



DWR UPDATE

UTAH WILDLIFE BOARD MEETING
DEC. 12, 2024



Utah Division of
Wildlife Resources

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES SECTION

- You can apply for the spring limited-entry turkey hunt from Dec. 12–27. Results will be available by Jan. 8.
- Reminder: All big game and antlerless hunts have **mandatory** harvest surveys (due **within 30 days** after the end of the hunt).



AQUATIC SECTION

- Anglers enjoyed great fishing this fall, and our annual monitoring work went well. Utah's recent above-average water years have been beneficial.
- It's almost time for ice fishing!
- Wondering where to fish this month?
 - For perch: Deer Creek, Echo, Starvation and Fish Lake
 - For trout: Scofield (just designated as a Blue Ribbon Fishery)
 - For boating anglers: Lake Powell (we're seeing higher numbers for all species)



HABITAT SECTION

- New habitat restoration projects for FY 2026 will be submitted on Jan. 10 in Utah's Watershed Restoration Initiative website.
- In FY 2024, we completed restoration work on **168,882 acres**. Of that work, 145,637 were proactive acres, which is the most we've ever done in one year.
- Many thanks to all our conservation partners for their support! See more at watershed.utah.gov.



Cold Springs project in 2013



The same location in 2022

LAW ENFORCEMENT SECTION

- From Oct. 1 to Nov. 30, our officers:
 - Received over **540 tips** from the public through our app and reporting hotline
 - Contacted over **15,000 people** and checked more than **7,900 licenses**
- We're hiring and currently have more than 120 applicants for our open positions. Those who are selected will attend the police academy in March.

How to report poaching in Utah

Call **800-662-3337** | Text **847411**

Use the **UTDWR app**

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

UTiP

To submit a report online, scan the QR code to the left or visit wildlife.utah.gov/utip.

CONSERVATION OUTREACH SECTION

- The Hardware Wildlife Education Center opened for the season on Dec. 6:
 - Open **Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays** from **10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**
 - Season runs until Feb. 9, 2025
- Our partners at Haviland's Old West Adventures will offer horse-drawn sleigh and wagon rides again this year.



WILDLIFE SECTION

- Wildlife capture work is now underway.
- These efforts help us learn more about:
 - How deer and other wildlife use the landscape (e.g., feeding areas and migration paths)
 - Herd health and specific causes of wildlife deaths
- If you want to join us, please contact your local DWR office. They can put you in touch with the district biologist for your area.



RECENT WAFWA MEETING

- Last week, board members Randy Dearth and Gary Nielson attended a meeting of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies with the DWR's deputy directors.
- Meeting topics included:
 - Several multistate wildlife issues
 - New hunting technologies
 - Partnering with the NRCS to complete more habitat projects on private lands



CONGRATULATIONS AND FAREWELL

- Director J. Shirley is retiring — his last day will be Dec. 31.
- He's been an outstanding leader who cares deeply for Utah's wildlife and the people he serves.
- We will miss him (and his dad jokes) more than we can say, and we wish him a very happy retirement!



THANK YOU



Utah Division of
Wildlife Resources

