

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed waterfowl hunting changes? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Instead of putting the General Elk tags in the draw, you should make hunters choose to hunt only one species. Bull Elk or Buck Deer, not both. Also if you buy a Bull Elk Tag, or Draw a Buck Deer tag, you can't put in and draw an Antler less Elk tag.

Also:

Please make these changes to the dedicated hunter program.

Only 1 buck harvest in the 3 year period.

\$300 price for the 3 year period.

Continue with the current service project requirements.

With the deer population suffering, and tag reductions, I believe we need to make these changes to the dedicated hunter program. Dedicated hunters, should be more selective with the animals they harvest. These new requirements should appeal to those selective hunters.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates? Somewhat agree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Neither agree nor disagree

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 2, 2021 5:11 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I could not disagree any more than I do with putting the general season elk permits into a draw system. This is the one single over the counter big game hunting opportunity that remains in this state, and now the DWR wants to take it away because their system is insufficient and previous management decisions have put an extra strain on the permit sale system.

If the system is overloaded with people wanting permits, that is a good thing. The problem is not the demand. The problem is the system itself. If you want to reduce the strain, then you fix the system where there is the bottle-neck, not some other symptom of the actual problem. It would be a very plausible coding change to not allow anyone to login to their account on more than one device at one time. I've talked to software coders about this very thing, and they say this is very possible. There are some VERY simple fixes to the poor system the DWR uses to sell permits that would alleviate the strain on the system without having to remove the one final over the counter big game hunting opportunity we have left in this state.

Another problem I have with the proposal is that the DWR acknowledges that going to the multi-season hunt has been a contributing factor in the demand for these licenses. Another easy fix is to simply remove that option and go back to people picking their weapon of choice. If archery hunters that already have the benefit of unlimited permits switching over to multi-season permits has caused a strain on the system as was stated in the presentation, a very easy fix to that strain would be to eliminate multi-season permits. I know they are popular among a segment of hunters, but we can't continue to cater a small segment of hunters in Utah in all management decisions. That seems to be how this always works, leaving the masses holding the bag without a tag in their hand on basically every other type of hunt. Please do not take away this last remaining over the counter opportunity to hunt in Utah.

This is being presented as a trial period while they analyze data and work with the elk working group to come up with a permanent solution. Why not wait on any permanent changes until that is already done? If this "trial period" is adopted, there is no way it will ever go back to how it was. There is simply no way the Division is going to recommend giving up the application revenue they receive from this "trial period" of general season over the counter permits going into the draw.

Again, I oppose this as strongly as any proposal I have ever heard from the Division. Making general season elk permits into draw permits would be an abomination to the heritage of hunting in our state, which there is very little of that left for us.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I have seen an increase in elk hunting since it seems harder and harder to draw a deer tag. Also the general elk hunt in my opinion has turned into what the general deer hunt used to be you can still go buy a tag with your family and friends. And now you want to ruin that! Which makes people not even want to deal with the process and quit hunting. I already know of people that have done exactly that. And all your youth hunts are just crazy that is just a money maker for the DWR. I'm not familiar on how you guys draw the tags but maybe you need to look into that so a person is drawing more often. I know a guy that has drawn a deer tag 6 years straight this year was the first he didn't. I know of many people that have not drawn a tag in as many years. And a youth that on her fourth year finally drew her first deer tag. So I believe there is something really wrong with that maybe you don't. But go ahead and keep making it more difficult to make it a family and friends outing and you will keep losing hunters.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Don't ruin the only hunt that i can hunt almost every year just because you can't fix your website. Leave this first come first serve. The DWR had already ruined the family deer hunts. Don't destroy this hunt just because you want that extra \$10 per person. Let people who want to hunt the spike elk get up early and buy one. The DWR is already trying to take game cameras away from my family fun days. Why would you want to destroy the only over the counter left for southern utah. I haven't drawn deer or even cow elk for 3 years. For those three years I was able to wake up early buy a spike tag, and take my family. This year me and my 8 year old boy had a blast. I understand that the Utah DWR wants their extra \$10 per person on the draw, but for once let it stay and let us have one fun hunt a year.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed waterfowl hunting changes? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed waterfowl hunting changes? Is there a way we can get rid of the Millard County closure? As a farmer that is when I have the biggest issue with snow geese in my fields.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? I love the idea of moving the general season elk to the draw. Trying to buy one online has been insane. This change is been needed for a few years now.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Dear Valued Wildlife Management Folks,

My name is Gary Morgan and I would like to submit a public comment on the latest proposal to add the general season elk permits to the big game drawing. I am not, along with the overwhelming majority of hunters I've discussed this with, in favor of adding these permits to the big game drawing. We feel that this is the wrong direction to alleviate a problem that was created out of a response to businesses closing their doors in the spring of 2020 due to Covid. With the majority of Utahns being vaccinated and Covid numbers not affecting businesses being open anymore, I recommend that the DWR just go back to over the counter sales at licensing agents as the primary method of selling these general season elk tags, while maintaining an online site to purchase for those who either cannot physically get to a licensing agent, or are nonresident hunters that cannot simply drive to Utah to purchase a license. Many of my fellow hunters and myself are also concerned that with the addition of another revenue stream from the new application fees for these hunts, DWR will sort of "get hooked" on the new income and decide to continue charging these fees to Utahns and nonresident hunters, and then the days of true OTC elk hunting in Utah will be over. Going back to over the counter sales as a primary method of distributing tags will resolve the website clog that exists every time tags go on sale. Breaking up the spike tags from the any bull tags to go on sale was a good idea, and did alleviate some of the clog. A further recommendation from me would be that if the DWR would like to continue using the online sales system, I recommend that DWR also further break down the online sales between resident and nonresident, with those being sold on different days (with Utah residents being given preference) to help further reduce site lag and traffic to avoid overloading. I fear that every big game tag in this state will eventually become a draw system and would disrupt many annual family hunts that have become a tradition by either preventing people from getting tags or costing families even more money to pursue their outdoor passions.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Gary Morgan
Rush Valley, UT

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

The elk herds are suffering. This is the worst year I have seen in years not only for elk but also for deer. The DWR will continue to use the same excuses that it's used for years and try and blame the decreased deer and elk populations on the predators or the drought. While they do have some affect. Not near the damage that over hunting has cause. We need to decrease elk and deer tags to let the numbers come back. The DWR needs to take responsibility and find a solution, but instead they look on how they can make more money.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 3, 2021 10:58 am

Which best describes your position Strongly agree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Do you have any additional comments This is a great move but also think we should pull some cow tags, spike
about the proposed changes to the big tags and early rifle bull hunt thanks
game hunt drawing?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 3, 2021 11:03 am

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

For a lot of people we don't draw any tags for up to 5 years for my general season deer permit the only hunting of big game I can do with family in that case is to get an over the counter elk tag it would cut down on hunters and family getting out and harvesting food and spending time in the woods if you changed it in order to help your computers keep up

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 3, 2021 2:02 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I agree that the general season elk permits should be in the big game drawing. Would this be on a point system if continued or stay completely random?

I do not believe that the limited entry and once in a lifetime should be on a 60/40 quota to the max point holders. The current 50/50 is good in giving anyone on any point level a chance to get lucky.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates? Somewhat agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I am opposed to moving spike elk/any bull tags to a draw system. Hunting opportunities in Utah are difficult enough to come by as it is. Those of us who care enough to hunt elk make time to ensure we end up with a tag. We most certainly do not need a draw system.

I am also opposed to moving it to a 60/40 split. There are so many people who are at or near max points that the additional tags are not going to help clear out the top end in any significant way. We're to the point that the vast majority of limited entry hunts are essentially once in a lifetime hunts. Leave it 50/50 so those with fewer points still have a "chance" albeit small.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Nobody likes the draw system. I'm an out-of-state hunter. You should just limit the tag quota for each unit. You should limit the amount of non-resident to 20%. Once the quota is met, then there are no more tags. Do like Idaho. You also need to get rid of the multi-hunts, which I've heard many complaints about too many hunters since implementing the Multi-Tags.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?

Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended big game season dates?

I'm a life-time license holder in Utah. I always hunt the FishLake Unit for mule deer. The last two years is the worst buck-to-Doe ratio I have seen in decades. I have a cabin at FishLake. We didn't even see a spike buck during the hunt this year. I hope the fish and game reduces the tags. Why don't you manage your hunt more like Nevada (more for trophy quality and less tags). My parents live up at our cabin in the summer and they said they didn't see hardly any buck. I've talked to many friends that say the same thing about the buck ratio on FishLake. Please do something to bring the deer herd back. Why don't you implement the 4 point or better? I have trail cameras that I put out in the summer to late September and I am seeing more and more mountain lions and bears. Why doesn't the fish and game give out more tags for the mountain lions. The fish and game should also do more predator control for coyotes.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 3, 2021 7:35 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I am apposed to the elk permit changes. The general season elk permit is great if you do not draw out. The draw becomes an all or nothing event. The over the counter permits allow people more opportunities to hunt. The processing problem is an administrative problem and not the hunt resource problem.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 3, 2021 9:16 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 3, 2021 9:16 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Do you have any additional comments out of state should be taken out allowing local hunts a chance
about the proposed changes to the big
game hunt drawing?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 11:14 am

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 11:15 am

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Do you have any additional comments The tags in utah are already hard enough to draw. why make tags that
about the proposed changes to the big some people look forward to OTC even harder to get?
game hunt drawing?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 11:18 am

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 11:21 am

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 11:21 am

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

It will be just like deer was 20 years ago, and before you know it will take 3 years to get an spike elk tag. SOLUTION end the multi season elk permits, make hunters choose what weapon they will use. Stop killing cow elk from August to February! Put a shed season in place, animals are pressured/hunted all year long. From hunting in the Fall to shed season January to May then trail camera season and back to hunting in the Fall. Now for deer, stop the early 5 day hunt and the late muzzleloader hunt. Shorten the Archery and general rifle hunt dates and cut permits in half for all units. Then pick a few units and alternate giving them a 2-3 year rest, let some deer age a bit and implement a 3 point or better buck on all units. Lastly kill all the coyotes, lions and bears in the state if we ever want to see a deer heard again. I hunted the Zion unit with my son and saw coyotes daily and on one occasion they killed a fawn buck deer. Thanks

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

1. Eliminate the tri-season spike elk hunt. Nobody should need 3 different hunts for a spike elk.
2. Go back to the way it was. Archery, rifle, muzzle loader. No carrying over from one hunt to the other.
3. A huge number of people don't kill, or don't hunt the first two seasons, so they all show up on the muzzle loader hunt and it has completely ruined it.
4. Make residents priority. Give residents tags first. If residents buy all the tags, don't increase the quota to get a few extra dollars from non-residents.

The elk are hunted way to hard and long with the tri-season tag. It really has made the quality of our herds suffer.

Go back to how it was. It worked just fine. Don't fix it if it ain't broke.

Having to draw for a spike muzzle loader tag is so frustrating and ridiculous for the lifelong residents who have grown up on these hunts.

Eliminate the multi-season/tri-season tags.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 1:05 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I am tired of having to pay \$10 to apply for anything. This tag should not cost an additional amount , just to try and draw. Please keep it affordable for us to enjoy hunting. Thank you.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 3:08 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Elk need to be managed per unit just like the deer are per unit, you should have to draw a elk permit for a specific unit. Decrease the tag numbers.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended big game season dates? Season dates are fine, we need to decrease the tag numbers, specifically southern Utah, (Zion)

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 3:17 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 4:40 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

This was the only way I can guarantee my youth gets a tag. You preached this was a way for families to hunt together don't ruin that heritage now because your system is bad. Keep hunting family based.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 6:03 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Break the spike tags into units

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates? Strongly agree

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 6:49 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the CWMU and LOA
recommendations?

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I understand the need to have a better system for allocating OTC elk tags. However, the general bull elk hunt is the last true OTC hunt in Utah and it would be a shame to have a decreased probability of a getting a tag for those who care most. Currently it is the most interested folks that make sure to get the tag as soon as they go on sale. With the draw, there will inevitably be more applicants and less chance to get a tag.

60/40 split. Tags are getting harder and harder to draw in every state. Utah is one of the few that offers a decent chance for those without maximum points. I don't believe this will alleviate point creep as it has not helped in other states.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 4, 2021 11:38 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Do you have any additional comments Not at this time
about the proposed changes to the big
game hunt drawing?

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Please keep general elk tags OUT of the draw. This is the last OTC big game hunt in Utah. It will never come back to OTC if we go this route. And it results in not cost (application fees) for hunters. Plus, points for general elk would be next, which I would hate to see!

Coupled with this would be my request to eliminate the multi-season tag option. And I selfishly LOVE this tag. BUT, demand boomed when this was put in place, with our without covid. Separate the seasons again and make someone choose only 1. This will help to soften some demand on the "rush" to get tags that first day. Finally, the DWR obviously needs to upgrade their system. It's a joke they cannot handle 1 day where 30,000 people are trying to participate on the same morning.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 5, 2021 6:12 am

**Which best describes your position
regarding the recommended big game
season dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments
about the recommended big game
season dates?**

Move the limited entry rifle elk hunt dates out of the rut.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 5, 2021 6:30 am

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Do you have any additional comments Stop selling out of state spike permits and let utahns hunt utah.
about the proposed changes to the big
game hunt drawing?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 5, 2021 9:33 am

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I am ok with the changes to max point drawing. But as far as the general season tags I think it should still be first come first serve. The people should be able to get the tags they want. Or they should just change it to buying tags for specific anybull units or spike units and have a limit for each one so they don't get over loaded all in one place. And instate hunters should have first choice before out of state people so let residents buy available tags before opening to out of state.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 5, 2021 11:49 am

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

This hunt has been what keeps my family fed, why not decrease the amount of tags sold? Our elk population is scary low compared to years previously! DONT DO THE DRAW FOR ANYBULL OR SPIKE

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? The multi-season elk tags should be put into a system like the dedicated hunter deer program with work hours required to receive a tag for the year.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended big game season dates? The archery any bull season dates should go until the very end of September, most hunters would gladly give up days on the front end of the hunt in August to hunt more in the rut.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 5, 2021 3:59 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Some of the earliest memories that I have involve hunting. I have been hunting since I can remember. Now I know I was too young to hunt when I was little. But hunting for my family is also about family time. Now I can remember hiking with my grandfather in the woods, I learned many things from that man about how to hunt. I also remember sitting and watching a field with my grandmother, she also was able to provide much needed knowledge regarding hunting, and those memories are memories I carry with me and now am teaching to my sons. Now I bring up these memories because as we well know the hunter is a dying breed. The generation that taught my parents to hunt, and encouraged our family to continue hunting is no longer with my family. The DWR knows this and that is why over the most recent years they have decreased the hunting age from 14 to 12, as well as made it possible for the youth to hunt with another hunter using the mentor program.

Now these programs were introduced to get the youth, which is our future involved, interested, and wanting to continue hunting. I can remember since I was in kindergarten going up to Elk camp which is what my family called our camp that we had when my father and uncle were hunting elk. I remember the excitement as a young child to hear and feel involved in the hunting that was going on. This tradition has carried on now to my children and I. As well as my brothers and their children. I have eager nieces and nephews that cannot wait until they are old enough to go out on the hike for the elk hunt. So the point that I am trying to make is that hunting is not just about hunting, but it is also about family, family time, and the opportunity to teach our youth how to become even better hunters than we are ourselves. Now I remember when the General Deer season went to a draw, and I will tell you that hunting deer, has never been the same. This is due to my family and I not all being able to have tags to be able to go out and hunt together. This has divided our family and therefore caused some disinterest from the younger of us in participating in hunting. So now the DWR proposes that the general elk tag go to a "temporary" draw. This will therefore divide families from being able to participate in hunting together and therefore continue to deter the youth from participating in the sport of hunting. This "temporary draw" is restrictive and as sad as it is true we all know the temporary draw will eventually become a draw, just as the DWR has made the deer hunt. Therefore I would like to state that I strongly disagree with the idea of the general bull elk hunt being turned into a drawing system. The system of drawing is limiting, deterring, and it is not helping in allowing families and their youth to participate in the sport of hunting. The DWR is concerned regarding involving the youth in hunting and has implemented programs to encourage the involvement of youth as I have mentioned above. However now they seek to make it even more limiting in order to obtain a hunting permit? I see a never ending vicious cycle where the circle is getting getting smaller and smaller and has no end in site if hunting permits continue to be limited. Now I watched the video and I do understand that there are issues with the way that purchasing a General Bull Elk tag is done on the website. I understand the increasing demand is visibly there, but I do not think the answer is making the General

Bull Elk tag a drawing.

I would suggest alternative ways of handling this situation. Such as dividing the times the General bull archery, muzzleloader, and any legal weapon open up. Rather than having them all open on the same day, divide these up. Therefore those of us interested in one or the other will be able to know the date that it is open to purchase and can our chance to purchase the hunt that we would like to participate in.

Another solution to the chaos that I would propose would be to divide the youth age tags and the adult tags purchase days into different days. Both of these options will allow for less people to be accessing the website, and less wide spread use for all the hunters to be accessing the website.

I do think there are other solutions available to us all. I believe that we as hunters should be able to come up with a better solution than this proposed "temporary" drawing of the General Bull Elk permits.

Thank you for your time in reading this.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I am very opposed to this proposed change to make spike and any bull hunts part of a draw system. Coming from someone who is now going on three years not drawing a deer tag, the current draw system implemented by the Division is not working. What used to provide opportunities for families to get together and spend time hunting has now all but completely diminished. The implementation of over the counter spike and any bull tags brought that back to a degree. If the draw system is implemented here, those opportunities may be lost completely. Over the past 10 years I have never had a problem getting an over the counter tag or purchasing one on line. For those who love this sport and have spent a lifetime hunting and fishing they make it a priority to get on early and get a tag. I believe that first come first serve is as fair as a system can get.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed waterfowl hunting changes? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? I strongly disagree with this proposed change! This will limit tags to personal hunters and only benefit guides! We already don't draw out on hunts that we put in for, while big game guides receive all the tags. This is the only over the counter hunt that we are able to get tags for. This decision to change the big game hunt drawing is all about money and giving more opportunities to guides who have ruined the hunting/drawing system. Please think of those of us who aren't guides and only get to hunt this single hunt because of how ineffective the draw system has become. I personal haven't drawn out for any hunts in more than 8 years. It is a tradition for our family to buy these tags to hunt together, and we've never, ever had a problem getting tags for the spike elk hunt. First come first serve is the best option for these hunts.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Neither agree nor disagree

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 5, 2021 5:02 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Do you have any additional comments This does not help in any way and hinders folks from learning to hunt
about the proposed changes to the big
game hunt drawing?

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed waterfowl hunting changes? Somewhat agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? For this trial year, there should be no \$10 application fee. Where does our application fee dollars go to?

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended big game season dates? I think we should do what other states do, start Archery hunting on September 1. August is too hot to hunt. Archery elk should be the whole month of September, just like all the other surrounding states. Also, the deer and elk get hunt so much without much of a break. Archer, Muzzleloader, Early Rifle, and General Rifle. So many times hunters and sportmen are out in the field pressuring deer and elk without much of a break, including shed hunting season. I recommend only doing a 5 day hunt for the general season deer hunt this next year to help with recovering our deer heard. Kind of like the DWR did on the Monroe unit some years ago.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations? We need to increase opportunity for public hunters and increase access. We should increase the percent or ratio of deer and elk tags given to the public in the public LE draw for CWMU's.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

First, thank so much for listening to the public on the drawing date changes that allow hunters to see potential tag numbers prior to application. However, the spike and open bull hunts are the last OTC big game tags. If you take these away, even for trial, will take away this family hunt. Right now I can only guarantee a hunt through these tags,

If you want to reduce pressure, then cut tags.

Please consider removing multi season tags. I love the idea of these tags, but do not think they are best for our herds.

Your recommendations will result in archery hunters competing with the much larger pool of rifle and muzzle loader hunters. Wont this result in archery hunters getting fewer than normal tags and a hunt that takes very few animals will be greatly diminished.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?

Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended big game season dates?

It feels like we are putting a lot of pressure on our deer herds. Please consider saying no to some of hunts to give the animals more time out of hunt seasons. For example early rifle hunts.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

Strongly agree

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 5, 2021 7:49 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Why are these tags not unit specific. How can you manage a wildlife resource at a state wide level. How can the health of a heard on the SW Desert be managed at the same time as one on the Wasatch? In addition why would we want to have a 60/40 split for LE tags? Why pander to the top point holders that are aging out while excluding newer hunters that we need for the future of hunting? Unless SFW has already bought this one.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

If we have a supply and demand problem why are we selling multi season spike tags? It seems like a no brainer. When that tag was created several years ago it's said purpose was to increase hunters opportunities. Now it appears as though it is going to do just the opposite. I don't like the idea of being cheated of my opportunity to hunt one season so others can hunt all 3. That's not right. I wouldn't have a problem with that tag if we had excess supply, but it appears as though we are no longer in that boat. Make hunters pick one season and hunt it. More tags could be issued and more people would have the opportunity to enjoy a hunt with their families. I hope my comment makes sense and doesn't fall on unwilling ears. If you need any clarification please feel free to contact me. Thanks for the opportunity to voice my opinion and concerns.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 6, 2021 7:26 am

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

This is just another money grab. If your truly interested in gathering info on numbers of hunters wanting to hunt elk don't charge for the one year drawing you are proposing! Surly in our age of computers and technology you can upgrade your system to handle the increased need on open drawing dates.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 6, 2021 7:59 am

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I think if the any bull hunts are going to go to a draw system it would be wise if there were a way landowners could be given some tags. In a similar way they are given buck deer tags based upon the amount of acreage they own. The landowners do as much as anyone for the success of the elk, and they also suffer loss to property because of the elk.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

1. the elk drawing process over the last few years has been a self imposed mess by the dwr. it was better this year (2021) because of draw date separation - any bull draw & spike only draw separated by approx one week.
2. the treasured limited entry tags might as well be put into the "once in a lifetime" category. another self inflicted problem by dwr not forecasting & planning for the obvious increase in applications to hunt utah.
3. hunters were actually fortunate another dwr "great idea" didn't happen as desired - making "any bull" units available for unlimited tags in 2021. but the additional 2500 tags will take its toll on surrounding spike only/limited tags, because of the increased harvest of bulls. they don't just live in the "any bull" units, but move around between units. this makes harvesting a real trophy, after waiting over 15 years, less of a possibility. more self generated errors.
4. making so many different seasons available for elk, sounds good but drives the elk into self preservation dense forests or private properties, unavailable to the majority of hunters. the bulls don't bugle much, either, the last few years. this all makes for a lower quality hunt for the average sportsman who doesn't have horses/mules or access to private property.
5. after elk hunting in utah for many years, we see fewer elk every year. we see less water every year, which has to impact survival rates, reduce forage, etc. lions, too, are more prevalent & we see the dwr has acknowledged this w/increased lion tags. why so many cow tags?? take a cow tag break for two years, let the herds regenerate.
6. whatever is decided, we have seen a dramatic decrease in hunt quality the last five years. obtaining elk tags has been frustratingly painful. we sure would enjoy a limited entry elk hunt, w/the high percentage possibility of taking a trophy bull, before our death! please fix this mess.
7. an elk tag drawing, for one year, adds complications. this ain't rocket science. seems more like bandaids on dwr inflicted problems. if you want it a draw process, make it one! and - help out residents!!
8. all the available hunts brings MONEY to utah, but has the wildlife on edge. like all government programs, once they start it's difficult to stop them. DWR of utah - make the call!! hunters want quality, appears the state only wants money.
9. we do value & appreciate all dwr employees and volunteers. you're not going to make everyone happy. we enjoy seeing & visiting dwr reps in the field. I have a wildlife biology/mgmt degree & support good mgmt even if it's a bit painful for a few seasons.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Southern Utah RAC Members,

I am strongly opposed to the proposed 60/40 split for Limited Entry and Lifetime Big game tags. Keeping half of the allotted tags to random draw still gives those that are not a max point holder more of a chance than a 60/40 draw. Even if the draw was a 90/10 split our children just getting into hunting will never be a max point holder with the current point creep in certain species draws. Changes to the current 5 year waiting period could have more of an effect on point creep rather than switching to a 60/40 split.

Last year in Utah 56,078 residents applied for 2756 Limited Entry Elk Tags, 38,943 residents applied for 1,367 Limited Entry Deer Tags, and 8,517 residents applied for 1090 Limited Entry Pronghorn Tags. That's 103,538 residents applying for 5,213 Limited Entry Tags. Right now, if you draw a Limited Entry Big Game Tag you are not eligible to apply for that tag again for 5 years. Typically, after a hunter draws one of these tags they then switch to a different limited entry species the following year. If this was changed to if you draw a Limited Entry tag you cannot apply for ANY Limited Entry tag for 5 years, with 2021 tag numbers, this would take 26,065 residents out of the Limited Entry draw over a 5-year time frame. This should also be considered for Lifetime tags as well. This new 5 year waiting period would be one the biggest things you could do to help combat point creep.

Additionally, If DWR has concerns about loss of revenue due to decrease in application fees from this new 5 year waiting period, I recommend changes to hunting licenses. Right now a hunting license is good for 365 days from the time of purchase. If a hunting license expired December 31 every year you would be required to purchase a new license every year to apply for tags. I personally along with most hunters plan the purchase date of my hunting license to allow me to only have to purchase one every other year.

Anyone can look at the supply and demand of hunters to the number of big game tags available and release that it is no longer feasible to keep it the way it is. Something needs to change to help with point creep, not for us, but for our kids, grandkids and future hunters that are not even born yet.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Ryan

**Which best describes your position
regarding the recommended big game
season dates?**

Somewhat agree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Do away with the extra two weeks of buying a bonus point only we don't need anymore time to buy a point than the original application time...it could help slightly with the point creep issue by doing away with that extra time for procrastinators that forget to put in during the regular app period

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?

Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended big game season dates?

Help the herd numbers out and shorten the dates (mule deer specifically) Why can't we start hunts on set dates? In Nevada archery deer starts on the 10 of august every year no matter what day of the week this could help majorly with the huge crowds you find with our current system of most hunts starting on a Saturday. The opening of the spike hunt was a joke. Maybe starting the hunt on a set date would help out

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? No one wants a draw for the over-the-counter spike bull tags. Just reduced the tags. Also, limit the out-of-state tags to out-of-state hunters to 10 to 20 percent. Once all the tags are gone then you are out of luck first come first serve just like Idaho does it

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates? Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended big game season dates? The mule deer herd in Utah is way down. Need to reduce the tags or do 4 point or better. Also, need to give more tags for mountain lion.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

we need to lower general bull and general buck tags. I hunted at least 50 days of the general bull tag and didnt see an elk till towards the end of the hunt and they were spooked as can be and nothing with quality. I haven't seen a four point this year or last year either. The hunt is too crowded and there is no animals to hunt. Take it from someone who lives and breathes the zion unit and it is terrible! I have been saying this for years. I wish someone would listen. Having unlimited youth bull tags is terrible too, I personally watched 6 youth injure bulls and not find them. That effects my hunts and the way it goes for me and everyone else. I use to kill decent to good bulls on zion but there is to many permits. If the open bull goes to draw tags needs to be cut in half or more. We need elk to hunt in the next ten years. If it keeps going the way it is going we wont have elk. Giving people two cow tags on private land for each person is destroying elk heards too. I know of families with property they shoot 30-40 cows a year. Thats bull we wont have for the future. Changes need to happen, it is not pretty. I pore my blood sweat and tears for this elk hunt and its getting worse. Please listen please!

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 8, 2021 12:48 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I do not Agree with having a application fee for this trial period of general elk permits when you will not be getting anything in return if unsuccessful. If there is no preference point given for your \$10 application fee then there should not be any application fee at all. This would essentially be gambling because there is no return for the applicants.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Adding the Spike bull tags into the drawing system will strongly effect my family. We not only look forward to this hunt every year as a time to gather and spend time together, but to provide food for our families. Taking the opportunity away from us to get to a tag as a first come first service bases will take a food source away from us. Yes a tag doesn't guarantee food, but it guarantees an opportunity for food. I can control when I get in line to get a tag, I can't control my number being pulled in a draw. This is not just a recreational activity for us, this is a way of life. If the numbers of hunters are truly growing the way they are, then that means my family won't have a tag for multiple years in a row. Plus this will be an increase in the cost of that tag as well. Please don't take this food source away from our families, and cause that food source to cost more.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 8, 2021 7:06 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

This is the only hunt I have that is guaranteed every year, I have five cow elk points and can't draw. Leave the elk tags as they are, make them in person purchase only and you can only buy a tag for someone else if they are under the age of 18.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 9, 2021 2:17 am

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Somewhat disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended big game season dates? There needs to be an extremely drastic cut in deer tags if not an elimination of hunts in several units in the state. Our state has shut down units for several years in the past to help them rebound. Deer numbers are never going to rebound if we don't do something now. I fear it's already too late. There needs to be drastic changes. Cut tags (again) and charge double the price per tag to keep revenue at what you need. We are destroying our deer herds. I am highly in favor of a 3 point or better regulation for all hunters. Listen to the hunters.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 9, 2021 9:03 am

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I strongly disagree with changing the general elk hunt from OTC to a drawing. Just because there are incompetent software engineers that cannot develop a system to handle a few thousand people at a time, we should not be changing the way we get permits and the opportunity to hunt. If Amazon can handle more than 1,000,000 purchase within an hour, any competent engineer should be able to develop a system that can handle 1-2000 per hour. Please do not get rid of our last OTC opportunity in the state.

Second, I completely disagree with changing the 50:50 split. Utah has the best system in the western United States. Making the proposed change harms the many hunters in the state to benefit the few. If a change is to be made, it should be a smaller percentage of tags to those with maximum points, which will benefit the many over the few.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

I am a fan of the CWMU program. However, I am not a fan of how it is currently ran. First, total deer tags in the state have decreased by 20-25% over the past few years. Why are the public hunters the only ones to make the sacrifice for wildlife in the state? Why aren't the numbers of tags allocated to each CWMU decreased by a similar percentage as the public are asked to decrease? Second, when the CWMU program was created, an elk tag on private land was worth \$1,000-2,000. If a CWMU received 40 tags (4 to the public and 36 private), they were compensated ~\$54,000 minus their expenses through the program. They were benefiting financially and the program seemed reasonable. Now, those same tags are worth \$12,000-20,000 each and the landowner is now making ~\$540,000 per year on a resource owned by the people of Utah. I have a real problem with an individual making that much money of a resource that I own. Again, I have no problem with private land owners being compensated for tolerating wildlife and allowing some public access to their lands. However, it is very clear that due to the current value of wildlife, the current public:private allocations are no longer appropriate. At least 25% and maybe even 50% of tags should be going to the public. In the above mentioned example, the landowner would still be making \$300,000 if allocations were 50:50. Please propose a change to this program!

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 9, 2021 6:52 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Do you have any additional comments Make multi season a draw. Leave a any bull and spike to x amount of
about the proposed changes to the big permits that stays general. Leave archery at general like it has been.
game hunt drawing?

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I disagree with this proposal because OTC tags are supposed to be available on a first come first serve basis. Maybe allocate 10% of the available tags to out of state residents and put those on sale a day or two after the resident tags go on sale. Split up the days the any bull and spike tags go on sale. Pay to upgrade the computer system. There are ways they can upgrade and test the system long before the day the tags go on sale. I am in the tech industry and could give you some contacts if wanted.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?

Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?

Is there a way that more of the CWMU tags could go to the public and help push the max point holders through the system quicker? This is supposed to be a mutually beneficial program for the state and the private land owners. Looking at the way the system works now in my opinion it is one sided towards the land owners. I propose making so 20-25% of each owners tags are allocated to the public.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

This is bs. Fix the payment system dont let it go to a draw only. You have been making it harder and harder to get a family hunt together and this makes it darn near impossible to plan a family hunt in Utah now. If you really want to fix the purchase issue, you should look at how concert ticket offices do it. They can sell out a lot more concert tickets than you have elk tags. Stop wasting time and money on a worthless draw.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Get rid of the multi season tags completely! Go to a unit OTC permit instead of this state wide. Let's manage the elk for the units and not just a one size fits all. We have seen a big decrease in elk population on some of the southern units. This draw system is a joke for OTC. Spread the dates to buy the tags, manage the units, get rid of the multi season tags completely, and if you must have a spike unit reduce the tags at minimum 1/3rd. Elk can be healthy for the landscape. We are seeing less and less elk each year yet all we here is we need to increase increase increase. Reduce the cow permits, reduce the anybull and spike permits. You guys have a lot of options for hunts across Utah. Let's build some of our herds so we can have more options for our future hunters.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 9, 2021 8:22 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 9, 2021 8:25 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Which best describes your position Neither agree nor disagree
regarding the recommended big game
season dates?

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

This is a poor excuse for a problem with data management and online issues. Fix the problem and don't push it on the hunters as a glorified fix for taking away our only OTC hunt. Utah is one of the worst states to hunt here in the west. It has been poorly managed for years and is a laughing stock from surrounding states like Idaho, and Wyoming. Utah should adopt hunt models from those states and quick trying to align with Nevada which we all know is Utah current model chasing after the draw only system. Quit taking away from our residents and pandering to California and Nevada hunters. This is a huge assault on us and the DWR board should be ashamed to let it go through.

I have been putting in for the limited entry draw for years with no luck and seldom get any luck drawing for antlerless. My Father put in for the limited entry draw for 30 years and finally drew out 5 years ago, it has become a once in a lifetime hunt for him as with many others I know. This is pathetic as a resident here in our State.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

I would like to propose that if you do general season elk tag in the draw that you run it the same as limited entry draws where you can only put in for elk or deer general season tag not both .which would eliminate 1 person from getting a general season deer tag and a general season elk tag in the same year .and another person not getting a deer general season tag or a elk general season tag that year . My second proposal is that general season elk tags especially any bull elk tags for senior citizens are unlimited the same as youth. considering how hard any bull elk hunting is and what the harvest rate for senior citizens in a any bull elk hunt would be very low if any. and not have a effect on over harvesting elk also most senior citizens dont have the luxury of waiting a year to draw a elk tag. because they may be dead. The next draw period.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

general tags should stay first come first serve and be able to be purchased over the counter. a draw without points would let the same people possibly draw every year and the same people may not draw every year. and to help out you should just let the over the counter tags be open to utah residents first and whats ever left over to out of state people. after its our land we live in and by and we should have first access to it.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 11, 2021 7:04 am

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the proposed changes to the
big game hunt drawing?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 11, 2021 12:55 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended big game season dates?

I would like to to see the Beaver, Monroe, MT Dutton go to a 5 day hunt, Oct 22 to Oct 26 2022, I'm sure it will help the deer heard. I also like to see the Beaver split into 2 or 3 unit.

Which best describes your position regarding the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the proposed changes to the big game hunt drawing?

Lindy, you have identified the cause of the problem (multi season elk permits). Why are we going to invest all the time and money to try and fix the problem when you can stop the cause? In addition to your problem you have now added 42% more hunters in the field per hunt, once was a quality hunt now it is over crowded! Maybe I can make a suggestion, take 150 permits and put them into a limited entry multi season hunt! Sometimes it doesn't have to be all about the money! We continue to loose our quality hunting for the dollar! Please consider theses options fix the cause then we won't have the problem!