

**Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**  
**January 3, 2023, Eccles Wildlife Education Center**  
**1157 South Waterfowl Way, Farmington, Utah**

The meeting can be viewed live at <https://youtu.be/0O0ZmJ3A5zQ>

**Tuesday, January 3, 2023 – 9:00 am**

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Approval of Agenda<br>– Kevin Albrecht, Chairman   | <b>ACTION</b>                   |
| 2. Approval of Minutes<br>– Kevin Albrecht, Chairman  | <b>ACTION</b>                   |
| 3. Old Business/Action Log<br>– Randy Dearth, Vice-Chairman   | <b>CONTINGENT</b>               |
| 4. DWR Update<br>– J. Shirley, DWR Director   | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b>            |
| 5. Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy<br>R657-19 Rule Amendments<br>– Kim Hersey, Wildlife Coordinator                        | <b>INFORMATIONAL<br/>ACTION</b> |
| 6. Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments<br>and 2023 Recommendations<br>– Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator | <b>ACTION</b>                   |
| 7. 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates<br>– Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator   | <b>ACTION</b>                   |
| 8. Cougar Update<br>– Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator  | <b>ACTION</b>                   |
| 9. Other Business<br>– Kevin Albrecht, Chairman   | <b>CONTINGENT</b>               |

**Wildlife Board Motions**

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

Fall 2022 – Target Date – Progress on changes to statute for the poaching of a swan

**MOTION: I move that we ask the division to look into changing statute to reflect a 7-year waiting period for poaching a swan and have the division report back. This is to be placed on the action log.**

Motion made by: Karl Hirst  
Assigned to: Wyatt Bubak  
Action: Update given to the board on December 1, 2022  
Placed on Action Log: December 2, 2021

Fall 2022 – Target Date – Possibility of a 3-year season structure for Big Game seasons and hunter orange regulation reforms

**MOTION: I move that we ask the division to look into a 3-year season structure for big game season dates and the possibilities of hunter orange regulation reforms (including amount required, what other states allow etc.) This is to be placed on the action log.**

Motion made by: Bryce Thurgood  
Assigned to: Covy Jones and Wyatt Bubak  
Action: Update given to the board on December 1, 2022  
Placed on Action Log: December 2, 2021

Fall 2022 – Target Date – Possibility of issuing 2 pt. or smaller buck deer tags to youth hunters

**MOTION: I move that we direct the division through the action log, to look at issuing 2pt. or smaller buck deer tags to youth hunters. That in the four-year period, between 14-18, they would have the potential to be guaranteed at least one hunt for a 2pt. buck and that those tags would not take away from any of the other tag allotments but be in addition to the tags already issued. We would ask the division to look at the impact that it would have on licensing and the herds as well as future youth hunters. Kevin Albrecht included with the action log item that the addition of a survey be used to see what that need is.**

Motion made by: Karl Hirst  
Assigned to: Lindy Varney and Covy Jones  
Action: Under Study  
Placed on Action Log: January 4, 2022

Fall 2023 – Target Date – Youth Only deer permit program

**MOTION: I move that we ask the division to look into a Youth Only dedicated hunter type program, for youth ages 12-17 that would allow yearly participation with a harvest restriction (2 deer in a 3-year period). This is to be placed on the Action Log.**

Motion made by: Bryce Thurgood  
Assigned to: Lindy Varney, Covy Jones and Bryan Christensen  
Action: Under Study  
Placed on Action Log: June 2, 2022

Fall 2023 – Target Date – Special Use Permits on WMA’s – Guides and Outfitters – Nonconsumptive user fee

**MOTION: I move that we ask the division to look into Guides and Outfitters obtaining special use permits on WMA’s and to look at implementing a fee for non-consumptive users. This is to be placed on the Action Log.**

Motion made by: Randy Dearth  
Assigned to: Blair Stringham  
Action: Under Study  
Placed on Action Log: August 25, 2022

Fall 2023 – Target Date – Guiding Document for the Selection of Committees

**MOTION: I move that the Division formulate a guiding document for the formation of committees that would include final approval coming from the Wildlife Board. This is to be placed on the Action Log.**

Motion made by: Wade Heaton  
Assigned to: Ashley Greene  
Action: Under Study  
Placed on Action Log: September 29, 2022

# Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

December 1, 2022, Eccles Wildlife Education Center  
1157 South Waterfowl Way, Farmington, UT 84025

The meeting will stream live at <https://youtu.be/V7d0dHAZJNg>

**Thursday, December 1, 2022 - 9:00 am**

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. Approval of Agenda<br>– Kevin Albrecht, Chairman  | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 2. Approval of Minutes<br>– Kevin Albrecht, Chairman   | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 3. Old Business/Action Log<br>– Randy Dearth, Vice-Chairman  | <b>CONTINGENT</b>    |
| 4. DWR Update<br>– J. Shirley, DWR Director  | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b> |
| 5. Statewide Elk Management Plan and Rules R657-5, R657-62<br>– Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator                                 | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 6. 2023-2024 Once-in-a-Lifetime Hunt Season Dates<br>– Rusty Robinson, OIAL Program Coordinator                                  | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 7. 2023-2024 Big Game Hunting Seasons and Key Dates<br>– Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator  | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 8. Emerging Technologies – Restricted Weapon Definition Amendments<br>– Sergeant Gabe Patterson, Technologies Committee Co-chair | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 9. CWMU and Landowner 2023 Permit Recommendations<br>– Chad Wilson, Public Wildlife/Private Lands Coordinator                    | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 10. Bison Permit Variance Request<br>– Lindy Varney, Licensing Coordinator   | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 11. Expo Permit Allocation Amendments<br>– Covy Jones, Wildlife Section Chief  | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 12. Other Business<br>– Kevin Albrecht, Chairman   | <b>CONTINGENT</b>    |

*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:

#### **Fall 2021 – Target Date – Resident Only permits for the Youth Elk hunt**

**MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to review the possibility of youth any weapon elk tags going to residents only, and bring back the information next year. This is to be placed on the Action Log.**

Motion made by: Randy Dearth  
Assigned to: Covy Jones/Lindy Varney  
Action: Under Study  
Status: To be updated December 2, 2021  
Placed on Action Log: December 3, 2020

#### **Fall 2021 – Target Date – Bonus Point Application**

**MOTION: I move that we direct the Division to investigate the playing field between Non-Residents and Residents on picking species bonus points. This is to be placed on the Action Log.**

Motion made by: Karl Hirst  
Assigned to: Lindy Varney  
Action: Under Study  
Status: To be presented November/December 2021  
Placed on Action Log: August 26, 2021

#### **Spring 2022 – Target Date – Progress on changes to the 2023 Draw Application Dates**

**MOTION: I move that we track the Division's progress of the 3023 draw application date changes with an update to the Wildlife Board in 1 year. This is to be placed on the Action Log.**

Motion made by: Kevin Albrecht  
Assigned to: Lindy Varney  
Action: Under Study  
Status: To be updated December 2, 2021  
Placed on Action Log: April 29, 2021

#### **Spring 2022 – Target Date – List of allocated permits by unit to be published on the Division website**

**MOTION: I move that we direct the Division to place a list of allocated permits by unit on the Division's website. This is to be placed on the Action Log.**

Motion made by: Randy Dearth  
Assigned to: Justin Shannon  
Action: Under Study  
Status: To be presented April/May 2022  
Placed on Action Log: April 29, 2021

#### **Action Log Assignment**

**Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**  
December 1, 2022, Eccles Wildlife Education Center  
1157 South Waterfowl Way, Farmington, UT 84025  
**Summary of Motions**

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

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

**MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.**

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

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

**MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the September 29, 2022 Wildlife Board Meeting as submitted.**

3) Statewide Elk Management Plan and Rules R657-5 and R657-62 (**Action**)

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

**MOTION: I move that we ask the division to address the technical corrections to the plan arising from both the agriculture community and travel use authorities and re-write as appropriate.**

The following motion was made by Gary Nielson, seconded by Bryce Thurgood and passes unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we ask the division for a status update report on the plan, this is to occur in 3 year intervals for the life of the plan.**

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passes 4-3 with Chairman Albrecht breaking the tie. Opposed were Bryce Thurgood, Wade Heaton and Gary Nielson.

**MOTION: I move that we leave the General Season archery elk permit as an either sex tag.**

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Bryce Thurgood and passes 5-1 with Karl Hirst opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we eliminate the multi-season any bull elk permit and hunt.**

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Randy Dearth and fails 4-2 with Bryce Thurgood, Karl Hirst, Bret Selman, and Gary Nielson opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we exclude the Paunsaugunt unit from the Any Bull Elk Unit list.**

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Bryce Thurgood and passes 5-1 with Karl Hirst opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we remove the archery any bull elk hunt season from the Paunsaugunt unit and re-evaluate in 3 years (with the elk management plan).**

The following motion was made by Gary Nielson, seconded by Wade Heaton and fails 4-3 with Chairman Albrecht breaking the tie. Opposed were Chairman Albrecht, Bryce Thurgood, Karl Hirst, and Bret Selman.

**MOTION: I move that we impose an antler restriction on Any Bull Units similar in nature to Colorado's system.**

The following motion was made by Bryce Thurgood, seconded by Gary Nielson, and passes unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the remainder of the Statewide Elk Management Plan and Rules R657-5 and R657-62 as presented.**

- 4) 2023-24 Once-in-a-Lifetime Hunt Season Dates (**Action**)

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

**MOTION: I move that we approve the 2023-24 Once-in-a-Lifetime Hunt Season Dates as presented.**

- 5) 2023-24 Big Game Hunting Seasons and Key Dates (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Gary Nielson, and passes unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we ask the division to provide a spreadsheet showing season date overlap detailed by hunt unit and species for all big game hunts, once in a lifetime hunts, cougar hunts and black bear hunts formatted such that we can see the overlap with each hunt.**

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Bryce Thurgood, and passes unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the 2023-24 Big Game Hunting Seasons and Key Dates as presented.**

- 6) Emerging Technologies – Restricted Weapon Definition Amendments (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Bryce Thurgood, and passes unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that the Emerging Technologies proposals be postponed at this time and come back through the RAC and Board process in April 2023.**

7) CWMU and Landowner 2023 Permit Recommendations (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Bret Selman, and passes 4-2 with Bryce Thurgood and Randy Dearth opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the CWMU Committee's recommendation to include Sweetwater as an elk CWMU.**

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Gary Nielson, and passes unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the remaining recommendations including Jacob's Creek, Lazy H, Grass Valley, and Ingham Peak as presented by the division.**

8) Bison Permit Variance Request (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Karl Hirst, and passes unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the bison permit variance request as presented by the division.**

9) Expo Permit Allocation Amendments (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton, and passes unanimously – with Bryce Thurgood excused.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the Expo Permit Allocation Amendments as presented.**

10) Other Business (**Contingent**)

**Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**  
December 1, 2022, Eccles Wildlife Education Center  
1157 South Waterfowl Way, Farmington, UT 84025  
Attendance

**Wildlife Board**

Kevin Albrecht – Chairman  
Randy Dearth – Vice-Chairman  
J. Shirley – Executive Secretary  
Karl Hirst  
Gary Nielson  
Bryce Thurgood  
Wade Heaton  
Bret Selman

**RAC Chairs**

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

**Division Personnel**

|                |                    |                 |                |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Justin Shannon | Paul Gedge         | Teresa Griffin  | Chad Wilson    |
| Ashley Green   | Phil Tuttle        | Dax Mangus      | Gabe Patterson |
| Mike Canning   | Staci Coons        | Guy Wallace     | Devin Shirley  |
| Miles Hanberg  | Paige Wiren        | Kevin Bunnell   | Brian Dennis   |
| Ben Nadolski   | Charles Lyons      | Jim Christensen | John Owen      |
| Jason Vernon   | Lindy Varney       | Rusty Robinson  | Derek Ewell    |
| Wyatt Bubak    | Mark Martinez      | Nicole Nielson  | Kyle Maynard   |
| Chris Wood     | Blair Stringham    | Sidney Lamb     |                |
| Kenny Johnson  | Covy Jones         | Dave Beveridge  |                |
|                | Dallon Christensen |                 |                |

**Public Present**

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Tanner Carlson   | Danny Taylor     |
| Troy Justensen   | Ash Jenkins      |
| Kevin Norman     | Phil Crowther    |
| Angela Wonnacott | Ross Worthington |
| Samantha Nelson  |                  |
| Chris Jasmine    |                  |
| Lance Garner     |                  |
| Tim Raglin       |                  |
| Brandon Zundel   |                  |
| James Higley     |                  |
| Kevin Adamson    |                  |
| Paul Tsosie      |                  |
| Troy Henrie      |                  |

**Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**  
December 2, 2021, DNR Auditorium  
1157 South Waterfowl Way, Farmington, UT 84025  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UV9iGmJv\\_VQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UV9iGmJv_VQ)

- 00:10:44** Chairman Albrecht called the meeting to order, welcomed the public, reviewed the meeting procedures, and asked the Board and RAC chairs introduce themselves.
- 00:12:57** **1) Approval of Agenda (Action)**  
The following motion was made by Karl, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.  
**MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.**
- 00:13:33** **2) Approval of Minutes (Action)**  
The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed unanimously.  
**MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the September 29, 2022 Wildlife Board Meeting as submitted.**
- 00:14:02** **3) Old Business/Action Log (Contingent)**  
Vice-chairman Randy Dearth reviewed items from the action log and asked Division staff to give status updates.
- 00:27:12** **4) DWR Update (Informational)**  
Director Shirley gave updates on all the Division sections: Administrative Services, Aquatic, Conservation Outreach, Habitat, Law Enforcement and Wildlife.
- 00:32:57** **5) Statewide Elk Management Plan and Rules R657-5R657-62 (Action)**  
Big Game Coordinator Dax Mangus reviewed modifications and corrections to the recommendations since the online presentation was posted on the Wildlife Resources website.
- 00:36:57** **Board/RAC Questions**  
The Board asked when the new management plan would be implemented, how many people attempt to purchase general season any bull permits online, and what cow to bull ratios are on limited entry units.  
The RACs asked about issues that were raised in the Central and Northeastern RAC meetings.
- 00:47:09** **Public Input**  
Director Shirley summarized the online public input on this agenda item.
- 00:50:37** **RAC Summaries**  
All RACs passed the recommendations with various stipulations and dissent.

**01:00:20 Public Comments/Division Clarification**

Public comments were accepted at this time. The Division provided clarification at this time.

**0:07: RAC Summaries**

Chairman Albrecht further summarized the RAC motions on this agenda item.

**01:38:13 Board Questions/Discussion**

The board discussed the archery elk any sex permit, the second elk season and multi-season tag, and how many years it should be in effect, and overlapping season dates for different hunts.

The Board commented on the scope of changes in the proposed elk management plan, and the complexity of the different group interests involved in modifying the plan, and the measures that were taken in the elk committee to try and address point creep.

The Board suggested lowering age objective and formally revisiting the plan after three years of implementation.

Chairman Albrecht proposed discussing specific elements of the proposed plan.

The Board noted that there appeared to be a lot of public support for the plan.

The Board asked about the wording about domestic cattle and brucellosis in the plan.

The Board noted the potential impacts of a formal mid-plan review or reviews.

The Board voiced concern about if, or how, spike hunts impact limited entry units.

The Board asked what the elk committee's discussion was about the split archery and either sex archery hunts.

The Board suggested that potentially some general season rifle hunt permits could be allocated to archers, asked about any sex permit allocation, discussed the use of preference points, and discussed the impacts of a bull and/or a cow permit versus an any sex permit.

The Board asked how many LOAs are being dissolved, about multi season permit crowding survey results, about a presumed change in the demographic of the multi season customer, and suggested eliminating the multi season permit.

The Board discussed the Paunsaugunt becoming a general season unit, suggested not having an archery hunt on that unit, talked about how sometimes wildlife management public process safeguards and protects certain hunting opportunities over others, and voiced concern about conflict and crowding.

The Board proposed entertaining an antler point restriction, asked if any of Utah's neighboring states have antler restrictions on any bull units, and discussed the impact an antler point restriction might have.

Chairman Albrecht clarified his opinion on an antler point restriction.

The Board discussed permit numbers, input from tribal members, the overlap of proposed hunt dates with the youth any bull hunt and the disabled hunt.

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

**MOTION: I move that we ask the Division to address the technical corrections to the plan arising from both the agricultural community and travel use authorities, and rewrite as appropriate.**

The following motion was made by Gary Nielson, seconded by Bryce Thurgood and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we ask the Division for a status update report on the plan. This is to occur in 3-year intervals for the life of the plan.**

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Randy Dearth and passed 4-3 with Chairman Albrecht breaking the tie. Opposed were Bryce Thurgood, Wade Heaton and Gary Nielson.

**MOTION: I move that we leave the General Season archery elk permit as an either sex tag.**

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Bryce Thurgood and passed 5-1 with Karl Hirst opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we eliminate the multi-season any bull elk permit and hunt.**

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Randy Dearth and failed 4-2, with Bryce Thurgood, Karl Hirst, Bret Selman and Gary Nielson opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we exclude the Paunsaugunt unit from the Any Bull Elk Unit list.**

The following motion was made by Wade Heaton, seconded by Bryce Thurgood and passed 5-1 with Karl Hirst opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we remove the archery any bull elk hunt season from the Paunsaugunt unit, and reevaluate in 3 years (with the elk management plan).**

The following motion was made by Gary Nielson, seconded by Wade Heaton and failed 4-3 with Chairman Albrecht breaking the tie. Opposed were Chairman Albrecht, Bryce Thurgood, Karl Hirst and Bret Selman.

**MOTION: I move that we impose an antler restriction on Any Bull Units, similar to Colorado's system.**

The following motion was made by Bryce Thurgood, seconded by Gary Nielson and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the remainder of the Statewide Elk Management Plan and Rules R657-5 and R657-62 as presented.**

**03:55:44** Lunch

**04:43:10** **6) 2023-24 Once-in-a-Lifetime Hunt Season Dates (Action)**

OIAL Species Coordinator Rusty Robinson gave some corrections to the RAC packet.

**04:44:43** **Board/RAC Questions**

There were no questions from the Board or RACs.

**04:45:18** **Public Input**

Director Shirley summarized the online public input on this agenda item.

**04:46:30** **RAC Summaries**

All RACs passed the Division's recommendations.

**04:47:06** **Public Comments**

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

**04:47:41** **Board Discussion**

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

**MOTION: I move that we accept the 2023-24 Once-in-a-Lifetime Hunt Season Dates as presented.**

**04:48:44** **7) 2023-2024 Big Game Hunting Seasons and Key Dates (Action)**

Big Game Coordinator Dax Mangus noted clarifications on the recommendations.

**04:49:33** **Board/RAC Questions**

The RACs asked about the percentage of private versus public land in the Northern Region. The Southeastern RAC chair noted that they discussed tooth samples in their meeting, and asked the Division about tooth sample data.

**04:55:06** **Public Input**

Director Shirley summarized the online public input on this agenda item.

**04:57:35** **RAC Summaries**

All RACs passed recommendations with varying stipulations.

**05:00:38** **Public Comments/Division Clarification**

Public comments were accepted at this time. Clarification was given at this time.

**05:08:48** **RAC Motion Summaries**

Chairman Albrecht summarized the RAC motions.

**05:09:48 Board Questions and Discussion**

The Board asked about hunting and trapping rights on former tribally-owned land, and overlapping hunts.

The Board asked about issues that were raised in the Northern RAC meeting, and asked about land ownership in certain Northern Region units.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Gary Nielson and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that the Division to provide a spreadsheet showing season date overlap detailed by hunt unit and species for all big game hunts, once-in-a-lifetime hunts, cougar hunts and black bear hunts, formatted such that we can see overlap with each hunt.**

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Bryce Thurgood and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the 2023-24 Big Game Hunting Seasons and Key Dates as presented.**

**05:22:51 8) Emerging Technologies – Restricted Weapon Definition Amendments (Action)**

**05:23:06 Division Comment**

Division Director Shirley asked to table this agenda

**05:28:55 Public Input**

Director Shirley summarized the online public input on this agenda item.

**05:30:59 RAC Summaries**

The Northeastern and Northern RACs tabled the agenda item. The remaining RACs passed the amendments with stipulations.

**05:36:32 Public Comments**

Public comments were accepted at this time.

**05:47:10 Board Discussion**

The Board discussed the merits of tabling this agenda item.

Director Shirley reiterated the reason he made the request to table.

Bryce Thurgood left the meeting, and later joined electronically.

The following motion was made by Randy Dearth, seconded by Bryce Thurgood and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that the Emerging Technologies proposals be postponed at this time and come back through the RAC and Board process in April, 2023.**

**05:57:58 9) CWMU AND Landowner 2023 Permit Recommendations (Action)**

Public Wildlife/Private Lands Coordinator Chad Wilson reviewed the prerecorded presentation that was posted on the Division's website.

**06:02:28 Board/RAC Questions**

There were no questions from the Board. The RACs asked why the RACs voted on CWMU change applications. The Board noted that these kinds of things are voted on infrequently and commented on the value of having CWMU issues go through the public process. The RACs suggested having CWMU issues that RACs are not required to vote on be presented as information items at RAC meetings.

**06:08:33 Public Input**

Director Shirley summarized the online public input on this agenda item.

**06:09:26 RAC Summaries**

All RACs passed the proposal as presented with varying stipulations.

**06:11:59 Public Comments/Division Clarification**

Public comments were accepted at this time. Clarification was given at this time.

**06:16:45 Board Discussion**

Wade Heaton declared no conflict of interest on this agenda item. Bret Selman also declared no conflict of interest on this agenda item.

The Board voiced dissent for approving the Sweetwater application, and also brought up that there are CWMUs that do not meet minimums, but whose property greatly benefits wildlife. The Board suggested that the CWMU advisory committee should be able to consider applications that do not meet minimum acreage requirements as stated in rule. The Board voiced that one role of the board is to be able to make judgments on proposed exceptions to rule.

Chairman Albrecht advocated for being consistent with the rule, and Vice-Chairman Dearth suggested putting language in the rule that would allow for exceptions based on the value of the land to wildlife.

The Board commented that the CWMU advisory committee has been meeting for long enough that they are experts on the issues being voted on, and that desirable elk are being killed on the Sweetwater property because of depredation, and because the land is not a CWMU. The Board stressed the need for incentivizing landowners.

The Board asked about proposed trade lands. The Board discussed public land parcels within CWMU boundaries, and asked how much of the trade lands would benefit wildlife.

The Board commented on the value of the committee's recommendations, and the Board asked how many elk had been harvested in the past 8 years due to depredation issues.

Assistant Attorney General Kyle input was asked if he had an internal legal advice on this issue.

Chairman Albrecht asked Karl Hirst what his stance was behind his motion.

The Board asked about the Division's recommendations for Jacob's Creek, Lazy H, Grass Valley and Ingham Peak.

The Board asked when the CWMU rule would be up for revision.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Bret Selman and passed 4-2, with Bryce Thurgood and Randy Dearth opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the committee's recommendation of including Sweetwater as an elk CWMU.**

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Gary Nielson and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the remaining recommendations, including Jacob's Creek, Lazy H, Grass Valley and Ingham Peak as presented by the Division.**

**06:57:35 10) Bison Permit Variance Request (Action)**

Licensing Coordinator Lindy Varney outlined the details of the request to the Board.

**07:00:42 Board Questions/Discussion**

The Board asked about the rule definition.

The Board expressed support for issuing the variance.

The RAC suggested that language that would pertain to this individual's circumstances be added to the rule.

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

**MOTION: I move that we approve the bison permit variance request as presented by the Division.**

**07:03:28 11) Expo Permit Allocation Amendments**

Wildlife Section Chief Covy Jones gave a presentation titled, "2023 Expo Permit Allocation Amendment."

**07:05:49 Board Questions/Discussion**

The Board asked about the reallocation of one of the Expo permits.

The following motion was made by Karl Hirst, seconded by Wade Heaton and passed 5-1. Bryce Thurgood was excused from voting.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the amendments as presented.**

**07:08:43 12) Other Business**

Blair Stringham gave a presentation titled, "Utah Swan Hunt Overview."

The Board asked about swan classification, and asked about sportsmen permit revenue.

**07:18:55** Meeting adjourned.

DRAFT

**Regional Advisory Council Meetings**

November/December 2022

**Summary of Motions**

- 1) Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy R657-19 Rule Amendments

CR: **MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented.**

**MOTION PASSES: 11-1**

NR, SR, SER, NER:

**MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented.**

**MOTION PASSES: Unanimous**

- 2) Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments

CR **MOTION: Direct the Division to overhaul their current orientation course and direct that course to those that obtain a permit with the purpose to increase the ratio of males to females killed. (Similar to the extended archery course)**

**MOTION PASSES: Unanimous**

MOTION: Approve the remainder of the recommendations as presented by the Division with the exception of the use of chocolate as bait

MOTION FAILS: 2-10

**MOTION: Approve the remainder of the recommendations as presented**

**MOTION PASSES: 11-1**

NR, NER

**MOTION: I move that we accept Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments for 2023 as presented.**

**MOTION PASSES: Unanimous**

SR **MOTION: I move that we accept the Division's Black Bear Management Plan as presented with the addition of requiring an educational online course, similar to the Antler Gathering Course, after obtaining a Bear permit.**

**MOTION PASSES: Unanimous**

SER **MOTION: To ask Kyle Maynard to work with the Division, and whatever entities he feels necessary, to strengthen the management plan's definitions to help prosecutors be more successful.**

**MOTION PASSES: Unanimous**

**MOTION: To accept remaining recommendations as presented, with an addition of asking the Division to provide information to the public about special use permits on federal lands.**

**MOTION PASSES: Unanimous**

3) 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates

CR, SR, SER, NER

**MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented**

**MOTION PASSES: Unanimous**

NR

**MOTION: I move that we accept 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates, in addition to looking into adding Non-resident license to trap in Utah.**

**MOTION PASSES: Unanimous**

# Central Region RAC Meeting

Video Conference

November 29, 2022

The meeting streamed live at <https://youtu.be/BwcSvzLeOnc>

**Thursday November 29, 2022 6:00 pm**

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Approval of Agenda<br>– Brock McMillan, RAC chair  | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 2. Approval of Minutes<br>– Brock McMillan, RAC chair   | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 3. Wildlife Board Meeting Update<br>– Brock McMillan, RAC chair   | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b> |
| 4. Regional Update<br>– Jason Vernon, Regional Supervisor   | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b> |
| 5. Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy R657-19 Rule Amendments<br>– Kim Hersey, Wildlife Coordinator       | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 6. Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments<br>– Darren DeBloois, Mammals Program Coordinator | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 7. 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates<br>– Darren DeBloois, Mammals Program Coordinator                   | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 8. Cougar Update<br>– Darren DeBloois, Mammals Program Coordinator  | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b> |

Details of the specific recommendations can be found at [www.wildlife.utah.gov](http://www.wildlife.utah.gov)

*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.*

**Central Region RAC Meeting**

November 29, 2022  
Springville, Utah  
**Summary of Motions**

1) Approval of Agenda

The following motion was made by Ken Strong, seconded by Scott Jensen and passes unanimously.

**MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.**

2) Approval of November 10, 2022 RAC Meeting Minutes

The following motion was made by Ken Strong, seconded by Scott Jensen and passes unanimously.

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of the November 10<sup>th</sup> Central Region RAC meeting as transcribed.**

3) Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy R657-19 Rule Amendments

The following motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Jim Shuler and passed 11 in favor and 1 opposed (Josh).

**MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented.**

4) Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments

The following motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Josh Lenart and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: Direct the Division to overhaul their current orientation course and direct that course to those that obtain a permit with the purpose to increase the ratio of males to females killed. (Similar to the extended archery course)**

The following motion was made by Ben Lowder, seconded by Ken Strong and failed 2 in favor and 10 opposed.

**MOTION: Approve the remainder of the recommendations as presented by the Division with the exception of the use of chocolate as bait**

The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Braden Sheppard and passed 11 in favor and 1 opposed (Josh).

**MOTION: Approve the remainder of the recommendations as presented**

5) 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates

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

**MOTION: Accept the Division's recommendation as presented**

**Central Region RAC Meeting**  
November 29, 2022

**RAC Members**

**Attending**

Brock McMillan – Chair  
Braden Sheppard  
Eric Reid  
Josh Lenart - online  
Ken Strong  
Johnny Collins  
Danny Potts - online  
Scott Jensen  
Ben Lowder  
Amos Murphy - online  
Mike Christensen  
AJ Mower - online

**Absent**

Steve Lund

**Wildlife Board**

Gary Nielson - online

**DWR Personnel**

Jason Vernon  
Matt Briggs  
Scott Root  
Sydney Lamb  
Darren DeBloois  
Mike Christensen

Devin Shirley  
Danielle Finlayson  
Wes Alexander  
Barbara Sugarman  
Kim Hersey

Total public: 3

**Public invited to join online: <https://youtu.be/BwcSvzLe0nc>**

**Central Region RAC Meeting**  
November 29, 2022  
Springville, Utah  
<https://youtu.be/BwcSvzLe0nc>

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>06:00:05</b> | RAC Chair Brock McMillan called the meeting to order. He called the roll of RAC members and indicated which UDWR personnel were present on the broadcast. He explained the process that there will be no live presentations and public comments will be taken during the meeting.   |
| <b>06:02:50</b> | <p><b>1) Approval of Agenda (Action)</b></p> <p>The following motion was made by Ken Strong, seconded by Scott Jensen and passed unanimously.</p> <p><b>MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.</b></p>   |
| <b>06:02:50</b> | <p><b>2) Approval of Minutes (Action)</b></p> <p>The following motion was made by Ken Strong, seconded by Scott Jensen and passed unanimously.</p> <p><b>MOTION: To approve the November 10th Central Region RAC minutes as transcribed.</b></p>  |
| <b>06:03:35</b> | <p><b>3) Wildlife Board Meeting (Informational)</b></p> <p>No Wildlife Board update, meeting has not taken place.</p>   |
| <b>06:03:37</b> | <p><b>4) DWR Update (Informational)</b></p> <p>Jason Vernon updated the RAC on all regional activities.</p>   |
| <b>06:06:20</b> | <p><b>5) Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy R657-19 Rule Amendments (Action)</b></p> <p>A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a></p>   |
| <b>06:07:14</b> | <p><b>RAC Questions</b></p> <p>RAC members asked questions regarding the ability for landowners to address issues with prairie dogs on private property going forward if they are delisted, the success of transplants, the process of dusting to control plague, whether or not any active colonies on Forest Service land, reasons for declines and increases in population, are artificial feeding programs used,</p> <p><b>Public Questions</b></p> <p>None</p> |
| <b>06:15:10</b> | <p><b>Public Comments</b></p> <p>Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.</p> <p><b>Public Comments</b></p> <p>None</p>   |

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <p><b>06:15:52</b></p> | <p><b>RAC Discussion</b></p> <p>The RAC members expressed support for being proactive in preparation for the possibility of prairie dogs being delisted. There were also concern expressed about the lack of diversity in partners who support delisting as well as concerns about population levels and trend lines and creating the plan seems preemptive.</p>   |
| <p><b>06:19:45</b></p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy R657-19 Rule Amendments</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOTION</b></p> <p>The following motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Jim Shuler and passed 11 in favor and 1 opposed (Josh Lennart).</p> <p><b>MOTION: Accept the Division’s recommendation as presented.</b></p>   |
| <p><b>06:20:27</b></p> | <p><b>6) Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments</b></p> <p>A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a></p>   |
| <p><b>06:20:45</b></p> | <p><b>RAC Questions</b></p> <p>RAC members asked questions about the number of bait stations applied for in the fall hunt, and the composition of the bear committee.</p> <p><b>Public Questions</b></p> <p>Public asked questions regarding the number of applicants for fall bait hunts.</p>   |
| <p><b>06:31:45</b></p> | <p><b>Public Comments</b></p> <p>Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.</p> <p><b>Public Comments</b></p> <p>Cory Huntsman – Utah Houndsmen Association/Bear committee member, supportive of the process and the recommendations.</p> <p>Troy Justesen – Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife – Thank the committee and Division for time put into plan and support the recommendations as presented.</p>   |
| <p><b>06:34:00</b></p> | <p><b>RAC Discussion</b></p> <p>The RAC members discussed the recommendation to remove the fall bait hunt, conflicts between hound and bait bear hunters, the number of bait stations in the fall, drawing odds for bait versus hound hunts, weapon conflicts with fall big game hunts (archery), the removal of the mandatory orientation course, improving the orientation course, harvest rates of males and females for spot and stalk harvest versus hounds or bait, the number of spot and stalk permits sold and harvest numbers, and the use of chocolate as bait.</p> |
| <p><b>07:05:30</b></p> | <p><b>Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOTION</b></p>  |

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
|                        | <p>The following motion was made by Mike Christensen, seconded by Josh Lenart and passed unanimously.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOTION: Direct the Division to overhaul their current orientation course and direct that course to those that obtain a permit with the purpose to increase the ratio of males to females killed. (Similar to the extended archery course)</b></p> <p>The following motion was made by Ben Lowder, seconded by Ken Strong and failed 2 in favor and 10 opposed.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOTION: Approve the remainder of the recommendations as presented by the Division with the exception of the use of chocolate as bait</b></p> <p>The following motion was made by Jim Shuler, seconded by Braden Sheppard and passed 11 in favor and 1 opposed (Josh Lenart).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOTION: Approve the remainder of the recommendations as presented</b></p> |
| <p><b>07:21:40</b></p> | <p><b>7) 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates</b></p> <p>A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a></p>  |
| <p><b>07:21:49</b></p> | <p><b>RAC Questions</b><br/>None</p> <p><b>Public Questions</b><br/>None</p>  |
| <p><b>07:22:00</b></p> | <p><b>Public Comments</b></p> <p>Jason Vernon summarized public comments received from the online presentation.</p> <p><b>Public Comments</b><br/>None</p>  |
| <p><b>07:22:30</b></p> | <p><b>RAC Discussion</b><br/>None</p>   |
| <p><b>07:24:01</b></p> | <p><b>2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOTION</b></p> <p>The following motion was made by Ken Strong, seconded by Eric Reid and passed unanimously.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOTION: Accept the Division’s recommendation as presented</b></p>   |

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
|                 |  |
| <b>07:24:28</b> | <b>8) Cougar Update (Informational)</b><br>A pre-recorded presentation was provided online on the Division website prior to the meeting: <a href="https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html">https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html</a> |
| <b>07:24:35</b> | <b>RAC Questions</b><br>RAC members asked questions about decreased harvest the past year, age of cougars in the harvest, the number of collared cougars taken, and collard cougar data.<br><b>Public Questions</b><br>None  |
| <b>07:33:10</b> | <b>Meeting Adjourned</b>   |

# Regional Advisory Council Meeting

November 30, 2022

The meeting will stream live at [https://youtu.be/ J\\_WiuSPjzU](https://youtu.be/J_WiuSPjzU)

1. Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure  
- RAC Chair
2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes **ACTION**  
- RAC Chair
3. Wildlife Board Meeting Update **INFORMATIONAL**  
- RAC Chair
4. Regional Update **INFORMATIONAL**  
- DWR Regional Supervisor
5. Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy **INFORMATIONAL**  
R657-19 Rule Amendments **ACTION**  
- Kim Hersey, Wildlife Coordinator
6. Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments  
And 2023 Recommendations **ACTION**  
- Darren Deblois, Mammals Coordinator
7. 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates **ACTION**  
- Darren Deblois, Mammals Coordinator
8. Cougar Update **INFORMATIONAL**  
- Darren Deblois, Mammals Coordinator

CR RAC – Nov 29, 6:00 PM  
Wildlife Resources Conference Room  
1115 N. Main Street Springville  
<https://youtu.be/BwcSvzLe0nc>

NR RAC – Nov 30th, 6:00 PM  
Weber County Commission Chambers  
2380 Washington Blvd. Suite #240, Ogden  
[https://youtu.be/ J\\_WiuSPjzU](https://youtu.be/J_WiuSPjzU)

SR RAC – Dec 6th, 6:00 PM  
DNR Richfield Complex  
2031 Industrial Park Rd, Richfield  
<https://youtu.be/9e5CrfqdeJs>

SER RAC – Dec 7th, 6:30 PM  
John Wesley Powell Museum  
1765 E. Main St., Green River  
<https://youtu.be/y0m2LastEj0>

NER RAC – Dec 8th, 6:30 PM  
Wildlife Resources NER Office  
318 North Vernal Ave., Vernal  
<https://youtu.be/wfkD3WVWz7E>

Board Meeting – January 3, 9:00 AM  
Eccles Wildlife Education Center, Farmington Bay  
<https://youtu.be/000ZmJ3A5zQ>

**Regional Advisory Council Meeting  
Summary of Motions**

- 1) Approval of Agenda and Minutes (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Brad Buchanan and passed unanimous.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the Agenda and Minutes.**

- 2) Utah Prairie Dog R657-19 Rule Amendment (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Jaimi Butler and passed unanimous.

**MOTION: I move that we accept Utah Prairie Dog R657-19 Rule Amendments as presented.**

- 3) Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments and 2023 Recommendations (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Brad Buchanan, seconded by Mike Laughter and passed unanimous.

**MOTION: I move that we accept Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657- 33 Rule Amendments for 2023 Recommendations as presented.**

- 4) 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Mike Laughter, seconded by Junior Goring and passed unanimous.

**MOTION: I move that we accept 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates, in addition to looking into adding a non-resident license to trap in Utah.**

DRAFT

**Northern Regional Advisory Council Meeting**

Nov 30, 2022

Attendance

**RAC Members**

Justin Oliver – Chair  
Kevin McLeod – Vice-Chair  
Ben Nadolski – Exec Secretary

Ryan Brown  
Brad Buchanan  
Jaimi Butler  
Paul Chase  
David Earl  
Junior Goring

Randy Hutchison  
Emily Jensco  
Mike Laughter  
Darren Parry  
Nikki Wayment

**Board Member**

Bret Selman

**RAC Excused**

Matt Klar  
Casey Snider

**Division Personnel**

Jodie Anderson  
Darren Debloois  
Kim Hersey  
Jim Christensen  
David Smedley  
David Beveridge  
Barbara Sugarman  
Sam Robertson

Patrick Anderson  
Phil Tuttle  
Mike Loveland  
Daniel Olson  
Mike Kinghorn

**Regional Advisory County Meeting**  
Nov 30, 2022  
Minutes

- 00:03:54** 1) Chairman Justin Oliver called the meeting to order, welcomed the audience and reviewed the meeting procedures.
- 00:08:44** 2) **Approval of Agenda and Minutes (Action)**  
The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Brad Buchanan and passed unanimous.
- MOTION: I move that we approve the Agenda and Minutes.**
- 00:09:22** 3) **Update from past Wildlife Board Meeting by Ben Nadolski**  
Meeting scheduled for Dec 1, 2022. Links on website to view.
- 00:10:35** 4) **Regional Update - Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor (Informational)**  
Wildlife - Pheasant releases - last release this week. Post-season deer classifications, Dec. 6 - 7 Box Elder deer capture, Dec. 8 – 9, Cache deer capture.  
Zach Oman - Landowner Specialist, Box Elder, Cache and Rich counties, BS from U of U. Conservation Planner with Dept of Ag., Technician for DWR Northern Region.  
Hailey Barrett - Wildlife Technician, BS from USU, Undergraduate Intern in the DWR Northeastern Region, Washington DNR, Whitetail Deer Ranch.  
Daniel Sallee - Box Elder Biologist, Coming to us from Nevada DOW, BS from University of Idaho, MS from BYU - Book Cliffs deer and elk neonate study.  
Great Salt Lake - Many waterfowl and eared grebes have left the lake with marshes freezing. Salinity is extremely high (>19%). Brine shrimp harvest has exceed 15 million pounds.  
Waterfowl - Swan season closed on Nov. 17. Fourth year in a row. Season closed earlier this year. DWR working on recommendations for RAC and board consideration.  
Administration - New Fishing Guidebooks have arrived. Cougar and bobcat checks continue, Contractor bid meeting for remodel Dec. 6, 2022.  
RAC Member Opportunities – Post-season deer classifications, big game aerial captures.

00:18:28

Randy Hutchison - Believe 2,750 swan tags were issued. Trumpeter quota was doubled this year. Still closed even faster than before. 2,700 hunters got 12 days to take advantage of the hunt. It's unacceptable that this is happening. No one cares about waiting five years. A trumpeter swan is a trophy of a lifetime for a waterfowler. It's unacceptable, and people are losing opportunities to hunt because of the people out there gaming the system. I know the board will make recommendations, I'm assuming in April?

Ben Nadolski - Probably in May. Due to the guidebook cycle, we need to have everything buttoned up by June.

Randy Hutchison - Do you know if we have enough numbers back yet to know how many people were affected by the early closure?

Ben Nadolski - Have numbers, but I don't want to swear by that. Swans are not on the agenda tonight, so I want to be really careful that we are respectful of the rules we're under. A total of 2,750 permits were issued, and somewhere close to 800 swans were harvested this year.

Randy Hutchison - Talking points for the board and the Division. Think if you harvest a trumpeter swan, people should lose their waterfowl hunting privileges for that year and the following year. People are targeting trumpeters. It's not acceptable. Possibly consider changing boundary lines on some swan hunts in the future. If that is the case, go back to the old boundary line. If that's the recommendation that's put forward, under no circumstances should private hunting clubs be included. They shouldn't get special treatment.

Justin Oliver - You're not alone. The swan hunt has now closed early for four years in a row. I don't know what we do or what it will take for people to sense the urgency. I don't feel like a sense of urgency has been there. I don't know if the Division senses that. I know a lot has to be done federally for changes to happen. But something has to be done to put some sense of urgency in this. We keep getting the same results. Take it seriously. We are getting a lot of calls.

Ben Nadolski - Waterfowl rules are on a 3-year cycle. That does not preclude us from coming in mid-cycle and making adjustments. In terms of urgency, we are right there with you. I have already heard a number of new ideas being thrown out. We just need to let the process take place in the spring. The federal process is a multi-year process. Research needs to be done to determine where the trumpeters are coming from and what the impact to the trumpeter population really is.

Justin Oliver - We knew it was going to take a while. So now here we are, four years into the process. Hopefully it gets expedited. That's what we're hoping for.

Ben Nadolski - We're just over one year into the five-year waiting period, and it's not working. We have to go farther.

**00:24:45**      **5) Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy (Informational)**

**R657-19 Rule Amendments (Action)**

Presentations could be viewed at <https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html>

**00:25:32**      **Questions from RAC Members/Public**

Arguments against delisting. Groups left out of the process. Process to get species delisted. Mammal species that have been delisted. Visual difference between the Utah prairie dog and the white-tailed prairie dog. Significant factor that has helped the population rebound. Plague management.

**00:36:53**      **Electronic/ Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor**

No electronic responses.

Sierra Nelson, Utah Wool Growers Association - Effort to delist. Don't infringe upon private property rights, specifically on farmland.

**00:38:47**      **RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions**

The following motion was made by Randy Hutchison, seconded by Jaimi Butler and passes unanimous.

**MOTION: I move that we accept Utah Prairie Dog R657-19 Rule Amendments as presented.**

**00:40:14**      **6) Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments (Action)**

Presentations could be viewed at <https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html>

Misunderstanding about the affiliation of one of our black bear committee members, Kirk Player. Thought he was from Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, but he is not. He represented sportsmen on the committee.

**00:41:09**      **Questions from RAC Members/Public**

Hound season, pursuit season and bait season. Number of harvest objective permits sold. Success rate on spot and stock. Limited entry spot-and-stock permits no longer available. Restrictions on methods used to harvest. Person representing a group who would like to limit baiting. Other animals that can be baited. Firearm restrictions on spot and stock. Proposal to eliminate the mandatory orientation. Pros and cons for having law enforcement checking bait sites; is it the best use of their time? Number of bait stations in the state.

**00:57:50 Electronic/ Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor**

1 Response. Strongly agree: 0, Somewhat agree: 0, Neither agree nor disagree: 1, Somewhat agree 0.

Troy Justensen, Sportsmen for Fish & Wildlife – Support’s the Division’s recommendation as presented.

Ross Worthington - Served on black bear committee. Get information out to the public. Simplify things. Wondering if we were taking away opportunity in the fall with the bait hunters? A lot of people would take advantage of the opportunity to purse bears. Big opportunity given to the public to get involved.

Cory Huntsman, Utah Houndsmen Association - Everybody came out of the committee feeling good about its recommendations. Moving the spot-and-stock hunt is going to add a ton of opportunity. The Utah Houndsmen Association fully supports the Division’s recommendations.

Sierra Nelson, Utah Wool Growers Association - Supports the Division’s recommendations. Not many people are harvesting bears off of bait in the fall. Harvesting bears is important to us. The number of bears on the landscape is going up, and conflicts are going up too. Management goals need to be met. Seeing bear sign in a lot of places where we’ve never seen it before.

**01:05:02 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions**

Spot-and-stock success rates are low. Make sure the Division is paying close attention when we’re talking about bear populations. Cautioned the Division to make sure we’re considering population growth. A lot of bears are being displaced. Like what the Division has put together. Very well thought out.

The following motion was made by Brad Buchanan, seconded by Mike Laughter and passed unanimous.

**MOTION: I move that we accept Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments as presented.**

**01:08:30 7) 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates (Action)**

Presentations could be viewed at <https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html>

Essentially the same as we recommended last year. Just changing the dates for the calendar.

**01:09:03 Questions from RAC Members/Public**

Kit fox population.

**01:11:26 Electronic/Public Comment Report by Ben Nadolski, Regional Supervisor**

No Electronic Responses.

Cody Bassett, Utah Trappers Association - Supports the recommendations with the exception of the non-resident license portion. Feels it is only fair to the trappers and sportsman of Utah that non-residents be required to buy a license to trap in Utah.

**01:13:06 RAC discussion/Division Clarification and Motions**

Non-resident license brought up last year. Number of out-of-state trappers. Like idea from the Utah Trappers Association. Good way to bring in revenue. Something we could suggest and have the Wildlife Board look into it.

The following motion was made by Mike Laughter, seconded Junior Goring and passed unanimous.

**MOTION: I move that we accept 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates in addition to looking into adding a non-resident license to trap in Utah.**

**01:16:40 8) Cougar Update (Informational)**

Presentations could be viewed at <https://wildlife.utah.gov/agendas-materials-minutes.html>

**01:16:52 Questions from RAC Members/Public**

Removal of cougars. Unlimited season.

**01:20:15 Meeting Adjourned.**

DRAFT

**Southern Regional RAC Meeting**

**December 06, 2022 6:00 PM, Richfield, UT**

**RAC Members**

**Attending**

Brayden Richmond  
Bart Battista (Remote)  
Gene Boardman  
Chuck Chamberlain  
Craig Laub  
Verland King  
Dan Fletcher  
Chad Utley (Remote)  
Tammy Pearson (Remote)  
Austin Atkinson (Remote)

**Absent**

Riley Roberts

**Wildlife Board**

Wade Heaton

**DWR Personnel**

Kevin Bunnell  
Danielle Finlayson  
Patrick Anderson  
Adam Kavalunas  
Michael Christensen  
Kim Hersey  
Kyle Christensen  
Jason Nichols  
Tyrell Orme

Teresa Griffin  
Barbara Sugarman  
Denise Gilgen  
Jessica Kinross  
Darrin DeBloois  
Julie Sabattis  
Mike Wardle  
Levi Watkins  
Vance Mumford

Public invited to join online: <https://youtu.be/9e5CrfqdeJs>

**Southern Region RAC Meeting**

**December 08, 2022**

**Richfield, Utah**

<https://youtu.be/9e5CrfqdeJs>

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>06:00:05</b> | <b>1) RAC Chair Brayden Richmond</b> called the meeting to order. He called the roll of RAC members and indicated which UDWR personnel were present. He explained the process that there will be no live presentations or public comments taken during the meeting.  |
| <b>06:02:16</b> | <b>2) Approval Of Agenda and Minutes (Action)</b><br>The following motion was made by Dan Fletcher, seconded by Chuck Chamberlain.<br><b>MOTION:</b> I move that we approve the Agenda and Minutes as presented.<br><b>Passed unanimously.</b>   |
| <b>06:02:53</b> | <b>3) Wildlife Board Meeting (Informational)</b><br><b>RAC Chair Brayden Richmond:</b> Due to the short time between the Wildlife Board meeting and the SR RAC meeting, the final Minutes from the Board Meeting have not been disseminated as of yet. Important information was discussed (Elk plan, especially) at that meeting and he did not want to provide incorrect information. Postponed the update until the next meeting, where two (2) updates will be provided.   |
| <b>06:04:42</b> | <b>4) DWR Update (Informational)</b><br><b>Kevin Bunnell, DWR Regional Supervisor</b> updated the RAC on all regional activities.  |
| <b>06:09:46</b> | <b>RAC Questions:</b><br><b>Verland King:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• At the last meeting, we had a discussion on the use of infrared cameras to count Buffalo. Has this gone any further?</li><li>• Believes it would be helpful and beneficial on Elk flights, especially this time of year, when Elk are in deep cover.</li><li>• He'd like DWR to pursue this.</li></ul> <b>Kevin Bunnell:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There was a discussion with the Salt Lake staff, but not sure where this stands. He will but check on where the conversations are right now and let Verland know.</li></ul> |

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| <p><b>06:12:24</b></p> | <p><b>5) Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy, R657-33 Rule Amendments (Action)</b><br/> <b>Kim Hersey, Wildlife Coordinator</b></p> <p>Presented her recommendation and answered questions.</p>  |
| <p><b>06:13:36</b></p> | <p><b>RAC Questions:</b></p> <p><b>Craig Laub:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We used to have quite a few Prairie Dogs until 2018, what happened in Iron County since that time?</li> <li>• Literally used to shoot 600 Prairie Dogs per year to control the population (with permits).</li> <li>• Excited to see Prairie Dogs delisted.</li> </ul> <p><b>Bart Battista:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When this is approved by the State, what is the position, right now, that the US Fish and Wildlife has to delist? Will this broadside them?</li> <li>• Are they receptive to entertaining the idea of delisting them?</li> <li>• In the Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy there are partners, did they contribute to the development of this? Or, are they partners because of the ongoing work that is being done by establishing policy?</li> <li>• Did they have input on the writing of the plan? Is it collaboratively written?</li> <li>• Assumes there is a population recovery plan. Are we meeting the metrics under this recovery plan?</li> </ul> <p><b>Kevin Bunnell:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• US Fish and Wildlife cannot be pre-decisional. They are aware of what the DWR is doing. There will most likely be legal challenges related to this subject.</li> </ul> <p><b>Chuck Chamberlain:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the process for approval once it leaves this meeting?</li> <li>• What is the process for delisiting? How long will it take?</li> </ul> <p><b>Tammy Pearson:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you have a general target number that the Feds have given you that qualifies for delisting on federal land?</li> <li>• Translocation concerns in Beaver County. They have Townsend Ground Squirrels in and around and irrigated cropland. Are the designated protected areas near cropland?</li> <li>• When you translocated, how do you determine that? Do you give the public notice? Does the county commissioners have a say in where they are translocated?</li> <li>• Translocated sites make zero to no sense to her. High points in the middle of sagebrush bordering the county line. Prairie Dogs have come</li> </ul> |

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|                        | <p>down the canyon and into Minersville in the last 10-30 years. Seems like there needs to be planning and coordinating with people on the ground sites and in the area where they are being translocated.</p> <p><b>Kevin Bunnell:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hopes that we have learned and have a better process than we did 10-30 years ago. Feels we are better now. Several specific requirements that need to be met.</li> </ul> <p><b>Gene Boardman:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would like to know more about where Division of Wildlife Services begins to manage and where the Utah Wildlife begins and ends on the situation we have right now. Who captures the Prairie Dogs and relocates them?</li> <li>• If they are delisted, will they become the State's responsibility?</li> <li>• What happens when an endangered Prairie Dog is attacked by an endangered predator?</li> </ul> <p><b>Kevin Bunnell:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DWR is doing the work right now and will continue to do the work whether or not they are delisted. DWR does the work under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife sets the rules on where and when and the DWR does it. Once they're delisted, the DWR will continue to do the work, but will be setting the rules on where and when, through the public process.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>06:31:34</b></p> | <p><b>Public Questions: None.</b></p>  |
| <p><b>06:32:00</b></p> | <p><b>Public Comments:</b></p> <p><b>Kevin Bunnell (Online Public Comments):</b> Received one comment. It was in support of the plan.</p> <p><b>Reed Erickson:</b> Iron County and Special Services Coordinator: Appreciates the opportunity to comment and share a few thoughts. He read a letter from the Iron County Commissioners. (Please see attached letter dated November 29, 2022). Pleased with the steps to delist the Utah Prairie Dog, this is the right step. Supports the DWR's proposal to delist.</p> <p><b>Kevin Bunnell:</b> DWR presented the strategy to Iron and Garfield County commissioners separately. They both indicated a desire to sign the MOA, that Kim referenced, as partners. He is on the Agenda to present the plan to Beaver County later this month. It is anticipated that they will be willing to sign the MOA</p>  |

as well. Having the Counties as partners and in implementing this is huge. This will go a long way to help us with the legal challenges to come.

**Tammy Pearson:** The Beaver County Commission is in support of the Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy plan. Read the letter submitted by the Beaver County Commission. Concerned with the Translocation of Prairie Dogs, limited habitat locations. (Please see attached letter, dated November 30, 2022).

**Dan Fletcher:** Read the letter of support submitted by the Bureau of Land Management. BLM is in support of the plan. (Please see attached letter, dated December 06, 2022).

**Chuck Chamberlain:** Read the letter of support submitted by the Dixie and Fishlake National Forest. Added that the coordination between State and Federal agencies is excellent, has come a long way. (Please see attached letter, dated December 05, 2022).

**06:44:10**

**RAC Discussion**

**Craig Laub:** Happy this day has finally come. It was a relief when the State took over the control of the Prairie Dogs and landowners were able to work with the DWR.

**Gene Boardman:** Surprised things have gone so well over the past few years based on the animosity that existed years ago. Appreciates DWR's efforts to get things squared around. Believes the plan is a good one and it looks like a good future for Prairie Dogs and the public that deals with them.

**Dan Fletcher:** Echoes what Chuck said about the partnership between the State and Federal government, local and county governments. Some of the people that are overlooked are grazing permittees. When the translocation occurs from private land to public land it impacts someone's allotment. A lot of trust has been established between grazing permittees beyond the Forest Service. BLM is committed to continue habitat improvement projects on BLM to help with translocation and will help to support the conservation plan. The BLM and Forest Service have committed quite a bit of money to apply Delta dust to help maintain the prairie dogs as well.

**Tammy Pearson:** Supports what Dan had to say with regard to permittees. Always better managed on a local level rather than through the Federal level. Beaver County doesn't want the Iron County issues with Prairie Dogs. It's been a nightmare with the Townsend Ground Squirrels. Appreciates work and effort that has gone into the plan.

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| <p><b>06:51:32</b></p> | <p><b>MOTIONS:</b></p> <p>The following motion was made by Tammy Pearson, seconded by Craig Laub.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> I move that we support the Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy and accept the Administrative Rule Amendments (R657-19) as presented.<br/> <b>Passed unanimously.</b></p>  |
| <p><b>06:52:53</b></p> | <p><b>6) Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments and 2023 Recommendations (Action)</b><br/> <b>Darren DeBloois, Mammal Program Coordinator</b><br/> Presented his recommendation and answered questions.</p> <p><b>Brayden Richmond</b> was a member of the Bear Management Plan Committee. Answered questions and provided comments.</p>   |
| <p><b>06:54:00</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>RAC Questions:</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Chuck Chamberlain:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal says DWR will limit baits users to a maximum 55 gallon drums. My question is has there always had a limit on containers?</li> <li>• One individual asked Chuck if we can set a bait season in the Fall? Understand that the DWR doesn't want to overlap seasons.</li> <li>• So, are 80% of Bears harvested in the spring?</li> <li>• How are we going to manage where bait stations are placed?</li> <li>• Regarding pack size. Have we ever had a limitation on pack size?</li> </ul> <p><b>Verland King:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In looking at the Committee, it seems Agriculture Producers are under-represented on Bear Management plan. They should have a big say in the management plan.</li> <li>• One graph showed Bear incidents in 1970's and how the incident was resolved. There was a big gap between the number of incidents and the number of Bears taken.</li> </ul> <p><b>Bart Battista:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since the DWR will no longer be reviewing bait sites. What is the history of illegal bait sites and/or hunters that did not comply. Is that something that is tracked?</li> <li>• What process is used now? Is it a GIS map survey?</li> <li>• Would you explain the mandatory orientation course? Is that just so they don't take females or so they can see the difference?</li> <li>• The permit doesn't say male or female? It is just discouraged to take females?</li> <li>• Is 18% a general? Or what is the male to female ratio in our Utah population?</li> </ul> |

**Craig Laub:**

- Ranchers are losing calves and/or sheep to bear. Are there any multipliers? If you've lost one, you've probably lost three or four.

**Kevin Bunnell:**

- The reason it wasn't discussed is because there's a whole different policy that deals with depredation and how we compensate people. It wouldn't happen under this rule, it would happen under other rules and policy that specifically deal with that issue.

**Gene Boardman:**

- The bait season will run from May 30 to the end of June. Doesn't the quality of the Bear hide diminish quite a bit by Fall?
- A year ago or so, some people were upset and thought predators would decimate the deer herd due to the drought. They made a push to liberalize the take of Bear and Cougar. From what he saw in the presentation, there were fewer Bear harvested last year than in previous years?
- Any information on Bears as far as their kill of deer?

**Kevin Bunnell:**

- Explained that Bears usually have a bigger impact on Elk/calves herds. Elk group together and have Nursey herds. Deer disperse when they have their fawns. Therefore, Deer are less of an issue with regard to Bears.
- Bear will consume the whole Sheep/Lamb, so there's no evidence left behind.

**Chuck Chamberlain:**

- How many are they missing when they are looking at depredation?

**07:20:17**

**Public Questions:**

**JJ Brewer:** Representing Utah Houndsman's Association. Appreciates the Southern RAC and the hard work the Bear Committee did. Supports the Bear Management plan.

**Scott Stubbs:** Iron County Farm Bureau, Wool Growers, and involuntary Bear feeder. Likes the comment about the multiplier. Appreciates the way the DWR works with them and supplies depredation permits. Depredation is a big deal and it is getting worse with Cougars and Bears.

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| 07:22:13 | Public Comments: None.   |
| 07:22:16 | <p><b>RAC Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Craig Laub:</b> Scott has a different perspective than the committee does with regard to Bears. I'm sure the reason he's seeing more of a problem with depredation is because the Deer herd numbers are down and the Bears need to eat something.</p> <p><b>Tammy Pearson:</b> Reiterates what both Scott and Craig said. She hears a lot in the Legislative Session from producers about Bear and Cougars and depredation. Appreciates DWR getting permits in producers hands to shoot the Bears and/or Lions due to depredation issues. We need everyone on the same team.</p> <p><b>Austin Atkinson:</b> Appreciates some of the changes. Some of the constituents like the changes to the bait regulations, such as bait restrictions and the introduction of barrel use. Seems like we are making this more complicated with terminology that may be unfamiliar to new hunters. Hopes we can all keep this in mind and make the process even easier next time. How would this work for a Spot and Stalk, like an Over The County tag you purchase? Is this a certification or verification that you would carry with you? Would I not get my tag until I've taken the course?</p> <p><b>Brayden Richmond:</b> He has been pretty vocal about making Bear hunting and registering bait sites "simplier". Believes the plan is less complicated, but could be better.</p> <p><b>Chuck Chamberlain:</b> Feels bad the Forest Service representative wasn't consultation with sooner. Concerned barrels will be left in the forest and increasing the amount of trash left on the mountain. Expressed concern about accountability and that bait sites will be too close to campgrounds and where human are. Liability issues.</p> <p><b>Kevin Bunnell:</b> If the Forest Service finds a barrel left on a registered bait site, we can trace it back and cite the hunter.</p> <p><b>Gene Boardman:</b> A couple more questions. Spot and Stalk tags. Are you increasing those? Is there a plan to increase permits? If you have a Spot and Stalk you can't pair up with a Houndsman? When he drew his Bear permit, he</p> |

could hunt with or without hounds. With Spot and Stalk the hunter will take the first bear they see, Boar or Sow, it's a once in a lifetime for them.

**Brayden Richmond:** We talked about the orientation, but the Central Region talked about something we haven't. Once you draw a tag, you take the course and keep it on your person, similar to the Antler Gathering Course. You only take it once you draw a tag. Feels this is reasonable and would like to look at this option. With regard to baiting, there is a lot of information showing you'll have a cleaner bait site and use less food with a barrel. There's really no advantage to leaving your barrel at the site. Not concerned with hunters leaving the barrels behind – just a cleaner site.

**Chuck Chamberlain:** Will the Bear bait barrels be labeled?

**Brayden Richmond:** Not only do you have to register on line, you have to post signage at your bait site with your COR number on it.

**Gene Boardman:** Doesn't see how beneficial it is to take an orientation course. Spot and Stalk hunters will take a Bear no matter what. Bait hunters will be selective depending on how many bears are hitting on their site. The Houndsman are very discriminating on the Bears they take.

**Brayden Richmond:** Doesn't see the downside of taking an orientation course. We want to encourage harvesting male Bears and discourage the taking of females. By requiring a course, it helps with the public's perception of hunters and shows we are trying.

**Verland King:** Not a Houndsman, but a hunter will most likely take a big Bear despite the sex. Doesn't have a problem with taking an educational course, but doesn't think it's that big of a deal.

**Bart Battista:** Agrees there should be some type of training. Not sure there was a logical connection made between 18% of the take is female. If the goal is to minimize the taking of females, there should be some type of education. We require an orientation course to shed hunt, seems to make sense to take an orientation course for Bear.

**Tammy Pearson:** Agrees. Public perception is important. Perception is reality. Courses are important to be a good player, be a responsible Sportsman. Education is important. Likes the cleaner dates and appreciates the Committee making it less complicated.

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| <p><b>07:42:48</b></p> | <p><b>MOTIONS:</b><br/>The following motion was made by Bart Battista, seconded by Dan Fletcher.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> I move that we accept the Division's Utah Black Bear Management Plan as presented with the addition of requiring an educational online course, similar to the Antler Gathering Course, after obtaining a Bear permit.<br/><b>Passed 6-3. (Verland King, Craig Laub, and Austin Atkinson opposed).</b></p> <p>(All three indicated they opposed because they want to make the process less complicated. The course is just one more thing to ask of hunters.</p> |
| <p><b>07:48:25</b></p> | <p><b>7) 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates (Action)</b><br/><b>Darren DeBloois, Mammals Program Coordinator</b></p> <p>Presented his recommendation and answered questions.</p>   |
| <p><b>07:48:52</b></p> | <p><b>RAC Questions:</b></p> <p><b>Verland King:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I'll donate some Beaver off the Pine Creek to put down there if you have a problem.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>07:49:10</b></p> | <p><b>Public Questions: None.</b></p>  |
| <p><b>07:49:23</b></p> | <p><b>Public Comments</b></p> <p><b>Kevin Bunnell:</b> No online comments.</p> <p><b>Kelly Laier:</b> Utah Trapper's Association: Fully supports recommendations for season dates for Furbearers and Bobcat numbers. He like to see an additional proposal to require non-residents to purchase a trapping license and/or Furbearers license. Believes Utah should follow what other states are doing. Rumors of dropping the ears for bounty on Coyotes – fully supportive of this.</p>   |
| <p><b>07:53:41</b></p> | <p><b>RAC Comments:</b></p> <p><b>Brayden Richmond:</b> I have a question. Most other states require license for me to shoot a Coyote. How do they do that? (In Utah we don't regulate Coyotes)</p> <p><b>Chuck Chamberlain:</b> The Forest Service appreciates the closure on the Beaver on those two streams. We've got projects where we're trying to rehabilitate area that have been burned. Once the Aspen come in its very</p>  |

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|                        | <p>helpful to have the Beaver come in to help re-established the meadows and make the habitat a lot better.</p> <p><b>Craig Laub:</b> I can see the problem with someone setting traps and catching something else. How big of a problem is it?</p> <p><b>Bart Battista:</b> I know they catch my dogs all the time. I'm glad the traps don't have teeth.</p> <p><b>Kelly Laier:</b> I don't think it's a major problem in Utah right now, but why not duplicate what our neighboring states are doing. If you set out a trap for Coyotes, you're going to catch something else as well.</p> <p><b>Craig Laub:</b> The coyotes are under the Department of Agriculture. How do you differentiate between trapping for Coyotes and other animals – Bobcats.</p> |
| <p><b>07:57:07</b></p> | <p><b>MOTIONS:</b><br/>The following motion was made by Craig Laub, seconded by Verland King.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> I move that we accept the Division's recommendation for the 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates as presented.<br/><b>Passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>*Craig Laub asked Brayden Richmond to speak to the Board about changing the licensing requirements for non-resident trapping and apply for the Coyote Bounty.</b></p>  |
| <p><b>07:59:02</b></p> | <p><b>8) Cougar Update (Informational)</b><br/>Darren DeBloois, Mammals Program Coordinator</p> <p>Presented the Cougar Update and answered questions.</p>   |
| <p><b>07:59:19</b></p> | <p><b>RAC Questions:</b><br/><b>Craig Laub:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reiterated what we talked about on Bears. We need to look into the multipliers on Cougars, the same as Bears.</li> </ul> <p><b>Gene Boardman:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We need to remove the Cougars, they kill too many deer. The deer seem to have recovered well and Cougar take was down. Is that correct?</li> <li>• Can Cougar kills be beneficial if you have a disease in the deer population?</li> </ul> <p><b>Brayden Richmond:</b> (Austin Atkinson left the meeting due to travel plans).</p>   |

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|                 | <b>Verland King:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• So, if these trappers happen to catch a Cougar in their trap, do they need a Spot and Stalk in their pocket?</li></ul>   |
| <b>08:03:54</b> | <b>Public Questions: None.</b>  |
| <b>08:04:00</b> | <b>Public Comments: None.</b>   |
|                 | <b>Additional RAC Comments:</b><br><br><b>Kevin Bunnell:</b> Reviewed the 2023 SR RAC Meeting schedule. We will continue to alternate back and forth between Cedar City and Richfield. The start time will remain at 6:00 p.m. for each meeting.<br><br><b>NEXT SR RAC MEETING: April 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in Cedar City, Utah</b> |
| <b>08:05:08</b> | <b>Meeting adjourned.</b>   |



COMMISSIONERS Michael P. Bleak; Paul Cozzens; Marilyn Wood

ASSESSOR – Karsten Reed ATTORNEY – Chad E. Dotson AUDITOR - Dan Jessen

CLERK - Jonathan T. Whittaker RECORDER – Carri Jeffries

SHERIFF – Kenneth Carpenter TREASURER – Nicole B. Rosenberg

P.O. Box 429, 68 South 100 East, Parowan, Utah 84761 435.477.8300, F 435.477.8847

November 29, 2022

Utah Division of Natural Resources  
Joel Ferry, Director  
Box 146301  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
1594 W. North Temple  
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Utah Wildlife Board  
Box 146301  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301

Southern Region RAC  
1470 N. Airport Rd.  
Cedar City, UT 84721

RE: Comments – Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy Proposal to Delist

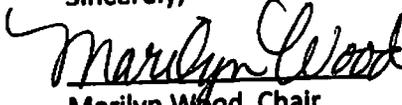
Since the Utah prairie dog (UPD) was listed under the Threatened and Endangered Species Act (ACT) in 1973, Iron County has worked with the various partners, (DWR, USFWS, BLM, Forest Service, municipalities, private landowners, developers, adjacent counties, etc.) to manage UPD populations through numerous planning mediums. Most of the early efforts were very contentious at best, however, over the year's attitudes have changed and become more progressive and cooperative as new ideas were fleshed out to reach the long-term goal of delisting.

One of the major components of delisting is the requirement to have a plan in place to manage UPDs once they are delisted. The Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy Plan (UPDCSP) provides for post-delisting management. It utilizes the vast amount of data collected over the years to better understand the impacts of past and current development, habitat needs, translocation management strategies, and disease control. It also provides assurances to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that management goals will be met through annual monitoring, and sets the stage for DWR management at the local and State level.

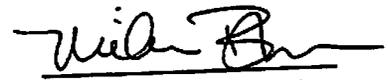
Iron County has been a partner from the start and over the years have purchased four properties (over 800 acres) that, through easements, are dedicated and managed for UPD habitat. We represent development, agriculture, and landowners in the county to minimize impacts of UPDs on the local economy, while providing adequate protection to the UPDs. Iron County agrees with the DRW proposal to institute the UPDCSP once delisting occurs, and through this plan we can finally see the light at the

end of the tunnel – so to speak – to remove the UPD from the ACT. We wholeheartedly support the DRW's proposal to implement the UPDCSP once delisting occurs.

Sincerely,

  
Marilyn Wood, Chair

  
Paul Cozzens, Commissioner

  
Mike Bleak, Commissioner



## BEAVER COUNTY COMMISSION

105 East Center  
P.O. Box 789  
Beaver, UT 84713  
P: (435)438-6464

Mark S. Whitney  
*Chairman*  
Wade Hollingshead  
*Member*

Tammy T. Pearson  
*Member*

November 30, 2022

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
Regional Advisory Council; Southern Region

ATTN: RAC members:

Re: Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy

Beaver County, Utah, respectfully submits the following comments on the Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy proposed by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources:

The delisting of Utah Prairie Dogs is a high priority in order to remove them from the Federal protections of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Once delisted, these animals will be managed solely by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources under the proposed Conservation Strategy rather than by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The objectives in this strategy are to continue to maintain healthy populations of prairie dogs throughout the species range. The goal of having the prairie dogs delisted and under state management is something we all want and something that Beaver County fully supports.

Within the Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy, we find that a primary strategy for maintaining populations is through translocation efforts. Prairie dogs located on privately owned lands, whether residential areas or cultivated crop lands should be moved to locations on public lands where they can live unmolested. Prairie dogs are a nuisance animal when they are found on private lands such as residential areas, parks, cemeteries, golf courses, cultivated crop ground, etc. These animals need to be removed and relocated to public land far away from developed private lands where their existence is not intrusive into the human environment.

Our concern over the Conservation Strategy and efforts to translocate prairie dogs lies in the fact that there are limited potential habitat locations available and many of the proposed sites are within several miles of existing agricultural lands. As prairie dog habitat is crowded out by human development and expansion, they are left with less and less desirable habitat options. This habitat loss is the reason for their tenuous existence and the ESA listing. The remaining locations on public lands to relocate prairie dogs are often less than ideal and good locations are becoming harder to find. Many of the sites that have been chosen are not far from developed private land. We have seen how they can and will travel several miles to reach agricultural fields. We are very

wary of any proposed translocations into or near our county which may lead to the establishment of new prairie dog colonies where they are not wanted.

Beaver County adopted a County Resource Management Plan (CRMP) through ordinance on June 6, 2017. This CRMP incorporates the previous Prairie Dog Management plans of Beaver County adopted by Ordinance 2015-13, which was passed on September 14, 2015.

Within this plan, we acknowledge the habitat located in the southern end of Pine Valley as the only historically known and documented habitat for Utah Prairie Dogs within Beaver County. The plan further emphasizes that Beaver County is opposed to any efforts to transplant prairie dogs anywhere else in the county. Any agency desiring to translocate prairie dogs into or within Beaver County must have the consent and approval of the Board of County Commissioners of Beaver County. *Beaver County Resource Management Plan (2017) Section 9.3.1.*

The Utah Prairie Dog Translocation EA developed by the BLM in March of 2020, in coordination with the Division of Wildlife Resources, identifies multiple sites for prairie dog transplants along the Iron/Beaver county line. We acknowledge the fact that these locations, as currently shown on the proposed maps, are outside the borders of Beaver County. However, we are opposed to many of these sites on the basis of their proximity to the county line and the likelihood of transplanted prairie dogs migrating into Beaver County.

Within the Utah Prairie Dog Translocation EA, and shown on the *appendix A* map, prairie dog management areas within the Minersville No. 1, Minersville No. 3, Minersville No. 5, Stewart and Bald Hills allotments are within a very short distance of Beaver County. The dry, rough rocky ground in these locations will inevitably lead to prairie dogs dispersing to the irrigated fields in and around Minersville. When summer heat dries up the native grasses and forbs, prairie dogs will seek out the succulent green crops that are nearby and will unquestionably disperse miles to get to these crop locations. It is our contention that this will happen with the proposed translocation sites identified above.

We fully understand the need to translocate prairie dogs away from residential and developed areas around Cedar City and Enoch to undisturbed locations on BLM administered lands. We fully support the effort to delist the Utah Prairie Dog as a threatened/endangered species. We recognize the need to translocate colonies to new public land locations in order to maintain the prairie dog population goals that will enable it to be delisted. We understand that there are limited habitat locations available that will support new colonies in the quest to bolster their numbers and ensure their survival. However, we also need to be very careful in protecting the citizens of Beaver County from the consequences of prairie dogs entering and establishing in our county.

For these reasons, we support the efforts to delist the Utah Prairie Dog from threatened species status and return management responsibilities to the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. We support the Utah Conservation Strategy as a means to this end. However, we also need to be staunch in our stand as to where these animals are allowed to be located and established.

Respectfully,

*Keven Whicker*

**Keven Whicker  
Beaver County Natural Resource Specialist**



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Color Country District Office  
176 East DL Sargent Drive  
Cedar City, UT 84721-9337

December 6, 2022

In Reply Refer To:  
LLUTC0000/LLUTP0000 - 6840

Brayden Richmond, Chair  
Southern Region (SR) Resource Advisory Council (RAC)  
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Dear Mr. Richmond,

Since the Utah prairie dog was listed in 1973, State and federal agencies (including the Bureau of Land Management), along with local governments, nonprofit organizations and private landowners have worked together to protect, conserve, and restore populations of the Utah prairie dog. Decades of work, research, funding, and collaboration have gone toward the stabilization and recovery of this species. Because of these recovery efforts, Utah prairie dog populations have grown and are shown to be stable. The Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy establishes the goals and objectives and an adaptive framework plan to implement conservation and management of the species for the foreseeable future regardless of listing status. The Color Country and Paria River Districts of the Bureau of Land Management support the Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dan Fletcher, 435-865-3049, [dfletche@blm.gov](mailto:dfletche@blm.gov).

Sincerely,

GLORIA  
TIBBETTS

Digitally signed by  
GLORIA TIBBETTS  
Date: 2022.12.06  
11:20:34 -0700

Gloria Tibbetts  
Color Country District Manager

Harry Barber  
Paria River District Manager

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INTERIOR REGION 7 • UPPER COLORADO BASIN

COLORADO, NEW MEXICO, UTAH, WYOMING



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Dixie National Forest  
Supervisor's Office  
820 N Main  
Cedar City, UT 84721

Fishlake National Forest  
Supervisor's Office  
115 E 900 N  
Richfield, UT 84701

**File Code:** 2670

**Date:** December 5, 2022

Dear Brayden Richmond, Chair, Southern Region RAC:

Since the listing of Utah Prairie Dog (UPD) as Endangered in 1973, the Dixie and Fishlake National Forests (Forests) have been involved in the conservation of this species. Coordinated efforts between the UDWR and many state, federal, and private partners have created a strong coalition for the conservation of UPD among these organizations, leading to habitat-wide increases in prairie dog populations.

The UPD Conservation Strategy was created to ensure the continued preservation of UPD should the species be federally delisted. We have reviewed the Conservation Strategy and believe the goals, objectives, and strategies create a management framework that will assure the long-term viability of UPD populations. Therefore, we approve the Conservation Strategy and support the UDWR in their continued efforts to preserve UPD.

Sincerely,

**MICHAEL ELSON**

Digitally signed by MICHAEL  
ELSON  
Date: 2022.12.05 15:30:54 -07'00'

MICHAEL ELSON

Forest Supervisor, Fishlake National Forest

**KEVIN WRIGHT**

Digitally signed by KEVIN  
WRIGHT  
Date: 2022.12.05 15:44:46 -07'00'

KEVIN WRIGHT

Forest Supervisor, Dixie National Forest



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**Southeast Region RAC Meeting  
Hybrid Conference  
December 7, 2022**

The meeting streamed live at <https://youtu.be/FH6nAFmZMnQ>



**RAC AGENDA – December 2022**

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure<br>- RAC Chair  |                                 |
| 2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes<br>- RAC Chair  | <b>ACTION</b>                   |
| 3. Wildlife Board Meeting Update<br>- RAC Chair   | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b>            |
| 4. Regional Update<br>- DWR Regional Supervisor   | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b>            |
| 5. Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy<br>R657-19 Rule Amendments<br>- Kim Hersey, Wildlife Coordinator                        | <b>INFORMATIONAL<br/>ACTION</b> |
| 6. Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments<br>and 2023 Recommendations<br>- Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator | <b>ACTION</b>                   |
| 7. 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates<br>- Darren DeBloois, Mammals Program Coordinator                                       | <b>ACTION</b>                   |
| 8. Cougar Update<br>- Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator  | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b>            |

Southeast Region RAC Meeting  
December 7, 2022

**RAC Members in Attendance:**

| Name            | Name           |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Kirk Player     | Sunshine Brosi |
| Kent Johnson    | Dana Truman    |
| Scoot Flannery  | Eric Luke      |
| Charles Fischer | Darren Olsen   |
| Lynn Sitterud   | Justin Ivins   |
| Steve Duke      |                |
|                 |                |

SER Hybrid Conference  
December 7, 2022  
**SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

**1. Approval of Agenda & Minutes**

The following motion was made and passed unanimously.

- **MOTION: To approve the agenda and minutes as presented.**

**2. Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy, R657-19**

The following motion was made and passed unanimously.

- **MOTION: To Accept the Division's proposal as presented**

**3. Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33**

The following motion was made and passed unanimously.

- **MOTION: To ask Kyle Maynard to work with the Division, and whatever entities he feels necessary, to strengthen the management plan's definitions to help prosecutors be more successful.**

The following motion was made and passed unanimously.

- **MOTION: To accept remaining recommendations as presented, with an addition of asking the Division to provide information to the public about special use permits on federal lands.**

**4. Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates**

The following motion was made and passed unanimously.

- **MOTION: To approve the furbearer and bobcat season dates as presented.**

**ACTION ITEM 1: Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy, R657-19**

- Public Questions / Comment:
  - None
- RAC Questions / Comments:
  - What happens with developmental restrictions under this new plan?
  - How have some of your populations been hit with drought?
  - What has changed from this plan vs the previous plan regarding agriculture?
  - Where does this plan fit with all the other ESA plans and with other management plans?

**ACTION ITEM 2: Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Amendments, 2023 Recommendations**

- Public Questions / Comment:
  - How many complaints are actually coming in unsolicited?
  - Trish Hedin, Grand County- Supports hounds for bear management. Supports committee process. However, has seen egregious actions by the William Wood case. Mr. Wood did not get a felony; he was convicted on 2 misdemeanors. We need to deal with bad apples or we will lose our sport. Referenced letter from Grand County. Clean up definition (“at bay”). 16 hounds are bad optics. Let’s reduce out of state of hunter privileges.
  - Corey Huntsman- Utah Houndsmen- You don’t release all 16 dogs all at once. You bring in fresh dogs and take out tired dogs. The Wood video is sickening to watch. He was a bad apple.
  - Cody Webster- The video does not represent houndsmen. Too many dogs will result in the bear running longer and not treeing. Reducing dog numbers won’t result in less chase. Please approve DWR’s recommendations.
  - Guy Webster- You don’t ask other hunters/fishermen if they have complaints against other user groups and types of hunters. Unsuccessful prosecutions happen. There aren’t many successful prosecutions. Houndsmen are more upset by the Wood case than anyone else.
  
- RAC Questions / Comments:
  - Please talk about the elimination of the fall baiting season
  - Can you go over what DWR has already done to address hounds. What restrictions were approved a few years ago?
  - How many complaints do we have in recent years, since we made the changes? Who are those complaints coming from?
  - Feels like the measures we have taken the last few years, since the William Wood’s case, have improved things.
  - Communication goal- How will you communicate to the public about pack sizes and why 16 is sometimes necessary?
  - Have there been issues in Utah with bait stations using chocolate? Was that a recommendation from DWR?
  - With moving the fall chase season into August, was there concern that the heat would reduce their season length?
  - Can you elaborate on the 55-gallon container for baiting?
  - What are the Forest Service concerns with containers?
  - Registering bait stations- what has changed?
  - Is there any data that shows that running bears reduces fat reserves and affects survival in the fall?
  - Is there any data that indicates how many of the complaints are about non-residents?
  - Currently, who needs a permit with dogs?
  - One recommendation is for everyone to have a pursuit permit? Can DWR require that but still have hunters take their kids with them? Is that enforceable?
  - Sometimes larger pack sizes are necessary for training purposes.

- Travis O'Neil- couldn't be here but Eric Luke read a statement that said- Fall bait season went away to give more people an opportunity. Commented on chocolate ban.
- Sunshine Brosi- lots of states ban grain, apples, grease, etc. The chocolate recommendation was a compromise.
- Eric Luke- needs some verbiage changed in the law to help prosecutors. Is concerned with verbiage in the letter. Would it be appropriate to make a motion that asks you to work with the Grand County attorney to come up with better verbiage that protects the sport but helps with prosecution.
- Kyle Maynard- committed to working with the Grand County attorney.
- Eric Luke- Why are we allowing non-residents to come into Utah and jeopardize the sport? Let's look at getting rid of non-resident pursuit permits altogether. Feels like the changes that have been made in the last 3 years addresses most of the concerns outlined in the Grand County letter.
- Kyle Maynard- Eliminating out of state permits opens up opportunities for litigation because it could violate federal laws.
- Charles Fischer- Christina Sloan is in office only until the end of the year. If you work with the new prosecutor, please also bring in Christina and her knowledge.
- Scott Flannery- Not fair to lump all non-residents in this category.
- Steve Duke- Non-residents coming to train dogs should have Special Use Permit.
- Darren Olsen- Can the USFS have input on bear bait locations? Can you share the map with USFS?
- Kirk Player- How can the Utah USFS allow containers. Containers have less of an environmental impact. Let's not have houndsmen laws/rules created by people who aren't houndsmen.
- Kent- What would an ethics course look like? Is that something that the Houndsmen would support?
- Darren- Making the course required didn't make a difference with harvest. Requirement isn't necessary.
- Corey Huntsmen- Not opposed to an ethics course about pursuit.
- Sunshine- Containers would help hunters differentiate between males and females because they can see relative size.
- Kevin Albrecht- DWR LE should work with USFS LE and check whether people have a Special Use Permit.
- Eric Luke- Does USFS have a LE officer in the Grand/San Juan area?
- Kevin Albrecht- Even if USFS LE is not present, DWR can work with USFS to check Special Use Permits.
- Dana Truman- Let's discuss pack size. 16 vs 8.
- Kirk Player- We should listen to the houndsmen who understand this issue better.
- Sunshine Brosi- We should consider the optics.
- Eric Luke- agrees with the current 16 dog restriction. Outreach efforts will help the public understand the reason. Video was hard to watch but that's not normal
- Dana Truman- What are the other states' dog restrictions?
- Corey Huntsmen- Only Colorado has dog restrictions.
- Kirk Player- The solution to prevent future Wood cases is for the attorneys to work together and strengthen language.
- Eric Luke- Do we need to make a motion for Kyle to work with Grand Canyon attorney to look at changing the verbiage?

### **ACTION ITEM 3: Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates**

- Public Questions / Comment:
  - Jerry Swasey, Utah Trappers- recommends that non-residents have a trapping license and take the fur harvesters' class. Other states require it so we should do the same.
- RAC Questions / Comments:
  - Where coyotes are under the Dept of Ag, does UDWR have the ability to require the recommendation from Utah Trappers
  - Do you need trap numbers to set a trap?
  - Sunshine Brosi- Supports and appreciate the recommendation on beaver
  - We could make a motion to ask Kyle to look into whether the Trapper's recommendation is possible

## RAC AGENDA – December 2022



- |    |  |                                 |
|----|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure<br>- RAC Chair  |                                 |
| 2. | Approval of Agenda and Minutes<br>- RAC Chair  | <b>ACTION</b>                   |
| 3. | Wildlife Board Meeting Update<br>- RAC Chair   | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b>            |
| 4. | Regional Update<br>- DWR Regional Supervisor   | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b>            |
| 5. | Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy<br>R657-19 Rule Amendments<br>- Kim Hersey, Wildlife Coordinator                        | <b>INFORMATIONAL<br/>ACTION</b> |
| 6. | Utah Black Bear Management Plan, R657-33 Rule Amendments<br>and 2023 Recommendations<br>- Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator | <b>ACTION</b>                   |
| 7. | 2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates<br>- Darren DeBloois, Mammals Program Coordinator                                       | <b>ACTION</b>                   |
| 8. | Cougar Update<br>- Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator  | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b>            |

### Meeting Locations

**CR RAC – Nov. 29th 6:00 PM**  
Wildlife Resources Conference Room  
1115 N. Main Street, Springville  
<https://youtu.be/BwcSvzLe0nc>

**SER RAC – Dec. 7th 6:30 PM**  
John Wesley Powell Museum  
1765 E. Main St., Green River  
<https://youtu.be/y0m2LastEj0>

**NR RAC – Nov. 30th 6:00 PM**  
Weber County Commission Chambers  
2380 Washington Blvd. Suite #240, Ogden  
[https://youtu.be/J\\_WiuSPjzU](https://youtu.be/J_WiuSPjzU)

**NER RAC – Dec. 8th 6:30 PM**  
Wildlife Resources NER Office  
318 North Vernal Ave., Vernal  
<https://youtu.be/wfkD3WVWz7E>

**SR RAC – Dec. 6th 6:00 PM**  
DNR Richfield City Complex  
2031 Industrial Park Rd., Richfield  
<https://youtu.be/9e5CrfqdeJs>

**Board Meeting – January 3rd 9:00 AM**  
Eccles Wildlife Education Center, Farmington Bay  
<https://youtu.be/000ZmJ3A5zQ>

**Northeast Region RAC Meeting**  
December 8, 2022  
Vernal, Utah  
**Summary of Motions**

**Approval of Agenda**

The following motion was made by Mararik Harrison, seconded by Brad Horrocks, and passed unanimously:

**MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.**

**Approval of Minutes**

The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks, seconded by Rebekah Jones, and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.**

**Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy R657-19**

The following motion was made by Malarik Harrison, seconded by Bob Christensen, and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: To accept the DWR recommendations as presented by the Division**

**Utah Black Bear Management Plan R657-33**

The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks and seconded by Eric Major and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division.**

**2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates**

The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks and seconded by Rebekah Jones and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division.**

**Northeastern Region RAC Meeting**  
December 8, 2022

**RAC Members**

**Attending**

Dusty Carpenter  
Bob Christensen  
Malarik Harrison  
Eric Major  
Brad Horrocks  
Rebekah Jones  
Brett Prevedel-chair  
Joe Arnold-remote

**Absent**

Mike Smith  
Jeff Taniguchi  
Daniel Davis

**Ute Tribe Present**

**Wildlife Board Members Present**

Randy Dearth

**DWR Personnel Present**

Miles Hanberg  
Torrey Christophersen  
Tonya Selby  
Dallon Christensen  
Dax Mangus  
Matt Fackrell  
Pat Rainbolt  
Jake Greenwood  
Mike Christensen  
Anthony Christianson  
Randall Thacker  
Brian Maxfield  
Levi Watkins  
Kory Lilga  
Darren DeBloois  
Rose Fedelleck-Remote

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>06:30:00</b> | RAC Chair Brett Prevedel called the meeting to order. He called the roll of RAC members and indicated which UDWR personnel was present. He explained the process that there will be no live presentations or public comments taken during the meeting. Introduced new RAC Members. Welcomed public. |
| <b>06:33:56</b> | <p><b>1) <u>Approval of Agenda</u></b> (Action)</p> <p>The following motion was made by Malarik Harrison, seconded by Brad Horrocks, and passed unanimously.</p> <p><b>MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.</b></p>  |
| <b>6:34:34</b>  | <p><b>2) <u>Approval of Minutes</u></b> (Action)</p> <p>The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks, seconded by Rebekah Jones, and passed unanimously.</p> <p><b>MOTION: To approve the Minutes as presented.</b></p>   |
| <b>6:35:02</b>  | <p><b>3) <u>Wildlife Board Meeting Update</u></b> (Informational)</p> <p>RAC Chair Brett Prevedel updated the RAC.</p>  |
| <b>6:40:39</b>  | <p><b>4) <u>DWR Regional update</u></b> (Informational)</p> <p>Miles Hanberg updated the RAC on all regional activities.</p>  |
| <b>6:52:09</b>  | <p><b>5) <u>Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Strategy R657-19</u></b> (Action)</p> <p>Presented by Kim Hershey and Barbara Sugarman.</p>   |
| <b>6:55:04</b>  | <p><b>RAC Questions &amp; comments</b></p> <p>No Questions or Comments.</p>   |
| <b>6:55:31</b>  | <p><b>Online Public Comments</b></p> <p>One comment- strongly agree.</p>  |
| <b>6:56:10</b>  | <p><b>RAC Discussion &amp; Questions</b></p> <p>Rebekah Jones-Will you go back and edit the t plan?</p> <p>Barbara Sugarman elaborates.</p> <p>Brett Prevedel-Translocation success?</p> <p>Barbara Sugarman elaborates.</p> <p>Eric Major-happy we are moving forward on delisting.</p>            |
| <b>6:58:24</b>  |   |

|         |   |
|---------|---|
|         | <p>5) The following motion was made by Malarik Harrison, seconded by Bob Christianson, and passed unanimously.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division.</b></p>  |
| 6:59:05 | <p><b><u>Utah Black Bear Management Plan R657-33</u></b><br/>Presented by Darren DeBloois</p>   |
| 7:01:42 | <p><b>RAC Questions and comments</b><br/>Bob Christensen-map with bait stations?<br/>Darren D. elaborates.</p>  |
| 7:05:00 | <p>Discussion on disbursed bait site.</p>   |
| 7:07:58 | <p>Bob Christensen-Fee changes?</p>   |
| 7:09:45 | <p><b>Public Questions and comments</b><br/>Jason Binder- What was the main reason we changed the amount of harvests on units? What % was female harvest? Would that create a trigger to do more damage, reduction of tags?<br/>Darren D. elaborates.</p> |
| 7:12:24 | <p>Miles read online comments.<br/>Brett makes comments about overlapping hunts.<br/>Darren D. elaborates.</p>  |
| 7:16:46 | <p>Jason Binder speaks about spot and stalk and sow harvest.<br/>Darren D. elaborates.</p>  |
| 7:18:00 | <p>RAC discussion on spot and stalk hunting and permit numbers.</p>   |
| 7:25:27 | <p>6) The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks seconded by Eric Major and passed unanimously.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOTION: To accept as presented by the Division</b></p>  |
| 7:26:19 | <p><b><u>2023 Furbearer and Bobcat Season Dates</u></b><br/>Presented by Darren DeBloois</p>  |
| 7:27:30 | <p><b>RAC Comments</b><br/>None.</p>  |
| 7:27:37 | <p><b>Public Comments</b><br/>Miles read one online comment that strongly opposes it.</p>   |

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 7:27:46 | <p><b>RAC Discussion</b><br/>         Permit numbers.</p>   |
| 7:29:45 | <p>7) The following motion was made by Brad Horrocks and seconded by Rebekah Jones<br/>         And passed unanimously.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOTION: To accept the DWR recommendations as presented.</b></p> |
| 7:30:19 | <p><b>Cougar Update</b> (Informational)<br/>         Darren DeBlois</p>   |
| 7:37:20 | <p>Meeting adjourned.</p>   |
|         |   |
|         |   |
|         |   |
|         |   |