night too.

Neville- Commend the bowfisherman that you are here and are supporting and that the division has worked with you to get something passed. This is exactly why we are here so that your

input is accounted for and we can do something about it. I really appreciate you being here and supporting these changes and making them happen.

Hicks- I also want to say that these guys have worked hard to get the silliness removed from these regulations and make it so regular people can go out and have fun and shoot carp. I am hoping that as the process goes through, we can keep it as simple and easy to do this without cluttering it with a whole bunch of ifs, ands and wherefores. This is a fun way to go and does a service to our waters. I am hoping we can do this as simple as possible.

Gaskill- I don't want anyone to think I am opposed to shooting carp day or night with anything short of nuclear weapons. My concern is with the disposal issue. If we say ok, we approve or we recommend approval of this disposal code and it does have all of this ifs and ands, then maybe I don't like it but I am on record as recommending it. That is my issue with this. Come to this board with a recommendation and we will approve it or not recommend it. But don't come and say we are going to write this up in a couple of weeks. Not criticizing, that is just the way I feel. My recommendation is to say we would like to come up with a disposal recommendation but we are not going to approve it without seeing it. So, we can make a motion to that effect. That is why I wanted to chunk it out because I did not want it to get to the point where Gaskill does not want you to kill carp at night with a bow because I do.

Byrnes- Let me throw one thing out and then have Drew make a response. I would think that maybe the recommendation from the council could be that we would like to see the Wildlife Board have the authority to create regulations for the disposal of carp and that it would come back through the RAC process before it was enacted.

Gaskill- Exactly.

Byrnes- That might cover what you want.

Gaskill- That is exactly what I want.

Byrnes- Drew, you have some input for us.

Drew Cushing- We have a catch and kill regulation in place right now. Legally, you cannot dispose of those fish. It really creates a legal dilemma for the people out there fishing. We want those fish to be not released alive in the water. Right now, it is illegal to release them dead into the water. This would close that loophole we have right now and really legalize something that should be legal already. We have these bowfisherman that are out there right now and most of them dispose of them by poking them and leaving them. That is illegal presently. This is basically legalizing something that is already taking place and that we agree needs to happen. As far as the disposal of these fish, I personally assured Josh that this is an outreach effort we can undertake with them. We know the groups that are out there doing this and we can do that within our fishing proclamation by working with those groups and put an informational article on how to dispose of these fish when they come across them.

Gaskill- I don't mean to cause trouble because I agree with everything you said but then you are going to write a code recommendation and we are going to approve it before it is written. That is the only thing I have a problem with.

Ferry- I think that the concept is that we are approving the legal disposal of these fish.

Whatever legal means, it will always change whether we approve it now or later. The Wildlife Board and legislature can change it later on. So, as long as it is legal, the fisherman can do that. That is the point here is that we would be approving the legal method of disposal.

Gaskill- If that is what it is limited to, I am for it.

Ferry- Right. That can change now or later.

Gaskill- And it will.

Blizzard- From an agricultural standpoint, my grandmother said that whenever she planted a tree, she had to put a fish in the hole before she planted the tree. So, maybe we could use them for fertilizer.

Ferry- When I go out, I always have a bow with me in my truck. I take the carp and just chuck them in the field. It seems to work. I have a lot more acres I need to cover. Bring them on out.

Neville- I don't want to be your neighbor.

Cowley- We could also turn around and recommend or state what disposal means. I really want to talk to you as far as the Weber River and maintaining the population of fluvial cutthroat. Those are unique in the system. I think we really want to preserve.

Byrnes- In the material you received in your packet, it says amend Utah code 23-20-8 allow the disposal of common carp. Allow the disposal of other species of fish that have been designated catch and kill in specific waters as approved by the Wildlife Board. That is basically the presentation. Given that, we can make our recommendation how we want but that is basically what the presentation is. That specific wording.

Thurgood- Can we add just to the language, allow the disposal of common carp or other species with the cut and sink. I don't know how we word that. That is obviously a better option than throwing them on the bank. Can we just make it simple and add that language.

Cavitt- Perhaps we could just make a recommendation that we get an opportunity to comment on the disposal methods so we could make the motion to approve the presentation as presented and that we would recommend or encourage the division to provide another presentation or information about their proposed rule change for disposal.

Hicks- Was that a motion?

Cavitt- I was making that as a suggestion. A way to move forward. I will put that forward as a motion.

Hicks- I think, from what I can see, we are basically voting on making it legal to do it. I like the idea of getting to have a look at what they suggest.

Cowley- In this case, all we are doing is letting the Wildlife Board recommend to the legislature to make this legal in the code. The legislature may define what that means and then we would be set with it anyway. As it is right now, it is not going to be making it in this year. When do the guidebooks get printed?

Drew Cushing- November.

Cowley- There is no way it will make it in this year anyway. The law would be passed after the guidebook was printed.

Motion

Motion- Cavitt- Recommend the Wildlife Board approve Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented with an opportunity to comment on the disposal method.

Second- Gaskill

Discussion on the motion

Cowley- As you restated the motion, we are recommending that they proceed with a change in the Utah code.

Byrnes- That is part of the presentation so that would be in there.

Neville- Hopefully, the division can help us out with how this goes. Code goes before the legislature and then potentially any definition could be a rule which would come before the RAC anyway.

Birdsey- That is correct. Probably should have clarified the process a little bit better. Paul's comment is absolutely correct that the legislature will not actually meet until after January 1st. Any law that they pass won't take effect before April 15th of 2013. Most take effect on July 1st. The rule change relative to this code change would in fact happen for the 2014 guidebook. What we are actually asking for tonight is a recommendation to go before the legislature, ask for a code change which basically removes carp from the list of species that would be considered wasted. Then, transferring the authority in terms of defining what the legal disposal is and the disposal of these other species that are catch and kill to the Wildlife Board. The Wildlife Board will then hopefully accept that as wanting to move forward to the legislature. The legislature adopts that rather generic language which we could then finalize into a rule change for 2014. That is a long way of saying that one way or the other; you are going to have the opportunity of seeing this again.

Byrnes- I think we are clear.

Motion Carries- Unanimous.

Item 6. Illegal Species Movement in Utah

- Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator

- Paul Birdsey, Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator

See Handout

RAC Questions

Hicks- Have fines proved ineffective?

Birdsey- Correct. This is a problem that is being struggled with across the country, not just limited to Utah. Drew did a really good summary of what a lot of people are trying on this. Fines are certainly an important part of it but what it really comes down to is addressing why people do this in the first place. We not only have problems with anglers moving fish but we have people that are releasing fish from their aquarium and other sources. Our first tactic in approaching this problem is that we will be developing a contract with some social scientists that ask the question as to why people are doing this. More importantly what action are going to deter them from doing these things. Fines are going to factor in there but they are not the driving force. Those of us that have been around for a long time can remember when it was socially acceptable for John Doe to go out and kill a deer in the spring or off the winter range. It was not considered a big deal. Now, it is socially unacceptable to poach a deer. What we need to do is have it socially unacceptable to move fish illegally.

RAC Comment

Gaskill- Good luck, I hope something works.

Hicks- I love the idea of trying to find other ways to make it socially unacceptable.

Item 7. Centerville City Hunting Closure Proposal

-Neal Worsley, Centerville Police Chief

Byrnes- The methodology being used by Centerville City is following a template that was used by South Jordan in their hunting closure proposal that passed through the Wildlife Board. It is kind of the approved method, I believe, to the approach. Bringing the hunting closure proposal to our council is part of the division's analysis for their recommendation to the Wildlife Board. Chief Worsley will make the presentation. The division is not going to comment or provide input. They are collecting their information as part of our recommendation.

See Handout

RAC Questions and Comments

Byrnes- Basically, between the boundary exclusion and the agreements with the private landowners, they excluded all properties within the proposed hunting closure boundary. Between the 600-foot buffer which is code and the agreements with the private landowners in that northwest area

Ferry- That covers the entire territory that we are talking about.

Byrnes- It essentially covers all of the area in the hunting closure proposal. West of Sheep Road is the Legacy Preserve and some division lands. Those are excluded from the hunting closure proposal. There are some city lands within the city boundary that are east of the Firebreak Road but they are not part of the hunting closure proposal because Firebreak Road provides a definable boundary on the east side. It is city lands west of Firebreak Road.

Worsley- Yes.

Blizzard- I always thought cities had ordinances that had no discharge of firearms in city limits.

Worsley- We do. However, wildlife trumps that ordinance by allowing lawful hunting in an area 600 feet or further from dwellings.

Blizzard- Really?

Worsley- During a lawful hunting season, they can hunt.

Blizzard- Is that a state law?

Worsley- It is a state law.

Blizzard- The reason you are wanting to close this is because of firearms?

Worsley- Yes.

Blizzard- Is archery still an option? The only place you are trying to close is private ground which they should be able to say no hunting or trespassing on my property.

Worsley- There are trespassers down there. They put up signs and the signs go away and get shot at. The reason for this is to just get some very definitive boundaries people know. We do have people sneak out into the areas within the city and shoot a pheasant or two here and there. They are breaking state law. Now people know if they discharge that firearm within the city even though a lawful hunt is going, they are going to be breaking the law within city limits.

Blizzard- That also includes a bow and arrow or anything else right?

Worsley- We have talked about bow and arrow and in a depredation type of thing or when wildlife deemed it, it would be discussed if these are safe areas to shoot with a bow. Could you

shoot a bow in this area safely? In our ordinance, we have allowed wildlife do what they need to do to control these animals.

Blizzard- When it says all forms of hunting.

Worsley- Through the ordinance, we have kind of tweaked it a little bit. We have given it to both people. The problem we did not say with strictly hunting is because in our city, we have a huge problem with raccoons and skunks and animal control is trapping them all the time. If you put that out, you are tying their hands too. So, we have kind of had to tweak the ordinance a little bit to take care some of these nuisance animals within the city. It is going to be controlled.

Hicks- This is a no hunting ordinance, it is not just firearms. Is that correct?

Worsley- Right.

Hicks- Does the ordinance allow a depredation hunt by bow at some point?

Worsley- I think that would be up to wildlife. Could they do it in that area safely? What kind of public repercussions would come from that?

Hicks- I am wondering if this is an ordinance that restricts hunting at all and if they were to come back later as ask for a special bow hunt because deer are eating people's flowers. Would that prevent that from ever happening in the future?

Worsley- No. That is why we put that sentence in there. Nothing in here will prevent them from doing their job.

Byrnes- Potentially, the wording might have to be reviewed by Marty to determine if a depredation hunt with the consent of the city could occur. We do have an increasing number of urban deer. We have some very sought after trophies wandering through the city.

Worsley- Not in my back yard.

Byrnes- But not far. We wouldn't want people slinging arrows in those neighborhoods without the proper supervision.

Worsley- I do think that is the intent of the ordinance. It has to be under some kind of direction or guideline.

Byrnes- Email from Russ. "On the proposed hunting closure in Centerville City I do not agree with the total package. I think those private land owner should just post their property like most landowners do. I also believe that the Legacy Preserve should remain open and allow the building distances and road rules continue to be the guide". I sent Russ back an email that the Legacy Preserve was outside of it but did not get anything back from him. I think he misunderstood the boundaries.

Neville- How is this different than the person in Weber who did not want any hunting in their area?

Byrnes- In South Weber.

Ferry- That was last month?

Neville- Or, two months ago.

Byrnes- Several months ago.

Ferry- Last month we had someone from Huntsville that came in. You are talking Uintah?

Neville- Yes. We basically told them to post it.

Byrnes- In code, cities are allowed to close their boundaries to hunting with the approval of the Wildlife Board. There is a mechanism established for this process. They are trying to follow that.

Neville- Okay.-

Ferry- This is a city doing it and not an individual coming and wanting to close their property.

Byrnes- They have agreement with all the affected landowners that still could be hunting.

Cowley- What happens if one of those landowners sells to a hunting group that wants to open that piece of property for hunting and legally owns the land. How do you deal with that?

Ferry- You need a due diligence.

Worsley- I am suspecting without going into a lot of detail that this would be developed before that happens. Some of this ground that we are asking has already been annexed from the county into Centerville. They are looking that way right now. There is only a small portion of this property that really would be any good to hunting. There are two small streams that run through but one property does have a pond on it. There are some waterfowl that fly into that but he is one of the ones that is very adamant of keeping people away from his cattle.

Byrnes- Is the city discussed zoning to exclude hunting of clubs or anything in those areas?

Worsley- I don't know that they have. It could be a possibility but no one has ever showed any interest to have a club down there. The majority of the people that have been down there hunting have just trespassed through and went on. As I say it, it is really the one section of ground next to 1275 N.

Hicks- I went to several of these first meetings when they were first proposing this. I think it is a pretty good compromise there. It is a good, nice clean boundary. I really don't think there is going to be any issues in the future because when they made the Legacy agreements, the city got to keep their lands for development. I'm sure it will be developed soon enough and it is a good mix.

Blizzard- Saying no hunting is pretty final but I guess I will take the approach that this is not in my back yard. You folks who live there can live with it I guess.

Motion

Motion- Wall- Recommend the Wildlife Board approve the Centerville City Hunting Closure Proposal as presented.

Second- Hicks

Motion Carries- Unanimous

Meeting Ends: 8:05 p.m.



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREGORY S. BELL
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

September 19, 2012

TO: Utah Wildlife Board

FROM: Justin Dolling
Northern Region Supervisor

SUBJECT: Proposed Hunting Closure in Centerville City

Centerville City has followed Administrative Rule R657-34 – Procedures for Confirmation of Ordinances on Hunting Closures and would like to present their proposal to the Wildlife Board at the November 1 meeting. Northern Region personnel met with city officials on June 19 to explain the process. In addition, Centerville City presented their proposal to the Northern Regional Advisory Council (RAC) on September 12. After some deliberation the RAC recommended the Wildlife Board approve the hunting closure as presented. It passed unanimously.

Based on the information provided by Centerville City concerning recent development, the construction of the Legacy Highway and the expansion of trails and recreational access near the Legacy Highway and in the foothills the Division believes hunting within the developed portions of the city constitutes a legitimate public safety concern. As proposed, the areas west of Sheep Road and east of the Firebreak Road located in the Centerville City limits will remain open to hunting.

Our Division will still retain the authority to control depredating deer on the William Rigby property located at 1616 North Main. However, both Mr. Rigby and our Division have agreed to install a fence that would inhibit deer from entering the Rigby farm. This will most likely alleviate the need for our Division to control deer in the future.

The attached draft includes language that reserves the right of the Wildlife Board to authorize special hunts to control wildlife populations within city limits. Also attached you will find a series of maps showing areas that are unavailable to hunting for various reasons.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 801-476-2740.



Conservation Permit Audit - Executive Summary

Organization	Total # of Permits	2012 Dollars Collected sold + contributed	Administrative 10% Retained by Organizations	Available Funds from 2010-2012	Amount billed for 2012 Projects	Amount billed for 2013 Projects	Required Fund Balance per Audit	Verified Fund Balance - less receivables
FNAWS	41	\$494,400.00	(\$49,440.00)	\$588,590.07	\$200,262.25	\$114,164.03	\$274,163.79	\$274,163.79
Mule Deer Foundation	92	\$968,715.00	(\$96,871.50)	\$1,277,707.33	\$343,655.84	\$535,043.08	\$399,008.41	\$399,008.41
National Wild Turkey Federation	31	\$70,210.00	(\$7,021.00)	\$102,629.93	\$23,340.81	\$79,289.12	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	39	\$247,740.00	(\$24,774.00)	\$342,333.15	\$135,534.48	\$177,900.65	\$28,898.02	\$28,898.02
Safari Club International	6	\$93,500.00	(\$2,850.00) **	\$62,600.00	\$0.00	\$60,500.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00
Sportsmen for Wildlife	104	\$876,600.00	(\$87,660.00)	\$1,094,542.29	\$502,829.79	\$568,454.79	\$23,257.71	\$23,257.71
Ducks Unlimited	3	\$9,215.00	(\$921.50)	\$5,529.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,529.00	\$5,529.00
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	7	\$37,500.00	(\$3,750.00)	\$42,848.07	\$9,448.71	\$30,551.29	\$2,848.07	\$2,848.07
Total:	323	\$2,797,880.00	(\$270,438.00)	\$3,516,779.84	\$1,215,071.88	\$1,565,902.96	\$735,805.00	\$735,805.00

*All organizations may retain 10% of funding. Funds may be used for administrative costs which includes all banking fees

** SCI only retained 3.048% of administrative costs



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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

November 1, 2012

To: Del Brady, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Ernie Perkins, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Gregory Sheehan, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for FNAWS was Don Peay. All information requested was promptly provided. FNAWS was given 41 of the 2012 Permits. At the time of sale the division staff independently verified auction prices of 12 permits sold and compared that with the prices being reported. The bank account statement was obtained and reviewed. Monies were kept in separate bank accounts. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 494,400.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 49,440.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$148,320.00)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 296,640.00
Carry-over funds from 2010 & 2011	\$ 325,500.64
Total:	\$ 622,140.64
2012 Interest donated for future projects	151.79
Less 2011 Projects	(\$ 33,702.36)
Less 2012 Projects billed October 15, payment pending	(\$200,262.25)
Less 2013 Projects billed October 15, payment pending	(\$114,164.03)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 274,163.79
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 588,590.07
Payment for 2012 and 2013 projects (Invoiced)	(\$314,426.28)
Bank Statement Balance after payment received	\$ 274,163.79



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November 1, 2012

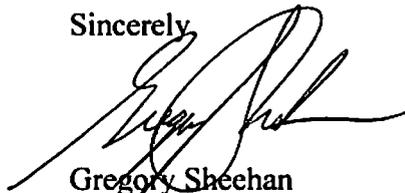
Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Audit – Foundation for North American Wild Sheep

Findings and Recommendations

All 2012 projects were approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank FNAWS for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory Sheehan', written over a white background.

Gregory Sheehan
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: James F. Karpowitz
Wildlife Board Members



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Governor

GREGORY S. BELL
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

November 1, 2012

To: Del Brady, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Ernie Perkins, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Gregory Sheehan, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Mule Deer Foundation (MDF)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the Mule Deer Foundation (MDF) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for MDF was Eric Tycksen. All information requested was provided. MDF was given 92 of the 2012 Permits. At the time of sale the division staff independently verified auction prices of 17 permits sold and compared that with the prices being reported. The bank account statement was obtained and reviewed. Monies were kept in separate bank accounts. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 968,715.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 96,871.50)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$ 290,614.50)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 581,229.00
Carry-over funds from 2010, 2011	\$ 701,478.33
Total:	\$1,282,707.33
Less 2011 Projects	(\$ 5,000.00)
Less 2012 Projects, billed October 15	(\$ 343,655.84)
Less 2013 Projects, billed October 15, payment pending	(\$ 535,043.08)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 399,008.41
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 1,277,707.33
Payment for 2012/2013 Projects Check #1037/1038 Rcvd 10/24	(\$ 775,655.84)
Payment for 2013 Projects (Invoiced)	(\$ 103,043.08)
Current Bank Statement Balance after payment received	\$ 399,008.41



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November 1, 2012

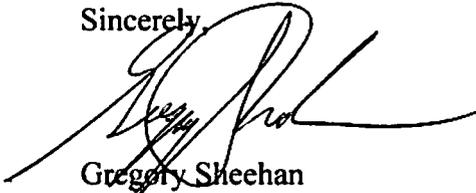
Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Audit – Mule Deer Foundation

Findings and Recommendations

All 2012 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank MDF for their time, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,



Gregory Sheehan
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: James F. Karpowitz
Wildlife Board Members



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Governor

GREGORY S. BELL
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

November 1, 2012

To: Del Brady, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Ernie Perkins, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Gregory Sheehan, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for NWTf was Jon Leonard. All information requested was promptly provided. NWTf was given 31 of the 2012 Permits. At the time of sale division staff independently verified auction prices of 7 permits sold and compared them to the prices being reported. The banks account statement was obtained and reviewed. Monies were kept in separate bank accounts. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 70,210.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 7,021.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$21,063.00)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 42,126.00
Carry-over funds from 2010 & 2011	\$ 90,914.72
Total:	\$ 133,040.72
Less 2010 & 2011 Projects	(\$ 30,410.79)
Less 2012 Projects, billed October 15	(\$ 23,340.81)
Less 2013 Projects, billed October 15	(\$79,289.12)
Funds remaining in accounts	\$ 0.00
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 102,629.93
Payment for 2012 and 2013 projects (Invoiced)	(\$ 102,629.93)
Bank Statement Balance after payment received	\$ 0.00



Page 2

November 1 , 2012

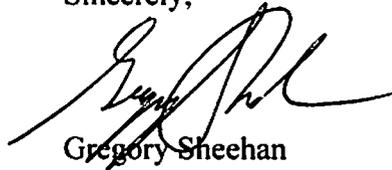
Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Audit – National Wild Turkey Federation

Findings and Recommendations

All 2012 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank NWTF for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory Sheehan', written over a horizontal line.

Gregory Sheehan
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: James F. Karpowitz
Wildlife Board Members



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREGORY S. BELL
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

November 1, 2012

To: Del Brady, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Ernie Perkins, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Gregory Sheehan, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contacts for RMEF were Bill Christensen and Shane Cronk. All information requested was promptly provided. RMEF was given 39 of the 2012 Permits. At the time of sale division staff independently verified the auction price of 1 permit sold and compared that with the price being reported. The bank account statement was obtained and reviewed. Monies were kept in separate bank accounts. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 247,740.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 24,774.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$ 74,322.00)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 148,644.00
Carry-over funds from 2011	\$ 362,039.05
Total:	\$ 510,683.05
Less 2011 Projects	(\$ 168,349.90)
Less 2012 Projects billed on October 15, payment pending	(\$ 135,534.48)
Less 2013 Projects billed on October 20, payment pending	(\$ 177,900.65)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 28,898.02
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 342,333.15
Payment for 2012 and 2013 projects (Invoiced)	(\$ 313,435.13)
Current Bank Statement Balance after payment received	\$ 28,898.02



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November 1, 2012

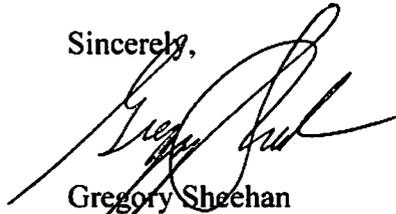
Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Audit – Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Findings and Recommendations

All 2012 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank RMEF for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-4837.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory Sheehan', written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Gregory Sheehan
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: James F. Karpowitz
Wildlife Board Members



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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

November 1, 2012

To: Del Brady, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Ernie Perkins, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Gregory Sheehan, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
The Safari Club International (SCI)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of The Safari Club International (SCI) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for SCI was Don Isgar. All information requested was promptly provided. The Safari Club International was given 6 Permits. The bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 93,500.00
Less 3.048% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 2,850.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$ 28,050.00)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 62,600.00
Carry-over funds	\$ 0.00
Total:	\$ 62,600.00
Less 2013 Projects billed October 15	(\$ 60,500.00)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 2,100.00
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 62,600.00
Payment for 2013 projects Check # 001 Rcvd 10/25	(\$60,500.00)
Current Bank Statement Balance	\$ 2,100.00



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November 1, 2012

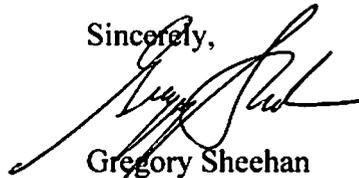
Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Audit – Safari Club International

Findings and Recommendations

Historically SCI submitted all fund proceeds so having a separate account was not necessary. Because they elected to retain funds this year it became necessary for SCI to open a separate account. They now have done so. At the time of this audit we have verified that SCI has deposited all project dollars into a separate account specified for conservation permit money. All 2012 projects were properly approved and project funds are now placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank Safari Club International for their time, their prompt response, and willingness to provide the information requested. If you have any questions, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,



Gregory Sheehan
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: James F. Karpowitz
Wildlife Board Members



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Governor

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Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

November 1, 2012

To: Del Brady, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Ernie Perkins, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Gregory Sheehan, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for SFW was Byron R. Bateman. All information requested was promptly provided. SFW were given **104** of the 2012 Permits. At the time of sale division staff independently verified auction prices of **20** permits sold and compared that with the prices being reported. The bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. Monies were kept in separate bank accounts. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 876,600.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 87,660.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	<u>(\$262,980.00)</u>
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 525,960.00
Carry-over funds from 2010 & 2011	<u>\$ 1,299,717.71</u>
Total:	\$ 1,825,677.71
Less 2010 & 2011 Projects	(\$ 734,365.67)
Interest donated to DWR	\$ 3,230.25
Less 2012 Projects billed October 15, payment pending	(\$ 502,829.79)
Less 2013 Projects billed October 15, payment pending	<u>(\$568,454.79)</u>
Funds remaining for projects	<u>\$ 23,257.29</u>
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$1,094,542.29
Payment for 2012 and 2013 projects (Invoiced)	<u>(\$1,071,284.58)</u>
Bank Statement Balance after payment received	<u>\$ 23,257.71</u>



Page 2

November 1, 2012

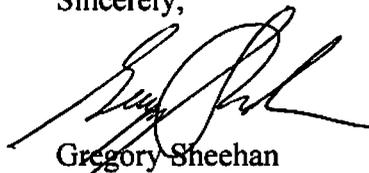
Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Audit – Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife

Findings and Recommendations

All 2012 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank SFW for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory Sheehan', written over a horizontal line.

Gregory Sheehan
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: James F. Karpowitz
Wildlife Board Members



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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

November 1, 2012

To: Del Brady, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Ernie Perkins, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Gregory Sheehan, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Ducks Unlimited (DU)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of The Ducks Unlimited (DU) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for DU was Barry Crose. All information requested was promptly provided. DU were given 3 of the 2012 Permits. The bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. Monies were kept in separate bank accounts. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 9,215.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 921.50)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	<u>(\$ 2,764.50)</u>
Total eligible to be retained by organization for project(s):	5,529.00
Carry-over funds	\$ 0.00
Total:	\$ 5,529.00
 Funds remaining for projects	 <u>\$ 5,529.00</u>
 Verified Bank Statement Balance	 <u>\$ 5,529.00</u>



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November 1, 2012

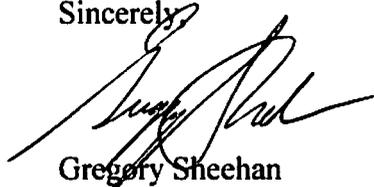
Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Audit – Ducks Unlimited

Findings and Recommendations

Ducks Unlimited did not have any approved projects for the 2012 fiscal year. Their funds are placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank Ducks Unlimited for their time, their prompt response, and willingness to provide the information requested. If you have any questions, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory Sheehan', written over a horizontal line.

Gregory Sheehan
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: James F. Karpowitz
Wildlife Board Members



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Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

November 1, 2012

To: Del Brady, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Ernie Perkins, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Gregory Sheehan, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Utah Bowmen for Habitat

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Utah Bowmen for Habitat (UBH) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for Utah Bowmen for Habitat was Kevin Adamson. All information requested was promptly provided. UBH was given 7 of the 2012 Permits. The bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. A new separate account was established this year to maintain conservation permit monies. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$37,500.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 3,750.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$11,250.00)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 22,500.00
Carry-over funds 2010 & 2011	\$ 20,348.07
Total:	\$ 42,848.07
Less 2012 and 2013 Projects	(\$ 40,000.00)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 2,848.07
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 42,848.07
Payment for 2012/2013 projects Check #1006/1007 Rcvd 10/23	(\$40,000.00)
Current Bank Statement Balance	\$ 2,848.07



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November 1, 2012

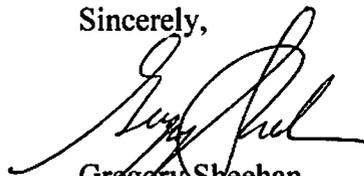
Subject: 2012 Conservation Permit Internal Audit – Utah Bowmen for Habitat

Findings and Recommendations

All 2012 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank Utah Bowmen for Habitat for their time, their prompt response, and willingness to provide the information requested. If you have any questions, please contact me at 801-537-7437.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory Sheehan', written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Gregory Sheehan
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: James F. Karpowitz
Wildlife Board Members



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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

JAMES F. KARPOWITZ
Division Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 23, 2012

To: Utah Wildlife Board Members

From: Kevin Bunnell, Wildlife Section Chief

SUBJECT: Recommended 2013-2015 Conservation Permit Distribution

The Division is recommending the distribution of conservation permits for 2013-2015 amongst 6 conservation groups participating in the 3 year program. The Division is also recommending permits for 2013 for 2 groups that are participating in the 1 year program. The recommended distribution of permits is in accordance with the Conservation and Sportsman Permit Rule (R657-41). The tables below detail how the permits will be distributed amongst the participating conservation groups. The division is recommending the distribution of 316 of the 317 permits allocated to the conservation permit program at the August Board meeting.



DRAFT 2013 - 2015 Multi-Year Conservation Permits List (Includes Trades)

Foundation for North American Wild Sheep

Species	Area	Condition	Group	Permit Count
Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek-South	Archery	FNAWS	1
Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek-South	Muzzleloader	FNAWS	2
Bull Elk	Cache, South	Archery	FNAWS	3
Bull Elk	La Sal, La Sal Mountains	Archery	FNAWS	4
Bull Elk	Panguitch Lake	Archery	FNAWS	5
Bull Elk	Panguitch Lake	Muzzleloader	FNAWS	6
Buck Pronghorn	Mt. Dutton, Paunsaugunt	Any Weapon	FNAWS	7
Desert Bighorn Sheep	Henry - Dirty Devil		FNAWS	8
Desert Bighorn Sheep	Kaiparowits, (All Comb)		FNAWS	9
Desert Bighorn Sheep	San Juan - LaSal (Comb)		FNAWS	10
Desert Bighorn Sheep	Zion - Pine Valley (Comb)		FNAWS	11
Desert Bighorn Sheep	Statewide		FNAWS	12
Rocky Mtn. Bighorn Sheep	Book Cliffs, South (Rattlesnake)		FNAWS	13
Rocky Mtn. Bighorn Sheep	Box Elder, Newfoundland		FNAWS	14
Rocky Mtn. Bighorn Sheep	Nine Mile, Range Creek		FNAWS	15
Turkey	Northeast		FNAWS	16
Turkey	Northeast		FNAWS	17
Turkey	Southeast		FNAWS	18
Turkey	Southeast		FNAWS	19
Turkey	Southern		FNAWS	20
Turkey	Southern		FNAWS	21
Turkey	Southern		FNAWS	22
Turkey	Southern		FNAWS	23

Mule Deer Foundation

Species	Area	Condition	Group	Permit Count
Bull Elk	Beaver	Premium	MDF	1
Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek-South	Premium	MDF	2
Bull Elk	Cache, Meadowville	Premium	MDF	3
Bull Elk	Cache, North	Premium	MDF	4
Bull Elk	Cache, North	Any Weapon	MDF	5
Bull Elk	Cache, North	Archery	MDF	6
Bull Elk	Cache, South	Premium	MDF	7
Bull Elk	Cache, South	Muzzleloader	MDF	8
Bull Elk	Cache, South	Any Weapon	MDF	9
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Manti	Premium	MDF	10
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Manti	Archery	MDF	11
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Manti	Muzzleloader	MDF	12
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Manti	Any Weapon	MDF	13
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Nebo	Archery	MDF	14
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Nebo	Muzzleloader	MDF	15
Bull Elk	Fillmore, Pahvant	Any Weapon	MDF	16
Bull Elk	Fillmore, Pahvant	Any Weapon	MDF	17
Bull Elk	Fillmore, Pahvant	Archery	MDF	18
Bull Elk	Monroe	Any Weapon	MDF	19
Bull Elk	Mt. Dutton	Any Weapon	MDF	20
Bull Elk	Mt. Dutton	Any Weapon	MDF	21
Bull Elk	Mt. Dutton	Archery	MDF	22
Bull Elk	North Slope, Three Corners	Premium	MDF	23
Bull Elk	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Premium	MDF	24
Bull Elk	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Premium	MDF	25
Bull Elk	Plateau, Fish Lake, Thousand Lake	Muzzleloader	MDF	26
Bull Elk	Plateau, Fish Lake, Thousand Lake	Premium	MDF	27
Bull Elk	San Juan	Archery	MDF	28
Bull Elk	South Slope, Diamond Mountain	Any Weapon	MDF	29
Bull Elk	Southwest Desert	Any Weapon	MDF	30
Bull Elk	Southwest Desert	Archery	MDF	31
Bull Elk	Southwest Desert	Premium	MDF	32
Bull Elk	Wasatch Mountains	Archery	MDF	33

DRAFT 2013 - 2015 Multi-Year Conservation Permits List (Includes Trades)

Bull Elk	Wasatch Mountains	Any Weapon	MDF	34
Buck Deer	Book Cliffs	Season Choice	MDF	35
Buck Deer	Book Cliffs	Muzzloader	MDF	36
Buck Deer	Henry Mountains	Season Choice	MDF	37
Buck Deer	La Sal, Dolores	Season Choice	MDF	38
Buck Deer	Paunsaugunt	Season Choice	MDF	39
Buck Deer	Paunsaugunt	Season Choice	MDF	40
Buck Deer	Paunsaugunt	Muzzleloader	MDF	41
Buck Deer	Paunsaugunt	Archery	MDF	42
Buck Deer	Paunsaugunt	Muzzleloader	MDF	43
Buck Deer	San Juan, Elk Ridge	Season Choice	MDF	44
Buck Deer	South Slope, Diamond Mountain	Season Choice	MDF	45
Buck Deer	South Slope, Diamond Mountain	Muzzleloader	MDF	46
Buck Deer	West Desert, Vernon	Muzzleloader	MDF	47
Buck Deer	West Desert, Vernon	Archery	MDF	48
Buck Deer	West Desert, Vernon	Any Weapon	MDF	49
Buck Deer	Statewide		MDF	50
Buck Pronghorn	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	Any Weapon	MDF	51
Buck Pronghorn	Cache, North Rich	Any Weapon	MDF	52
Buck Pronghorn	Cache, North Rich	Any Weapon	MDF	53
Buck Pronghorn	Cache, North Rich	Any Weapon	MDF	54
Buck Pronghorn	San Rafael, North	Any Weapon	MDF	55
Buck Pronghorn	San Rafael, North	Any Weapon	MDF	56
Rocky Mountain Goat	Beaver	Early Hunt	MDF	57
Rocky Mountain Goat	Ogden, Willard	Early	MDF	58
Rocky Mountain Goat	Ogden, Willard	Female Only	MDF	59
Rocky Mountain Goat	Ogden, Willard	Female Only	MDF	60
Rocky Mountain Goat	Statewide		MDF	61
Cougar	Cache		MDF	62
Cougar	Oquirrh-Stansbury		MDF	63
Cougar	San Juan		MDF	64
Cougar	Uintas		MDF	65
Cougar	Wasatch - Manti		MDF	66
Cougar	Wasatch - Manti		MDF	67
Cougar	Statewide		MDF	68
Bear	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek, South		MDF	69
Bear	S. Slope, Vernal/Diamond/Bonanza		MDF	70
Bear	S. Slope, Yellowstone		MDF	71
Bear	Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin/Current Creek		MDF	72
Bear	Wasatch Mountains, West		MDF	73
Turkey	Central		MDF	74
Turkey	Northeast		MDF	75
Antlerless Elk	Wasatch (whole unit)		MDF	76
Antlerless Elk	South Slope		MDF	77
Antlerless Elk	South Slope		MDF	78
Antlerless Elk	South Slope		MDF	79
Antlerless Elk	Cache		MDF	80
Antlerless Elk	Cache		MDF	81
Antlerless Elk	La Sal		MDF	82
Antlerless Elk	La Sal		MDF	83
Antlerless Elk	Manti		MDF	84

National Wild Turkey Federation

Species	Area	Condition	Group	Permit Count
Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek-South	Any Weapon	NWTF	1
Bull Elk	La Sal, La Sal Mountains	Any Weapon	NWTF	2
Bull Elk	North Slope, Three Corners	Any Weapon	NWTF	3
Bull Elk	Panguitch Lake	Any Weapon	NWTF	4
Bull Elk	Plateau, Fish Lake, Thousand Lake	Any Weapon	NWTF	5
Buck Deer	Book Cliffs	Archery	NWTF	6
Buck Deer	Book Cliffs	Any Weapon	NWTF	7
Buck Deer	Book Cliffs	Any Weapon	NWTF	8

DRAFT 2013 - 2015 Multi-Year Conservation Permits List (Includes Trades)

Buck Deer	Paunsaugunt	Any Weapon	NWTF	9
Buck Deer	South Slope, Diamond Mountain	Any Weapon	NWTF	10
Buck Pronghorn	South Slope, Bonanza-Diamond Mtn.	Any Weapon	NWTF	11
Bison	Henry Mountains, Cow Only		NWTF	12
Turkey	Central		NWTF	13
Turkey	Central		NWTF	14
Turkey	Northeast		NWTF	15
Turkey	Northern		NWTF	16
Turkey	Southeast		NWTF	17
Turkey	Southeast		NWTF	18
Turkey	Southern		NWTF	19
Turkey	Southern		NWTF	20
Turkey	Statewide		NWTF	21

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Species	Area	Condition	Group	Permit Count
Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek-South	Any Weapon	RMEF	1
Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek-South	Any Weapon	RMEF	2
Bull Elk	Cache, Meadowville	Any Weapon	RMEF	3
Bull Elk	Cache, South	Any Weapon	RMEF	4
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Manti	Any Weapon	RMEF	5
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Nebo	Premium	RMEF	6
Bull Elk	Panguitch Lake	Premium	RMEF	7
Bull Elk	Panguitch Lake	Any Weapon	RMEF	8
Bull Elk	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Any Weapon	RMEF	9
Bull Elk	Plateau, Fish Lake, Thousand Lake	Any Weapon	RMEF	10
Bull Elk	Wasatch Mountains	Muzzleloader	RMEF	11
Bull Elk	Wasatch Mountains	Premium	RMEF	12
Buck Deer	West Desert, Vernon	Season Choice	RMEF	13
Buck Pronghorn	West Desert, Riverbed	Any Weapon	RMEF	14
Buck Pronghorn	West Desert, Rush Valley	Any Weapon	RMEF	15
Buck Pronghorn	West Desert, Snake Valley	Any Weapon	RMEF	16
Rocky Mtn. Bighorn Sheep	Nine Mile, Range Creek		RMEF	17
Rocky Mtn. Bighorn Sheep	Statewide		RMEF	18
Turkey	Central		RMEF	19
Turkey	Northeast		RMEF	20
Antlerless Elk	Wasatch (whole unit)		RMEF	21
Antlerless Elk	Wasatch (whole unit)		RMEF	22
Antlerless Elk	Cache		RMEF	23
Antlerless Elk	La Sal		RMEF	24
Antlerless Elk	Manti		RMEF	25
Antlerless Elk	Manti		RMEF	26

Safari Club International

Species	Area	Condition	Group	Permit Count
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Manti	Any Weapon	SCI	1
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Nebo	Any Weapon	SCI	2
Bull Elk	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Any Weapon	SCI	3
Bull Elk	Southwest Desert	Premium	SCI	4
Bull Elk	Wasatch Mountains	Any Weapon	SCI	5
Buck Deer	Paunsaugunt	Any Weapon	SCI	6
Buck Deer	West Desert, Vernon	Season Choice	SCI	7
Buck Pronghorn	Fillmore, Black Rock Desert	Any Weapon	SCI	8
Buck Pronghorn	Pine Valley	Any Weapon	SCI	9
Buck Pronghorn	West Desert, Riverbed	Any Weapon	SCI	10
Desert Bighorn Sheep	San Rafael, No - So Comb)		SCI	11
Cougar	Monroe		SCI	12
Cougar	Wasatch - Manti		SCI	13
Bear	Central Mountains, Nebo		SCI	14
Bear	Nine Mile, Anthro-Range Creek		SCI	15
Bear	Panguitch Lake - Zion		SCI	16
Turkey	Northeast		SCI	17

DRAFT 2013 - 2015 Multi-Year Conservation Permits List (Includes Trades)

Turkey	Southeast		SCI	18
Turkey	Southern		SCI	19
Antlerless Elk	Wasatch (whole unit)		SCI	20
Antlerless Elk	Manti		SCI	21

Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife

Species	Area	Condition	Group	Permit Count
Bull Elk	Beaver	Any Weapon	SFW	1
Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek-South	Premium	SFW	2
Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek-South	Any Weapon	SFW	3
Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Little Creek (roadless)	Premium	SFW	4
Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Little Creek (roadless)	Any Weapon	SFW	5
Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Little Creek (roadless)	Any Weapon	SFW	6
Bull Elk	Cache, Meadowville	Any Weapon	SFW	7
Bull Elk	Cache, North	Any Weapon	SFW	8
Bull Elk	Cache, North	Muzzleleader	SFW	9
Bull Elk	Cache, South	Any Weapon	SFW	10
Bull Elk	Cache, South	Premium	SFW	11
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Manti	Premium	SFW	12
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Nebo	Any Weapon	SFW	13
Bull Elk	Fillmore, Pahvant	Premium	SFW	14
Bull Elk	La Sal, La Sal Mountains	Premium	SFW	15
Bull Elk	La Sal, La Sal Mountains	Any Weapon	SFW	16
Bull Elk	Monroe	Premium	SFW	17
Bull Elk	Mt. Dutton	Premium	SFW	18
Bull Elk	Mt. Dutton	Muzzleloader	SFW	19
Bull Elk	Mt. Dutton	Premium	SFW	20
Bull Elk	Nine Mile, Anthro	Premium	SFW	21
Bull Elk	Paunsaugunt	Premium	SFW	22
Bull Elk	Paunsaugunt	Any Weapon	SFW	23
Bull Elk	Paunsaugunt	Any Weapon	SFW	24
Bull Elk	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Any Weapon	SFW	25
Bull Elk	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Archery	SFW	26
Bull Elk	Plateau, Fish Lake, Thousand Lake	Premium	SFW	27
Bull Elk	Plateau, Fish Lake, Thousand Lake	Any Weapon	SFW	28
Bull Elk	Plateau, Fish Lake, Thousand Lake	Archery	SFW	29
Bull Elk	San Juan	Premium	SFW	30
Bull Elk	San Juan	Any Weapon	SFW	31
Bull Elk	San Juan	Any Weapon	SFW	32
Bull Elk	South Slope, Diamond Mountain	Premium	SFW	33
Bull Elk	South Slope, Diamond Mountain	Any Weapon	SFW	34
Bull Elk	South Slope, Diamond Mountain	Archery	SFW	35
Bull Elk	Southwest Desert	Any Weapon	SFW	36
Bull Elk	Southwest Desert	Muzzleloader	SFW	37
Bull Elk	Statewide	Premium	SFW	38
Bull Elk	Wasatch Mountains	Premium	SFW	39
Bull Elk	Wasatch Mountains	Any Weapon	SFW	40
Bull Elk	West Desert, Deep Creek	Premium	SFW	41
Buck Deer	Book Cliffs	Season Choice	SFW	42
Buck Deer	Book Cliffs	Muzzloader	SFW	43
Buck Deer	Cache, Crawford Mountain	Muzzloader	SFW	44
Buck Deer	Henry Mountains	Season Choice	SFW	45
Buck Deer	Paunsaugunt	Archery	SFW	46
Buck Deer	San Juan, Elk Ridge	Season Choice	SFW	47
Buck Deer	San Juan, Elk Ridge	Muzzleloader	SFW	48
Buck Deer	South Slope, Diamond Mountain	Season Choice	SFW	49
Buck Deer	South Slope, Diamond Mountain	Archery	SFW	50
Buck Deer	West Desert, Vernon	Any Weapon	SFW	51
Buck Deer	West Desert, Vernon	Muzzleloader	SFW	52
Buck Pronghorn	Beaver	Any Weapon	SFW	53
Buck Pronghorn	Book Cliffs, South	Any Weapon	SFW	54
Buck Pronghorn	Cache, North Rich	Any Weapon	SFW	55

DRAFT 2013 - 2015 Multi-Year Conservation Permits List (Includes Trades)

Buck Pronghorn	Cache, North Rich	Any Weapon	SFW	56
Buck Pronghorn	Morgan-South Rich	Any Weapon	SFW	57
Buck Pronghorn	Mt. Dutton, Paunsaugunt	Any Weapon	SFW	58
Buck Pronghorn	Mt. Dutton, Paunsaugunt	Any Weapon	SFW	59
Buck Pronghorn	Nine Mile, Anthro	Any Weapon	SFW	60
Buck Pronghorn	North Slope, W Daggett-Three Corner	Any Weapon	SFW	61
Buck Pronghorn	North Slope, W Daggett-Three Corner	Any Weapon	SFW	62
Buck Pronghorn	Plateau	Any Weapon	SFW	63
Buck Pronghorn	Plateau	Any Weapon	SFW	64
Buck Pronghorn	Plateau	Any Weapon	SFW	65
Buck Pronghorn	Plateau	Any Weapon	SFW	66
Buck Pronghorn	Southwest Desert	Any Weapon	SFW	67
Buck Pronghorn	Southwest Desert	Any Weapon	SFW	68
Buck Pronghorn	Southwest Desert	Any Weapon	SFW	69
Buck Pronghorn	Southwest Desert	Any Weapon	SFW	70
Buck Pronghorn	Southwest Desert	Any Weapon	SFW	71
Buck Pronghorn	Statewide	Any Weapon	SFW	72
Bison	Henry Mountains, Hunter's Choice	Early Hunt	SFW	73
Bison	Henry Mountains, Hunter's Choice	Late Hunt	SFW	74
Bison	Statewide		SFW	75
Bull Moose	Wasatch Mountains		SFW	76
Bull Moose	Wasatch Mountains		SFW	77
Bull Moose	Statewide		SFW	78
Rocky Mountain Goat	Beaver	Late Hunt	SFW	79
Rocky Mountain Goat	Beaver	Female Only	SFW	80
Rocky Mountain Goat	No. Slope/So. Slope, High Uintas Central		SFW	81
Rocky Mountain Goat	No. Slope/So. Slope High Uintas West		SFW	82
Rocky Mountain Goat	Ogden, Willard	Late	SFW	83
Cougar	Book Cliffs		SFW	84
Cougar	Cache		SFW	85
Cougar	Monroe		SFW	86
Cougar	Monroe		SFW	87
Cougar	Monroe		SFW	88
Cougar	Monroe		SFW	89
Cougar	Oquirrh-Stansbury		SFW	90
Cougar	Pine Valley		SFW	91
Cougar	Pine Valley		SFW	92
Cougar	Uintas		SFW	93
Cougar	Wasatch - Manti		SFW	94
Bear	Beaver		SFW	95
Bear	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek, South		SFW	96
Bear	Central Mountains, Manti-North		SFW	97
Bear	Central Mountains, Manti-South		SFW	98
Bear	Chalk Creek/Kamas/N Slope, Summit		SFW	99
Bear	LaSal		SFW	100
Bear	LaSal		SFW	101
Bear	Nine Mile, Anthro-Range Creek		SFW	102
Bear	North Slope, Daggett-Three Corners		SFW	103
Bear	Plateau, Boulder - Kaiparowits		SFW	104
Bear	San Juan		SFW	105
Bear	San Juan		SFW	106
Bear	Statewide		SFW	107
Bear	Wasatch Mountains, West		SFW	108
Turkey	Central		SFW	109
Turkey	Central		SFW	110
Turkey	Central		SFW	111
Turkey	Northeast		SFW	112
Turkey	Northeast		SFW	113
Turkey	Northern		SFW	114
Turkey	Northern		SFW	115
Turkey	Northern		SFW	116
Turkey	Northern		SFW	117

DRAFT 2013 - 2015 Multi-Year Conservation Permits List (Includes Trades)

Turkey	Northern		SFW	118
Turkey	Northern		SFW	119
Turkey	Southeast		SFW	120
Turkey	Southeast		SFW	121
Turkey	Southeast		SFW	122
Antlerless Elk	South Slope		SFW	123
Antlerless Elk	Cache		SFW	124

This permit was not selected

Antlerless Elk	La Sal			
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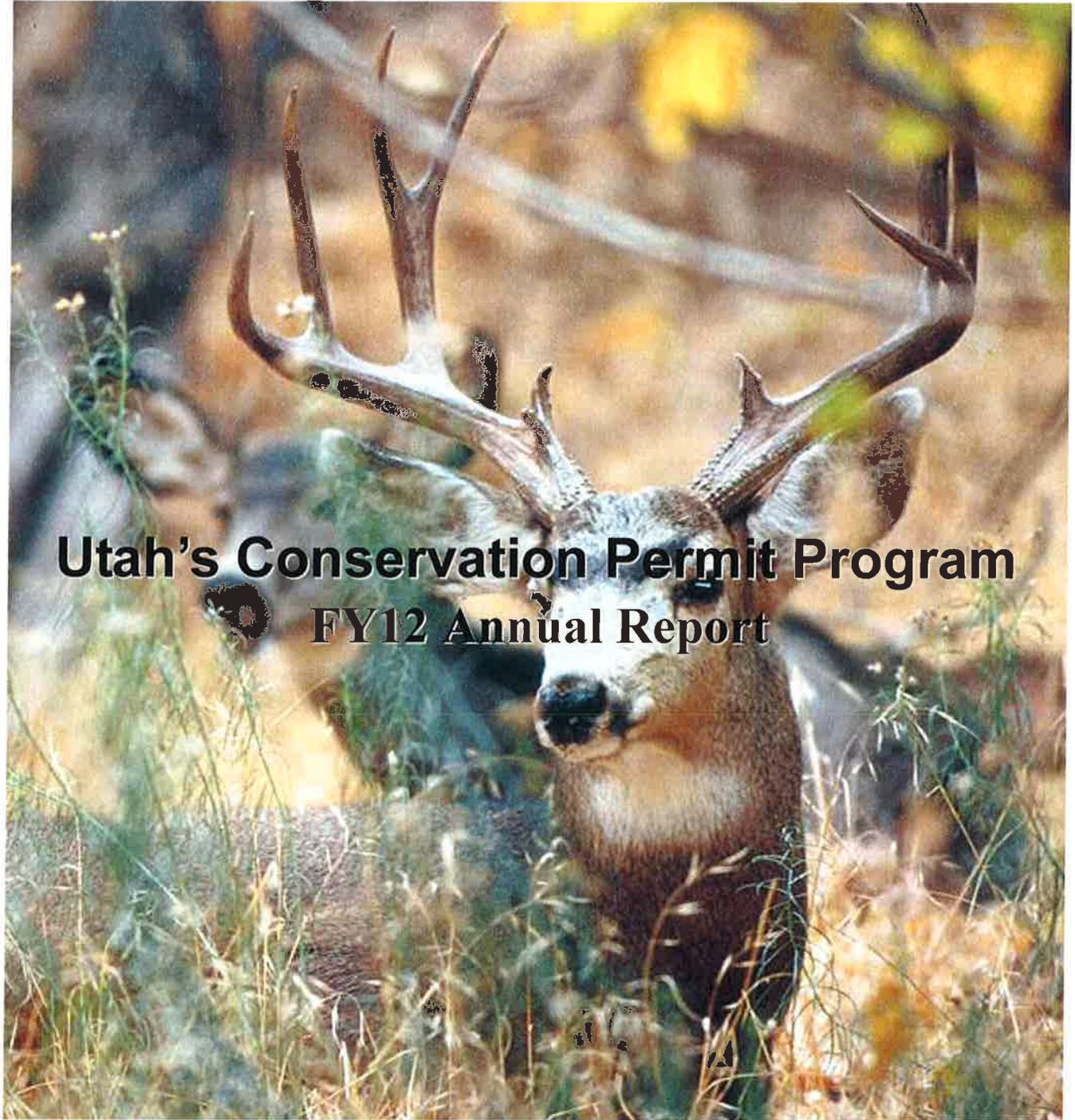
DRAFT - 2013 Single-Year Conservation Permits List

Ducks Unlimited

Species	Hunt Area	Condition	Group	Permit Count
Buck Deer	So Slope, Diamond Mountain	Any Weapon	DU	1
Bull Elk	West Desert, Deep Creek	Any Weapon	DU	2
Bull Elk	So Slope, Diamond Mountain	Any Weapon	DU	3
Turkey	Northern Region		DU	4

Utah Bowmen for Habitat

Species	Hunt Area	Condition	Group	Permit Count
Bear	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Premium	UBH	1
Bear	Wasatch Mountains, West	Premium	UBH	2
Buck Deer	Book Cliffs	Archery	UBH	3
Buck Deer	West Desert, Vernon	Archery	UBH	4
Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Manti	Archery	UBH	5
Bull Elk	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Archery	UBH	6
Bull Elk	Plateau, Fish Lake, Thousand Lake	Any Weapon	UBH	7
Bull Elk	Southwest Desert	Archery	UBH	8
Bull Elk	Wasatch Mountains	Archery	UBH	9
Pronghorn	Plateau	Archery	UBH	10
Cougar	Wasatch - Manti		UBH	11
Turkey	Central		UBH	12
Turkey	Southern		UBH	13



**Utah's Conservation Permit Program
FY12 Annual Report**

Program overview

Conservation permits are hunting permits auctioned annually at banquets, fundraisers and other events sponsored by various conservation groups. Since the program began in 1981, these permits have raised more than \$25 million. The majority of that revenue—more than 90 percent—has gone toward projects that directly benefit the species for which the permit was issued. These projects include:

- Habitat enhancement and restoration
- Species transplants
- Radio telemetry studies and research projects
- Aerial surveys
- Education efforts

The Conservation Permit Program funds important wildlife and habitat projects with minimal impact to Utah hunters. None of the money from this program funds employees' salaries. In April 2012, the conservation and sportsmen groups that participate in the program [allocated more than \\$1.3 million toward DWR-approved projects](#) for the coming year.



Using revenue from conservation permits, the DWR is studying mule deer survival statewide.

How the program works

Although the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) distributes conservation permits, the [Utah Wildlife Board](#) has authority over the number and type of permits issued. Board members have adopted a detailed administrative rule that determines how many conservation permits are available and how they are distributed.

The conservation groups that partner with the DWR in this program can then auction the permits to members of the public who attend their annual banquets and fundraising events. Conservation permits are available for the following species: bear, bighorn sheep (desert and Rocky Mountain), bison, cougar, deer, elk, moose, pronghorn, Rocky Mountain goats and turkey.

After the permits are auctioned, the funds are allocated as follows:

- The group that sold the permits retains 10 percent of the proceeds to cover administrative costs. The group can keep that money for its own use, but groups sometimes donate it back to the DWR.
- The DWR receives 30 percent to benefit the species for which the permits were sold.
- The remaining 60 percent may be kept by the group that sold the permits. Those funds **must be spent on DWR-approved wildlife projects or activities**. Groups must follow the administrative rule to continue participating in the Conservation Permit Program.

For 2012, the Utah Wildlife Board approved 324 conservation permits, 229 of which were for limited-entry or once-in-a-lifetime big game hunting. (To put this in perspective, the DWR issues approximately 6,500 limited-entry hunting permits each year.) See detailed information about [conservation permit numbers and revenue from 2001–2012](#). **Note:** Revenue data for the 2012

permits will be available in October.

Program benefits

Because of the funding it generates, the Conservation Permit Program benefits all Utah hunters:

- The program's revenue has been critical in keeping permit fees low and ensuring that most permits go to Utah residents. The percentage of Utah permits available to nonresidents is among the lowest in the western states.
- You'll find diverse hunting opportunities in Utah, including bear, bighorn sheep, bison, cougar, elk, mule deer, Rocky Mountain goats and turkeys. The Conservation Permit Program has funded transplants of 561 bighorn sheep, 350 pronghorn and 80 bison to provide some of these additional opportunities.
- Utah leads the West in habitat work, restoring more than 778,000 acres of wildlife habitat since 2005. The Conservation Permit Program contributed to 309 different habitat projects from 2006–2011. [Learn more about habitat-restoration efforts.](#)
- Utah has launched numerous studies and research projects to better understand changes in big game populations. The program is currently funding studies on highway mortality, deer survival and the effects of predators on mule deer. [Learn more about some of the research projects.](#)



Conservation permits helped fund the 2010 bison transplant that moved animals from the Henry Mountains to the Book Cliffs.

Revenue from the Conservation Permit Program provides funding for projects that could not otherwise be funded under the DWR's normal operating budget. Without the program, Utah's general deer and elk permit fees would likely increase by an additional \$15 to \$20, or a larger percentage of those permits would have to go to nonresidents, who pay higher permit fees.

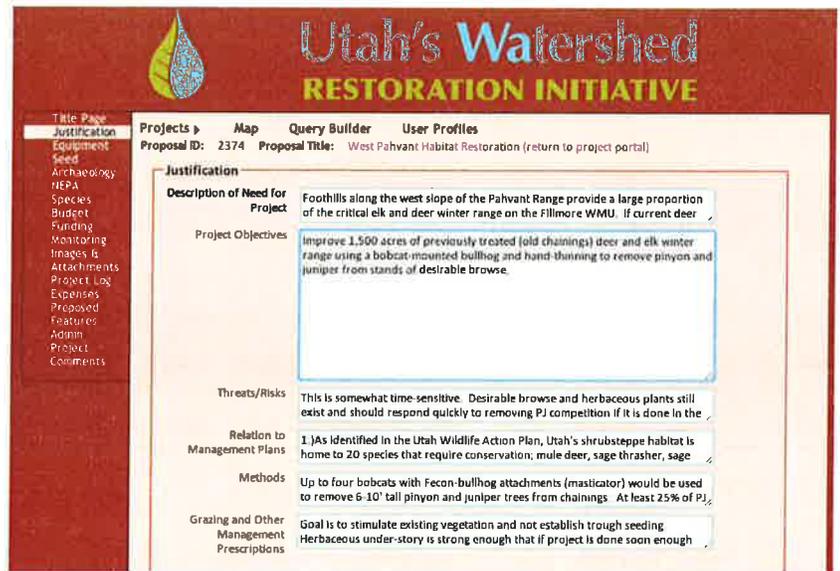
Participating conservation and sportsmen groups

The Conservation Permit Program relies on partnering with conservation and sportsmen groups who raise funds by auctioning conservation permits at banquets held throughout Utah. In FY12 six groups participated in the program including: Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, The Mule Deer Foundation, Utah Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, The National Wild Turkey Federation and The Utah Bowmen's Association.

Detailed information about projects

After they auction conservation permits each year, members of the participating conservation groups meet with the DWR to decide how to spend the 60 percent of permit revenue that funds many wildlife projects. The groups' representatives discuss proposals and then indicate which projects they want to fund.

In April 2012, the conservation and sportsmen groups in the program [allocated \\$1.3 million toward DWR-approved projects for the coming year \(FY13\)](#). The adjacent screen shot provides a quick look at one of the projects they will support with conservation permit funds. If you [visit this page](#), you can click the items in the left column to learn more about necessary equipment, budget components, affected species, proposed features and other relevant project details.



The screenshot displays the 'Utah's Watershed RESTORATION INITIATIVE' website. The header includes a logo of a water drop and the title. A navigation menu on the left lists various project components like 'Title Page', 'Justification', 'Equipment', 'Budget', etc. The main content area shows details for a project with 'Proposal ID: 2374' and 'Proposal Title: West Pahvant Habitat Restoration'. The 'Justification' section includes a 'Description of Need for Project' (Foothills along the west slope of the Pahvant Range provide a large proportion of the critical elk and deer winter range on the Fillmore WMU. If current deer...), 'Project Objectives' (Improve 1,500 acres of previously treated (old chainings) deer and elk winter range using a bobcat-mounted bullhog and hand-thinning to remove pinyon and juniper from stands of desirable browse.), 'Threats/Risks' (This is somewhat time-sensitive. Desirable browse and herbaceous plants still exist and should respond quickly to removing PJ competition if it is done in the...), 'Relation to Management Plans' (1 JAs identified in the Utah Wildlife Action Plan, Utah's shrubsteppe habitat is home to 20 species that require conservation; mule deer, sage thrasher, sage...), 'Methods' (Up to four bobcats with Feccon-bullhog attachments (masticator) would be used to remove 6-10' tall pinyon and juniper trees from chainings. At least 25% of PJ...), and 'Grazing and Other Management Prescriptions' (Goal is to stimulate existing vegetation and not establish trough seeding. Herbaceous under-story is strong enough that if project is done soon enough...).

The online database contains in-depth information about the habitat-restoration projects funded by the Conservation Permit Program.

The tables below list all of the projects (habitat and research) that each of the groups contributed conservation permit funds to in FY12 along with the status of the projects.

The DWR tracks detailed information about all habitat-restoration projects using the [Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative's online database](#). The DWR and its [partners](#) launched the initiative in 2005. Since then, the initiative has generated approximately \$76 million to restore more than 778,000 acres of habitat. The Conservation Permit Program has provided more than \$5.4 million of the \$76 million. When possible, the DWR uses the conservation permit revenue to obtain matching funds and donations from other agencies and the federal government.

Program audits

The Utah Legislature recently performed an [audit of the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources](#). The auditors specifically reviewed the Conservation Permit Program (pages 27–30) and released their final report in November 2011. They reached the following conclusion:

The sale of conservation permits promotes habitat improvement on public lands with no expense to the taxpayer, while negligibly reducing the public's opportunity to draw a permit for a limited-entry hunting area. We would encourage the division to continue to support this program.

The DWR annually audits the Conservation Permit Program and presents the results to the Utah Wildlife Board.



DWR personnel use a bullhog to improve wildlife habitat on the Henry Mountains.

Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife Conservation Permit Project Contributions for FY12 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012)

Project Name	Contract Dates	Contract Amount	Amount Due	Total Project Funding	Project Status
Drill Hole II Burn	07/01/2007 - 06/30/2009	\$ 14,006.34	\$ 10,384.62	\$ 19,000.00	Complete
West 8 Mile Habitat Enhancement	FY 2009	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 400.46	\$ 261,491.04	Carry over to FY 2013
Bartholomew Canyon Vegetation Treatment	FY 2009	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 399,750.00	Burn Canceled - Project Complete
Millville WMA project	FY 2010	\$ 12,733.26	\$ 3,128.12	\$ 62,721.26	Complete
One Mile Canyon Habitat Improvement Project	FY 2010	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 11,949.51	\$ 120,000.00	Complete
Springdeil South Vegetation Treatment Phase I	FY 2011	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,580.10	\$ 304,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Book Cliffs Water Distribution Project	FY 2011	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -		Canceled
Hoop Lake Sage Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	FY 2011	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,544.62	\$ 110,935.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Henefer-Echo water project	FY 2011	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 236.00	\$ 35,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Indian Springs Fuels Project	FY 2011	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -		Canceled
Spanish George/Arrowhead Pass Shrubsteppe Habitat Improvement	FY 2011	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 174.59	\$ 72,933.00	Complete
Dry Canyon Wildlife Improvement and Fuels Reduction Phase I	FY 2011	\$ 42,458.00	\$ 19,503.81	\$ 136,228.00	Complete
Henry Mountains Bison Study	FY 2011	\$ 91,465.00	\$ 38,450.00	\$ 673,884.00	Year 3 of 5
Canal Canyon Project	FY2012	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,369.87	\$ 50,669.51	Carry over to FY 2013
Shearing Corral Bullhog	FY2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 515,186.66	Complete
Ibapah Sagebrush Improvement - Year 4	FY2012	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 38,000.00	Complete
Mona Bench Project	FY2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 35,957.06	Complete
Chriss Creek PJ removal	FY2012	\$ 9,868.00	\$ 9,868.00	\$ 197,458.00	Complete
Dry Canyon Wildlife Improvement and Fuels Reduction Phase 2	FY2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 37,400.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Dairy Fork Wildlife Improvement and Fuels Reduction Project Phase 1	FY2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 18,900.00	Complete
Seep Ridge Bullhog Phase II	FY2012	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 168,053.08	Complete
Seep Ridge Chaining	FY2012	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 109,610.00	Complete
Indian Ridge Sagebrush	FY2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 35,558.00	Complete
Cedar Camp lop and scatter phase II	FY2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 3,533.55	\$ 32,500.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Moon Ridge Bullhog	FY2012	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -		Project canceled, and re-proposed as FY13 Moon Ridge Chaining, to which SFW contributed \$25k
Moonshine Ridge Mountain Browse Enhancement	FY2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 88,640.00	Complete
Boulevard Ridge Pinyon and Juniper Removal	FY2012	\$ 12,250.00	\$ 12,250.00	\$ 92,700.00	Complete
Salt Creek Ponderosa Pine Thinning Project	FY2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 487.26	\$ 105,120.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Logan Ranger District Aspen Treatment (Phase II)	FY2012	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -	\$ 106,900.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Henefer-Echo WMA uplands treatment	FY2012	\$ 14,200.00	\$ 5,919.62	\$ 40,712.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Henefer-Echo WMA fencing Phase II	FY2012	\$ 19,650.00	\$ 210.68	\$ 39,300.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Bitter Creek Restoration Phase 1 FY12	FY2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 338,425.97	Complete
Bluff Revegetation and Follow up	FY2012	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,438.51	\$ 20,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Dugout Creek Fuels Reduction and Habitat Restoration: Phase II	FY2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 445,211.00	Complete
Price Canyon Recreation Area Fuels Treatment Project	FY2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 324,196.00	Complete
Brushy Basin Habitat Improvement Project Phase 1	FY2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 200,925.00	Complete
Peters Point - Phase I	FY2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 563,708.00	Complete
Grimes Wash Pinyon/Juniper Removal	FY2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 67,287.00	Complete
Airplane Springs Chaining Re seeding	FY2012	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 115,428.00	Complete
Swasey Wildlife Improvement and Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Phase 3	FY2012	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 65,252.00	Complete
Grass Valley Revegetation Project	FY2012	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 6,954.19	Complete

Glenwood Habitat Enhancement	FY2012	\$	5,000.00	\$	4,999.28	\$	141,148.00	Complete
Blue Valley Shrubsteppe Improvement Project	FY2012	\$	5,254.55	\$	5,254.55	\$	36,501.07	Complete
Widemouth Canyon Chaining Phase III Project	FY2012	\$	25,000.00	\$	2,500.00	\$	53,878.05	Complete
South Beaver Vegetation Enhancement Year 6	FY2012	\$	50,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	515,416.00	Complete
City Creek Sagebrush-steppe Enhancement Year 1	FY2012	\$	2,500.00	\$	-	\$	40,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Buckskin Lop and Scatter FY12	FY2012	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	81,322.56	Complete
Youngsfield/Nixon WMA Herbicide Treatment	FY2012	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	17,225.00	Complete
2012 Mt. Dutton Dry Hollow guzzler	FY2012	\$	2,000.00	\$	-	\$	12,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Box Creek Aspen Regeneration Wild Ungulate Temporary Protection Fence	FY2012	\$	5,000.00	\$	-	\$	1,166,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Holt Canyon/Cedar Knoll Wildlife Guzzlers	FY2012	\$	2,000.00	\$	-	\$	23,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
2012 North Paunsaugunt habitat enhancement	FY2012	\$	10,000.00	\$	-	\$	205,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Hatch Bench Vegetation Enhancement (CANCELED)	FY2012	\$	15,000.00	\$	-	\$		Project canceled in FY12 and re-proposed in FY13.
Fivemile Sagebrush Restoration Phase V-Kimball Valley	FY2012	\$	20,000.00	\$	17,971.57	\$	97,436.26	SFW funded \$10k in FY13
Kane Point Vegetation Enhancement Seeding	FY2012	\$	7,500.00	\$	7,500.00	\$	33,790.00	Complete
Fivemile Phase V Handthin	FY2012	\$	20,000.00	\$	20,000.00	\$	72,027.00	Complete
South Creek Watershed Improvement	FY2012	\$	5,000.00	\$	-	\$	81,565.40	Carry over to FY 2013
Browns Canyon Guzzler	FY2012	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	17,500.00	Complete
Woods Reservoir guzzler Replacement	FY2012	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	22,500.00	Complete
Wildlife Crossings in Utah: What Works and Determining Best Structure Designs - FY2012	FY2012	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	66,482.00	Complete
Flashing Wildlife Crossing Signs	FY2012	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	15,300.00	Complete
Monroe Deer Fawn Survival Study	FY2012	\$	400,000.00	\$	90,975.07	\$	950,001.00	Year 1 of 4
			Total FY2012 Billing		\$ 502,829.79			

Mule Deer Foundation Conservation Permit Project Contributions for FY12 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012)

Project Name	Contract Dates	Contract Amount	Amount Due	Total Project Funding	Project Status
West 8 Mile Habitat Enhancement	FY 2009	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 400.46	\$ 261,491.04	Carry over to FY 2013
Bartholomew Canyon Vegetation Treatment	FY 2009	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 399,750.00	\$9,585 spent in FY10 for oak mastication; burn part of project canceled after FY12
One Mile Canyon Habitat Improvement Project	FY 2010	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 11,949.52	\$ 120,000.00	Complete
Springdell South Vegetation Treatment Phase I	FY 2011	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,580.10	\$ 304,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Book Cliffs Water Distribution Project	FY 2011	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 59,500.00	Project carried over from FY11, then cancelled after FY12
Hoop Lake Sage Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	FY 2011	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,272.31	\$ 110,935.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Henefer-Echo water project	FY 2011	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 1,888.00	\$ 35,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Indian Springs Fuels Project	FY 2011	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Project canceled until NEPA completed
Spanish George/Arrowhead Pass Shrubsteppe Habitat Improvement	FY 2011	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 34.90	\$ 72,933.00	Complete
Greenville Bench Water Pipeline	FY 2011	\$ 17,240.00	\$ -	\$ 90,732.44	\$13,240 spent in FY11, \$4,000 carried over to FY12 and FY13
Henefer-Echo water project	FY 2012	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 527.00	\$ 30,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Canal Canyon Project	FY 2012	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,369.88	\$ 50,669.51	Carry over to FY 2013
Sheep Ridge Corral Bullhog	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 515,186.66	Complete
Ibapah Sagebrush Improvement - Year 4	FY 2012	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 38,000.00	Complete
Mona Bench Project	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 35,957.06	Complete
Chriss Creek PJ removal	FY 2012	\$ 9,868.00	\$ 9,868.00	\$ 197,458.00	Complete
Dry Canyon Wildlife Improvement and Fuels Reduction Phase 2	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 37,400.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Dairy Fork Wildlife Improvement and Fuels Reduction Project Phase 1	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 18,900.00	Complete
Seep Ridge Bullhog Phase II	FY 2012	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 168,053.08	Complete
Seep Ridge Chaining	FY 2012	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 109,610.00	Complete
Indian Ridge Sagebrush	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 35,558.00	Complete
Cedar Camp lop and scatter phase II	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 3,533.57	\$ 32,500.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Moon Ridge Bullhog	FY 2012	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	Project canceled, and re-proposed as FY13 Moon Ridge Chaining, to which MDF contributed \$20k
Boulevard Ridge Pinyon and Juniper Removal	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 92,700.00	Complete
Salt Creek Ponderosa Pine Thinning Project	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 487.26	\$ 105,120.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Logan Ranger District Aspen Treatment (Phase II)	FY 2012	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	\$ 106,900.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Henefer-Echo WMA uplands treatment	FY 2012	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 8,337.65	\$ 40,712.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Henefer-Echo WMA fencing Phase II	FY 2012	\$ 19,650.00	\$ 210.69	\$ 39,300.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Dugout Creek Fuels Reduction and Habitat Restoration: Phase II	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 445,211.00	Complete
Price Canyon Recreation Area Fuels Treatment Project	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 324,196.00	Complete
Brushy Basin Habitat Improvement Project Phase 1	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 200,925.00	Complete
Peters Point - Phase I	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 563,708.00	Complete
Grimes Wash Pinyon/Juniper Removal	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 67,287.00	Complete
Airplane Springs Chaining Re-seeding	FY 2012	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 115,428.00	Complete
Swasey Wildlife Improvement and Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Phase 3	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 65,252.00	Complete
Grass Valley Revegetation Project	FY 2012	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 6,954.19	Complete
Glenwood Habitat Enhancement	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 141,148.00	Complete
Wildemouth Canyon Chaining Phase III Project	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 53,878.05	Complete
South Beaver Vegetation Enhancement Year 6	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 515,416.00	Complete
City Creek Sagebrush-steppe Enhancement Year 1	FY 2012	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 40,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Buckskin Lop and Scatter FY12	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 81,322.56	Complete
Youngsfield/Nixon WMA Herbicide Treatment	FY 2012	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 17,225.00	Complete
2012 Mt. Dutton Dry Hollow Guzzler	FY 2012	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Box Creek Aspen Regeneration Wild Ungulate Temporary Protection Fence	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,166,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Holt Canyon/Cedar Knoll Wildlife Guzzlers	FY 2012	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 23,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013

2012 North Paunsaugunt habitat enhancement	FY 2012	\$	5,000.00	\$	-	\$	205,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Hatch Bench Vegetation Enhancement	FY 2012	\$	15,000.00	\$	-			Project canceled in FY12 and re-proposed in FY13. MDF funded \$10k in FY13
Fivemile Sagebrush Restoration Phase V-Kimball Valley	FY 2012	\$	20,000.00	\$	17,971.57	\$	97,436.26	Complete
Fivemile Phase V Handthin	FY 2012	\$	20,000.00	\$	20,000.00	\$	72,027.00	Complete
South Creek Watershed Improvement	FY 2012	\$	5,000.00	\$	-	\$	81,565.40	Carry over to FY 2013
Browns Canyon Guzzler	FY 2012	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00	\$	17,500.00	Complete
Woods Reservoir guzzler Replacement	FY 2012	\$	1,000.00	\$	1,000.00	\$	22,500.00	Complete
Wildlife Crossings in Utah: What Works and Determining Best Structure Designs - FY2012	FY 2012	\$	10,000.00	\$	10,000.00	\$	66,482.00	Complete
Flashing Wildlife Crossing Signs	FY 2012	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00	\$	15,300.00	Complete
Monroe Deer Fawn Survival Study	FY 2012	\$	300,000.00	\$	84,024.93	\$	950,001.00	Year 1 of 4
			Total FY2012 Billing	\$	343,655.84			

Utah Foundation for North American Wild Sheep Conservation Permit Project Contributions for FY12 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012)

Project Name	Contract Dates	Contract Amount	Amount Due	Total Project Funding	Project Status
Carter Creek/Sheep Creek Bighorn Project	FY 2008	\$ 70,000.00	\$ -		Project canceled until USFS completes NEPA
Hoop Lake Sage Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	FY 2011	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,544.62	\$ 110,935.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Mona Bench Project	FY2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 35,957.06	Complete
Airplane Springs Chaiming Reseeding	FY2012	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 115,428.00	Complete
Buckskin Lop and Scatter FY12	FY2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 81,322.56	Complete
2012 Mt. Dutton Dry Hollow Guzzler	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Holt Canyon/Cedar Knoll Wildlife Guzzlers	FY2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 23,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Fivemile Sagebrush Restoration Phase V-Kimball Valley	FY2012	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 17,970.97	\$ 97,436.26	Complete
Browns Canyon Guzzler	FY2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 17,500.00	Complete
Woods Reservoir guzzler Replacement	FY2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 22,500.00	Complete
FY 2012 -Guidelines for Placement of Wildlife Water Developments (year 3)	FY2012	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 102,266.40	Complete
Wildlife Crossings in Utah: What Works and Determining Best Structure Designs - FY2012	FY2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 66,482.00	Complete
N San Rafael Sheep study	FY2012	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 60,746.66	\$ 310,303.00	Year 1 of 5
		Total FY2012 Billing	\$ 200,262.25		

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Conservation Permit Project Contributions for FY12 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012)

Project Name	Contract Dates	Contract Amount	Amount Due	Total Project Funding	Project Status
West 8 Mile Habitat Enhancement	FY 2009	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 200.23	\$ 261,491.04	Carry over to FY 2013
Bartholomew Canyon Vegetation Treatment	FY 2009	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 399,750.00	Burn portion canceled; project complete
Book Cliffs Water Distribution Project	FY 2011	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 59,500.00	Project carried over from FY11, then canceled after FY12
Hoop Lake Sage Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	FY 2011	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 2,544.62	\$ 110,935.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Henefer-Echo water project	FY 2011	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 236.00	\$ 35,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Spanish George/Arrowhead Pass Shrubsteppe Habitat Improvement	FY 2011	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 34.90	\$ 72,933.00	Complete
Ipahah Sagebrush Improvement - Year 4	FY 2012	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 38,000.00	Complete
Stockton Bullhog	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 352,821.00	Complete
Dairy Fork Wildlife Improvement and Fuels Reduction Project Phase 1	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 18,900.00	Complete
Cedar Camp lop and scatter phase II	FY 2012	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 4,331.47	\$ 32,500.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Moon Ridge Bullhog	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -		Project canceled, and re-proposed as FY13 Moon Ridge Chaining, to which RMEF contributed \$10k
Boulevard Ridge Pinyon and Juniper Removal	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 92,700.00	Complete
Salt Creek Ponderosa Pine Thinning Project	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 487.26	\$ 105,120.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Bookcliffs Aspen Enclosures	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 105,120.00	Complete
Logan Ranger District Aspen Treatment (Phase II)	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 106,900.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Bitter-Creek Restoration Phase 1 FY12	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 338,425.97	Complete
Dugout Creek Fuels Reduction and Habitat Restoration: Phase II	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 445,211.00	Complete
Price Canyon Recreation Area Fuels Treatment Project	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 324,196.00	Complete
Brushy Basin Habitat Improvement Project Phase 1	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 200,925.00	Complete
Peters Point - Phase I	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 563,708.00	Complete
Grimes Wash Pinyon/Juniper Removal	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 67,287.00	Complete
Swasey Wildlife Improvement and Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Phase 3	FY 2012	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 65,252.00	Complete
Old Woman Plateau Seeding Phase II	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 26,639.50	Complete
Glenwood Habitat Enhancement	FY 2012	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 141,148.00	Complete
South Beaver Vegetation Enhancement Year 6	FY 2012	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 515,416.00	Complete
City Creek Sagebrush-steppe Enhancement Year 1	FY 2012	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 40,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Youngsfield/Nixon WMA Herbicide Treatment	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 17,225.00	Complete
2012 Mt. Dutton Dry-Hollow Guzzler	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 12,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Box Creek Aspen Regeneration Wild Ungulate Temporary Protection Fence	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,166,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Woods Reservoir guzzler Replacement	FY 2012	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 22,500.00	Complete
Wildlife Crossings in Utah: What Works and Determining Best Structure Designs - FY2012	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 66,482.00	Complete
Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	FY 2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 132,000.00	Complete
		Total FY2012 Billing	\$ 135,534.48		

National Wild Turkey Federation Conservation Permit Project Contributions for FY12 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012)

Project Name	Contract Dates	Contract Amount	Amount Due	Total Project Funding	Project Status
Drill Hole II	07/01/2007 - 06/30/2009	\$ 2,620.26	\$ 2,044.60	\$ 19,000.00	Complete
Bartholomew Canyon Vegetation Treatment	FY 2009	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -		Burn portion canceled; project complete
Springdell South Vegetation Treatment Phase I	FY2011	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 645.61	\$ 304,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Seep Ridge Bullhog Phase II	FY2012	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 168,053.08	Complete
Indian Ridge Sagebrush	FY2012	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 35,558.00	Complete
Stewart Lake Riparian Enhancement	FY2012	\$ 9,250.00	\$ -		Project Canceled
Salt Creek Ponderosa Pine Thinning Project	FY2012	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 341.02	\$ 105,120.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Green River Cottonwood Restoration II	FY2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,871.06		Complete
Bluff Revegetation and Follow up	FY2012	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,438.52	\$ 20,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Muddy Creek Vegetation Improvement Phase 1	FY2012	\$ 3,380.00	\$ -	\$ 10,177.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Sawmill Canyon Herbicide Treatment	FY2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 30,400.00	Complete
2012 Mt. Dutton Dry Hollow guzzler	FY2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Holt Canyon/Cedar Knoll Wildlife Guzzlers	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 23,000.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Kane Point Vegetation Enhancement Seeding	FY2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 33,790.00	Complete
Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	FY2012	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 132,000.00	Complete
		Total FY2012 Billing	\$ 23,340.81		

Utah Bowman's Association Conservation Permit Project Contributions for FY12 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012)

Project Title	Contract Dates	Contract Amount	Amount Due	Total Project Funding	Project Status
Hoop Lake Sage Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	FY 2012	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 253.73	\$ 110,935.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Shearing Corral Bullhog	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 515,186.66	Complete
Dry Canyon Wildlife Improvement and Fuels Reduction Phase 2	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 37,400.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Salt Creek Ponderosa Pine Thinning Project	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 194.98	\$ 105,120.00	Carry over to FY 2013
Price Canyon Recreation Area Fuels Treatment Project	FY 2012	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 324,196.00	Complete
Swasey Wildlife Improvement and Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Phase 3	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 65,252.00	Complete
Woods Reservoir guzzler Replacement	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 22,500.00	Complete
Wildlife Crossings in Utah: What Works and Determining Best Structure Designs - FY2012	FY 2012	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 66,482.00	Complete
		Total FY2012 Billing	\$ 9,448.71		

Draft 2013 RAC & BOARD MEETING TIME LINE (Revised 9/24/2012)

RAC Meeting Month	Agenda Item	Rule 5 Year Lapse Date	Mngrs Mtg (TBA by program mnggr.)	Regional Recs Due to Program Coordinator (Mondays) - 2 wks to Brown Bag -	Review Program Recs with Director- no later than	Brown Bag (Tuesdays)	Final Draft Due to Rules Coord. for mailing	Powerpoints Due to Rules Coordinator	RAC Meetings	Post RAC/Pre Board meeting with the Director (Mondays)	Board Meeting Year 2013 (Thursdays)	Final Review of Proc. with PRC (Mondays)	Proc to Printer (Thursdays)	Proc Distribution	Application Period	Comments
December	Falconry Recommendations			10/30	11/9	11/13	11/15	11/30	12/4-12		01/10/2013					RAC order is CR, NR, then SR, SER, NER
December	Bear Recommendations & Guidebook			10/30	11/9	11/13	11/15	11/30	12/4-12		01/10/2013		01/17/2013	01/30/2012	Feb.	3-yr guidebook started 2012
January	No meetings															
February	No meetings															
March	No meetings															
April	Big Game Permit Numbers for 2013 season			03/5	03/15	03/19	03/21	04/04	04/9-17	04/22	05/1-2					
April	Big Game Field Regulations Guidebook			03/5	03/15	03/19	03/21	04/04	04/9-17	04/22	05/2-3					
April	CWMU Rule Amendments & 5yr			03/5	03/15	03/19	03/21	04/04	04/9-17	04/22	05/2-3					
April	Big Game Field Regulations Guidebook			03/5	03/15	03/19	03/21	04/04	04/9-17	04/22	05/2-3					
June	No meetings															
May	Fishing Informational - Online Survey			04/02	04/12	04/16	04/18	05/04	05/7-15	05/20	06/06		06/14	06/30	July	
May	Upland Game, Turkey & Crane Recommendations & Guidebook (contingent)			04/02	04/12	04/16	04/18	05/04	05/7-15	05/20	06/06					3-yr guidebook started 2011
June	No meetings															
July	Waterfowl Recommendations & Guidebook			06/24	07/03	07/09	07/11	07/20	07/30-08/07	08/12	08/21-22		08/23	09/01	Swan - Aug.	
July	Furbearer Recommendations (contingent) Bobcat Harvest Recommendations			06/24	07/03	07/09	07/11	07/20	07/30-08/07	08/12	08/21-22		08/23	09/01		3-yr guidebook started 2010
July	Cougar Recommendations			06/24	07/03	07/09	07/11	07/20	07/30-08/07	08/12	08/21-22		08/23	09/01	Oct.	3-yr guidebook started 2010
July	R657-19 Nongame Mammals Amendments & 5-yr			06/24	07/03	07/09	07/11	07/20	07/30-08/07	08/12	08/21-22		08/23	09/01	Oct.	3-yr guidebook started 2010
July	Proposed Fee Schedule			06/24	07/03	07/09	07/11	07/20	07/30-08/07	08/12	08/21-22					
July	Convention Permits Audit (Board Only)			06/24	07/03	07/09	07/11	07/20	07/30-08/07	08/12	08/21-22					
July	Convention Permits Allocation (Board Only)			06/24	07/03	07/09	07/11	07/20	07/30-08/07	08/12	08/21-22					
August	No meetings															
September	Fishing Recommendations & Guidebook			08/12	08/23	08/27	08/29	09/07	09/10-18	10/07	11/7		11/15	12/09		
September	Conservation Permit Audit - 1yr Permits (Board Only)			08/12	08/23	08/27	08/29	09/07	09/10-18	10/07	11/7					
September	Conservation Permit Allocation - 1yr Permits (Board Only)			08/12	08/23	08/27	08/29	09/07	09/10-18	10/07	11/7					
September	Conservation Permit Allocation - 3yr Permits (Board Only) (happens in 2015)			08/12	08/23	08/27	08/29	09/07	09/10-18	10/07	11/7					
September	Conservation Permit Annual Report (Board Only)			08/12	08/23	08/27	08/29	09/07	09/10-18	10/07	11/7					
September	Board Approves 2012 Meeting Dates (Board Only)			08/12	08/23	08/27	08/29	09/07	09/10-18	10/07	11/7					
October	No meetings															
November	Big Game 2014 Hunt Tables and Dates			10/07	10/18	10/22	10/24	11/02	11/06-14	11/18	12/4-5					
November	CWMU Management Plans			10/07	10/18	10/22	10/24	11/02	11/06-14	11/18	12/4-5					RAC order is NR, CR then SR, SER, NER
November	CWMU and Landowner Permit Recommendations			10/07	10/18	10/22	10/24	11/02	11/06-14	11/18	12/4-5					
December	Falconry Recommendations			10/28	11/8	11/12	11/14	11/30	12/3-12	12/16	01/09/2014					RAC order is CR, NR, then SR, SER, NER
December	Bear Recommendations & Guidebook (not on the agenda until 2015)			10/28	11/8	11/12	11/14	11/30	12/3-12	12/16	01/09/2014		01/17/2014	01/30/2014	Feb.	3-yr guidebook started 2012

Revised 09/24/2012

2013 WILDLIFE BOARD/RAC SCHEDULE

All information is subject to change and all agendas are tentative. Please check the DWR website often at www.wildlife.utah.gov for complete agendas and meeting locations posted prior to meetings. **Unless otherwise noted, all Wildlife Board meetings are on Thursdays in the DNR Salt Lake office auditorium, 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City.** Board meetings begin at 9 a.m, unless otherwise indicated. Additional meetings may be scheduled if necessary. RACs meet at the locations and times listed below unless otherwise noted. Scheduling changes will be posted on the DWR website. Please check it often.

SR RAC – 7 PM
Beaver High School
195 E. Center St., Beaver

NER RAC – 6:30 PM
Wildlife Resources NER Office
318 North Vernal Ave, Vernal

SER RAC – 6:30 PM
John Wesley Powell Museum
1765 E. Main St., Green River

NR RAC – 6 PM
Brigham City Community Center
24 N. 300 W., Brigham City

CR RAC – 6:30 PM
Springville Public Library Meeting Room
45 S. Main Street, Springville

Schedule & Tentative Agendas

January – Board Meeting Thursday, January 10, 2013:

- Bear Proclamation & Rule,
- Falconry Rule

No RAC meetings scheduled.

February – No Board or RAC meetings scheduled.

March – No Board or RAC meetings scheduled.

April – RAC meetings:

- Big Game Permit numbers.
- Big Game Recommendations and Guidebook - 2013
- Antlerless Recommendations and Guidebook – 2013
- Antlerless Permit numbers

9 - SR – 5:00 pm

10 – SER – 5:00 pm

11 – NER – 5:00 pm

16 – CR

17 – NR

No Board meeting scheduled.

May –

Board meeting May 1-2

- Executive Work Session
- Big Game Permit numbers.
- Big Game Recommendations and Guidebook - 2013
- Antlerless Recommendations and Guidebook – 2013
- Antlerless Permit numbers

RAC meetings:

- 2013 Fishing informational – online survey
- Upland Game & Wild Turkey Guidebook (contingent)

7 – SR
8 – SER
9 – NER
14 – CR
15 – NR

June –

Board meeting June 6:

- 2013 Fishing informational – online survey
- Upland Game & Wild Turkey Guidebook (contingent)

No RAC meetings scheduled.

July –

No Board meeting scheduled.

RAC meetings:

- Cougar Guidebook & Rule
- Furbearer Guidebook & Rule
- Waterfowl Guidebook & Rule
- Fee Proposals (contingent)

July 30 – SR
July 31 – SER
Aug 01 – NER
Aug 06 – CR
Aug 07 – NR

August

Board meeting August 16:

- Cougar Guidebook & Rule
- Furbearer Guidebook & Rule
- Waterfowl Guidebook & Rule

- Fee Proposals (contingent)

No RAC meetings scheduled.

September

No Board meeting scheduled.

RAC meetings:

- Fishing Recommendations and Guidebook –2014

10 – SR
 11 – SER
 12 – NER
 17 – CR
 18 – NR

October -

No Board or RAC meetings

November –

Board meeting November 7:

- Fishing Recommendations and Guidebook –2014
- 2014 meeting dates approval
- Conservation permit Allocation 1 yr
- Conservation permit Allocation 3 yr

RAC meetings:

- Big Game 2014 Hunt Tables and Dates
- CWMU Recommendations

6 – NR - **WEDNESDAY – MOVED BECAUSE OF ELECTION DAY**
 7 – CR – **THURSDAY**
 12 – SR
 13 – SER
 14 – NER

December –

Board meeting December 4-5:

- Executive Work Session
- Big Game 2014 Hunt Tables and Dates
- CWMU Recommendations

RAC meetings:

- Bear Guidebook & Rule (contingent)
- Falconry Guidebook & Rule (contingent)

3 – CR **DIFFERENT RAC ROTATION TO ACCOMMODATE BOARD MTG.**
 4 – NR
 10 – SRO
 11 –SERO

12 –NERO

January -

Board Meeting January 9, 2014:

- Bear Guidebook & Rule (contingent)
- Falconry Guidebook & Rule (contingent).

DRAFT

2013 RECOMMENDATIONS FISHING RULE AND GUIDEBOOK

RAC Meetings September 2012



*Drew Cushing Warmwater
Sportfish Program Coordinator*

*Paul Birdsey Coldwater
Sportfish Program Coordinator*

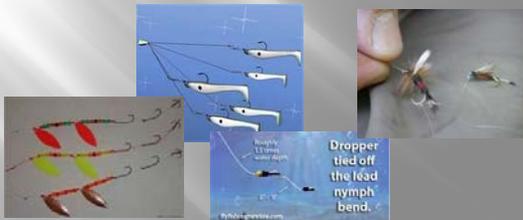


Waste of Wildlife 23-20-8

- Allow the disposal of common carp
- Allow the disposal of other species of fish that have been designated "Catch and Kill" in specific waters as approved by the Wildlife Board.

Taking Game Fish R657-13-6

- Increase the number of hooks per line from two to three statewide.



Restriction on Taking Fish and Crayfish R657-13-11

- Allow bowfishing for common carp at night with the use of a light.



Prohibited Fish R657-13-13

- Gizzard shad are prohibited to possess statewide except at Lake Powell where they may be possessed dead and used as bait.

Recommendations Northern Region

- **Willard Bay Inlet Channel (Box Elder County)**
 - Remove closure
 - Limits the same as Willard Bay Reservoir
- **Blacksmith Fork River (Cache County)**
 - From the first highway bridge (at the mouth of the canyon) of State Road 101 (Blacksmith Fork Canyon Road) to the head waters.
 - Only one fish may be over 15 inches
 - Bonus limit of 4 brown trout (total of no more than 8 trout if at least 4 are brown trout)

Recommendations Northern Region

- **Weber River (Weber, Morgan and Summit Counties)**
 - From the Great Salt Lake to Echo Reservoir Dam
 - All cutthroat trout must be immediately released
- **Holmes Creek Reservoir (Davis County)**
 - Limit six largemouth bass, only 1 largemouth bass may be over 12 inches

Recommendations Central Region

- **Deer Valley Lakes (Wasatch County)**
 - Limit two fish.
- **Blue Lake (Tooele County)**
 - Underwater spearfishing is legal for tilapia only.
- **Utah Lake (Utah County)**
 - Tributaries are closed to bow angling from legal sundown to legal sunrise from May 1 through the second Saturday in July.

Recommendations Northeastern Region

- **Green River (Carbon, Daggett, Emery, Grand, San Juan, Uintah County, Uintah and Wayne Counties)**
 - No limit on northern pike. Anglers must not release any northern pike they catch. All northern pike must be immediately killed (Illegal Introduction).
 - No limit on walleye. Anglers must not release any walleye they catch. All walleye must be immediately killed (Illegal Introduction).
 - No limit on channel catfish
- **Vernal Game Farm Pond (Uintah County)**
 - Limit 2 fish regardless of species (Community Fishery)

Recommendations Southern Region

- **Boulder Mountain Lakes and Reservoirs (Garfield and Wayne Counties)**
 - Includes all lakes and reservoirs found within the boundary beginning at the junction of SR-24 and SR-62; then south on SR-62 to SR-22, then south on SR-22 to the Antimony-Widsoe Road; then south on this road to SR-12; then east and north on SR-12 to SR-24; and then west on SR-24 to the beginning point at the junction of SR-24 and SR-62; EXCEPT Otter Creek Reservoir; Pine Lake and Wide Hollow Reservoir (where statewide rules apply) and Dougherty Basin Lake (where separate rules apply).

Recommendations Southern Region

- **Boulder Mountain Lakes and Reservoirs (Garfield and Wayne Counties)**
 - Limit 4 trout.
 - Only 2 trout over 14 inches.
 - Bonus limit of 4 brook trout (total limit of no more than 8 trout if at least 4 are brook trout) at the following waters: Donkey Reservoir, Oak Creek Reservoir and Moosman Lake.
 - Closed Jan. 1 through 6am on the third Saturday of April and Nov. 1 through Dec. 31.

This closure excludes the following waters, which are OPEN year around: Blind Lake, Coleman Reservoir, **Cooks, Miller**, Oak Creek Reservoir, Upper and Lower Barker Reservoirs, Donkey Reservoir, Posey Lake

Recommendations Southern Region

- **East Fork Boulder Creek (Garfield County)**
 - Limit 4 trout.
 - Bonus limit of 4 brook trout (total limit of no more than 8 trout if at least 4 are brook trout).
- **Fish Lake (Sevier County)**
 - Limit 4 trout.
 - Only one trout may be over 28 inches regardless of species.
- **Salina City Pond (Sevier County)**
 - Limit 2 fish regardless of species (Community Fishery)

Statewide Survey

This survey is just an additional informal tool that the Division of Wildlife Resources is utilizing in order to keep its finger on the pulse of the anglers of Utah. The DWR also utilizes the following formats to solicit angler recommendations:

- Hard mail
- Open houses
- Email
- In person
- Phone
- Internet forums

Statewide Survey

- The survey was conducted from May 15 through June 19, 2012
- A total of 1367 people participated in the survey
- There were 7 questions related to various regulation proposals from the DWR and one free form question to allow people to identify other issues of importance.

Statewide Survey Comments

- All of the specific recommendations were overwhelmingly supported by the public EXCEPT the Forsyth Reservoir proposal.
- A total of 746 write in comments were received from the survey.
- Interestingly, almost exactly half the comments concerned relaxing harvest regulations and half wanted stricter regulations.
- The only areas of agreement were:
 - More law enforcement presence
 - More community fisheries
 - More stream access

Utah Lake Survey Comments

- A total of 685 comments were received on the survey
- Like the statewide survey, many people wanted stricter limits and many wanted more relaxed limits.
- The most numerous comments were as follows:
 - Continue the carp removal program
 - More law enforcement presence
 - Continue to improve shoreline access

Utah Lake Survey Results

- We will not pursue changing the black bass regulation at this time.
 - We need to work with the Central Region to conduct more in depth investigations on the black bass population at Utah lake.
 - We need to work more closely with the public to educate them on the relationship between regulations and black bass population dynamics.

Share your ideas with the DWR by June 15

Share ideas at RAC meetings

E-mail ideas to: dwrcomment@utah.gov

Mail ideas to:

Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator

Division of Wildlife Resources

PO Box 146301

Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301

Web based survey to seek public input on line

<http://wildlife.utah.gov/dwr/>

ILLEGAL SPECIES INTRODUCTIONS



Illegal Species Introduction

- ❑ Illegal species introduction is probably the single biggest threat to fisheries in the state of Utah
- ❑ The problem is pandemic and is threatening to destroy sport/native fisheries across the country
- ❑ We need to expend additional effort in education about illegal fish movement

UTAH WATERS AFFECTED BY ILLEGAL INTRODUCTIONS

Deer Creek, Jordanelle, Starvation, Brough, Steinaker, Cottonwood, Brown's Draw, Red Fleet, Mantua, Strawberry, East Canyon, Redmond, Grantsville, Lost Creek, Yuba, Virgin River, Santa Clara River, Gunlock, Quail Creek, Sunset Pond, Sandy Pond, Willow Pond, Red Fleet, Lake Powell, New Castle, Jordan River, Bountiful Pond, Mabey Pond, Kaysville Pond, Sand Hollow, Big Sandwash, Panguitch, Scofield, Flaming Gorge, Green River, Joe's Valley, Huntington North, Utah Lake, Blue Lake and Colorado River

ILLEGALLY INTRODUCED SPECIES IN UTAH

Black bullhead, white bass, green sunfish, yellow perch, black crappie, northern pike, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, pumpkinseed sunfish, red eared sunfish, tilapia, bluegill, walleye, gizzard shad, goldfish, koi, red shiner, golden shiner, loach, oscar, fathead minnow, piranha, pacu, Utah chub, common carp, crayfish, crocodile, snapping turtle, painted turtle, bullfrog, red-eared slider, quagga mussel, clown knifefish, tinfoil barb, burbot, melanoides snail, western mosquito fish

Cost of Illegal Fish Movement To Utah

- ❑ Reduced survival of native species
- ❑ ESA listing of native species
- ❑ Chemical or physical treatment costs
- ❑ Loss of anglers and associated revenue
- ❑ Trickle down effects to local and state economy
- ❑ Lower survival of stocked fish
- ❑ Increased cost of stocking larger fish

Potential Actions to Deter Illegal Fish Movement

- ❑ Chemical treatment
- ❑ Physical removal treatment
- ❑ Use of sterile fish
- ❑ Use of "Super" males
- ❑ Complete water closures
- ❑ Potential regulation changes

Potential Actions to Deter Illegal Fish Movement

- Consider prohibiting the following species from possession except as provided in the rules for specific waters.
 - Black bullhead
 - Black or white crappie
 - White bass
 - Yellow perch
 - Tilapia
 - Burbot

Potential Actions to Deter Illegal Fish Movement

- Consider a Catch and Kill regulation on the following species except as provided in the rules for specific waters.
 - Northern pike
 - Largemouth bass
 - Smallmouth bass
 - Walleye

Thank You

