

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

October 3, 2019, DNR, Boardroom

1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

The meeting can be viewed live at https://youtu.be/9u8ycoiCt_0

Thursday, October 3, 2019, 9:00 am

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. Approval of Agenda
– Byron Bateman, Chairman | ACTION |
| 2. Approval of Minutes
– Byron Bateman, Chairman | ACTION |
| 3. Old Business/Action Log
– Kevin Albrecht, Vice-Chair
• Bighorn Sheep MOU Report – Jace Taylor | CONTINGENT |
| 4. DWR Update
– Mike Fowlks, DWR Director | INFORMATIONAL |
| 5. Fishing Informational
- Craig Walker, Sportfish Assistant Chief | INFORMATIONAL |
| 6. R657-59 Private Fish Ponds Rule Amendments
- Randy Oplinger, Coldwater Sportfish Coordinator | ACTION |
| 7. Bighorn Sheep Unit Management Plans
- Jace Taylor, Bighorn Sheep/Mountain Goat Biologist | ACTION |
| 8. Conservation Permit Audit
- Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief | ACTION |
| 9. Conservation Permit Annual Report
- Justin Shannon, Wildlife Section Chief | INFORMATIONAL |
| 10. Conservation Permit Variance Request
- Darren DeBloois, Game Mammals Program Coordinator | ACTION |
| 11. Fee Review
- Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief | INFORMATIONAL |
| 12. 2020 RAC/Board Dates
- Staci Coons, Wildlife Board Coordinator | ACTION |
| 13. Wildlife Board Stipulations
- Greg Hansen, Assistant Attorney General | ACTION |
| 14. Other Business
– Byron Bateman, Chairman
Winter WAFWA | CONTINGENT |

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

Wildlife Board Motions

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

Each Board Meeting until completed – Target Date – Bighorn Sheep MOU Report

MOTION: I move that we add to the action log that the Division give a progress report on the management plan's lethal removal process and MOU at every board meeting until it is completed.

Motion made by: Karl Hirst
Assigned to: Jace Taylor
Action: Under Study
Status: To be presented at every board meeting until completed
Placed on Action Log: November 29, 2018

Spring 2020 – Target Date – Bear Issues

MOTION: I move that we add to the action log that the Division reconvene the working group to explore better solutions on the spring hunt, number of hounds in the field, and non-resident permit challenges.

Motion made by: Kevin Albrecht
Assigned to: Darren DeBlois
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: January 10, 2019

Fall 2020 – Target Date – Premium Fishing Areas

MOTION: To have the division look into the possibility of designating premium fishing areas - that allow artificial flies and lures only- to have increased license requirements and fees and to bring the information back during the next recommendation cycle.

Motion made by: Byron Batemen
Assigned to: Randy Oplinger
Action: Under Study
Status: Pending
Placed on Action Log: September 27, 2018

Wildlife Board Assignments

May 2, 2019 - Chairman Woodward asked Licensing Coordinator Lindy Varney to assemble pros and cons of moving the application deadline to after the permit recommendations are made. This is to be an informational item for the November 2019 RAC's and Wildlife Board meetings.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

August 22, 2019, DNR Auditorium

1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

The Board Meeting will stream live at <https://youtu.be/Dh3iRqEzbgo>

AGENDA

Thursday, August 22, 2019, Board Meeting 9:00 am

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Approval of Agenda
– Kevin Albrecht, Vice-Chair | ACTION |
| 2. Approval of Minutes
– Kevin Albrecht, Vice-Chair | ACTION |
| 3. Old Business/Action Log
– Kevin Albrecht, Vice-Chair
Bighorn Sheep MOU Report – Jace Taylor | CONTINGENT |
| 4. DWR Update
– Mike Fowlks, DWR Director | INFORMATION |
| 5. Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations for 2019-2020
– Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator | ACTION |
| 6. Cougar Recommendations and Rule Amendments for 2019-2020
– Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator | ACTION |
| 7. Expo Permit Audit
– Sarah Scott, Financial Manager | ACTION |
| 8. Expo Permit Allocation
– Justin Shannon, Wildlife Section Chief | ACTION |
| 9. Wildlife Board Appeal – Erik VanWoerkum – 1:00 pm time certain
– Greg Hansen, Asst. Attorney General | ACTION |
| 10. Other Business
– Kevin Albrecht, Vice-Chair | CONTINGENT |

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Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
August 22, 2019, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
Summary of Motions

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

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda for the August 22, 2019 meeting.

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

The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Bret Selman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the June 6, 2019 Wildlife Board Meeting.

3) Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations for 2019-2020 (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Bret Selman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations for 2019-2020 as presented and move to a three-year management plan.

4) Cougar Recommendations and Rule Amendments for 2019-2020 (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Bret Selman, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we maintain the Cache unit permits at 25 rather than decrease it as the Division proposed.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Rand Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we move the Book Cliffs unit back to harvest objective with the same permit numbers.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that the Southwest Manti unit remain a split season and keep the permit numbers at 18.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Bret Selman and passed 3:2. Karl Hirst and Randy Dearth opposed.

MOTION: I move that we accept the RACs recommendation to increase the permit numbers to 26 on the Southeast Manti unit.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed 4:1. Bret Selman opposed.

MOTION: I move that we increase the permit numbers to 12 on the Oquirrh-Stansbury West and keep it as a harvest objective.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth and failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: I move that we decrease the permit numbers on the Oquirrh-Stansbury East unit to seven.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Bret Selman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the remainder of the 2019-2020 Cougar Recommendations and Rule Amendments in reference to the specific units and tags as presented by the Division.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we follow the bear management plan of rounding down the split for resident and non-resident permits to maintain consistency.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we pull the three-year recommendation cycle from the previous motion and open it for discussion prior to a vote.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed 3:2. Bret Selman and Wade Heaton opposed.

MOTION: I move that we adopt a three-year management plan for cougar.

The following amended motion was made by Wade Heaton then withdrawn.

MOTION: I move that we amend the motion to state that we apply a three-year average within the management plan, but have an annual cycle for permit number approvals.

5) Expo Permit Audit (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Expo Permit Audit as presented by the Division.

6) Expo Permit Allocation (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Bret Selman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Expo Permit Allocation as presented by the Division.

7) Wildlife Board Appeal – Erik VanWoerkum – 1:00 pm time certain (**Action**)

In the appeal proceeding of Erik VanWoerkum, the Wildlife Board unanimously finds the 24-month suspension period warranted.

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
August 22, 2019, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
Attendance

Wildlife Board

Byron Bateman – Chair excused
Kevin Albrecht – Vice-Chair
Mike Fowlks – Exec Secretary
Karl Hirst
Donnie Hunter
Randy Dearth
Wade Heaton
Bret Selman

RAC Chairs

Central – Brock McMillan
Southern – Brayden Richmond
Southeastern – Todd Thorne
Northeastern – Brett Prevedel
Northern – Justin Oliver

Division Personnel

Mike Canning	Paul Gedge	Dax Mangus	Chris Vanheusen
Ashley Green	Amy Canning	Randy Wood	Ben Nadolski
Robin Cahoon	Staci Coons	Riley Peck	Wyatt Bubak
Jason Vernon	Thu Vo-Wood	Guy Wallace	Jim Christensen
Miles Hanberg	Greg Hansen	Teresa Griffin	Rusty Robinson
Chris Wood	Marty Bushman	J Shirley	Chad Bettridge
Justin Dolling	Faith Jolley	Matt Brigss	Phil Gray
Kevin Bunnell	Lindy Varney	Roger Kerstetter	Josee Seamons
Rick Olson	Anita Candelaria	Dave Beveridge	Doug Messerly
Justin Shannon	Jace Taylor	Paul Washburn	Jerry Schlappi
Kenny Johnson	Darren DeBloois	Bryan Clyde	Krystal Tucker
Rory Reynolds	Sarah Scott	Linda Braithwaite	

Public Present

Josh Horrocks	Ken Strong	Troy Justensen – SFW
Jake Rees	Jamie Newman	Sierra Nelson – Utah Woolgrowers Association
Braydee Richmond	Jared Zierrnberg	Spencer Givens – Utah Farm Bureau
Karl Hime	Scott Stubbs	Sundays Hunt – Humane Society
Dave Case	Brett Behling	Miles Moretti – MDF
Westin Salmon	Spencer Gibbons	Cory Huntsman – UHA
Chad Salmon	John Ziegler	
Kelly Kreis	Wade Garrett	
David Earl	Becky Wood	
Jean Tabin	Kevin Norman	
Paul Zuckerman	Sonceria Zuckerman	
Kevin Adamson	David Adamson	
Matthew Mehr	Janna Adamson	Thomas Gounder
Erik VanWoerkum	Jehessa VanWoerkum	Linda Dearth
Thom Gover	Blake Hamilton	Cassity Sparks
Eli Gordon	Ashley Gregson	Jordan Sparks

Utah Wildlife Board Meeting
August 22, 2019, DNR Auditorium
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
<https://youtu.be/Dh3iRqEzbgo>

- 00:00:07** Vice-Chairman Albrecht called the meeting to order, welcomed the audience, and excused Chairman Bateman from the meeting. The Board introduced themselves.
- 00:02:09** **1) Approval of Agenda (Action)**
The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.
MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda for the August 22, 2019 meeting.
- 00:02:39** **2) Approval of Minutes (Action)**
The following motion was made by Donnie Hunter, seconded by Bret Selamn and passed unanimously.
MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the June 6, 2019 Wildlife Board Meeting.
- 00:03:05** **3) Old Business/Action Log (Contingent)**
Jace Taylor updated the Board on the Bighorn Sheep MOU.
- 00:05:01** **4) DWR Update (Informational)**
Mike Fowlks updated the Board on Division programs, events, staffing, permit numbers, and mule deer plan.
RAC chairs introduced themselves. Vice-chair Albrecht explained the board process before proceeding.
- 00:11:21** **5) Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations for 2019-2020 (Action)**
Darren DeBloois presented the recommendations.
Vice-Chair further explained the procedure and processes for the meeting.
- 00:18:51** **Board/RAC Questions**
The board inquired about bobcat check-in location, the fluctuation in harvest percentages, reporting cycle, and season adjustments.
- 00:21:49** **RAC Recommendations**
All RACs unanimously passed the recommendation.
- 00:22:34** **Board Discussion**
The Board discussed the three-year management plan and how the Division would proceed in its update to the Board, and season adjustments and how it affects hunts.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Bret Selaman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we accept the Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations for 2019-2020 as presented and move to a three-year management plan.

00:26:54 6) Cougar Recommendations and Rule Amendments for 2019-2020 (Action)

Darren DeBloois presented the recommendations and amendments.

01:03:56 Board/RAC Questions

The board inquired about the Book Cliffs, Oquirrh-Stansbury East, and Paunsaugant units and the three-year recommendation cycle.

01:13:41 RAC Recommendations

Each RAC passed the cougar recommendations and rule amendments with varying dissent and stipulations.

01:23:04 Public Comments

Public comments accepted.

01:56:03 Division Clarification

Darren DeBloois made some clarifications to the public comments. Vice-chair Albrecht asked Brock McMillan for input on CWD issues.

01:59:56 Board Discussion

Karl Hirst summarized the public and RAC recommendations. The Board discussed predator management and population growth.

The following motion was made by Bret Selman, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we maintain the Cache unit permits at 25 rather than decrease it as the Division proposed.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Rand Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we move the Book Cliffs unit back to harvest objective with the same permit numbers.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that the Southwest Manti unit remain a split season and keep the permit numbers at 18.

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Bret Selman and passed 3:2. Karl Hirst and Randy Dearth opposed.

MOTION: I move that we accept the RACs recommendation to increase the permit numbers to 26 on the Southeast Manti unit.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed 4:1. Bret Selman opposed.

MOTION: I move that we increase the permit numbers to 12 on the Oquirrh-Stansbury West and keep it as a harvest objective.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth and failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: I move that we decrease the permit numbers on the Oquirrh-Stansbury East unit to seven.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Bret Selman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the remainder of the 2019-2020 Cougar Recommendations and Rule Amendments in reference to the specific units and tags as presented by the Division.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we follow the bear management plan of rounding down the split for resident/non-resident permits to maintain consistency.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we pull the three-year recommendation cycle from the previous motion and open it for discussion prior to a vote.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed 3:2. Bret Selman and Wade Heaton opposed.

MOTION: I move that we adopt a three-year management plan for cougar.

The following amended motion was made by Wade Heaton then withdrawn.

MOTION: I move that we amend the motion to state that we apply a three-year average within the management plan, but have an annual cycle for permit number approvals.

02:45:33 7) Expo Permit Audit (Action)
Sarah Scott presented the audit.

02:56:14 Board Questions
Karl Hirst complimented the Division on the report compilation. Randy Dearth asked about the increase in non-resident numbers.

02:57:52 Public Comments
Public comments accepted.

03:02:41 Board Discussion
The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Donnie Hunter and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Expo Permit Audit as presented by the Division.

03:03:00 8) Expo Permit Allocation (Action)

Justin Shannon presented the allocation.

03:04:27 Board Questions

Karl Hirst asked about tag allocations.

03:05:17 Board Discussion

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Bret Selman and passed unanimously.

MOTION: I move that we approve the Expo Permit Allocation as presented by the Division.

03:06:02 LUNCH

04:03:28 9) Wildlife Board Appeal – Erik VanWoerkum – 1:00 pm time certain (Action)

Vice-Chair Albrecht called the meeting to order, made introductions, and summarized the process, procedure, and limitations of the proceeding.

Opposing council noted a potential conflict of interest with board member Karl Hirst. After discussing the matter, the Board agreed to keep Karl Hirst on the appeal process.

Greg Hansen represented the Division in the appeal proceeding. He explained the proceeding is a de novo hearing – starting over to rebuild the case before the Board.

09:16:08 Board Deliberation

10:48:18 Board Decision

In the appeal proceeding of Erik VanWoerkum, the Wildlife Board unanimously finds the 24-month suspension period warranted.

10) Other Business (Contingent)

None

10:48:50 Meeting adjourned.

**Regional Advisory Council Meeting
September 2019
Summary of Motions**

R657-59 Private Fish Ponds Rule Amendments

CR, NR, SER, NER:

Motion-Recommend the Wildlife Board accept R657-59 Private Fish Ponds Rule Amendments as presented.

Motion Passes- Unanimous

SR: **No Quorum Present**

Bighorn Sheep Unit Management Plans

CR: **Motion**- To accept the Bighorn Sheep Unit Management Plans as presented

Motion Passes-Unanimous

NR: **Motion**-Recommend the Wildlife Board accept Bighorn Sheep Unit Management Plans as presented and encourage Parks and Recreation to increase Big Horn Sheep permits once the population is restored.

Motion Passes-Unanimous

SR: **No Quorum Present**

SER: **Motion** – to strike comments pertaining to speculative transmission of disease on Antelope Island

Motion Passes – 8 in favor and 1 abstention

Motion – to accept the remainder of the Management plan.

Motion Passes - Unanimous

NER: **Motion**- that the DWR remove the Antelope Island language speculating that the disease was transmitted through domestic sheep.

Motion Passes 7-2

Motion - to remove the following sentence on the Nine Mile unit and Book Cliffs Rattlesnake unit plan under Potential Threats to Habitat in paragraph two, “there is however potential that these areas could be abandoned if disturbance is excessive”, and replace it with “The UDWR will work with land management agencies and oil and gas operators to avoid potential impacts to bighorn sheep through mitigation measures.”

Motion Passes- Unanimous

Motion - on the Oaker/Stansbury west unit the DWR needs to add language that addressed the steps taken on why the population was extirpated so that potentially does not happen to the new population.

Motion Passes-Unanimous

Motion -for the DWR to include wording that says they will coordinate with the BLM and their policies to address those when proposing to do a habitat and/or water improvement project in Muskrat Canyon because that is currently a Wilderness Study Area under the BLMs Resource Management Plan. Also communicate with the county's Resource Management Program.

Motion Passes- Unanimous

Motion - on the Uinta Mountain unit plan, under Potential Threats to Habitats in the first paragraph, the second to last sentence. It says, "Furthermore the public will be made aware through town councils and other local meetings", we would like to take out "in an effort to get local support to reduce"and change it to "local meetings if human disturbances to bighorn becomes an issue", and then we'd like to add a sentence that states that the DWR recognizes that there may be circumstances that require increased human activities within pronghorn units to properly manage lands and resources.

Motion Passes- 8-1

Motion- to pass the remainder of the plan as presented by the Division.

Motion Passes- Unanimous

RAC AGENDA – September 2019

Revised August 27, 2019



1. Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure
- RAC Chair
2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
- RAC Chair **ACTION**
3. Wildlife Board Meeting Update
- RAC Chair **INFORMATIONAL**
4. Regional Update
- DWR Regional Supervisor **INFORMATIONAL**
5. Fishing Informational
- Craig Walker, Aquatics Section Assistant Chief **INFORMATIONAL**
6. R657-59 Private Fish Ponds Rule Amendments
- Randy Oplinger, Coldwater Sportfish Coordinator **ACTION**
7. Bighorn Sheep Unit Management Plans
-Jace Taylor, Bighorn Sheep/Mountain Goat Biologist **ACTION**

Region Specific Items – to be presented in the specified region only.

Meeting Locations

CR RAC – Sept. 3rd **6:30 PM**
Wildlife Resources CR Office
1115 N. Main Street, Springville

SER RAC – Sept. 11th 6:30 PM
John Wesley Powell Museum
1765 E. Main Street, Green River

NR RAC – Sept. 4th **6:00 PM**
Brigham City Community Center
24 N. 300 W., Brigham City

NER RAC – Sept. 12th 6:30 PM
Wildlife Resources NER Office
318 North Vernal Ave, Vernal

SR RAC – Sept. 10th 7:00 PM
Hurricane Community Center
63 S. 100 W., Hurricane

Board Meeting – October 3rd 9:00 AM
DNR - Boardroom
1594 W. North Temple
Salt Lake City, UT

Motion Summary

1) Approval of Agenda

The following motion was made by Ken Strong, seconded by A J Mower and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept the agenda as written

2) Approval of Minutes

The following motion was made by Ken Strong, seconded by Eric Reid and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept the minutes as written

3) R657-59 Private Fish Ponds Rule Amendments

The following motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Ken Strong and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

4) Bighorn Sheep Unit Management Plans

The following motion was made by Ken Strong, seconded by Ben Lowder and passed unanimously.

MOTION: To accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

Central Region Advisory Council
1115 North Main St, Springville – Conference Room
September 3, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.

Members Present

Brock McMillan, Chair
Josh Lenart, Sportsmen
Ben Lowder, Co-Chair
A J Mower, Agriculture
Mike Christensen, At-Large
Ken Strong, Sportsmen
Eric Reid, BLM
Scott Jensen, At-Large

Members Absent

Jacob Steele, Native American
Steve Lund, Elected Official-excused
George Garcia, USFS
Danny Potts, Non-consumptive
Christine Schmitz, Non-consumptive-excused

Others Present

Jason Vernon, Central Region Supervisor
Karl Hirst, Wildlife Board

1) Approval of the Agenda and Minutes (Action)
Brock McMillian, Chair

Welcome to the Central Region RAC. My name is Brock McMillan. I'm the chair and I represent sportsmen. The first thing we're going to do is introductions. We'll start with Ben Lowder

Ben Lowder: Public at large

Scott Jensen: Public at large

Mike Christensen: Public at large

A.J. Mower: Agriculture

Ken Strong: Sportsman's Rep

Eric Reid: BLM

Joshua Lenart: Sportsman's Rep

Jason Venon: Regional supervisor for the Central Region

Brock McMillan:

Thank you. I'd also like to recognize Karl Hirst from the wildlife board who is in attendance tonight in the audience. The first thing we need is approval of the agenda. If there is no disagreement we'll approve and move on. The minutes were distributed to all of the RAC from the last meeting. I would consider a similar motion.

Next on the agenda is our wildlife board update.

VOTING

Motion was made by Ken Strong to accept the agenda as written

Seconded by A J Mower

Motion passed unanimously

Motion was made by Ken Strong to accept the minutes as written
Seconded by Eric Reid
Motion passed unanimously

2) Wildlife Board Meeting Update (Informational)
Brock McMillan, RAC Chair

I had the pleasure of attending the last wildlife board meeting. As you know it discussed primarily the bobcat and cougar management plans. The bobcat plan was moved to be approved as presented and that passed. There were several motions considered for the cougar management plan. The first one was that the Cache remain at 25 permits rather than decrease as proposed by the division. That passed. The second motion was that they move the Book Cliffs back to a harvest objective with the same permit numbers. That passed unanimously. So, that is going back from a limited entry to a harvest objective. The third motion was to move the Southwest Manti to a split unit season and move the permit numbers to 18. If you remember the division's recommendation was a limited entry of 15. Our RAC suggested a split with 15. The board made a motion to split with 18 and that passed on a vote of 3 to 2. It was passed to increase the number of permits on the Southeast Manti to 26 which is what the recommendation was. It was moved to increase the permit numbers on the West Oquirrh Stansbury, the sheep unit, to 12 tags. That motion failed to get a second. It was moved to decrease the permits numbers on the East unit, that would be the Oquirrh Mountains, from 8 to 7. That passed unanimously. The rest of the recommendations were accepted as presented by the division. There were a few other minor things. They presented an audit of the expo and a few other things. Does anybody have anything to add to that report of the wildlife board? I'll turn the time over to Jason to present the regional update.

3) Regional Update (Informational)
Jason Vernon, Central Regional Supervisor

Wildlife

- If you are not rifle hunting deer, we welcome the RAC members to attend one of the deer check stations held in the region. We will be collecting harvest information as well as CWD samples. Contact myself or Riley Peck for additional information and locations.
- Continue to receive a high volume of nuisance bears calls. We are still averaging about one call a day. So far this summer we have moved 7 bears and responded to many more.
- The first week of December we will be receiving up to 25 BHS (rockies) from Oregon to help repopulate the Stansbury mountains.

Aquatics

- Last month about 2 dozen waters on the Manti Mtns. were stocked with Brook Trout. We really appreciate all of the volunteers that participated along with our aquatics and hatchery personnel.

- Regional personnel have surveyed many of the streams impacted by last year's fires. Recent mudslides/flash floods within the Spanish Fork River drainage have caused sediment induced fish kills again this year (on top of ones last year), significantly impacted streams include Thistle Creek, Bennie Creek, Nebo Creek, Spanish Fork River, Peeteetneet Creek, Lower Diamond Fork, Etc,
- A few events that the aquatics staff would like to invite the RAC members on
 - Sept 19/20 Annual gill/curtain nets at Jordanelle
 - Oct 22-24 Electroshocking on Provo River
- Kokanee are already started to run up the Provo River from Jordanelle for at least the first 2-3 miles and the Kokanee run is well underway at Strawberry.

Conservation Outreach

- A few events are happening over the next few weeks.
 - Kokanee Salmon Viewing Day on Saturday 21st at Strawberry Visitor Center
 - A field dressing clinic will be held September 19th here in Springville
 - Utah State Fair begins this week. Wildlife Resources has a display this year in our building featuring bear

Habitat

- Habitat staff are preparing for a busy fall. They are coordinating with other agencies and private landowners on rehabilitation from the

Law Enforcement

- Archery hunt is well underway and our officers continue to be in the field checking deer.
- Conservation Officers were involved with recovering drowning victim at Strawberry Reservoir

Brock McMillan – Thank you, Jason. For the next series of this, we're going to hear presentations. So, this is a public forum allowing the public to express their opinions on the proposals and the management of wildlife in our state. As such, the RAC encourages each of you to do so. To show your opinion. Without your input, this RAC and wildlife board process would fail to function as it is supposed to. The wildlife board, not the RAC is charged with setting wildlife policy for the state. We make recommendations to the board. We all have our ideas about what's best for Utah's wildlife and today, fish, I guess fish count as wildlife. Most of us have real emotions related to our feelings about how we should manage fish and other wildlife. Again, I'd encourage all of you to express your opinion. However, we ask that you respect everybody's opinion. Even those with opposing views. I appreciate if we'd keep our emotions in check, allow everybody to freely express their opinions. Appropriate conduct will provide a smooth flow of this meeting and allow the RAC to listen and digest and to consider all the concerns and opinions that are offered. Out of line comments are not allowed. So, if behavior like persists, we may ask the offender to leave. I don't like saying that because we've never had that happen but it's in the thing I'm supposed to read. This is how it's going to proceed from here on. So, the DWR will provide a presentation then we'll open it to questions from the RAC. After questions from the

RAC the public will be invited to ask questions. This is a time for questions only, no comments. It's a fact-finding part of the process. After the public questions, there will be public comments. If you would like to make a comment, you need to fill out one of these cards so we have a record of it and pass it in to Ben or someone over there and they'll get it up to us. We'll invite you up and at that time, I'd like you to stand up, state your name and who you represent, yourself or a group and then you will have up to three minutes to provide your comment. At three minutes, I'm going to cut you off so that we have fairness for everybody in the room. After the public comment period there will be a time for the DWR representative to stand back up and provide clarification on anything they'd like to clarify based on the questions and comments to that point. After the clarification period, there will be a time for RAC comments and we will consider motions to approve or pass anything that's an action item. There are also informational items. I think that's it. So, at this point we'll turn the time over to Craig Walker for a fishing informational.

**4) Fishing Informational (part 1) Matching Angler Opportunity with Angler Needs
Craig Walker, Aquatics Section Assistant Chief (Informational)**

Good evening Mr. Chairman and RAC members. My name is Craig Walker, I'm the assistant chief of aquatics for the Division of Wildlife Resources. My first presentation tonight in the informational segment is to talk to you a little bit about how we plan in the aquatics section to tailor angler opportunities to meet angler needs for the 2021 regulation cycle and beyond. So, first and foremost, why is it important that we tailor angler opportunities to meet angler needs? Firstly, we need to do a better job at addressing public needs and that became apparent back in 2018 when during the RAC and board process we proposed the removal of some special fly and lure only regulations in Southern Utah. The wildlife board at that time did not approve of the proposed removal due to apparent mismatch between our suggested regulation change and angler desires. Additionally, during 2018 anglers express some concerns over one, the removal of selected brook trout populations and fishing opportunities in Utah. And two, the need for more bait fishing opportunities on rivers throughout Utah. Listening to all the feedback, the aquatics section personnel agreed with the board and internally to examine the angling experiences. For example, gear restrictions, limits, species, locations we offer statewide and compare them with the angler preferences that are out there.

Tailoring angler opportunities to meet angler needs will also help the Division of Wildlife address one of the potential issues we have facing us which is crowding. The forecast of Utah population growth is 3.2 million residents currently and anticipated to grow to 5.5 million residents by 2050. Given the fact that we have stable angling participation rates forecasted, that equates to a 7% increase in anglers by 2025, a 26% increase in the number of anglers by 2040 and a forecasted 39% increase in anglers by 2050. The perception of crowding is one of the main reasons why anglers cease fishing participation. It's been documented nationally and in our own surveys. We have a train wreck coming if we don't figure out a way to manage opportunities on the landscape so that everybody can have a little bit of an opportunity. Further, making sure that we are providing satisfying angling experiences is critical to ensuring the relevancy of angling among outdoor recreational pursuits. To ensure angler satisfaction among our anglers, we need to make sure that desired experiences are available proportional to their need. For example, if 20%

of anglers prefer to fish for largemouth bass at lakes and reservoirs then we should strive to manage for largemouth bass opportunities at 20% of our lakes and reservoirs. It only makes sense. Additionally, maintaining angler satisfaction will also require that we ensure that the unique ways anglers participate in the sport of fishing don't conflict with one another. Again, as we encounter population growth, we need to begin thinking about adopting models similar to what USDA Forest Service has in place, where we're splicing up the landscape for off highway vehicle opportunities, foot and horse traffic opportunities, being able to access the same forest but at different access points or differently.

So, we now know the why behind providing anglers with the opportunities that they desire. How do we propose getting there? There are four avenues right now that the aquatic section would like to pursue when trying to meet the needs of anglers. First, we'd like to begin to assess angler preferences and behaviors. In 2017 and every five years we survey 10,000 via e-mail proportional to their representation among all licensed anglers in the state. By license type and by gender for example. We'd like to analyze the responses from the 2017 statewide attitudinal survey to identify angler behaviors and preferred experiences. We'd like to use behavior of preference results to define preference groups among Utah anglers who seek common experiences. For example, anglers who fish for similar species in similar settings and use similar gear types. We'd like to identify where those angler preference groups are willing to fish. For example, what is their willingness to travel within two hours of where they reside? We would also like to take stock in what our fisheries have to offer through inventories and a capacity assessment. For determining inventories as simply an identification of the experiences that we currently offer at our waters in Utah. What we're determining an assessment of capacity is an identification of the variety of experiences that each of these waters is capable of providing. For example, a capacity would be, does a water currently managed for trout have the capacity to be managed for bass, for wiper, for kokanee? Could current regulations be modified at a water to allow for a greater harvest? Could regulations be modified at a water to create a gear specific? For example, fly only fishing experience. Could infrastructure improvements be made to increase accessibility for shoreline anglers? Could habitat be manipulated to create a new experience at a water? Can smaller fish be stocked at higher densities to increase angler catch rates at a water currently managed for trophy fish at lower catch rates?

Thirdly, we like to plan on looking at the gaps between what we have to offer in the way of fishing experiences and what anglers want. Gaps are simply the mismatches between the preferences and the offerings. What anglers prefer and what's currently out there. What we'd like to do is find out where are the gaps between preferred fishing experiences and experiences we currently offer? Where are there opportunities to use the capacity that I previously mentioned as a vehicle to address these gaps? Lastly, what are the gaps that we actually cannot currently address?

Finally, we'd like to look at the willingness to travel question. We'd like to take all the data that I've mentioned previously and look at it through the lens of willingness to travel. And willingness to travel is simply the distance an angler is willing to travel to experience their preferred outcome. We'd like to look at where anglers with preferred fishing experiences reside

and then figure out are there opportunities that we have that anglers are seeking that are available within that radius of travel that they are willing to undertake.

So, this has been about a six-month process thus far. We have been analyzing the information as I mentioned that we collected from the 2017 survey. You're probably asking what have you done today? I'm going to go through that right now. We've gone through that data from the 2017 survey to assess angler preferences and behaviors and we found out some information on preferred species, preferred water types, gear preferences, preferred access methods and the time spent pursuing species both by residents and non-residents.

So, with regard to species preference, we've evaluated the strength of the relationship between species preferences to define preference groups. In the case of those that prefer to fish for lake salmonids they represent 10% of the overall Utah angling public. Warm water fish or pan fish, 4% of the Utah angling public likes to undertake warm water fishing, 8% of the Utah public goes after bass and walleye. That's their preferred target. 68% of the Utah public prefers to fish for stream salmonids. Then we have a category that's generalists which means they really didn't have or fit into one of those other four boxes. So, additionally we looked at species preference among our non-resident anglers and found that non-resident anglers who prefer to fish for warm water species do seem to have a greater preference for crappie. That'll come up later as to why.

We have defined method and setting preferences among our anglers by evaluating the strength of the relationships again between fishing method and preferred setting to define other groups. So, 8% of anglers in this group that likes to fish lakes by boat, 18% of anglers like to fish at lakes via shoreline and 74% of anglers like to actually wade fish regardless of the setting.

We identified the gear preferences among our anglers. 22% of Utah anglers like to fish with lures, 28% of Utah anglers like to fish with flies, 46% of anglers like to fish with bait in Utah and 4% like to fish with some other method of terminal tackle. Most importantly, we've taken the next step to assess what fishing experiences our anglers want by looking at the relationships of the preferences that I've mentioned thus far. Specifically, we've examined the relationship between species preference and gear preference. For those of you that are watching the presentation, there's quadrants in this diagram. Within those quadrants we have gear preferences as well as species preferences. What we've done is we've shown the overlap between those gear preferences and the species preferences. It happens that bass and walleye anglers as well as salmonid anglers on lakes prefer to fish with lures. Those that seek stream salmonid fishing opportunities seem to prefer flies. It seems kind of a no brainer. Warm water anglers and generalist seem to prefer bait. Another thing that we're noticing is we start to plot this information and I'd like to call your attention to this. Along the X axis on the bottom, we go from lake-oriented anglers to your left to stream oriented anglers on your right. Then we're noticing what would determine gear investment on the Y axis as we move from warm water generalist anglers who prefer to fish with bait, the investment being low there we go to a moderate investment of fly anglers that fish on streams to a higher investment of gear in lures for bass and walleye anglers and lake salmonid anglers.

We've also looked at the relationship between angler gear preferences and their preferences for access methods at particular settings. Those that fish with lures like to fish by boat at lakes. Those that fish with bait like to fish at lakes on the shoreline. Those that like to wade fish primarily like to fish with flies. Again, on the X axis we have moving from left to right, lake to river orientation. However, in this diagram here we've noticed that on the Y axis it's what we're determining a mobility component. Where sedentary anglers that like to fish with bait on the shoreline, are less mobile than those using their own energy to wade fish using flies than those using motorized boating to fish for other species using lures. With regard to behaviors we've begun to examine resident and non-resident anglers' investments of time when pursuing species in Utah and elsewhere. First, I want to point out that among resident anglers depicted in this diagram the majority of time invested in fishing regardless of species is spent here in Utah. That's a good thing. That's an indication that we are providing quality fishing opportunities in the state and that anglers are not having to seek satisfactory opportunities outside of the state of Utah.

The second thing that I'd like to point out is the large investment of time that non-resident anglers apparently spend pursuing warm water fishing opportunities in Utah. Remember the figure I showed you earlier where many of the non-residents who prefer to fish for warm water fishes prefer to fish for crappie. These results combined with what is shown here are an indication that non-residents are coming to Utah to fish for warm water species and that crappie fishing is likely driving that behavior.

The third finding I'd like to point out in this diagram is that fact that non-resident anglers are investing a greater amount of time pursuing bass and walleye opportunities in other states. This indicates to us that there might be better angling opportunities for these species outside of Utah.

So, I'd now like to walk you through a few scenarios and examples of changes that we might undertake based on our preliminary results to date. First, we might change regulations. In the instance of crappie regulations, non-resident anglers seek warm water fishing experiences in Utah more than in other states. I pointed that out. Non-resident warm water anglers in Utah are also more likely to prefer crappie fishing. We're hedging that if we liberalize crappie regulations at some Utah waters, we're likely to encourage greater non-resident angler use of Utah's fisheries.

Second, we might change how we manage certain species in Utah. Right now, non-resident anglers seek bass and walleye fishing opportunities in other states more than in Utah. What we need to do is examine what largemouth bass and walleye management efforts are they taking in other states, compare them to what we offer and then ask ourselves can Utah's efforts be improved? If so, would that improvement in our management of largemouth bass and or walleye attract more non-resident anglers?

Third, we might change how we manage access and amenities at certain settings. As I mentioned earlier, anglers who prefer fishing for warm water species are more likely to fish from shore using bait. Some of the other preliminary information that we've collected indicates that these anglers are also more likely to keep fish for food and prefer to fish at locations where amenities, for example restrooms and fish cleaning stations are found. Right now, as many of you know if

you fish the shorelines of Utah's lakes and reservoirs there is a lack of shoreline access at Utah's warm water fisheries. Additionally, outside of community fisheries in the state, we don't have any cleaning stations tailored to the needs of shoreline anglers anywhere in Utah. Our thought is that by improving shoreline opportunities we'll address the needs of what we view as an underserved portion of Utah's angling public. These are just some examples of some of the things we can do from a management standpoint at our fisheries with the data we've analyzed thus far, only six months in.

So, where do we go from here? We continue to evaluate the preferences and begin grouping anglers even more so from existing survey data. Similar to the groupings that I showed you earlier tonight. We examine the willingness to travel among identified angler preference groups residing in certain localities or zip codes. We inventory and assess capacity of existing fisheries to meet the needs of angler preference groups. We modify management of fisheries where needed and feasible to meet the needs of anglers. We address the gaps that I mentioned earlier with the creation of new angling opportunities. We examine another survey that we have in our coffers which is the lapsed angler survey. We look at that data and assess the constraints to angling participation in the state of Utah. We incrementally propose data driven regulatory changes between 2021-2029 to the RAC's and the wildlife board to address the gaps at a two-year interval. We continue to survey anglers at five-year intervals in a manner that allows us to adapt to changing angler preferences and behaviors, changing habitat conditions and increase demand for our fishing resources. And finally, we continue to keep our finger on the pulse of the anglers to assess their response to the management changes that we prescribe to you all that hopefully will meet with your approval. With that, I'd like to thank you and I'll take any comments or questions.

Questions from the RAC

Ken – So, you had a survey in 2017, you're not going to have another one until 2022?

Craig – 2021-2022 would be the cycle. So, we start it just pre-winter and then run it through two calendar years.

Mike C – On the slide that showed the percentage of what anglers enjoy using, what kind of water they enjoy using, it said 68% of anglers surveyed were stream anglers and only 10% were lake anglers? So, from that survey you surmised that almost 70% of Utah's anglers are stream fishermen?

Craig – Absolutely. What's interesting and I didn't get into it but if you actually go to this slide and you look at stream salmonid preferences among non-resident anglers they're still fishing in another state when they are seeking stream salmonid opportunities. The reason why we have 68% of our anglers going after stream salmonids is because really, 68% of our waters are stream salmonid waters in the state if you look at it broadly. We didn't have a lot in the way of natural lakes, we have reservoirs that we've created but predominantly we're stream trout. We have an opportunity to encourage greater non-resident participation in tourism by harnessing that stream salmonid component in the state.

Mike C – So, on the one slide you showed the population growth of Utah is expanding and that's going to expand the angler and angler pressure but throughout your presentation it seemed like you were just focused on drawing non-residents in through tourism. Is that kind of the direction you're trying to head?

Craig – No, those are just examples of some of the power of the data we had at hand that really described with the preliminary information on what we can do. This is designed to be balanced based upon what we have from a Utah angling standpoint, resident and non-resident. I think the thing we're going to struggle with is with the stable participation rate with the forecasted change in the number of anglers on the landscape, we have a 39% increase forecasted by 2050 granted, I'll be retired but we need to start managing opportunities differently. We need to not be reactive and be proactive. We need to carve up the landscape in a way that everybody has an opportunity to seek out what they like to do among all of the different things that people do within the umbrella of fishing. That's the idea here.

Brock – It seemed like a lot of the presentation was about what the preferences are, what the current status is and how we close those gaps. The example you gave is, if 20% of people want to chase largemouth bass then 20% of our lakes should be managed for largemouth bass. But there was nothing about the ecology of the system. You're proposing that we're going to use exotic species in 20% of our waters as the plan to... shouldn't we be focused on the ecology of the system as much or more as providing opportunity to meet the needs of the public?

Craig – From our standpoint in the aquatic section right now, managing sport fish safely to conserve and preserve the ecological aspect of our systems is critical. I think that if you look at some of the efforts that we made toward using sterile species in a lot of our reservoirs, sterile walleye is the most recent effort but wipers, tiger muskies, we're using biological controls to reduce the need to use chemicals in systems and treat. Again, managing ecologically, sound principles alongside sportfish principles, we're using sterile species in an effort to mitigate escapement risks to our native species downstream in our recovery waters. We are, for the first time, I think as a section from a native recovery sportfish standpoint at a greater point of balance than we've ever been.

Brock – Very good. Thank you.

Ken – The highest percentage of fishermen seem to be the shore anglers or amongst the salmonid, my question was I was one of those shore fishermen until I finally got to a situation where I could afford a boat, have you taken into any consideration of those that own boats compared to those that don't? I mean, if you don't own a boat and you want to fish, you fish from the shore. And a lot of people can't afford a boat, especially at the price they are now.

Craig – Yeah, and that's when I mentioned that underserved aspect of that, anything we can do to meet the needs of our shoreline anglers, to me that's the gateway drug of fishing really. You're on a reservoir or lake and you don't have much in the way of impediments to casting, you're going to go out there, sit and wait, you're sedentary, you're fishing with bait it's an entry level sport. If we fail to address the needs of shoreline angling at our lakes and reservoirs, we're

cutting the legs out from under our recruitment model for new anglers. It's an odd thing. We talked about the population growth and we struggle with this all the time, we're really trying to recruit new anglers into the fold so that we don't become the stale sport out there. At the same time, we're trying to retain anglers by providing community opportunities for older anglers that can't necessarily access the fisheries that they used to via boat or wading or whatever it is. We have a conundrum because as we try to do those things and just by virtue of there being a stable participation rate on a per capita basis, we're exacerbating what we view as potentially a problem which is too few resources for too many anglers. Not right now, I mean we're not there at all yet. But 10, 15-20 years down the road, we're going to be there. That's why it's critical for us to start... I think it's doable, it's critical for us to start looking at really providing very unique niche activities that people can undertake within the sport of fishing. That's what we're trying to do.

Ken – Well, I understand where you're headed. I think I've got a lot more to learn about it but I agree that you need to take care of all the anglers.

Craig – Yeah, I mean, one of the ecological things that you brought up and it was one of the drivers behind this. Anglers came forward to us and said, you've killed all the brook trout population, where did all the brook trout go? We have a job to do. We took brook trout out of the equation because of cutthroat trout conservation and restoration activities. Are there areas in the state where we can bring brook trout back in safely from an ecological standpoint? Yeah, probably and we need to examine that. Those are those gaps, see what the capacity of a water could be safely from a biological standpoint.

Ken – As long as they're sterile.

Craig – Right, as long as they're sterile. I mean, in some areas if you don't have an issue with stunting and there's not a risk of escapement and impact to other trout species what's the problem with having a fertile population? The only problem we have is an enforcement problem which is the illegal stocking and transfer issue but that's a whole other problem.

Joshua – Can you talk about the Division's WIA program? I think Mike's question sort of begs the question which is what is the DWR doing to enhance fence crossing structures, public/private access, things like that. If 70% of the state is trying to get on a stream, what is the DWR doing to enhance that relationship with private stream owners?

Craig – Walk in Access is valuable but it's not my go to when trying to address that issue. My go to and working with my folks is to actually begin to get into partnerships with landowners and do some landscape conservation activities, stream restoration activities in exchange for access to the stream corridor. I think that's the win/win you're shooting for and it's not that the WIA program is a bad thing but it's pretty much in lieu of payment, no access, right. What we're trying to do is have a more long-standing relationship with landowners. Showcase the fact that we're good stewards of the land, they want to be good stewards of the land and by partnering in that regard we can actually work together to also maintain access. That's what I'm shooting for long term.

Questions from the Public

Robert Judd – Craig, my question is simply of the amount of energy and money that you have in stocking waters in the state of Utah, 70% of the people want to stream stock our salmonid fish, what is your percentage of fish that you're putting out in the waters? Is it 30, 70 or what? Do you know what that percentage is?

Craig – First off, the beauty of most of our stream populations of salmonids is the fact that they are self-sustaining. We don't have to augment, in fact, we've moved off of augmentation of most of our stream populations in the state compared to what we did 20 years ago. I don't know off the top of my head what that ratio is but it is probably 90% flat water stocking of salmonids, 10% stream stocking of salmonids. Whereas, 20 years ago, it was probably 50/50. We recognize the fact that to provide a quality product in our streams we didn't necessarily have to augment those populations. In fact, in most instances to provide the quality product that we would like, we would like to see a little bit more harvest in a lot of situations. We've discussed managing and manipulating water in a way that would actually cause year class failure among some of our stream salmonids and them actually bolster the overall population health rather than have a bunch of stunted, starving fish in many instances. I won't say starving but just not in as good of condition as we'd like.

Robert Judd – What are the percentages of warm water stocking versus your salmonid stockings?

Craig – Statewide, flat water rivers doesn't matter? We are probably 15-20% warm water and that's a kind of pull it out of my rear end response. I'm just guesstimating there. It's around that. It's one thing to call that a static figure but the number of anglers expressing preference for salmonids is incrementally declining through time. Over three surveys, we've seen about an 8% decline in that preference category. That combined with the fact that in our lakes and reservoirs, we're running into situations where traditionally we were able to manage with salmonids because of the water temperatures and dissolved oxygen situations that we had. We don't necessarily have those anymore. Even in some of our higher lakes, the Diamond Lakes this year for example, and in an effort to avoid fish kills and maximize the benefit of the fish that we stock we are examining moving into the warm cool water species realm in those situations.

Brock – So that everybody here knows, all of these presentations are typically now posted a week in advance on the division's website. This time they did not meet that week in advance. In fact, I think they were just posted today. Along with those postings, anybody can go a week before this meeting, they can look at the presentations and hear everything that's going to be presented and there is an online place where you can provide comment or question there especially when it doesn't relate to the current topics of that night. There are two people today that have comments. It probably is most fitting here. Normally, we don't take questions or comments for an informational presentation but because those weren't up a week in advance, Jason and I thought this is probably the most appropriate time to have the two comments that aren't directly relating to one of our action items tonight. So, unless there's a disagreement among the RAC, we will invite those two individuals to provide their comment now.

Comments from the Public

Jim Greene – Ben Sullivan is with me. We live on the Provo River between Deer Creek Reservoir and Legacy Bridge. I've lived there for 11 years and I've watched the fish population decline significantly up there. Partially because of the increased population growth. Wasatch County is one of the fastest growing counties in the nation right now. And the introduction of river otters up there which have helped decimate our fish population. So, that section of the river has no restrictions on it like the rest of Provo does and we're just concerned that if we don't restrict it we're going to see the fish population continue to decline. So, we're just hoping that maybe something might be done where we can restrict that possibly to above Legacy Bridge with two fish under 15 inches and artificial lures only. That might help to preserve the fish population there. We just wonder what might be considered to be done in the future for that.

Craig – I don't want to speak for Chris but what we do is go out and assess populations to the best of our ability using electrofishing or other gears. We look at what those populations are doing health wise. We look at their age structure, size structure, condition factor, growth rates where possible and then we assess whether or not those populations are achieving the management objective for that particular water or segment of water. I think that is what you are planning on doing shortly.

Chris Crockett/CRO Aquatics Manager – I think we are well poised to examine that issue this year actually. We're having our survey that are taking place in October and I've already given some dates to the other gentleman. I'd be happy to give those to you. I'd encourage you to come out and help us with that survey and see for yourself what we have and then once we have that data, we can compare it to what we've seen in previous years. We typically survey the middle Provo about once every 3-5 years so, I'm not disputing what you are seeing but lets actually take a look at the data and see before we make any judgement calls there. Also, we have a creel survey going on right now on the middle Provo which is where we talk to anglers. So, again I think we'll be well poised to address that problem. If the RAC would like, after we've had a chance to kind of crunch that data, we'd be happy to bring it back and let you know what we've seen.

John VanSlooten – I echo Jim's comments. The only thing I would throw on the table is to address the stocking issue again. It's clear if you change the stocking levels you've had as a result there's less fish there. So, that's another issue to address. The other issue is that that particular section is very convenient to fish. There're a lot of people that come there because it's 45 minutes from Salt Lake City and there is a lot of stream fishing within that proximity. When you have two hours to get there, that section gets fished quite a bit and it needs to be addressed.

Craig – To speak to that, fish populations either grow, wax or wane as a result of recruitment or stocking. Those are the two things. So, they either naturally reproduce and replace themselves or we replace them. I don't know if anybody has fished in Idaho recently for any species, they have undertaken over the past decade what is a pretty amazing program. They have gone out and tagged fish in the majority of their waters. They've tagged those fish with reward tags in an effort to have tag returns allow them to assess what their exploitation rate is, what the removal rate is for those fish. If you can look at the removal rate, you can look at the natural recruitment and natural recruitment isn't replacing the removal rate, that's your free board for stocking. We,

right now in the spring of 2020 we kind of got our hand forced a little bit by the director but he thought it was such a good idea, he's going to have us doing it in the spring. We're going to pilot a similar tagging program on our community waters just to make sure we have all of our ducks in a row as far as how the program works then expand it out to more waters in Utah and with that be able to assess exploitation, the removal look at the natural recruitment in the waters and then fill those gaps with stocking where possible.

**4) Fishing Informational (part 2) Fishing Tournament COR process
Craig Walker, Aquatics Section Assistant Chief (Informational)**

Questions from the RAC

Ken - Craig, one question, you talked about... I think it's great that you're simplifying the rules. It helps with the public but I do have one question. You said a live weigh in, would that be if you went out fishing and you caught fish and threw them in your live well, then you came in and weighed them, those fish cannot be returned to the water legally because you can't take a fish out of your live well and return it to the lake.

Craig – Right now for smallmouth bass and largemouth bass anglers in the state, they can do that.

Scott – Is there some type of outline somewhere? I'm just wondering if somebody is trying to put together a "this type vs. that type" do they have some sort of outline to say if they have less than 50 anglers, I don't need X, Y or Z? Is that information available or should it be available?

Craig – It is absolutely available in rule and I wish I could rattle off the rule number right now.

Scott – Just relative to... will it be with this website or a link on there so, folks can look at?

Craig – Yeah. It will spell out you can't do this under our 657 rule and it will spell out what that stipulation is. Right now, we have a situation where for various reasons the rule was put together in a very piecemeal (?) fashion which points out one of the needs to rewrite it. We have cold water tournaments that only allow for 200 participants and \$2000 in prize money. We have warm and cool water species tournaments that has no limit and no one can explain to me the rationale behind 200/ 2000 they just can't. I can see back in the day when we had an opening day when we had a situation where we were more concerned about mortalities. Yeah. When there is a concern about gambling with a stocked fish. But to be honest, tournament angling in other parts of the country is a very valuable undertaking. We talked about ecology. You know, tournament bass anglers in Southeastern United States are some of the largest conservationists and conservation organizations in the world. We have an opportunity to potentially harness the power of that and get anglers to be thinking about that. This in a way is dangling a carrot by making the process a little bit easier bringing them to the table.

Jason Vernon – Can I make one comment before Craig starts? I just wanted to follow up on what Brock was indicating about the videos that are going to be coming out online. I meant to

mention that but I didn't turn my paper over. As he mentioned, it's going to be a new process for the division. We'll be posting the videos of the presentations online about a week before our RAC begins. Along with those presentations there will be links to an email and people will be able to go online and provide comments for each of the individual presentations. Those comments will then be put together into an email and sent to each of the individual RAC members. I don't know if any of you saw today that you got an email saying that you've been included into a google group. If you haven't it will be coming. At the end of each day during that week between the posting and our RAC meeting you will all receive comments grouped together for that presentation. As we gather here and go through the process again and look at public comments that comment can include not only comments that are here but also from the emails that you received as well. Those can be discussed and moved upon for votes as the committee decides. So, we are still trying to figure out how to do this efficiently and effectively so, that's why it didn't happen this go around. But we anticipate for our November RAC meeting for the big game and turkey that it will be functional. Be ready to start receiving some emails and compiling comments. Any questions on that?

Mike C – Will we know where the commenter lives? What portion of the state they live in?

Jason – That is a great question. Did we discuss that? I don't think we discussed that. Maybe we'll need to look at that again. That's not something we considered.

Mike C – In some of the past RAC's most of the e-mails I've received have been from non-residents of Utah. Their opinion maybe doesn't carry as much weight for me because they're not a resident of the state and the state owns the wildlife and the citizenry of the state should decide. So, I'm a little concerned that you're going to send us a bunch of emails from people that I don't know who they are which could actually undermine the system of people showing up at the RAC's to express themselves.

Jason – Sure, and I think as we discuss this, and trying to come up with a way to seem fair and equitable but still visible for everybody to see what's going on. We're struggling through that. I know other states have this same process. We're going to reach out to them and see how they work through that and what makes sense to them. I think your point is well taken. That's not obviously the intent of opening it up to comments online. We want to make sure that we get comments from the right people on the right topics to be able to help you be informed and make decisions. I'll take that back and we'll look into that.

Ben – Are these comments anonymous or do they include their name?

Jason – I think we decided to have them include their name if I remember right.

Ben – I would hope so because if someone comes here to comment they have to fill out a card and put their name and address down. I'd hope that we're not just taking anonymous comments.

Jason – Yeah. I know the BLM and Forest Service receive comments on EAs and EISs and they'll often times get copy and paste from a lot of different groups and you have the same comments 10,000 times. We're trying to figure out how to work through that as well.

Mike C – I imagine we will see that. We've seen it before in just emails.

Jason – I think you know how in your mind what those mean to you individually.

Mike C – And you can also have the same person using different email addresses and trying to weigh that public input. It will be interesting to see how it works out. There are some problems with the anonymity of online commenting.

Jason – One of the things that I think we're able to look at is the addresses of the computers so you can see if the same computer is sending in a whole bunch of comments as well.

Ben – See if we're getting thousands of comments from Nigeria or wherever. I mean I think it's a cool concept if I'm being honest, I'm still going to weigh the opinions that are shared here at the mic way heavier than anything that comes online. The people that show up are the people that care. It's really easy to fill out a comment box on a website and submit.

Jason – I think it's something that we're going to have to test and go through as well. We don't want to waste the councils time as well with comments that are unnecessary or don't make sense.

Ben – There's another good point, somebody makes a comment online, they watch the presentation and give their comment, they're likely not going to receive any feedback from that versus somebody that is here. We've seen it tonight. The two gentlemen here commented and got a response.

Ken – I remember just a little over a year ago we had an issue come before the RAC's and wildlife board and I got emails from all over the world opposing what the RAC's were doing. That doesn't carry any weight at all with me especially when they were basically all saying the same thing. I agree with Ben that more weight is carried right here at the pulpit.

Brock – I generally agree however I like the idea of seeing how it's going to work because there are some people that can't make it to this meeting for whatever reason. Maybe it's valuable for a few people to be able to comment on something they are passionate about but they can't get to this meeting.

Mike C – Is it possible to enter a person's CID #?

Jason – That's a great idea. I don't think that we've discussed that but I can take that back as well.

5) **R657-59 Private Fish Ponds Rule Amendments**
Randy Oplinger, Coldwater Sportfish Coordinator (Action)
PRESENTED by Craig Walker – Aquatics Section Assistant Chief

Questions from the RAC Craig answering question

Eric – How are you going to police this from those that may not have the COR? There are always those that may just take a bunch and turn them loose. How will that be regulated or controlled to where you could track those?

Craig – For those that don't actually don't pursue a COR?

Eric – Yeah.

Craig – The idea is right now to actually set up something that is more easily attainable for aquaponics folks that clearly spells out what they can and can't do. That opens their aquaponic operations up to a broader array of species because of the higher level of safety with those aquaponic facilities. Our thought is that it is going to encourage people that may have skirted the COR process in the past. Maybe just because they didn't view it as necessary, may become willing participants and undertake the voluntary compliance that most of our COR programs rely on. In the event that we do find out about bad actors, that's an enforcement issue but it's like anything we deal with. Even regulations out on the landscape. It's a voluntary compliance issue until caught or turned in. We hope by making things a little bit easier for people that we'll get more compliance.

Ben – I may have been misled by the presentation. Are we basically just talking about really big fish tanks?

Craig – If you were to talk to the folks that do aquaponics, no. They're fish tanks with better design to use the nutrients and the waste to actually grow other things. It's kind of a new movement if you will, allowing people to produce their own food. Allowing people to utilize fish as a source of fertilizer to produce that food. Aquaponics is more than just a fish tank. It takes a little extra work. And the scales vary. If you're actually selling the material as I mentioned before, it comes under agricultural and food oversight but for this it's more of a personal use standpoint where, in this picture here they are growing basil. Think gardening but with a natural fertilizer source.

Questions from the Public

Robert Judd – I have an updated version of the page that has the species that were approved. I don't know if that was made aware to you Craig. I just don't want the RAC to think that it actually eliminates coy and adds yellow perch (it came from Stacy Coons). But the reason why is because coy is not a game fish. (No question was asked.)

Craig – I can neither confirm or deny what was just stated. But if Staci forwarded that to you...this is just an older version of the presentation.

Ben – It seems like she sent out an update yesterday, that may have been it.

Comments from the Public

Robert Judd/ Spring Lake Trout Farm – I own a trout farm and I deal a lot with these aquaponics people who are wanting fish to be able to grow in their systems. I’ve been at every PACT meeting and we’ve tried to work through this and it is a good step by the division to try and go this direction. Most of these people don’t want to have to deal with all of the regulatory side of just trying to grow some plants and they use the fish to grow their plants. On our side from a person growing the fish to sell them retail it’s just not worth our time for the amount that they buy. They want a lot if fish, five fish or something like that. This really will close the loophole that’s in the system and I really do want to thank the division for working on this and I think it will be a really good thing for aquaponics and for the state in a whole. I represent the Utah Aquaculture Association.

RAC Discussion

None

VOTING

Motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Ken Strong to accept the Division’s recommendations as presented.

In Favor: Ben, Scott, Mike, A J, Ken, Eric, Josh

Opposed:

Abstained:

Motion passed unanimously

6) Bighorn Sheep Unit Management Plans
Jace Taylor, Bighorn Sheep/Mountain Goat Biologist

Questions from the RAC

Mike – Jace as I looked through your specific plans for each unit, I noticed some units have like 110 rams per 100 ewes during various counts. Is that a viable thing that the division strives for? Tell me about that herd dynamic.

Jace – So, one of the things that Mike is talking about is in many of the unit management plans they will have the data from the past survey. So, you can go back and say it was flown in 2017, 2015, 2014 whatever it is and in there we list the number of animals that we counted and then our ram to ewe ratio. So, that’s what Mike is talking about. Sometimes we do a flight and we count more rams than we do ewes so, you asked me there are 110 rams per 100 ewes... that is not something that we manage for, that we strive for. We definitely try to keep that number... most times we try to keep it something anywhere from 30-60 rams per 100 ewes especially in our hunted populations. There could be a number of reasons why that happens on surveys. Maybe it’s just and outlier that happens that day. I don’t think that you see as you look through those it doesn’t happen often. It doesn’t happen in the same units repeatedly. It’s more just outliers, I think.

Brock – If it's real how does that happen, Jace? Because rams have shorter lifespan than ewes, are the females more susceptible to disease?

Jace – No, I don't think so. The question is how does it happen that we get more rams than ewes in a population. I think that it's really just an artifact of the survey in my opinion. I think that one day you happen to catch a big group of rams on your survey and you might miss some ewes. I don't think that many on the populations are actually maintaining more rams than ewes. I think that's just an artifact of the variability of the flight.

Mike – Excitability at the time?

Jace – Yes.

Mike – I understand that 110 to 100 is just the ratio. Many units don't even have 100 sheep on them.

Jace – Exactly.

Eric – In there you mentioned removal of domestic stray sheep. How is that being done from the division's standpoint where it's a private animal?

Jace – So, we have a policy in place or a guideline I should say that we've worked through with Department of Ag. that we have an agreement that is signed. What happens is basically, if a domestic animal is seen in a place where we have bighorn sheep, maybe it's been left behind or it's wandered off of the allotment or private property, we will contact the county sheriff's office. We work with the county sheriff's office but ultimately the decision making lies with them and then we decide whether it's appropriate to remove that animal lethally or alive and then try to contact who it belongs to then compensating if it is removed lethally. There's a guideline and I can send that to you if you'd like.

Josh – I read recently that Colorado's sheep population in Dinosaur tested positive for pneumonia like 100%. Can you talk a little about maybe Utah's sheep population in that area? The status and viability of those sheep in and around Dinosaur?

Jace – Maybe I can help. I do have maps here that go through each of these unit plans. I'll get here to our Uinta Mountains plan. So, here you see our Uinta Mountains plan. It's broken up and it's kind of hard to see there. Suitable bighorn habitat is kind of that orange color and then the cross-hash stuff is where bighorn sheep are currently occupying. And you see down here towards the border down there by the 9D/9C area you see that strip of occupied habitat that comes in to Utah. That's Dinosaur. So, the herd there... we communicate with National Parks and we understand as best we can the status there and they do contain pathogens that cause respiratory disease. So, we don't have connectivity from Dinosaur into the bighorn herd that we have there. You see up by Flaming Gorge or going up to the High Uintas and stuff like that. We don't have connectivity that we know of on a regular basis through there. But that bighorn herd there in the Uintas also does have similar pathogens. Maybe not the exact same ones but similar ones that do cause respiratory disease.

Eric – Are many sheep wandering out of Dinosaur on the state and federal lands in Utah?

Jace – That’s a good question. I wish that I had someone from parks or even from the region here to address that specifically. I don’t believe so. At least not far enough that they are coming in contact with our bighorns. I can’t speak to that. Outside of the park, I wish I could give you a great answer but I can’t.

Eric – I just wondered because it’s tested positive, that would be the rationale for increasing quotas in the area.

Jace – So, they don’t hunt bighorns inside the park itself. That would be an understandable rationale. I think that with this herd there are other more eminent or more pertinent risks of contact than the wild bighorns that are in Dinosaur.

Brock – Jace, of the 4100 sheep in the state, how many are sick?

Jace – So, of the 4100 that we have in the state the vast majority of those have the pathogens that could cause respiratory disease. The only herds that we have that do not contain those pathogens are the Newfoundland Mountains, the Stansbury Mountains, the Oak Creek Mountains and a portion of the Pine Valley. The vast majority of them.

Mike – What are your plans for Antelope Island?

Jace – Antelope Island experienced a disease event starting last November then we decided it would be best to depopulate the island, lethally remove all of the bighorns that were there and start over. The depopulation has gone well and it’s been a hard and a sad process, but as far as successfully removing the animals, it’s been very successful. We have plans to reintroduce bighorn sheep in January of 2020 if everything goes well. That’s assuming that we continue to see that the depopulation has gone well and that the source herds are suitable and healthy.

Scott – With the population data, maybe we best describe these as very volatile. Every one of them. Either the survey numbers change every three years pretty dramatically or the actual population numbers change pretty dramatically every three years. On a few cases you could see as much as a 50% population change from survey to survey. That was probably the exception but the 20-30% seemed to be the norm. A bump or a decline. So, I’m just wondering about hunter opportunity. If you’re going to lose potentially 30% of your animals in any particular year, why are we limiting harvest to so few?

Jace – That’s a good question. So, those guidelines the 12-25% of the counted rams or the 30-60% of counted rams, those were approved with the statewide plan. I feel like there was a good representation from sportsmen and from other groups to come to a conclusion on those numbers. Those numbers have increased recently. Before this statewide plan was approved in November, it was 12-15% and then 30-40% of the older rams. So, I think we’ve made a great stride to be able to increase more opportunity for the exact reasoning that you have right there. I think it’s good reasoning. If you look at those percentage guidelines, that’s also one of the more

aggressive guidelines that you have in Western state. Traditionally, bighorn sheep have really been hunted very conservatively. I think it has to do with the fact that there were so few of them at one time and then all the effort and money that went into bringing them back, people really want to hold tight to what they have and let them get as big as possible. I think that there is definitely a lot of that kind of sentiment. But your mentality is we have seen a shift more towards your mentality and we're making efforts to offer more opportunity.

Ben – I just want to add to what Jace said. I sat on the BHS committee last year and those changes that he mentioned, the amount of tags that we can offer now are much more liberal than they were prior to this current plan which was just adopted this last fall. That sentiment, the desire to increase tags as much as possible was felt and expressed across the entire committee without any reservations. It's definitely an improvement from where we've been.

Jace – It makes a difference for sportsman opportunity but also make a difference for some of our tools that we use to manage risk as well. Having lower densities, having younger ram structures, those kinds of things can help. I can say from the 2018 permits that were offered, the 2019 permits so right in there is where we made the change, we had a 30% increase in rocky mountain bighorn sheep permits and a 25% increase in desert bighorn sheep permits. So, we are shifting, I think.

Scott – Is there any thought of any ewe hunts? Is there any value in that? Because our populations are so low, is that considered a risk?

Jace – So, if you look here you can see the objectives and the abundance, well the only one of the units right now that we have that's approaching its objective is the Newfoundland Mountains where the objective is 350 and the last estimate from last year was 310. In that situation specifically we are considering ewe hunts and other places too. But most of them aren't coming up against their objective.

Scott – That Newfoundland Mountain population is disease free or not?

Jace – Disease free.

Scott – Ok, so it would serve as a transplant population as well?

Jace – Yeah, it's one of those that came from Antelope Island that's done really well. It's grown since we put them there. We've actually removed quite a few animals from the Newfoundland Mountains to start places like the Oak Creeks and also on the Stansbury's. We captured them and moved them off.

Scott – So I didn't see much in the plan about additional areas that you're evaluating for release. Are there still locations outside of these units? You mentioned within the units but what about outside of these units is there still bighorn habitat that's being looked at?

Jace – So, you're right inside of the unit plans it only talks about locations within the units. The statewide plan does list other potential release sites that are outside of our current units. So, if

you want to see that list just go onto the statewide plan. There are places that we're pursuing. They all need varying degrees of work to make them more suitable before we can release bighorns there. But yeah, we are pursuing a number of them.

Mike – On the Uintas on the western portion there, there's not a viable herd there. What is the reasoning for not transplanting and using that habitat?

Jace – So, you're talking about West. Right now, the herd is as far west as Gilbert Peak and they winter down buy Coop Lake so they move back and forth between there. So, going west from there, there are active Forest Service domestic sheep grazing. So, it's probably not in the best interest to do it.

Questions from the Public

Travis Jensen/Wild Sheep Foundation – Jace, can you expand a little bit on your thoughts in respect to cause of factors for the die off on Antelope Island?

Jace – So, prior to November the Antelope Island bighorn sheep population had been tested pretty regularly for pathogens because we were moving bighorns off of there. Most recently, in January of 2018 we had moved bighorn off of there to go to Stansbury Mountains as well as the Oak Creek Mountains and in all of that testing prior to that time, we had never picked up pathogens that we worried most about causing respiratory disease. When we started to have the die off in November we went out and sampled a number of animals and we found those pathogens that usually coincide with respiratory disease. So, somehow or other the pathogens had made it to Antelope Island. Those specific pathogens are only transferred or mostly transferred from physical contact with other wildlife that carry those pathogens, most often other bighorn sheep or domestic sheep or goats. So, somehow another animal carrying the pathogen came to Antelope Island or a bighorn from Antelope Island came off and contracted the pathogen and came back with it. Then from there, it spread. We're probably never going to know for sure how the pathogens made it there but that's from what we understand for the science that the contact must have been made at some point. There are domestic sheep and goats off the south end of Antelope Island on private property which the nearest wild bighorn sheep that carry the pathogens would be quite a ways away. It's unlikely that they came in contact with other wild bighorn sheep.

Mike C (RAC member) What are you doing to do about that in the future?

Jace – So, some things we can do to prevent this from happening in the future, there's a fence being built on the south end of Antelope Island it's actually being built on the state parks property. It's a wildlife fence, and eight-foot fence that should hopefully keep bighorn from leaving or other animals from coming to the island. Also, we're trying to work with some of the private property owners, again, in voluntary situations that will hopefully help reduce the risk. And then also, one of the things that I should have gone into is that we believe may play a factor in bighorn sheep leaving the Antelope Island is ram densities. We believe that the higher density you have of rams in an area, the more incentive there is for some of those rams to try and leave because there are fewer breeding opportunities for them on Antelope Island. So, we're hoping

that going forward we'll be able to manage for a lower ram to ewe ratio and lower ram densities. Hopefully with even younger rams age structure. That's something we hope to do going forward that we'll work with the parks on.

Mike C – (RAC member) Is Antelope Island open to that?

Jace – Yeah. We've had conversations, there's a lot of hoops we have to jump through and details but the state parks folks, their biologist and management has been great. They understand the biology, the ecology of it and they have been great to work with. Hopefully we can find a situation that moves forward. That might mean different hunting. It might mean different transplants, something like that.

Brock – Can you take pack goats on the island? What's being done, I've talked with a whole bunch of hunters that are starting to raise pack goats to take on their hunts and how is that going to influence sheep in areas where they don't have disease?

Jace – Good questions. So, first one, for Antelope Island, no there are restrictions in place that keep people from bring domestic sheep or goats to Antelope Island State Park. One thing that we're hoping to do moving forward that will hopefully reduce the risk of that happening is trying to increase some signage. We're working with the state parks that way. But that's always been a standing restriction. As far as pack goats go, it is becoming much more popular for hunters or even just backpackers to use goats as a pack animal much like you would a horse. So, I think that the efforts that we're trying to make right now is that we're trying to figure out how and where we can work with land management agencies. If there are trails where we can have restrictions for those types of animals where that makes sense and then also mostly, we need to work with those agencies on enforcement. It's a great question because it is becoming much more popular.

McKinley Smoot – Do mountain goats get in contact with other goats and do they contain the same pathogens for respiratory disease as the bighorn sheep in Utah populations?

Jace – So, yes there are places where we have overlap, unoccupied habitat of mountain goats and bighorn sheep and to answer the question, yes. These pathogens that we've talked about, some of the specific ones that we're concerned about can be carried by domestic sheep and goat also wild sheep and wild goats as well. I think that we have a few places where that's the case where there is potential for that.

Comments from the Public

Wade Garrett/Utah Farm Bureau – So, we had a few concerns this morning. I talked with Justin, Jace, Ben and I just appreciate the transparency and the willingness of the division to help us and go through that. I think if we can work together, we can get a more sustainable sheep population along with agriculture and be more open and make sure we're not going into sheep areas. Thank you.

Travis Jensen/Utah Wild Sheep Foundation/SFW - I want to thank the committee for the discussion. Also, thanks to Jace and the regional biologists, I think they have done a great job putting together these regional management plans. I was also a part of the committee that put

together the statewide management plan. I think there was some great progress made there between agriculture and multiple other groups to make compromise in those plans. The statewide plan and the reflection on these unit management plans. I think the one concern and the question that I have in respect to Antelope Island and the disease event there, that discussion went down the road that I wanted it to because the structure of ram to ewe ratios does impact these animals and their propensity to wander and that's what the result of these disease events. It is a concern of mine that the limited harvest on Antelope Island is really holding the division back in their effective management of the island. There are additional permits that have been approved for the island and I would like to see the division continue to pursue their efforts to get the state parks to at least increase the harvest objective on the island to try and offset some of the disease events associated with a skewed ram to ewe population. We are in support of these unit management plans, both Utah Wild Sheep Foundation and SFW. Thank you.

McKinley Smoot – I was raised on a cattle ranch at the base of the Uinta Mountains. I think about 550 acres up there and one of the main concerns that I have, first of all, I am for any large animal population growth in the state whatever it can be and its native and proper for the land however, it is important to me that these animals and also domestic animals whether they be on BLM land or Forest Service or whatever that they are moved properly and for these wild animals that they have natural predation as far as it doesn't wipe out the populations and human predation. So, this is basically just a general comment and also with domestic animals that we can keep them involved as well because our natural vegetation and soils have evolved over time with grazing animals. So, I think the more sheep, bighorn sheep, goats and to be able to do that sustainably... What I'm saying is I'm for this if we can do it sustainably. Thanks.

RAC Discussion

Ken – Everything seems positive with what the division wanted to do so, I would propose that we accept as presented.

VOTING

Motion made by Ken Strong, seconded by Ben Lowder to accept the Division's recommendations as presented.

In Favor: Ben, Scott, Mike, A J, Ken, Eric, Josh

Opposed:

Abstained:

Motion passes unanimously

Meeting adjourned: 8:30 pm

In attendance: 11 public, 13 DWR employees, 8 RAC members

Next board meeting: October 3, 9:00 am, DNR boardroom, Salt Lake City

Next RAC meeting: November 12, 6:30 pm, DWR Central Region Conference Room

COMMENT FROM RAC MEETING

Date 9-3-19

Name McKinley Smoot Phone Number 801-671-2223

Address 915 N 150 E Apt 310 Provo, UT 84039

Who are you representing? self group _____

Would you like to address the RAC today? yes no

Which agenda topic? 7. Bighorn Sheep

COMMENTS ^{Larger} Wild grazing animal populations, I think, ought to be encouraged as long as wild, and human predation is available to make animals across the land to encourage grass & soil health.

**Note - You will have a maximum of three minutes per individual and five minutes per group to address the RAC.

COMMENT FROM RAC MEETING

Date 9-3-19

Name Travis Jensen Phone Number 801 641-5453

Address 1411 E. Crescent Dr

Who are you representing? self group Utah WSF / SFW

Would you like to address the RAC today? yes no

Which agenda topic? Bighorn Sheep mgmt Plans

COMMENTS Our organization's support the OWR and
their unit specific Bighorn Sheep mgmt Plans, as
written

**Note – You will have a maximum of three minutes per individual and five minutes per group to address the RAC.

COMMENT FROM RAC MEETING

Date 9/4/19

Name Wade Garrett Phone Number 435-660-9292

Address 9865 N State Sandy Ut

Who are you representing? self group Ut Farm Bureau

Would you like to address the RAC today? yes no

Which agenda topic? Big Horn Management Plan

COMMENTS _____

**Note – You will have a maximum of three minutes per individual and five minutes per group to address the RAC.

COMMENT FROM RAC MEETING

Date 9-3-19

Name ROBERT JUDD

Phone Number 801 369-7172

Address 3409 W. 12300 S.

STREEB LIKE TRUST FARM +

Who are you representing? self

group UTAH AGRICULTURE ASSOCIATION

Would you like to address the RAC today?

yes no

Which agenda topic? IC 657-59.

COMMENTS _____

**Note – You will have a maximum of three minutes per individual and five minutes per group to address the RAC.

#16

COMMENT FROM RAC MEETING

Date 9/3/19

Name Jim Greene

Phone Number 801-636-9903

Address Charleston,

Who are you representing? self group

Would you like to address the RAC today? yes no

Which agenda topic? Fishing on Middle Provo #6

COMMENTS _____

**Note – You will have a maximum of three minutes per individual and five minutes per group to address the RAC.

MADE
COMMENT
ON
#5
RAC

COMMENT FROM RAC MEETING

Date 9.3.19

Name John VanStoofen Phone Number 404 822.5241

Address 2725 W. Webster Lane, Heber.

Who are you representing? self group _____

Would you like to address the RAC today? yes no

Which agenda topic? Fishing PL6

COMMENTS Declining fishing on Middle Pass

MADE
COMMENT
ON
IT'S
A

**Note – You will have a maximum of three minutes per individual and five minutes per group to address the RAC.

**Northern Regional Advisory Council
Sept 4, 2019
Brigham City Community Center
Brigham City, Utah**

Draft Meeting Minutes

Meeting Begins: 6:00p.m.

RAC Present

Ryan Brown- At Large
Paul Chase- Forest Service
David Earl- Agric.
Randy Hutchison-At Large
Christopher Hoagstrom- Noncon.
Emily Jenco- BLM
Aaron Johnson_ Sportsman
Matt Klar- At Large
Mike Laughter - Sportsman
Kevin McLeod- At Large
Darren Parry- Shoshone Nation

DWR Present

Jodie Anderson
Jim Christensen
Dave Rich
Eric Anderson
Jace Taylor
Justin Dolling
Chris Penne
Cody Edwards
Krystal Tucker
Craig Walker
Jordan Hastings

Wildlife Board

Byron Bateman

RAC Excused

Junior Goring-Agric
Justin Oliver- Chair
Kristin Purdy-Noncon.

RAC Unexcused

Casey Snider- Elected

Agenda:

Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure
Approval of Agenda and July 30, 2019 Minutes
Wildlife Board Update
Regional Update
Fishing Informational
R-657-59 Private Fish Ponds Rule Amendments
Bighorn Sheep Unit Management Plans

Item 1. Approval of Agenda

Mike Laughter-Vice- Chair

Agenda Approved

Item 2. Approval of July 30, 2019 Minutes

-Mike Laughter- Vice-Chair

Minutes approved as circulated.

Item 3. Wildlife Board Update

-Justin Dolling, Regional Supervisor

Furbearer bobcat- harvest recommendations for 2019-2020 were accepted as presented. Move to a 3 year management plan was accepted and passed unanimously.

Cougar - First motion was that the DWR maintain the Cache unit permits at 25 rather than decrease as the division proposed. That passed unanimously. Second motion was to move the Bookcliffs unit back to a harvest objective with the same number of permits as last year which passed unanimously. The third recommendation was that the southwest Manti unit remain a split season and keep the permit numbers at 18 which passed unanimously. The next motion was to accept the RAC recommendations to increase the permit numbers to 26 on the southeast Manti unit and that passed 3-2. Karl and Randy were opposed. The next motion was to increase the permit numbers to 12 on the Oquirrh Stansbury west and keep it as a harvest objective which passed 4-1 with Bret Selman opposed. The next motion was to decrease the permit numbers on the Oquirrh Stansbury east unit to 7 and that motion basically died for a lack of a second. There was a motion made to approve the remainder of the 2019-2020 cougar recommendations and rule amendments in reference to specific units and tags as presented by the division which passed unanimously. There was a couple other motions that kind of clarified that motion. The next one was to follow the bear management plan on rounding down the split for resident and non-resident permits to maintain consistency. That passed unanimously. The next motion was to pull the 3 year recommendation cycle from the previous motion and open it up for discussion prior to a vote. That passed unanimously. There was a motion to adopt the 3 year management plan for cougar and that passed 3-2 with Bret Selman and Wade Heaton opposed. The last motion was to that we amend the motion to stay and apply a 3 year average within the management plan but have an annual cycle for permit number approvals and then after discussion, that motion was withdrawn. The only thing that was contrary to what our RAC recommended was East Canyon and that stayed as a split unit with increased permit numbers, if I recall correctly.

Matt Klar- You said the Bookcliffs went back to harvest objective?

Justin Dolling- Correct.

Item 4. Regional Update

- Justin Dolling, Regional Supervisor

Great Salt Lake Program- Brine shrimp cyst harvest season starts October 1st. Waterfowl youth hunt is on September 21st and general opener starts October 5th.

Wildlife Section-Pre-season elk and pronghorn classifications. Gathering camera trap data for estimating Chukar trends. Youth Chukar Hunt is September 21st through the 23rd. The division does have releases planned throughout our region.

Outreach- New outreach specialist, Hayley Smith, will start in the middle of September. Planning a mentored duck hunt with the Delta waterfowl foundation.

Aquatic Section- Second round of rotenone treatments on Big Creek in mid September which is a cutthroat trout restoration effort. Kokanee spawn counts at Porcupine, Smith and Morehouse and Causey Reservoir. Possible new community fishing pond in West Haven.

Habitat

Fire rehab projects in West Box Elder County. Plan to install 12 beaver dam analogs on the south fork of Chalk Creek.

Law Enforcement- Upland game hunts. Bow hunt has been fairly slow so far but are working a couple significant cases as a result of the archery hunt.

Randy Hutchison- When is that Chukar information going to be released?

Justin Dolling- I would assume just prior to the hunt. This is just the first year so we won't really have a trend. It may not be meaningful until we get three dots on the graph.

Item 5. Fishing Informational

- Craig Walker, Aquatics Section Assistant Chief

See RAC Packet

RAC Questions

Kevin McLeod- I have always worried about the youth. In the statistic information you have gathered from surveying, is there any focus on youth and what they would like to see?

Craig Walker- I think the vehicle we have as far as providing opportunities consistently for youth is our community waters. That was one of the original objectives for the development of that program to recruit young anglers into the sport of fishing. This upcoming year, starting in spring of 2020, we are beginning to unveil a pilot program and emulate what Idaho is doing with tagged fish. We are also going to be running a concurrent creel at least 12 community waters throughout the state. That will gather information from our younger anglers and I think that will tap in to what they want and what they are seeking in the future.

Randy Hutchison- It seemed like the focus was on making changes for the out of state angler. The vast majority that fish here are in state. Is focusing on out of state going to have any negative impact on resident.

Craig Walker- It seems that way, they were some of the strongest relationships we had derived thus far. Therefore, it gave you a good example of the power of the information we are collecting. This is, by no means, a non-resident recruitment or tourism development effort. It is done in a balanced approach. I could have done another presentation related to Utah anglers specifically. It is not disproportional to the representation in our overall angling representation of 600,000 or so anglers.

COR Informational

Item 6. R657-59 Private Fish Ponds Rule Amendments

-Craig Walker, Aquatics Section Assistant Chief

See RAC Packet

RAC Questions

Kevin McLeod- On your list of fish that are allowed, there is no lake trout or muskie and I am wondering why?

Craig Walker- They are really not something the aquaponics industry can make use of. Lake trout and tiger muskie, you would not be able to get enough fish poop for what I would view as a hobby operation. These are species that are sought after in this hobby trade.

Motion

Motion- Kevin McLeod- Recommend the Wildlife Board accept R657-59 Private Fish Ponds Rule Amendments as presented.

Second- Aaron Johnson

Motion Passes- Unanimous

Item 7. Bighorn Sheep Unit Management Plans

-Jace Taylor, Bighorn Sheep/Mountain Goat Biologist

See RAC Packet

Public Questions

Sierra Nelson- Utah Wool Growers Association- Go back to population slide. You said your objectives were the minimum objective. You are telling me the minimum on 9 mile is 1,000 sheep?

Jace Taylor- If I said minimum, I didn't mean to say minimum, sorry. The objective is what we are striving to have in the unit. When you see 125, the reason it is not lower is because we use it as a baseline minimum.

Sierra Nelson- Ok, I realized that is your objective and if we can get it up higher and that is where you are headed. If you get above those unit objectives, then you look at more population control?

Jace Taylor- Yes, if we reached that number, we would have aggressive efforts to remove animals through hunting or transplants.

Sierra Nelson- As we are increasing population, obviously there becomes a interest in the ram strain, yes?

Jace Taylor- We are looking more into that. As we get higher ram densities within the units, there is more incentive for them to wander from the unit. The more rams there are per ewes, the fewer opportunities for breeding.

RAC Questions

Kevin McLeod- Were you able to determine the source of the Antelope Island problem?

Jace Taylor- We have the district biologist here so we will ask him to come up and discuss.

Eric Anderson- We have a lot of suspicions but not a confirmed spot. We had some domestic goats and sheep down by the international airport, south of the island. There was also some domestic sheep up on Fremont Island that could have been possible strains.

Kevin McLeod- They may have wandered in?

Eric Anderson- We are not sure if the domestic sheep came on the island or the rams left the island. We lean more towards the rams because we were pretty close to 1-1 rams to ewes on the island.

Mike Laughter- They left the island and then came back?

Eric Anderson- We assume so, yes.

Sierra Nelson- Clarify the distance and route to do something like that?

Eric Anderson- Jace has an illustration. I'm not quite sure on the total distance but it is not uncommon for these sheep to wander. We have documentation on it but I don't think we have exact distances do we Jace?

Jace Taylor- Yes. (Map of area shown of where big horn sheep travel) South end of Antelope Island, cover 2-3 miles of mud flats and then start getting to marsh stuff of the duck clubs and that area. To get that way, he could be onto private properties with the potential of domestic animals with pathogens within 5 miles or so. Private landowners have been good to work with. Off the north end of the island, the big horns do not use much of the north 3-5 miles. There would be 3-5 miles not occupied. The causeway is about 7 miles and if they were to go to Fremont Island, there is another 4 miles of sandbar from the causeway. None of it is impossible for big horn sheep.

Eric Anderson- Antelope Island itself is about 16 miles? Just for reference?

Jace Taylor- Yes, 13-16 miles.

Aaron Johnson- Do they have to come in contact with the sheep or could it be a horse trailer that was used for goats and was taken out to the island for horseback. Can it be passed on that way?

Jace Taylor- There are a number of pathogens involved in this respiratory disease. In the past Generally speaking, the transmission of pathogens that, in the past, Antelope Island has carried. What has changed in the last year is that prior to the disease event, there was one specific pathogen that we did not pick up but did find in the population after the disease event. This one specific pathogen we are talking about is part of the equation. For this one specific pathogen, it is most common transmitted by contact with another animal that carries the pathogen. It can be transmitted short distances.

Outside of a host, the pathogen we are talking about, it is pretty fragile. It does not do well outside of a host. While it is possible, it is pretty unlikely.

Aaron Johnson- Is there any other way to solve this?

Jace Taylor- Currently, there is no treatment that we could use in a wild setting that would work well. There is evidence that some treatment might work but are very labor intensive. There is work being done to find a vaccine.

Kevin McLeod- You have ruled out any chance that they came from any other animal on the island?

Jace Taylor- No, that is a good question.

Kevin McLeod- I know Antelope Island really well and I can see that the possibility at the south end but Fremont Island, I don't see an animal getting there.

Jace Taylor- There is some newer research that does suggest potential for other animals to be carriers of the disease. That is new research. We are mostly basing our decisions off of the established literature and the bulk of the science presented.

We are open to other new research and are going to sample other animals on the island before we reintroduce big horn sheep.

Randy Hutchison- What are the current plans for antelope to recover?

Eric Anderson- This has been quite a process. First, documentation of the contracted disease on the island was last November. We have been active in working towards getting wild sheep back on the island. Things are going the direction we want it and plan to release Rocky Mountain Big Horn Sheep on the island in January.

Randy Hutchison- Would it be from a transfer from inside the state or bringing them in from somewhere else?

Eric Anderson- Currently, it is scheduled to bring them in from Montana and New Mexico.

David Earl- How are you going to prevent this from happening again?

Eric Anderson- We are working with Antelope Island State Park and they are currently getting bids on putting a fence along the south end of the island.

David Earl- Who is going to maintain it?

Eric Anderson- That is where some of the conservation funds, I hope, will help maintain that and be the responsibility of Antelope Island State Park and we will help out as needed.

Randy Hutchison- How would the fence work, you can't extend it forever. What is the concept?

Eric Anderson- We are working with Steve Bates who is the wildlife biologist for Antelope Island. He has issues with his bison also. So, it is going to be basically a U-shaped around the south end of the island. I don't know how many years it has been dry through there but there is always a chance of water coming in. That is the plan now to put that in. I believe it is almost 5 miles up on the east side.

Randy Hutchison- You were talking about win/win solutions with grazers. What do you define as a win/win? Getting different allotments?

Jace Taylor- Yes, something like that. We have folks willing to take a different wintering allotment so that it makes more separation from where we have big horn sheep. Some folks are interested in getting out of the business all together at times. It is important that they are voluntary.

David Earl- The Newfoundland mountain range, when the big horn is placed on there, was the grazing allotments surrendered or are they still in place?

Jace Taylor- They were surrendered before the big horn sheep were introduced into that area. I should have Jim come up, he knows the history better.

Jim Christensen- They were actually converted to cattle.

David Earl- How far would it be for one of your rams to travel off the Newfoundlands?

Jim Christensen- It is probably 4-5 miles.

David Earl- They have trailed sheep back and forth across there for hundreds of years.

Jim Christensen- Right.

David Earl- Now you don't think your rams are going to travel?

Jim Christensen- They very well could. We have GPS collars on some of our rams and ewes on the Newfoundlands and they have not gone off. With some of the first introductions, they did release mature rams and they did leave. They went to the east. Both those rams were together and one ended up dying. The other got off the BLM ground and had an alternate hunter harvest that ram. Since that time, there has been no known sheep off the Newfoundlands.

Public Comment

Spencer Gibbons- Utah Farm Bureau- Support the plan. Feel all the tools to manage big horn sheep and minimize livestock conflict are in the plan. Appreciate the cooperation and efforts by the DWR working with agriculture community.

Sierra Nelson- Utah Wool Growers Association- Supports the plan as written as long as they stick to it closely. Continue to work together and flourish. Appreciate DWR and SFW working with us.

Brad Buchanan- Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife & Utah Wild Sheep Foundation- Support the divisions plan as presented. As far as Antelope Island is concerned, we do ask that there is an increase in public permits to harvest sheep as well as help lower and mitigate some wandering rams.

RAC Comments

Aaron Johnson- I think it is a good plan but will never be able to harvest one based on the odds. I hope that they do watch it closely and does not affect agriculture.

Motion

Motion-Kevin McLeod-Recommend the Wildlife Board accept Bighorn Sheep Unit Management Plans as presented and encourage Parks and Recreation to increase Big Horn Sheep permits once the population is restored.

Second-Randy Hutchison

Mike Laughter- Can you be specific regarding the comments on the increase in tags?

Kevin McLeod- The input from the audience, I believe supported the plan. There was a comment about the increase in permits on Antelope Island in the future. There is not a herd now. I recommend that we accept as presented.

Mike Laughter- Thank you.

Motion Passes-Unanimous

Meeting Ends-7:28 p.m.

DRAFT

**SOUTHERN REGION RAC MEETING
HURRICANE COMMUNITY CENTER
63 South 100 West
Hurricane, UT
September 10, 2019 7:00 p.m.
NO QUORUM PRESENT**

1. REVIEW & ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES AND AGENDA

MOTION: Brayden Richmond asked if there were any objections to accepting the minutes and agenda

VOTE: No objections (no vote taken)

2. R657-59 PRIVATE PONDS RULE AMENDMENTS

MOTION: To pass R657-59 Private Ponds Rule Amendments as presented

VOTE: Gene Boardman
Nick Jorgensen, seconded
Passed unanimously

3. BIGHORN SHEEP UNIT MANAGEMENT PLANS

MOTION: To accept the management plans as presented, but change language in the Antelope Island plan to more accurately portray what we know, and to add language to the statewide plan addressing education regarding respiratory disease to explain education beyond just sheep producers (pack animals, back yard herds...)

VOTE: Passes 4-1 (Austin Atkinson opposed)

**SOUTHERN REGION RAC MEETING
HURRICANE COMMUNITY CENTER
September 10, 2019 7:00 p.m.**

RAC Members Present	DWR Personnel Present	Wildlife Board Present	RAC Members Not Present
Brayden Richmond Gene Boardman Austin Atkinson Sean Stewart Craig Laub Nick Jorgensen	Johnny Neil Phil Tuttle Andrea Gifford Kevin Bunnell Paul Washburn Richard Hepworth Jace Taylor Randy Oplinger Teresa Griffin David Smedley Jim Lamb Jason Nicholes	Donnie Hunter	Bart Battista Sean Kelly Verland King Tammy Pearson Riley Roberts Chad Utley

Brayden Richmond called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. There were approximately 2 interested parties in attendance in addition to RAC members, members of the Wildlife Board, and Division employees.

Welcome and Intro Appreciation

- **WELCOME, RAC INTRODUCTIONS AND RAC PROCEDURES – Brayden Richmond**

Brayden Richmond: Okay I got this new list of what we’re supposed to start these meetings with and it’s really long but I think there are a couple of things on here that are good to do. actually, before I do that I do want to recognize Donny Hunter here with the Wildlife Board. I think you are the only one here tonight, right? I appreciate you being here, thank you for coming. Let me read this section here, I think

it's written really well, maybe I'll try to paraphrase it in the future but tonight I'm going to read it. It says, "The purpose of the Regional Advisory Council is to get input from the public concerning wildlife management policy rules and regulations. The Council then makes recommendations to the Wildlife Board. The Wildlife Board considers the recommendations from the five Regional Advisory Councils and sets policy for all protected species in Utah." And then just a reminder that we want to be respectful of other people's opinions. Also, a reminder that the meeting is recorded, so when you have comments or questions make sure you come and speak into the mic and state your name and speak loudly and clearly.

- **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES- Brayden Richmond**

So with that let's go ahead and go into the agenda here. First item is, and this is a little different than in the past. So what we're going to do on the minutes is we're going to ask if anyone has any objections, and if there are no objections then we are just going to move on. We don't need to take a vote on this. So are there any objections to the minutes from the last meeting? Ok, it appears that we have no objections. Any objections to the agenda? Ok let me turn it over to you Kevin for regional update.

- **REGIONAL UPDATE – Kevin Bunnell**

First of all, welcome. Austin I'm glad you're able to join us. I hope you enjoy serving on the RAC and I think we have good representation here on the Southern Regional Advisory Council. As far as a regional update, our aquatics section has been totally distracted for the last month because Richard had a bull tag on the Boulder Mountain. I'm happy to report that he harvested his bull on Sunday and so our aquatics section is up and operating again. Anything you'd like to add to that Richard? How long did you wait, how many points? 15 points to draw out an archery tag and he enjoyed his hunt and rightly so. Within our wildlife section we have a kind of concerning issue going on, it was up on the Oak Creek Mountains, there was a domestic goat that up amongst the bighorn sheep up there, we don't know where the goat came from. We don't know if it was a pack goat that got away from somebody or a backyard goat. We worked through with the County Sheriff, that goat has been removed and we are getting disease testing done now. Hopefully those come back clean, if not we'll have fingers crossed that we don't have an issue with the bighorn sheep on the Oak Creek Mountains. Our habitat section, the biggest thing going on is kinda keeping track of all the fires. We had a really slow fire year until last week, we now have four active fires in the region. We have what is called the Neck fire which is north of Enoch between Enoch and Minersville. That's sitting about 19,000 acres I think is mostly contained at this point from what we're getting from the BLM and we will be working on getting a rehab plan put together with that. There is also a fire south of Meadow. Dave do you know how many acres that is? (Last time I checked it was 4,100) So just over 4,000 acres, that one has got into some steep rocky country that is difficult to fight. There was a small one south of Oak Creek, I don't think that one went anywhere, I think it stayed at 100 acres and then there's one that's north of Scipio that is in the central region, but we've been coordinating on that one a little bit as well. Within our law enforcement section, when fires hit our law enforcement section is called out on security duty to secure the roads around the fires so a lot of our regional conservation officers have been involved with that. Prior to that going we have had several poaching cases in the region. And you probably saw the news coverage, there were three individuals arrested for killing a trophy buck out on the Vandenberg Road out there just southwest of Cedar City. We also have successfully issued a citation to someone that killed a doe on the Beaver Mountain, which is fine, except they had a tag for the Stansbury Mountains. So that's where it becomes

an issue. That citation has been issued. Paul, anything you'd like to add to that? (...) So I guess a tag is a tag to some people. Within our law enforcement they are also wrapping up a very busy AIS season. We inspected more boats and decontaminated more boats than ever. I assume that is a trend that we will continue into the future as that becomes more of an issue. We are exploring new ways to contain that threat at Lake Powell. That may involve us moving off the ramps and putting more permanent check stations on, the nice thing about Lake Powell is that it is somewhat isolated, there are only so many roads you can take. Everybody has to take one of the three or four roads to take to Lake Powell. So we may change the strategy, but that will depend on some funding coming from the legislature and some other things that have to get in place there. Within our outreach section, there's a kokanee viewing event up on September 22nd at Fish Lake. There's a brand new boardwalk that's been built that should make that a really nice event. Along with the other construction that's going on up at Fish Lake to improve the marinas, the boardwalk that was there a long.. What's the name of the creek Richard? Twin Creeks. I don't know if it's all the way done, but it's done enough that we can have a good viewing event for the kokanee. Lastly from our front desk staff you remember at the last meeting that our any bull tags sold out in 11 days. As at about 2:00 we had just over 1,000 spike tags left of the 15,000 that were there. So if you haven't bought an elk tag and want to hunt, I suggest you do it sooner rather than later. And Mr. Chairman that's all I have unless there are questions.

Brayden Richmond: Any questions? I messed up already, this is my second time as Chair so I get a few mulligans but I skipped over the Wildlife Board Meeting update and as I'm looking at that I printed off a whole bunch of things, but I didn't print off my notes from that. So I may have to wing it a little bit with your help.

- **WILDLIFE BOARD MEETING UPDATE – Brayden Richmond**

So this last Wildlife Board we covered the bobcat harvest recommendations and that passed as presented, in fact there was very little comment on that. The cougar recommendations, generally there was a feeling of adding a few more cougar tags throughout the state, I don't remember the motions on that. I know the Stansburys, they upped the tags on the Stansburys and one other area.

Kevin Bunnell: I think it was the southwest Manti was increased as well.

Brayden Richmond: Just those two. So Stansbury and southwest Manti went above the Divisions recommendations and I think that everything else was accepted as presented if I recall correctly. The expo permit audit, good report and it was accepted. Expo permit allocations same thing, good presentations and accepted. And then they went into a Wildlife Board Appeal, if you're interested in that it's all on the internet. I think that's everything, is there anything else we need to cover there that you're aware of?

Kevin Bunnell: No, I would just say that I was not there either, I was traveling with my family, but I watched some of it afterward. The Board meeting went quite smoothly, the appeal lasted hours, it was a long day for the Board members right, Donny? But I think it's a good thing that our Board members take those appeals seriously when someone is involved in a violation. That's to their credit that they took their time to make their decision.

Brayden Richmond: You know if it's alright I'd like to make one more additional comment. It was seven hours but I've heard from people who watched it that there is some value in actually watching that

and seeing some of the thought process and getting a better understanding of some of our obligations and some of the things we need to be aware of. So it was educational for me. Any other questions or comments there? Alright let's start with our fishing informational from Craig Walker.

Kevin Bunnell: Actually we have Randy Oplinger, he and Craig will be tag teaming this throughout the state and we've got Randy tonight.

- **TAILORING ANGLER OPPORTUNITY INFORMATIONAL** – Randy Oplinger, Coldwater Sportfish Coordinator

See Slideshow

Brayden Richmond: Thank you so this was an informational, but I think we still want to open it up for questions and comments. I think the best way to do this is follow the normal process where the RAC would ask question first, then we'll turn it over to the public and then the public would make comments and comments from the RAC. But we will not be voting on this topic, it's informational. Any questions from the RAC?

Questions from the RAC:

Sean Stewart: Just out of curiosity. On the 10,000 people that were surveyed, was that respondents or what that what was sent out? How many responses did you actually get?

Randy Oplinger: Yeah we actually have 10,000 responses that was kind of our target number, we sent it out to more people and I'm not sure of the number but that's the sample size we're working with.

Sean Stewart: Gotcha. Thank you.

Gene Boardman: You mention people's preferences in there. Did you survey their preferences or how they actually fish?

Randy Oplinger: It really is preference driven actually. So a lot of the preferences were actually based on if you were to go fishing for a day for example what species of fish would you prefer to catch? So we're not asking people to report on past trips. We are asking if you had any opportunity, what would you prefer to do?

Gene Boardman: Well I would prefer fishing big water from a boat, but what actually happens is a community pond with nightcrawler.

Randy Oplinger: I think we are able to tease some of that out. We're able to correct the results a little bit so we're not.. you're absolutely right I think everybody would like to have a boat, but we're able to correct it to some extent based on what people are actually doing.

Kevin Bunnell: Randy can I ask a couple of questions that just seemed counterintuitive to me. First of the warm water results how much of that is driven by Lake Powell.

Randy Oplinger: I'm going to guess, we haven't looked too much into this, probably a substantial

portion of this is from Lake Powell would be our guess.

Kevin Bunnell: Okay then I was, and this is just based off of conversations I've had with Richard, the highest preference was for string fishing for somanads, and at least in southern Utah it seems like our streams are vastly underutilized. There is so much more opportunity there than what people are taking advantage of. Is that largely being driven by the Green River and the Provo River and some of the larger streams in northern Utah?

Randy Oplinger: It is largely statewide we're looking at here. To kind of clarify we did break this down by regions, and I'm not too familiar with the results off the top of my head, but the southern region was one where stream fishing was less popular than in other regions, so I think it is kind of an under utilized opportunity. It is largely driven that stream somadad preference by northern Utah in the northern region and central region, kind of the Salt Lake Area.

Kevin Bunnell: Okay thank you.

Brayden Richmond: My question is kind of a follow up question to Kevins actually because I had the same thought of how much of that is driven by Lake Powell. So for example you said that the crappie was the highest sought after, but if Lake Powell is a vacation destination and then they fish on their vacation, I wonder if we are skimming that?

Randy Oplinger: I think there is no doubt. Unfortunately we don't have enough information to know where people are fishing to drive some of that we just know where people came from, so that does skew things a little bit, but when you look at the number of days people spend fishing for these species it seems highly inflated for those species warm water fishes. I don't think people spend as much time as maybe it says on there which tells me like at Lake Powell you don't go for an afternoon, you go for several days and I think that is kind of driving up the numbers a little bit.

Kevin Bunnell: And Randy I would add to that and Richard fill in here if you have anything to add but Waynes data seems to indicate that a lot of visitation at Lake Powell isn't driven by fishing, but there are people that come there specifically to fish, that is their reason for going there and I don't think it's an insignificant reason for people going. I mean there are the people that go there to boat, but there are a lot of people that go there specifically to fish as well.

Brayden Richmond: Any other questions from the RAC? Any questions from the public? Any comments? From the RAC? Thank you, good presentation. Just a note, we have heard from the other RAC members and we are not going to have a quorum tonight, I will proceed as if we do and we'll even take votes, but they will not be official, but at least we will have the count so when we report to the Board we can tell them where we're at, so we'll proceed as if we do have a full quorum but we acknowledge that we do not.

- **SIMPLIFYING COR INFORMATIONAL** – Randy Oplinger, Coldwater Sportfish Coordinator

See Slideshow

Questions from the RAC:

Brayden Richmond: Thank you any questions from the RAC? Any questions from the public? I'm just going to look right at you, since there's one. Any comments?

- **R657-59 PRIVATE PONDS RULE AMENDMENTS** – Randy Oplinger, Coldwater Sportfish Coordinator

See Slideshow

Brayden Richmond: Thank you. I have a question and then I'll turn it over to the rest of the RAC. On the species list on the presentation didn't match with your species list.

Randy Oplinger: There was a slight error, so we took koy off and added yellow perch. So what we sent out was incorrect.

Brayden Richmond: That was my only question. Any other questions from the RAC? Public? Any comments from the Public? We don't have any comment cards. Any comments from the RAC? We'll entertain a motion.

Gene Boardman: I move that we accept the regulations as presented.

Brayden Richmond: Great, we have a motion, do we have a second? Ok, we have a second, any more discussion?

Nick Jorgensen: I was just wondering if you could clarify the impact we're having where we don't have a quorum one more time for me?

Kevin Bunnell: It will be made clear at the Board meeting that we were one short of a quorum, but Brayden will still be asked to give the point of view from the RAC on each of the action items. It will be noted and documented that we didn't have a quorum, but that doesn't mean that the input would be ignored.

Brayden Richmond: I have to point out too that we do have a member of the Board here which can hear our comments and understand what we may bring up.

MOTION to pass R657-59 Private Ponds Rule Amendments as presented

Gene Boardman

Nick Jorgensen, seconded

Passed unanimously

- **BIGHORN SHEEP UNIT MANAGEMENT PLANS** – Jace Taylor, Bighorn Sheep/Mountain Goat Biologist.

See Slideshow

Brayden Richmond: Great thank you we'll start with questions from the RAC.

Questions from the RAC

Nick Jorgensen: Uh Jace could you elaborate a little bit on, for my education, on this use of spatial and temporal separation?

Jace Taylor: Yeah sure, as I mentioned almost all of the bighorn sheep herds that we have right now struggle with respiratory disease. Meaning they have the pathogens that cause respiratory disease that we are concerned about. It's important to us that we don't get herd mixture. The pathogens and getting different combinations mixed between the herds could definitely increase the chance of respiratory disease. The same thing goes with domestic sheep and goats that we fear carry these pathogens. Try to keep them temporarily, so in time and spatially in space, separated from each other. So if we know that there's an area where there is an allotment that have domestic sheep on it that we are concerned about we try to do everything we can to keep bighorn from getting to that area. Then same with the bighorn herds, anything we can do to keep space between sheep that carry these pathogens we strive for.

Nick Jorgensen: So how do you get them separated by space? What do you do?

Jace Taylor: Yeah so, hunts for example. Say for example we have a boundary for like for the Zion unit that we have down here and we have the Kaiparowits herd going to the east. So we have a buffer between the two where if we have bighorns that go into that space we go and lethally remove them to try to keep animals from moving across that area. We do that with collared animals that we know go in there as well as reports from people in the areas or our biologists going in there and checking those areas. That's an example. Same idea with an allotment. There's an allotment for example on the Gilsons north of the Oak Creeks and there's bighorn and as they get further north we do whether it's hazing or hunts we do it to try to keep them from getting too far north into those areas.

Nick Jorgensen: So I guess the same type of strategy is used on the wandering events? You're trying to get the big rams..

Jace Taylor: Sorry repeat that one time?

Nick Jorgensen: You mentioned down here with wandering events...

Jace Taylor: Yeah yeah yeah. That's a great question, so another strategy.. we think that when you have older age structures, the more older the rams you have in a population the more often they are going to win the breeding opportunities. So the younger rams it's harder for them to get those opportunities. So we field that by having a lot of old rams so the younger rams have more incentive to leave. They can't get breeding opportunities in the herd so they start leaving. A hunting strategy these permit recommendations we try to give more permits, we're hoping that will lower the age structure in some of these areas where we have the higher concerns and just kind of lower densities, lower age structure. That's a good question.

Nick Jorgensen: Thank you

Austin Atkinson: Jace I have a question, as far as the statewide plan the 12-25% of rams or 30-60% of class 3-4, how do you choose on a unit plan the 'or' there, which way you're going to go.

Jace Taylor: Yeah sure so that's up to the discretion of the biologist and they can do, kinda coming back to Nicks question, they can on a unit we have more concern about wandering or co-mingling or contact with other animals, then the biologist is aware of that, they know that and they often times can offer more permits. The discretion of the biologist and they take input from these RACs and communicating with hunters as well as understanding some of those risks of pathogen transmission, it's their call.

Austin Atkinson: And so that would be at the time of permit recommendations and surveys when they decide that. It's not fair to say that a unit is already predetermined which way they are going to go?

Jace Taylor: No I mean I think if you ask the biologist that they have a sense of what they want in the unit all the time, they keep tabs on that all the time, but the actual recommendation happens in our spring RAC when our permit recommendations come to you guys and you guys can vote on that.

Austin Atkinson: Thank you.

Brayden Richmond: Other questions, Gene?

Gene Boardman: Is there any danger with the trying to double sheep population that they are going to expand range and therefore be more likely to interact and then get the disease in and then crash, and then lose the whole dog gone deal?

Jace Taylor: That's a good question. I think it's important that some of these places we are trying to increase the herd number but we aren't necessarily trying to expand their distribution. We don't want them to use any more space than what they're using right now. That's something we'll definitely be monitoring if/as these populations grow. We'll always be aware of how they're growing and try to be aware of it. I mean you can make the same argument that if we didn't have any sheep in the state then we wouldn't have any risk, right? I think that we're trying to always balance that number with the level of risk and the number of animals that we're trying to have in the state. I think that is something that we're always aware of and we realize that if a population does increase in distribution or density then we are increasing the risk and we do our very best to manage that.

Gene Boardman: When do you expect to reach this population objective?

Jace Taylor: That's a good question Gene. So I will admit that population objective in a lot of places may never happen. It's always our goal to reach those objectives. For example say the Nebo, we've had bighorns there for a number of years. We've always been trying to have 125 and we have 50 there right now, that's the biggest it's ever been. Do I think we'll ever get to 125? It's hard to say. It's probably unlikely, but we'll always be striving toward it. It would be hard for me to say when we're actually going to reach that 9,000 number. I don't think that we'll ever get there with the current herds that we have. It might take time with expansion and new herds and those kinds of things.

Gene Boardman: Okay well will these high objectives determine the policy on such of things like number of tags and so forth? In other words if the herd is not at the objective which most of them won't be for a long time, will that be used as a reason to cut tags or keep tags down?

Jace Taylor: That's a good question Gene. So, the ram permits, no we won't be reducing ram permits because we are not at objective. But we are very unlikely to offer a ewe hunt in a unit that is nowhere near the population objective. So of the unit, very few of them are near population objective, so one of them that is the closest is the Newfoundland Mountains, so 310 that's the population objective from earlier this year, we're trying for 350. That's a situation where we are considering it would be likely to have a female only hunt sometime down the road. So the population objective, and I hope this is answering your question, if we are not near the population objective, we are not likely to give a female only hunt, but it's hopefully not going to be influencing the ram opportunity; the opportunity to hunt rams. Right Kevin?

Kevin Bunnell: Just a little bit to that Jace, and correct me if I'm wrong, but the other thing that could happen with these Gene is take the Oak Creeks. We've set the population objective at 300. That's kind of our best guess of what we think that mountain range could hold. If we got to 220 and we had a lot of wandering, and we weren't having good lamb recruitment and we were getting good indications that's probably the limit, we would reduce that limitation down to 200 and at that point have some ewe hunts. These are aspirational, we may get there, we may not, we may have to reduce the objective to have a healthy herd and we'll let the sheep tell us what that right number is if we don't have it right.

Jace Taylor: Thanks Kevin.

Brayden Richmond: I have a question on the slide on the respiratory disease. You don't have to go to that slide, but my question is you have several bullets there of how you're hoping to address it and the concern that I see, and it might just be my conceived concern is just an educational problem. For example llamas and pack goats seem to be coming more and more popular and I wonder how many of those owners have any idea that those animals are potential hazards. We talked about how we had one up on the Oak Creeks this week. Are we addressing an educational program to help people understand the impact that their pack animals may have?

Jace Taylor: That's a great question. So I think that maybe even bigger than the pack animals education wise I think that we are doing things to try to get the word out that there are risks to bighorn with respiratory disease. We've had some open house meetings in some of the communities around like Zion for example and trying to talk to folks that have animals and make them aware and those types of things. But specifically about pack animals you're right, pack goats, pack llamas are becoming more popular for hunting or even just recreating in, backpacking in those kinds of things using them as a pack animal, much like someone with a horse right? So definitely becoming more popular. We do not have any, I can't say that we've done any large scale education project yet. We have worked with individuals that have come to us and talked to us. And right now our goal or plan is to work with the BLM and Forest Service agencies. We've started those conversations as far as what can we do as far as trail restrictions and things along those lines and I think what we decide we want to do together collaboratively will be the path that we take for education. I appreciate you bringing it up, it's definitely something that know is important that we hope to be able to make some strides with, as it becomes more popular.

Brayden Richmond: So let me just clarify as I understand it. I think you did have some good clarity. I think in general the sheep ranchers are very aware and they have a lot of areas and they know their allotments, and I think it really is the recreational use that is uneducated. Is there anything in the plan under this respiratory disease part of the plan to address that? And could we put it in there?

Jace Taylor: That's a good question. For the statewide plan, as far as pack animals go, if we do talk about it, it's briefly. I don't think there is anything in depth that talks about any efforts or any plans to move forward with that. I know that there are unit management plans, for example the San Rafael, the biologist there is one of those that is kind of on the forefront of working with the BLM and having trail restrictions and stuff like that. I know that in his plan for example there are some specifics about it. By and large I would say, no there's not a lot of specific language for the need to work with those groups.

Brayden Richmond: Would you have any concern about adding language like that?

Jace Taylor: Nope I think it's a good idea.

Austin Atkinson: Jace one question. Under the possible hunting opportunities do we have any provision in the statewide or unit plan to offer juvenile ram hunts? Has that been considered or discussed? If they are the wandering sheep I'm wondering if we have a provision to offer those permits?

Jace Taylor: Um no.

Austin Atkinson: Yeah it is common in some other states where they offer juvenile to curve populations but I assume the wandering or inability to breed is what they are trying to target.

Jace Taylor: Yeah I do know a couple of places that have tried things. I think that it would be difficult. But like you say other places have done it. It's not something that we've discussed in this group or pursued. I think the tactic that we're trying to go after now is just increasing ram permits in general. At least from that it would probably more of the older rams that are taken and from that it would lower the entire age structure that we can hopefully get at the same goal. It's not a bad idea, it's just not something we've discussed very much. It's not a bad idea though.

Austin Atkinson: Ok, thanks.

Brayden Richmond: Any other questions?

Craig Laub: You said it's kind of present there all the time in some form in the group or the herds?

Jace Taylor: So not necessarily. Most of the herds have started without the pathogens that are causing respiratory disease and then over time.. a number of them have started without it and picked it up over time. Some of our herds through the state have had it for a long long time and probably even started with it before we understood it completely.

Craig Laub: So they've got it. So they've developed an immunity to it so it doesn't affect them?

Jace Taylor: I see where you're going, so yeah, the herds that have had the pathogens in them for a long long time persisted and some of them are even growing for example it's kind of the question why are those herd doing well? What's happening in those herds to allow them to continue to exist and even grow and the answer is, there are different pathogens, there is a whole combination of pathogens that they can get that causes respiratory diseases. It's not just any one thing. And even within those pathogens there are different varieties or strains of the pathogens that are more or less aggressive that are

harder on the animals, right? So sometimes you get a herd, well take Zion for example this is what we feel is the case with Zion, did not have respiratory disease, did not have the pathogen that we are most concerned about but here this last July 2018 started seeing some coughing animals. We started doing more testing, had picked up the pathogen in the few months since the last time we tested them which was pretty recent. So they picked up the pathogen we were really concerned, coughing animals, but nothings died from it, and the population seems to be doing fairly well overall. So we feel like that situation the pathogen in the herd is a less aggressive, less deadly pathogen. It could also be like you were saying, maybe those animals are more genetically resistant to the pathogen, it could be that, but we see this is a wide spectrum of responses from it. Some herds crash from it and some herds seem to do just fine. We think it had to do with the health of the herd and the variance of the pathogen.

Craig Laub: Antelope Island when it wiped...

Jace Taylor: Yeah, they really struggled, yeah. We've even had some, the worst one was the Stansburys back in 2015-16 like 90% of those things died from it. Wish I had the answer, that is what we feel is our best answer right now.

Brayden Richmond: Any other questions from the RAC? Go ahead Gene.

Gene Boardman: On the Antelope Island herd. Is there any possibility that they contacted the pathogen without ever contacting any domestic animal?

Jace Taylor: Yeah sure so that's definitely possible. So we don't know exactly how the Antelope Island herd picked up the pathogen that causes respiratory disease. We do know that we tested them quite a bit prior to last November. Last November is about when we started seeing sick animals and dying animals. Prior to that we tested quite a few of them because we moved so many off and they did not have the certain pathogen that we were worried about. Once they started getting sick we tested them and did find that pathogen in them. So somehow the pathogen go into the herd, we know that much. And then the pathogen we're talking about as we currently understand from the current science, it needs to come in contact with another animal that is carrying the pathogen. Either physical contact or get very close so they could cough on each other, that kind of thing. So somehow or another a bighorn on Antelope Island came into close contact with another animal that was carrying the pathogen. What that animal was, whether it was wild or domestic we can't say for sure. We do not know the answer to that. We feel based on the science that we have that it most likely came into contact with another animal that was carrying the pathogen.

Brayden Richmond: What other wild animals besides sheep carry the pathogen?

Jace Taylor: So, this is an interesting thing, if you would have asked me that question a year ago I would have said the only other wild animals that carry the pathogen would be wild sheep and goats. Recently there are some studies coming out that suggest there may be other wild animals that carry the pathogen, a lot of that hasn't been cross validated so we're interested enough that we're testing other animals and so hopefully we can help broad based science to understand that better. There is as far as cross validation goes in Alaska they feel pretty confident that caribou can carry it and that is a new thing, a year ago I don't think anybody really thought that. So we are testing other animals and continuing to learn, but nothing is solid enough that I'd be willing to say there are other animals.

Craig Laub: Would stress from either hunting or weather cause the pathogen to come up?

Jace Taylor: I don't think it would cause the pathogen to arise. Like I said we tested a lot of animals prior to the disease, but if it's in the herd and the herd could be doing just fine even with the pathogen and a stress event, a real harsh winter or real dry summer or too high of a density or whatever it may be, something could cause it to flair up and escalate into actual respiratory disease. Yeah, it's a good question. With the case of the Antelope Island I don't think it was there before hand.

Austin Atkinson: Hey Jace on the Antelope Island is there an intended supply herd for the transplant of rockys?

Jace Taylor: Yeah I think in the plan it mentions, it doesn't say super specific but it does mention Montana and New Mexico I think. We have a couple of herds, a herd from each state as of right now has the potential of bringing them out there to Antelope Island, hopefully in 2020 if everything goes well.

Austin Atkinson: So if we could consider California as a separate species they would be totally gone. We're talking rocky's..

Jace Taylor: Yeah those two so what Austin is asking about was kind of a sub species that people are calling california bighorn sheep and that is what we had on Antelope Island previously, it what we have on the Newfoundland Mountains, Stansbury Mountains and the Oak Creek Mountains. No the new animal that we are looking at getting are not considered California, they are considered general rocky.

Austin Atkinson: Thank you.

Brayden Richmond: Any other questions from the RAC? Questions from the public?

Questions from the public

Scott Stubbs: Um so Jace, Antelope Island, it seems like it would have been a perfect time to test all the other wildlife on Antelope Island?

Jace Taylor: That's a good question. So we did not test them at the time. We have plans to test them before we bring out bighorn sheep. So early November, we'll test bison, pronghorn and deer is what we plan to test.

Scott Stubbs: Um so with that, I don't know about Antelope Island but it seems like it's not real mountainous, maybe it is real mountainous?

Jace Taylor: Yeah there's definitely a mountain spine that runs north to south. The elevation will go from whatever the lake is, The lake is 42, and it goes up to like 6 so a couple thousand feet at most.

Scott Stubbs: So with that with domestic sheep and cows, they get right in each others face, so I'm questioning, I think it's good that we're testing everything because like a buffalo or a deer or whatever are more likely to come into contact on the same elevation than where if you say you've got the sheep up on the top of the mountains and the cows down more in the valley, so I think this is an important

opportunity for that. Hasn't it been shown that bighorns carry the pathogen then?

Jace Taylor: Ohh yeah absolutely. Wild bighorn sheep carry the pathogen and most of the herds in the state, like of that 4,150 that we have in the state, all but probably maybe 600 of them, so 3,500 of them are in herds where the pathogen is present. It doesn't mean that every single animal in the herd carries it, but they are part of a herd where we have found it.

Scott Stubbs: Thank you.

Brayden Richmond: Thank you any other questions from the public? Ok we'll do comment cards, I only have two of them which would be 100% of the public.

Comments from the public

Bryce Pilling: Bryce Pilling, Thanks to Brayden. I'd just like to say that we support the recommendations that have been presented by the Division, and I'm representing Sportsmen for Wildlife and also our Utah Wild Sheep. Thank you.

Brayden Richmond: Thank you.

Scott Stubbs: Scott Stubbs I am here representing me, but also the Wool Growers and I'd like to say that we support your recommendation the one thing that I'd like to bring up, and I'm hoping that maybe there could even be a motion about is on the Antelope Island management plan it goes right into blaming domestic sheep. And it says you don't know where the contamination came from, and then it says it's suspected sheep, and the last year and a half I've been involved in this process, I've seen a great thing happen in my opinion. I think livestock people and hunters have really come together on all sorts of issues and we're doing great things, but it's kind of hard to be blamed for things that aren't proven, like this goat, if that turns out to put pneumonia in those sheep it needs to be said that goat did it, but it doesn't need to be domestic sheep. Cause that throws it on the Wool Growers, so I think we need to be a little careful with pointing fingers, but I do think we're going down a good road. We are going to have to figure out, and I'm willing whatever I can do with my sheep to help, if there's some way I can treat my sheep so they can't contaminate or if there is anything we can do to make them more resistant, we need to, I understand this is the neatest thing you could ever hunt and people want more of it, so we've got to keep working together, we don't want to start pointing fingers. Thank you.

Brayden Richmond: Thank you. We'll now have comments from the RAC.

Comments from the RAC

Brayden Richmond: I'd like to start on this one if I could. Actually first, let me make sure. All the RAC members, I received several emails, and I believe they were copied to all the RAC so hopefully you had a chance to read those. We'll trust that you've read those. Scott I'd like to comment to your comment and I'd actually like to probably even hear your response if that's alright, a little out of process. I've been very involved in this from the.. I got involved with this when we started talking about putting sheep on the Minerals. I've been involved in a lot of conversation and been in a lot of meetings and to see the

process that we've made on this from the original meetings where it was extremely confrontational, to where we've bended and really working together quite well and I think that what you said is absolutely true, we've taken a lot of the confrontation out of this and we've seen a lot of headway made between the Sportsmen, Cattlemen and Wool Growers and I think it's a really good thing. Here would be my comment/question, some of the emails address the same thing on Antelope Island and as I thought about that it kind of goes back to the other question I had about on the education on the respiratory disease. I guess how I read that, and I probably read it with a different set of eyes, I don't see it as pointing fingers at the Wool Growers, we've said all along if bighorns get into a herd of sheep, we're going to go kill the bighorn. It's not the sheep's fault, it's the bighorns fault. So I don't see it as necessarily pointing fingers at the sheep but what I think it does is it's a high enough visibility in profile that it helps educate the public that they are sensitive and so I guess it's just a different view point. I don't see it as blaming the sheep, I see it as educational. These sheep are very susceptible to domestics so I would get hesitant to get too far away from that. I don't see it as blaming is what I'm saying, that would be my comment.

Scott Stubbs: Well I would respond to that by saying all sorts of wildlife are known to carry this, so why didn't we name all sorts of them? I mean, in my opinion, it would be fair to me to put right below that on the Zion unit it seems to be flourishing running right next to domestic sheep, the reason they're doing so well is there's no hunting. I mean that's not right, but that's the same speculation. I understand education is key, but I don't think you're educating anybody there and you've got something put in there that somebody will twist down the road, not one from our side by the way, somebody will twist that and say, see the sheep did this. That's just the way I read it.

Brayden Richmond: You know and maybe there's some fairness there. Maybe we could word that, if we approached that from an educational wording, maybe we could word it somehow so we could make people understand that we believe the die off there was caused by getting this disease and here is what causes the disease and just be factual. I don't know. Other comments from the RAC?

Craig Laub: Uh my only comment is and I know I talked to Jace about this earlier in the week. This objective numbers, I counted them and there's four of all those 18 that are anywhere close to objective. I think the objective numbers need to be lowered more realistic numbers because of the pneumonia problem in them I don't think there is anyway we'll ever be able to achieve the numbers. So that's my comment.

Brayden Richmond: Austin go ahead.

Austin Atkinson: I would like to share my comment. I was able to read comments that came from the public from interested parties to myself and other members of the RAC and I understand these management plans, in particular the Antelope Island management plan to be as it was previously used as an internal document by the Division and the portion that states that there infection on Antelope Island the cause was unknown falls under the issues and concerns portion of that which I feel like is a proper place for that to fall in the management plan, to not fall under the history of a document of exactly what happened, it falls under the issues and concerns. I do feel like bighorn sheep in Utah, we are essentially writing the book. It is a very tough species, it is very misunderstood and there is a lot we can learn and Antelope Island is an opportunity especially for Utah to test and try and learn. So I feel those comments in the document in the unit plan are properly fit where they are at. Issues and concern, not a blame game or history or chronological concern event list, but simply this is what we know at the current time. That would be my comment.

Brayden Richmond: Thank you. Other comments from the RAC? Go ahead Gene.

Gene Boardman: First of all, the bighorn sheep are a high maintenance asset. It takes a lot more maintenance for the sheep than it does for mule deer or elk. I think fortunately there are groups that put money into it and that helps a lot. I can see that you've got a real problem with the, it's a big job to manage your sheep and goat in Utah but I think that I'm a little concerned about the management objective numbers that it's going to get in the way of some of the management because with the other species, we sometimes suggest an increase and it's like the herd objective is cast in concrete, it's chiseled in stone and we can't give you any more tags because we're not at objective. And I'm afraid that it might come up with these not at objective and it's a little concerning to me. Thank you.

Brayden Richmond: Any other comments from the RAC? I'm hesitant to make this comment, but I do want to make one more comment. I think the objectives, for me the objectives get muddy and confusing, and let me share my opinion which may be wrong but let me throw the example of elk and buffalo. We've had objectives on those which are ceilings and we're constantly chasing that objective and we shoot a lot of animals trying to meet that objective and it's managing herd size. Then we have another objective on deer, which roughly 20 years ago we lowered that because we were using it as a goal, not a ceiling. So we're using the same term inconsistently and it causes some confusion as we've heard tonight on these sheep. Is this objective a ceiling or a goal? If it's a goal, it's managed differently than if it's a ceiling. So I have some concerns on the way we use objective, I would love, I have brought this up for years actually. In our November meeting discussing big game I don't understand why we do the objective the way we do it on deer, I think it should be a ceiling and then it would be very easy to understand it, but I think it does cause confusion as we've seen tonight. Any other comments? If not I think we'll entertain a motion. For the motion, I'm not allowed to make a motion, but whoever makes a motion might entertain the idea of adding something in the plan about education, as we heard from the biologist he had no concerns about that.

Kevin Bunnell: Alright so really just two categories of comments, the one from the Wool Growers, just the request to have the language in the Antelope Island plan changed so it doesn't look specifically identify domestic sheep when there wasn't a specific incident that can be pointed to, one that involves domestic sheep, is that a fair summary of that Scott? Then from the RAC a need to reduce population numbers to a more reasonable numbers given the current population sizes are kind of the two categories of comments that we heard.

Brayden Richmond: Thanks Kevin. We'd entertain a motion if anyone's ready.

RAC discussion and vote:

MOTION: To accept the management plans as presented, but change language in the Antelope Island plan to more accurately portray what we know, and to add language to the statewide plan addressing education regarding respiratory disease to expand education beyond just sheep producers (pack animals, back yard herds, etc)

**Craig Laub
Sean Stewart, seconded**

Passed 4-1 Austin Atkinson opposed

Brayden Richmond: So in the new information I got, it's suggesting that if we have someone opposed that they are given the opportunity to state why they are opposed. So Austin if you want to, you'd have that opportunity for the record.

Austin Atkinson: Yeah just for the record. Just how I read that section about the verbiage, I don't think that was warranted in the Antelope Island management plan specifically. And that is the only reason why I opposed that motion.

Brayden: Okay thank you. I actually really like that idea of being able to state why you're opposed, I think it adds a lot of clarity, I think it's a good so I will attempt to always do that going forward. You're not required if you don't want to. I think that covers it, the last item is other business and I'll go back to Kevin.

Other Business

-Brayden Richmond, Chairman

Kevin Bunnell: Okay I think those of you who attended the RAC and Board training were introduced to the idea of an effort that we're trying to develop a process where we can try to get input from a broader audience, some sort of online commenting system with the recommendations that come through the Regional Advisory Council. The current process and this will evolve over time is the presentations as they are presented to the RACs will be video taped and put online approximately a week prior to the first RAC meeting. The first RAC meeting is normally the northern region, and it's on a Tuesday. Those will be taken down on Sunday, the Sunday prior to the Tuesday RAC meeting and those comments that will be gathered online will be summarized and sent out to the RACs and the regional supervisors. So at the end of each action item, either before or after we gather public input there will be a summary of what the online comments were. And all of the RAC members will have an opportunity to see those before hand and it will be summarized. Some of it will be quantitative in terms of on a scale from one to five how much do you agree or disagree with this? And so we'll be able to put some quantitative data to it. Then as RACs we will have to struggle and figure out how we are going to incorporate that input into the votes that are made and weigh those comments with the comments that we receive at the RAC meetings. Again, I think this is going to be a learning process and a process that evolves over time, but that is how it's going to start. Then at the Board Meeting, the comments that are gathered from that online process will be presented to the Wildlife Board essentially as a sixth RAC meeting. So each of the RAC chairs will have a summary of each of the RAC meetings and each of the RAC chairs will have an opportunity to talk to the Board about how or what the sentiment was for each individual RAC member and there will also be a sixth summary of that online comment period. So again, I think we will hit that in full force at the November RAC I think that will be in place so you should expect to get some emails or a packet of emails, a summary of all those emails for us it will be about a week prior to our RAC meeting. For the central region it will be a day prior to their RAC meeting so they will have not alot of time to be able to digest all of that. So that's the process that is coming, I think it is a very positive process to get a broader segment of the public included in this public process but it is something that we'll have to adjust and evolve with as we go forward. With that being said, are there any questions or comments that you'd like me to report back, just on the idea?

Brayden Richmond: I really like the idea, I like that the process.. My comment back would be, I think in

order to make this process as smooth as it could be, because I don't want to get caught in reading facebook comments. I think what I would like to ask is the RAC members take it upon themselves to read the comments beforehand, we can acknowledge that everyone has got those, seen those, but I would hate to get caught up trying to regurgitate those.

Kevin Bunnell: Yeah I don't think we'll get caught up in trying to read individual comments, somehow they will be summarized in some sort of succinct manner. The more we can quantify that the better so that we know what it means. Is there a level of support or non support on a given issue?

Brayden Richmond: Alright anything else we need to discuss? Thank you public for attending tonight.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Southeast Regional Advisory Council

**John Wesley Powell River History Museum
1765 E. Main
Green River, Utah**

Sept. 11, 2019

Motion Summary

Approval of agenda and minutes

**MOTION: To approve the agenda and minutes as written
Motion passed unanimously**

Private Fish Ponds Rule Amendment

**MOTION: Accept the proposed amendment
Motion Passed
Supporting: Unanimous**

Bighorn Sheep Management Plans for 2019-2020

**MOTION: to strike comments pertaining to speculative transmission of disease on
Antelope Island.
Motion Passed
Supporting: 8
Abstaining: 1**

**MOTION: to accept the remainder of the Management plan.
Motion Passed
Supporting: Unanimous**

Southeast Regional Advisory Council
John Wesley Powell River History Museum
1765 E. Main
Green River, Utah

Sept. 11, 2019 6:30 p.m.

Members Present

Members Absent

Trisha Hedin, Chairman
Kent Johnson, Vice Chairman · Public at large
Steven Duke, Public at Large
Lynn Sitterud · Elected official
Jeff Christensen · Agriculture
Scoot Flannery · Sportsmen
Todd Thorne · Public at large
Dana Truman · BLM
Hellene Taylor - Agriculture
Chris Wood, DWR Regional Supervisor

Total public attendance

6

Others in attendance

DWR personnel: 8

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

- Trisha Hedin, Vice chairman

Trisha Hedin:

Good evening. It looks like we have a quorum this evening so that is great. My name is Trish Hedin I am the chairman for the Southeastern region and I'm going to go around really quick and have everybody introduce themselves. Also, tell us who you represent if you don't mind.

Introductions:

Scoot Flannery: From Blanding representing sportsmen

Steven Duke: I'm from Monticello and I'm representing sportsmen

Dana Truman: I am representing the BLM

Lynn Sitterud: I'm representing elected officials.

Chris Wood: I'm the regional supervisor for the Division of Wildlife. I'm not a member of the RAC I'm just helping out in the process.

Kent Johnson: At large

Todd Thorne: At large

Jeff Christensen: Agriculture

Hellene Taylor: Agricultural

Trish Hedin: Thanks. The point of the RAC is that we assist the Division of Wildlife in making decisions about wildlife management, policies and procedures, so the decisions that we make here go to the wildlife board in a couple of weeks and the five regions then give our input so the wildlife board can make final decisions. So, just so you are aware, these meetings are always recorded so, we have minutes from that. The way that the process works is the division will come up, make some recommendations, we then are allowed to ask questions the audience is allowed to ask questions then the audience is allowed to make comments. If you do want to make a comment, there are some comment cards in the back. Please bring them forward and make sure you give those to either Aaron or Chris so that we know you want to make a comment. Those comments are timed so it's three minutes for an individual or five if you represent a group. Then we'll have comments from the RAC and then we make a final motion as to the division's recommendations. So, we will go ahead and get started. The first thing we're going to do is the approval of the agenda and minutes.

Kent Johnson: I'll make a motion to approve.

Todd Thorne: I'll second that.

2) **Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

VOTING

Motioned by: Kent Johnson

Seconded by: Todd Thorne

Motion Passes/Failed: Passed. Unanimous

Opposed:

3) **Wildlife Board Meeting Update**

- Trisha Hedin, RAC chairman

Trisha Hedin: Next we have the wildlife board meeting update. The RAC chair at that time was Todd so, I was unable to make it to the last board meeting. It seemed like a board meeting that you wanted to be to. We wanted to send someone that was here so that I wasn't just reading minutes and going along. Are you ready?

Todd Thorne: At the meeting we had a lot of discussion on some of the cougar units. I'll hit those highlights of what the wildlife board approved. The first one was the Cache unit. They approved 25 permits rather than decreasing it. The Book Cliffs unit, they made a motion to go back to a harvest objective with the same permit numbers and then they approved a motion to keep the Southwest Manti as a split season and keep the permit numbers at 18. Then, the

Southeast Manti unit, they accepted our recommendation to increase the permit numbers to 26. Those are the ones for our areas. The Oquirrh Stansbury, they increased the permits to 12, that one failed. What was approved was decreasing the numbers. That one was approved. The rest of the cougar recommendations were approved as presented by the division. The same with the furbearer rule and the expo permit discussion was all approved as presented from the DWR.

Trisha Hedin: We appreciate you going. Next, we'll do a regional update.

4) **Regional Update**

- Chris Wood, Regional Supervisor

Chris Wood: Before the regional update, I was going to introduce you to a new format we are trying out as an agency. We don't know if this is going to work or not. One idea we had was, how do we get feedback from the general public? Sometimes the people who attend RAC meetings are really passionate and they are about specific issues and that's wonderful that's what we want and your voice should be heard. Some of the average Joe hunter, we don't hear from them because they don't come to these meetings because it's several hours away from them. As a tool that we can use to get some of their feedback, one thing we've done that we are going to try out is, each of these speakers tonight have prerecorded their presentation and it's on YouTube. If you go to the wildlife board section of our website, you can see those videos and then the public can watch it and if they have comments, they can e-mail the regional RAC that they want to e-mail. They can e-mail their comments to that specific RAC. I think eventually all of you might receive those e-mails. We're trying to figure that out. If you see an increase in e-mails the next few months that would be the reason why.

Kent Johnson: I have a question Chris. How is that going to bode with the decision making process here because the comments are going to be after the fact when it's all said and done.

Chris: Well, so it's prerecorded so, you'll come here to this meeting having received comments. It was recorded two weeks ago. Between then and now, they can e-mail you guys. And how you factor into that is up to you. It's up to you guys to decide. If they aren't here but they did watch it online and you received their comment you can decide how to weigh that in your decision making. We'll see how it works. It might bomb. We might try it for a few months and we might not get what we want but the idea is to get feedback from the average public.

So, regional update. We've been really busy the last few months. It's our busy season where we hire a bunch of seasonal workers and do a lot of summer work. Hopefully tonight I can highlight some of the things we've been doing. There's currently work going on the Joes Valley Reservoir in Emery County. We're expanding the parking lot area. The boat ramp is going to be expanded as well. The idea is to give that boat ramp some better access for AIS inspections and allow more traffic and parking to be there. You might have heard we had a press release yesterday about Miller's Flat Reservoir. The atlas structure on that reservoir is broken. It's basically open and they can't close it. So, water is going to continue to drain out for the next few months. In order to not waste any fish, we increased the limit to 16. A question I always get is, why not unlimited the fish are going to die? We found that if you actually give the public a number to shoot for, 16, the competitive nature in them allows them to catch more fish than if you were to say it's unlimited.

16 is basically unlimited, they can come back the next day and catch more. That will allow the public to take advantage of that resource that is being drained. Later this month we will be doing some electrofishing surveys at Huntington Creek.

Our habitat section has been busy. We have a big project in Moab at the Mathison Wetland Preserve that is developing a nursery habitat for razorback suckers. The big milestone of that project is happening this week. They are installing fish screens which will keep the fish that we want to grow inside of the preserve. We'll open those screens later on and flush them out of the wetland and they will be big enough to survive in the river. It's a cool project that we teamed up with The Nature Conservancy on. It'll benefit some other species as well. We're also teaming up with the BLM and doing some weed spraying at Gordon Creek which is one of our big WMA's in Carbon County. The wildlife section and the habitat section recently have been trying to capture cranes to put GPA transmitters on them to see what their migration looks like. I think we've attempted two different nights and we have yet to catch a crane. They are really tough. Hopefully it will happen in the next few weeks.

Law enforcement has been really busy as well. Adam Wallerstein in Moab has been very busy. It's been a big bear year. You probably read about or heard about the bear attack at Dewey Bridge. That happened on August 9th. Our law enforcement section, Roger Kerstetter was our lead there. He got the experts in the state to come together and our officers in the region and they secured the scene, gathered evidence and for a day or two tried to find the offending bear. Fortunately, we were able to catch the bear and euthanize it. That was a big success. The young man that got injured was just sleeping at the camp ground on the ground. He wasn't in a tent. He was in a sleeping bag and at 5:00 a.m. the bear bit his head. It was a pretty decent wound. Fortunately, he survived and will be ok. Our number one priority that weekend was to catch this bear and we did. There have been other nuisance bears on Moab. You probably saw in Castle Valley we teamed up with Moab fire department and removed a bear and two cubs from a tree. That hit the press. It was a feel-good story because we had gotten some bad press among the Moabites about the bear attack. People in Moab thought we shouldn't have euthanized. We have a protocol that tells us we have to. The nuisance bear in Castle Valley was a feel-good story. It got us some good press. Recently, this week there was a bear that was trapped in one of those sinkholes in the red rock. Officer Wallerstein was able to assist and get the bear out of the sinkhole and back up to the red rock. That was good. So, there have been bears all over the region. Mainly, they are on the La Sals but throughout the region too. It's been heavy bear year. We also have some other investigations going on. We have trespass issues. You might see our officers having facial hair. It's something they've been wanting for years and you have seen some of the county sheriff agencies have allowed facial hair and our agency has realized that having facial hair is not a big deal. So, our officers are allowed to have beards, mustaches and goatees as long as they are well groomed. You might see that in the future. As of September 1, they were allowed facial hair so, they're still working on their beards.

Our outreach section has been busy. We have several youth pheasant hunts going on. We have a youth chucker hunt going on. If people are interested in signing up their youth for the hunts, they are going to be at the Hatts Ranch. They can call our office and we'll get them signed up. We have a fly-fishing clinic on September 28th in Price and then we have a youth waterfowl hunting clinic this Saturday at our Desert Lake WMA in Emery County. Of course, this time of year is

our state fair. For ten days we have our own building at the state fair that gets a lot of visitation as we're working that as well. I think we had a bat night on August 8th that I should mention, in Moab. It was fantastic.

Our wildlife section, we have two different bison committees going on right now. One is the Range Creek bison committee and the other is Henry Mountains bison committee. Both have big challenges and tasks to do. A great group of people are meeting together representing all the different partners and stakeholders coming together and trying to figure out... for the Henry's we are trying to rewrite the Henry Mountain bison plan and for the Range Creek bison committee we're trying to come up with strategies to deal with bison that are coming over from the reservation. There's a group of people also meeting to discuss pursuits and hounds and bear issues. Those meetings are ongoing. A recommendation will hopefully come out of that group and be presented to the RAC's and the board this December. Again, that is all the stakeholders coming together for that. The wildlife section is also finishing up their pronghorn classifications. With that I'll take any questions. That's the bear the was in that sinkhole. Is that the right word for that, sinkhole?

Aaron Bott: Water pocket

Trisha Hedin: Pothole

Chris Wood: So, that bear was in a pothole. They brought in some logs so it could climb up and escape. It just fell in the pothole and couldn't get out. Thanks for being here. I know it's a sacrifice. September 11th that's kind of cool. What can you do on September 11th? You can serve and certainly all of you are here serving your constituencies and trying to make a difference. That's kind of cool. Thank you.

5) **Tailoring Angler Opportunities and Needs (Informational)**

-Craig Walker, Aquatics Section Assistant Chief

Questions from the RAC

Trisha Hedin: Questions?

Craig Walker: Cool. I either did a really good job or bored you.

6) **Simplifying Certificates of Registration for Fishing Tournaments (Informational)**

- Craig Walker, Aquatics Section Assistant Chief

Questions from the RAC

Trisha Hedin: Do we have any questions?

Steven Duke: Not from me.

Trisha Hedin: Thank you

7) **Fish Ponds Rule Amendments- Action Item**
- Craig Walker, Aquatics Section Assistant Chief

Craig Walker: So, I'm not actually Randy Oplinger.

Questions from the RAC

Trisha Hedin: So, do we have questions from the RAC?

Dana Truman: I have a question. How do you determine hobby and not hobby?

Craig Walker: Basically, it's are you selling? That's the definition of hobby. Anything that is commerce is overseen by the department of ag. If money changes hands, that's a commercial operation. If you're doing it for personal use, raising tomatoes for yourself, you know.

Trisha Hedin: Other questions?

Craig Walker: You guys are easy!

Kent Johnson: How wide spread is this in Utah?

Craig Walker: It's hard to gauge because there is not a clear avenue for people to get information or find out what permitting is required for aquaponics. We don't get many applications. The feeling is that based upon the questions that have been posed to our regional managers, that it's a growing movement that started a few years back. The people that have followed through with actual applications, the number is limited to I think five statewide. To us it's either an indication that there's no real need which I don't think that's the indication we'd like to go with, the indication is that the people find the process cumbersome and don't go through it. Or rather than go through a process where they get health certified fish, or getting information from our website we're doing a good job with outreach they are actually going and possibly collecting fish from the landscape and bringing them into their house and using them that way. Which isn't what we want people to do. We want to create an easy process that allows people to do things in a safe and lawful way.

Trisha Hedin: So, any more questions from the RAC? Do I have any questions from the audience? Comments from the RAC? Can we entertain a motion?

Todd Thorne: I make a motion to approve the division's recommendation as presented.

Trisha Hedin: I have a second by Kent. All in favor? Looks like it's unanimous. Thank you.

Questions from the audience

n/a

Comments from the RAC

n/a

VOTING

Motioned by: Todd Thorne

Seconded by: Kent Johnson

Motion Passes/Failed: Passed, Unanimous

Craig Walker: I would like to define aquaphonics. When you were a kid and you used to talk to one another under water, that's aquaphonics. Thanks guys.

- 8) **Bighorn Sheep Unit Management Plans- Action Item**
- Jace Taylor, Bighorn Sheep/Mountain Goat Biologist

Questions from the RAC

Trisha Hedin: Okay. Let's start with questions.

Steven Duke: I'm curious on age data. Do you have a good feel for the age of the rams that are harvested? The average age?

Jace Taylor: Yeah. So, every ram that's harvested in the state, after the hunter leaves their unit, they have 72 hours to get it to one of our offices. In the past we would pull a tooth but with bighorns, we are fortunate enough that we can look at the horns and each year they will lay down an annualize, much like a tooth does. So, we count those and our biologists are all trained that way. This year, we are pulling teeth. We are going to do that in addition to. Across the state the average age is about 7.5.

Jeff Christensen: On page two, a quarter of the way down it talks about how November 18th pneumonia was detected in the bighorns and the source is unknown.

Jace Taylor: About antelope island, right?

Jeff Christensen: Why are we then coming right back and saying that it's a possibility it was caused by domestic sheep?

Jace Taylor: That's a good question. So, we talked about this at a couple of the RAC's too. In the writing of the plan, we felt that it needs sense in the context of what we are trying to say there. The next paragraph goes into steps that we're trying to take to prevent disease event happening again. So, in the context of the plan that's just how we wrote it. You know, a disease event happened. Hopefully everyone is aware, Antelope Island state park, bighorn herd had a disease

event last November and since then the depopulation we have plans to restart it as soon as January 2020. To the question, we were trying to lay out this is what happened, this is how we think it happened and these are the steps we are taking to try to keep it from happening in the future based on what we think happened.

Jeff Christensen: But did the water completely dry up to where it's no longer an island? I don't see how commons(?) could have happened there.

Jace Taylor: So, what we think most likely happened, the lake levels are low enough now and have been low for a quite a while. You can see there on the South end all of that, the lake's even lower than in this image, on the South end of the island there is connection. There's a land grid that takes you from Antelope Island across over by private property by North of I-80. So, yeah there is connectivity that way. There's also a causeway off the North end, it's a seven mile long causeway and it goes over to Syracuse and that area. There is connectivity both ways as possibilities. We think with the low lake level and the land bridge especially on the South end, it's most likely somehow or other animals carrying pathogens came in contact with bighorns either coming to the island or a bighorn leaving the island. Either way it could have been possible. Somehow an animal carrying the pathogen came in contact with the bighorn and that is how it happened. That's what we think is most likely. So, that last paragraph talks about how we're building a fence on the South end to try and cover or prevent animals from moving across that land bridge. We are also working with some of the landowners on either end to try and reduce the risk of pathogens.

Jeff Christensen: Are there any sheep herds anywhere close?

Jace Taylor: There are. They're all of private property. It's important to us, we want to make it clear that everyone that has sheep over there is well within their rights to have those animals there. We try hard not to talk too specific on who they are. Sometimes things can escalate and people start making accusations but we try hard to make sure that it wasn't the case. There are properties where there are domestic animals. So, in the context of the plan, that's why it was worded that way. But to come back to the initial question, it is unknown what happened. We don't know for sure. I guess it doesn't necessarily need to say it to that extent but that is why it was written that way.

Dana Truman: And I guess kind of along those lines, I think a unit near Antelope Island, the Stansbury's had the same thing happen, right? It was depopulated.

Jace Taylor: Yes. The Oquirrh Stansbury West is what we call it but it's really just the Stansbury Mountains. So, this would have been, we started that herd about 2000 with animals from Antelope Island, the winter of 2015-2016 we had die off, we did have to depopulate and we have started. We introduced bighorns there January 2018, but yes, we did depopulate. That was a similar situation.

Dana Truman: So, in these types of units, do you have a strategy to monitor more in depth or are they kind of treated the same?

Jace Taylor: I see. Good question. It's kind of the other end of that same spectrum. In the Stansbury Mountain plan, we don't spend a lot of time talking about what we've done to prevent another disease event from happening. We have taken some steps. We could probably expand that in that plan.

Dana Truman: Can I make comments

Trisha Hedin: Just questions

Jace Taylor: So, it's kind of a balance between being too specific on one end and not specific enough on the other. We always try to find that balance.

Trisha Hedin: Those are comments we can make later and extract things out of the make specific motions.

Todd Thorne: I have a question. In a couple of the units, a potential threat to habitat where it says some oil and gas leases have been approved and the last sentence says, there is however potential that these areas could be abandoned if disturbances is excessive. I'm assuming... are they talking about the bighorn sheep abandoning the area if the disturbance is excessive?

Jace Taylor: Yeah. So, bighorn sheep are sensitive to human activities to disturbance and also, what that sentence is trying to say is that the bighorn may potentially abandon areas if disturbance becomes too high.

Todd Thorne: Okay.

Trisha Hedin: More questions?

Dana Truman: Yeah. I've got more. I noticed that some of the plans talk about habitat. Can you tell me a little bit about what a good habitat is and what are some of your options?

Jace Taylor: So, bighorn sheep are typically seeking habitat that is first, rugged, so escape terrain, rocky mountain areas where predators can't pursue them and in addition to that, they don't like canopy cover. So, a lot of trees can be an issue for areas that we have bighorn sheep that would use but don't like to be in. So, sometimes a fire that goes through can open up a lot of habitat if we burn off the canopy then we have grasses and forbs, maybe some shrubs. Bighorn really like those kinds of things as opposed to the trees. So, a fire can help. We do treatments, lop and scatters, juniper treatments, those can be things that help increase habitat for bighorn sheep. Water is a part of that too. Bighorn sheep need to have a reliable water source, so guzzler projects and some of those kinds of things. Those are the type of projects we do for bighorn.

Dana Truman: And so, I know these are very detailed plans, but I noticed that specifically, San Rafael, a lot of that land now is wilderness. I'm just wondering if you would consider putting in, the BLM has a large land culver at this unit, has the DWR considered putting in certain plans in some of those designations to help influence the management?

Jace Taylor: That's a pretty common thing across the number of bighorn herds is whether it's BLM or Forest Service wilderness areas. Yeah, we know that it's important that we cooperate, communicate with land management agencies and that we don't make projects that are contrary to their practices, wilderness specific. It's something that's important to us. I know there have been some projects, habitat or captures that were in wilderness that we coordinated with the land management agencies and were able to do... definitely coordination is the key. Does that answer your question?

Dana Truman: Yeah.

Jace Taylor: If the language isn't there, we'd definitely be open to making it clear that we want to coordinate.

Todd Thorne: One more question from me on travel management. You talk about how travel management can disturb bighorn habitat and also keeping the opportunities for non-consumptive to view them, the question is how do you manage working with the federal agencies on travel management and keep opportunities for non-consumptive to access bighorn sheep?

Jace Taylor: So, kind of two questions. You say travel management, you're talking about human travel?

Todd Thorne: Yeah and where travel management plans with federal land agencies on there, whether it's BLM, Forest Service, keeping access for non-consumptive to still access and view bighorns and then also having it where travel management will impact them to abandon the area.

Jace Taylor: I see. Yeah, so two parts for access point of view, we do things for them so that there is sufficient access for viewing and for hunting. In some of the plans we have specific access projects, road improvements or whatever it is to help that. So, that's important to know that some of the plans have that in them. Then the other side of that having travel not be excessive in that it will cause animal disturbance that will cause animals to abandon areas. I think that's probably not something that we do as good a job maybe as detailing in the plans but I do know that there's at least a few of the plans that do talk about travel corridors and movements of bighorn sheep and how those can be... you know if there aren't opportunities for animals to go across them it can be a barrier to them. Both are definitely important. It would just depend on plan by plan on what level of detail we go into those but they are both important.

Dana Truman: I guess I just have one last question about how population objectives are determined. We had a comment that some management plans that might have different numbers but then the bighorn sheep for the Stansbury herd (she was not talking into the microphone-can't hear what she said). How are those determined?

Jace Taylor: That's a great question. You see this map, first of all the reddish-black boundary is the unit boundary, the orangeish-yellow color is suitable bighorn sheep habitat and then that cross-hatch stuff is currently what the bighorns are occupying. So, the first step in trying to get a population objective is that we model the habitat. So, this model is built on ruggedness, on some of the features we talked about earlier about bighorn sheep selecting for and that basically shows

the areas that we think are suitable for bighorn sheep to use. So, then in addition to that, that doesn't take into consideration risk of pathogen transmission or anything like that. So, then we identify areas within the unit that are suitable based on pathogen transmission and places that are not and then we are striving for a density within the occupied habitat of anywhere from one to most of the areas we are shooting for two, 1-2 animals per square kilometer. Now, some places we do go higher than that depending on what we think the quality of habitat or the goals. Antelope Island for example has been a nursery herd to us sometimes we'll run that upwards of four animals per square kilometer. So, it depends but, in the end, taking all of those things into consideration is up to the biologist and then making a judgement call on what they think is available now and suitable and safe for the bighorn sheep to be in. In the end it's a judgement call by the biologist. Sometimes it changes too. We start with a herd and as it's growing, basically all of these herds start at zero, almost all of the bighorn sheep in the state have been reintroduced. As those herds have grown if we feel that, say we start out with an objective of imaginary 300 and we got to 200 and by the time we got to 200 we felt like we started to have more risk of exploding, bursting at the seams and problems with wandering then those would drop down. So, we have flexibility that way too.

Dana Truman: So, the objective number can be adjusted?

Jace Taylor: Yeah it can be adjusted. Or if there is something that you know a fire that increase in population or if a risk of pathogen existed previously goes away, you know.

Trisha Hedin: Any more questions from the RAC?

Question from the audience

Brett Behling: I have a question for Jace. The language about the disease coming from the domestic sheep, are we ok with taking that section out of the plan?

Jace Taylor: Yeah, so kind of on what Jeff was talking about on Antelope Island, right? So, specifically on the Antelope Island plan I think we already talked about the context of why we have it in there but no, it's not something that has to stay there. We can be comfortable rewording that if someone has a desire to.

Public (didn't say name): So, on the Henry Mountains Unit, you have a plan for if there are sheep placed on an allotment and active removal, I was just curious about what you plan to do, expand on that.

Jace Taylor: So, we're talking about an allotment that is currently for domestic sheep, right?

Public (didn't say name): Yes.

Jace Taylor: So, there is an allotment here in the Henry Mountains that currently has domestic sheep on it and I think the question is if and when that were to change, would we do things differently?

Public (didn't say name): Well, you talk about active removal and I was just wondering are you planning on capturing them before the domestic sheep are on there? Hunts? What?

Jace: When we talk about actively removing bighorns that come onto the allotment... bighorn sheep that make it into areas where there is a place and time where we feel there are domestic sheep then we would remove them. So, currently, I think the allotment is just having cattle on it, is that correct? Ok. So, the allotment just has cattle on it and so if and where there were domestic sheep there then we would need to find a way that the bighorns wouldn't come in contact with them. That would take some... we could try some live transplants to remove them. Sometimes we don't have a lot of success with that especially if we're not moving them very far, moving them a short distance they can come back to the same area. So, it would just depend on if we had a suitable location to take them to. If we didn't and we felt that the best means would be to lethally remove them then that would be the tactic.

Comments from the audience

Bryce Pilling/SFW and Utah Wild Sheep: We'd like to say that we accept the proposal and want to go on record as saying that. Thank you.

Brett Behling/Utah Farm Bureau: We also support the plan. Thank you to the division for working with our woolgrowers and others. I think they addressed the concerns that they have. If you can remove the section that talks about the disease, we'd be totally happy.

RAC comments

Helene Taylor: I have a comment. It's kind of been addressed at this point but I just would like to say, appreciate if, especially in the media, the division we don't have definitive proof what's transmitting disease that we don't put it out there that it's directly related to livestock without there being some fact. I don't run sheep but I kind of took the offence to the comments that were made regarding the sheep on Antelope Island.

Jeff Christensen: I'd like to make a motion that...

Trisha Hedin: Let's just make a couple comments and concentrate on that topic. If you're good with that. Let's concentrate on the Antelope Island comment if that's ok and then we can maybe make a motion and pull that out and if we want to another topic maybe the Oquirrh's or whatever. So, do you have a comment about Antelope Island?

Jeff Christensen: I don't like when we don't have proof. All we are doing is adding fuel to an already blazing fire when it comes to the woolgrowers and the bighorns. I would like to see it removed.

Trisha Hedin: Do you want to make a motion on that?

Jeff Christensen: I would make a motion that we strike that language just right after the source of the infection is unknown.

Trisha Hedin: So, can you be a little more specific?

Jeff Christensen: Page 2, the paragraph under issues and concerns it says, “in November 2018 pneumonia was detected in the bighorn sheep population. The source of the infection is unknown.” I make a motion that we strike everything from the word “however” to the end of the paragraph.

Trisha Hedin: And this is regarding Antelope Island? We have a motion from Jeff Christensen to strike comments pertaining to Antelope Island disease transmission, speculative transmission. Is that clear enough? Do I have a second on that? Seconded by Hellene Taylor. All in favor? Seven in favor and one abstaining. OK. Dana do you want to go on to another subtopic?

VOTING motion to strike comments pertaining to speculative transmission of disease on Antelope Island.

Motioned by: Jeff Christensen

Seconded by: Hellene Taylor

Motion Passes/Failed: Passed

Opposed:

Abstaining: Dana

Dana Truman: I first want to say thanks for the opportunity to have these plans more public. It's been a good opportunity and I think there is a lot of great information in them. So, after asking a couple of questions I would like to make a comment that the Division of Wildlife continue their work with the BLM and especially on those units that have been extirpated like the Stansbury's and now we are rebuilding it. Add the extra information explaining a little bit about the strategies taken, I think there is an opportunity to add some language there. In that spirit of working with BLM I think it would be important to add something in these where there's a big chunk of WSA or wilderness to say that DWR recognizes those special land designations when trying to plan... Just something to look into I guess as a comment that I think it could help.

Trisha Hedin: But you're not making a motion?

Dana Truman: No. I'm just putting it out there so the DWR could have some (can't understand what she is saying).

Trisha Hedin: Do we have other comments?

Scot Flannery: So, we struck that and I know why because it speculated, we don't know that that is the cause. But maybe as a question, is it helpful, you mentioned creating a fence so when there are low water levels. Lets say we don't know that that is the cause first of all, but there is a potential when there is low water levels of being interaction between the species, domestic and wild sheep, does having verbiage or something in there that mentions that potential help you in getting funding to create fences or whatever may be to protect that?

Jace Taylor: That's a great question. That is, coming full circle, the reason why that wording was

in there to justify what we are doing.

Jeff Taylor: But isn't that the next paragraph where it talks about building fence?

Jace Taylor: I think so. So, I think what we want to do in a way to do both is if we remove all language like Jeff is talking about that talks about specifics about domestic sheep and we keep some of the information

Jeff Christensen: That's all we wanted to strike out was the domestic sheep part of it. The fencing and all that other we believe needs to stay and I think that as far as the community we are 100% behind that.

Jace Taylor: That's great. I think we can do both by getting rid of the specifics but keeping information about how we are doing the fence and this is why.

Scot Flannery: Because there is a potential, not saying that it happened.

Jace Taylor: We can say that the fence will, for example, a disease event happened we feel there is potential for pathogens being transmitted by the land bridge and so we feel this fence helps us to reduce that risk. Maybe that's a way.

Trisha Hedin: Do I have other comments?

Jeff Christensen: I have one more comment and it goes back to what Todd was saying. It's both on the Rattlesnake unit and the Nine Mile unit. Is there a way we can strengthen that language a little bit so we know exactly what we're talking about there? So, page 6 it talks about the oil and gas leases, they are saying that for the most part not a (?) however, there is potential that these areas could get abandoned. Adding some kind of language in there that sheep will be abandoning the area not that we're talking about abandoning oil and gas explorations in the area.

Trisha Hedin: So, you're saying...

Kent Johnson: You're talking about two different agencies there. The BLM or Forest Service whoever is the land manager.

Jeff Christensen: I read that about a hundred times until I figured out what I think they are talking about. I'd just like to see some language in there where they are talking about the sheep, the bighorn potential areas would be not necessarily the oil and gas.

Lynn Sitterud: I could comment on that I don't know why that needs to be in there if you ask Brad I don't know what his answer would be but from what I've seen on Horse Ridge and in the Jack's Creek country those sheep lay on the disturbed areas and congregate around the drill sites.

Brad Crompton: Yeah. That is what was implied that sheep can abandon areas with high traffic and that was the implication as far as how we wrote that. Most of the well beds are up on the flat where sheep generally don't use. There's quite a lot of research showing in lambing habitat that

they can abandon that area. Their flushing distance is three miles and they don't come back and if it's an inferior lambing habitat. So, our WAFWA guidelines for the Western state for bighorn sheep is you minimize oil and gas impacts on bighorn sheep habitat. There are, everyone in Carbon County has a picture of ten bighorn sheep sitting at a well bed because they did use those reclaimed areas and things like that so they are positives and negatives but we do try to minimize oil and gas impacts in lambing habitat. So, what Jeff was implying is, it wasn't saying abandon wells it's sheep may abandon those habitats.

Scot: So, you just want to clarify?

Jeff Christensen: Yeah. Can you guys just clarify in that sentence just under common consent, you guys are the word experts on that. Just something to look at I know you're going to get hit with it hard tomorrow in the Basin because they are concerned about it. I don't think we need a motion here. We'll let them deal with it.

Trisha Hedin: Okay. I'll make sure that I say something. Can we entertain a motion about the remainder of the management plan?

Jeff Christensen: I'll make a motion that we accept the remainder of the management plan.

Trisha Hedin: Do I have a second? A second by Dana. All in favor? Unanimous.

Motioned by: Jeff Christensen to accept the remainder of the Management plan.

Seconded: Dana Truman

Motion Passes/Failed: Passed. Unanimous.

Opposed:

Adjournment

8:14 pm

The next Wildlife Board meeting will take place on Oct. 3, 2019 at 9 a.m. in the Department of Natural Resources Board Room, 1594 W. North Temple, in Salt Lake City.

The next Southeast RAC meeting will take place on Nov. 20, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the John Wesley Powell River History Museum, 1765 E. Main, in Green River.

NORTHEASTERN RAC MEETING SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

Utah Wildlife Resources Office

318 N Vernal Avenue, Vernal

September 12, 2019

UDWR PRESENT

Dax Mangus, Wildlife Manager
 Randall Thacker, NER Wildlife Biologist
 Amy VandeVoort, NER Wildlife Biologist
 Trina Hedrick, Aquatics Manager
 Marcia Keddy, Support Service Coordinator
 Tonya Keifer-Selby, Outreach Coordinator
 Mailes Hanberg, NER Regional Supervisor
 Jake Greenwood, Law Enforcement
 Jace Taylor, Big Horn Sheep Coordinator

RAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Dan Abeya, Forest Service
 Ritchie Anderson, Agriculture
 Joe Arnold, Public at Large
 Dick Bess, Agriculture
 Natasha Hadden, BLM
 Miles Hanberg, Regional Supervisor
 Brad Horrocks, Elected Official
 Rebekah Jones, Non Consumptive
 Jamie Arrive, Ute Tribe
 Brett Prevedel, Chairman
 Mike Smith, Non Consumptive
 Jeff Taniguchi, Sporsman

Welcome and Intro Appreciation

- **WELCOME, RAC INTRODUCTIONS AND RAC PROCEDURES-**

- **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

MOTION to approve the agenda as presented.

Brad Horrocks

Jeff Taniguchi, second

Passed unanimously

MOTION to approve the minutes from the last meeting.

Dick Bess

Brad Horrocks

Passed unanimously

- **WILDLIFE BOARD MEETING UPDATE- Brett Prevedel**

It was an interesting meeting and the lion discussions were from one end of the spectrum to the other. So it was very informative. I'll just go through the action items that they approved. The bobcat recommendations that we approved unanimously were also approved unanimously out there. When we got to the lion discussion the lion permits statewide there was some very

interesting testimony on one end of the spectrum. There was the humane society basically opposing lion hunting, then there were some medical doctors that testified in relation to Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), they felt that lions were taking the sick deer and that presented a health hazard to over harvest the lions. And then there were some sheep producers primarily from the Cache unit where we were talking about the permit number that brought in documented losses of livestock which were significant; they were losing sometimes 15 a night. And some of them had lost 100+ sheep this year on just the grazing season. So the Wildlife Board listened to all that and if you remember we broke it out that the Cache unit remain at 25 rather than decrease as recommended by the Division. The Book Cliffs discussion was presented very well by Randy Dearth and the Board voted, I believe it was unanimously, yes it was 5-0 to switch that unit back to a harvest objective at 29 tags. If you remember the Divisions recommendations were to create a split strategy hunt up there and we voted as a RAC 7-2 to change it to harvest objective, so they supported that. They voted to leave the Manti southwest unit at 18 and remain at split. There was a lot of discussion about the other Manti unit, the southeast, and it was voted to increase that number to 26 on the Manti southeast. And then we didn't discuss it a whole lot out here but they had some sheep transplant issues on the Oaker/Stansburys where they were concerned about the lion impact where they were trying to establish the bighorn. So they increased permit numbers to 12 on the Oaker/Stansburys and they decreased numbers on the Oaker/Stansbury east unit to seven. Then the rest of the packet was approved as recommended and that includes that Mineral Mountains recommendation we discussed about the transplant area out by Delta, so it went with six I believe which was the original recommendation, we had recommended nine. Then there was quite a bit of discussion on the three year cycle on the lion permits that was a recommendation in the packet that we only revisit every three years and so there was some opposition to that with the interest in keeping it an annual process. Eventually it passed that we will move it to a three year cycle but we will still have the numbers presented to us annually incase there's something odd that comes up. And then the only other items on there were the Expo permit allocations, which were presented well by the District and passed unanimous. That's my update on the Wildlife Board Meeting, unless there are any questions on what I presented on the Wildlife Board, are there any? Ok, I will turn it over to Miles to give the regional update.

- **REGIONAL UPDATE - Miles Hanberg**

Alright, a few things going on here in the region lately. Our wildlife section, one thing we can report is it has been a dry and hot fall, but this cooler weather I hear that the elk hunt is picking up this week. We're starting to get more activity with elk, but before that we'd been somewhat limited with the right conditions and the hot conditions. So I think I had heard some pretty good reports personally this year from our hunters, so that's encouraging. We'll continue CWD testing again this year, so folks can come into the office here to have their animals tested. There will be also testing units throughout the region at our annual checkstations. That will be forth hunting, especially during the rifle deer hunt we'll have those checkstations testing. In our habitat section

we have a new experienced person that has come to us from out in the Utah Lake area, he's been working on the Utah Lake Wetlands projects out there, so we're excited to have him join our staff out here in the region. Our habitat folks have been busy building guzzlers, they just finished six new guzzlers out in the Book Cliffs just this week. So we're continuing to be actively involved in water developments. They have some additional guzzlers to be working on out in the anthro area and there will be some maintenance on some other guzzlers in the Book Cliffs this fall as well. Our habitat projects through the watershed initiative with cooperation with a lot of our partners will be starting this fall. Shortly there will be several large scale projects to manage vegetation and try to improve some of this vegetation for wildlife and livestock and other uses as well. A long list of projects that we have available and we're excited to have some of these things implemented. Some of the cool things from our outreach section are kokanee salmon day is this Saturday September 14th up at Sheep Creek. I know the salmon are in the creek now and they are visible up around the creek area, up at Sheep Creek both of the bridges. If you have a chance we encourage folks to come out and be apart of that event this weekend. We've got a youth pheasant hunt coming up on September 28th, that will be out at the Pleasant Valley Hunting Preserve. Some of the conservation groups are helping put that on. That's a neat experience for some of our youth to take advantage of. The same day, on the 28th we'll be having a sandhill crane viewing area and that will be in the Jensen/Ouray area, so part of that will be dependant on where the birds are. So that's another opportunity coming up. In our aquatics section they just completed some treatments for Colorado River cutthroat. They just finished the last phase of the Reader Creek treatment. So now that is available to be restocked with Colorado Cutthroat this fall. And they also completed the first phase of treatment on the North Slope on Carter Creek drainage. So that's all about the effort to reestablish the Colorado River Cutthroat to their native range, and to help show that those populations are restored and recovered to help prevent future litigation or listing decisions. So I think that's about it for tonight to share.

Brett Prevedel: Could I ask you to just briefly mention the Book Cliffs initiative, and where we're at with that?

Miles Hanberg: Sure, yeah we continue to meet as a Book Cliffs working group, we had a meeting earlier this week. The focus of that group so far has been on the demand on the forage out there and also look at what forage is available. So we've been doing this forage balance, one of the big keys to doing that is we didn't fully understand how many of the stray horses were out there on our summer range. So we did conduct a helicopter survey of our summer range areas. We did do some adjacent areas as well, but we found that we had over 200 stray horses on our summer range. When we do helicopter surveys there is usually an index that goes along with that. We usually figure about 80% of the animals are actually observed. So if you take that into consideration, it could be in excess of 250 of these stray horses just on our summer range. And the summer range is where we believe there are some concerns with this increased demand on

the forage out there, and one of the reasons we believe that is because our mule deer, as they come off the summer range before the winter even starts, they've been in poor condition the past two years. Their body condition has been very limited. So it really points the finger at some issues that have been occurring on the summer range. We're still working through that process, right now we're looking at in on a really good year. Overall, in the Book Cliffs on a good forage growth year, we're probably breaking even. On a dry year we don't have enough forage to support the animals that are out there. We're going to be narrowing down the emphasis on this area and look to develop ways that we can offset some of these demands and spread out use and things like that. We've had good collaboration with our livestock committees out there and we have representation from that community, so it's encouraging to have a good collaborative environment, and we hope to continue to have that to address some of the needs relating to the Book Cliffs.

Brett Prevedel: Thanks, Miles. Does anyone have any questions relating to the Book Cliffs, or what Miles just talked about?

Brad Horrocks: Just a comment, Mr. Chairman, with Ritchie, maybe you could give us just a little more update. I know that the feral horses situation that we've been working with and trying to address will hopefully be put together to eliminate that. I'm not quite sure if your survey went down on Leota Bottoms and stuff down there..

Miles Hanberg: This particular survey was right out at the top.

Brad Horrocks: Was it there? Well we met this week with the agencies and what were they saying, how many horses were down there on the Ouray bottoms, right now? 80 head? Is that what it was Miles?

Miles Hanberg: I think 80 on the west side of the river and I think they mentioned on the east side they could see 125.

Brad Horrocks: Yeah. I don't know how much those horses migrate from back and forth, but we're trying to with the state agencies and Ritchie has kind of been the one that is heading it up out there. So thanks for helping head it up Ritchie. I don't know if he has a comment or not.

Ritchie Anderson: We did a survey, is Amy here? How many did we count when we did that, do you remember exactly? When we flew the Bonanza area all the way to Ouray and I think there was 300 and something horses. So we are working on that. We were trying to do something in that area privately funded and it hasn't worked out. So we're back to try to get the state funding that has already been appropriated. We just can't get through the lawyers to get the money

released. So that's really what's holding us up. The money is in place, we just gotta get through the lawyers for the state.

Dan Abeyta: Yeah so I've heard numbers for summer range 200-250 then another number that Ritchie just mentioned, another 300 from Bonanza down to Ouray, do we have a current population estimate for wild horses for wild horse for the region we are talking about?

Miles Hanberg: I don't believe so.

Ritchie Anderson: Yeah they are over their objective number on the winter ridge area by a fair amount.

Brett Prevedel: There's a BLM management area for the horses?

Ritchie Anderson: Yeah winter ridge and out by agency there's another one. There's two management areas HMAs.

There's the management areas and I won't call them a small portion of the Book Cliffs because they are fairly large, but the Book Cliffs is a huge area. The majority of the Book Cliffs and of course the Ute Tribe lands are not in a management area so they are not considered wild horses, they are considered stray horses.

Natasha Hadden: And if you need more information you can call the BLM office here in Vernal and some of the management can give you more precise numbers or information that you're wanting to know about wild horses/feral horses.

Miles Hanberg: One thing I will say is we looked at some adjacent areas on that summer range on that survey and the actual count was over 600 horses in the Book Cliffs, and that's the upper Book Cliffs not counting Bonanza. Our focus area is really on our summer range and that was the focus of our survey. We did look at some adjacent areas that may not, we really needed to know the demand the horses were taking on our summer range and that was the focus. Like I saw we had over 600 head and we didn't count most of the lower areas at all.

Brett Prevedel: Keep in mind our Book Cliffs initiative is looking at summer range only. And we're actually narrowing that down, based on some of the collaring studies on the animals because there seems to be an area where everything is concentrating. So we're taking that 310,000 acres that we were looking at, down to about half. That's what we've been doing in the group, trying to find out what the issues are. So we'll keep you informed as we move ahead on that group, we won't be meeting again until early December or January.

Dan Abeyta: Just one more question, I'm not clear, I've never heard that term stray horses, so can someone help me understand the difference between a wild horse and stay horse?

Brett Prevedel: The difference is where they are located. There is horse management areas and then there is general BLM land. The BLM manages them or has an objective in their horse management areas. Outside they may have been born there or somebody may have turned them loose, who knows where the horses came from but they are not managed by the BLM who is the primary landowner, and they are considered stray, is that the correct terminology? Stray outside of the horse management areas and wild horses inside the horse management areas.

Dan Abeyta: Ok, thank you.

Brett Prevedel: Ok with that we'll move into item number five, fishing informational item, Craig? Randy could you introduce yourself? Sorry I said Craig.

- **TAILORING ANGLER OPPORTUNITY INFORMATIONAL** – Randy Oplinger, Coldwater Sportfish Coordinator

See Slideshow

Brett Prevedel: Thank you Randy, are there any questions from the RAC?

Jeff Taniguchi: I have a few. So when do you expect the data to be processed on all this stuff?

Randy Oplinger: Our goal is to have regulation changes, basically present in front of the RACs and Wildlife Board a year from now. So if you kind of back step from that I think our goal is to kind of have these analysis and some conclusions wrapped up probably around the first of April next year. That gives us time to kind of go through our regulation changes cycle and start really considering what we're doing.

Jeff Taniguchi: Ok, I've got several questions. When you talk about a two story fishery and there's got to be a cost for the DWR. For example, if you've got a lot of bass in the lake and you want a two story fishery with trout, you're obviously going to have to plan those fish larger and that's an added cost to the Division. Is that something that is a concern?

Randy Oplinger: We'll have to evaluate that more when it comes up. You're right, we might have to plant fish at a larger size, but I think we might also find results that counter that coming out of this survey, for instance, we know historically we see more interest in warm water fishes here in the state which typically we don't stock in a lot of cases we just let them naturally reproduce and just kind of run their own with some management issues from us. So we may have to sock the trout, but we may find interest in other species that naturally reproduce and other things that may offset the cost and allow us to provide more opportunities for our anglers.

Jeff Taniguchi: Ok, so does the Division actually manage individual waters or is it kind of a blanket approach to most of your waters, say warm water fisheries, say you take Steinaker and

you take Starvation, are they managed differently on a water to water basis?

Randy Oplinger: To the best of our ability, yes. So I mean we monitor our waters individually...

Jeff Taniguchi: I understand that and I understand the 22 inch size limit for most of the slot limit fish, are kind of broad so there is no confusion with law enforcement, but I'd kind of like to see the Division look at that and do that per waters. For example on the Green River, the slot is great. And I just think that some waters may just need to have a different look on that. That's just my opinion. So I'd like to ask a question. What are the crappie lakes in Utah? You said it's a pretty popular fish, but I know we've got them in Red Fleet and the verdict is still out on how they're doing. Is there other waters and is there some other planned waters to supply that angler need?

Randy Oplinger: We have not planned any additional waters yet, but broadly on a statewide basis I don't know how many crappie waters we have, it's not as many as say trout waters in the state, but we do have a respectable number of crappie waters.

Jeff Tamiguchi: The other question I have is, I served on the Blue Ribbon Advisory Council and we did a survey on that committee on how much it generates local communities. And I'm just wondering if the Division with this master plan has decided how much money will be generated for local communities. For example, Daggett county probably rely a whole lot on the Green River as far as their income as far as recreation. And I'm just saying if you look at southern Utah 90% or a great portion of it from my understanding from people from Nevada that are accessing Utah waters in southern Utah and that's a huge boost for the Division when you have Nevada paying for licenses in Utah to fish, and I guess that kind of has to figure into the equation a little bit in my opinion.

Randy Oplinger: I think it will figure into the equation. I know what survey you're talking about and it provides us great results on the economic input that some fisheries have on their local communities. We haven't got as far yet as looking into specific regulation changes, but I think when we get there we're going to have to take that into consideration.

Jeff Taniguchi: Ok, I would really be interested in what you find in your data. Thank you.

Brett Prevedel: Are there any other questions? Dan?

Dan Abeyta: Yeah, Randy could you, besides like Lake Powell and some of those other reservoirs, Quail Hollow, is that the name of it down near St. George, besides some of those reservoirs do we have many true warm water fisheries in the state?

Randy Oplinger: Not a terribly lot of true warm water fisheries. We have a lot of two story fisheries and a lot of cold water fisheries in the state. We'll have to look at that more over time, look at trends in the survey. We're seeing increased interest in warm water fish, which I think is really going to make us step our game up a little bit and maybe manage additional fisheries and get some additional opportunities in the state.

Willard Bay is another strictly warm water I believe, isn't it? Highly popular.

Randy Oplinger: Yes, it is.

Brett Prevedel: Any other questions from the RAC?

Joe Arnold: Yeah, maybe real quick, on the fly fishing portion of the streams it looks like do you anticipate seeing, and I know it's hard to tell, seeing certain, a river that would be sectioned off to fly fishing only? Normally it's flies and lures in most of our rivers, is that correct?

Randy Oplinger: Yeah, it is. And we'll have to dig into the results a little bit more. We haven't got quite far enough to separate out between say fly and lure and understanding the preferences. And I think again, we're talking about incrementally making changes over the course of 7-8 years and some of these we'll have to draw the public in a little. Probably do some additional follow up surveys to help kind of fill in the gaps to make well informed decisions. So I think where we are right now is just, I think we're going to pull some broad conclusions out and maybe some things that are safe things that we know we can make changes right now and then we're going to have to look a little bit harder at some other changes to make sure we're making the right decisions.

Jeff Taniguchi: One more comment, I love the way the DWR is doing these seminars on wipers on walleye and on different species, I think that you guys should realize that I think that's a really wonderful thing for generating the next generation of anglers. I may represent Trout Unlimited but I was a tournament bass fisher in a different life so I understand both warm water and cold water species, and I understand how important it is to bring that next generation of anglers into the fold so we can get them off computer games and get them on something real. So I'm 100% hats off to you guys for those kind of seminars you put on.

Brett Prevedel: Are there any questions from the public?

Scott Chew: I've got a couple of questions and I appreciate the opportunity. My name is Scott Chew and I'm here as representative Scott Chew and also a landowner. On your surveys I was really interested in the part where you had the different circles and showed the different groups fit together. When you were asking your survey changes did you have the option to differentiate between the people that... when you asked did you ask if they specifically went fishing or did you ask if you were to go fishing and what I'm getting at is, in my relatives, my in-laws the grandpa really liked to fish, and his kids kind of did, grandkids don't care so much. But when they have a family reunion and it happens to be on up on the mountains, everybody has a fishing license and they'll go fish in the streams perhaps. And I just wondered if, it just looks like another piece of information if you knew that people were specifically going fishing or if they were going fishing as apart of another activity, did you have that in your questions?

Randy Oplinger: Yes, we do. So we've got some information, other types of activity preferences among people and I think that's another draw in that we'll pull in eventually. Do our anglers typically prefer X, Y, and Z for other activities. So we have that in there we haven't quite teased it out yet.

Scott Chew: So did it fit in in the different types of stream, the lake, the shore, did it fit in those...

Randy Oplinger: It's not going to fit in those because the questions we asked for the most part are preference questions. So, hypothetically, if you're going to go fishing, what do you prefer? Fishing on a stream or fishing on a lake? Those types of questions are the questions we asked. And then the other questions were what are your preferred other recreational activities in addition to fishing.

Scott Chew: Ok, I appreciate that. I'm quite interested in those types of surveys. My other question is you talk quite a bit about managing the water and I'm curious about what do you mean managing the waters? Are you talking about the species that are within the waters or are you talking about actually managing the water?

Randy Oplinger: We're talking the species primarily. So you're looking at regulations for species, species we stock, various amenity types of improvements, habitat improvements. As a Division we are not usually the ones that manage the water but there are situations where they may be water issues and the water is keeping the fishery from reaching its full potential. Whenever possible we'll work with the appropriate people to help make the water better.

Scott Chew: Ok, thank you.

Brett Prevedel: Are there any other questions? Ok since this was an informational item we will move on.

- **SIMPLIFYING COR INFORMATIONAL** – Randy Oplinger, Coldwater Sportfish Coordinator

See slideshow

Brett Prevedel: Are there any questions related to this topic?

Jeff Tamiguchi: I'm sorry to be a pest but I've got a few questions. So this is not in place right now?

Randy Oplinger: That's right, it's not.

Jeff Taniguchi: Ok. That is a big one because we just finished our Single Fly on the Green River and I wasn't aware of this, but I assume it will be something in the future. The other thing is are non-profits going to be apart of the whole thing also? For example, all the money we generate from the Single Fly goes right back into the Green River system and we bought Ryan Mosley a new generator, we did the signage on the Green River, we do the boot washing stations, those kind of things. So I assume non-profits are not exempt?

Randy Oplinger: No, honestly I don't have an answer to that. It think it's kind of going to be the same way that it has been historically, we're just changing the way you apply for a COR. But what I could do for you Jeff is I could look into that a little more and get you a response.

Jeff Taniguchi: The other question I have is the Division taking advantage of some of these tournaments by collecting data?

Randy Oplinger: The answer is, we have, in some cases. But we started working with some tournaments to get some information on the tournaments, numbers of fish caught and things like that. We don't do it for every tournament but we're doing it with an increasing number of tournaments.

Jeff Taniguchi: What do you assume the fees will be and the enforcement?

Randy Oplinger: Fees for the COR? (yes) They will remain the same as far as I know.

Jeff Taniguchi: I'm not sure what that was.

Randy Oplinger: It's \$10.00.

Jeff Taniguchi: Oh, ok. That's pretty nominal. And is there active law enforcement how these are conducted?

Randy Oplinger: The enforcement will remain the same as it's been. So really the only thing that is changing is how you apply for the COR, the rest the kind of nuts and bolts for the COR we're not proposing any changes at this time. It's just the application process that's changing.

Jeff Taniguchi: Thank you.

Brett Prevedel: Any other questions?

Brett Prevedel: I have one quick comment. When you get that electronic and adapt that to the other COR permits, they do not notify people on expiration and renewal. The district loses a lot of money with permits lapsing, that if they would just send out an invoice people would renew their multi year course. If you could pass that along somewhere.

Randy Oplinger: I'd be happy to pass that along.

Brett Prevedel: You just basically have to start over and you're on your own. They are five year CORs and they're kind of hard to remember five years from now.

Jeff Taniguchi: Could I ask one other question? I'm sorry I didn't bring this up earlier. I know that burbot are a big problem in Flaming Gorge and the Burbot Bash is a Wyoming Trout Unlimited kind of event, but is the Division, I guess the general rule is, if you tag a fish on a fish that is designated a catch and kill, is there an exemption or something of that nature that is given for.. That's the prime example that I'll give for the Burbot Bash because they have the tagged burbot and if you catch one you get this prize or that prize. So I'm just trying to clarify for the Divisions sake because that is something I hear all the time is, it's a catch and kill fish but they are catching them, tagging them, and releasing them. So I just want a clarification on that.

Randy Oplinger: Maybe you can chime in on this a little more Trina, but I think broadly speaking, you're right. We're putting a fish that is a catch and kill back in but I think what our feeling is by putting that fish back in a creating a contest from it, we create enough publicity.

Jeff Taniguchi: And I understand that, I understand 100% that it's for the resource. It's just that I hear that so often that it might be something to address that this is why we're doing it this way.

Randy Oplinger: I think broadly speaking we could work with outreach a little bit and when these things come out, let people know this is why we are doing it and we are able to greatly offset those types of fish released by additional harvest of fish for creating a tournament.

Jeff Taniguchi: Thank you.

Brett Prevedel: Let's deal with this, when we have regulations, rather than at this time, let's explore that option and we'll note that Jeff, but let's address that at the appropriate time. And it's good to know that we have a loop hole and it will be documented in the minutes and when we address rules related to the burbot, or fishing tournaments, when would that be a good time to address that, or do you wish to address that now?

Randy Oplinger: Our plans are to bring fishing tournament rule change out next year. It might be the time would be a year from now, you'll have the opportunity to...

Brett Prevedel: And you'll make a note..

Randy Oplinger: I'll make a note to consider those things as we look at that rule.

Brett Prevedel: Ok, do you want to roll into the next topic?

- **R657-59 PRIVATE PONDS RULE AMENDMENTS** – Randy Oplinger, Coldwater Sportfish Coordinator

See Slideshow

Brett Prevedel: Thank you, are there any questions from the RAC?

Jeff Taniguchi: I have a question. I seen that you had cutthroat trout on that list and the Division has spent tons of money on trying to restore pure strain cutthroat into their original ranges. Is that a concern with the cutthroat being on that list?

Randy Oplinger: I think in this case it's not a big concern to our standpoint. It's really because, again, these are going into closed loop facilities where basically they are getting a culinary water source and all the water is going into the sewer or septic system so if they were to escape, they wouldn't really have anywhere to go.

Jeff Taniguchi: So these are basically only on the closed loop systems.

Randy Oplinger: Exactly this is just for closed loop systems.

Amadeus Guy: I just wondered if those closed loop systems would be inspected?

Randy Oplinger: They would not be inspected if all those other criteria I presented were met. Now if they're not met they might be subject to some kind of inspection. But we would approve those facilities.

Brett Prevedel: Thank you, are there any other questions? I have no comment cards from the public, are there any comments from the RAC? Ok, I would entertain a motion if someone would like to make one on this presentation.

MOTION to accept the presentation as presented.

Natasha Hadden

Jeff Taniguchi

Passed unanimously

- **BIGHORN SHEEP UNIT MANAGEMENT PLANS** – Jace Taylor, Bighorn Sheep/Mountain Goat Biologist.

See Slideshow

Brett Prevedel: We received the sheep management plans in the packet, and we also received some comments via email, so let's address the email comments first so we make sure we all got them. There was one from Uintah County commissioners in Wyoming. Commissioner Horrocks, is Uintah County where Evanston is? (Yeah) So the corner of Wyoming. And it's a full page but if I may sum it up they were very complimentary of the working relationship with the DWR and the fact that they were taking into account, trying to come up with win,win solutions with the livestock producers. So the last sentence is "Based on this the Uintah County supports this management plan that maintains the current sheep grazing along with the bighorns sheep populations." So that was pretty much just a letter of support. We received a letter from a livestock producer, husband and wife livestock producer and if I can sum it again, and if I missed something feel free when we talk about it in the comments. They had a concern specifically with the Antelope Island plan that it had mentioned that the, Jace did you see this letter?

Jace Taylor: Is it Scott Stubbs?

Brett Prevedel: Yes it is. They had a concern that the problem on Antelope Island, they had to depopulate it, and the plan, don't let me misquote it, but the plan said something about there was an assumption that maybe they caught that from a domestic source. They had took exception to that comment saying that they didn't want that to be part of the plan. So is that an accurate way?

Jace Taylor: Yeah, so essentially the Antelope Island unit management plan says in November of 2018 respiratory disease was detected in the herd, we had to depopulate the herd, do you

remember hearing about that? Then it goes on to explain how we thought that happened and we do mention that the potential for contact or co mingling with domestic sheep and goats, but we do also note that we do not know how it happened. So the request from Scott Stubbs, then from there we kind of go into what steps were taken to prevent that commingling. So from there we kind of go into what steps were taken to kind of prevent that commingling. So in the context of the plan, that's why it was written that way, the request is to remove, because we don't know for certain what happened to remove the text about domestic sheep and goats. Which was asked of us at the southern RAC which is where Scott is at, and the southeastern RAC last night and that's a fair request, we do not know for certain how that happened. In the context of the plan it was written that way to explain steps that we're taking and why we think we can reduce the chance of something happening in the future, but I think we can do both without saying things we don't know are certain.

Brett Prevedel: Ok...

Jace Taylor: Those both passed in the previous RACs, we're comfortable doing that.

Brett Prevedel: Ok, Natasha you received an email, do you want to make that public?

Natasha Hadden: Sure. I received an email from a BLM wildlife biologist from the Salt Lake field office. She had some concerns about the Oaker/Stansbury west unit, so I'll just express some of the concerns here and questions she had. So she commented that there doesn't seem to be a conclusive analysis on why that population was extirpated in 2016. So she is wondering if the conditions have changed, or if anything has changed to help prevent that from happening to the new population in that area.

Jace Taylor: That's a great question. So this is kind of the opposite end of the same spectrum where maybe too much detail in one plan about the event of depopulation and maybe too little detail on the other end. So we're always trying to find the right spot. Yeah we have talked about that. For that particular plan I do not have enough language in there talking about that, we'd be happy to bolster that to help explain what we think happened. But more importantly steps that we have taken to help reduce the chance of that happening in the future.

Natasha Hadden: Ok, another statement she talked about was Muskrat Canyon is identified in the unit plan as a priority site for habitat improvement and water improvement projects, but much of that area falls into the North Stansbury Mountain Wilderness study area. And so some of those projects she's concerned may not be consistent with the BLM policy for Wilderness Study Areas, such as like restriction of vehicles, access predator control, even installing new guzzlers, or the habitat improvements so she just wanted to make that known that it could be a concern there.

Yeah so what we're talking about here is, we talked about habitat improvement projects or water improvement projects we identified specific places. One of the places the bighorn uses is Muskrat Canyon. A lot of it is in a Wilderness Study Area, so yeah we definitely don't have any plans that would be out of line with the BLM policies in those areas. But we could do a better job, I think what Nancy is after is more verbiage saying that we do want to cooperate and work

collaboratively, that we won't pressure the BLM to do things outside of their policy. We'd be happy to make that more clear.

Natasha Hadden: Ok, In relation to the habitat projects and water developments that are needed for that area to support the bighorns she has concerns about the population objective being 500 and just wondering if that's a realistic objective with the need for the habitat management projects and water development, especially in relation to the management plan that it identified in the area that there's area for a maximum of 120 bighorn sheep for the public lands and Forest Service lands on the Stansbury Mountains. I don't know if that's based off of AUMs, 120, that was previously identified.

Jace Taylor: I think what Nancy is talking about is a different analysis that was done previously, I'm not fully up to speed or really familiar with it. I think when we do the sit down and look at the other analysis. In the plans we do outline how we model habitat, maybe this would help a little if I pulled up one of these. I guess I could probably pull up the one we're talking about. But in each of the unit management plans there are these maps that have the unit boundary and also a orange/yellowish color a model suitable bighorn sheep habitat, model runs, a lot of it has to do with the ruggedness of the terrain. More rugged terrain is more suitable typically for bighorn sheep. then also cross hashed color there is for what is currently occupied. So most of the units have more habitat than what is occupied and most of the time that is by design. We don't necessarily want to have bighorn sheep throughout all that habitat. Here this is the Oaker/Stansbury west, the Stansbury Mountain itself. So in the unit management plans we describe how this model is run that gets at the amount of suitable habitat and we also talk about what we feel is a suitable density for the habitat that's available. Oaker/Stansbury west has about 115,000 acres of modeled habitat. Some of that we do not feel is appropriate to have bighorns in at this time but of that 500 number and that number of acres that's a density of about 1.1 bighorns per kilometer squared which is kind of on the lower end of some of the guidelines that we manage for. Again, like I said, we're not intending to use all of that so probably closer to two, half of that we're not planning to use. So that's kind of how we did that. I think if we wanted to go more into depth into that kind of thing we can do that with communication and try to figure out...

Natasha Hadden: Yeah, that might be a good idea because I know in our resource management plans there's a lot of AUMs for livestock and for wildlife so I don't know if this increasing it by 500 would require an increase of AUMs for wildlife in that area. It might be something that needs to be addressed.

Jace Taylor: We can work together on that.

Brett Prevedel: Thank you, that's our emailed comments. Questions from the RAC?

Brad Horrocks: You know Mr. Chairman, the letter from the Uintah County Commissioners in Wyoming, substantially what they are saying is, pathogens are also found in other wildlife species, such as mountain goats, white tailed deer, and mule deer, caribou, moose and antelope and bison. Is that a true statement?

Jace Taylor: So, current research and historic research up to this point has identified wild bighorn sheep and wild mountain goats as capable for carrying these specific pathogens that we are most worried about. Then also domestic sheep and goats likewise. More recent, there is recent research that has found these pathogens we are talking about in other species, the ones that are listed there. Some of that has not been cross validated, some of it is really new research and I don't know if I would be at the point, not currently at the point where I would say that it's conclusively found in all those species. I will say that some of it has been cross validated, caribou is on that list. Alaska Department of Game and Fish feels confidently that these pathogens we are talking about are in caribou. Even though like I said, it's new research, doesn't mean it's wrong and we are interested in finding out more about this and in recent captures have started testing for these pathogens like deer. Antelope Island is probably a good example, we have plans to test bison, deer and pronghorn before we re introduce bighorn sheep. So we are interested in it, but as new as it is, I wouldn't feel comfortable saying that whole list is something we necessarily agree with. But he's not incorrect that there is recent research.

Brad Horrocks: You know it seems like it's a... I'd like to see, you take Stubbs comment here, you know it sure seems like we like to jump to conclusions and say that it's the domestic sheep and I did a little calling with this one email we all received and it seemed to be that it was pretty prominent in white tail deer, mule deer, you know it seems to be, but I'd like us to do some research on this stuff and we all need to work together. I like his email letter, let's all work together. I'd like to see us try to leave out some of our wording that all of the blame is on domestic sheep. You know let's all work together on this. I think the Divisions plan is great with what they've come up with last year. But let's just substantiate some of this stuff before we... You know I'd like to.. I wish that we made a couple of phone calls and I guess it's pretty common in South Dakota with the white tail and if that's the case, I'd suspect they're carrying it here.

Jace Taylor: It would depend I guess on who you asked how common it is or how definitive it is in those species. I think that the level of research that has been done currently at least the DWRs position is that we can not say definitively with those particular species if it does or does not, but we are definitely not going to put our head in the sand. We're spending quite a bit of money to go capture, I think it's 120ish, let me think, approximately 100 deer, bison and pronghorn on Antelope Island and that's a fair amount of money that we are spending on that. I definitely agree that I'm interested in learning more about this, it doesn't do anybody any good not to understand it fully, so we are interested in understanding it better and I really appreciate Uintah County Wyoming for sending their letter and Scott Stubbs as well, we work closely with Scott. The region here has met over the years multiple times with some of those grazers from Uintah County. I think we have a great relationship, we're very excited about working together. I think that we are working together and doing our best to try to understand these things better. But I think at the current point where we stand is different, but that's ok. We're all interested in working together and do our best to understand this the best we can. Have a balanced number of bighorn sheep and domestic sheep in the state. So we're definitely committed to that.

Brett Prevedel: I have a question related to the mountain goats. How does the pathogen, if they are known carriers, does it affect their population, or do they die from it?

Jace Taylor: That's a good question. They are carriers of some of these pathogens that we are talking about but we do not see the same response in mountain goats that we do in bighorn sheep. They seem to be better suited to be able to carry these pathogens and not have the same kind of mortality rates. But there have been some places and maybe it has more to do with levels of stress, maybe habitat issues, but there have been cases where mountain goats have died from respiratory disease believed to be caused by these same pathogens. We haven't seen that in Utah, I'm talking about a couple of very few instances in Nevada and a couple of other places. Rarely, but it has been documented. But we haven't seen that in Utah. We do test our goats.

Brett Prevedel: Are they a concern then in the high Uintas as a pathogen carrier?

Jace Taylor: Uh, yeah some of the concern is we recognize that they have the potential to carry it and like I said we do test them for it and just recently in the last year I think there was one animal from an east unit that did test positive. There is potential for that.

Brett Prevedel: Thank you. Other questions, Dan?

Dan Abeyta: Yeah, Jace, you mentioned briefly about minimum viable population. Could you expand a little more? Each unit has a population objective, but if you could maybe talk about the relationship between that objective and minimum viable population I know that in these unit plans and in the statewide plan there are no discussions about MVP, could you expand on that a little bit? I'd be interested if numbers are going to come back into these sheep plans as far as minimum viable population.

Jace Taylor: I think we're using the word maybe a couple of different ways, but the way that we intend to use it here for these unit management plans is that we are striving to have a minimum of 125 animals in each population to allow long term to have enough genetic diversity and mutation that we would long term not end up in a genetic inbreeding situation. So that's something that we strive for, sometimes we are capable of doing that, sometimes we struggle to do that that's what we strive for, self sustaining. But we recognize with bighorn sheep, a heavily managed species that there are other ways we can manage them maybe more intensively that ride that sustainability whether it's transplants or bringing some new genetic material. But sustainability wise we would strive to have 125 long term.

Dan Abeyta: Per unit, then?

Jace Taylor: Yeah that's..

Dan Abeyta: And does it actually say that in.. I haven't actually seen that anywhere, is that in the statewide plan?

Jace Taylor: No I don't think that the statewide plan gets into any unit number in the unit wide management plans. Within the unit management plans I think, so if you looked up some of the ones we mentioned like Antelope Island, Nebo, they make it a little more specific and talk about striving for a minimum sustainable number of 125.

Dan Abeyta: I see. And then did you mention that this is the first time that these unit plans have come through the RAC process?

Jace Taylor: These 18, yes.

Dan Abeyta: Yeah, ok. That's it for questions.

Brett Prevedel: Any other questions? We will have a comment period after.

Jamie Arrive: So on your Nine Mile unit what are the changes, are they boundary changes on those? We get the maps but we don't see them compared to what was in place before.

Jace Taylor: Good Question. Nine mile, no change to the unit boundary so this is actually, there are two subunits in the Nine Mile, it's the same unit boundary that we've used previously the same unit that we've used on our hunts, same unit boundary for those two units, same population objective for those two. There were not major changes made to that one, which is honestly the case with most of them. Changes would have been things that changed in the statewide plan that need to be updated in the unit plan. Things like the permit recommendation guidelines, some of our language would be a little bit different. But our boundary and the numbers are the same.

Jamie Arrive: Ok, is that the same for Avintiquin, is that the same?

Jace Taylor: No, same boundary for Avintiquin, same objective. Dax could do better talking about..

Dax Mangus: Regional Wildlife Manager. So Jamie just to be clear a couple of years ago we did change the boundary for that Jack Creek hunt to include like the Willow Creek area, I didn't know if you were asking about that or not, but that did change a couple of years ago. It's not changing now in this plan, that's been in effect for a couple years already. Other than that, no boundary changes to the Avintiquin or that Nine Mile unit, but a few years ago we did change the boundary for the Jack Creek hunt to include Willow Creek.

Jamie Arrive: Ok, thank you.

Ritchie Anderson: Chairman, are we going to go through each individual unit?

Brett Prevedel: No, we're not going to. We had them in the packet so if you have questions related to an individual unit I'm sure Jace will pull it up.

Ritchie Anderson: Ok, I misunderstood, I thought he was going to go through each unit and then we were going to have questions so I don't have a question but I will have comments later.

Brett Prevedel: Ok. Are there any more questions from the RAC? Ok, I've got the two comment cards and I'll address them later, do we have any questions, any clarification issues that you need from the public? Ok we do not have any so we will roll into comments from the RAC.

Comments from the RAC:

Ritchie Anderson: I've got a few comments, and I'm glad to see Representative Chew here as well. Just to kind of reiterate what Commissioner Horrocks said, I think we need to be careful on speculative language. The language was put in there on the Antelope Island that it could have been caused by domestic sheep, or goats and that was speculative. The lake would have had to dropped a great deal for that to happen. But we're not putting in the language on the other wildlife possible carrying the pathogens because that's speculative so we just need to be careful on the language because we're going to determine one thing speculative and not put it in a plan, let's not put another thing in there that's speculative. On the Antelope Island deal do we need to make a motion, or when we make a motion to pass this do we need to make a motion that the language be struck or are you just going to take it out?

Brett Prevedel: We will make a recommendation as a RAC after the comments. What we will typically do is if we have specific issues with any of this plan we will make motions directed at specific issues and then I'm assuming at the end we will approve the remainder of the plan as presented after we express concerns or desired changes. Does that answer your question?

Ritchie Anderson: Yes, it does. Thank you. And then we had a few concerns, by and large I don't think there is a lot of concern as far as the objective numbers, I think, I hope we can reach those. So in that way as far as the species and the re-introduction or the increase in objective in the species itself and the habitat I don't see much concern with the proposal. We had a few concerns about language again and it's really simple stuff. It's a matter of taking a sentence out, adding a sentence, the first one was on the Nine Mile unit under the potential threats to habitat, the last sentence in the second paragraph said that there's.. Well I need to read that whole paragraph, it says, Significant oil and gas leases have been approved and developed on bighorn sheep habitat near the Jack Creek area. Most of the proposed and developed wells are in flat areas above bighorn habitat. There is however potential that these areas could be abandoned if disturbance is excessive. So while there may not be a concern with the habitat or the species in that area, and I've explained this before, but I'll kind of explain it again, very seldom do we have trouble with the habitat or the wildlife, it's radical groups that will use species to hinder development or economic growth or anything they deem not appropriate. So we have to be careful with the language that is used so we don't give them fuel I guess or something for a judge to look at and create an injunction say for an oil and gas lease. Our problem with that last sentence is who determines what excessive is? What an excessive disturbance is? I mean does the DWR determines that, does the BLM determine that? Does Wild Earth Guardians determine that? That leaves the door way too wide. We'd like to create a situation with the language where it's pretty definite that the DWR is proposing these objective increases or whatever, the DWR knows that this activity is going to take place and the DWR believes that they can work with those intentions to manage any concerns. I think that needs to be in the language so we create the perception that, hey the DWR as wildlife managers, we believed we knew that this activity was going to take place, we felt that those numbers were still appropriate and we can work with that. But not have language that could be interpreted by, and if it was litigated, a judge would have to determine what excessive is. So what we'd like to do is take that last sentence out, and then we could add something to the effect the language could be determined by other people but just an idea would be instead of that last sentence take it out and say, though there may be oil and gas development

in this unit the DWR believes the oil and gas industry is willing to address these issues that may arise. The DWR will work to foster a positive relationship with the industry to mitigate bighorn issues. Say something like that so you're saying we know there may be some possibilities but we can handle it. Does that make sense.

Jace Taylor: As far as your question goes, that makes sense and if you guys choose to make a motion on that I think that would be something that we'd be willing to work with the interested groups to find a wording that would meet the needs of both groups. Work obviously with the biologist in the area, but we'd be willing to work on it.

Ritchie Anderson: Ok, we'll make that motion later. This was supported by Uintah County Commission as well as Scott Chew, and I believe Ron Winterton would support.

Brett Prevedel: Ok, so we could address that. Did you have any other specific issues?

Ritchie Anderson: Yeah, I do. Just on the Uintah unit. Just another sentence change, just one sentence. So, I'll just read that first paragraph under that same section Potential Threats to Habitat, it says that human disturbance can result in abandonment or degradation of bighorn habitat due to the rugged nature and lack of roads near sheep habitat human disturbance in the area is expected to be low. If disturbance becomes an issue UDWR will work and support federal agencies BLM and Forest Services on travel management plans and other plans. Furthermore, the public will be made aware through town council and other local meetings in an effort to get local support to reduce disturbance to bighorn sheep. Beartop will remain closed to motorized vehicles to reduce human disturbance. So in the second to last sentence there it says, Furthermore, the public will be made aware through town councils and other local meeting in an effort to get local support. Um, what kind of reduction in human disturbances because we talked about travel and management plan up above, what kind of reduction in human disturbances would the DWR be talking about? Are we advocating to close roads, possibly? Are we advocating to let people aware to stay out of this area because it's hurting the bighorn sheep. I'm confused on what you would be promoting to reduce human disturbances. I mean my whole experience with bighorn sheep is primarily desert bighorn around the Lake Mead/Hoover Dam area when I was a kid. But those things are all over the parking lots and right around Hoover Dam, boat docks and they don't seem to care much, but my point is what would the DWR be advocating in a way of reducing human disturbances? So that language to me, if we just took out, Furthermore, the public will be made aware through town councils and other local meetings, if we just took out in an effort to get local support to reduce human disturbance. If we just took out that part and just put in 'if' just put in the word 'if'. Furthermore, the public will be made aware through town councils and other local meetings if human disturbance to bighorn sheep becomes and issue. Then we could put in the DWR recognizes there may be circumstances that require increase of activity within bighorn unit to properly manage lands and resources. The reason I'd like that sentence in there is maybe you're aware, maybe you're not but there's other state agencies as well as our National Representatives such as Senator Lee and Representative Bishop that have been working very hard to get increased access for land managers to get into some of these areas to manage vegetation, watershed issues, so we don't have the catastrophic event we had last year like in Dollar Ridge. So without adding that sentence you're almost counter to what other state agencies and our Representatives are trying to promote, because it sounds like you

will be trying to lobby for reduced human activity and sometimes that may be something you have to do, but you've got to be careful that you don't give these other groups ammunition to use against other state agencies and our National Representatives and politicians are trying to accomplish, because we do need to access these areas and manage those resources, so I would like the DWR to put language in there that says, hey we recognize this stuff has to be managed so there's going to need to be an increase of activity at times but we know that, we believe that we can handle it, and we can mitigate it. Does that make sense?

Brett Prevedel: Again, we can address that with a motion if you wish to make that. So did you have anything else on your list Ritchie? (No) Ok, do we have any other comments from the RAC?

Dan Abeyta: I've got some comments for you here Jace. Of course our concern is reducing the risk of contact with bighorn sheep in the High Uintas as we have, I think there are seven to eight domestic sheep allotments up there. So things like habitat improvement projects, we would want to make sure that those projects are encouraging sheep to go the other way, so to speak. That's a concern that we have, is we would like to see that as those projects are planned that the Division works closely with the Forest Service so that we're not encouraging more interaction between bighorn sheep say from the Hoop Lake herd, the Sheep Creek herd going to the High Uintas wilderness and comingling with domestic sheep. That's one comment, another comment would be the possibility of, and I think this is consistent with your plan in terms of providing hunting opportunities, looking at potential opportunities to think and readjust hunting boundaries, specifically this would be on the North Slope. I think moving, not looking at a regional boundary as a reason we draw lines on hunt boundaries and to discourage wandering rams to go up to the high country and put a little pressure on these bighorn sheep. Again, not thinking that we can't, because I know with the Avintiquin unit and the Nebo unit that's one hunt boundary, correct? So it wouldn't be setting any kind of precedent on the North Slope, again. And I mentioned I appreciate your comment on Minimal Viable Population (MVP) with bighorn sheep being a forest sensitive species and just a species of conservation concern for both the state and the forest service and having domestic sheep allotments and potential risk for contact having a number to kind of hang your hat on with bighorn sheep would be helpful for the Forest Service in terms of managing those domestic sheep allotments, so that's something I'd like to go on record and say from the Forest Service. We really appreciate all the support that we've got from the local regional biologist Amy and Randall just to mention a few. We've appreciated the support we've received from them and helping to try to manage this bighorn sheep, domestic sheep issue that we have on the Ashleys.

Jeff Taniguchi: One comment, I would respectfully say that our representatives are elected officials, but there are a lot of people that have different opinions on that and I would just like to express that differing opinions is what's going to make this council an effective council.

Brett Prevedel: Ok, Scott, would you like to address the group?

Comments from the public:

Scott Chew: Thank you, I'm Scott Chew and I'm here like I said before as a State Representative for District 55 which is all of Uintah County and a portion of Duchesne County. I've heard from

a lot of constituents, I know time is short so I'm going to try to express the two concerns I put on the card. One of them is similar to, or fits in with what Ritchie was saying about, at the first of the meeting we had a really good example of we need to think a little broader, and we've got experience here. We've got a horse issue and part of that issue came about because of the ability of other groups to take the law that we created with the wild horse and burro act and manipulate it and I think that is what Ritchie was trying to say, is we don't want to create something here that allows a group that doesn't have any dogs in the fight you might say to keep us from reaching our objectives. So that was one thing. The other thing is that really really bothers me is not necessarily the fact that fingers are pointed at domestic sheep, but we had an incident last year on Antelope Island and I'm very disappointed in the way, and I've expressed my disappointment to the state, we had a herd on, a bighorn herd that was pretty much an isolated herd, that was isolated as far as we know, and it showed up and they disappeared and they died. We finally figured out that it was respiratory problems. We had 23 survivors, is what I've heard the numbers were. And our policies and what we do is our policies and what we do is we look at them as carriers, not survivors, we look at them as carriers, and we eliminate them. In the livestock business we look for traits that are superior and we try to breed for that. I'm very disappointed to think and encourage the RAC to be a little more broad minded in these instances. We had an opportunity that we'll never see again in our lifetime. Those sheep that were there possibly, we have a lot of testing capabilities we never had before, we could have maybe, maybe they were packing a gene or maybe there was something there and we've missed that. We've eliminated that trait by not being broad minded about hey wait a minute we've got an isolated herd, we've got some survivors, let's see why they survived. If Alexander Flemming hadn't looked that second time at that bacteria sample and come up with penicillin how long would it have been before we had that opportunity? I just feel bad that we might have missed a golden opportunity. Thanks you guys.

Jerry Allred: My name is Jerry Allred I'm a local sportsman and I love wildlife, I love to go to the mountain and see critters. Bighorn sheep is an iconic wildlife species. And when shown the objective is considerable higher than current population I'd like to ask the RAC to do all they could to improve bighorn sheep so we have more bighorn sheep and more hunting opportunities. Thank you.

Brett Prevedel: Thank you Jerry. Ok with that what I'd like to do is take motions for changes in these management plans specifically then as I said we will vote on each change, there is probably not a large number half dozen or whatever we have here, then afterword I am assuming we would pass the remainder of the plan as presented if there are no concerns. So I would open it up to the Board to make motions specific issue motions, let's not group them.

MOTION that the DWR remove the Antelope Island language speculating that the disease was transmitted through domestic sheep.

Ritchie Anderson

Brad Horrocks, second

Passed 7-2

Brett Prevedel: I've been told process why I should ask those who opposed if they'd like to state why they are opposed and you have that opportunity now, or we can just move on whatever you

prefer.

Dan Abeyta: Yeah, I'll go ahead and say that I think that there is pretty strong evidence and it doesn't come right out and say that is what caused it but I feel like the evidence is strong enough that I'm comfortable with that language in there.

Brett Prevedel: Ok that motion passes 7-2. I will open it up to any other motions.

MOTION to remove the sentence on the Nine Mile unit plan under Potential Threats to Habitat in paragraph two, "there is however potential that these areas could be abandoned if disturbance is excessive", and add a sentence that would express the DWRs confidence that they can handle habitat issues that may arise.

Brett Prevedel: I just want to clarify that Ritchie, you're just talking about the abandonment and not the fact that oil and gas may disturb, it's just the abandonment sentence correct?

Ritchie Anderson: Correct and we're mostly concerned about the word excessive. But that whole sentence would need...

Brett Prevedel: Ok excessive, disturbance, and abandonment would need.

Ritchie Anderson: Would you want me to propose a sentence to replace that, or?

Brett Prevedel: Dax?

Brad Horrocks: UDWR will work with land management agencies and oil and gas operators to avoid potential impact to bighorn sheep through mitigation measures?

Brett Prevedel: Would that be acceptable to replace that sentence? Dax go ahead.

Dax Mangus: I hate to interrupt you but just so you know the exact same language is used in the plan for the Book Cliffs rattlesnake and I think you might want to include that same change in language there and I actually had a similar sentence to add and it's basically exactly what Commissioner Horrocks just said, that we would work cooperatively with energy developers and land management agencies to implement appropriate mitigation measures to minimize any impacts. I think that is something the Division is committed to and that's typically what we do and maybe would suggest you might want to make that same change to rattlesnake plan as well.

Ritchie Anderson: I appreciate that.

Brett Prevedel: We have a motion on the floor I would open the opportunity if you would like to amend that motion and add...

Brad Horrocks: I'd like to make a friendly amendment that if Ritchie would consider maybe adding that language that we said including the Book Cliffs unit and the UDWR will work with land management agencies and oil and gas operators to avoid potential impact to bighorn sheep

through mitigation measures. That would be a friendly amendment I guess Ritchie?

Brett Prevedel: I have an amended motion, looking for a second.

Dan Abeyta: I just have a quick question, sorry. Dax do you know, are there any other units that have that same language that we're talking about?

Dax Mangus: Those are the only two that I know of. Actually those plans were written by our southeastern region staff, they are the ones that actually do the management in that portion of the Nine Mile and that portion of the Book Cliffs. I think those are the only two that include that.

Jace Taylor: I checked and those are the only two that have that.

Dan Abeyta: Thank you.

Brett Prevedel: So we have a motion from Brad. Do I have a second?

MOTION to remove the following sentence on the Nine Mile unit and Book Cliffs Rattlesnake unit plan under Potential Threats to Habitat in paragraph two, "there is however potential that these areas could be abandoned if disturbance is excessive", and replace it with "The UDWR will work with land management agencies and oil and gas operators to avoid potential impacts to bighorn sheep through mitigation measures."

Brad Horrocks

Dan Abeyta, second

Passed unanimously

Brett Prevedel: Ok, do we have any other motions?

Natasha Hadden: Jace, did they make any motions for the Oaker/Stansbury units in any of the other RACs?

Jace Taylor: No, no motions were made. Comments were taken.

Natasha Hadden: Ok, and you would adjust those?

Jace Taylor: You know, we're more than willing to work on those and maybe it might be safe to go ahead and make a motion that we do something to the effect that you would like us to look at the wordings. Might be safe to make a motion.

MOTION on the Oaker/Stansbury west unit to put wording in there to better describe the steps that were taken to address why the population was extricated in 2016, and also talk about how the Division will work with the BLM while making habitat and water improvements in the Wilderness Study Area. Also to better coordinate the objectives, the 500 bighorn sheep set and look at the resource management plan that had a maximum of 120 bighorn sheep set for the Stansbury Mountains.

Request to break down the motion.

MOTION on the Oaker/Stansbury west unit the DWR needs to add language that addressed the steps taken on why the population was extraped so that potentially does not happen to the new population.

Natasha Hadden

Brad Horrocks, second

Passed unanimously

Jace Taylor: Maybe some clarification would help. So the history on the Oaker/Stansbury herd is that we started that herd, we reintroduced sheep into that area in the early 2000s, the population grew to about 230-250 animals. And then I think it was the winter of '15-'16 when we had a severe die off, 80% of the collared animals died so we decided to go in and depopulate, lethally remove the rest of the animals. And then we took some steps to help prevent them from contracting respiratory disease in the future, but those steps are not laid out in the unit management plan, I think what Natasha is asking is that we write down what steps were taken.

MOTION for the DWR to include wording that says they will coordinate with the BLM and their policies to address those when proposing to do a habitat and/or water improvement project in Muskrat Canyon because that is currently a Wilderness Study Area under the BLMs Resource Management Plan.

Brad Horrocks: Could we add a comment in there? If they could work with the county's Resource Management Programs. I don't know if that would be adding too much, but if we could add that in there just because the county that is involved in it would be looked at their RMP. They'd be including the county RMP to be in this process.

Brett Prevedel: Are you talking about for Muskrat? Are you talking about Tooele County?

Brad Horrocks: Yeah, just to make sure that the county would be included in..

Brett Prevedel: So we have...

Brad Horrocks: A comment, let's just leave it as a comment.

Brett Prevedel: Ok, we can make a note of that.

Brad Horrocks: I would second her motion though. I didn't know if she'd mind reinstating that the county RMP could be included in that if that would be appropriate or not.

Brett Prevedel: I don't know the situation out there in BLM land in Tooele county, so.

Well we all have the resource management plans that are put together with wildlife management, range management in our counties and it's kind of nice to include the counties RMP process.

We're doing it with the Forest Service, we're doing it with the BLM, DWR in a lot of manners just to be included in that motion.

Brett Prevedel: Natasha would you like that motion modified by Brad?

Natasha Hadden: Sure, you can add that.

MOTION for the DWR to include wording that says they will coordinate with the BLM and their policies to address those when proposing to do a habitat and/or water improvement project in Muskrat Canyon because that is currently a Wilderness Study Area under the BLMs Resource Management Plan. Also communicate with the county's Resource Management Program.

Natasha Hadden

Brad Horrocks, second

142:09: Can I just ask a question, does that not happen normally? I mean are we splitting hairs on something that usually happens with the agencies we're asking for something that's really already happening?

Jace Taylor: So we're talking about two different things, right? We do cooperate with the BLM, Forest Service land agencies and it's an important part of many habitat projects. I think that if you could recall, Marty Bushman came around and talked about County RMPs, if you can remember back to that presentation that is probably a good source of information and that would be the best to help explain our position and where we stand with that. I hate to just defer you to look back on that, but it is probably the best I can do, unless there is somebody else who thinks they could do a better job.

Dax Mangus: I guess I'll add really quick just for clarification, I'm joking right now. Unfortunately just because it's in a DWR management plan doesn't give us permission to override NEPA and go do a bunch of projects in a Wilderness Study. We do want to wait for that study to wrap up, but no, I'm joking. But obviously before we do any type of habitat improvement on federal lands it's going to go through the NEPA process and work with partners. Maybe there is a way to tweak the language to make sure that's more clearly communicated, but that is the way we do this and just because it's in our management plan that we want to do something doesn't necessarily give us permission to just go out and do it on federal lands.

Brad Horrocks: Just a comment to that, we have a tremendous working relationship with a monthly meeting or once every two months, Miles I can't remember, with all of the agencies here in the county but it's just kind of where these RMPs are kind of new where a lot of the counties haven't finished up in the past 2-3 years. So it's something new and it's something that may not be, Tooele may not be as far ahead as we are I'm not sure, but it's just a courtesy. I look at it as more of a courtesy.

Natasha Hadden: So I'm just making this motion because Jace did suggest to make these motions instead of just comments, so I fully realize that as a BLM employee that we do coordinate

heavily with the DWR on all habitat projects. So it's just a formality I guess.

Brett Prevedel: So do you want the county RMP language in your motion, or do you want Brad to make a motion to amend it?

Natasha Hadden: Yeah it's fine because we all coordinate and collaborate.

Brett Prevedel: So you're including that in your motion?

Natasha Hadden: Yeah I think it's probably fine.

MOTION for the DWR to include wording that says they will coordinate with the BLM and their policies to address those when proposing to do a habitat and/or water improvement project in Muskrat Canyon because that is currently a Wilderness Study Area under the BLMs Resource Management Plan. Also communicate with the county's Resource Management Program.

Natasha Hadden

Brad Horrocks, second

Passed unanimously

Brett Prevedel: Are there any other?

Ritchie Anderson: I've got one more motion in the Uinta Mountain unit plan, but I want to preference it just real quick before I make the motion. I did visit with Reg Johnson today from, he was with the Governors Public Land Office, he's now with the Dept. of Agriculture. And he would support the motion I'm going to make for the change just so the language better coordinates with other state efforts. And that's on the Uinta Mountain unit plan again under Potential Threats to Habitats in the first paragraph, the second to last sentence. It says, Furthermore the public will be made aware through town councils and other local meetings, we would like to take out in an effort to get local support to reduce, we'd like to take that out and put in the word 'if' so it would read, local meetings if human disturbances to pronghorn and insert becomes an issue, and then we'd like to add a sentence that states that the DWR recognizes that there may be circumstances that require increased human activities within pronghorn units to properly manage lands and resources.

Brett Prevedel: Ok and that's bighorn units, right?

Ritchie Anderson: Bighorn units, yes. What did I say?

Brett Prevedel: Pronghorn.

Ritchie Anderson: Oh, I'm sorry. Bighorn, yes.

Dan Abeyta: Ritchie, could you read that last sentence again?

Ritchie Anderson: Well and the DWR can tweak this sentence a little bit or make it.. You know

the gist of what I'm trying to say, so if you need to tweak it, tweak it. But something to the effect, the DWR recognizes there may be circumstances that require increased human activities within the bighorn unit to properly manage lands and resources.

MOTION on the Uinta Mountain unit plan, under Potential Threats to Habitats in the first paragraph, the second to last sentence. It says, "Furthermore the public will be made aware through town councils and other local meetings", we would like to take out "in an effort to get local support to reduce" and change it to "local meetings if human disturbances to bighorn becomes an issue", and then we'd like to add a sentence that states that the DWR recognizes that there may be circumstances that require increased human activities within pronghorn units to properly manage lands and resources.

**Ritchie Anderson
Dick Bess, second
Passed 8-1**

Brett Prevedel: Are there any other specific motions? Ok I will entertain a motion to pass the remainder of the plan.

MOTION to pass the remainder of the plan as presented by the Division.

**Dan Abeyta
Natasha Hadden, second
Passed unanimously**

Miles Hanberg: I've got one thing I forgot to mention before, for the RAC members there's a new google group created you may have saw that. Basically the presentations are now recorded on youtube to the information packet so the Division will be allowing people to submit electronic comments. So those comments could be included into the community group folder to give you the opportunity to look at those comments and take them into consideration for your decisions. That's going to be an evolving process, this round we received no comments, no emails, so I suspect that may change later on in some of the other RACs, so I just wanted to make the RAC aware of that and to see if you had any feedback?

Brad Horrocks: We'll just have the opportunity to listen to them..

Miles Hanberg: Well you could get online and listen to DWRs presentation but the public comments will be an email comment that comes into that google group that way it won't flood your email boxes, but you can go to the google group and look at those emails.

Ritchie Anderson: I don't have a comment on that, but before we end I do have one comment, Chairman whenever you're ready. It's actually back tracking a little bit on the horse issue with Jamie coming into the meeting I would like to point out that there have been some recent articles come out in the paper, but what wasn't expressed in the paper was the Ute Tribe does recognize that there is an issue with horses and they've made steps. I know they gathered some this summer. I know they recently just shipped 60 head that they gathered and removed from the range, so I think we all recognize there's an issue and so I don't think that was quite pointed out and I think that those that were interviewed for the article didn't realize that the Tribe has started

making steps on some of those animals.

Brett Prevedel: Thank you and the article was not accurately written as the Book Cliffs working group amended to the paper and what came out in the paper was not, it was not reflected in our opinion, let me put it that way. So thank you for the comment and the group is actually working well with the Ute Tribe and they are a major partner.

Jamie Arrive: I do have a request though on your comment, if you could just limit the comment to say what Ritchie said, but at the same time we don't, I don't have the authority to give any specifics on numbers or anything that were given out, that has to come out by the Tribal Council. So any specifics to numbers or where round ups have to be permitted by them.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting.

Brad Horrocks

Dan Abeyta, second

2019 Conservation Permit Audit - Executive Summary

Organization	Carry Over Project Revenue	New Project Revenue 2019	Interest	Total Project Revenue Available	Project Expenditures During Current Audit Year	Remaining Funds Verified Bank Balance
UWSF	\$403,732.21	\$377,520.00	\$778.57	\$782,030.78	\$332,846.02	\$449,184.76
MDF	\$498,195.81	\$822,030.00	\$5,141.27	\$1,325,367.08	\$460,568.80	\$864,798.28
NWTF	\$207,383.27	\$115,860.00	\$0.00	\$323,243.27	\$194,076.36	\$129,166.91
RMEF	\$139,849.31	\$272,772.00	\$0.00	\$412,621.31	\$153,105.44	\$259,515.87
SCI	\$7,690.68	\$118,275.00	\$117.46	\$126,083.14	\$118,275.00	\$7,808.14
SFW	\$804,412.21	\$978,264.00	\$7,479.87	\$1,790,156.08	\$886,423.71	\$903,732.37
UBH	\$41,823.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41,823.93	\$41,823.93	\$0.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$2,103,087.42</i>	<i>\$2,684,721.00</i>	<i>\$13,517.17</i>	<i>\$4,801,325.59</i>	<i>\$2,187,119.26</i>	<i>\$2,614,206.33</i>



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Byron Bateman, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Kevin Albrecht, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2019 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Utah Archery Association

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Utah Archery Association has been conducted. This audit was not performed using generally accepted auditing standards, but is an internal audit designed 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 Archery Association was Kevin Adamson. UAA was given 0 of the 326 permits in 2019. Thus, there was no revenue reported, and no 30% of revenue payment required. Likewise, bank account statements were not obtained or reviewed as they were not necessary for the purposes of this particular audit. Utah Archery Association did have a carryover balance for projects that was spent out this year. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 0.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 0.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$ 0.00)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 0.00
Carry-over funds	\$ 41,823.93
Total:	\$ 41,823.93
Less 2019 Projects billed	(\$ 0.00)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 41,823.93
Check #208 to DWR	(\$ 41,823.93)
Adjusted Bank Balance	\$ 0.00



Page 2

October 3, 2019

Subject: 2019 Conservation Permit Internal Audit – Utah Archery Association

Findings and Recommendations

We sincerely thank the Utah Archery Association for their time, their prompt response, and willingness to provide the information requested. If you have any questions, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KJ', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

cc: Mike Fowlks
Wildlife Board Members
Utah Archery Association



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAEL D FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Utah Archery Association
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Subject: 2019 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Utah Archery Association,

It has been determined from the 2019 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$0.00. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Utah Archery Association concur on the above Project Fund balance.

UAA- Please Print Name

UAA- Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief



Utah Archery Association Conservation Permit Projects Funded

	FY17 Revenue	\$59,550.00
3977 Yellowjacket (Buck Pasture)	2018	\$2,206.07
3980 Book Cliffs Lower Elevation Guzzlers phase II	2018	\$3,500.00
4040 Salt Lake County Yellow Starthistle Mitigation	2018	\$3,154.00
4041 Grimes Wash Phase 2	2018	\$2,500.00
4059 Henefer WMA Browse Scalping and Fence	2018	\$3,000.00
4103 La Sal/Elk Ridge Prescribed Burn Projects	2018	\$3,500.00
4116 Keg Springs Arc Clearance for Bullhog	2018	\$2,500.00
4129 Traverse Mountain Winter Range Improvement	2018	\$2,316.00
4149 Watts Mountain Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2018	\$3,500.00
4169 FY18 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	2018	\$1,000.00
4180 FY18 DeerFawn/Adult Survival	2018	\$2,000.00
4181 FY18 Effects of Habitat Treatments on Mule Deer	2018	\$2,500.00
4183 FY18 Elk Movements Study	2018	\$2,000.00
4396 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$1,000.00
4415 Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$2,000.00
4433 Cockey Hollow phase II	2019	\$2,000.00
4435 Willow Fuels Project - Phase 1	2019	\$4,000.00
4438 SW Strawberry roads Phase 2	2019	\$2,000.00
4445 Anthro Guzzler Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4447 Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase I	2019	\$1,000.00
4453 Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek(cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$1,000.00
4471 Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$1,000.00
4477 Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter III and Unauthorized route decommission	2019	\$1,000.00
4488 South Canyon (Sunset Cliffs)	2019	\$1,000.00
4506 Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$2,000.00
4534 Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$1,000.00
4544 Parowan Front Mastication	2019	\$1,000.00
4545 South Slope Vegetation Restoration	2019	\$1,000.00
4556 Wallsburg WMA Shrub Planting	2019	\$2,000.00
4568 UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley Phase II	2019	\$873.93
		<u>\$59,550.00</u>

All 2017 Funds Expended

	FY18 Revenue	\$61,950.00
4568 UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley Phase II	2019	\$1,126.07
4569 Kamas WMA Boundary Fence	2019	\$1,000.00
4604 Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$1,000.00
4614 North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$2,000.00
4634 Dixie National Forest Guzzlers	2019	\$2,000.00
4636 Powell Guzzler Fencing/Maintenance	2019	\$1,000.00
4650 La Sal/North Elk Ridge Rx FY19	2019	\$2,000.00
4668 Mineral Mountains Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$2,000.00
4688 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists FY19	2019	\$2,000.00
4692 FY19 Northern Utah Elk Study	2019	\$2,000.00
4701 FY19 Bison captures	2019	\$2,000.00
4705 Utah Migration Initiative	2019	\$2,000.00
4965 Bookcliffs Big Game Guzzlers	2020	\$814.76
4842 Newfoundland Mtns Water Improvement FY20	2020	\$2,000.00
5029 Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$3,000.00
5030 FY20 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2020	\$641.94
5033 FY20 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2020	\$2,000.00
5034 FY20 DeerFawn/Adult Survival and Condition	2020	\$1,000.00
4982 Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020	\$5,000.00
4809 Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020	\$1,000.00
4812 Central Region Shrub Restoration Projects FY2020	2020	\$2,000.00
4856 South Slope Vegetation Restoration Phase 2	2020	\$2,000.00
4799 Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase II	2020	\$2,000.00

Utah Archery Association Conservation Permit Projects Funded

4846 Raft River Aspen Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$1,000.00
4819 Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020	\$2,000.00
4734 Miller Creek Watershed Restoration 2.0	2020	\$2,000.00
4860 Shingle Mill Phase 1	2020	\$4,000.00
4882 La Sal/Abajo Prescribed Fire FY20	2020	\$1,000.00
4777 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 4	2020	\$2,000.00
4778 Pine Canyon to Koosharem Creek/Bell Rock Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project - I	2020	\$3,000.00
4818 Indian Peaks WMA Mule Deer Habitat Improvement Project	2020	\$2,544.23
4625 Red Canyon Habitat Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$1,000.00
4989 Skutumpah Terrace Chalk Ridge	2020	\$1,823.00
		<u>\$61,950.00</u>

All 2018 Funds Expended

Remaining Balance		\$0.00
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2019 Conservation Permit Audit - Executive Summary

Organization	Carry Over Project Revenue	New Project Revenue 2019	Interest	Total Project Revenue Available	Project Expenditures During Current Audit Year	Remaining Funds Verified Bank Balance
UWSF	\$403,732.21	\$377,520.00	\$778.57	\$782,030.78	\$332,846.02	\$449,184.76
MDF	\$498,195.81	\$822,030.00	\$5,141.27	\$1,325,367.08	\$460,568.80	\$864,798.28
NWTF	\$207,383.27	\$115,860.00	\$0.00	\$323,243.27	\$194,076.36	\$129,166.91
RMEF	\$139,849.31	\$272,772.00	\$0.00	\$412,621.31	\$153,105.44	\$259,515.87
SCI	\$7,690.68	\$118,275.00	\$117.46	\$126,083.14	\$118,275.00	\$7,808.14
SFW	\$804,412.21	\$978,264.00	\$7,479.87	\$1,790,156.08	\$886,423.71	\$903,732.37
UBH	\$41,823.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41,823.93	\$41,823.93	\$0.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$2,103,087.42</i>	<i>\$2,684,721.00</i>	<i>\$13,517.17</i>	<i>\$4,801,325.59</i>	<i>\$2,187,119.26</i>	<i>\$2,614,206.33</i>



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Byron Bateman, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Kevin Albrecht, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2019 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 not performed using generally accepted auditing standards, but is an internal audit designed 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 Kelly Kreis. All information requested was promptly provided. SFW was given 122 of the 326 permits in 2019. At the time of sale Division staff independently verified the auction price of 79 permits sold and compared that with the price being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$1,630,440.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	<u>(\$ 163,044.00)</u>
Less 30% remitted to DWR	<u>(\$ 489,132.00)</u>
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 978,264.00
Carry-over funds	\$ 804,412.21
Interest Accrued for projects	<u>\$ 7,479.87</u>
Total:	\$1,790,156.08
Less Projects billed	<u>(\$ 886,423.71)</u>
Funds remaining for projects	<u>\$ 903,732.37</u>
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$1,555,908.37
Adjustments	<u>(\$ 652,176.00)</u>
Adjusted Bank Balance	<u>\$ 903,732.37</u>



October 3, 2019

Subject: 2019 Conservation Permit Audit – Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife

Findings and Recommendations

All 2019 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account. There were two adjustments identified through the reconciliation process as follows:

Check #0005 to DWR (30% of permit proceeds)	(\$ 489,132.00)
10% can be removed from SFW Permit account	(\$ 163,044.00)
Total Adjustment	<u>(\$ 652,176.00)</u>

SFWs 30% payment was submitted after the deadline. SFW has committed to meeting the deadline in the future. 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 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

cc: Mike Fowlks
Wildlife Board Members
Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAEL D FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW)
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Subject: 2019 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife,

It has been determined from the 2019 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$903,732.37. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Sportsmen for Wildlife concur on the above Project Fund balance.

SFW- Please Print Name

SFW- Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief



Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife Conservation Permit Projects Funded

	FY17 Revenue	\$869,805.00
4188 FY18 Wildlife Migration Initiative	2018	\$68,636.60
4466 Bighorn Sheep Specialist	2018	\$27,500.00
3946 Ranch Creek Watershed Improvement Project Phase I	2019	\$15,000.00
4207 Miller Creek Watershed Restoration	2019	\$10,000.00
4322 Range Creek Phase I Maintenance	2019	\$2,000.00
4374 Colorado River Watershed Restoration 2.0	2019	\$5,000.00
4385 Flaming Gorge Bighorn Sheep Habitat Lop & Scatter Phase II	2019	\$20,000.00
4386 Bear Mountain & Sheep Creek Conifer Encroachment Lop & Scatter	2019	\$15,000.00
4396 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$30,000.00
4402 Little Bear Valley to Fremont Canyon Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Restoration	2019	\$5,000.00
4415 Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$20,000.00
4419 Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 1	2019	\$50,000.00
4420 Temple Fork Juniper Restoration 4	2019	\$10,000.00
4423 Cedar Mesa "Buck Pasture" Seeding	2019	\$25,000.00
4426 Dairy Fork Bullhog Project	2019	\$30,000.00
4427 Ephraim Canyon Bullhog	2019	\$30,000.00
4428 Sheeprocks Beaver Dam Analogues Phase 2	2019	\$1,800.00
4433 Cockey Hollow phase II	2019	\$20,000.00
4444 Book Cliffs Bison Habitat Enhancement Cherry Mesa	2019	\$5,000.00
4445 Anthro Guzzler Project	2019	\$5,000.00
4447 Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase I	2019	\$3,100.00
4448 Red Creek Rabbit brush Control Project	2019	\$3,125.00
4453 Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek(cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$40,000.00
4464 Anthro Lop and Scatter (Wildhorse Ridge)	2019	\$5,000.00
4471 Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$5,000.00
4472 Lake Fork Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2019	\$5,000.00
4474 Southeast Dutton Ponds	2019	\$1,000.00
4476 Devil's Canyon	2019	\$50,000.00
4477 Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter III and Unauthorized route decommission	2019	\$30,000.00
4486 Kyune Creek Prescribed Fire	2019	\$10,000.00
4488 South Canyon (Sunset Cliffs)	2019	\$10,000.00
4491 West Slope WUI Phase 4	2019	\$10,000.00
4494 Cow Hollow	2019	\$5,000.00
4506 Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$43,445.33
4522 South Bookcliffs Phase 6 (Blaze)	2019	\$15,000.00
4534 Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$5,000.00
4544 Parowan Front Mastication	2019	\$24,541.50
4545 South Slope Vegetation Restoration	2019	\$15,552.50
4548 Gregory Basin wildlife friendly fence.	2019	\$683.36
4556 Wallsburg WMA Shrub Planting	2019	\$7,237.50
4557 SER Guzzler Maintenance FY19	2019	\$9,328.50
4568 UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley Phase II	2019	\$25,000.00
4569 Kamas WMA Boundary Fence	2019	\$3,000.00
4571 Quarry Springs Water Enhancement Project	2019	\$7,191.50
4590 Henefer WMA Browse Scalping and Pipeline Arc Clearance	2019	\$29,595.00
4604 Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$20,000.00
4605 Northern Region WMA Annual Browse Enhancement	2019	\$4,060.00
4614 North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$25,000.00
4615 Timpanogos, Santaquin and Levan WMAs Shrub Planting Project	2019	\$10,300.00
4634 Dixie National Forest Guzzlers	2019	\$15,200.00
4636 Powell Guzzler Fencing/Maintenance	2019	\$1,000.00
4648 Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project - Phase II	2019	\$5,000.00
4649 Hell Hole Pass Guzzler	2019	\$10,000.00
4650 La Sal/North Elk Ridge Rx FY19	2019	\$17,800.00
4657 White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$3,708.21
		<hr/>
		\$869,805.00

All 2017 Funds Expended

Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife Conservation Permit Projects Funded

	FY18 Revenue	\$955,737.00
4657 White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$6,291.79
4662 Bob Jones Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$7,250.00
4667 Center Creek Chaining Project	2019	\$15,000.00
4668 Mineral Mountains Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$8,750.00
4688 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists FY19	2019	\$4,000.00
4692 FY19 Northern Utah Elk Study	2019	\$4,812.50
4698 FY19 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2019	\$3,064.00
4699 FY19 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2019	\$25,281.50
4701 FY19 Bison captures	2019	\$12,875.00
4705 Utah Migration Initiative	2019	\$64,000.00
5053 Flat Canyon USFS Allotment FY19	2019	\$112,500.00
4754 Zion Bighorn Sheep Unit	2019	\$16,000.00
5032 Wildlife Crossing US191 mp 62.6 to 67	2019	\$13,000.00
4748 Feral Horse Film Funding FY19	2019	\$5,000.00
4730 Curtis Ridge Lop & Scatter	2019	\$40,000.00
5041 FY20 Bighorn Sheep Specialist	2020	\$32,500.00
5029 Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$6,420.78
4807 Replacement of Loafer Mountain Wildlife Management Area Guzzlers	2020	\$10,600.00
5030 FY20 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2020	\$29,489.43
5033 FY20 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2020	\$9,248.50
5034 FY20 DeerFawn/Adult Survival and Condition	2020	\$48,890.50
4982 Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020	\$43,525.00
4804 Dairy Fork Bullhog	2020	\$25,000.00
4809 Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020	\$5,000.00
4812 Central Region Shrub Restoration Projects FY2020	2020	\$40,664.00
4917 Willow Creek WMA Aquatic and Terrestrial Improvement Project 2020	2020	\$15,000.00
4856 South Slope Vegetation Restoration Phase 2	2020	\$10,000.00
4025 Home Ranch Bullhog	2020	\$10,000.00
4819 Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020	\$75,000.00
4814 Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 2	2020	\$25,865.50
4734 Miller Creek Watershed Restoration 2.0	2020	\$30,000.00
4837 North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 4)	2020	\$45,000.00
4836 South Bookcliffs Phase 7 (Nash)	2020	\$15,000.00
4860 Shingle Mill Phase 1	2020	\$10,000.00
4882 La Sal/Abajo Prescribed Fire FY20	2020	\$20,000.00
5012 Mahogany Point Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement	2020	\$10,000.00
4777 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 4	2020	\$10,000.00
4993 Powell District Mud Springs phase II	2020	\$10,000.00
4778 Pine Canyon to Koosharem Creek/Bell Rock Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project - Pha	2020	\$10,000.00
4818 Indian Peaks WMA Mule Deer Habitat Improvement Project	2020	\$20,000.00
4625 Red Canyon Habitat Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$10,000.00
4989 Skutumpah Terrace Chalk Ridge	2020	\$20,000.00
4959 Center Creek Chaining Project Phase II	2020	\$20,000.00
4990 Parowan Front Braffits Creek	2020	\$708.50
		<hr/>
		\$955,737.00

All 2018 Funds Expended

	FY19 Revenue	\$978,264.00
4990 Parowan Front Braffits Creek	2020	\$39,291.50
4928 Northern Region WMA Browse and Water Enhancements	2020	\$33,000.00
4789 Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 3	2020	\$2,240.13
		<hr/>
		\$74,531.63

Remaining Balance	\$903,732.37
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2019 Conservation Permit Audit - Executive Summary

Organization	Carry Over Project Revenue	New Project Revenue 2019	Interest	Total Project Revenue Available	Project Expenditures During Current Audit Year	Remaining Funds Verified Bank Balance
UWSF	\$403,732.21	\$377,520.00	\$778.57	\$782,030.78	\$332,846.02	\$449,184.76
MDF	\$498,195.81	\$822,030.00	\$5,141.27	\$1,325,367.08	\$460,568.80	\$864,798.28
NWTF	\$207,383.27	\$115,860.00	\$0.00	\$323,243.27	\$194,076.36	\$129,166.91
RMEF	\$139,849.31	\$272,772.00	\$0.00	\$412,621.31	\$153,105.44	\$259,515.87
SCI	\$7,690.68	\$118,275.00	\$117.46	\$126,083.14	\$118,275.00	\$7,808.14
SFW	\$804,412.21	\$978,264.00	\$7,479.87	\$1,790,156.08	\$886,423.71	\$903,732.37
UBH	\$41,823.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41,823.93	\$41,823.93	\$0.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$2,103,087.42</i>	<i>\$2,684,721.00</i>	<i>\$13,517.17</i>	<i>\$4,801,325.59</i>	<i>\$2,187,119.26</i>	<i>\$2,614,206.33</i>



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Byron Bateman, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Kevin Albrecht, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief
Subject: 2019 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Utah Wild Sheep Foundation (UWSF)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the Utah Wild Sheep Foundation has been conducted. This audit was not performed using generally accepted auditing standards, but is an internal audit designed 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 UWSF was Swen Mortenson. All information requested was promptly provided. UWSF was given 16 of the 326 permits for 2019. At the time of sale Division staff independently verified auction price of 1 permit sold and compared that with the prices being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Total Permit Revenue (\$629,200.00), Less 10% retained for administrative expenses (\$62,920.00), Less 30% remitted to DWR (\$188,760.00), Total retained by organization for project(s) (\$377,520.00), Carry-over funds (\$403,732.21), Interest Accrued for Projects (\$778.21), Total (\$782,030.78), Less 2019 Projects paid (\$332,846.02), Funds remaining for projects (\$449,184.76), Verified Bank Statement Balance (\$637,944.76), Adjustment (\$188,760.00), and Adjusted Bank Balance (\$449,184.76).



Findings and Recommendations

All 2019 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account. There was one adjustments identified through the reconciliation process as follows:

Check #1008 to DWR (30% of permit proceeds)	(\$188,760.00)
Total adjustment	(\$188,760.00)

We sincerely thank UWSF 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,



Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

cc: Mike Fowlks
Wildlife Board Members
UWSF



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL D FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Utah Wild Sheep Foundation (UWSF)
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Subject: 2019 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Utah Wild Sheep Foundation,

It has been determined from the 2019 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$ 449,184.76. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Utah Wild Sheep Foundation concur on the above state Project Fund balance.

UWSF – Please Print Name

UWSF - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief



Utah Wild Sheep Foundation Conservation Permit Projects Funded

	FY17 Revenue	\$346,995.00
4185 FY18 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2018	\$18,699.21
4385 Flaming Gorge Bighorn Sheep Habitat Lop & Scatter Phase II	2019	\$70,922.34
4386 Bear Mountain & Sheep Creek Conifer Encroachment Lop & Scatter	2019	\$75,000.00
4415 Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$5,000.00
4419 Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 1	2019	\$5,000.00
4420 Temple Fork Juniper Restoration 4	2019	\$5,000.00
4423 Cedar Mesa "Buck Pasture" Seeding	2019	\$10,000.00
4428 Sheeprocks Beaver Dam Analogues Phase 2	2019	\$1,000.00
4453 Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek(cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$7,000.00
4464 Anthro Lop and Scatter (Wildhorse Ridge)	2019	\$2,000.00
4476 Devil's Canyon	2019	\$10,000.00
4506 Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$43,445.33
4522 South Bookcliffs Phase 6 (Blaze)	2019	\$25,000.00
4534 Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$2,000.00
4551 Lower Price River Riparian and Instream Habitat Restoration: Phase 1	2019	\$20,000.00
4558 Dolores River Restoration 2.0 - Utah	2019	\$15,000.00
4569 Kamas WMA Boundary Fence	2019	\$700.12
4571 Quarry Springs Water Enhancement Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4657 White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$5,000.00
4662 Bob Jones Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$2,000.00
4683 FY19 Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat Biologist III	2019	\$22,228.00
		\$346,995.00

All 2017 Funds Expended

	FY18 Revenue	\$392,805.00
4683 FY19 Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat Biologist III	2019	\$7,772.00
4466 Bighorn Specialist	2019	\$27,500.00
4748 Feral Horse Film Funding FY19	2019	\$5,000.00
5053 Flat Canyon USFS Allotment FY19	2019	\$112,500.00
4825 Cedar Mountains Big Game and Chukar Guzzlers	2020	\$4,200.00
4966 Bookcliffs Guzzler Repair	2020 \$	2,000.00
4965 Bookcliffs Big Game Guzzlers	2020 \$	2,000.00
4842 Newfoundland Mtns Water Improvement FY20	2020 \$	2,727.21
4842 Newfoundland Mtns Water Improvement FY20	2020 \$	4,125.00
4922 FY20 Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat Biologist	2020 \$	31,000.00
5013 Pass Canyon Bighorn Sheep Guzzler	2020 \$	60,000.00
5029 Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020 \$	5,000.00
5030 FY20 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2020 \$	29,489.43
4982 Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020 \$	10,000.00
4809 Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020 \$	2,000.00
4812 Central Region Shrub Restoration Projects FY2020	2020 \$	5,000.00
4819 Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020 \$	10,826.60
		\$321,140.24

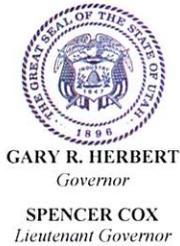
Remaining 2018 Revenue \$71,664.76

FY19 Revenue \$377,520.00

Remaining Balance \$449,184.76
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2019 Conservation Permit Audit - Executive Summary

Organization	Carry Over Project Revenue	New Project Revenue 2019	Interest	Total Project Revenue Available	Project Expenditures During Current Audit Year	Remaining Funds Verified Bank Balance
UWSF	\$403,732.21	\$377,520.00	\$778.57	\$782,030.78	\$332,846.02	\$449,184.76
MDF	\$498,195.81	\$822,030.00	\$5,141.27	\$1,325,367.08	\$460,568.80	\$864,798.28
NWTF	\$207,383.27	\$115,860.00	\$0.00	\$323,243.27	\$194,076.36	\$129,166.91
RMEF	\$139,849.31	\$272,772.00	\$0.00	\$412,621.31	\$153,105.44	\$259,515.87
SCI	\$7,690.68	\$118,275.00	\$117.46	\$126,083.14	\$118,275.00	\$7,808.14
SFW	\$804,412.21	\$978,264.00	\$7,479.87	\$1,790,156.08	\$886,423.71	\$903,732.37
UBH	\$41,823.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41,823.93	\$41,823.93	\$0.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$2,103,087.42</i>	<i>\$2,684,721.00</i>	<i>\$13,517.17</i>	<i>\$4,801,325.59</i>	<i>\$2,187,119.26</i>	<i>\$2,614,206.33</i>



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Byron Bateman, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Kevin Albrecht, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief
Subject: 2019 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Safari Club International (SCI)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Safari Club International (SCI) has been conducted. This audit was not performed using generally accepted auditing standards, but is an internal audit designed 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 Kyle Witherspoon. Safari Club International was given 40 of the 326 permits for 2019. At the time of sale Division staff independently verified the auction price of 14 permits sold and compared that with the price being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Total Permit Revenue, Less 10% retained for administrative expenses, Less 30% remitted to DWR, Total retained by organization for project(s), Carry-over funds, Interest Accrued for Projects, Total, Less 2020 Projects billed, Funds remaining for projects, Bank Statement Balance, Adjustments, and Adjusted Bank Balance.



Findings and Recommendations

All 2019 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account. There were three adjustments identified through the reconciliation process as follows:

10% can be removed from SCI Permit account	(\$ 19,715.50)
Check #0002 to DWR (30% of permit proceeds)	(\$ 59,137.50)
Check #0001 to DWR (FY2020 projects and prepaid miscellaneous future projects)	(\$ 118,275.00)
Total Adjustments	<u>(\$ 197,125.00)</u>

We sincerely thank SCI for their time, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,


Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

cc: Mike Fowlks
Wildlife Board Members
Safari Club International



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL D FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Safari Club International (SCI)
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Subject: 2019 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Safari Club International,

It has been determined from the 2019 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$7,808.14. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Safari Club International concur on the above Project Fund balance.

SCI – Please Print Name

SCI - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief



Safari Club International Conservation Permit Projects Funded

	FY17 Revenue	\$129,852.00
3939 Blanding East Phase II	2018	\$1,413.68
3950 Swasey Wildlife Habitat Improvement and Hazardous Fuels Reduction Phase 8	2018	\$3,000.00
3953 UKC Glendale Bench	2018	\$3,000.00
3959 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 2	2018	\$5,000.00
3961 South Bookcliffs Phase 5 (Bryson)	2018	\$3,000.00
3965 Antelope-Pine Valley Hand Thinning	2018	\$3,000.00
3966 Antimony (Forest Creek)	2018	\$5,000.00
3977 Yellowjacket (Buck Pasture)	2018	\$5,000.00
3980 Book Cliffs Lower Elevation Guzzlers phase II	2018	\$8,000.00
3985 Government Creek Meadow Stabilization and Restoration	2018	\$3,000.00
3995 Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 1	2018	\$6,000.00
4018 Dark Canyon Plateau Phase 4	2018	\$5,000.00
4034 Brush Hole Phase 2	2018	\$2,000.00
4040 Salt Lake County Yellow Starthistle Mitigation	2018	\$3,000.00
4041 Grimes Wash Phase 2	2018	\$2,000.00
4055 Tidwell Slope/Geyser Peak Pond Maintenance Project	2018	\$2,000.00
4059 Henefer WMA Browse Scalping and Fence	2018	\$6,500.00
4085 Little Creek Ridge Guzzlers	2018	\$3,000.00
4096 Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter II	2018	\$5,000.00
4103 La Sal/Elk Ridge Prescribed Burn Projects	2018	\$5,000.00
4128 Cedar City to Parowan I-15 Deer Fence and Double Cattle Guards Ph 2	2018	\$3,000.00
4146 Wide Canyon Water Enhancement Project Phase II	2018	\$2,500.00
4147 Long Canyon Water Enhancement Project	2018	\$4,900.00
4149 Watts Mountain Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2018	\$5,000.00
4169 FY18 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	2018	\$2,500.00
4181 FY18 Effects of Habitat Treatments on Mule Deer	2018	\$2,500.00
4182 FY18 Determinants of Population Growth in Utah Moose	2018	\$10,000.00
4183 FY18 Elk Movements Study	2018	\$2,500.00
4185 FY18 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2018	\$5,000.00
4187 FY18 Parker Mtn Pronghorn Capture and Monitoring	2018	\$1,000.00
4207 Miller Creek Watershed Restoration	2019	\$2,000.00
4322 Range Creek Phase I Maintenance	2019	\$2,000.00
4386 Bear Mountain & Sheep Creek Conifer Encroachment Lop & Scatter	2019	\$3,000.00
4396 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$3,000.00
4402 Little Bear Valley to Fremont Canyon Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Restoration	2019	\$2,038.32
		\$129,852.00

All 2017 Funds Expended

	FY18 Revenue	\$127,650.00
4402 Little Bear Valley to Fremont Canyon Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Restoration	2019	\$5,461.68
4415 Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$3,000.00
4427 Ephraim Canyon Bullhog	2019	\$5,000.00
4428 Sheeprocks Beaver Dam Analogues Phase 2	2019	\$1,000.00
4433 Cockey Hollow phase II	2019	\$5,000.00
4438 SW Strawberry roads Phase 2	2019	\$3,000.00
4444 Book Cliffs Bison Habitat Enhancement Cherry Mesa	2019	\$5,000.00
4447 Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase I	2019	\$2,000.00
4453 Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek(cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$4,000.00
4470 Parowan Stake/Parowan Gap/Paragonah Cattle/Willow Spring Vegetation Improvement F	2019	\$3,000.00
4471 Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$2,000.00
4472 Lake Fork Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4473 Left Fork Stewardship Project Phase II	2019	\$3,000.00
4474 Southeast Dutton Ponds	2019	\$3,000.00
4486 Kyune Creek Prescribed Fire	2019	\$3,000.00
4494 Cow Hollow	2019	\$2,000.00
4506 Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$7,500.00
4522 South Bookcliffs Phase 6 (Blaze)	2019	\$3,000.00

Safari Club International Conservation Permit Projects Funded

4534 Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$2,000.00
4544 Parowan Front Mastication	2019	\$2,000.00
4545 South Slope Vegetation Restoration	2019	\$2,000.00
4556 Wallsburg WMA Shrub Planting	2019	\$2,500.00
4569 Kamas WMA Boundary Fence	2019	\$1,000.00
4571 Quarry Springs Water Enhancement Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4604 Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$5,000.00
4614 North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$5,000.00
4634 Dixie National Forest Guzzlers	2019	\$5,000.00
4636 Powell Guzzler Fencing/Maintenance	2019	\$933.64
4648 Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project - Phase II	2019	\$2,000.00
4650 La Sal/North Elk Ridge Rx FY19	2019	\$7,500.00
4662 Bob Jones Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$3,000.00
4688 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists FY19	2019	\$2,000.00
4698 FY19 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2019	\$3,064.00
4701 FY19 Bison captures	2019	\$3,000.00
4705 Utah Migration Initiative	2019	\$10,000.00
4334 Watts Mountain Pipeline Project	2020	\$2,014.55
5029 Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$5,676.13
		<u>\$127,650.00</u>

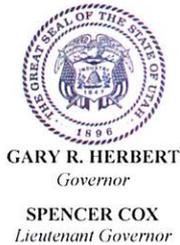
All 2018 Funds Expended

	FY19 Revenue	\$118,275.00
5029 Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$4,323.87
5030 FY20 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2020	\$1,604.87
5031 FY20 Mountain Goat Captures	2020	\$6,750.00
5033 FY20 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2020	\$5,000.00
5034 FY20 DeerFawn/Adult Survival and Condition	2020	\$3,000.00
4982 Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020	\$20,000.00
4804 Dairy Fork Bullhog	2020	\$10,000.00
4809 Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020	\$5,000.00
4812 Central Region Shrub Restoration Projects FY2020	2020	\$10,000.00
4917 Willow Creek WMA Aquatic and Terrestrial Improvement Project 2020	2020	\$5,000.00
4856 South Slope Vegetation Restoration Phase 2	2020	\$5,000.00
4799 Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase II	2020	\$5,000.00
4846 Raft River Aspen Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$3,000.00
4819 Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020	\$5,000.00
4816 UWC FS North Zone Juniper Lop and Scatter FY20	2020	\$5,000.00
Misc future projects	2021	\$16,788.12
		<u>\$110,466.86</u>

Remaining Balance	\$7,808.14
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2019 Conservation Permit Audit - Executive Summary

Organization	Carry Over Project Revenue	New Project Revenue 2019	Interest	Total Project Revenue Available	Project Expenditures During Current Audit Year	Remaining Funds Verified Bank Balance
UWSF	\$403,732.21	\$377,520.00	\$778.57	\$782,030.78	\$332,846.02	\$449,184.76
MDF	\$498,195.81	\$822,030.00	\$5,141.27	\$1,325,367.08	\$460,568.80	\$864,798.28
NWTF	\$207,383.27	\$115,860.00	\$0.00	\$323,243.27	\$194,076.36	\$129,166.91
RMEF	\$139,849.31	\$272,772.00	\$0.00	\$412,621.31	\$153,105.44	\$259,515.87
SCI	\$7,690.68	\$118,275.00	\$117.46	\$126,083.14	\$118,275.00	\$7,808.14
SFW	\$804,412.21	\$978,264.00	\$7,479.87	\$1,790,156.08	\$886,423.71	\$903,732.37
UBH	\$41,823.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41,823.93	\$41,823.93	\$0.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$2,103,087.42</i>	<i>\$2,684,721.00</i>	<i>\$13,517.17</i>	<i>\$4,801,325.59</i>	<i>\$2,187,119.26</i>	<i>\$2,614,206.33</i>



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 BRIAN STEED
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
 MICHAL FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Byron Bateman, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
 Kevin Albrecht, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2019 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 not performed using generally accepted auditing standards, but is an internal audit designed 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 RMEF was Alex Clipperman. All information requested was promptly provided. RMEF was given 40 of the 326 permits in 2019. At the time of sale Division staff independently verified the auction price of 7 permits sold and compared that with the price being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 454,620.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 45,462.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	<u>(\$136,386.00)</u>
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 272,772.00
Carry-over funds	<u>\$ 139,849.31</u>
Total:	\$ 412,621.31
Less 2018 Projects billed	<u>(\$153,105.44)</u>
Funds remaining for projects	<u>\$259,515.87</u>
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$259,515.87
Adjustment	<u>(\$ 0.00)</u>
Adjusted Bank Balance	<u>\$259,515.87</u>



Page 2

October 3, 2019

Subject: 2019 Conservation Permit Audit – Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Findings and Recommendations

All 2019 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account. There were no adjustments identified through the reconciliation process. 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 'KJ', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

cc: Mike Fowlks
Wildlife Board Members
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAEL D FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF)
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Subject: 2019 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation,

It has been determined from the 2019 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$ 259,515.87. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation concur on the above Project Fund balance.

RMEF – Please Print Name

RMEF - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief



Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Conservation Permit Projects Funded

	FY17 Revenue	\$229,707.00
3253 Telephone Hollow Lop and Scatter Phase II	2018	\$3,712.69
3605 Birdseye WMA Bullhog Project	2018	\$5,000.00
3829 FY17 Elk Movements Study	2018	\$10,000.00
3832 FY17 Determinants of Population Growth in Utah Moose	2018	\$2,000.00
3889 Hardware Ranch WMA Grazing Allotment Fence Project	2018	\$1,100.00
3901 Nebo creek, Spencer Fork Spring Enhancement Project	2018	\$2,000.00
3906 Sheep Creek Rx	2018	\$10,000.00
3926 Book Cliffs Bison Habitat Enhancement	2018	\$10,000.00
3928 Warren Draw Water Project	2018	\$2,500.00
3929 Westside Northeastern Region WMA's Water Development Project	2018	\$9,200.00
3959 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 2	2018	\$30,000.00
3980 Book Cliffs Lower Elevation Guzzlers phase II	2018	\$2,500.00
3995 Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 1	2018	\$5,000.00
4043 Cold Springs WMA Conifer Removal Aspen Regeneration Phase V	2018	\$5,000.00
4059 Henefer WMA Browse Scalping and Fence	2018	\$10,000.00
4078 Trail Mountain Wildlife Habitat Enhancement and Aspen Regeneration Project	2018	\$5,000.00
4085 Little Creek Ridge Guzzlers	2018	\$5,000.00
4099 Chipeta Canyon Guzzler Replacement	2018	\$2,800.00
4103 La Sal/Elk Ridge Prescribed Burn Projects	2018	\$10,000.00
4149 Watts Mountain Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2018	\$6,900.00
4183 FY18 Elk Movements Study	2018	\$10,000.00
4185 FY18 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2018	\$25,000.00
4187 FY18 Parker Mtn Pronghorn Capture and Monitoring	2018	\$1,000.00
4188 FY18 Wildlife Migration Initiative	2018	\$25,000.00
4385 Flaming Gorge Bighorn Sheep Habitat Lop & Scatter Phase II	2019	\$5,000.00
4386 Bear Mountain & Sheep Creek Conifer Encroachment Lop & Scatter	2019	\$5,000.00
4396 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$20,000.00
4415 Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$994.31
		<hr/>
		\$229,707.00

All 2017 Funds Expended

	FY18 Revenue	\$273,855.00
4415 Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$4,005.69
4427 Ephraim Canyon Bullhog	2019	\$5,000.00
4433 Cockey Hollow phase II	2019	\$10,000.00
4435 Willow Fuels Project - Phase 1	2019	\$20,000.00
4438 SW Strawberry roads Phase 2	2019	\$2,000.00
4445 Anthro Guzzler Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4446 Death Valley Guzzler Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4447 Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase I	2019	\$2,000.00
4453 Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek(cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$7,123.50
4471 Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$5,000.00
4474 Southeast Dutton Ponds	2019	\$2,000.00
4477 Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter III and Unauthorized route decommission	2019	\$2,000.00
4494 Cow Hollow	2019	\$1,000.00
4506 Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$10,000.00
4545 South Slope Vegetation Restoration	2019	\$2,000.00
4548 Gregory Basin wildlife friendly fence.	2019	\$2,000.00
4569 Kamas WMA Boundary Fence	2019	\$1,000.00
4604 Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$5,000.00
4605 Northern Region WMA Annual Browse Enhancement	2019	\$2,000.00
4614 North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$10,000.00
4634 Dixie National Forest Guzzlers	2019	\$2,000.00
4657 White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$2,000.00
4662 Bob Jones Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$2,000.00
4668 Mineral Mountains Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$2,000.00
4688 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists FY19	2019	\$2,000.00

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Conservation Permit Projects Funded

4692 FY19 Northern Utah Elk Study	2019	\$4,812.50
4698 FY19 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2019	\$3,064.00
4705 Utah Migration Initiative	2019	\$20,000.00
5029 Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$7,962.11
4807 Replacement of Loafer Mountain Wildlife Management Area Guzzlers	2020	\$3,100.00
5030 FY20 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2020	\$8,024.33
5033 FY20 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2020	\$3,000.00
4982 Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020	\$28,000.00
4804 Dairy Fork Bullhog	2020	\$3,000.00
4809 Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020	\$1,000.00
4917 Willow Creek WMA Aquatic and Terrestrial Improvement Project 2020	2020	\$3,000.00
4856 South Slope Vegetation Restoration Phase 2	2020	\$5,000.00
4799 Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase II	2020	\$5,000.00
4846 Raft River Aspen Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$2,000.00
4819 Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020	\$15,000.00
4816 UWC FS North Zone Juniper Lop and Scatter FY20	2020	\$5,000.00
4814 Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 2	2020	\$3,000.00
4734 Miller Creek Watershed Restoration 2.0	2020	\$10,000.00
4836 South Bookcliffs Phase 7 (Nash)	2020	\$2,000.00
4860 Shingle Mill Phase 1	2020	\$5,000.00
4835 Grimes Wash Phase 3	2020	\$2,000.00
4840 Cold Springs WMA Conifer Removal Aspen Regeneration Phase VI	2020	\$3,000.00
4882 La Sal/Abajo Prescribed Fire FY20	2020	\$5,000.00
4993 Powell District Mud Springs phase II	2020	\$2,000.00
4778 Pine Canyon to Koosharem Creek/Bell Rock Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project - Pha	2020	\$13,000.00
4818 Indian Peaks WMA Mule Deer Habitat Improvement Project	2020	<u>\$5,762.87</u>
		\$273,855.00

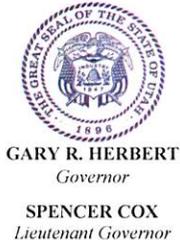
All 2018 Funds Expended

	FY19 Revenue	\$272,772.00
4818 Indian Peaks WMA Mule Deer Habitat Improvement Project	2020	\$4,237.13
4959 Center Creek Chaining Project Phase II	2020	\$5,000.00
4958 Sevy Bench Habitat Improvement Project	2020	\$2,000.00
4072 Raspberry Canyon Habitat Restoration Project	2020	<u>\$2,019.00</u>
		\$13,256.13

Remaining Balance	\$259,515.87
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2019 Conservation Permit Audit - Executive Summary

Organization	Carry Over Project Revenue	New Project Revenue 2019	Interest	Total Project Revenue Available	Project Expenditures During Current Audit Year	Remaining Funds Verified Bank Balance
UWSF	\$403,732.21	\$377,520.00	\$778.57	\$782,030.78	\$332,846.02	\$449,184.76
MDF	\$498,195.81	\$822,030.00	\$5,141.27	\$1,325,367.08	\$460,568.80	\$864,798.28
NWTF	\$207,383.27	\$115,860.00	\$0.00	\$323,243.27	\$194,076.36	\$129,166.91
RMEF	\$139,849.31	\$272,772.00	\$0.00	\$412,621.31	\$153,105.44	\$259,515.87
SCI	\$7,690.68	\$118,275.00	\$117.46	\$126,083.14	\$118,275.00	\$7,808.14
SFW	\$804,412.21	\$978,264.00	\$7,479.87	\$1,790,156.08	\$886,423.71	\$903,732.37
UBH	\$41,823.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41,823.93	\$41,823.93	\$0.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$2,103,087.42</i>	<i>\$2,684,721.00</i>	<i>\$13,517.17</i>	<i>\$4,801,325.59</i>	<i>\$2,187,119.26</i>	<i>\$2,614,206.33</i>



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 BRIAN STEED
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
 MICHAL FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Byron Bateman, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
 Kevin Albrecht, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2019 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 not performed using generally accepted auditing standards, but is an internal audit designed 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 Jeremy Snitker. All information requested was promptly provided. MDF was given 72 of the 326 permits in 2019. At the time of sale Division staff independently verified auction prices of 38 permits sold and compared that with the prices being reported. The bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$1,370,050.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 137,005.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$ 411,015.00)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 822,030.00
Carry-over funds	\$ 498,195.81
Interest Accrued for Projects	\$ 5,141.27
Total:	\$1,325,367.08
Less 2019 Projects billed	(\$ 75,000.00)
Less 2020 Projects billed	(\$ 385,568.80)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 864,798.28
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 1,696,239.52
Adjustment	(\$ 831,441.24)
Adjusted Bank Balance	\$ 864,798.28



October 3, 2019

Subject: 2019 Conservation Permit Audit – Mule Deer Foundation

Findings and Recommendations

All 2019 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account. There were three adjustments identified through the reconciliation process as follows:

Check # 1061 to DWR (30% of permit proceeds)	(\$ 411,015.00)
Check # 1060 to DWR (FY2020 Project Billing)	(\$ 385,568.80)
Over Deposit of 2019 permit funds	(\$ 34,857.44)
Total adjustment	<u>(\$ 831,441.24)</u>

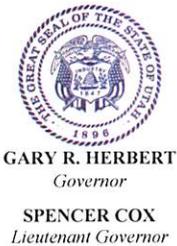
MDF was contacted regarding the over deposit of 2019 permit funds and it was confirmed that the appropriate amount has since been withdrawn in order to correct the account. We sincerely thank MDF for their time, as well as their willingness to provide the information requested, and make corrective actions when necessary. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

cc: Mike Fowlks
Wildlife Board Members
Mule Deer Foundation



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL D FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Mule Deer Foundation (MDF)
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Subject: 2019 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Mule Deer Foundation,

It has been determined from the 2019 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$864,798.28. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Mule Deer Foundation concur on the above Project Fund balance.

MDF – Please Print Name

MDF - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief



Mule Deer Foundation Conservation Permit Projects Funded

	FY17 Revenue	\$755,130.00
4396 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$92,312.26
4402 Little Bear Valley to Fremont Canyon Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Restoration	2019	\$10,000.00
4415 Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$22,552.00
4419 Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 1	2019	\$80,000.00
4420 Temple Fork Juniper Restoration 4	2019	\$10,000.00
4423 Cedar Mesa "Buck Pasture" Seeding	2019	\$40,000.00
4426 Dairy Fork Bullhog Project	2019	\$3,935.09
4427 Ephraim Canyon Bullhog	2019	\$20,000.00
4428 Sheeprocks Beaver Dam Analogues Phase 2	2019	\$1,000.00
4433 Cockey Hollow phase II	2019	\$25,000.00
4435 Willow Fuels Project - Phase 1	2019	\$25,000.00
4438 SW Strawberry roads Phase 2	2019	\$50,000.00
4444 Book Cliffs Bison Habitat Enhancement Cherry Mesa	2019	\$5,000.00
4447 Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase I	2019	\$3,100.00
4448 Red Creek Rabbitbrush Control Project	2019	\$1,000.00
4453 Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek(cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$25,000.00
4464 Anthro Lop and Scatter (Wildhorse Ridge)	2019	\$2,000.00
4470 Parowan Stake/Parowan Gap/Paragonah Cattle/Willow Spring Vegetation Improve	2019	\$10,000.00
4471 Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$35,000.00
4472 Lake Fork Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2019	\$10,000.00
4476 Devil's Canyon	2019	\$50,000.00
4477 Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter III and Unauthorized route decommission	2019	\$30,000.00
4486 Kyune Creek Prescribed Fire	2019	\$10,000.00
4488 South Canyon (Sunset Cliffs)	2019	\$10,000.00
4491 West Slope WUI Phase 4	2019	\$15,000.00
4494 Cow Hollow	2019	\$11,000.00
4506 Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$43,445.34
4514 Moab Mule Deer Winter Range Habitat Improvement-Phase 3	2019	\$60,000.00
4522 South Bookcliffs Phase 6 (Blaze)	2019	\$25,000.00
4524 Cedar Fort PJ Removal Phase 2	2019	\$29,785.31
		<u>\$755,130.00</u>

All 2017 Funds Expended

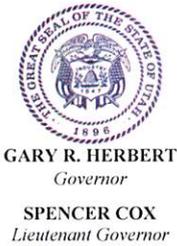
	FY18 Revenue	\$834,162.00
4524 Cedar Fort PJ Removal Phase 2	2019	\$214.69
4534 Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$5,000.00
4544 Parowan Front Mastication	2019	\$24,541.50
4545 South Slope Vegetation Restoration	2019	\$15,552.50
4556 Wallsburg WMA Shrub Planting	2019	\$7,237.50
4568 UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley Phase II	2019	\$25,000.00
4590 Henefer WMA Browse Scalping and Pipeline Arc Clearance	2019	\$29,595.00
4598 Coldwater WMA Fire Rehab Phase II	2019	\$4,850.00
4604 Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$30,000.00
4614 North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$25,000.00
4615 Timpanogos, Santaquin and Levan WMAs Shrub Planting Project	2019	\$10,300.00
4648 Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project - Phase II	2019	\$10,000.00
4650 La Sal/North Elk Ridge Rx FY19	2019	\$17,800.00
4657 White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$10,000.00
4667 Center Creek Chaining Project	2019	\$15,000.00
4693 FY19 DeerFawn/Adult Survival and Condition	2019	\$105,875.00
5021 MDF Stewardship Position FY20	2020	\$50,000.00
4961 SR Mule Deer Winter Range Bitterbrush Enhancement FY20	2020	\$3,625.00

Mule Deer Foundation Conservation Permit Projects Funded

4789 Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 3	2020	\$6,475.00
4814 Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 2	2020	\$9,586.57
5029 Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$25,000.00
4907 Dry Wash Units 4, 5, 9	2020	\$20,000.00
4959 Center Creek Chaining Project Phase II	2020	\$25,000.00
4982 Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020	\$29,882.23
4989 Skutumpah Terrace Chalk Ridge	2020	\$30,000.00
4819 Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020	\$33,000.00
4928 Northern Region WMA Browse and Water Enhancements	2020	\$33,000.00
4837 North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 4)	2020	\$40,000.00
4990 Parowan Front Braffits Creek	2020	\$40,000.00
4804 Dairy Fork Bullhog	2020	\$50,000.00
4807 Replacement of Loafer Mountain Wildlife Management Area Guzzlers	2020	\$10,000.00
4809 Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020	\$10,000.00
4835 Grimes Wash Phase 3	2020	\$10,000.00
4778 Pine Canyon to Koosharem Creek/Bell Rock Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project -	2020	\$15,000.00
4917 Willow Creek WMA Aquatic and Terrestrial Improvement Project 2020	2020	\$14,858.73
		<u>\$791,393.72</u>
	Remaining 2018 Revenue	\$42,768.28
		FY19 Revenue \$822,030.00
	Remaining 2019 Revenue	\$822,030.00
	Remaining Balance	\$864,798.28

2019 Conservation Permit Audit - Executive Summary

Organization	Carry Over Project Revenue	New Project Revenue 2019	Interest	Total Project Revenue Available	Project Expenditures During Current Audit Year	Remaining Funds Verified Bank Balance
UWSF	\$403,732.21	\$377,520.00	\$778.57	\$782,030.78	\$332,846.02	\$449,184.76
MDF	\$498,195.81	\$822,030.00	\$5,141.27	\$1,325,367.08	\$460,568.80	\$864,798.28
NWTF	\$207,383.27	\$115,860.00	\$0.00	\$323,243.27	\$194,076.36	\$129,166.91
RMEF	\$139,849.31	\$272,772.00	\$0.00	\$412,621.31	\$153,105.44	\$259,515.87
SCI	\$7,690.68	\$118,275.00	\$117.46	\$126,083.14	\$118,275.00	\$7,808.14
SFW	\$804,412.21	\$978,264.00	\$7,479.87	\$1,790,156.08	\$886,423.71	\$903,732.37
UBH	\$41,823.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41,823.93	\$41,823.93	\$0.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$2,103,087.42</i>	<i>\$2,684,721.00</i>	<i>\$13,517.17</i>	<i>\$4,801,325.59</i>	<i>\$2,187,119.26</i>	<i>\$2,614,206.33</i>



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: Byron Bateman, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Kevin Albrecht, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief
Subject: 2019 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 not performed using generally accepted auditing standards, but is an internal audit designed 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 Melanie Mercier. NWTF was given 36 of the 326 permits in 2019. At the time of sale Division staff independently verified auction prices of 8 permits sold and compared them to the prices being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Total Permit Revenue, Less 10% retained for administrative expenses, Less 30% remitted to DWR, Total retained by organization for project(s), Carry-over, Plus 2017 over deposit donated toward projects, Total, Less 2018 Projects billed, Funds remaining for projects, Verified Bank Statement Balance Adjustment, and Adjusted Bank Balance.



October 3rd, 2019

Subject: 2019 Conservation Permit Audit – National Wild Turkey Federation

Findings and Recommendations

All 2019 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account. There were two adjustments identified through the reconciliation process as follows:

Check #1016 to chapter (10% of permit proceeds) – Not cleared	(\$ 19,310.00)
Check #1015 to DWR (30% of permit proceeds) - Not cleared	(\$ 57,930.00)
Total Adjustment	<u>(\$ 87,240.00)</u>

NWTF sold a cougar permit that was later modified by the Utah Wildlife Board. The permit was surrendered and a refund issued to the customer. This resulted in an overpayment of the 30% permit proceeds. The Division returned the initial check to NWTF, and the corrected payment was received after the deadline. NWTF has committed to meeting the deadline in the future. We sincerely thank NWTF for their time and willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief

cc: Mike Fowlks
Wildlife Board Members
National Wild Turkey Federation



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAEL D FOWLKS
Division Director

October 3, 2019

To: National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF)
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Subject: 2019 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear National Wild Turkey Federation,

It has been determined from the 2019 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$129,166.91. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and National Wild Turkey Federation concur on the above Project Fund balance.

NWTF – Please Print Name

NWTF - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief



National Wild Turkey Federation Conservation Permit Projects Funded

	FY17 Revenue	\$99,225.00
3894 Santaquin WMA Winter Range Enhancement	2018	\$5,000.00
3906 Sheep Creek Rx	2018	\$4,000.00
3939 Blanding East Phase II	2018	\$2,000.00
3946 Ranch Creek Watershed Improvement Project Phase I	2019	\$2,000.00
3948 UT Dolores River Riparian Restoration	2018	\$870.00
3959 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 2	2018	\$2,500.00
3963 UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley	2018	\$3,000.00
3981 Red Creek Irrigation Project	2018	\$1,000.00
4009 Colorado River Cross Watershed Restoration	2018	\$3,000.00
4010 Lower Range Creek Tamarisk Removal	2018	\$3,000.00
4022 Meadow Creek Riparian Restoration FY2018	2018	\$5,000.00
4034 Brush Hole Phase 2	2018	\$5,000.00
4040 Salt Lake County Yellow Starthistle Mitigation	2018	\$2,000.00
4048 Mendon Turkey Plantings Phase III	2018	\$4,250.00
4050 Fullers Bottom Riparian & Upland Improvement Phase II	2018	\$24,100.00
4103 La Sal/Elk Ridge Prescribed Burn Projects	2018	\$5,000.00
4129 Traverse Mountain Winter Range Improvement	2018	\$1,850.00
4146 Wide Canyon Water Enhancement Project Phase II	2018	\$521.00
4149 Watts Mountain Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2018	\$3,000.00
4169 FY18 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	2018	\$2,500.00
4207 Miller Creek Watershed Restoration	2019	\$3,000.00
4322 Range Creek Phase I Maintenance	2019	\$2,000.00
4374 Colorado River Watershed Restoration 2.0	2019	\$3,000.00
4386 Bear Mountain & Sheep Creek Conifer Encroachment Lop & Scatter	2019	\$2,000.00
4396 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$4,000.00
4402 Little Bear Valley to Fremont Canyon Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Restoration	2019	\$2,000.00
4412 Muddy Creek riparian, wetland, and upland restoration and enhancement Ph. 1	2019	\$3,000.00
4415 Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$634.00
		<hr/>
		\$99,225.00

All 2017 Funds Expended

	FY18 Revenue	\$107,610.00
4428 Sheepricks Beaver Dam Analogues Phase 2	2019	\$2,000.00
4448 Red Creek Rabbitbrush Control Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4453 Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek(cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$1,000.00
4471 Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$3,000.00
4472 Lake Fork Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4473 Left Fork Stewardship Project Phase II	2019	\$3,000.00
4476 Devil's Canyon	2019	\$3,000.00
4477 Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter III and Unauthorized route decommissic	2019	\$2,000.00
4488 South Canyon (Sunset Cliffs)	2019	\$2,000.00
4494 Cow Hollow	2019	\$3,000.00
4514 Moab Mule Deer Winter Range Habitat Improvement-Phase 3	2019	\$3,000.00
4522 South Bookcliffs Phase 6 (Blaze)	2019	\$2,000.00
4534 Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$1,000.00
4558 Dolores River Restoration 2.0 - Utah	2019	\$3,000.00
4568 UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley Phase II	2019	\$2,000.00
4571 Quarry Springs Water Enhancement Project	2019	\$1,000.00
4572 Mendon Turkey Plantings Phase IV	2019	\$5,500.00
4604 Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$3,000.00
4614 North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$4,000.00
4615 Timpanogos, Santaquin and Levan WMAs Shrub Planting Project	2019	\$1,000.00
4634 Dixie National Forest Guzzlers	2019	\$2,000.00
4648 Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project - Phase II	2019	\$13,183.62

National Wild Turkey Federation Conservation Permit Projects Funded

4650 La Sal/North Elk Ridge Rx FY19	2019	\$3,000.00
4657 White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$1,000.00
4667 Center Creek Chaining Project	2019	\$2,500.00
4734 Miller Creek Watershed Restoration 2.0	2020	\$5,000.00
4777 Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 4	2020	\$3,000.00
4778 Pine Canyon to Koosharem Creek/Bell Rock Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2020	\$2,000.00
4779 Pinto Watershed and Defensible Fire Space Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$2,000.00
4812 Central Region Shrub Restoration Projects FY2020	2020	\$2,000.00
4835 Grimes Wash Phase 3	2020	\$2,000.00
4836 South Bookcliffs Phase 7 (Nash)	2020	\$2,000.00
4837 North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 4)	2020	\$6,119.47
		<hr/>
		\$94,303.09

Remaining 2018 Revenue \$13,306.91

Remaining 2019 Revenue \$115,860.00

FY19 Revenue \$115,860.00

Remaining Balance \$129,166.91
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UTAH'S CONSERVATION PERMIT PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT



FISCAL YEAR
2019

Utah's Conservation Permit Program

Annual Report — Fiscal Year 2019

Utah's Conservation Permit Program benefits all Utah hunters. What started in the early 1980s as a creative approach to raise needed funds for wildlife conservation has blossomed into a well-regulated program that raises millions of dollars each year. Those dollars are then invested back into wildlife conservation. This novel approach to funding conservation has allowed the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) to seize opportunities, grow the state's wildlife populations and improve wildlife management.

Origins of Utah's Conservation Permit Program

Historical accounts and archeological evidence indicate that bighorn sheep were once abundant across much of Utah, but in the early 1970s, many of Utah's bighorn sheep populations were struggling or had altogether disappeared. There was a very limited distribution of desert bighorn across southern Utah. Biologists observed large tracts of unoccupied desert bighorn sheep habitat and, at the same time, became concerned about the many desert bighorn concentrated in Canyonlands National Park. Wildlife managers recognized that the high bighorn densities in Canyonlands were not sustainable. Those excess bighorn presented wildlife managers with both an opportunity and a dilemma.



The excess bighorn in Canyonlands provided an opportunity to establish new populations and augment other struggling herds, but how could a large-scale, expensive translocation project fit within the tight constraints of the DWR's budget? At about the same time, a group of avid hunters founded the Utah Bighorn Sheep Society. They made a

proposal to generate funding to reestablish bighorn sheep in the state. They asked for one permit that could be sold at auction, with the proceeds dedicated to bighorn sheep management. In 1980, the first permit sold for \$20,000, and Utah's Conservation Permit Program was born. The program allowed generous hunters to help cover the costs of conserving, transplanting and managing this highly sought-after species.

The conservation permit strategy was effective, and over several years, the DWR used the proceeds of auctioned desert bighorn sheep conservation permits to fund a successful translocation program. That

program led to the establishment and/or supplementation of new desert bighorn sheep herds in the San Rafael-North, San Rafael-South, Arches National Park, Henry Mountains, Capitol Reef National Park, Kaiparowitz-East, Kaiparowitz-Escalante and several other desert bighorn sheep units.

The early success of the Conservation Permit Program led to its expansion. The program now includes and benefits the following species: bear, bighorn sheep (desert and Rocky Mountain), bison, cougar, deer, elk, moose, mountain goats, pronghorn and turkey.



How the program works

Conservation permits represent only a small percentage of total hunting permits issued, but they can produce big results. The number of conservation permits allocated for a given species is based on how well a population is doing (e.g., population size, increasing trends and long-term health) and the number of hunting permits available to public hunters. As public hunting opportunities increase, conservation permits may also increase, with a maximum of eight conservation permits per hunt unit. After the Utah Wildlife Board approves specific permits and numbers, the DWR partners with wildlife conservation organizations to sell the permits. Conservation organizations that participated in the program in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 included the Mule Deer Foundation (MDF), National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf), Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF), Safari Club International (SCI), Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW) and Utah Wild Sheep Foundation (UWSF, formerly known as Utah Foundation for North American Wild Sheep). Other conservation groups can also apply to participate by following the procedures listed in Administrative Rule R-657-41, which is the rule that regulates the Conservation Permit Program.

The conservation organizations market, promote and auction the permits. These auctions typically coincide with chapter banquets, expos or other fundraising events. The goal is to maximize revenue to fund wildlife conservation activities. After the auction, the conservation organization returns 30% of the money raised directly to the DWR. The conservation organizations may keep up to 10% of the proceeds to cover administrative costs, and the remaining 60% is held by the conservation organizations for a short time as they work cooperatively with the DWR to choose approved conservation projects to fund. As a result, hunters are able to identify and prioritize projects that matter to them and then direct conservation permit funding to those projects. It gives conservation-minded hunters a strong voice and encourages cooperation and collaboration between the DWR and participating organizations.



Seizing opportunities

The funds raised through the Conservation Permit Program are reinvested back into Utah's wildlife. Conservation projects are wide ranging and provide diverse benefits. With these projects, wildlife managers can establish new populations, augment existing populations, improve wildlife habitat, monitor for disease and conduct essential research. The program provides resources and tools that let wildlife biologists and hunters accomplish remarkable things for wildlife and habitat conservation.

Having a source of funding available to wildlife managers in a timely manner can make all the difference when it comes to managing wildlife. Wildlife and their habitats are dynamic, and changes can happen rapidly. The desert bighorn sheep source population in Canyonlands National Park experienced a die-off

shortly after the translocations in the 1980s occurred. Had wildlife managers been forced to pursue traditional funding, which is typically limited in availability and takes much longer to obtain, that opportunity might have been lost. Whether it is capturing source animals when they are abundant, or striking while the iron (or ground) is hot to get a wildfire reseeded, timing is essential in effective wildlife management. Utah's Conservation Permit Program allows wildlife managers to adapt to challenges and allocate resources where and when they are needed.

Improving wildlife management in FY 2019

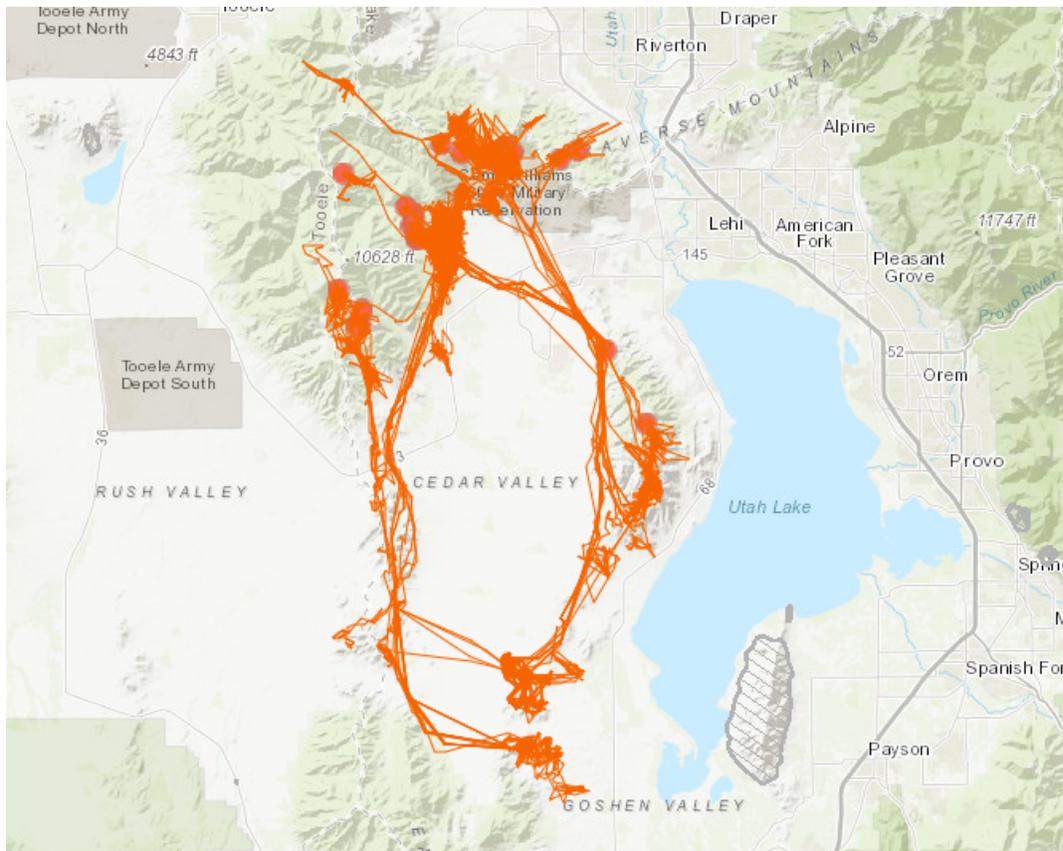
Having adequate funding is often a source of concern and a limitation for fish and wildlife agencies. While many western states struggle with increasingly stretched budgets, Utah leads the way with habitat work, wildlife transplants, wildlife research and monitoring. The Conservation Permit Program is key to providing funding for needed research and management of Utah's big game populations. Below are examples of work completed this past year that wouldn't have been possible without funding from conservation groups and the Conservation Permit Program.



The DWR founded the Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative in 2017 to document, preserve and enhance wildlife movement in Utah. The initiative uses state-of-the-art GPS tracking technology to monitor species' movements in near real-time. Through the Conservation Permit Program, several of Utah's conservation groups have been able to generously support this important effort. The funding has allowed the DWR to conduct a host of studies across the state to better understand the movements of bison, black bears, cougars, elk, mule deer and pronghorn. For example, the DWR captured 39 mule

deer near Eagle Mountain City in December 2018, and placed tracking collars on the animals to document their movements. The deer migrated south from the Oquirrh Mountains, across state Route 73, and then traveled through the Eagle Mountain area. This migration corridor is at risk because of rapid development to accommodate the city's growing population, which is projected to triple by 2040. The DWR is using mule deer migration data (see Figure 1) to work with Eagle Mountain City, the Utah Department of Transportation and the Bureau of Land Management to preserve this important migration corridor.

Figure 1. Mule deer migration corridors near Eagle Mountain



The Book Cliffs unit is as close to the Wild West as it comes here in Utah, and it's loaded with wildlife. Big game species on this unit include bison, deer, elk and pronghorn, and there are also high densities of cougars and bears. Although this unit has a vast and healthy winter range off both the north and south sides, there's only a narrow band of summer range that runs east and west down the middle of the unit. The summer range reaches an elevation of just over 8,000 feet, and it's where many of the area's wildlife species spend the summer months.

Stagnant elk populations and declining deer populations — coupled with concerns about a heavily used summer range — prompted biologists to ask important questions about animal health, reproduction, survival, habitat use and interactions among species on the Book Cliffs. To learn more, the biologists placed tracking collars on bears, bison, cougars, deer and elk, and those collars have provided data

about migration corridors, exact timing and locations for fawning/calving events, predation events and even competition between predators. Through the collaborative efforts of DWR biologists, hunters, Brigham Young University/Utah State University researchers and students, we are learning valuable information that will lead to better management decisions and to healthier, more balanced wildlife populations on this unit.

To help implement study findings, the DWR has convened a diverse, multi-disciplinary committee to examine study results and then use them to identify and address limiting factors on the Book Cliffs. Limiting factors may include issues such as water availability and development, targeted range improvements, and hunting strategies that manage for healthy and robust wildlife populations.

Conservation permit funds have also enabled the DWR to continue assessing mule deer survival across the state. Mule deer are the iconic species of western big game hunting; however, recent changes in western landscapes have led to steady mule deer declines in many surrounding states since the early 1990s. To better understand factors driving mule deer populations in Utah, the DWR initiated a statewide GPS-collaring study of adults and fawns beginning in December 2014. During the 5 years of this project, we have collared 2,174 deer (1,396 does and 778 6-month-old fawns) in order to assess the body condition of animals entering winter, to track movement patterns and habitat use, and to verify migration corridors. We have also identified the cause of mortality for 1,029 deer (638 adults and 391 fawns). By understanding the specific factors that affect mule deer — at statewide and unit levels — DWR biologists are able to make management decisions that target specific limiting factors for mule deer and can increase the overall health of our deer herds in Utah.



Utah's biologists are able to conduct regular aerial surveys to count bighorn sheep, bison, elk, moose, mountain goats and pronghorn. Conservation permits have also contributed to the ongoing monitoring of black bear and cougar survival, disease monitoring, turkey-trapping efforts and other components of wildlife management. In FY 2019, conservation permit sales funded the capture of nearly

1,300 big game animals as part of translocations, research, monitoring and disease-testing activities (see Table 1). This work would not have been possible without the money generated through the Conservation Permit Program.

Table 1. Big game animals captured and/or transplanted using conservation permit funds in FY 2019

Species	No. of animals	Unit	Purpose
Bighorn sheep	2	North Slope	Disease profile and monitoring
	41	San Juan	Disease profile and monitoring
	22	Zion	Disease profile and monitoring
Total	65		
Moose	56	North Slope/Wasatch West	Collared for movement study
Pronghorn	52	Southwest Desert/ Fillmore	Survival and migration
	11	West Desert, Dugway	Survival and migration
Total	63		
Bison	28	Henry Mountains	Survival and migration
	8	Book Cliffs	Disease testing, survival and migration
Total	36		
Elk	7	San Juan	Migration, movement patterns
	57	Cache/Morgan-South Rich	Survival and migration, disease risk
	41	Southwest Desert	Survival and migration
	41	Book Cliffs	Survival and migration, neonate capture
Total	146		
Deer	41	Pine Valley	Deer survival and migration
	95	Wasatch/Manti	Deer survival and migration
	44	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Deer survival and migration
	102	Cache	Deer survival and migration, neonate capture
	47	South Slope	Deer survival and migration
	40	San Juan	Deer survival and migration
	42	Monroe	Deer survival and migration
	44	Paunsaugunt	Deer survival and migration
	127	Book Cliffs	Deer survival and migration, neonate capture
	49	West Desert, Vernon/ Dugway	Deer survival and migration
	39	Eagle Mountain	Deer survival and migration
	10	Central Mtns, Nebo	Deer survival and migration
	80	Zion	Deer survival and migration

Species	No. of animals	Unit	Purpose
	50	Parowan Front	Deer survival and migration
	58	North Slope	Deer survival and migration
	50	Chalk Creek/Kamas	Deer survival and migration
Total	917		

Total animals	1,283
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Program results in FY 2019

The Utah Wildlife Board approved 326 conservation permits for FY 2019 (see Table 2). This represents less than 2% of the total number of permits issued for all these hunts combined. Permits were auctioned by conservation organizations and raised nearly \$4.5 million. In contrast, if these permits had just been sold at current resident permit prices, they would have raised approximately \$53,000. Since 2001, conservation permits have generated nearly \$54 million for conservation work in Utah (see Appendix 2).

Table 2. Conservation permits authorized for FY 2019

Permit type	Number
Antlerless elk	19
Bear	30
Bison	8
Buck deer	48
Bull elk	97
Bull moose	4
Cougar	18*
Desert bighorn sheep	6
Mountain goat	6
Pronghorn	45
Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep	5
Wild turkey	40
Total Permits	326*

* A cougar conservation permit was surrendered during 2019, resulting in the allocation of 17 cougar conservation permits and 325 total conservation permits during FY 2019.

The true value of conservation permit dollars often exceeds the balance listed on paper. The DWR frequently uses this money to serve as matching funds for grants and other funding mechanisms that result in much larger amounts being awarded and spent in Utah. For example, in projects permitted by the Pittman-Robertson Act, every dollar generated by the Conservation Permit Program can be matched by three dollars in federal aid.

In FY 2019, conservation permit funds covered the costs of numerous habitat, research and monitoring projects. The amount of revenue spent on approved projects or transferred to the DWR for each of the

three previous fiscal years can be found in Appendix 1. The conservation-related project lists found in Appendix 1 are also included in the conservation permit audit for FY 2019.

Program oversight

The DWR understands the value of Utah’s wildlife resources and takes many steps to ensure the Conservation Permit Program is transparent, complies with administrative rule and uses funds effectively for wildlife conservation purposes. In addition to an annual report, the DWR conducts an audit of the Conservation Permit Program each year. Both the annual report and the results of the audit are presented in a public meeting to the Utah Wildlife Board. Additionally, specific information about all funded conservation projects — including project details, budgets, wildlife benefits and summary reports — is available online at <https://wri.utah.gov/wri/>.

Successful wildlife conservation

In FY 2019, Utah’s Conservation Permit Program raised millions of dollars that were directed back into productive and meaningful wildlife conservation projects. These projects help the DWR better fulfill its mission of serving as trustees and guardians of the state’s wildlife. The program has a track record of success and creates unique opportunities for hunters to work with the DWR in expanding wildlife populations and conserving wildlife habitat. As a result of this program, Utahns have more wildlife species to enjoy, and hunters have a greater diversity of hunting opportunities. Translocations and population growth have also ensured the availability of more hunting permits. The DWR believes that wildlife is valuable to everyone, and the Conservation Permit Program protects and improves wildlife and wildlife habitats for all to enjoy.



Appendix 1.

Below are tables showing how conservation permit funds (60% retained by the groups) raised in 2017, 2018 and 2019 have been spent or transferred to DWR as of the time of this report.

Utah Wild Sheep Foundation Conservation Permit Projects Funded			
		FY17 Revenue	\$346,995.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4185	FY18 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2018	\$18,699.21
4385	Flaming Gorge Bighorn Sheep Habitat Lop & Scatter Phase II	2019	\$70,922.34
4386	Bear Mountain & Sheep Creek Conifer Encroachment Lop & Scatter	2019	\$75,000.00
4415	Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$5,000.00
4419	Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 1	2019	\$5,000.00
4420	Temple Fork Juniper Restoration 4	2019	\$5,000.00
4423	Cedar Mesa "Buck Pasture" Seeding	2019	\$10,000.00
4428	Sheeprocks Beaver Dam Analogues Phase 2	2019	\$1,000.00
4453	Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek (cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$7,000.00
4464	Anthro Lop and Scatter (Wildhorse Ridge)	2019	\$2,000.00
4476	Devil's Canyon	2019	\$10,000.00
4506	Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$43,445.33
4522	South Bookcliffs Phase 6 (Blaze)	2019	\$25,000.00
4534	Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$2,000.00
4551	Lower Price River Riparian and Instream Habitat Restoration: Phase 1	2019	\$20,000.00
4558	Dolores River Restoration 2.0 - Utah	2019	\$15,000.00
4569	Kamas WMA Boundary Fence	2019	\$700.12
4571	Quarry Springs Water Enhancement Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4657	White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$5,000.00
4662	Bob Jones Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$2,000.00
4683	FY19 Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat Biologist III	2019	\$22,228.00
	All 2017 Funds Expended		\$346,995.00
		FY18 Revenue	\$392,805.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4466	Bighorn Specialist	2019	\$27,500.00
4748	Feral Horse Film Funding FY19	2019	\$5,000.00
5053	Flat Canyon USFS Allotment FY19	2019	\$112,500.00
4825	Cedar Mountains Big Game and Chukar Guzzlers	2020	\$4,200.00
4966	Bookcliffs Guzzler Repair	2020	\$2,000.00

4965	Bookcliffs Big Game Guzzlers	2020	\$2,000.00
4842	Newfoundland Mtns Water Improvement FY20	2020	\$2,727.21
4842	Newfoundland Mtns Water Improvement FY20	2020	\$4,125.00
4922	FY20 Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat Biologist	2020	\$31,000.00
5013	Pass Canyon Bighorn Sheep Guzzler	2020	\$60,000.00
5029	Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$5,000.00
5030	FY20 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2020	\$29,489.43
4982	Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020	\$10,000.00
4809	Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020	\$2,000.00
4812	Central Region Shrub Restoration Projects FY2020	2020	\$5,000.00
4819	Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020	\$10,826.60
			\$321,140.24
	Remaining 2018 Revenue	\$71,664.76	
		FY19 Revenue	\$377,520.00
	Remaining 2019 Revenue	\$377,520.00	
	Remaining Balance	\$449,184.76	

Mule Deer Foundation Conservation Permit Projects Funded			
		FY17 Revenue	\$755,130.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4396	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$92,312.26
4402	Little Bear Valley to Fremont Canyon Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Restoration	2019	\$10,000.00
4415	Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$22,552.00
4419	Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 1	2019	\$80,000.00
4420	Temple Fork Juniper Restoration 4	2019	\$10,000.00
4423	Cedar Mesa "Buck Pasture" Seeding	2019	\$40,000.00
4426	Dairy Fork Bullhog Project	2019	\$3,935.09
4427	Ephraim Canyon Bullhog	2019	\$20,000.00
4428	Sheeprocks Beaver Dam Analogues Phase 2	2019	\$1,000.00
4433	Cockey Hollow phase II	2019	\$25,000.00
4435	Willow Fuels Project - Phase 1	2019	\$25,000.00
4438	SW Strawberry roads Phase 2	2019	\$50,000.00
4444	Book Cliffs Bison Habitat Enhancement Cherry Mesa	2019	\$5,000.00
4447	Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase I	2019	\$3,100.00
4448	Red Creek Rabbitbrush Control Project	2019	\$1,000.00
4453	Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek(cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$25,000.00
4464	Anthro Lop and Scatter (Wildhorse Ridge)	2019	\$2,000.00
4470	Parowan Stake/Parowan Gap/Paragonah Cattle/Willow Spring Vegetation Improvement Project	2019	\$10,000.00
4471	Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$35,000.00
4472	Lake Fork Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2019	\$10,000.00
4476	Devil's Canyon	2019	\$50,000.00
4477	Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter III and Unauthorized route decommission	2019	\$30,000.00
4486	Kyune Creek Prescribed Fire	2019	\$10,000.00
4488	South Canyon (Sunset Cliffs)	2019	\$10,000.00
4491	West Slope WUI Phase 4	2019	\$15,000.00

4494	Cow Hollow	2019	\$11,000.00
4506	Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$43,445.34
4514	Moab Mule Deer Winter Range Habitat Improvement-Phase 3	2019	\$60,000.00
4522	South Bookcliffs Phase 6 (Blaze)	2019	\$25,000.00
4524	Cedar Fort PJ Removal Phase 2	2019	\$29,785.31
	All 2017 Funds Expended		\$755,130.00
		FY18 Revenue	\$834,162.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4534	Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$5,000.00
4544	Parowan Front Mastication	2019	\$24,541.50
4545	South Slope Vegetation Restoration	2019	\$15,552.50
4556	Wallsburg WMA Shrub Planting	2019	\$7,237.50
4568	UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley Phase II	2019	\$25,000.00
4590	Henefer WMA Browse Scalping and Pipeline Arc Clearance	2019	\$29,595.00
4598	Coldwater WMA Fire Rehab Phase II	2019	\$4,850.00
4604	Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$30,000.00
4614	North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$25,000.00
4615	Timpanogos, Santaquin and Levan WMAs Shrub Planting Project	2019	\$10,300.00
4648	Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project - Phase II	2019	\$10,000.00
4650	La Sal/North Elk Ridge Rx FY19	2019	\$17,800.00
4657	White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$10,000.00
4667	Center Creek Chaining Project	2019	\$15,000.00
4693	FY19 DeerFawn/Adult Survival and Condition	2019	\$105,875.00
5021	MDF Stewardship Position FY20	2020	\$50,000.00
4961	SR Mule Deer Winter Range Bitterbrush Enhancement FY20	2020	\$3,625.00
4789	Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 3	2020	\$6,475.00
4814	Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 2	2020	\$9,586.57
5029	Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$25,000.00
4907	Dry Wash Units 4, 5, 9	2020	\$20,000.00
4959	Center Creek Chaining Project Phase II	2020	\$25,000.00
4982	Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020	\$29,882.23
4989	Skutumpah Terrace Chalk Ridge	2020	\$30,000.00

4819	Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020	\$33,000.00
4928	Northern Region WMA Browse and Water Enhancements	2020	\$33,000.00
4837	North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 4)	2020	\$40,000.00
4990	Parowan Front Braffits Creek	2020	\$40,000.00
4804	Dairy Fork Bullhog	2020	\$50,000.00
4807	Replacement of Loafer Mountain Wildlife Management Area Guzzlers	2020	\$10,000.00
4809	Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020	\$10,000.00
4835	Grimes Wash Phase 3	2020	\$10,000.00
4778	Pine Canyon to Koosharem Creek/Bell Rock Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project - Phase 3	2020	\$15,000.00
4917	Willow Creek WMA Aquatic and Terrestrial Improvement Project 2020	2020	\$14,858.73
			\$791,393.72
	Remaining 2018 Revenue	\$42,768.28	
		FY19 Revenue	\$822,030.00
	Remaining 2019 Revenue	\$822,030.00	
	Remaining Balance	\$864,798.28	

National Wild Turkey Federation Conservation Permit Projects Funded			
		FY17 Revenue	\$99,225.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
3894	Santaquin WMA Winter Range Enhancement	2018	\$5,000.00
3906	Sheep Creek Rx	2018	\$4,000.00
3939	Blanding East Phase II	2018	\$2,000.00
3946	Ranch Creek Watershed Improvement Project Phase I	2019	\$2,000.00
3948	UT Dolores River Riparian Restoration	2018	\$870.00
3959	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 2	2018	\$2,500.00
3963	UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley	2018	\$3,000.00
3981	Red Creek Irrigation Project	2018	\$1,000.00
4009	Colorado River Cross Watershed Restoration	2018	\$3,000.00
4010	Lower Range Creek Tamarisk Removal	2018	\$3,000.00
4022	Meadow Creek Riparian Restoration FY2018	2018	\$5,000.00
4034	Brush Hole Phase 2	2018	\$5,000.00
4040	Salt Lake County Yellow Starthistle Mitigation	2018	\$2,000.00
4048	Mendon Turkey Plantings Phase III	2018	\$4,250.00
4050	Fullers Bottom Riparian & Upland Improvement Phase II	2018	\$24,100.00
4103	La Sal/Elk Ridge Prescribed Burn Projects	2018	\$5,000.00
4129	Traverse Mountain Winter Range Improvement	2018	\$1,850.00
4146	Wide Canyon Water Enhancement Project Phase II	2018	\$521.00
4149	Watts Mountain Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2018	\$3,000.00
4169	FY18 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	2018	\$2,500.00
4207	Miller Creek Watershed Restoration	2019	\$3,000.00
4322	Range Creek Phase I Maintenance	2019	\$2,000.00
4374	Colorado River Watershed Restoration 2.0	2019	\$3,000.00
4386	Bear Mountain & Sheep Creek Conifer Encroachment Lop & Scatter	2019	\$2,000.00
4396	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$4,000.00
4402	Little Bear Valley to Fremont Canyon Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Restoration	2019	\$2,000.00
4412	Muddy Creek riparian, wetland, and upland restoration and enhancement Ph. 1	2019	\$3,000.00
4415	Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$634.00

	All 2017 Funds Expended		\$99,225.00
		FY18 Revenue	\$107,610.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4428	Sheeprocks Beaver Dam Analogues Phase 2	2019	\$2,000.00
4448	Red Creek Rabbitbrush Control Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4453	Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek (cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$1,000.00
4471	Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$3,000.00
4472	Lake Fork Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4473	Left Fork Stewardship Project Phase II	2019	\$3,000.00
4476	Devil's Canyon	2019	\$3,000.00
4477	Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter III and Unauthorized route decommission	2019	\$2,000.00
4488	South Canyon (Sunset Cliffs)	2019	\$2,000.00
4494	Cow Hollow	2019	\$3,000.00
4514	Moab Mule Deer Winter Range Habitat Improvement-Phase 3	2019	\$3,000.00
4522	South Bookcliffs Phase 6 (Blaze)	2019	\$2,000.00
4534	Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$1,000.00
4558	Dolores River Restoration 2.0 - Utah	2019	\$3,000.00
4568	UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley Phase II	2019	\$2,000.00
4571	Quarry Springs Water Enhancement Project	2019	\$1,000.00
4572	Mendon Turkey Plantings Phase IV	2019	\$5,500.00
4604	Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$3,000.00
4614	North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$4,000.00
4615	Timpanogos, Santaquin and Levan WMAs Shrub Planting Project	2019	\$1,000.00
4634	Dixie National Forest Guzzlers	2019	\$2,000.00
4648	Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project - Phase II	2019	\$13,183.62
4650	La Sal/North Elk Ridge Rx FY19	2019	\$3,000.00
4657	White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$1,000.00
4667	Center Creek Chaining Project	2019	\$2,500.00
4734	Miller Creek Watershed Restoration 2.0	2020	\$5,000.00
4777	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 4	2020	\$3,000.00

4778	Pine Canyon to Koosharem Creek/Bell Rock Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project - Phase 3	2020	\$2,000.00
4779	Pinto Watershed and Defensible Fire Space Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$2,000.00
4812	Central Region Shrub Restoration Projects FY2020	2020	\$2,000.00
4835	Grimes Wash Phase 3	2020	\$2,000.00
4836	South Bookcliffs Phase 7 (Nash)	2020	\$2,000.00
4837	North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 4)	2020	\$6,119.47
			\$94,303.09
	Remaining 2018 Revenue	\$13,306.91	
		FY19 Revenue	\$115,860.00
	Remaining 2019 Revenue	\$115,860.00	
	Remaining Balance	\$129,166.91	

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Conservation Permit Projects Funded			
		FY17 Revenue	\$229,707.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
3253	Telephone Hollow Lop and Scatter Phase II	2018	\$3,712.69
3605	Birdseye WMA Bullhog Project	2018	\$5,000.00
3829	FY17 Elk Movements Study	2018	\$10,000.00
3832	FY17 Determinants of Population Growth in Utah Moose	2018	\$2,000.00
3889	Hardware Ranch WMA Grazing Allotment Fence Project	2018	\$1,100.00
3901	Nebo creek, Spencer Fork Spring Enhancement Project	2018	\$2,000.00
3906	Sheep Creek Rx	2018	\$10,000.00
3926	Book Cliffs Bison Habitat Enhancement	2018	\$10,000.00
3928	Warren Draw Water Project	2018	\$2,500.00
3929	Westside Northeastern Region WMA's Water Development Project	2018	\$9,200.00
3959	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 2	2018	\$30,000.00
3980	Book Cliffs Lower Elevation Guzzlers phase II	2018	\$2,500.00
3995	Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 1	2018	\$5,000.00
4043	Cold Springs WMA Conifer Removal Aspen Regeneration Phase V	2018	\$5,000.00
4059	Henefer WMA Browse Scalping and Fence	2018	\$10,000.00
4078	Trail Mountain Wildlife Habitat Enhancement and Aspen Regeneration Project	2018	\$5,000.00
4085	Little Creek Ridge Guzzlers	2018	\$5,000.00
4099	Chipeta Canyon Guzzler Replacement	2018	\$2,800.00
4103	La Sal/Elk Ridge Prescribed Burn Projects	2018	\$10,000.00
4149	Watts Mountain Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2018	\$6,900.00
4183	FY18 Elk Movements Study	2018	\$10,000.00
4185	FY18 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2018	\$25,000.00
4187	FY18 Parker Mtn Pronghorn Capture and Monitoring	2018	\$1,000.00
4188	FY18 Wildlife Migration Initiative	2018	\$25,000.00
4385	Flaming Gorge Bighorn Sheep Habitat Lop & Scatter Phase II	2019	\$5,000.00
4386	Bear Mountain & Sheep Creek Conifer Encroachment Lop & Scatter	2019	\$5,000.00
4396	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$20,000.00
4415	Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$994.31

	All 2017 Funds Expended		\$229,707.00
		FY18 Revenue	\$273,855.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4415	Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$4,005.69
4427	Ephraim Canyon Bullhog	2019	\$5,000.00
4433	Cockey Hollow phase II	2019	\$10,000.00
4435	Willow Fuels Project - Phase 1	2019	\$20,000.00
4438	SW Strawberry roads Phase 2	2019	\$2,000.00
4445	Anthro Guzzler Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4446	Death Valley Guzzler Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4447	Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase I	2019	\$2,000.00
4453	Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek (cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$7,123.50
4471	Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$5,000.00
4474	Southeast Dutton Ponds	2019	\$2,000.00
4477	Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter III and Unauthorized route decommission	2019	\$2,000.00
4494	Cow Hollow	2019	\$1,000.00
4506	Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$10,000.00
4545	South Slope Vegetation Restoration	2019	\$2,000.00
4548	Gregory Basin wildlife friendly fence.	2019	\$2,000.00
4569	Kamas WMA Boundary Fence	2019	\$1,000.00
4604	Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$5,000.00
4605	Northern Region WMA Annual Browse Enhancement	2019	\$2,000.00
4614	North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$10,000.00
4634	Dixie National Forest Guzzlers	2019	\$2,000.00
4657	White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$2,000.00
4662	Bob Jones Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$2,000.00
4668	Mineral Mountains Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$2,000.00
4688	Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists FY19	2019	\$2,000.00
4692	FY19 Northern Utah Elk Study	2019	\$4,812.50
4698	FY19 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2019	\$3,064.00
4705	Utah Migration Initiative	2019	\$20,000.00

5029	Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$7,962.11
4807	Replacement of Loafer Mountain Wildlife Management Area Guzzlers	2020	\$3,100.00
5030	FY20 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2020	\$8,024.33
5033	FY20 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2020	\$3,000.00
4982	Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020	\$28,000.00
4804	Dairy Fork Bullhog	2020	\$3,000.00
4809	Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020	\$1,000.00
4917	Willow Creek WMA Aquatic and Terrestrial Improvement Project 2020	2020	\$3,000.00
4856	South Slope Vegetation Restoration Phase 2	2020	\$5,000.00
4799	Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase II	2020	\$5,000.00
4846	Raft River Aspen Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$2,000.00
4819	Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020	\$15,000.00
4816	UWC FS North Zone Juniper Lop and Scatter FY20	2020	\$5,000.00
4814	Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 2	2020	\$3,000.00
4734	Miller Creek Watershed Restoration 2.0	2020	\$10,000.00
4836	South Bookcliffs Phase 7 (Nash)	2020	\$2,000.00
4860	Shingle Mill Phase 1	2020	\$5,000.00
4835	Grimes Wash Phase 3	2020	\$2,000.00
4840	Cold Springs WMA Conifer Removal Aspen Regeneration Phase VI	2020	\$3,000.00
4882	La Sal/Abajo Prescribed Fire FY20	2020	\$5,000.00
4993	Powell District Mud Springs phase II	2020	\$2,000.00
4778	Pine Canyon to Koosharem Creek/Bell Rock Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project - Phase 3	2020	\$13,000.00
4818	Indian Peaks WMA Mule Deer Habitat Improvement Project	2020	\$5,762.87
	All 2018 Funds Expended		\$273,855.00
		FY19 Revenue	\$272,772.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4818	Indian Peaks WMA Mule Deer Habitat Improvement Project	2020	\$4,237.13
4959	Center Creek Chaining Project Phase II	2020	\$5,000.00
4958	Sevy Bench Habitat Improvement Project	2020	\$2,000.00
4072	Raspberry Canyon Habitat Restoration Project	2020	\$2,019.00
			\$13,256.13
	Remaining 2019 Revenue	\$259,515.87	

	Remaining Balance	\$259,515.87	

Safari Club International Conservation Permit Projects Funded			
		FY17 Revenue	\$129,852.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
3939	Blanding East Phase II	2018	\$1,413.68
3950	Swasey Wildlife Habitat Improvement and Hazardous Fuels Reduction Phase 8	2018	\$3,000.00
3953	UKC Glendale Bench	2018	\$3,000.00
3959	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 2	2018	\$5,000.00
3961	South Bookcliffs Phase 5 (Bryson)	2018	\$3,000.00
3965	Antelope-Pine Valley Hand Thinning	2018	\$3,000.00
3966	Antimony (Forest Creek)	2018	\$5,000.00
3977	Yellowjacket (Buck Pasture)	2018	\$5,000.00
3980	Book Cliffs Lower Elevation Guzzlers phase II	2018	\$8,000.00
3985	Government Creek Meadow Stabilization and Restoration	2018	\$3,000.00
3995	Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 1	2018	\$6,000.00
4018	Dark Canyon Plateau Phase 4	2018	\$5,000.00
4034	Brush Hole Phase 2	2018	\$2,000.00
4040	Salt Lake County Yellow Starthistle Mitigation	2018	\$3,000.00
4041	Grimes Wash Phase 2	2018	\$2,000.00
4055	Tidwell Slope/Geyser Peak Pond Maintenance Project	2018	\$2,000.00
4059	Henefer WMA Browse Scalping and Fence	2018	\$6,500.00
4085	Little Creek Ridge Guzzlers	2018	\$3,000.00
4096	Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter II	2018	\$5,000.00
4103	La Sal/Elk Ridge Prescribed Burn Projects	2018	\$5,000.00
4128	Cedar City to Parowan I-15 Deer Fence and Double Cattle Guards Ph 2	2018	\$3,000.00
4146	Wide Canyon Water Enhancement Project Phase II	2018	\$2,500.00
4147	Long Canyon Water Enhancement Project	2018	\$4,900.00
4149	Watts Mountain Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2018	\$5,000.00
4169	FY18 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	2018	\$2,500.00
4181	FY18 Effects of Habitat Treatments on Mule Deer	2018	\$2,500.00
4182	FY18 Determinants of Population Growth in Utah Moose	2018	\$10,000.00
4183	FY18 Elk Movements Study	2018	\$2,500.00

4185	FY18 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2018	\$5,000.00
4187	FY18 Parker Mtn Pronghorn Capture and Monitoring	2018	\$1,000.00
4207	Miller Creek Watershed Restoration	2019	\$2,000.00
4322	Range Creek Phase I Maintenance	2019	\$2,000.00
4386	Bear Mountain & Sheep Creek Conifer Encroachment Lop & Scatter	2019	\$3,000.00
4396	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$3,000.00
4402	Little Bear Valley to Fremont Canyon Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Restoration	2019	\$2,038.32
	All 2017 Funds Expended		\$129,852.00
		FY18 Revenue	\$127,650.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4402	Little Bear Valley to Fremont Canyon Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Restoration	2019	\$5,461.68
4415	Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$3,000.00
4427	Ephraim Canyon Bullhog	2019	\$5,000.00
4428	Sheeprocks Beaver Dam Analogues Phase 2	2019	\$1,000.00
4433	Cockey Hollow phase II	2019	\$5,000.00
4438	SW Strawberry roads Phase 2	2019	\$3,000.00
4444	Book Cliffs Bison Habitat Enhancement Cherry Mesa	2019	\$5,000.00
4447	Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase I	2019	\$2,000.00
4453	Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek (cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$4,000.00
4470	Parowan Stake/Parowan Gap/Paragonah Cattle/Willow Spring Vegetation Improvement Project	2019	\$3,000.00
4471	Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$2,000.00
4472	Lake Fork Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4473	Left Fork Stewardship Project Phase II	2019	\$3,000.00
4474	Southeast Dutton Ponds	2019	\$3,000.00
4486	Kyune Creek Prescribed Fire	2019	\$3,000.00
4494	Cow Hollow	2019	\$2,000.00
4506	Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$7,500.00
4522	South Bookcliffs Phase 6 (Blaze)	2019	\$3,000.00
4534	Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$2,000.00

4544	Parowan Front Mastication	2019	\$2,000.00
4545	South Slope Vegetation Restoration	2019	\$2,000.00
4556	Wallsburg WMA Shrub Planting	2019	\$2,500.00
4569	Kamas WMA Boundary Fence	2019	\$1,000.00
4571	Quarry Springs Water Enhancement Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4604	Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$5,000.00
4614	North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$5,000.00
4634	Dixie National Forest Guzzlers	2019	\$5,000.00
4636	Powell Guzzler Fencing/Maintenance	2019	\$933.64
4648	Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project - Phase II	2019	\$2,000.00
4650	La Sal/North Elk Ridge Rx FY19	2019	\$7,500.00
4662	Bob Jones Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$3,000.00
4688	Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists FY19	2019	\$2,000.00
4698	FY19 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2019	\$3,064.00
4701	FY19 Bison captures	2019	\$3,000.00
4705	Utah Migration Initiative	2019	\$10,000.00
4334	Watts Mountain Pipeline Project	2020	\$2,014.55
5029	Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$5,676.13
	All 2018 Funds Expended		\$127,650.00
		FY19 Revenue	\$118,275.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
5029	Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$4,323.87
5030	FY20 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2020	\$1,604.87
5031	FY20 Mountain Goat Captures	2020	\$6,750.00
5033	FY20 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2020	\$5,000.00
5034	FY20 DeerFawn/Adult Survival and Condition	2020	\$3,000.00
4982	Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020	\$20,000.00
4804	Dairy Fork Bullhog	2020	\$10,000.00
4809	Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020	\$5,000.00
4812	Central Region Shrub Restoration Projects FY2020	2020	\$10,000.00
4917	Willow Creek WMA Aquatic and Terrestrial Improvement Project 2020	2020	\$5,000.00
4856	South Slope Vegetation Restoration Phase 2	2020	\$5,000.00

4799	Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase II	2020	\$5,000.00
4846	Raft River Aspen Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$3,000.00
4819	Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020	\$5,000.00
4816	UWC FS North Zone Juniper Lop and Scatter FY20	2020	\$5,000.00
	Misc future projects	2021	\$16,788.12
			\$110,466.86
	Remaining 2019 Revenue	\$7,808.14	
	Remaining Balance	\$7,808.14	

Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife Conservation Permit Projects Funded			
		FY17 Revenue	\$869,805.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4188	FY18 Wildlife Migration Initiative	2018	\$68,636.60
4466	Bighorn Sheep Specialist	2018	\$27,500.00
3946	Ranch Creek Watershed Improvement Project Phase I	2019	\$15,000.00
4207	Miller Creek Watershed Restoration	2019	\$10,000.00
4322	Range Creek Phase I Maintenance	2019	\$2,000.00
4374	Colorado River Watershed Restoration 2.0	2019	\$5,000.00
4385	Flaming Gorge Bighorn Sheep Habitat Lop & Scatter Phase II	2019	\$20,000.00
4386	Bear Mountain & Sheep Creek Conifer Encroachment Lop & Scatter	2019	\$15,000.00
4396	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$30,000.00
4402	Little Bear Valley to Fremont Canyon Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Restoration	2019	\$5,000.00
4415	Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$20,000.00
4419	Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 1	2019	\$50,000.00
4420	Temple Fork Juniper Restoration 4	2019	\$10,000.00
4423	Cedar Mesa "Buck Pasture" Seeding	2019	\$25,000.00
4426	Dairy Fork Bullhog Project	2019	\$30,000.00
4427	Ephraim Canyon Bullhog	2019	\$30,000.00
4428	Sheeprocks Beaver Dam Analogues Phase 2	2019	\$1,800.00
4433	Cockey Hollow phase II	2019	\$20,000.00
4444	Book Cliffs Bison Habitat Enhancement Cherry Mesa	2019	\$5,000.00
4445	Anthro Guzzler Project	2019	\$5,000.00
4447	Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase I	2019	\$3,100.00
4448	Red Creek Rabbit brush Control Project	2019	\$3,125.00
4453	Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek (cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$40,000.00
4464	Anthro Lop and Scatter (Wildhorse Ridge)	2019	\$5,000.00
4471	Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$5,000.00
4472	Lake Fork Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2019	\$5,000.00
4474	Southeast Dutton Ponds	2019	\$1,000.00

4476	Devil's Canyon	2019	\$50,000.00
4477	Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter III and Unauthorized route decommission	2019	\$30,000.00
4486	Kyune Creek Prescribed Fire	2019	\$10,000.00
4488	South Canyon (Sunset Cliffs)	2019	\$10,000.00
4491	West Slope WUI Phase 4	2019	\$10,000.00
4494	Cow Hollow	2019	\$5,000.00
4506	Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$43,445.33
4522	South Bookcliffs Phase 6 (Blaze)	2019	\$15,000.00
4534	Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$5,000.00
4544	Parowan Front Mastication	2019	\$24,541.50
4545	South Slope Vegetation Restoration	2019	\$15,552.50
4548	Gregory Basin wildlife friendly fence	2019	\$683.36
4556	Wallsburg WMA Shrub Planting	2019	\$7,237.50
4557	SER Guzzler Maintenance FY19	2019	\$9,328.50
4568	UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley Phase II	2019	\$25,000.00
4569	Kamas WMA Boundary Fence	2019	\$3,000.00
4571	Quarry Springs Water Enhancement Project	2019	\$7,191.50
4590	Henefer WMA Browse Scalping and Pipeline Arc Clearance	2019	\$29,595.00
4604	Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$20,000.00
4605	Northern Region WMA Annual Browse Enhancement	2019	\$4,060.00
4614	North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$25,000.00
4615	Timpanogos, Santaquin and Levan WMAs Shrub Planting Project	2019	\$10,300.00
4634	Dixie National Forest Guzzlers	2019	\$15,200.00
4636	Powell Guzzler Fencing/Maintenance	2019	\$1,000.00
4648	Pockets Aspen Stewardship Project - Phase II	2019	\$5,000.00
4649	Hell Hole Pass Guzzler	2019	\$10,000.00
4650	La Sal/North Elk Ridge Rx FY19	2019	\$17,800.00
4657	White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$3,708.21
	All 2017 Funds Expended		\$869,805.00
		FY18 Revenue	\$955,737.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4657	White Rock Spring PJ Removal	2019	\$6,291.79

4662	Bob Jones Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$7,250.00
4667	Center Creek Chaining Project	2019	\$15,000.00
4668	Mineral Mountains Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$8,750.00
4688	Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists FY19	2019	\$4,000.00
4692	FY19 Northern Utah Elk Study	2019	\$4,812.50
4698	FY19 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2019	\$3,064.00
4699	FY19 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2019	\$25,281.50
4701	FY19 Bison captures	2019	\$12,875.00
4705	Utah Migration Initiative	2019	\$64,000.00
5053	Flat Canyon USFS Allotment FY19	2019	\$112,500.00
4754	Zion Bighorn Sheep Unit	2019	\$16,000.00
5032	Wildlife Crossing US191 mp 62.6 to 67	2019	\$13,000.00
4748	Feral Horse Film Funding FY19	2019	\$5,000.00
4730	Curtis Ridge Lop & Scatter	2019	\$40,000.00
5041	FY20 Bighorn Sheep Specialist	2020	\$32,500.00
5029	Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$6,420.78
4807	Replacement of Loafer Mountain Wildlife Management Area Guzzlers	2020	\$10,600.00
5030	FY20 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2020	\$29,489.43
5033	FY20 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2020	\$9,248.50
5034	FY20 DeerFawn/Adult Survival and Condition	2020	\$48,890.50
4982	Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020	\$43,525.00
4804	Dairy Fork Bullhog	2020	\$25,000.00
4809	Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020	\$5,000.00
4812	Central Region Shrub Restoration Projects FY2020	2020	\$40,664.00
4917	Willow Creek WMA Aquatic and Terrestrial Improvement Project 2020	2020	\$15,000.00
4856	South Slope Vegetation Restoration Phase 2	2020	\$10,000.00
4025	Home Ranch Bullhog	2020	\$10,000.00
4819	Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020	\$75,000.00
4814	Three Canyons Deer Winter Range Habitat Treatment -phase 2	2020	\$25,865.50
4734	Miller Creek Watershed Restoration 2.0	2020	\$30,000.00
4837	North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 4)	2020	\$45,000.00
4836	South Bookcliffs Phase 7 (Nash)	2020	\$15,000.00
4860	Shingle Mill Phase 1	2020	\$10,000.00
4882	La Sal/Abajo Prescribed Fire FY20	2020	\$20,000.00

5012	Mahogany Point Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement	2020	\$10,000.00
4777	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 4	2020	\$10,000.00
4993	Powell District Mud Springs phase II	2020	\$10,000.00
4778	Pine Canyon to Koosharem Creek/Bell Rock Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project - Phase 3	2020	\$10,000.00
4818	Indian Peaks WMA Mule Deer Habitat Improvement Project	2020	\$20,000.00
4625	Red Canyon Habitat Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$10,000.00
4989	Skutumpah Terrace Chalk Ridge	2020	\$20,000.00
4959	Center Creek Chaining Project Phase II	2020	\$20,000.00
4990	Parowan Front Braffits Creek	2020	\$708.50
	All 2018 Funds Expended		\$955,737.00
		FY19 Revenue	\$978,264.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4990	Parowan Front Braffits Creek	2020	\$39,291.50
4928	Northern Region WMA Browse and Water Enhancements	2020	\$33,000.00
4789	Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 3	2020	\$2,240.13
			\$74,531.63
	Remaining 2019 Revenue	\$903,732.37	
	Remaining Balance	\$903,732.37	

Utah Archery Association Conservation Permit Projects Funded			
		FY17 Revenue	\$59,550.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
3977	Yellowjacket (Buck Pasture)	2018	\$2,206.07
3980	Book Cliffs Lower Elevation Guzzlers phase II	2018	\$3,500.00
4040	Salt Lake County Yellow Starthistle Mitigation	2018	\$3,154.00
4041	Grimes Wash Phase 2	2018	\$2,500.00
4059	Henefer WMA Browse Scalping and Fence	2018	\$3,000.00
4103	La Sal/Elk Ridge Prescribed Burn Projects	2018	\$3,500.00
4116	Keg Springs Arc Clearance for Bullhog	2018	\$2,500.00
4129	Traverse Mountain Winter Range Improvement	2018	\$2,316.00
4149	Watts Mountain Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	2018	\$3,500.00
4169	FY18 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	2018	\$1,000.00
4180	FY18 DeerFawn/Adult Survival	2018	\$2,000.00
4181	FY18 Effects of Habitat Treatments on Mule Deer	2018	\$2,500.00
4183	FY18 Elk Movements Study	2018	\$2,000.00
4396	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 3	2019	\$1,000.00
4415	Upper Provo Watershed Restoration Phase 3	2019	\$2,000.00
4433	Cockey Hollow phase II	2019	\$2,000.00
4435	Willow Fuels Project - Phase 1	2019	\$4,000.00
4438	SW Strawberry roads Phase 2	2019	\$2,000.00
4445	Anthro Guzzler Project	2019	\$2,000.00
4447	Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase I	2019	\$1,000.00
4453	Indian Peak (Bull Hog)/Atchison Creek(cultural clearance) - Hamlin Valley (Year 4)	2019	\$1,000.00
4471	Augusi Bullhog	2019	\$1,000.00
4477	Hardware Ranch Juniper Lop and Scatter III and Unauthorized route decommission	2019	\$1,000.00
4488	South Canyon (Sunset Cliffs)	2019	\$1,000.00
4506	Burnt-Beaver Restoration Phase I	2019	\$2,000.00
4534	Book Cliffs weed treatments	2019	\$1,000.00
4544	Parowan Front Mastication	2019	\$1,000.00
4545	South Slope Vegetation Restoration	2019	\$1,000.00

4556	Wallsburg WMA Shrub Planting	2019	\$2,000.00
4568	UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley Phase II	2019	\$873.93
	All 2017 Funds Expended		\$59,550.00
		FY18 Revenue	\$61,950.00
WRI #	Name of Project	Year Funds Were Spent	Amount
4568	UKC - Spaniard Spring/Sink Valley Phase II	2019	\$1,126.07
4569	Kamas WMA Boundary Fence	2019	\$1,000.00
4604	Mytoge-Tidwell Sage Grouse Habitat Improvement Phase 2	2019	\$1,000.00
4614	North End La Sal (Brush Hole Phase 3)	2019	\$2,000.00
4634	Dixie National Forest Guzzlers	2019	\$2,000.00
4636	Powell Guzzler Fencing/Maintenance	2019	\$1,000.00
4650	La Sal/North Elk Ridge Rx FY19	2019	\$2,000.00
4668	Mineral Mountains Wildlife Guzzler	2019	\$2,000.00
4688	Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists FY19	2019	\$2,000.00
4692	FY19 Northern Utah Elk Study	2019	\$2,000.00
4701	FY19 Bison captures	2019	\$2,000.00
4705	Utah Migration Initiative	2019	\$2,000.00
4965	Bookcliffs Big Game Guzzlers	2020	\$814.76
4842	Newfoundland Mtns Water Improvement FY20	2020	\$2,000.00
5029	Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative	2020	\$3,000.00
5030	FY20 Bighorn Sheep Captures	2020	\$641.94
5033	FY20 Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate survival	2020	\$2,000.00
5034	FY20 DeerFawn/Adult Survival and Condition	2020	\$1,000.00
4982	Strawberry Ridge Aspen Regeneration	2020	\$5,000.00
4809	Six Mile WMA In-House Bullhog Project - Phase 1	2020	\$1,000.00
4812	Central Region Shrub Restoration Projects FY2020	2020	\$2,000.00
4856	South Slope Vegetation Restoration Phase 2	2020	\$2,000.00
4799	Rabbit Gulch Winter Range Improvement Phase II	2020	\$2,000.00
4846	Raft River Aspen Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$1,000.00
4819	Burnt-Beaver Phase II	2020	\$2,000.00
4734	Miller Creek Watershed Restoration 2.0	2020	\$2,000.00
4860	Shingle Mill Phase 1	2020	\$4,000.00

4882	La Sal/Abajo Prescribed Fire FY20	2020	\$1,000.00
4777	Monroe Mountain Aspen Ecosystems Restoration Project Phase 4	2020	\$2,000.00
4778	Pine Canyon to Koosharem Creek/Bell Rock Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project - Phase 3	2020	\$3,000.00
4818	Indian Peaks WMA Mule Deer Habitat Improvement Project	2020	\$2,544.23
4625	Red Canyon Habitat Restoration Project Phase I	2020	\$1,000.00
4989	Skutumpah Terrace Chalk Ridge	2020	\$1,823.00
	All 2018 Funds Expended		\$61,950.00
		FY19 Revenue	\$0.00
	Remaining 2019 Revenue	\$0.00	
	Remaining Balance	\$0.00	

Appendix 2.

2001 - 2019 Conservation Permit Revenue and Number of Permits by Organization

Updated: August 30, 2019

YEAR	Sportsmen for Fish & Wildlife		Mule Deer Foundation		Utah Wild Sheep Foundation		Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation		Safari Club International		National Wild Turkey Federation	
	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits
2001	\$188,539	55	\$158,400	29	\$283,880	17	\$168,665	43	\$15,770	4	\$101,398	68
2002	\$429,038	97	\$90,964	63	\$252,950	8	\$119,915	61	\$28,700	8	\$120,112	57
2003	\$656,521	197	\$51,853	43	\$226,500	5	\$270,205	54	\$1,250	5	\$51,835	26
2004	\$848,790	135	\$252,310	41	\$291,320	9	\$300,770	97	\$0	0	\$46,312	14
2005	\$522,647	178	\$622,040	82	\$310,600	10	\$175,975	27	\$28,500	11	\$19,901	26
2006	\$710,875	109	\$932,400	113	\$258,650	14	\$306,445	47	\$710,875	22	\$91,035	56
2007	\$1,039,552	102	\$913,220	151	\$405,870	24	\$336,775	30	\$81,515	8	\$82,670	37
2008	\$1,079,055	102	\$976,510	152	\$382,650	24	\$288,390	30	\$83,760	8	\$89,425	37
2009	\$860,000	102	\$822,802	152	\$390,075	24	\$250,675	30	\$72,055	8	\$66,365	37
2010	\$948,400	116	\$900,020	95	\$502,090	43	\$262,095	39	\$148,850	7	\$68,085	32
2011	\$799,290	116	\$754,695	97	\$486,785	43	\$235,000	39	\$102,500	7	\$65,470	32
2012	\$876,600	104	\$968,715	92	\$494,400	41	\$247,740	38	\$93,500	6	\$70,210	31
2013	\$1,083,725	124	\$971,285	84	\$519,500	23	\$275,135	26	\$128,747	21	\$104,535	21
2014	\$1,273,679	124	\$975,530	84	\$516,200	23	\$334,995	26	\$172,950	21	\$99,335	21
2015	\$1,508,650	124	\$1,259,765	84	\$564,510	23	\$366,865	26	\$158,970	21	\$112,145	21
2016	\$1,429,825	145	\$1,186,400	63	\$550,800	14	\$354,190	31	\$205,200	24	\$141,675	26
2017	\$1,449,675	145	\$1,258,550	63	\$578,325	14	\$382,845	31	\$216,420	24	\$165,375	26
2018	\$1,592,895	145	\$1,390,270	63	\$654,675	14	\$456,425	31	\$212,750	24	\$179,350	26
2019	\$1,630,440	122	\$1,370,050	72	\$629,200	16	\$454,620	40	\$197,125	40	\$193,100	36
	\$18,928,196	2,342	\$15,855,779	1,623	\$8,298,980	389	\$5,587,725	746	\$2,659,437	269	\$1,868,333	630

YEAR	Utah Archery Association		California Deer Association		Boone & Crockett		Ducks Unlimited		Total	
	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits
2001	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$916,652	216
2002	\$0	0	\$14,010	5	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$1,055,689	299
2003	\$0	0	\$27,565	10	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$1,285,729	340
2004	\$0	0	\$3,270	8	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$1,742,772	304
2005	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$1,679,663	334
2006	\$0	0	\$10,500	20	\$11,500	1	\$0	0	\$3,032,280	382
2007	\$6,000	2	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$19,000	4	\$2,884,602	358
2008	\$10,250	2	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$14,625	4	\$2,924,665	359
2009	\$6,750	2	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$26,200	6	\$2,494,922	361
2010	\$15,400	4	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$18,300	6	\$2,863,240	342
2011	\$28,700	7	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$2,472,440	341
2012	\$37,500	7	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$9,215	3	\$2,797,880	322
2013	\$53,525	13	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$12,430	4	\$3,148,882	316
2014	\$64,875	14	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$23,075	4	\$3,460,639	317
2015	\$90,050	18	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$4,060,955	317
2016	\$77,500	11	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$3,945,590	314
2017	\$99,250	11	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$4,150,440	314
2018	\$103,250	11	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$4,589,615	314
2019	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$4,474,535	326
	\$593,050	102	\$55,345	43	\$11,500	1	\$122,845	31	\$53,981,190	6,176



GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN C. STEED
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

MICHAL D. FOWLKS
Division Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Utah Wildlife Board

FROM: Darren DeBloois, Predatory Mammals and Furbearer Program Coordinator

DATE: September 17, 2019

SUBJECT: Change to Conservation Permit for Chalk Creek/Kamas Cougar Unit

Because the Chalk Creek unit changed to a Harvest Objective unit during this year's cougar recommendation cycle, we are recommending that we change the Chalk Creek/Kamas cougar conservation permit to valid for the Kamas cougar unit only.

Changes to the Chalk Creek/Kamas unit were made due to concerns about livestock depredation in the Chalk Creek unit. The Division recommended splitting the hunting unit into the Chalk Creek and Kamas units, using a harvest objective strategy on the Chalk Creek unit and a limited entry strategy on the Kamas. Using a harvest objective strategy will allow the Division to better manage cougars on the Chalk Creek unit. Since the Chalk Creek unit can now be hunted with a permit available over the counter, it makes sense to remove this unit from the area available to hunt with the conservation permit.

RAC Meeting Month	Agenda Item	Rule 5 Year Lapse Date	Mngrs Mtg (TBA by program mgr.)	Regional Recs Due to Program Coordinator (Mondays) - 2 wks to Brown Bag -	Review Program Recs with Director- no later than	Brown Bag Tuesday	Review Powerpoint with Outreach	Record Powerpoint Presentation - post 1 week prior to RAC	Final Draft Due to Rules Coord. Post 2 weeks prior to RAC	RAC Meetings	Board Meeting (Thursdays)	Comments
September	Fishing Recommendations & Guidebook - 2020 - (2 yr cycle) recommendations made in 2018			08/04	08/14	08/18	08/19-21	08/24	08/24	09/1-10	10/01	2-yr guidebook started 2018
September	Henry Mtns. Bison Management Plan?			08/04	08/14	08/18	08/19-21	08/24	08/24	09/1-10	10/01	
September	Mtn. Goat Management Plans?			08/04	08/14	08/18	08/19-21	08/24	08/24	09/1-10	10/01	
September	Sheep Unit Management Plans			08/04	08/14	08/18	08/19-21	08/24	08/24	09/1-10	10/01	
September	Conservation Permit Audit - (Board Only)			08/04	08/14	08/18	08/19-21	08/24	08/24	09/1-10	10/01	
September	Conservation Permit Allocation - 1yr Permits (Board Only)			08/04	08/14	08/18	08/19-21	08/24	08/24	09/1-10	10/01	
September	Conservation Permit Allocation - 3yr Permits (Board Only) (happens in 2021)			08/04	08/14	08/18	08/19-21	08/24	08/24	09/1-10	10/01	
September	Conservation Permit Annual Report (Board Only)			08/04	08/14	08/18	08/19-21	08/24	08/24	09/1-10	10/01	
September	Board Approves 2021 Meeting Dates (Board Only)			08/04	08/14	08/18	08/19-21	08/24	08/24	09/1-10	10/01	
October	No meetings											
November	Big Game 2021 Hunt Tables and Dates			10/13	10/23	10/27	10/28-30	11/2	11/2	11/10-19	12/03	
November	Big Game Rule			10/13	10/23	10/27	10/28-30	11/2	11/2	11/10-19	12/03	
November	CWMU and Landowner Permit Recommendations			10/13	10/23	10/27	10/28-30	11/2	11/2	11/10-19	12/03	
November	Statewide Deer Management Plan			10/13	10/23	10/27	10/28-30	11/2	11/2	11/10-19	12/03	
November	Surrender Rule Amendments - Lindy Varney			10/13	10/23	10/27	10/28-30	11/2	11/2	11/10-19	12/03	
November	Waterfowl Recommendations			10/13	10/23	10/27	10/28-30	11/2	11/2	11/10-19	12/03	3-yr guidebook started 2018
December	Falconry Recommendations			11/3	11/13	11/17	11/18-20	11/23	11/23	12/1-10	01/07/2021	
December	Bear hunt tables, permit numbers & Guidebook			11/3	11/13	11/17	11/18-20	11/23	11/23	12/1-10	01/07/2021	3-yr guidebook started 2018

2020 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.

CR RAC – 6:30 PM
Wildlife Resources Conference Room
1115 N. Main Street, Springville

SER RAC – 6:30 PM
John Wesley Powell Museum
1765 E. Main St., Green River

NR RAC – 6 PM
Weber County Commission Chambers
2380 Washington Blvd. Suite #240, Ogden

NER RAC – 6:30 PM
Wildlife Resources NER Office
318 North Vernal Ave, Vernal

SR RAC – 7 PM
Beaver High School
195 E. Center St., Beaver

Schedule & Tentative Agendas

- January –** **Board Meeting, January 7, 2020:**
- Dec. 2019 RAC agenda items.
- February –** No RAC or Board meetings scheduled.
- March –** No RAC or Board meetings scheduled.
- April –** **RAC meetings:**
- Big game permit numbers.
 - Antlerless permit numbers
 - CWMU rule amendments
 - CWMU management plans
 - SR deer unit management plans
- April 7 - CR
April 8 - NR
April 14 – SR – 5:00 pm
April 15 - SER
April 16 - NER
- Board meeting April 30**
- April 7-16 RAC agenda items.

May –

RAC meetings:

- Upland game and turkey recommendations
- Fishing informational – online survey

May 12 - CR

May 13 - NR

May 19 – SR

May 20 - SER

May 21 - NER

June –

Board meeting June 4

- May 12-21 RAC agenda items
- Conservation Permit List

July –

RAC meetings:

- Cougar hunt tables and permit numbers (contingent)
- Bobcat permit numbers (contingent)
- Fee proposals

July 28 – CR

July 29 – NR

Aug 4 – SR

Aug 5 – SER

Aug 6 – NER

August –

Board meeting August 27

- July 28- Aug 6 RAC agenda items
- Expo Permit Allocation
- Expo Permit Audit

September –

RAC meetings:

- Fishing recommendations and guidebook
- SER deer unit management plans

September 1 – CR

September 2 – NR

September 8 – SR

September 9 – SER

September 10 – NER

Board meeting October 1

- Sept. 1-10 RAC agenda items
- 2021 meeting dates approval
- Conservation permit Allocation 1 yr
- Conservation permit Allocation 3 yr (scheduled for 2021)
- Conservation permit annual report
- Conservation permit audit

November –

RAC meetings:

- Big Game 2021 Hunt Tables and Dates
- CWMU Management Plans
- CWMU Rule Amendments
- CWMU and Landowner Permit Recommendations
- 2021 Waterfowl Recommendations

November 10 – CR

November 12 – NR (Thursday)

November 17 – SR

November 18 – SER

November 19 – NER

Board meeting December 3:

- Nov. 10-19 RAC agenda items

December –

RAC meetings:

- Bear hunt tables and permit numbers
- Falconry recommendations

December 1 – CR

December 2 – NR

December 8 – SRO

December 9 – SERO

December 10 – NERO

January –

Board Meeting January 7, 2021:

- Dec. 1-10 RAC agenda items

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BEFORE THE UTAH WILDLIFE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE	:	STIPULATION AND ORDER
PRIVILEGES OF	:	
CRAIG B. COWAN	:	Case No. 2018-003276
TO HUNT IN THE STATE OF UTAH	:	

The DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES (“Division”) and CRAIG B. COWAN (“Petitioner”) as evidenced by their signatures to this Stipulation agree as follows:

1. Petitioner admits the jurisdiction of the Division over him and over the subject matter of this action.
2. Petitioner acknowledges that he enters into this Stipulation voluntarily and other than that which is contained in this Stipulation, no promise or threat whatsoever has been made by the Division, or any member, officer, agent or representative of the Division to induce him to enter into this Stipulation.
3. Petitioner acknowledges he may choose to be represented by legal counsel and has voluntarily proceeded without an attorney. Petitioner knowingly executes this Stipulation fully understanding its terms, conditions and consequences.

5. Petitioner acknowledges and understands that any suspension of big game hunting privileges imposed in this Stipulation is given reciprocal recognition in other states participating in the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact.

6. Petitioner understands that he is entitled to a formal hearing before the Utah Wildlife Board, at which time he may present to the Board evidence on his behalf, present his own witnesses, and confront adverse witnesses. Petitioner acknowledges that by executing this document he waives his right to: (1) a hearing before the Board; (2) present evidence on his behalf; (3) present his own witnesses; and (4) confront adverse witnesses, together with such other rights as to which he may be entitled in connection with said hearing.

7. Petitioner understands and agrees that by executing this Stipulation he waives his rights to further administrative and judicial review.

8. Petitioner admits as follows:

- a. On November 15, 2018, Petitioner went hunting for antlerless elk on the Little Red Creek Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit ("CWMU").
- b. Petitioner held a valid permit to hunt antlerless elk on the CWMU, allowing him to harvest one antlerless elk under the permit.
- c. Petitioner shot at multiple groups of elk without sufficiently investigating whether any of those shots resulted in a wounded or killed an animal.
- d. In the course of shooting at multiple groups of elk, Petitioner killed two antlerless elk and mortally wounded one spike elk.
- e. On January 15, 2019, Petitioner entered into a Plea in Abeyance to Unlawful Taking or Possession of Protected Wildlife, a Class B Misdemeanor, in Duchesne County Justice Court (Case No. 181200288), in violation of Utah Code Section 23-20-3.
- f. An informal administrative hearing was completed on May 7, 2019 to consider suspension of Petitioner's hunting privileges. Petitioner participated in the hearing and was provided the opportunity to present evidence on the issue of suspension.

g. The Division issued a Decision and Order on May 28, 2019, ordering the suspension of Petitioner's big game hunting privileges for a period of two (2) years, effective from June 3, 2019 to June 3, 2021.

h. Petitioner appealed the Division's Decision and Order to the Wildlife Board on June 18, 2019.

9. Petitioner acknowledges that the acts admitted in paragraph 8 were committed knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly and they constitute violations of the Wildlife Code to which he was convicted. Accordingly, a basis exists under Utah Code § 23-19-9 for the Division to suspend Petitioner's hunting privileges in Utah.

10. Petitioner asserts on appeal that the hearing officer's order was overly harsh and excessive.

11. Additionally, Petitioner notes two factual corrections necessary in the June 2019 Decision and Order.

a. First, in the last paragraph of page 2, the hearing officer states that Investigator Davis contacted Petitioner at his cabin; Petitioner alleges that it was in fact Officer Greenwood who contacted him, not the investigator.

b. Second, in the last sentence of the first paragraph on page 3, the hearing officer states that a bullet with a "T" mark was recovered from the trailing elk's neck. Petitioner alleges that this factual finding was in error, and that no bullet was recovered from the trailing elk's neck.

12. Based upon the on the acts admitted in paragraphs 8 and 9 and the and the additional considerations presented in paragraph 10, the Parties enter into this Stipulation as final resolution of Petitioner's pending appeal. The Division agrees that the factual corrections identified by Petitioner in Paragraph 11 are accurate and are adopted as part of this Stipulation.

13. Petitioner accepts and agrees to the following terms and conditions:

- a. **Petitioner's big game hunting privileges are suspended for 20 months, beginning June 3, 2019 and ending February 3, 2021.** The remaining time period of suspension imposed in the Division's May 2019 Decision and Order are set aside and vacated.
- b. During the period of suspension, Petitioner may not obtain or attempt to obtain any traditional hunting or combination license or big game hunting permit. Any big game permit, or bonus or preference point for big game, obtained by Petitioner in violation of this Stipulation and Order is invalid. Petitioner may obtain a restricted hunting or combination license from the Division that does not allow use for big game purposes while this Stipulation and Order remains effective.
- c. Petitioner shall immediately surrender to the Division of Wildlife Resources any license or permit held in his possession that is suspended by virtue of this Stipulation and Order.
- d. Any subsequent violation that occurs within the period of suspension may result in a doubled suspension period imposed consecutively with any existing unexpired suspension period, and may further result in the suspension of all hunting and fishing privileges.
- e. The suspension imposed in this Stipulation and Order are reciprocally recognized in all states participating in the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact ("IWVC"). At the time of this Stipulation, 48 states are members of the IWVC.

11. This agreement, upon approval by the Wildlife Board, shall be the final compromise and settlement of this matter. Petitioner acknowledges the Wildlife Board is not required to accept the terms of this Stipulation, and if the Wildlife Board does not do so, this Stipulation and the representations contained herein shall be null and void, except that the Division and Petitioner waive any claim of bias or prejudgment they might have regarding the Wildlife Board by virtue of it having reviewed this Stipulation.

12. Petitioner acknowledges that this Stipulation, once accepted by the Wildlife Board, will be classified by the Division as a "public" record under the Utah Governmental Records Access Management Act.

13. This document constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes and cancels any and all prior negotiations, representations, understandings or agreements between the parties. There are no verbal agreements which modify, interpret, construe or affect this Stipulation and Order.

**DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
RESOURCES:**

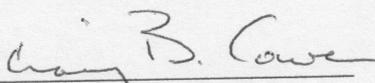
RICK OLSON
DWR Chief of Law Enforcement

DATE

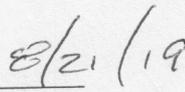
GREGORY B. HANSEN
Assistant Attorney General
Counsel for the Division

DATE

PETITIONER:



CRAIG B. COWAN
Petitioner



DATE

ORDER

The above Stipulation in the matter of CRAIG B. COWAN, which is approved by the Division of Wildlife Resources, constitutes the Wildlife Board's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this matter. The terms and conditions of the Stipulation are incorporated herein and constitute the Wildlife Board's final Order in this case.

DATED this ____ day of _____, 2019.

Kirk Woodward, Chairman
Utah Wildlife Board