

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 23, 2021 8:54 pm

Which best describes your position Somewhat agree
regarding the recommended changes to
the big game rule?

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

I definitely agree with the ban or season on the cellular trail cams as well as the night vision and thermal imaging. Those tools are definitely, in my opinion, aiding in the harvest of game that may not otherwise be harvested. Regular trail cameras take a lot of work and boot tracks to be effective. I think if someone is willing to put in the work to run a few regular trail cameras, that they physically have to check frequently, then those same people will work harder and have more success on the hunt itself anyway. Normal non-cellular trail cameras are definitely not an issue that I have seen, but I do believe the cell cams as well as the thermal imaging does give an increased advantage, especially to outfitters whom have the financial ability to obtain and use those types of products. A couple other ideas that may be worth considering is the timing of some of your hunts. The cow elk hunts, in my opinion, are too late and too many bred cows are being harvested, ultimately killing 2 animals instead of the one that has been calculated into your objective #. Also with the deer, I would like to see a restriction of 3pt or better put in place, with the exception of a first yr hunter. I hear the buck to doe ratios are in check, but with my experience in agriculture and dealing with breeding stock. If you don't have the right age class of buck, bull, ram, or whatever the species may be, that the insemination period gets dragged out longer which in turn gives predators more opportunity to prey on newborns. If a buck to doe ratio is your basis, I would like to recommend you look at working toward a mature buck to doe ratio instead of just total # of buck per doe, and one way I see that would be possible is to implement a 3pt or better so we can allow the deer to reach an older age class. I firmly believe you would see you fawn, calf survival rates increase because the birthing period for wildlife would not get dragged out as long as it seems it has been for many yrs now. I think that also applies to elk and other species as well. Also with the deer and elk I don't see the need for additional rifle hunts that have been added in past yrs. The muzzleloaders nowadays are basically a single shot rifle with the yardage they are capable of. I would like to see us go back to the normal 3 deer hunts - archery, muzzle, and rifle, and if the need is for an additional hunt make it a general primitive hunt of some sort possibly. The late muzzleloader limited entry hunts on these general units has drastically hurt the quality and quantity of mature age class deer. For the elk hunts I think the mid season hunts are not beneficial at all, especially when they are the same time as the spike and other cow hunts. I get that the reason they were initiated was because of pt creep on limited entry hunts. But I also know multiple people who have drawn tags for the same limited entry species multiple times. Maybe an increased waiting period, from 5 yrs to 10 yrs, after drawing a limited entry permit would be a better solution to pt creep and even an increase in permit cost may be considered of \$\$ is a concern for the future.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

You make us watch a 10 min video to only ask about one little section of the video? Seems like you could have limited your audience by only selecting the people you emailed? Why not email everyone in your server and let that info speak

The part about transmitting trail cameras and marking the unable to be used during those dates is absurd. I use transmitting trail cameras for trapping and if you make this illegal my cameras that are used for legal reasons by everyone I've asked in the wildlife Bureau would instantly become illegal and if found could be ruined or turned in for because of this.

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022–23 furbearer recommendations?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the 2022–23 furbearer recommendations?

Your making recommendations on next years hunts before you've even gathered info on this seasons hunts... that by the way has just barely started? Maybe this needs to be rethought and discussed after March 1 when the 21-22 season has ended and get a good number.

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022–23 cougar recommendations?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the 2022–23 cougar recommendations?

Again making recommendations for next years hunts before this years hunts can be compiled and data looked at??

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 23, 2021 11:13 pm

Which best describes your position Somewhat agree
regarding the recommended changes to
the big game rule?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 24, 2021 11:50 am

Which best describes your position Strongly agree
regarding the recommended changes to
the big game rule?

Which best describes your position Strongly agree
regarding the 2022–23 cougar
recommendations?

Which best describes your position Strongly agree
regarding the 2022 black bear
recommendations?

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 25, 2021 10:30 am

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

Question about the selling of trail cam data. Would that prohibit guides from using trail cam data to hunt an animal with a paying client? If the guide is only relying only on the trail cam data on knowing where that animal is wouldn't that fall under that restriction of selling trail cam data to aid in the take of big game?

I would like to see more primitive weapon hunts with higher tag opportunity's.

Thanks for allowing me to respond to these proposals.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 25, 2021 2:14 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

I strongly disagree with the not wearing orange on the overlapping hunt. This is a huge safety concern and if there are two hunts that overlap the rules of the more strict hunt should be in place for both hunt. Let's rule out the stupid human trick method and just keep people safe.

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022–23 furbearer recommendations?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the 2022–23 furbearer recommendations?

I feel there should be a cap on bobcats to keep the numbers more in the favor of the animal than the trapper. If you want more trappers reduce the number of tags a single person can have and give the cat population the upper advantage to rebuild the population so that all trappers can have full traps.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 27, 2021 10:56 am

Which best describes your position Strongly agree
regarding the recommended changes to
the big game rule?

Do you have any additional comments Hunters already have an advantage when hunting big game. I believe it is
about the recommended changes to the an unfair advantage, especially for guides, to use trail cams.
big game rule?

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule?

Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

Trail cams. As a regular average hunter that draws a general season or a limited entry tag that works full time it is EXTREMELY difficult to scout the areas needed fully without trail cams. The guides and outfitters seem to always spend the time necessary fully as they have a paycheck attached to it being able to afford it. Me as a regular average hunter will always fall short if I am limited to the trail cams use only on the dates being proposed. Transmission cameras should go away fully I feel. Also, to be fair I have guided in the past yrs as well running 20 plus cams at times which is why I feel this way. The average hunter which is way higher than the guided will ALWAYS be negatively affected with this new rule if put in placed. I do think having a registered # for the cam per person just as a trap does would also help with theft which we know is a issue. If limits are placed on the number of cams per person per unit it would be a better option than date ranges, for another reason also there would not a unlimited # of cams placed on 1 water like the AZ Strip sees problems of yearly. It's hard to keep both the trophy hunter and the opportunity hunter happy at the same time bit this is my take on it all.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 28, 2021 12:33 pm

Which best describes your position Somewhat disagree
regarding the recommended changes to
the big game rule?

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

Let me first start by thanking the RAC members & the DWR. You all sacrifice your personal & family time to do an often thankless job. I recognize & appreciate the research, time, thought, & effort that is given to try to find the balance in managing the resources along with the opportunity.

I understand & for the most part don't disagree with with what the Division is trying to accomplish in the terms of ethics & fair chase specific to trail cameras. My biggest concern is regarding the wording used for the regulation of trail cameras. I also have some legal concerns of the proposed regulation.

Covy Jones specifically shows & gives the definition they use for a trail camera as "a device that is not hand held or operated by a person" followed by what those devices are typically used for. He then on the same slide shows & reads the proposed change. He brings attention by putting in bold the word "transmitting" but immediately leaves the door open to regulation on all trail cameras having a season by adding the verbiage "or non-hand held devices." I would recommend the regulation be re-worded to be more clear or the following added; "excluding non transmitting trail cameras."

Additionally I have the following concerns & comments around the enforcement for the following:

1. This will largely only affect the law abiding public land user. It's extremely difficult for the DWR to gain access to private lands from landowners to enforce this. Without proper evidence it would be extremely difficult & highly unlikely for them to ever obtain a warrant to gain access to enforce.
2. The division is already significantly lacking law enforcement man power & this is simply another thing to add to their list of things extremely difficult to near impossible to enforce. Unless someone shows them the location of a camera I'd be surprised if an officer goes trekking through the woods to find cameras during the hunting season. If they do find one it's highly unlikely they will ever be able catch & cite the owner of the camera. Ultimately you end up with a lot of resources used to gain nothing for the public except maybe the removal of a camera.
3. This significantly increases the likelihood of a conflict with armed citizens out in the field. You will have people that feel it's their right & duty to police this. Many of those people don't even fully know the regulation or law. I personally dealt with this from catching someone taking an SD card from one of my cameras this hunting season. Their reason was because of the confusion caused by the deceitful misleading of Casey Snider in his attempt to create a law & by the divisions first attempt to make these changes back in September. It led to a an extremely heated confrontation.
3. Taking photos on & of public space & property is Constitutionally protected. Some have argued that a leaving trail camera would be considered littering or abandoned property but in 2018 the precedent was set that isn't the case after a couple from Park City (the McClean's) were

arrested, charged, & plead guilty to stealing two tree stands, trail cameras, & other equipment. Ironically they were able to be identified by trail camera photos.

As I previously stated, I understand & don't necessarily disagree but it's a slippery slope with some potential unintended consequences as it's currently written.

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022–23 cougar recommendations? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the 2022–23 cougar recommendations? the same comments i`ve stated in the bear comments apply here,

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022 black bear recommendations? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the 2022 black bear recommendations? it seems we are still not understanding our reality in understanding the problems of how devastating these predators are on our fawn deer populations. it seems with our technologies on deer movements to fawning areas should be a greater guide to help control this problem. Permits and boundaries to very specific areas within a unit especially on units with low overall deer numbers. drought seems to be our crutch to blame our numbers on it plays a role definitely it is not good enough if we keep using this as the greatest excuse. our population has out grown our deer free movements. we`ve advertised breaking records in tourism more cars more people more deer strikes. Small towns with 2 lane roads more big rigs more cars more people no funding to go towards protecting wildlife in rural towns deer have become a nuisance to non hunters and even people living in theses remote places. Think about that a(NUISANCE) incredible how soon we forget these same deer were the one thing that helped small businesses survive the year with out of state hunters yes hunters not tourists it is big money and big business its right in front of us and cannot see or appreciate the raw resource of protecting deer.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 28, 2021 11:21 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule? I am for banning trail cameras however I feel that this new proposal will be extremely difficult if not impossible to enforce. How are you going to tell if a trail camera on the mountain is a transmitting one or not? Ether ban trail cameras or don't ban them at all. This proposal is in my mind is impossible to enforce.

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022–23 cougar recommendations? Neither agree nor disagree

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

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 29, 2021 10:08 am

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

I am for this proposal 100% and should be clear hunters are not to receive information from non-hunters for this. Guides often by-pass rules by having others not in the so called hunting party provide information. I think you should also limit long range hunting and devices that allow 1000-1500 yard shots. Animals don't have a chance. Even muzzleloaders now can go out to 1000 yards.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 30, 2021 9:51 am

Which best describes your position Strongly agree
regarding the recommended changes to
the big game rule?

Do you have any additional comments
about the recommended changes to the
big game rule?

I would like to see all trail cameras taken off two weeks before the start of the archery hunt and not put on until two weeks after any hunt.

In many places in the dry west where we hunt there will be 10 to 15 trail cameras on a water source. This is a lot of pressure on the animals. It also gives an unfair advantage to those that can afford to purchase and maintain many trail cameras. I know some hunters and guides that have 40 to 100 trail cameras out.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
November 30, 2021 11:30 am

Which best describes your position Strongly agree
regarding the recommended changes to
the big game rule?

Do you have any additional comments there are to many trail cameras on public land, i agree they should not be
about the recommended changes to the used during hunting seasons
big game rule?

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022 black bear recommendations?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the 2022 black bear recommendations?

DWR has been consistently ratcheting up the black bear permit numbers for the past 20 years. In 2000 the total combined take from hunters and depredation harvest was ~ 100 animals, and last year it was nearly 600. I understand the Division thinks the population has substantially increased in the past 20-30 years, but on the other hand basic ecology tells us that a population should not exceed the natural carrying capacity of the habitat. And speaking of that, Now we are facing an uncertain future for Utah's bears and their habitat, with the impacts of climate change already here, and worse likely to come...and with increased fires in bear habitat just one issue we (and the bears) will have to contend with. Now seems like a good time for the Division to tap the breaks on the continual ratcheting up of the bear harvest, and abide by the Precautionary Principle. Please "press pause" and do not allow for an increase of permits or days a field for bear hunters in 2022. Utilize the strengths of your very capable biologists to work with spatial analysts at BYU or USU to do much needed predictive modeling of the interaction of climate change and bear habitat availability and health, 5, 15 and 25 years out, and try to get some sense of what sort of carrying capacity we are truly looking at for our bear population in the coming decades. And while this much needed analysis is happening, please do NOT increase the amount of bear take next year. Anything short of that I fear would be playing fast and loose with our bear population.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

The Utah chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers supports DWR's recent proposals that involve the issues of fair chase. These issues being the 1) the prohibition on transmitting trail cameras between July 31 and January 31 for the purposes of taking/aiding to take big game, 2) the prohibition of night vision devices to locate or attempt to locate a big game animal 48 hours before through 48 hours after any big game hunt in the area, 3) the requirement that muzzleloaders have both the bullet and powder loaded through the muzzle, and 4) the requirement for bison tag holders to review a shot placement article provided by the DWR. BHA does support the ethical use of non transmitting trail cameras on a voluntary basis for the take of big game. BHA vehemently disagrees with the use of transmitting trail cams for the take or aid in the take of big game and that those principles be applied across the board in regards to the use of private and public lands.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
December 1, 2021 4:51 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule?

Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

I think that trail cameras are fine.
If you want to change something that I think that will help make muzzleloaders a primitive weapon again. There like shooting a rifle now.
Cap and ball

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022–23 furbearer recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022–23 cougar recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022 black bear recommendations?

Neither agree nor disagree

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
December 1, 2021 8:01 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

Please follow suit with Northern's amendment. I am a hunter and a guide. I have seen and utilized trail cameras in ways that I don't feel are fair chase to the animals. Hunters have been regulating themselves since the beginning of conservation. I would like this tradition to be around for many generations to come. We have to have some give and take. Thank you

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule? I 100% agree with the idea of banning trail cameras and making it illegal to sell pictures and information regarding big game captured on trail cameras. I only would like to see the ban on trail cameras year round not just for a small period of time. Especially with guides and outfitters. To go off topic a little ban long range muzzle loaders and restrict power in optics. Make hunting more primitive instead of having basically 2 rifle seasons now with long range muzzle loaders...and harvest more predators.

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022–23 furbearer recommendations? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022–23 cougar recommendations? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the 2022–23 cougar recommendations? Please add more tags for bears and cougars statewide. I've seen studys by the dwr where cougars kill a deer usually fawns and then are chased off by bears causing the cougars to go kill more deer resulting in 2-3 cougar kills per week. Too many predators in the state.

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022 black bear recommendations? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the 2022 black bear recommendations? Issue more tags statewide.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

This rule change will have a negligible impact on big game hunting in Utah as have most of your continued proposals and recommendations. Deer hunting in Utah used to be an annual celebration for so many families both in and out of state. It provided much needed revenue for most of rural Utah. The DWR has destroyed the deer hunt in rural Utah. We used to drive all over the mountains that had many deer and hunters. Now you seldom see either. Most hunters I know now hunt in other states. So sad. The answer to making Utah a hunting destination is so easy and could be accomplished within 5 years. Allow unlimited hunting and offer a \$100 bounty on cougars in areas east of US 89 and south of I 70. Eliminating the cougar population in these rural areas would allow the deer population to return and bring back premiere hunting areas in Utah. Allow cougar populations to remain near the Wasatch front and the I 15 corridor to keep those deer populations in check so that more deer don't increase the number of auto accidents in those areas. Please consider this approach to make Utah hunting destination that will bring much needed revenue to rural Utah and allow our children to have great hunting experiences in Utah.

Which best describes your position regarding the 2022–23 cougar recommendations?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the 2022–23 cougar recommendations?

This rule change will have a negligible impact on big game hunting in Utah as have most of your continued proposals and recommendations. Deer hunting in Utah used to be an annual celebration for so many families both in and out of state. It provided much needed revenue for most of rural Utah. The DWR has destroyed the deer hunt in rural Utah. We used to drive all over the mountains that had many deer and hunters. Now you seldom see either. Most hunters I know now hunt in other states. So sad. The answer to making Utah a hunting destination is so easy and could be accomplished within 5 years. Allow unlimited hunting and offer a \$100 bounty on cougars in areas east of US 89 and south of I 70. Eliminating the cougar population in these rural areas would allow the deer population to return and bring back premiere hunting areas in Utah. Allow cougar populations to remain near the Wasatch front and the I 15 corridor to keep those deer populations in check so that more deer don't increase the number of auto accidents in those areas. Please consider this approach to make Utah hunting destination that will bring much needed revenue to rural Utah and allow our children to have great hunting experiences in our state.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
December 1, 2021 11:04 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule? I'd like to see a season on all trail cams not just transmitting cameras. This is just one of many sacrifices I'm willing to make if it helps out the wildlife population numbers. I really don't want to wait 10 years to draw a general season deer tag do to low deer numbers and that's the way it looks to be heAded

Form Name:
Submission Time:

November and December 2021 RAC Proposals Feedback
December 2, 2021 9:38 am

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to the big game rule?

Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the recommended changes to the big game rule?

This rule appears to not allow any trail cam usage due to most cams being infrared devices during any hunting season. The survey shows the public is ok with regular cameras. I oppose this ruling for that reason.
