

In the Utah Wildlife Board meeting on Aug. 26, 2021, the board voted to postpone receiving public comments on the trail camera recommendations until further surveys could be conducted on the issue. The recommendations regarding trail cameras, the use of night-vision devices and various other big game proposals that were made public for feedback on Aug. 23 will be presented to the public in a future meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Staci Coons at stacicoons@utah.gov.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

August/September 2021 RAC Feedback
August 24, 2021 1:31 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022 fishing recommendations?

Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the fishing recommendations?

I like the restrictions on cellular cameras, but I'd like them to even go further. Game trail cameras are a way to make public land hunting more of a pay to play system. According to your surveys, people who use them are spending hundreds if not thousands of dollars to gain a competitive advantage on big game. I'd prefer everyone on the same playing field and having to rely on scouting and sign reading.

Thank you for your efforts in putting this all together. You see constant complaints of the DWR online, but I think the majority of those are unreasonable. Having lived in many states, I can see the amount of effort and detail that you put into your decision making.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

August/September 2021 RAC Feedback
August 24, 2021 4:12 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022 once-in-a-lifetime species recommendations? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime species recommendations? none

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022 fishing recommendations? Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the fishing recommendations? none

Form Name:
Submission Time:

August/September 2021 RAC Feedback
August 25, 2021 11:04 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the 2022 fishing
recommendations?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

August/September 2021 RAC Feedback
August 26, 2021 8:48 am

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022 fishing recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the fishing recommendations?

I'm in support of banning the use of TRANSMITTING trail cameras ONLY, during the Big Game Hunts on BOTH public and private land. I also support the ban on using thermal imaging or night vision equipment during big game hunts.

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022 once-in-a-lifetime species recommendations?

Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime species recommendations?

On trail cameras there are to many loop holes left out there. One being you can still use a stored camera in the field after the season of the other cellular cameras are removed. People will not be honest if there camera is cellular or not so and there hard to tell. All cameras need to be removed in July if you want to make a change for qhats best for the resource. Also muzzleloader are all loaded from the front of the barrel even the long range muzzy's. You need to make a change to the use of only a 209 primer not a magnum rifle primer and not bolt action style guns on muzzleloader's. Changes must be made to these muzzleloader's to keep them at bay. As it sits now you have practically 3 rifle seasons for deer on units and we all know that is not sustainable. Also a recommendation is that the Wasatch front extended archery should be put as a draw. I understand the need to help deer stay out or urban areas or problem areas but the fact that you release every limited entry, dedicated hunter and general season hunter with a archery permit to stick either sex of deer is insane when we all do so much to keep deer numbers up. Archery is not the fastest or easiest way to harvest so many wounded deer go to waste. Not to mention most of these deer are at the weakest on the front and congregated because that's werr they winter. I strongly recommend to make that hunt be a draw and that would also help with the bottle neck of points and keep the point creep down because hunters will have to use there points.

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022 fishing recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the fishing recommendations?

No

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022 fishing recommendations?

Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the fishing recommendations?

I don't support the taking away the use of trail cameras during the hunt. Your survey doesn't accurately ask the question that all trail cameras do have night vision. I do support not allowing night vision devices that are not trail cameras. Based on the questions non transmitting cameras shouldn't be regulated like transmitting cameras. However the proposal is banning both during hunts and that goes against the survey results. I also support the banning of transmitting trail cameras during the hunt as that could add a big advantage. If private can use trail cameras as security why can't we use trail cameras as security on public land. I use one to watch my camp as when I am hunting I am away from camp from before light to after dark every day.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

August/September 2021 RAC Feedback
August 27, 2021 2:11 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly agree
regarding the 2022 once-in-a-lifetime
species recommendations?

Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime species recommendations?

I really hope someone will actually read and consider this feedback:

The argument of calling out "fair chase" to disallow baiting and limiting trail camera use is unfair if other hunting techniques aren't also called into question. Consider the fact that outfitters pay big money to have hired folks patrolling every nook and cranny looking for animals. And those hired people have eyes on everything and push/pressure hunters out of areas so the common hunter doesn't encroach on their payday, does constitute "fair chase"? Also, why not consider banning the use of ATVs/UTVs/Motorcycles on all dirt roads and trails, ban binoculars, scopes, compound bows or any other item that has been commercially developed for hunting? See how ridiculous this all sounds? We certainly need to have laws and regulations for hunting, but it seems that the narrow aspect to limit baiting and trail camera use happens to have the attention of some particular person(s) at this point and time, which is unfairly targeting one slice of the large industry we call hunting.

What is the end goal of disallowing baiting and limiting trail camera use? Is it to reduce the success ratio of animals taken? Is it aimed mostly at archery hunters? Is the goal to somehow equalize the hunting playing field? In the presentations it's mentioned to consider "public sentiment", but then why aren't the surveys expanded to include all aspects of technology used in hunting and then prioritize that list against all the public feedback before passing new laws? Again, this appears to be an example of a situation where someone is unfairly targeting a couple of narrow aspects of the hunting industry for their own self-serving purpose.

It is interesting that the belief to limit the use of trail cameras would be considered before some of the other technological improvements/advancements that have been made over the years. Trail camera usage appears to be more prominent for those hunting during the archery seasons, the same can be said about the ban on baiting, so why is archery hunting being targeted so significantly? In this context, banning the use of bait (mineral licks, salt, etc.) and trail cameras seems absolutely ridiculous considering other existing technology. While it is true that an animal may periodically come into a lick, it certainly is not a magnet to predictably lure an animal to a spot from any anecdotal evidence I've seen. Wouldn't the mineral benefit to the animals outweigh the potential that possibly one particular animal does get taken over bait (I'm no biologist, so who knows)? Again, is the problem that the harvest ratio for taking animals during the archery hunt is too high? If so, then limit the number of permits issued to get the buck-to-doe/bull-to-cow ratio in check.

It's obvious that there are many other technological items to consider banning before bait and trail cameras but these seem to be easier targets where there may be less public out-cry/criticism. And to target these items under the guise of "fair chase" is extremely subjective.

I can say this, I know hunters who use trail cameras and who put out mineral licks and I've seen pics of deer/elk from those trail cameras but I personally don't know of anyone who killed one of the animals caught on camera. These laws/proposals definitely do a good job at harassing an aspect of the hunting community. It's obvious that those who prefer to pursue what they deem as a more pure form of "fair chase", already limit themselves to using "more traditional" methods/techniques when hunting.

So again, who/what is the real target/goal of these proposals/laws?

**Which best describes your position
regarding the 2022 fishing
recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the fishing recommendations?

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