

DWR UPDATE

UTAH WILDLIFE BOARD MEETING
JUNE 13, 2024



Utah Division of
Wildlife Resources



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES SECTION

- The antlerless application period is currently open and will end **June 19**.
 - Results available by July 5
- The application period for greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane, sharp-tailed grouse and tundra swan will be from **July 3–17**.
- All general-season elk permits go on sale in July:
 - **July 9:** Archery permits and youth permits
 - **July 11:** Any bull permits
 - **July 18:** Spike bull permits



AQUATIC SECTION

We've had great success with fish production and stocking this spring!



TIGER MUSKIE

We've stocked **118,670 tiger muskies** in Utah this spring (nearly double our quota), and we still have some growing at our hatcheries.



WALLEYE

We've stocked more than **2.5 million fertile walleyes** into Willard Bay and stocked **hundreds of thousands of sterile walleyes** into Yuba, DMAD, Gunnison Bend and Red Fleet reservoirs.



WIPER

We've already stocked **14,000 wipers** into Willard Bay and have **another 450,000** that will be stocked into Utah's other wiper fisheries this month.

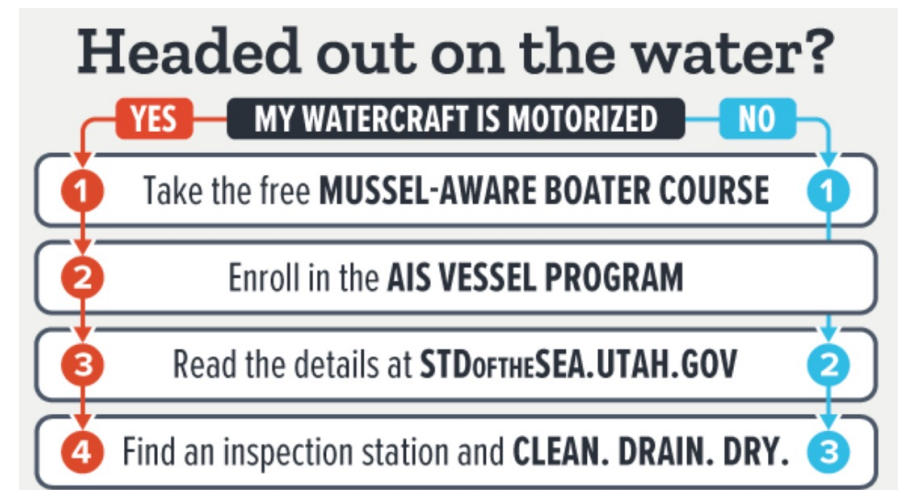
LOA FISH HATCHERY RECONSTRUCTION

- In 2023, the Utah Legislature appropriated \$56.8 million to help rebuild the Loa Fish Hatchery. (The old hatchery closed in 2014.)
- That project is now underway, with completion expected by **May 2027**.
- We held an event last month to update the public and all our partners about the construction timeline.
- The rebuilt hatchery will be able to produce about **350,000 pounds of fish** annually — nearly double its previous production rate.
- It will also bring up to **six full-time jobs** to the local community.



LAW ENFORCEMENT SECTION

- Over Memorial Day weekend, we patrolled to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and to help educate the public about program requirements.
 - There were about **160 violations** of Utah's aquatic invasive species regulations.
- **Reminder:** If you have a **motorized boat**, you can enroll your vessel and buy your sticker at stdofthesea.utah.gov.



HABITAT SECTION

- Looking ahead to fiscal year 2025:
 - **\$41 million in projects** were funded through Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative (i.e., federal and state agencies, conservation groups and private partners).
 - A total of **199 habitat-restoration and wildlife-research projects** were fully or partially funded.
 - This will help improve around **200,000 acres** of wildlife habitat in FY 2025.
- FY 2024 habitat-restoration projects are wrapping up this month.



OUTREACH SECTION

- We have the annual Youth Hunter Education Challenge on **June 14-15** at the Cache Valley Public Shooting Range. This is for any youth and adults who have graduated from Hunter Education.
- We are holding our annual Lee Kay Public Shooting Range open house **this Saturday, June 15**. There will be free entry to the rifle, handgun and archery ranges as well as one discounted round of shotgun shooting.



WILDLIFE SECTION



BIRDS AND BATS

Our nongame biologists are conducting bird and bat surveys. White-nose syndrome, a disease that affects bats, has not yet been found in Utah.



FAWNS AND CALVES

Many of our biologists are working with local universities and partner organizations on deer fawn and elk calf survival studies. Let us know if you want to help!



UTAH PRAIRIE DOGS

Preliminary data indicates that Utah prairie dog counts have substantially increased this year. They are making good progress toward recovery.

THANK
YOU



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