

## RAC AGENDA – November 2022



1. Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure  
- RAC Chair
2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes  
- RAC Chair **ACTION**
3. Wildlife Board Meeting Update  
- RAC Chair **INFORMATIONAL**
4. Regional Update  
- DWR Regional Supervisor **INFORMATIONAL**
5. Statewide Elk Management Plan and Rules R657-5, R657-62  
- Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator **ACTION**
6. 2023-24 Once-in-a-Lifetime Hunt Season Dates  
- Rusty Robinson, OIAL Species Coordinator **ACTION**
7. 2023-24 Big Game Hunting Seasons and Key Dates  
- Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator **ACTION**
8. Emerging Technologies – Restricted Weapon Definition Amendments  
- Sergeant Gabe Patterson, Technologies Committee co-chair **ACTION**
9. CWMU and Landowner 2023 Permit Recommendations  
- Chad Wilson, Public Wildlife/Private Lands Coordinator **ACTION**

### Meeting Locations

**NR RAC** – Nov. 9th 6:00 PM  
Weber County Commission Chambers  
2380 Washington Blvd. Suite #240, Ogden  
<https://youtu.be/78fW9w-emaw>

**SER RAC** – Nov. 16th 6:30 PM  
John Wesley Powell Museum  
1765 E. Main St., Green River  
<https://youtu.be/yoXBCh3FYBw>

**CR RAC** – Thursday Nov. 10th 6:00 PM  
Wildlife Resource Conference Room  
1115 N. Main Street, Springville  
<https://youtu.be/VhB1kde8Vug>

**NER RAC** – Nov. 17th 6:30 PM  
Wildlife Resources NER Office  
318 North Vernal Ave., Vernal  
<https://youtu.be/l-GYFNZaIFM>

**SR RAC** – Nov. 15th 6:00 PM  
Southern Utah University,  
Hunter Conf. Center, Charles R Hunter Room  
<https://youtu.be/8VjrmK9Pi8xE>

**Board Meeting** – December 1st 9:00 AM  
Eccles Wildlife Education Center, Farmington Bay  
[https://youtu.be/UV9iGmJv\\_VQ](https://youtu.be/UV9iGmJv_VQ)



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
*Governor*

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
*Lieutenant Governor*

## Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
*Executive Director*

### Division of Wildlife Resources

J. SHIRLEY  
*Division Director*

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Councils

**From:** Dax Mangus, Big Game Program Coordinator

**Date:** Oct. 21, 2022

**Subject:** **Statewide elk plan revision, proposed rule changes to R657-5 Taking Big Game and R657-62 Drawing Application Procedures**

Utah's current statewide elk management plan was approved in 2015 — with an update in 2020 — and it is set to expire in December 2022. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources has drafted a new plan for management of elk in consultation with a diverse committee of stakeholders.

Below is a summary of the major updates and recommended changes to the statewide elk management plan:

- 1) This plan is proposed as a 10-year plan, with a mid-plan review scheduled for 2028 and a full revision in 2032.
- 2) We have updated the background and natural history information in the plan to reflect current scientific understanding. Key additions include updates from GPS collar studies related to survival, reproduction, migration, habitat use and elk distribution in response to hunting pressure.
- 3) Individual unit plans will be revised in 2023. They will be presented to the RACs and Utah Wildlife Board if the DWR proposes changes to unit population objectives or boundaries.
- 4) The habitat goals, objectives and strategies in the plan were updated with recommended strategies, including:
  - a. Identify and protect migration corridors



- b. Encourage responsible energy development, with a focus on emerging industries in wind and solar
  - c. Support responsible travel management
  - d. Minimize impacts to elk from human recreation
  - e. Control noxious weeds
  - f. Encourage management of feral and wild horses
  - g. Request mitigation for disturbance to elk habitats
- 5) The population management portion of the plan has been supplemented with recommended strategies, including:
- a. Continuing to prioritize and fund studies and research of survival, reproduction, movement, migration and habitat use.
  - b. Taking resident elk — and any elk that spend considerable time in refuge areas — into account when developing unit plans and population objectives.
  - c. Recognizing elk that live primarily outside the management jurisdiction of the DWR and developing effective tools to reduce conflicts with these elk.
  - d. Using strategic and more precise antlerless elk hunting to shift elk distribution in desirable directions. (This will result in less flexibility for antlerless elk hunters but improve targeted management.)
  - e. Expanding the emergency drought permit process to include cows and bulls.
  - f. Facilitating landowners' use of antlerless elk hunters to address conflicts by increasing communication and not using preference points for many private-land antlerless elk hunters.
  - g. Working with law enforcement to protect elk and reduce illegal activities, with a special focus on reducing trespassing, vandalism and theft on private lands.
- 6) The recommended recreation portion of the plan aims to respond to dramatic increases in demand for general-season elk hunting opportunities as well as find ways to address continued “point creep” in the limited-entry system. The major theme for the plan committee — and the plan recommended by the DWR — has been increasing opportunity, while maintaining quality, through increased challenge and creativity. Recommended recreation strategies include the following.
- a. General-season strategies
    - i. Adding additional units/areas to the any bull hunt, including: Nine Mile, Anthro / Paunsaugunt / West Desert, Oquirrh-Stansbury and Deep Creek / Central Mtns, Moroni Hills and Valley Mtns / Book Cliffs, Floy Canyon / Box Elder, Sawtooth.



- ii. Dividing the current 13-day any legal weapon any bull hunt into two separate 7-day hunts.
- iii. Issuing 15,000 permits for the early any legal weapon any bull hunt.
- iv. Having no permit cap on the late any legal weapon any bull hunt.
- v. Capping multi-season any bull permits at 7,500.
- vi. Expanding the general spike hunt to the Diamond Mountain unit.
- vii. Continuing to issue 15,000 spike bull permits, with a cap of 4,500 available as multi-season permits.
- viii. Creating an unlimited youth general-season elk permit that will be valid during all general seasons on both any bull and spike units.

b. Limited-entry strategies

- i. Restructuring harvest age objectives for traditional limited-entry units to include three age objectives: 6.5-7.0, 6.0-6.5 and 5.5-6.0.
- ii. Adding the mid-season any legal weapon hunt on most traditional limited-entry elk units.
- iii. Adjusting the weapon splits for traditional limited-entry hunts to place more of the any legal weapon hunts in the mid-season hunt.
- iv. Moving the season dates for the opener and end of the traditional limited-entry archery season to 4 days later.
- v. Adjusting the length of the early any legal weapon traditional limited-entry elk hunt to 5 days.
- vi. Maximizing opportunity by maintaining units/hunts managed for restricted-weapon hunts, September archery hunts and HAMS hunts (handgun, archery, muzzleloader, shotgun).
- vii. Developing and recommending adaptive opportunity limited-entry hunts to seize unusual opportunities. Examples include December archery hunts on limited-entry units; additional restricted-weapon or HAMS hunts on units with very high success rates and/or high bull-to-cow ratios; and limited-entry hunts on general-season units using unique timing or the migration of available bulls.

7) Changes to R657-5 and R657-62 — these recommendations are intended to ensure consistency within our administrative rules and the recommendations in the elk plan, as well as take care of some clean-up and general housekeeping.

a. R657-5 Taking Big Game recommended changes

- i. Antlerless elk permits would be valid only during stated season dates.
- ii. General-season archery elk permits would be bull-only permits.
- iii. We would offer a new youth general-season elk permit.
- iv. Eliminating hunts that no longer exist, including management bull hunts, buck/bull combo hunts and either-sex muzzleloader hunts.



- v. Restricting hunting inside the high-fenced town of Alton.
- b. Other miscellaneous clean-up and verbiage. (See the rule redline for details.)
- c. R657-62 Drawing Application Procedures recommended changes
  - i. Antlerless elk mitigation permits, vouchers and private-lands-only permits would not use antlerless elk preference points.

For all recommended changes and additional details, please see the attached recommended Statewide Elk Management Plan, the redline version of proposed rule changes and the hunt boundary maps and descriptions included in the RAC packet.



**UTAH STATEWIDE  
ELK MANAGEMENT PLAN**



**UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

## UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES STATEWIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ELK

### I. PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

#### A. General

The statewide elk management plan provides overall guidance and direction for Utah's elk management program. This plan briefly describes general information on elk natural history, management, habitat, and population status. This statewide elk management plan was revised by a 20 person advisory committee. The committee was diverse and had representation from: the Utah Wildlife Board, five Regional Advisory Councils, Brigham Young University, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, Utah Archery Association, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Utah Farm Bureau, Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit Association, Utah Guides and Outfitters, private landowners, livestock permittees, public at large, and Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR). This group met eight times from April 7 to August 17, 2022. The committee identified components of the last elk plan that were working well and areas that could be improved upon, and then evaluated goals and objectives and developed new strategies to address those management issues.

#### B. Dates Covered

The elk plan will be presented to the Wildlife Board on December 1, 2022 and, if approved, will be in effect for 10 years until December 2032. In the spring/summer of 2028 this committee will reconvene to conduct a mid-plan review and will send any recommended changes to the Utah Wildlife Board in the fall of 2028.

### II. SPECIES ASSESSMENT

#### A. Natural History

Elk (*Cervus elaphus*) are members of the cervid family along with deer, moose, and caribou. Elk are the same species as European red deer, even though visually they are quite different. North American elk are also commonly called wapiti to distinguish them from European red deer. Wapiti is the Shawnee name for elk and means "white rump" or "white deer." There are six recognized subspecies of elk in North America with all of the elk in Utah of the subspecies known as Rocky Mountain elk (*C. e. nelsoni*). In 1971, the Rocky Mountain elk was designated as Utah's state animal.

Elk males, females, and young are known as bulls, cows, and calves, respectively. Calves are generally born as singles (twins are extremely rare) after a gestation period of approximately 8–8.5 months. Calves are normally born mid-May through mid-June and typically weigh between 33–45 pounds at birth. Elk are gregarious animals and, as such, often gather into large nursery bands of cows and calves in early summer. During this time, it is common to see groups of several hundred elk. Within a few weeks, those nursery bands disperse into smaller groups across the summer range.

The antlers of bulls begin to grow as soon as the old antlers are shed in late winter or early spring. Bulls generally segregate from cows and calves through the summer antler growing period and often band together in small groups during this time. The velvet that covers and provides nourishment to the growing antlers begins to shed in early August. In Utah, the rut or breeding period for elk begins in early September and continues through early October with the peak of the rut typically occurring in mid to late September. In early September, bulls begin to bugle and gather cows into harems of approximately 10–20 females. Breeding bulls vigorously defend their harems from other “satellite” bulls who attempt to steal cows for themselves.

After the rut, bulls leave the cows and calves and either become reclusive or band together with other bulls. It is common to see large groups of bulls in the late fall and winter. In late spring, cows seek solitude for calving. At this time, yearlings from the previous year are often aggressively driven away by the cows and forced to find new home ranges. As new calves are born, the cycle of life begins again.

## **B. Management**

### *1. DWR Regulatory Authority*

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources operates under the authority granted by the Utah Legislature in Title 23 of the Utah Code. The Division was created and established as the wildlife authority for the state under section 23-14-1 of the Code. This Code also vests the Division with necessary functions, powers, duties, rights, and responsibilities associated with wildlife management within the state. Division duties are to protect, propagate, manage, conserve, and distribute protected wildlife throughout the state.

### *2. Past and Current Management*

Elk along with bighorn sheep were probably the most common game animals in Utah prior to settlement times. Native Americans, trappers, and pioneers all used elk as a source of food and clothing. Unrestricted hunting eliminated most of the elk in Utah by the end of the nineteenth century. Because of the low elk numbers, elk hunting seasons were closed in Utah in 1898.

Large scale transplant efforts are a major reason for the reestablishment of elk in Utah. Interstate transplants of elk occurred from 1912 to 1925 to reestablish elk to their historical ranges. During that period, elk were transplanted from Yellowstone National Park and released on the Fishlake, Oquirrh Mountains, Mount Timpanogos, Mount Nebo, Logan Canyon, and Manti units. A few elk were also captured from Montana and released in Smithfield Canyon during that period. In addition to the interstate transplant efforts, elk have also been captured and transplanted to and from source herds within Utah. Those transplants occurred in the late 1970s and 1980s and were mainly released on the eastern and southern Utah mountain ranges.

Elk herds in Utah were managed by the Board of Big Game Control from 1925 until 1996. In 1996, the Board of Big Game Control was abolished and replaced with five Regional Advisory Councils and a Wildlife Board that regulate the management of all wildlife in Utah.

Elk were hunted under a limited entry hunting system until 1967 when the Board of Big Game Control adopted an “open bull” hunt strategy on most large elk units. Smaller elk units continued to be managed as “restricted permit” or “limited entry” type hunts. That hunting strategy continued until 1989 when a “yearling only” regulation was initiated on the two largest elk herds, the Manti and Fishlake. Yearling only was later replaced with a “spike only” regulation and expanded to other units.

Elk herds in Utah are currently managed under a combination of general season (spike and any bull) and limited entry hunting regulations. The any bull units are located primarily in northern Utah and are generally on units with large amounts of private land, large wilderness areas, or units with very low elk populations (Figure 1). Spike hunting is used on most limited entry units (Figure 2) and is intended to reduce bull:cow ratios, while still allowing for trophy quality bulls. Any bull and spike hunts are designed to provide hunting opportunity. In 2022, DWR issued over 47,000 general season permits including 17,500 adult any bull, more than 2,200 youth any bull, 15,000 spike, and more than 12,700 archery permits. The harvest rate on these general season elk hunts is fairly low, with success rates in 2021 averaging 15.5% across all general season elk hunts (5,755 elk harvested by 37,211 hunters afield). Archery hunters recorded the lowest success rates (11.4%) whereas hunters that purchased multi-season tags, allowing them to hunt during multiple seasons, experienced the highest success rates (multi-season spike only 22.9%, multi-season any bull 28.2%).

Traditional limited entry hunting units/area are managed for an average age of harvested bulls (Figure 3, Table 1). Those age objectives are based on the premise that to achieve a given average age of harvest, a certain age structure and number of bulls must be present in the population. The higher the age class objective, the more the age structure will be shifted towards older animals, and as such, the greater the likelihood of a hunter harvesting a larger trophy animal. There is a strong correlation between age and antler size in bull elk, but only to a certain age. Large data sets analyzing antler size (measured via Boone and Crockett score) on bulls that have been aged using cementum annuli show that average maximum antler size for bulls is about 320” Boone and Crockett (B&C), and most bull have achieved 96% of their antler growth potential by 6.5 years old (Figure 4, Freeman et al. 2013). Data comparing age and main beam antler length for elk harvested in Utah show similar trends with 97% of length being achieved by 6.5 years old and length not increasing after an elk reaches 8.5 years old (Figure 5).

Based on these data and analyses, the elk plan committee and DWR made the decision to lower age objectives on some units in order to give more opportunity to hunt while still maintaining large antlered bulls. Lowering age objectives, especially on the highest age classes, will give more opportunity to hunt and large antlered bulls will still be available on the landscape. It may be more challenging for hunters to locate, hunt, and harvest large bulls, but the tradeoff of increasing hunting opportunity by increasing hunting challenge while still maintaining “quality” bulls was a major theme for the 2022 elk committee. By lowering age objectives by one year, hunting opportunity can be increased by 40-50%, assuming stable populations (UDWR, unpublished data).

### **C. Habitat**

Elk are a generalist ungulate and have a varied diet consisting of grasses, forbs, and shrubs. The percentage of each food type can vary based on availability. This flexible diet allows elk to live in a variety of habitat types including Utah's mountains as well as some of the low deserts (Figure 6). Although elk inhabit most habitat types in Utah, they prefer to spend their summers at high elevations in aspen conifer forests. Elk will spend the winter months at mid to low-elevation habitats that contain mountain shrub and sagebrush communities.

Elk in Utah are more closely tied to aspen than any other habitat type. Aspen stands provide both forage and cover for elk during the summer months and are used for calving in spring. For several decades, aspen has been declining throughout the West from lack of disturbance (e.g., logging, fire), extended drought, and overgrazing all being listed as potential reasons for the decline. If declines in aspen communities continue, it will reduce the amount of suitable habitat available for elk and, as such, reduce the number of elk those habitats can support.

Water is an important component of elk habitat, and lack of sufficient water distribution limits the number and distribution of elk in Utah. In Utah, Jeffrey (1963) found that elk on summer range preferred areas within 0.33 miles of a permanent water source. Other studies have shown elk use of summer range declined markedly beyond 0.5 mile from water (Mackie 1970, Nelson and Burnell 1975).

### **D. Population Status**

Elk are well established throughout Utah with the current statewide population estimated at approximately 84,390 animals (Figure 7). From 1975 to 1990, the elk population in Utah grew rapidly from an estimated 18,000 elk to 58,000 elk (average annual growth rate = 1.08). This rapid increase was largely due to low population levels and the abundance of available habitat (i.e., the population was well below carrying capacity). After 1990, population growth slowed down considerably through the use of antlerless harvest designed to reduce population growth rates, as well as reduce populations in areas with poor range conditions due to drought. Elk populations have held relatively steady during the last 10 years and most units are currently at or near the population objective (Table 2).

### **E. Recent Research**

Utah actively monitors elk populations around the state and conducts research to improve management of this species. Recent efforts have focused on use of GPS collars to understand habitat use, movements, and survival of elk in several management units. For these projects, biologists capture elk each winter, conduct a general health assessment (e.g., measurement of animal condition via ultrasonography, pregnancy, etc.), and then fit elk with a GPS collar prior to release. GPS collars provide real-time data on habitat use, movements, and survival. When collared elk die, UDWR biologists and partners with universities and other agencies are notified via email. This notification provides us with data on the location and timing of each mortality, and also allows us to quickly investigate each mortality to determine probable cause of death.

By understanding why animals are dying, we can determine what is likely limiting populations and direct management to help alleviate the issues.

### *1. Survival*

Annual survival of adult ( $\geq 1.5$  years of age) female elk is generally high in Utah with the predominant source of mortality being hunter harvest. On the Wasatch and surrounding management units, annual survival of adult female elk ranged between 75 and 81 percent when harvest was included, but in the absence of harvest by humans, annual survival rates were much higher ranging between 93 and 98 percent (Figure 8, Sergeyeve et al. 2021). In this study, over 21 percent of collared elk were killed by hunters with just 4 percent killed by mountain lions and less than 2 percent succumbing to disease, pregnancy complications, collisions with vehicles, or undetermined causes (Sergeyeve et al. 2021). In an analysis of adult elk survival across several western states, Brodie et al. (2013) also found high adult survival in the absence of hunting with baseline survival estimates ranging from 93 to 95%.

Survival of neonate elk during their first year of life is much lower and averaged between 41 and 47 percent on the Book Cliffs management unit (Figure 9, Turnley et al. 2022). Neonate elk in the Book Cliffs were subject to predation by multiple predators, but mountain lions were responsible for the majority of deaths. Up to 45 percent of collared calves during their first year of life were killed by cougars in the Book Cliffs (Figure 10, Turnley et al. 2022).

Studies are currently underway to estimate survival of male and female yearling elk (from year 1.5 to 2.5 years old) in Utah.

### *2. Pregnancy*

Pregnancy in elk is highly variable, differing across years and units (Figure 11 and Figure 12). During winter (January-February) captures in Utah, we have tested adult female elk for pregnancy using blood tests and ultrasonography. Based on these data, average adult pregnancy rates have been 85% with a range from 55% to 100%. Recent research on the Book Cliffs indicated pregnancy rates of elk are highly correlated with body condition of females, age, and calving status from the previous year. For body condition, pregnant females had greater amounts of rump fat at the time of capture than non-pregnant females (Figure 13). For age, females  $>12$  years old were less likely to be pregnant than younger females (Figure 14). Lastly, energetic investment into a calf in the current year, determined by a lactation score at the time of capture, was a strong predictor of pregnancy status in the subsequent year. Females with high lactation scores in late winter, indicating they had nursed a calf in the months preceding, were less likely to be pregnant. This relationship interacted with age and was stronger in older females ( $>12$  years) than for younger females (2-12 years). Lactation comes at a high energetic cost to female elk, with nursing calves gaining a pound or more a day between birth and six months of age. This display of reproductive pause appears to be a strategy to restore energy reserves spent in the previous year. Further research to understand how habitat quality influences this finding has been set to begin in 2023.

### *3. Age Structure*

Elk are a long-lived ungulate with an average lifespan of 10-13 years in hunted populations. However, cementum analysis has confirmed elk living into their late twenties in some parts of the state. Due to high natural survival of adults, the greatest limiting factor of populations in Utah is recruitment of individuals. Population growth is contingent on both production and survival of calves in a given year. Based on the relationship found between age and pregnancy rates on the Book Cliffs, maximum reproductive potential of a herd is achieved by maintaining a younger age structure. Younger females are more likely to be in good condition, which translates to higher pregnancy rates and greater investment into offspring. Previous research indicates these maternal effects in ungulates influence both birthweight and survival of neonates. Maintenance of a younger age structure within a population is crucial to both growth and stability of the herd.

### *4. Elk Distribution*

Distribution of elk on the landscape is fundamental because effective management of population size is dependent on elk being on public land and vulnerable to harvest during the hunting seasons. Distribution of elk shifts among seasons in a predictable manner and is strongly influenced by hunting pressure (Sergeyev et al., 2022). Based on data from elk located on the Wasatch and surrounding management units, there is an annual cycle where the majority (~75%) of elk are residing on public land during summer, whereas the majority of elk (~65%) reside on private land during late-winter. This pattern is likely due to the juxtaposition of public and private land; public land is typically higher in elevation and susceptible to deep snow during late-winter. Interestingly, there is typically a marked (10-15% of the entire population) shift in distribution from public land to private land associated with the opening day of the rifle elk season (Sergeyev et al. 2022). In an effort to 1) facilitate effective management of elk, 2) provide landowners with tools to manage elk on private property, and 3) to provide public hunters with greater opportunity for success, the UDWR implemented an over-the-counter opportunity to purchase a private-lands-only antlerless elk permit in 2016. The implementation of the private-lands-only hunt dramatically reduced the exodus of elk from public lands during the rifle season and effectively enabled owners of private land to manage elk on their properties.

### *5. Movement*

Understanding patterns of movement and its influences are crucial to the management of elk. To better understand this behavior, over 500 elk were tracked on the Wasatch unit via GPS collaring. The objectives of the study were to determine the factors that influence timing and distance of movement as well as identify landscape features that serve as barriers to movement. Elk are known to be highly migratory animals. The timing and distance of migration can be highly variable in this species, with individuals beginning winter migration anywhere from September to February. In an analysis of environmental factors, it was found that annual maximum snow depth, a component of the Winter Severity Index, had a significant impact on determination of annual migration distance of elk. Snow depth, however, did not appear to influence the proportion of migratory individuals within a herd. Within the scope of this research, landscape features used to delineate hunt unit boundaries were analyzed in relation to elk movement. It was found that major roads and large ridgelines serve as barriers to movement, resulting in elk crossing these barriers less often than they would use other parts of the

landscape. This specific research validates the use of major landscape features including major roads and ridgelines as appropriate boundary lines for hunt units, and provides a guideline for future hunt boundary delineations, as there is decreased movement across these features compared to the rest of the landscape.

### *6. Future Research*

In order to further understand the movement, survival, and behavior of elk, future research plans have been put in place in southern and central Utah. A neonate survival study will take place on the Central Mountains, Nebo unit beginning Spring of 2023. This study, occurring on a highly productive unit, will serve as a benchmark of comparison for the results produced from the Book Cliffs study, which occurred on a low production unit. Combined, these data will improve understanding of parturition behavior and calf survival across an array of environmental and herd conditions. In addition to this study, a second study is planned to begin in Southern Utah in winter of 2023, where more than 100 elk will be collared from the Boulder, Fishlake, Monroe, and Mt. Dutton units to determine the proportion of wintering elk that segregate on to each respective summer range. This study will additionally provide information surrounding summer range fidelity by both age and sex. In recent years (2020-present), GPS collars have been deployed on six-month-old elk calves on the Book Cliffs and Cache (Hardware Ranch) units. Collaring calves at this life stage will provide information surrounding survival of elk calves from six months to 1.5 years of age by producing data surrounding survival by sex, cause of mortality, and timing of mortality. The collar data will also help identify dispersal rates by sex and the factors influencing dispersal. Collaring efforts of six-month-old elk calves are planned to continue in future years to provide an adequate sample size for the analyses.

## **III. ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

### **A. Habitat**

Healthy and productive elk herds require large areas of high quality habitat. Crucial elk habitat has been and continues to be fragmented or lost to human expansion and development. Urbanization, road construction, OHV use, and energy development impact elk habitat. Proper planning and mitigation are essential to maintaining and improving elk habitat and migration routes. Elk summer ranges, such as aspen communities have been gradually changed over time by encroaching conifers due to fire suppression. Elk winter ranges once dominated by shrubs and perennial grasses have been replaced by annual grasses and invasive weeds drastically limiting the benefit to elk.

The DWR has a long history of restoring and enhancing elk habitat in Utah. The DWR habitat section, Habitat Council, Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative, and many conservation partners have provided leadership and funding to improve elk habitats. These projects include pinyon-juniper removal, controlled burns, wildfire rehabilitation and reseeding efforts, conifer thinning, etc., which has established more perennial grasses, forbs, and shrubs that benefit elk and other wildlife. Water catchments (i.e., guzzlers) and other water developments have been installed in Utah, aiding elk, cattle, and other big game species. Since 2005, DWR and our partners have treated 1,370,000 acres of elk habitat (870,000 acres of habitat improvement projects and

500,000 acres of fire rehabilitation). These restoration efforts will continue to support elk populations and their habitats throughout the state.

## **B. Population Size and Elk Distribution**

The statewide elk management plan does not set a population objective for elk in Utah; rather, population objectives are established in unit plans and the summation of those objectives becomes the statewide objective. The current population objective for elk statewide is 78,990 (Table 2). Local committees or other forms of public input are used when changing a population objective for a given unit. Population estimates are obtained by conducting aerial surveys every 3 years as snow conditions and budgets allow. Population models include data on bull and cow harvest, survival, and calf production, are also used to estimate elk populations for a given unit in the absence of surveys and are updated annually.

Properly managing the distribution and number of elk within units is a key priority for DWR. In most units, managing to a population objective is easily attained by issuing antlerless elk permits to public hunters. However, in some units, particularly those with large quantities of private or tribal lands, managing to the population objective has been challenging because elk quickly learn to use sanctuary or refuge areas that receive little hunting pressure during hunting seasons (Mangus 2009, Sergeyev et al. 2022). To counter undesirable distribution, the DWR has reduced the number of antlerless elk permits available in the public draw and issued more private-lands-only antlerless elk permits. This change has resulted in improved elk distribution (Sergeyev et al. 2022), but has also decreased public cow hunting opportunities. One focus for this plan is to find ways to increase public antlerless elk hunting opportunities by making antlerless elk hunting more surgical and strategic. This effort is designed to minimize or avoid negatively changing elk distribution while still maintaining effective tools for managers and landowners to address conflicts.

## **C. Bull Hunting**

This plan provides for opportunity and quality bull elk hunting in Utah. Opportunity hunts include general season spike only and any bull elk permits. Spike only harvest assists in managing high bull-to-cow ratios on units managed for limited entry bull units and can increase herd productivity. Spike harvest can result in increased calf production in future years because more cows can be retained in the population. Spike hunting occurs on most limited entry units, whereas any bull hunting typically occurs on units with lots of refugia for bulls (e.g., areas with large tracts of private lands, units with low elk populations/densities, wilderness areas or other large refuge areas such as tribal lands or national parks/monuments).

Limited entry bull hunts are designed for increased quality and older bulls with larger antlers. On traditional limited entry units, harvested bulls are managed to a desired age objective (Figure 3). The elk committee evaluated the current age objectives in the context of demand, point creep and success rates and made some changes to result in more opportunity to hunt mature bulls while still maintaining quality in the form of large antlered bulls. Based on antler size and age datasets, the 7.5-8.0 year age objective was eliminated and replaced with a 6.5-7.0 year old objective. The 6.5-7.0 objective was replaced with a 6.0-6.5 average age of harvest

objective. The 5.5-6.0 units typically hold large elk populations and seem to be a good balance of presenting a challenging opportunity to harvest a large bull along with more reasonable drawing odds, and this objective was unchanged. Most of the units managed in the 4.5-5.0 objective were not functioning well and that age objective has been eliminated. (Table 1).

Some units classified as “underperforming” during the mid-plan review of 2020 were identified, and bulls on those units/areas were hunted using a different strategy focused on primitive weapons to provide quality hunting experiences, where hunters are likely to be less selective and have lower success due to the limited range of the allowed weapons. These primitive weapon limited entry units utilize a month-long September archery hunt followed by another primitive weapons hunt that allows the use of handgun, archery, muzzleloader, shotgun with no optical sights. These are defined in rule as HAMS hunts (R657-5-48) and were intended to provide increased limited entry hunting opportunities. The HAMS hunts had mixed results and many of the units or areas that had been managed as HAMS have been converted to an any bull hunting strategy. The high demand for any bull hunting opportunities, coupled with the low demand for HAMS hunts, led to HAMS applications making up only 1% of limited entry elk applications in 2022. Because of the disproportionate demand, the committee and DWR concluded that most of these units would be better utilized if managed for any bull hunting. The remaining HAMS units will continue to be managed in ways that use HAMS and/or other forms of restricted weapon technology to optimize hunting opportunities.

#### **D. Poaching**

Poaching is not considered to be a major problem in Utah; however, it is extremely difficult to determine the true extent to which elk are being poached in the state. Although poaching has not resulted in overall declines in elk population numbers in Utah, poaching of mature bulls can be significant and has reduced hunter opportunity in some localized areas. Units that are most susceptible to poaching typically have small isolated elk populations and issue very few bull elk permits. High grading of bulls may also be occurring on some units where hunters kill one bull elk and then abandon it to look for a larger bull. Continued law enforcement efforts are needed to maintain hunting opportunities in Utah.

#### **E. Predator Management**

Utah’s elk populations have increased dramatically since 1970 even with the presence of several predator species (e.g., mountain lion, black bear, and coyote). Survival analysis of adult cow elk on the Wasatch Unit and surrounding areas indicate that cougars account for 3.7% of annual elk mortality, and these predators typically target smaller elk in poor body condition (Sergeyev et al. 2021). Although mountain lions may display strong patterns of selection for elk calves (Clark et al. 2014, Turnley et al. 2002), along with black bears and coyotes that occasionally prey on elk, there are no known instances of predators causing elk herd declines in Utah. Predator management occurs in some elk herd units due to declining or depressed mule deer populations on shared ranges, and also occurs when deer herds are chronically below population objectives (UDWR 2020a). In some instances, elk herds may have benefited by this predator management that was initiated for deer and other ungulate species.

Although wolves are not currently established in Utah, there is concern that wolves could impact elk populations and elk hunting opportunities. Recent studies in surrounding western states have implicated predation by wolves as a reason for localized elk herd declines, particularly in areas with poor to marginal habitat quality (Hamlin and Cunningham 2009). To deal with the potential establishment of wolves in Utah, DWR in conjunction with the Wolf Working Group developed a wolf management plan that was approved by the Utah Wildlife Board in 2005 and mostly recently reviewed and revised in 2020 (DWR 2020b).

## **F. Disease**

Similar to other wild ungulates, elk are susceptible to a wide variety of viral, bacterial, parasitic and prion diseases. In Utah, the two most concerning diseases include brucellosis (*Brucella abortus*) and chronic wasting disease (CWD). Other diseases and parasites either documented or considered a concern to elk include bluetongue virus (BTV), epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD), and arterial worm (*Elaeophora schneideri*).

Brucellosis is an infectious bacterial disease that causes late term abortions, non-viable calves, and sterility in adult cattle (Godfroid et al, 2011). Transmission most commonly occurs when an animal licks or ingests infected fetal materials, aborted fetuses, uterine discharges, or contaminated feed or water (Godfroid et al., 2011). Depending on environmental conditions, such as cool temperatures and moisture, the bacteria can remain viable in uterine discharges and the aborted fetus for prolonged periods of time (Crawford et al. 1990). Brucellosis is thought to be self-limiting in free-ranging elk populations because of their secretive nature during parturition and the fact that most female elk quickly consume fetal materials after birth (Thorne 2001). However, this has not been the case for elk of the Greater Yellowstone area where feed ground practices that cause elk to concentrate elk during a time period when abortions are most likely to occur. The herd concentrations may have allowed the disease to persist and increase in prevalence (Thorne 2001). This finding has also been reported in Idaho, where the prevalence of brucellosis antibodies is two to four times higher in elk that use feed grounds (Etter and Drew 2006).

Although brucellosis is not present in Utah, the proximity and potential exchange of elk in Utah with possible brucellosis positive elk from Wyoming or Idaho has caused concern. In response, the DWR has been monitoring for the disease in elk at Hardware Ranch on an annual basis since 1969. Hunter harvested antlerless elk from Rich and Cache counties are also tested through a voluntary participation program. In addition, the DWR has deployed hundreds of GPS collars on elk across northern Utah, southeastern Idaho, and southwestern Wyoming to monitor movements and potential comingling with infected herds in neighboring states. To date, no elk in the state of Utah has ever been classified as a suspect or reactor (DWR unpublished data).

CWD is a contagious, slow-acting, and fatal degenerative disease known to affect members of the cervid family including elk (Williams and Young 1982, Miller et al. 1998, Miller et al. 2000, Williams et al. 2002). CWD affects the central nervous system, resulting in weight loss, deterioration of body condition, and eventual death (Williams and Young 1982, Williams and Young 1992, Spraker et al. 1997, Williams et al. 2002). CWD was first documented in Utah in a hunter-harvested mule deer in late 2002 and has since been found in the North Slope and South

Slope, Nine Mile, La Sal Mountains, San Juan, Central Mountains, and most recently on the East Canyon unit on the north end of Salt Lake City.

Surveillance for CWD in Utah includes hunter-harvest sampling in areas known to have positive mule deer and targeted surveillance focusing on the removal of sick or symptomatic animals. To date, three elk have tested positive for CWD in Utah: two hunter harvested elk (La Sal Mountains 2009, South Slope 2021) and one female elk with neurological symptoms that was euthanized by DWR personnel in 2014 near Vernal, Utah. CWD has also been detected in privately owned captive cervids in Utah, which could present additional challenges in managing the disease. Chronic Wasting Disease in captive cervid facilities are of great concern to the health of Utah's wild elk. Licensing and CWD surveillance on captive elk ranches is overseen by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF), but the responsibility for removal of wild cervids within the ranches lies with DWR. Close collaboration with UDAF and enforcement of existing regulations is critical to prevent the spread of CWD from captive elk ranches.

### **G. Access Management**

The use of off highway vehicles (OHVs) in Utah has dramatically increased in recent years. OHV registrations increased more than 3-fold from 1998 to 2006, from 51,686 to 172,231 (Smith 2008) and OHV use remains popular with over 180,000 OHV registrations recorded in 2021 (Utah State Tax Commission data). Uncontrolled use of OHVs can cause damage to elk habitat and disturbance to elk during critical phases of their life cycle. Shed antler gathering and the associated human disturbance on crucial winter ranges, especially with the use of OHVs, can cause undue stress on elk during a time when they must conserve energy. State and federal land management agencies are currently struggling with issues involving the use of OHVs on public land. Those agencies acknowledge OHVs as a legitimate use of public land, but also recognize the potential problems associated with uncontrolled activity. As such, these agencies have developed or are currently working on travel management plans to help minimize the impact of OHVs on wildlife and their habitat.

### **H. Depredation**

Depredation of private croplands continues to exist in some areas despite careful management of elk populations. In some localized areas depredation can be a significant problem. DWR has committed substantial resources to address depredation concerns, and there are numerous programs designed to assist landowners with depredation situations. Harvesting elk on private lands can ease frustrations of private landowners and better distribute elk into more favorable portions of a unit. In the last elk plan cycle, the implementation of private-lands-only antlerless elk permits proved to be very effective for addressing conflicts on private lands. These permits are available on a first come, first served over the counter basis for units/areas and typically have long season dates from August 1 through January 31. This gives lots of flexibility to landowners to use hunting to remove animals doing damage and the associated hunting pressure to redistribute elk.

Depredation issues will continue to be addressed within the sideboards of state code, rule, and policy. Biologists and landowners will strive to find innovative solutions and tools to reduce

conflicts in a timely and efficient manner to help landowners better tolerate migratory populations of elk. Landowners and wildlife managers need effective tools to address elk that establish resident populations in and adjacent to low-elevation private agricultural lands.

### **I. Private Lands**

Private lands provide valuable habitat to elk. Many crucial elk habitats throughout the state are privately owned, and some of those private rangelands have been converted to housing developments, recreational properties, or other uses that result in a loss of elk habitat. As such, programs that provide incentives for private landowners to manage their properties to benefit elk and other wildlife species (e.g., CWMU, LOA) are essential to the success of the state's elk management program. In some areas of the state, obtaining adequate cow harvest on private lands has been challenging and reviewing current incentive programs and additional management options will be necessary as elk management challenges continue to evolve. Additionally, the Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative has worked with numerous cooperating landowners to provide funding and other resources to accomplish vegetation treatments on both private and public lands to benefit elk and other wildlife species, as well as livestock.

### **J. Winter Feeding**

Supplemental feeding is often viewed by the public as a viable solution to a lack of suitable winter range. However, there is evidence that the potential harm created by feeding elk may outweigh the limited benefits (WAFWA 2013). Winter feeding programs are costly and can cause problems for elk including behavioral changes, range destruction, and expansion of disease problems. Research conducted in Utah has shown that elk feeding programs in Utah can be reduced or eliminated without creating new problems (Mangus 2009).

Although there are negative consequences of winter feeding, it is also recognized that feeding may be necessary to sustain elk populations in emergency situations. It may also be necessary to temporarily feed elk to reduce depredation problems or to keep elk from impacting deer populations in extreme conditions. For instance, elk are fed at Hardware Ranch each winter to keep elk from moving on the urban interface. These elk are also physically examined, disease tested, and an outreach opportunity for the public to view and enjoy elk. Discussion of the future of the elk feeding program at Hardware Ranch continues as biologists weigh the benefits, costs and risks of the feeding operation and consider alternatives.

In Utah, winter feeding of big game is currently guided by the winter feeding policy (UDWR 2011). Under this policy, feeding is discouraged except under extreme circumstances. With the discovery of CWD in Utah, the feeding policy was updated to state that "the Division will not participate in any emergency big game feeding program that occurs within the known range or use area of any big game population where CWD, brucellosis or tuberculosis has been detected."

### **K. Competition**

Competition occurs when two species use the same limited resource, and one of the two suffers in some way because of that use (WAFWA 2003). Competition can potentially take place

between elk and other ungulates such as horses, livestock, or deer. Competition most often occurs where habitat is limited such as on crucial winter ranges or on the summer ranges of some drier units.

Concern has been expressed by some that elk populations are responsible for declines in deer herds over the past few decades. Direct competition is possible during a hard winter when forage is limited because elk can successfully shift to a diet largely comprised of browse, causing a high degree of diet overlap with mule deer (Frisina et al. 2008). Additionally indirect competition, such as spatial and behavioral differences between elk and deer, may occur for fawning/calving habitats (Stewart et al. 2002, Sallee, et al. 2022). The extent of competition between elk and deer in Utah is not fully understood and that information is difficult to collect and quantify, but recent research on the Book Cliffs suggests interference competition between both species in birthing and rearing habitat does not occur (Sallee et al. 2022). Additionally, the presence of elk in mule deer rearing grounds had no effect on the growth of fawns from birth to six months of age, suggesting exploitative competition does not occur (Sallee et al. 2022). Deer herd declines have occurred in areas with few or no elk, and deer herd increases have occurred in areas with large elk populations. More study is needed to fully understand when, where, and under what conditions elk competition may impact mule deer.

There is also concern that elk and livestock compete for the same forage on shared ranges. Ranges where elk coexist with mule deer and livestock should be closely monitored to prevent over use and competition. Additionally, habitat improvement projects should be focused in those areas to reduce competition and improve range conditions for all species.

## **L. Research and Elk Movements**

Understanding the movements of elk, factors that influence movements of elk, and potential barriers are needed to properly align management unit boundaries with biological groups of elk (Petersburg et al. 2000). Elk frequently move away from hunting pressure, which can make managing to a consistent population objective difficult in units with high amounts of migration. In southern Utah, individual elk that were radio-collared on the Mt Dutton unit have been observed on four neighboring units (DWR unpublished data). This can cause concern for both biologists and hunters because elk on a given winter range may have been on a neighboring unit during the fall hunting seasons. As a result, DWR, BYU, and many conservation groups have conducted research on elk movements on many units in the state. The results show that elk use the landscape at a much larger scale than was previously thought. Many management units do not fully encompass both winter and summer ranges for individual populations, and some units have elk from multiple units on winter or summer ranges. This creates a challenge to manage units to population and age objectives. In addition to movement data, information on body condition and survival estimates of elk are being collected, which aid in population modeling efforts and provide an understanding of overall herd health.

Increased knowledge of elk movements can also aid in reducing elk-vehicle collisions. DWR and our partners have worked to identify migration routes and locations where elk are commonly hit on roadways. This information has allowed us to know where to place underpasses and fences to increase elk survival. These studies have also provided data on the types of underpass structures

these animals will use (Cramer 2014). Although costly, these efforts are helping to prevent future collisions, increase public safety, and minimize elk mortalities.

#### **IV. USE AND DEMAND**

Elk have become one of the most sought after big game animals in Utah. Geist (1998) in Deer of the World says the following of red deer, the elk of the old world:

*“It adorns coats of arms, crests and monuments and is the deer of legends, poetry, and songs. Castles were built in its honor and to display its antlers, and throughout history its hunting and management generated passions that transcended life, death, and reason...”*

Sportsmen are no less passionate about elk and elk hunting in Utah today. Hunter demand and interest for limited entry permits has always been high and continues to increase. In 2022, 75,925 hunters applied for 3,117 limited entry permits, resulting in 1:19.8 draw odds for residents and 1:70.5 for nonresidents. Demand and applications have increased disproportionately to increases in limited entry permits, and as such, draw odds have become increasingly tough. Units managed for older age class bulls and early any legal weapon hunts are the most difficult to draw compared to lower age class units and hunts with primitive weapons or rifle hunts outside of the rut.

In addition to limited entry permits, Utah sold over 47,000 general season elk permits for spike and any bull hunts in 2022. Demand for general season elk permits has increased dramatically in the last 5 years. In 2018 general season any bull permits sold out 34 days after they went on sale over the counter. In 2020 they sold out in less than eight hours and in less than six hours in 2022 after upgrades to the server capacity to facilitate faster online permit sales. General season spike bull tags sold out in just nine hours in 2022. This unprecedented demand for general season elk hunting opportunity was an important factor taken into consideration in writing this plan. Finding ways to provide sustainable general season elk hunting opportunities was a top priority.

Elk are also a high interest watchable wildlife species. Nearly everyone enjoys seeing and hearing elk in the wild. Units which produce large bulls are especially attractive not only to hunters but to wildlife watchers as well. Many thousands of hours and considerable money is expended each year in elk watching activities. For instance, 15,000 – 20,000 people attend Hardware Ranch annually to view elk. As elk populations and habitats are properly managed, elk viewing and recreating activities will be enhanced for years to come.

## VI. STATEWIDE MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

**A. Population Management Goal:** Improve management of Utah's elk populations.

**Population Objective 1:** Maintain healthy elk populations at biologically and socially sustainable levels.

**Note:** The statewide population objective is the sum of objectives contained in unit plans.

### Strategies:

#### A. Elk Population Objectives

- a. Set population objectives and manage elk populations at appropriate spatial scales that account for migration patterns.
  - i. Unit plans and population objectives may take into consideration refugia-centric elk that are largely unavailable to public hunters or that live across multiple jurisdictions (tribal lands, national parks/monuments, neighboring states, etc.) where the DWR does not have management authority. These situations would justify aggressive tools to manage conflicts on private lands and increased flexibility for the DWR in developing and managing towards target population objectives, including objectives that take into consideration elk that spend substantial time outside the jurisdiction of the DWR.
  - ii. Committees may consider and make adjustments to target population objectives on units with willing landowners/stakeholders when there are large blocks of private ground that are intentionally managed to hold large numbers of elk on those lands. As landowner tolerance increases this should be taken into account when formulating population objectives.
  - iii. To address resident elk or elk that are largely unavailable to public hunters in areas with high conflict that are dominated by private, agricultural lands biologists may:
    - (a) Recommend private lands only general season any bull tags for a unit, or specific area within a unit, to have longer seasons or increased quotas in general season any bull units.
    - (b) Recommend limited entry bull hunts for specific units/areas. These LE hunts could be recommended in addition to the current LE season structure and wouldn't be subject to LE bull age objectives, season structure or weapon splits.
- b. Establish local advisory committees to review individual herd unit management plans when considering a change (increase or decrease) in the population objective or unit boundary. Other unit plan updates and changes may be approved by the Division Director.
  - i. Committees will be established following approval of the statewide elk plan where needed.
  - ii. Committees will consist of the DWR unit biologist and regional wildlife manager or Supervisory Biologist as facilitators, two local sportsman's representatives, and one representative from each of the following (if applicable): Farm Bureau, Cattlemen's Association, Wool Growers

Association, Bureau of Land Management, USDA Forest Service, local elected official, RAC member, CWMU Association, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, Mule Deer Foundation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, tribal representative, local landowner or landowner association representative and other affected stakeholders.

- iii. Recommendations from these committees will be reviewed by DWR and presented to the Regional Advisory Councils and Wildlife Board for public input and approval.
- iv. Committees shall be provided with the results of recent habitat projects completed and planned projects, DWR range trend data, research findings, migration information and any other applicable data.
- c. On units where population decreases are necessary, DWR will recommend short-term population objectives in unit management plans or increases in antlerless elk permits.

#### B. Population Management

- a. Utilize antlerless harvest as the primary tool to manage elk populations within herd size objectives and target specific areas where range concerns or depredation problems exist.
- b. Properly manage elk populations to minimize competition with mule deer on crucial mule deer ranges.
- c. If drought related conditions and high elk densities are negatively impacting elk habitat or private landowners, recommend additional antlerless and/or bull elk permits for affected areas at the August Wildlife Board meeting.
- d. During severe winters, aggressively use antlerless elk harvest (public hunters and DWR removal) to minimize conflicts.
- e. Consider using over-the-counter cow elk permits to provide additional harvest and hunting pressure in areas of conflict.
- f. Use hunting pressure strategically to redistribute elk away from high conflict areas and encourage elk availability on accessible public lands.
- g. Encourage innovative ideas from regional biologists to manage towards population objectives.

#### C. Monitoring Elk Populations and Elk Habitat

- a. Monitor all elk populations by helicopter survey on a three-year rotational basis to evaluate herd size, calf production, herd composition, and habitat use, as conditions and budgets allow.
- b. Evaluate herd size and population trends on an annual basis.
- c. Implement research studies where needed to close information and data gaps.
- d. Continue to support the interagency big game range trend study of crucial ranges throughout the state.
- e. Monitor range condition, utilization, and trends annually as manpower and budget allow.
- f. Once during the duration of this plan, GIS mapped elk habitat should be reviewed for geographical and habitat classification accuracy.

D. Predator Control

- a. Utilize the Predator Management Policy where needed to help achieve objectives for elk populations, including the management of wolves, if necessary.

E. Disease Control

- a. Investigate and manage disease outbreaks that threaten elk populations including CWD and brucellosis.
- b. Promote management practices that minimize disease risks such as discouraging baiting/feeding, conducting CWD surveillance, and assisting Utah Department of Agriculture and Food in monitoring elk farms/ranches for compliance.
- c. Follow the emergency big game winter feeding policy, and avoid unnecessary feeding of elk.

**Population Objective 2:** Foster support among stakeholders for Utah’s elk management program.

**Strategies:**

A. Landowner Incentives

- a. Continue to provide incentive programs for landowners that will encourage elk populations on private land such as the CWMU, Landowner Association, and Walk-In Access programs.
- b. Address all depredation problems in a timely and efficient manner to increase landowner tolerance of elk populations in accordance with current laws, rules, and policies.
- c. Seek to remove barriers or disincentives for landowners to use hunters to help manage elk on private lands using mitigation permits, vouchers, or private lands only antlerless elk permits.
- d. Have DWR staff work with landowners to facilitate effective communication between landowners and hunters when using depredation hunter pool or alternate list hunters to alleviate conflicts on private lands.

B. Habitat Acquisition and Restoration

- a. Identify and support the acquisition of property (fee title or conservation easements) from willing sellers that would better accommodate current population numbers or allow for increased elk populations.
- b. Identify future habitat restoration projects with stakeholders.
- c. Increase tolerance of public land grazers not enrolled in a CWMU or LOA by conducting habitat projects that will benefit livestock and wildlife.

C. Public Outreach and Enforcement

- a. Educate the public on the use and validity of population modeling in wildlife management.
- b. Increase communication and understanding between DWR and stakeholders regarding elk distributions, population estimates, hunt recommendations, and management decisions.

- c. On units with high amounts of social conflict, create elk committees during unit plan revisions and/or hold open houses to obtain public input.
- d. Enforce existing laws that protect resources on public and private lands.

**Population Objective 3:** Achieve a proper distribution of elk on private and public lands.

**Strategies:**

**A. Antlerless Permits**

- a. Maintain private-lands-only antlerless elk permits to encourage and target cow elk harvest on private lands.
- b. Continue to allow hunters to possess multiple antlerless elk permits, but only allow for 1 cow elk permit to be obtained through the public draw system.
- c. Use depredation permits and vouchers, public hunters, and/or DWR removal to harvest resident elk on agricultural lands or where elk are creating conflicts.
- d. Issue antlerless-elk-control permits on units with low or zero elk population objectives, units that are dominated by private lands or in other appropriate situations. Use caution with antlerless elk control permits as to not have a negative impact on elk distribution and consider private lands only antlerless elk permits as an alternative.
- e. Coordinate season dates and permit numbers to distribute elk appropriately within a hunt unit and to achieve adequate harvest in areas of concern.
- f. Limit flexibility on hunting seasons to the specified dates for antlerless elk hunts to make antlerless harvest and associated hunting pressure more surgical and precise to help achieve a desirable elk distribution on the landscape.
- g. Where appropriate, rotate and vary antlerless elk hunting season dates and hunt units/areas to avoid habitually pushing elk into refuge areas.

**B. Landowner Assistance Programs**

- a. Create private-lands-only general season bull elk permits on any bull units to allow landowners and those landowners grant access to hunt bull elk on private lands.
  - i. These private-lands-only general season bull elk permits may be issued at a regional, multi-unit, unit or sub-unit level with quotas and season dates to be determined based on need and circumstances.
  - ii. If drought related conditions and high elk densities are negatively impacting private lands, recommend additional private-lands-only general bull elk permits and/or extended season dates at the August Wildlife Board meeting.
- b. Secure easements to increase hunter access to elk on public and private lands from willing participants.
- c. Work with law enforcement to protect elk and to reduce illegal activities with a special focus on trespassing, vandalism and theft.

**B. Habitat Management Goal:** Conserve and improve elk habitat throughout the state.

**Habitat Objective 1:** Maintain sufficient habitat to support elk herds at population objectives and reduce competition for forage between elk and livestock.

**Strategies:**

- A. Elk Habitat Classification and Assessment
  - a. Identify and characterize elk habitat throughout the state.
  - b. Provide information to educate counties, municipalities, and developers to promote zoning that recognizes elk habitats and movement corridors.
  
- B. Habitat Management
  - a. Coordinate with land management agencies and private landowners to properly manage and improve elk habitat, especially calving and wintering areas.
  - b. Work with state and federal land management agencies and private landowners to use livestock as a management tool to enhance crucial elk ranges.
  - c. It is recommended that activities related to project disturbances occurring in crucial elk habitats should occur outside of Dec. 1 to April 15 for crucial winter ranges and May 15 to July 15 for parturition.
  - d. Where crucial elk habitat will be lost, if avoidance is not practical, mitigation should be encouraged. A voluntary mitigation ratio of 4:1, improving or conserving 4 acres for every 1 acre disturbed is recommended.
  
- C. Habitat Improvement
  - a. Utilize Habitat Council, Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative, Wildlife Conservation Permit funds, and other funding mechanisms to restore or improve crucial elk habitats.
  - b. Increase forage production by annually treating a minimum of 40,000 acres of elk habitat.
  - c. Coordinate with land management agencies, conservation organizations, private landowners, and local leaders through the regional Watershed Restoration Initiative working groups to identify and prioritize elk habitats that are in need of enhancement or restoration.
    - i. Identify habitat projects on summer ranges (aspen communities) to improve calving habitat and summer forage.
    - ii. Encourage land managers to manage portions of forests in early succession stages through the use of controlled burning, logging or other methods. Controlled burning in areas with invasive weed and/or safety concerns should be supported only when adequate planning and mitigation measures have been identified.
    - iii. Promote Fire Use (let-burn) policies in appropriate areas that will benefit elk, and conduct reseeding efforts post wildlife.
  
- D. Habitat Acquisition
  - a. Acquire important elk habitat from willing sellers to offset habitat loss that can be managed for elk and other wildlife.

- b. Support programs such as conservation easements that provide incentives to private landowners to keep prime elk habitat managed as rangeland.

E. Public Support

- a. Educate the public on the value of the general license, conservation, and expo permits for funding elk habitat improvement projects.
- b. Continue to support the conservation permit and habitat enhancement programs that provide crucial funding for habitat improvement efforts.

**Habitat Objective 2:** Reduce adverse impacts on elk herds and elk habitat.

**Strategies:**

A. Travel Management

- a. Seek to maintain new permanent roadways within crucial elk habitats to 2 miles or less of roads per square mile.
- b. Work with project proponents and/or local governments to voluntarily mitigate impacts from new permanent roads in crucial elk habitats that would exceed 2 miles of roads per square mile.
- c. Consider use of seasonal closures as appropriate to mitigate impacts from new permanent roads in crucial elk habitats that would exceed 2 miles of roads per square mile.
- d. Support the construction of temporary and/or administrative roads for habitat improvement or land use management activities.
- e. Assist with road rehabilitation efforts for temporary roads constructed for habitat improvement or land use management activities.

B. Energy Development

- a. Coordinate with land management agencies and energy development proponents to develop an effective mitigation approach for large-scale energy or other related land use activities or developments that have the potential to impact crucial elk habitat.
- b. Encourage energy development companies to avoid or minimize the impact of disturbance while using Best Management Practices to promote the conservation of wildlife resources.
- c. Promote movement corridors in areas of large-scale disturbance or areas that will be fenced.

C. Migration Corridors

- a. Avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts from large-scale development that occur within migration corridors. Voluntary mitigation is recommended at a 4:1 ratio meaning 4 acres of improved or conserved habitat for every 1 acre of disturbance.

D. Noxious Weed Control

- a. Work with land management agencies, county weed boards, and cooperative weed management groups to control the spread of noxious and invasive weeds throughout the range of elk in Utah.

E. Wild and Feral Horse Management

- a. Work with federal land managers and local governments to support feral and wild horse and burro management through gathers and other efforts in elk habitat.

F. Human Recreation

- a. Coordinate with land management agencies on recreational projects or plans to avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts in elk calving areas and critical winter ranges.

G. Drought

- a. Following extended periods of extreme drought work with land management agencies and willing landowners to restore crucial habitats.
- b. Work to identify drought resilient seed mixes on ranges that are frequently affected by drought.

H. Human Disturbance and Development

- a. Avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts from large-scale development that occur within crucial elk habitats. Voluntary mitigation is recommended at a 4:1 ratio meaning 4 acres of improved or conserved habitat for every 1 acre of disturbance.

**C. Recreation Management Goal:** Enhance recreational opportunities for hunting and viewing elk throughout the state.

**Recreation Objective 1:** Maintain a diversity of elk hunting opportunities.

### Strategies

#### A. Opportunity Emphasis - General Season Units

- a. Provide the following statewide general season hunting opportunities:
  - i. 15,000 spike bull permits with a sub-quota of up to 4,500 multi-season permits.
  - ii. Split the current 13 day any legal weapon any bull hunt into two separate 7 day hunts, an early and a late hunt occurring within roughly the same timeframe as the previous any bull season in October.
    - (a) Issue up to 15,000 any bull permits for the early any legal weapon season or the muzzleloader season with a sub-quota of up to 7,500 multi-season permits.
    - (b) Unlimited any bull permits for the late any legal weapon season.
  - i. Unlimited general season archery bull elk permits valid on both spike and any-bull units.
  - ii. General season archery antlerless elk permits with seasons coinciding with general season archery bull elk hunts in August and September on any bull and spike units that are at or exceeding objective, or as specified by the Utah Wildlife Board.
- b. Provide hunting opportunities that will encourage youth participation and maintain family hunting traditions:
  - i. Unlimited general season youth bull elk permits valid on both spike only and any bull units during all respective general season dates using the specified weapon and following regulations specific to the units where they are hunting.
  - ii. Draw only youth any bull (hunters choice) permits with a limited quota. This hunt typically occurs in September.

#### B. Quality Emphasis – Traditional Limited Entry Hunts

- a. Provide varied levels of traditional limited entry elk hunting (Figure 3, Table 1).
  - i. Maintain 3 categories of age class harvest objectives for traditional limited entry units including 6.5-7.0 years, 6.0-6.5 years and 5.5-6.0 years.
  - ii. Accurately monitor the age of harvested bull elk by collecting a statistically valid sample of teeth from all standard seasons on all limited entry units. Provide incentives to encourage hunters to submit teeth or implement mandatory tooth submission if necessary.
  - iii. Recommend traditional limited entry bull permits on each unit based on the 3-year average and trend of age data. Permit recommendations should make progress towards the age objective. Biologists will supplement harvest age data by also taking into account high bull:cow ratios, high hunter success rates and hunts with difficult conditions that may reduce harvest age when recommending permit numbers.

- iv. Maintain quality, but seek additional opportunity by increasing permits when the 3-year average of the any legal weapon hunts harvest success rate exceeds 75%, and the unit is meeting or exceeding the age objective.
- v. On traditional limited entry units recommend permits for the 3 weapon types based on the following percentages: 25% for archery, 15% for muzzleloader, and 60% for any legal weapon.
  - (a) If a unit has all 3 any weapon season, permits should be recommended as 10% for the early any weapon season, 30% for the mid any weapon season, 17% for the late any weapon season and 3% multi-season.
  - (b) Adjustments may be made for units that cannot accommodate all 3 any weapon seasons. For example on a unit without a late any weapon hunt, permits may be recommended as 20% early any weapon, 37% mid any weapon, and 3% multi-season.
  - (c) If shifting allocation of permits to more challenging seasons reduces the unit average harvest age, biologists may adjust the average age to put more weight on seasons where harvest tends to be more selective and most likely to represent true availability of bulls.

#### C. Restricted Weapons and HAMS hunts

- a. Provide additional limited entry opportunity by having some units or areas managed for restricted weapons including September rut archery seasons and HAMS or restricted weapon seasons.
- b. Recommend limited entry bull permits on HAMS and restricted weapons units to increase opportunity while maintaining success rates in the range of traditional limited entry archery hunts 20%-40% or maintaining average age of harvested bull elk between 3.5-4.5.
- c. On primitive weapon limited entry units, allocate permits with 50% in the September archery hunt and 50% to a HAMS or restricted weapons hunt.

#### D. Adaptive Opportunity Hunts

- a. These hunts are designed to be challenging to hunters, while providing more limited entry elk hunting opportunities and push perceived limits and boundaries.
- b. Results of these hunts and the status of the units where they occur will be carefully monitored and used to make adjustments, future decisions and recommendations.
- c. Ages from harvested elk on these hunts would not count towards the age objective.
- d. Recommend issuing a limited number of late season archery or restricted weapon hunts on all limited entry units where feasible and when the unit is meeting or exceeding the age objective.
  - i. Permits should equal 1% of the combined limited entry permits on the unit or a minimum of 5 permits. Permit numbers may be increased if success rates stay low (<40%) and the hunt successfully provides additional opportunity.
  - ii. Permits will be issued in addition to other limited entry elk permits on the unit.
- e. Recommend additional restricted weapons or HAMS hunts on limited entry units with high bull:cow ratios (> 40 bulls/100 cows) or as needed to manage sex ratios.

- f. Recommend limited entry bull elk hunts on general season elk units to provide unique opportunities to hunt elk where the quality of the hunt comes from a limited number of permits or unique season dates rather than from managing a unit or area for older age class bulls. These hunts wouldn't be subject to age objectives or the formation of limited entry landowner associations. Examples include a late season archery, HAMS or restricted weapon hunt on the East Canyon unit to allow opportunity at bulls that migrate in late in the year, or a limited entry muzzleloader bull hunt in the High Uintas wilderness overlapping the muzzleloader deer season.

#### E. Hunting Access

- a. Continue to support programs that provide incentives for private landowners to manage for elk and elk habitat (e.g. CWMU, Landowner Association, and Walk-In Access programs).
- b. Identify and support the acquisition of leveraged pieces of property (such as Cinnamon Creek and the Book Cliffs Initiative) that control access to or management of larger tracts of public land for the purpose of increasing hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities.
- c. Support the responsible use of OHV's in specified areas during hunting seasons.
- d. Assist state and federal agencies with the development of travel management plans.

**Recreation Objective 2:** Increase opportunities for viewing elk while educating the public concerning the needs of elk management and the importance of habitat.

#### A. Education

- a. Use social media and other media outlets to promote interest and emphasize the importance of elk habitat and population management.
- b. Promote public tours, elk viewing days, and spring range rides on crucial elk winter ranges to demonstrate the importance of elk habitat and population management.

#### B. Partners

- a. Work with partners (conservation organizations, state and federal agencies, etc.) to increase outreach efforts that promote elk conservation, habitat, and management.
- b. Highlight the importance of the conservation permit program, expo permits, watershed restoration initiative, and license and permits sales for funding efforts to improve elk habitat.

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Figure 1. Any Bull hunting units/areas, Utah 2023.

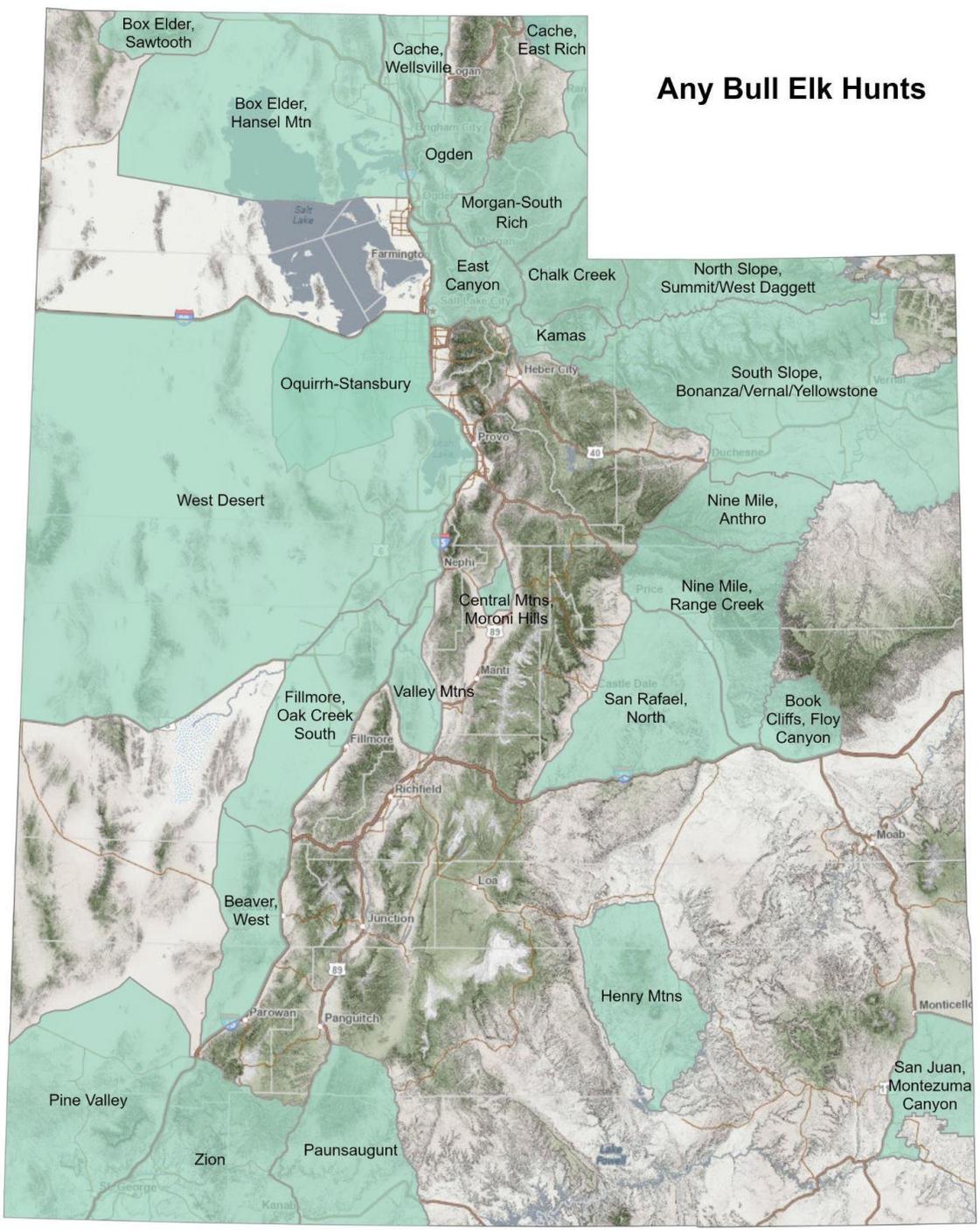


Figure 2. Spike only hunting units/areas, Utah 2023.

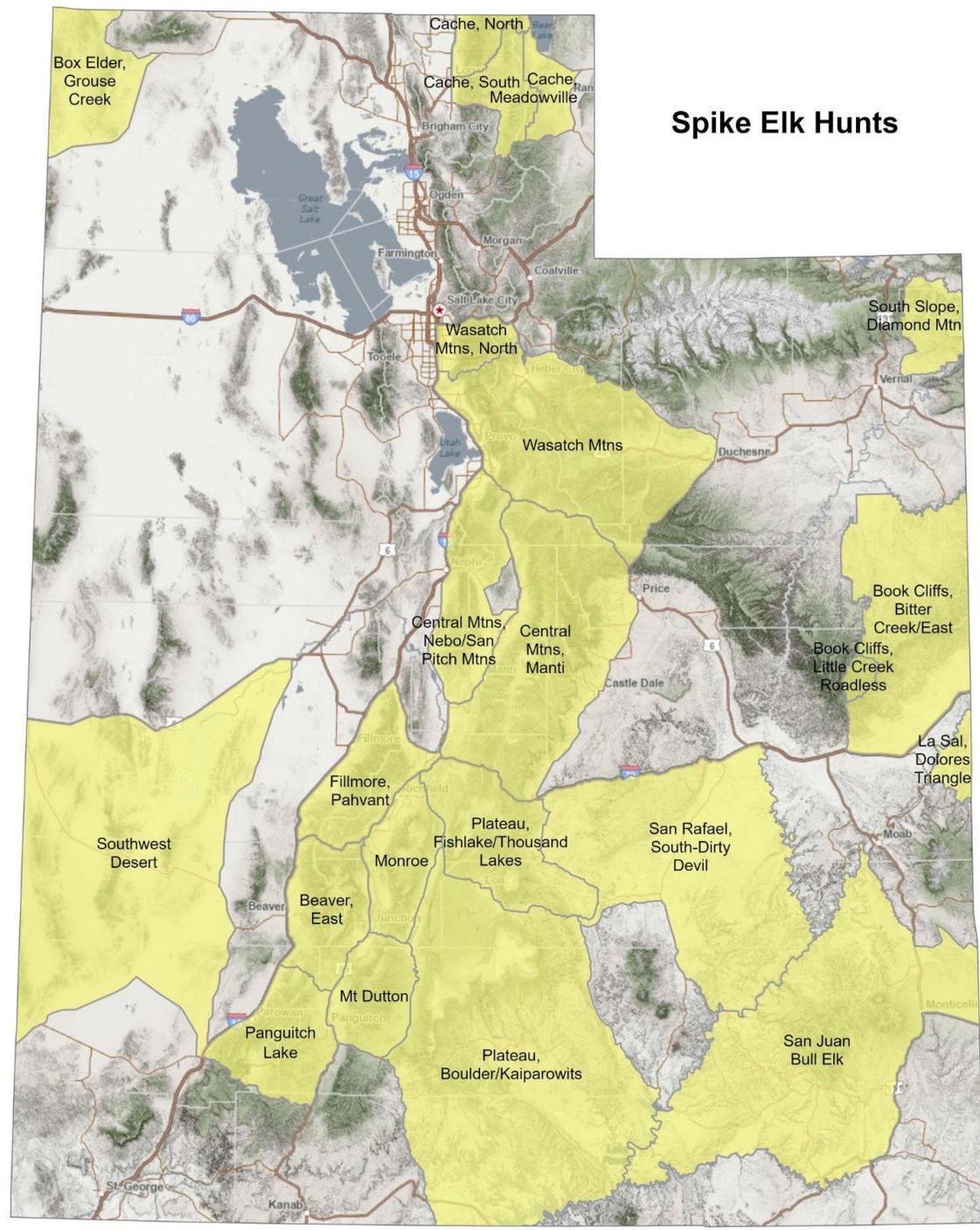


Figure 3. Age objective for limited entry elk units, Utah 2022.

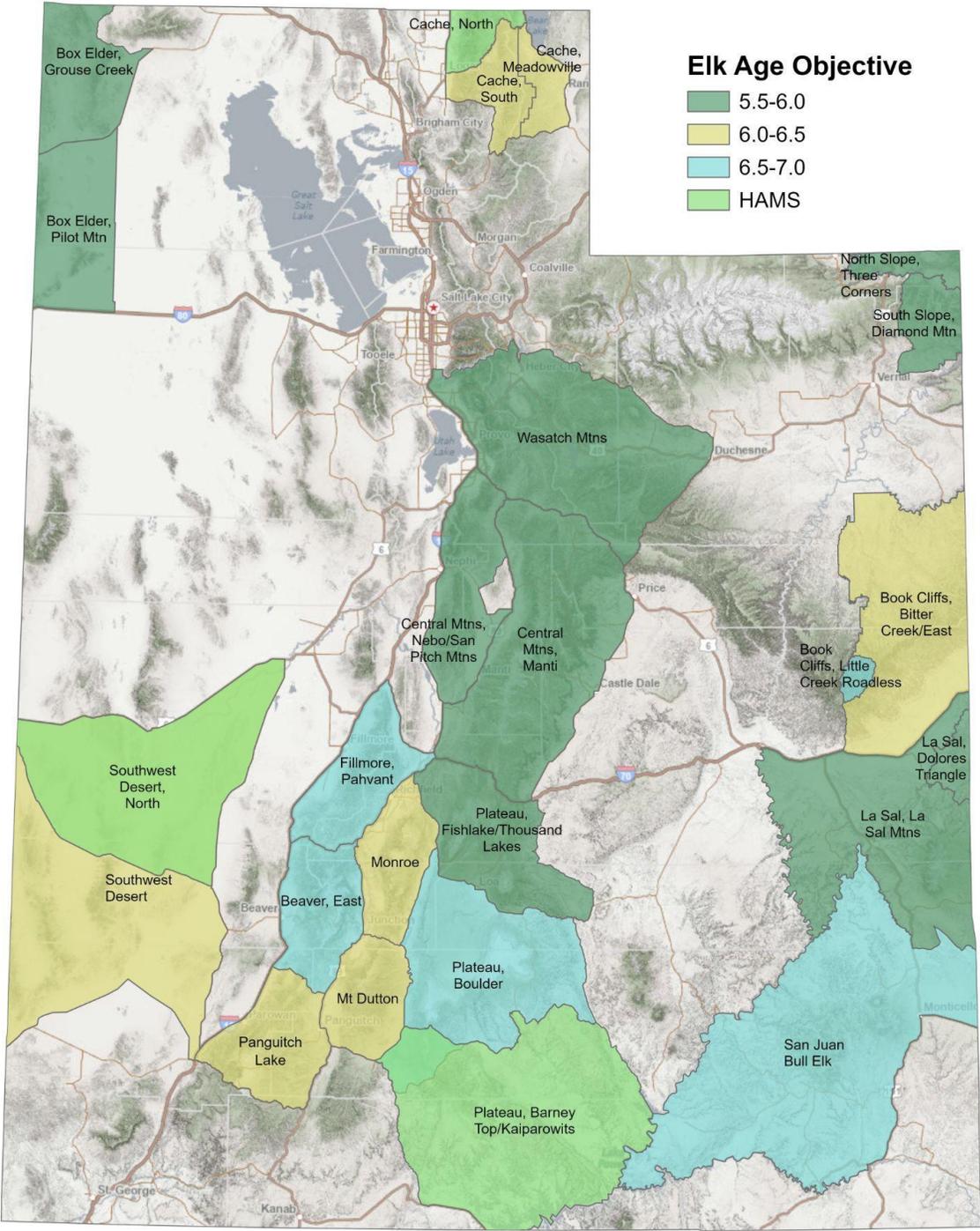


Figure 4. Elk age vs Boone and Crockett Score (Freeman et al. 2013).

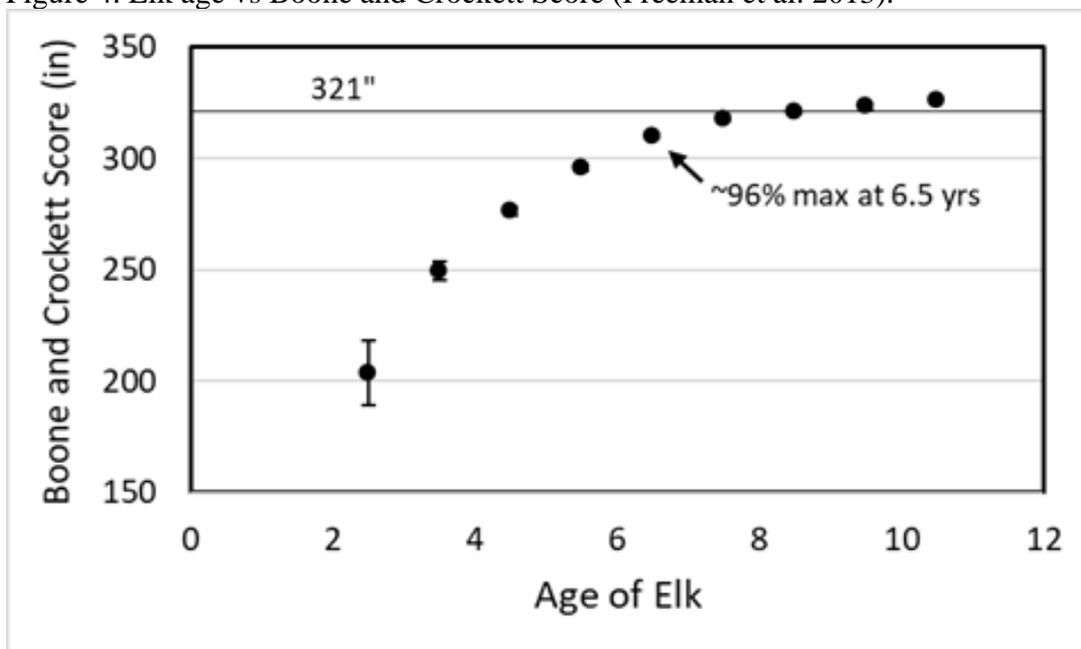


Figure 5. Average age of elk harvested in Utah in relation to length of main beam.

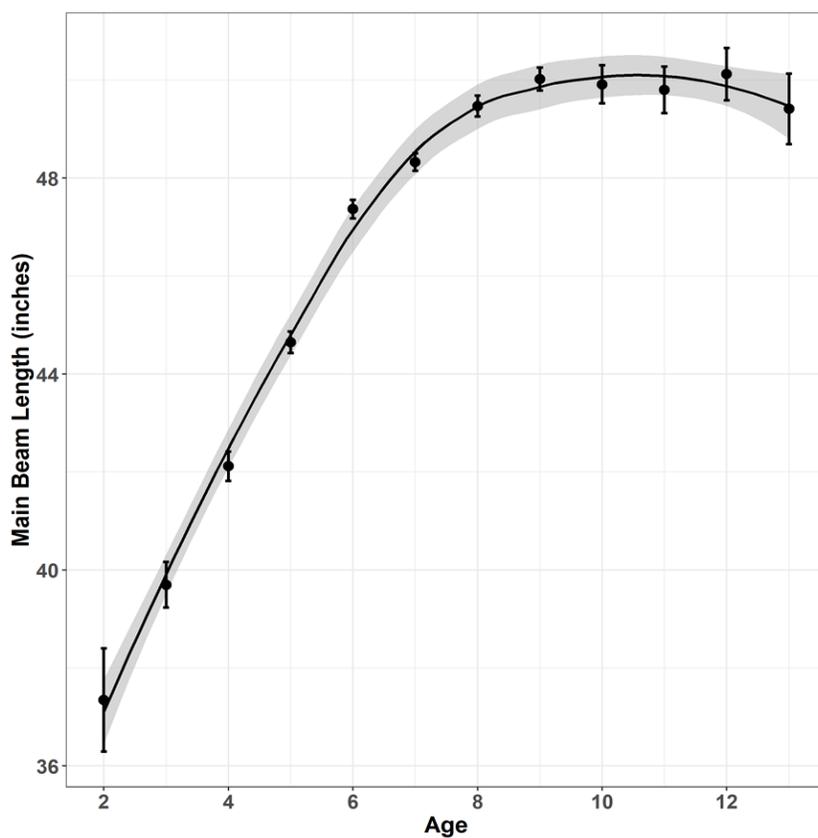


Figure 6. Elk habitat, Utah 2022.

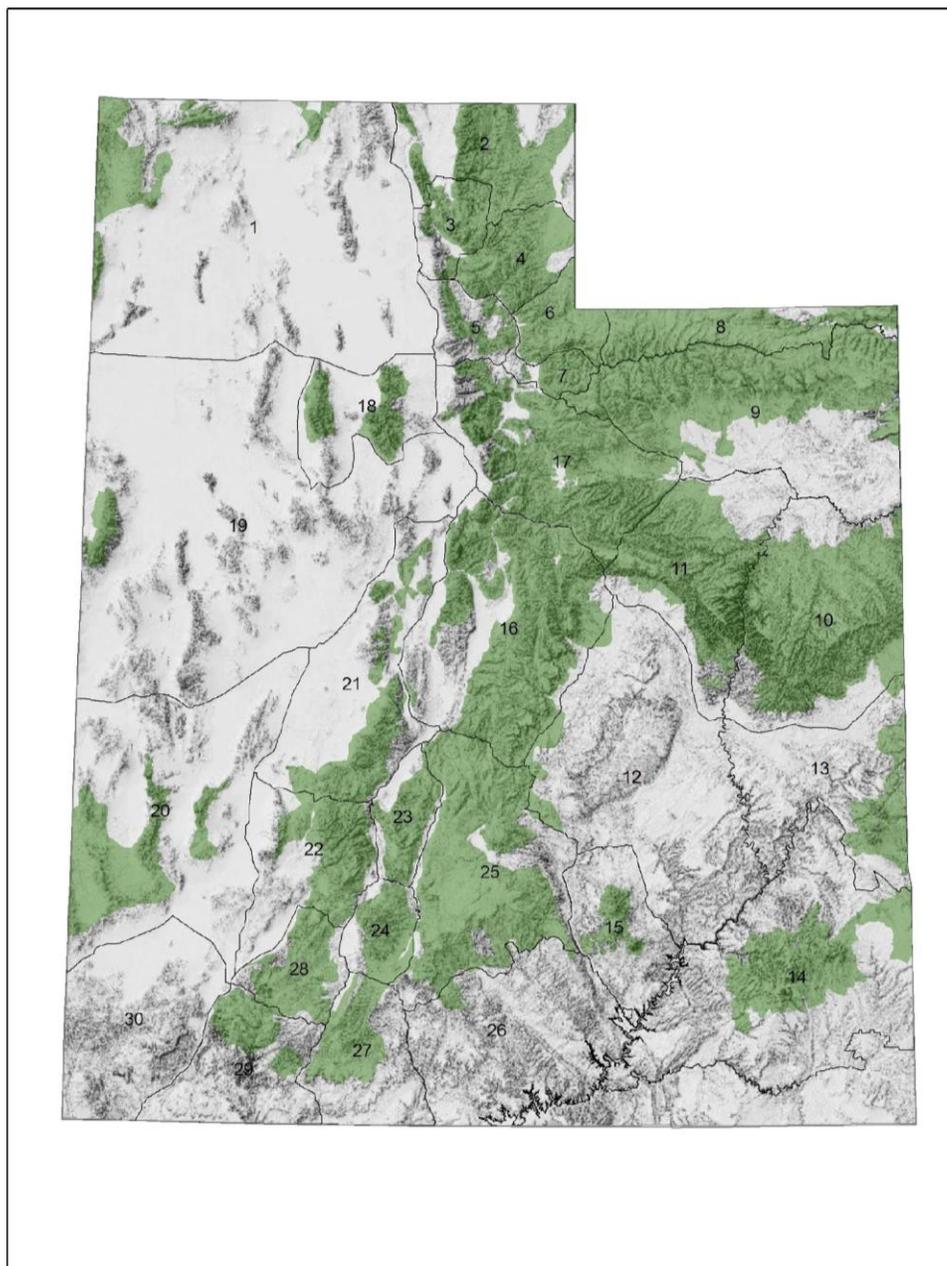


Figure 7. Statewide post-season elk population objective (dashed line, 78,990) and population estimates, Utah 2000–2021.

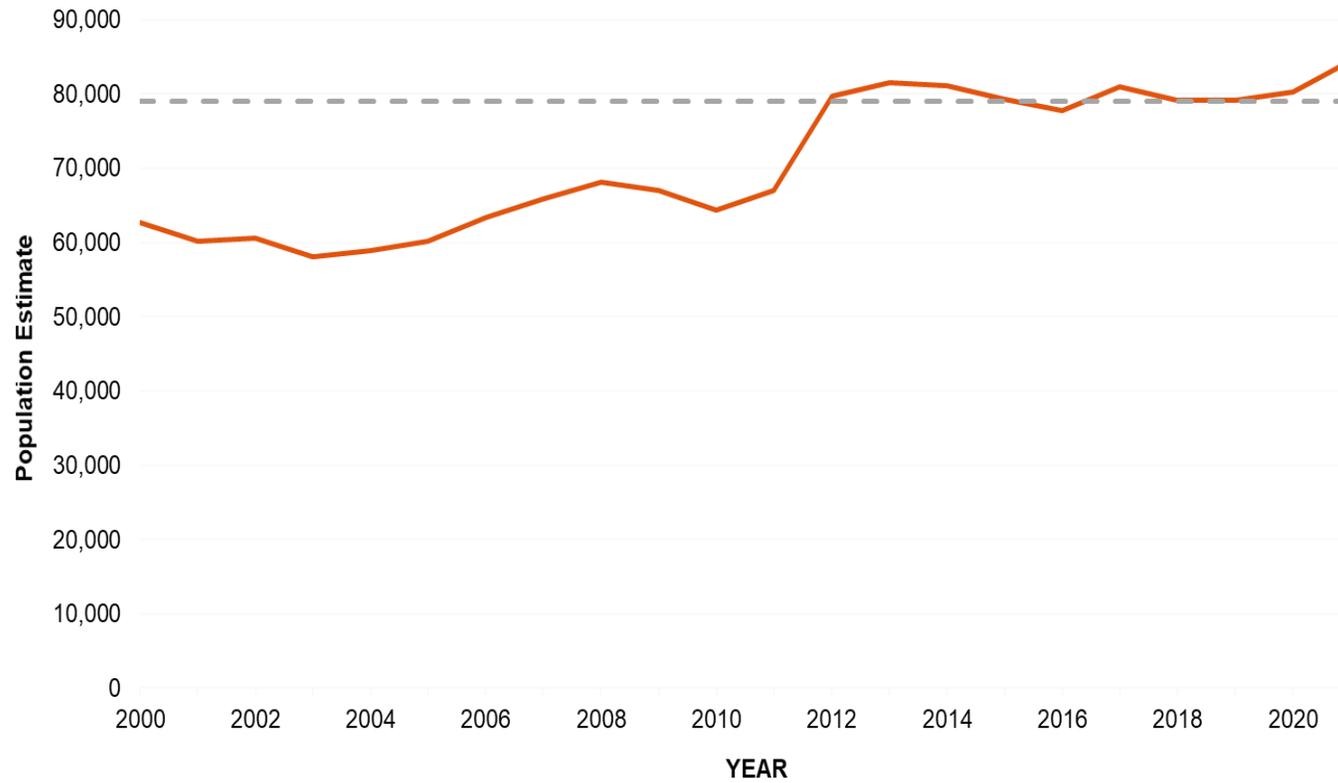


Figure 8. Annual survival of collared female elk in central Utah, USA, 2015–2017. The solid line (red) denotes survival with all mortalities included, the dashed line (blue) excludes hunter-related mortalities (Sergeyev et al. 2021).

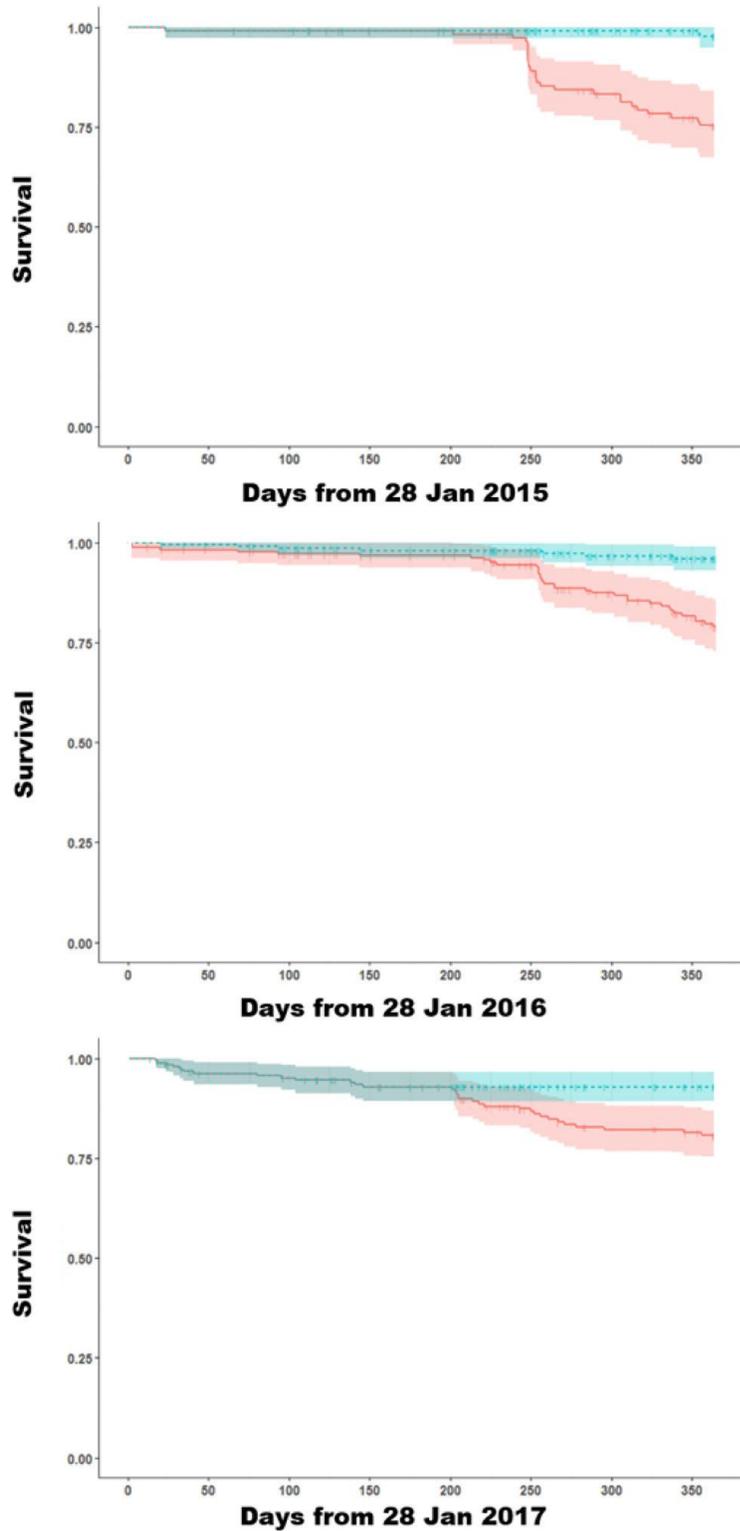


Figure 9. Annual survival of elk calves on the Book Cliffs management unit in eastern Utah. Survival rates are for the first year of life.

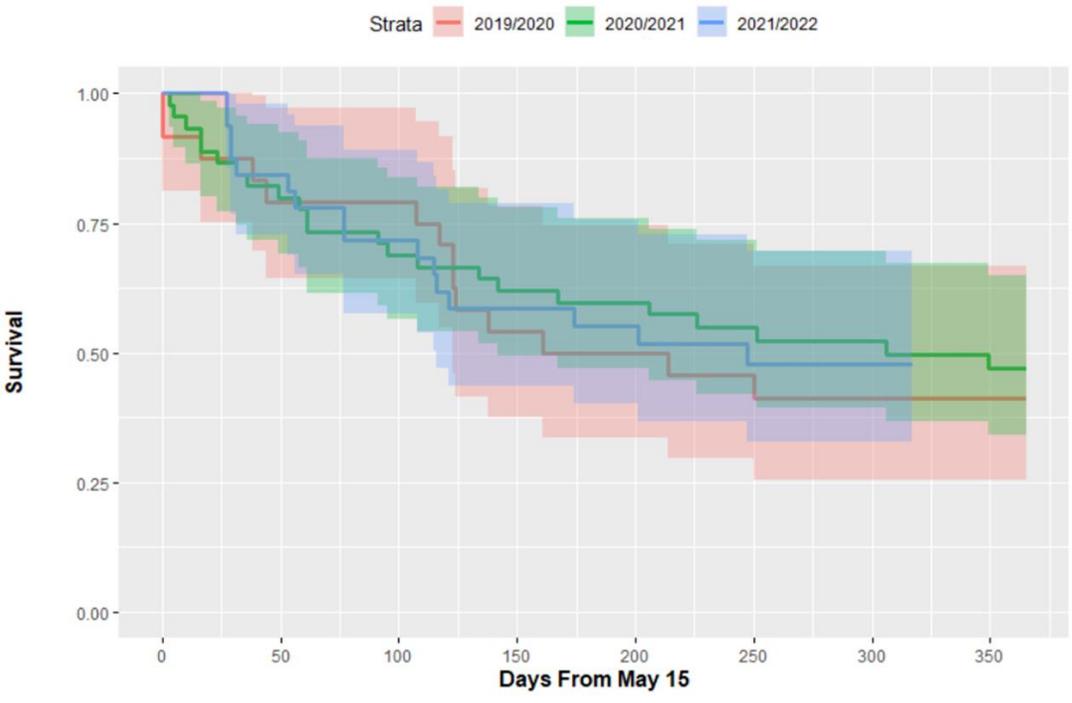


Figure 10. Cause-specific mortality of neonate elk on the Book Cliffs unit in Northeastern Utah 2019-2021.

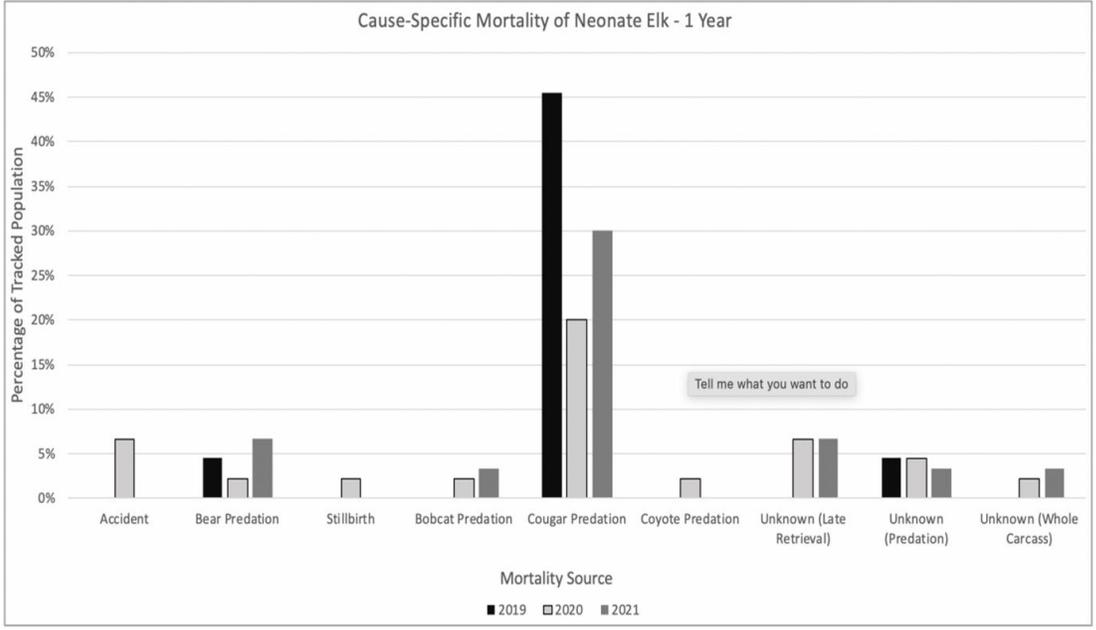


Figure 11. Annual variation in pregnancy rates for elk in Utah, 2015-2022..

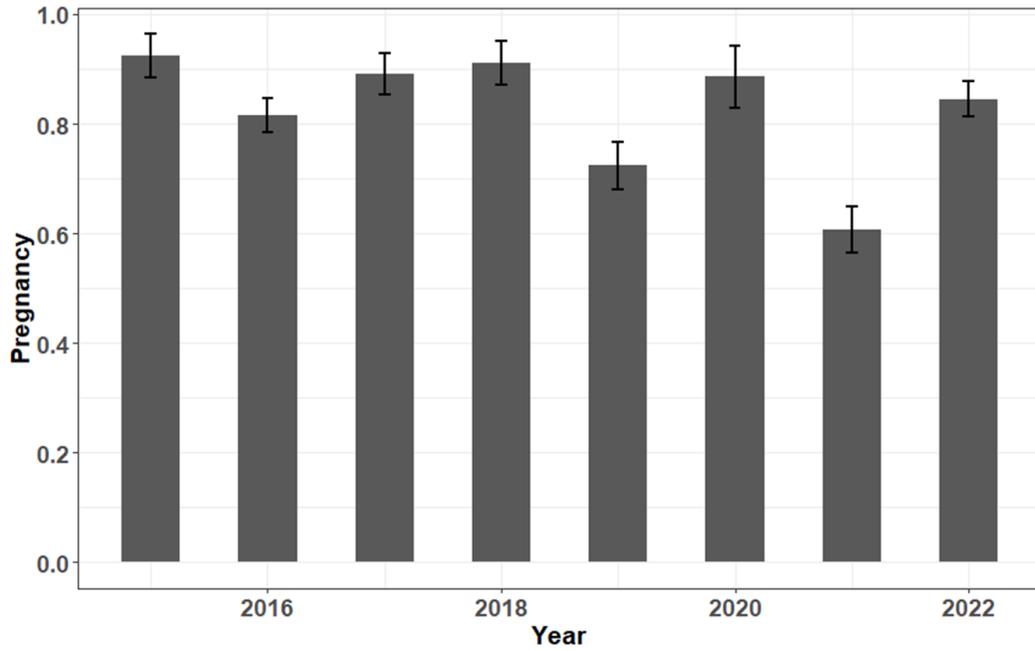


Figure 12. Mean pregnancy rate of adult female elk by unit determined via transabdominal ultrasound, Utah. Data have been combined across years.

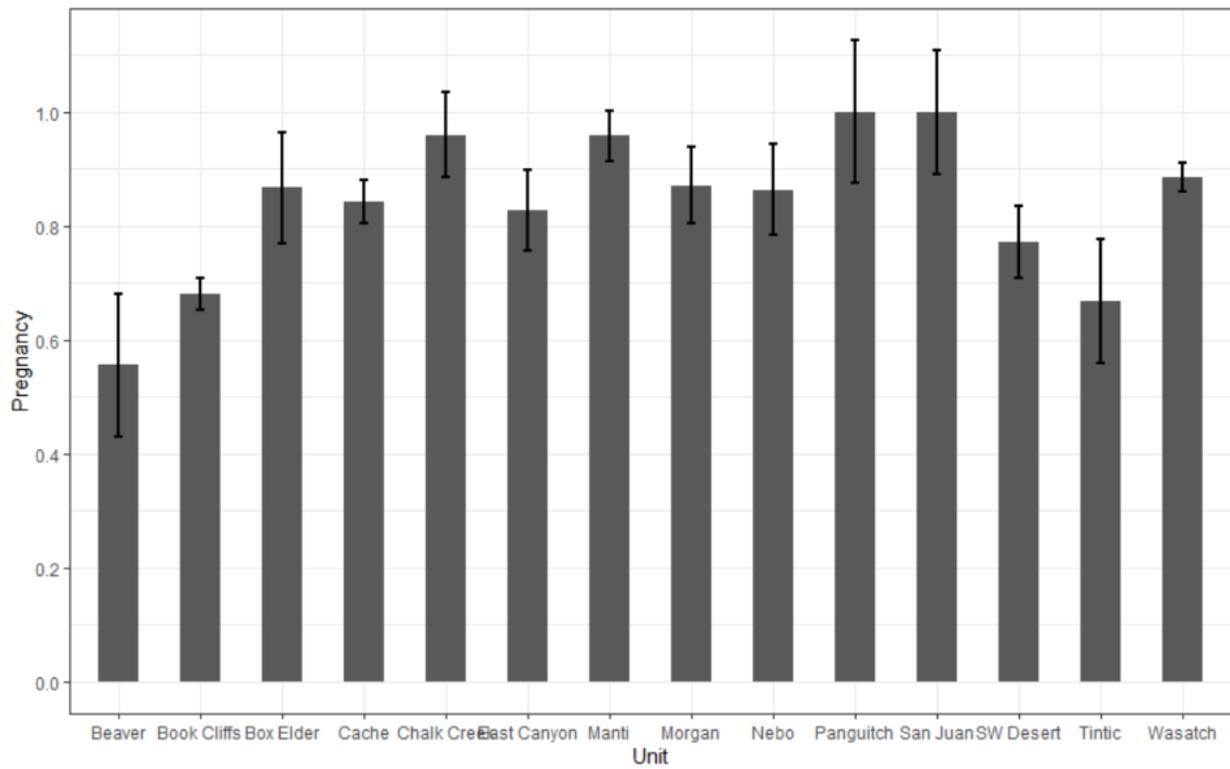


Figure 13. Mean rump fat as measured via ultrasonography during winter captures for pregnant and non-pregnant (open) elk in Utah.

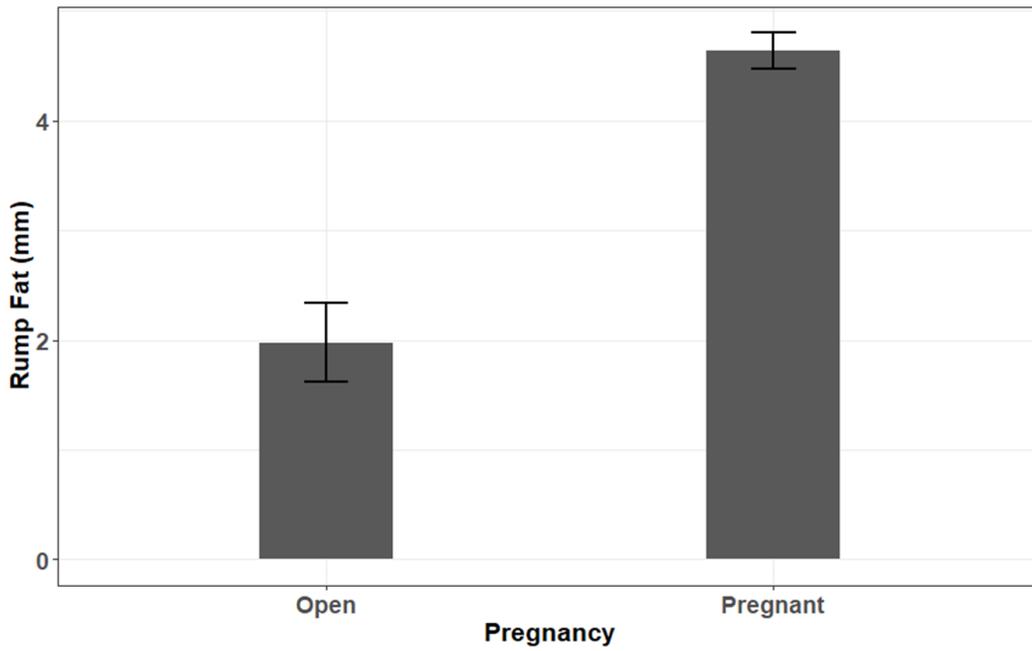


Figure 14. Pregnancy rates and age of elk in Utah.

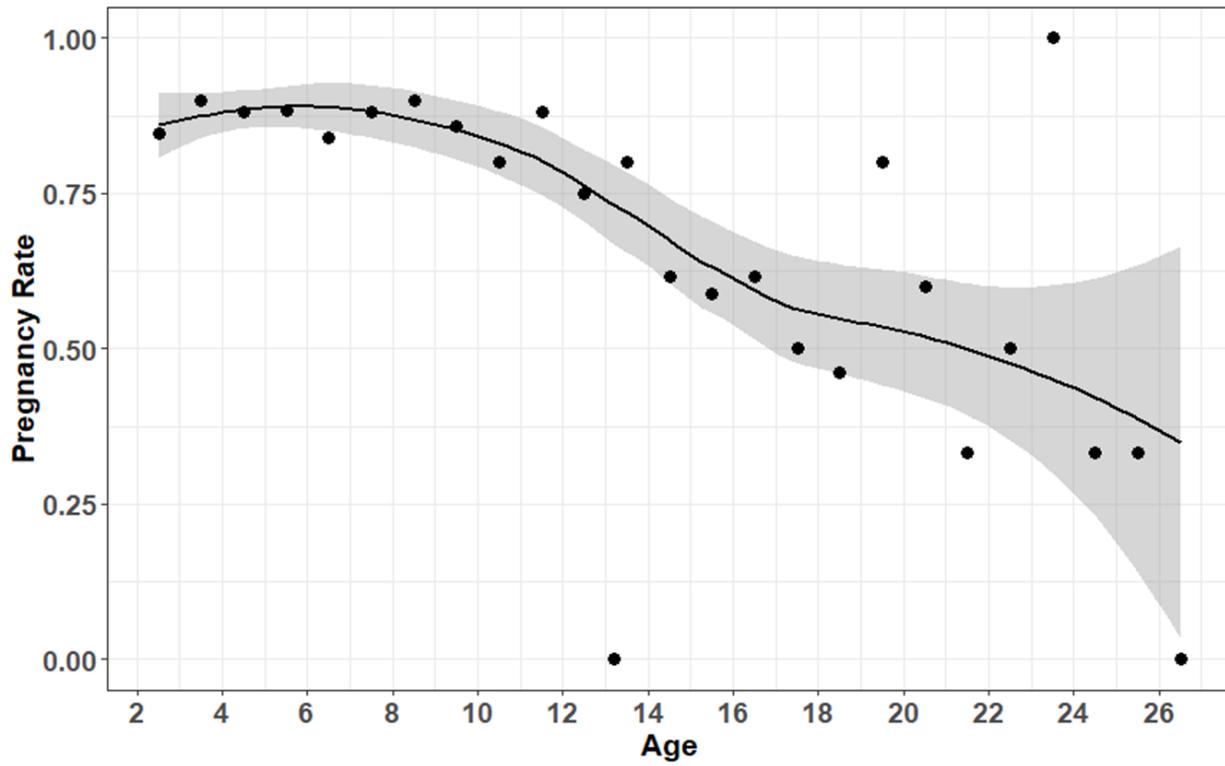


Table 1. Limited Entry age objectives and average age of harvested bull elk by management unit, Utah 2015–2021.

Unit	2023 Age Objective	Year							3-year average
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
Beaver, East	6.5-7.0	6.9	7.7	8.0	7.6	7.9	8.3	8.4	8.2
Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	6.5-7.0	7.5	7.3	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.0	8.3	7.4
Fillmore, Pahvant	6.5-7.0	7.8	8.1	7.9	7.6	6.5	8.7	7.5	7.6
Plateau, Boulder	6.5-7.0	7.3	8.2	7.3	8.2	7.5	7.2	7.8	7.5
San Juan Bull Elk	6.5-7.0	8.1	8.2	7.4	8.3	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.7
Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	6.0-6.5	7.5	7.8	6.2	6.4	6.0	5.9	5.2	5.7
Cache, Meadowville	6.0-6.5	4.8	4.7	4.9	5.1	5.5	5.3	7.0	5.9
Cache, South	6.0-6.5	5.5	4.7	5.0	5.7	5.9	6.0	7.1	6.3
Monroe	6.0-6.5	7.8	7.8	6.4	6.7	7.3	7.1	7.7	7.4
Mt Dutton	6.0-6.5	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.9	5.8	6.8	7.5	6.7
Panguitch Lake	6.0-6.5	5.4	5.9	5.1	6.1	6.7	5.7	6.7	6.4
Southwest Desert, South	6.0-6.5	6.8	7.8	6.3	7.2	7.3	7.1	6.6	7.0
Box Elder, Grouse Creek	5.5-6.0	5.5	5.7	5.2	6.0	5.5	5.3	6.4	5.7
Box Elder, Pilot Mtn	5.5-6.0	6.5	6.1	6.7	5.3	7.7	7.2	5.7	6.9
Central Mtns, Manti	5.5-6.0	5.9	6.3	6.0	6.4	6.3	6.8	6.5	6.5
Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	5.5-6.0	6.0	5.3	5.8	5.8	5.7	6.7	7.2	6.5
La Sal, Dolores Triangle	5.5-6.0	-	-	-	5.0	4.0	-	-	4.0
La Sal, La Sal Mtns	5.5-6.0	6.6	6.3	5.7	5.9	5.7	6.2	6.2	6.0
North Slope, Three Corners	5.5-6.0	5.7	5.4	5.0	4.7	6.0	4.8	5.5	5.4
Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	5.5-6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.9	6.0	7.2	6.9	6.7
South Slope, Diamond Mtn	5.5-6.0	6.8	7.7	7	7.3	6.9	7.8	7.4	7.4
Wasatch Mtns	5.5-6.0	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.3	5.9	6.1
Statewide average		6.5	6.7	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.7	6.9	6.6

Table 2. Postseason (late fall) elk herd population estimates and objectives by unit, Utah 2017–2021.

Unit	Population Objective	Year				
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Beaver	1,050	1,500	1,400	1275	1200	850
Book Cliffs	7,500	6,500	6,500	5500	5500	5,500
Box Elder	675	700	650	700	700	700
Cache	2,300	2,500	2,500	2700	3000	3,350
Central Mtns, Manti	12,000	11,300	11,500	9300	9500	9,900
Central Mtns, Nebo	1,450	1,300	1,400	1900	1850	1,700
Chalk Creek	3,200	4,000	3,900	3600	3400	4,400
East Canyon	1,800	2,400	2,300	2300	2800	3,000
Fillmore	1,600	1,400	1,450	1350	1400	1,350
Henry Mtns	0	30	30	30	25	25
Kamas	850	600	600	700	725	1,050
La Sal	2,500	2,900	2,700	2900	2700	2,100
Monroe	1,400	1,000	1,050	1100	1150	1,100
Morgan-South Rich	3,800	3,650	3,650	6500	6900	6,700
Mt. Dutton	2,000	1,500	1,600	1050	1250	1,400
Nine Mile, Anthro	700	1,200	1,100	1100	1100	1,100
Nine Mile, Range Creek	1,800	1,350	1,450	1250	2100	2,100
North Slope, Summit	300	275	275	300	300	750
North Slope, Three Corners	700	430	480	490	550	600
North Slope, West Daggett	1,300	700	750	650	620	1300
Ogden	2,000	1,750	1,750	1600	1750	2,200
Oquirrh-Stansbury	1,650	1,100	1,100	700	700	800
Panguitch Lake	1,300	1,500	1,400	1400	1450	840
Paunsaugunt	140	275	200	275	200	200
Pine Valley	50	50	50	50	50	50
Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	1,700	1,200	1,300	1050	1150	1,200
Plateau, Fishlake/1000 Lakes	5,900	4,900	5,200	4750	5100	5,450
San Juan	1,300	1,300	1,300	1300	1450	1,400
San Rafael	0	30	30	30	25	-
South Slope, Diamond Mtn/Vernal	3,000	4,300	4,000	4200	4000	3,800
South Slope, Yellowstone	5,000	7,500	7,500	7400	7400	7,400
Southwest Desert	975	1,500	1,300	1075	975	975
Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin	1,800	2,000	1,900	1900	1900	2,600
Wasatch Mtns, Currant Creek	3,200	2,200	2,600	1850	3000	4,000
Wasatch Mtns, West	3,400	3,400	3,400	3400	3400	3,500
West Desert, Deep Creek	350	350	300	400	200	200
Zion	300	600	475	475	800	800
Statewide Totals	78,990	79,190	79,090	76,550	80,320	84,390

## **R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources.**

### **R657-5. Taking Big Game.**

#### **R657-5-1. Purpose and Authority.**

(1) Under authority of Sections 23-14-18 and 23-14-19, the Wildlife Board has established this rule for taking deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bison, bighorn sheep, and Rocky Mountain goat.

(2) Specific dates, areas, methods of take, requirements, and other administrative details which may change annually are published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

#### **R657-5-12. Areas With Special Restrictions.**

(1)(a) Hunting of wildlife is allowed within the boundaries of all park areas, except for those areas and hunts specifically closed by the Division of Parks and Recreation in Section R651-614-4.

(b) State laws regarding the possession and discharge of dangerous weapons apply in state park areas open to hunting.

(2) Hunting is closed within the boundaries of all national parks unless otherwise provided by the governing agency.

(3) Hunters obtaining a Utah license, permit or tag to take big game are not authorized to hunt on tribal trust lands. Hunters must obtain tribal authorization to hunt on tribal trust lands.

(4) Military installations, including Camp Williams, are closed to hunting and trespassing unless otherwise authorized.

(5) In Salt Lake County, a person may:

(a) only use archery equipment to take buck deer and bull elk south of I-80 and east of I-15;

(b) only use archery equipment to take big game in Emigration Township; and

(c) not hunt big game within one-half mile of Silver Lake in Big Cottonwood Canyon.

(6) Hunting is closed within a designated portion of the town of Alta. Hunters may refer to the town of Alta for boundaries and other information.

(7) Domesticated Elk Facilities and Domesticated Elk Hunting Parks, as defined in Subsection 4-39-102(2) and Rules R58-18 and R58-20, are closed to big game hunting. This restriction does not apply to the lawful harvest of domesticated elk as defined and allowed pursuant to Rule R58-20.

(8) State waterfowl management areas are closed to taking big game, except as otherwise provided in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(9) A person may not hunt big game in National Wildlife Refuges unless declared open by the managing authority.

(10) Hunters are restricted to using archery equipment, muzzleloaders or shotguns on the Scott M. Matheson Wetland Preserve.

(11) A person may not discharge a firearm, except a shotgun firing shot size not to exceed T(.20), from, upon, or across the Green River located near Jensen, Utah from the Highway 40 bridge upstream to the Dinosaur National Monument boundary.

[\(12\) A person may not hunt big game inside the high fenced area surrounding the town of Alton, Utah.](#)

#### **R657-5-28. General Archery Elk Hunt.**

(1) The dates of the general archery elk hunt are provided in the guidebooks of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(2)(a) A person who has obtained a general archery elk permit may use archery equipment to take:

(i) [~~an antlerless elk or~~] a bull elk on a general any bull elk unit, excluding elk cooperative wildlife management units;

(ii) [~~an antlerless elk or~~] a spike bull elk on a general spike bull elk unit, excluding elk cooperative wildlife management units;

(iii) an antlerless elk or a bull elk on extended archery areas as provided in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(3)(a) A person who obtains a general archery elk permit may hunt within the extended archery areas during the extended archery area seasons as provided in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game and as provided in Subsection (b).

(b)(i) A person must complete the Archery Ethics Course annually to hunt the extended archery areas during the extended archery season.

(ii) A person must possess an Archery Ethics Course Certificate of Completion on their person while hunting.

(4) A person who has obtained an archery elk permit may not hunt during any other elk hunt or obtain any other elk permit, except as provided in Subsection R657-5-33(3) and by the guidebooks of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

#### **R657-5-29. General Season Bull Elk Hunt.**

(1) The dates and areas for the general season bull elk hunts are provided in the [Wildlife Board](#) guidebooks [~~of the Wildlife Board~~] for taking big game, except the following areas are closed to general any weapon bull elk hunting:

(a) Salt Lake County south of I-80 and east of I-15; and

(b) elk cooperative wildlife management units.

(2)(a) A person may purchase either a spike bull elk permit or an any bull elk permit.

(b) A person who has obtained a general season spike bull elk permit may take a spike bull elk on a general season spike bull elk unit. Any bull elk units are closed to spike bull elk permittees.

(c) A person who has obtained a general season any bull elk permit may take any bull elk, including a spike bull elk, on a general season any bull elk unit. Spike bull elk units are closed to any bull elk permittees.

(3) A person who has obtained a general season bull elk permit may use any legal weapon to take a spike bull elk or any bull elk, as specified on the permit.

(4) A person who has obtained a general season bull elk permit may not hunt during any other elk hunt or obtain any other elk permit, except as provided in Subsection R657-5-33(3).

(5) The Wildlife Board may establish multi-season hunting opportunities in the big game guidebooks for general season spike and bull elk hunts consistent with the following parameters:

(a) an individual with a multi-season spike elk permit may use:

(i) archery equipment as prescribed in R657-5-11 to take [~~an antlerless elk or~~] a spike bull elk on a general season spike unit during the archery season;

- (ii) archery equipment as prescribed in R657-5-11 to take ~~[an antlerless elk or any]~~[a](#) bull elk on a general season any bull unit during the archery season;
- (iii) muzzleloader equipment as prescribed in R657-5-10 to take [a](#) spike bull elk on [a](#) general season spike ~~[units]~~[unit](#) during the muzzleloader season; or
- (iv) any legal weapon as prescribed in R657-5 to take a spike bull elk on a general season spike unit during the any legal weapon season.
- (b) An individual with a multi-season any bull elk permit may use:
  - (i) archery equipment as prescribed in R657-5-11 to take ~~[an antlerless elk or]~~[a](#) spike elk on a general season spike unit during the archery season;
  - (ii) archery equipment as prescribed in R657-5-11 to take ~~[an antlerless elk or any]~~[a](#) bull elk on a general season any bull unit during the archery season;
  - (iii) muzzleloader equipment as prescribed in R657-5-10 to take ~~[any]~~[a](#) bull elk on [a](#) general season any bull ~~[units]~~[unit](#) during the muzzleloader season; or
  - (iv) any legal weapon as prescribed in R657-5 to take ~~[any]~~[a](#) bull elk on a general season any bull unit during the any legal weapon season.
- (c) An individual who obtains a multi-season bull elk permit may hunt within the extended archery areas during the extended archery area seasons described in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game, provided that individual:
  - (i) completes the Archery Ethics Course prior to going afield; and
  - (ii) possesses the Archery Ethics Course Certificate of Completion on their person while hunting.

#### **R657-5-30. General Muzzleloader Bull Elk Hunt.**

- (1) The dates and areas for general muzzleloader bull elk hunts are provided in the [Wildlife Board](#) guidebooks~~[-of the Wildlife Board]~~ for taking big game, except the following areas are closed to general muzzleloader bull elk hunting:
  - (a) Salt Lake County south of I-80 and east of I-15; and
  - (b) elk cooperative wildlife management units.
- (2)(a) General muzzleloader bull elk hunters may purchase either a spike bull elk permit or an any bull elk permit.
- (b) A person who has obtained a general muzzleloader spike bull elk permit may use a muzzleloader, prescribed in R657-5-10, to take a spike bull elk on an any general spike bull elk unit. Any bull units are closed to spike bull muzzleloader permittees.
- (c) A person who has obtained a general muzzleloader any bull elk permit may use a muzzleloader, as prescribed in R657-5-10, to take ~~[any]~~[a](#) bull elk on an any bull elk unit. Spike bull units are closed to any bull muzzleloader permittees.  
~~[(3) On selected units identified in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game, a person who has obtained a general muzzleloader bull elk permit may use muzzleloader equipment to take either an antlerless elk or a bull elk.]~~
- ~~[(4)]~~[\(3\)](#) A person who has obtained a general muzzleloader bull elk permit may not hunt during any other elk hunt or obtain any other elk permit, except as provided in Subsection R~~[657-5-33(3)]~~[\[657-5-34\(3\)\]](#).

#### **R657-5-31. [Draw Only](#) Youth ~~[General]~~ Any Bull/[Hunter's Choice](#) Elk ~~[~~[Hunt](#)~~]~~ [Permit](#).**

- (1)(a) For purposes of this section "youth" means any person 17 years of age or younger on July 31 of the current year.

(b) A youth may ~~[apply for or]~~only obtain a [draw only](#) youth any bull/[hunter's choice](#) elk permit [by applying for the Big Game draw](#).

(c) A ~~[qualified person]~~youth may obtain a [draw only](#) youth any bull/[hunter's choice](#) elk permit only once ~~[during]~~in their life.

(2) The [draw only](#) youth any bull/[hunter's choice](#) elk [permit](#) hunting season and areas are published in the ~~[guidebook of the]~~Wildlife Board [guidebook](#) for taking big game.

(3)(a) A youth who has obtained a [draw only](#) youth ~~[general]~~any bull/[hunter's choice](#) elk permit may take ~~[any]~~a bull elk~~[-including antlerless]~~ [or hunter's choice](#) elk~~[,]~~ on a general any bull elk unit. Spike bull elk units are closed to [draw only](#) youth ~~[general-]~~any bull/[hunter's choice](#) elk permittees.

(b) A youth who has obtained a [draw only](#) youth ~~[general]~~any bull/[hunter's choice](#) elk permit may use any legal weapon to take ~~[any]~~a bull elk or ~~[antlerless]~~[hunter's choice](#) elk as specified on the permit.

(4) A youth who has obtained a [draw only](#) youth ~~[general]~~any bull/[hunter's choice](#) elk permit may not hunt during any other elk hunt or obtain any other elk permit, except as provided in Section R~~[657-5-33(3)]~~[657-5-34\(3\)](#).

(5) Preference points shall not be awarded or utilized when applying for or obtaining a [draw only](#) youth ~~[general]~~any bull/[hunters choice](#) elk permit.

#### **R657-5-32. General Season Youth Elk Permit.**

(1) A youth may purchase a general season youth elk permit.

(2) A youth who has obtained a general season youth elk permit may hunt both any bull and spike bull units during the seasons and areas published in the Wildlife Board guidebook for taking big game, but may not hunt during the draw only youth any bull/hunter's choice elk permit hunting season.

(3) A youth who has obtained a general season youth elk permit may not hunt during any other elk hunt or obtain any other elk permit, except as provided in Section R657-5-34(3)

#### **R657-5-33. Limited Entry Bull Elk Hunts.**

(1) To hunt in a limited entry bull elk area, a hunter must obtain a limited entry bull elk permit for the area.

(2)(a) A limited entry bull elk permit allows a person, using the prescribed legal weapon, to take one bull elk within the area and season specified on the permit, except as provided in Subsection (5) and excluding elk cooperative wildlife management units located within a limited entry unit. Spike bull elk restrictions do not apply to limited entry elk permittees.

(3)(a) The Wildlife Board may establish a multi-season hunting opportunity in the big game guidebooks for selected limited entry bull elk units.

(b) A person that obtains a limited entry bull elk permit with a multi-season opportunity may hunt during any of the following limited entry bull elk seasons established in the [Wildlife Board](#) guidebooks~~[-of the Wildlife Board]~~ for the unit specified on the limited entry bull elk permit:

(i) [August and September](#) archery season(s), using only archery equipment prescribed in R657-5-11 for taking elk;

(ii) muzzleloader season, using only muzzleloader equipment prescribed in R657-

5-10 for taking elk; ~~and~~

(iii) any weapon season, using any legal weapon prescribed in R657-5 for taking elk; ~~and~~

(iv) multi-season permit holders may not hunt during late season, December archery limited entry bull elk seasons.

(c) A landowner association under R657-43 is not eligible to receive a multi-season hunting opportunity for limited entry units nor late season, December archery limited entry bull elk seasons.

(4) A limited entry bull elk permit, including a permit with a multi-season opportunity, is valid only within the boundaries of the unit designated on the permit, excluding:

- (a) areas closed to hunting;
- (b) elk cooperative wildlife management units; and
- (c) Indian tribal trust lands.

(5) A person who possesses any limited entry archery bull elk permit, including a permit with a multi-season opportunity, may hunt bull elk within any extended archery area during the established extended archery season for that area, provided the person:

- (a) did not take a bull elk during the limited entry hunt;
- (b) uses the prescribed archery equipment for the extended archery area;
- (c) completes the annual Archery Ethics Course required to hunt extended archery areas during the extended archery season; and
- (d) possesses on their person while hunting:
  - (i) the limited entry bull elk permit; and
  - (ii) the Archery Ethics Course Certificate of Completion.

(6) "Prescribed legal weapon" means for purposes of this subsection:

(a) archery equipment, as defined in R657-5-11, when hunting the archery season, excluding a crossbow, draw-lock, and airgun;

(b) muzzleloader equipment, as defined in R657-5-10, when hunting the muzzleloader season; and

(c) any legal weapon, including a muzzleloader, crossbow with a fixed or variable magnifying scope or draw-lock, or airgun when hunting during the any weapon season.

(7)(a) A person who has obtained a limited entry or cooperative wildlife management unit bull elk permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a bull elk.

(b) Limited entry and cooperative wildlife management unit bull elk permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's Internet address.

(c) A person who fails to comply with the requirement in Subsection (a) shall be ineligible to apply for any once-in-a-lifetime, premium limited entry, limited entry, or cooperative wildlife management unit permit or bonus point in the following year.

(d) Late questionnaires may be accepted pursuant to Rule R657-42-9(2).

(8) A person who has obtained a limited entry bull elk permit may not hunt during any other elk hunt or obtain any other elk permit, except as provided in Subsections (5) and R~~[657-5-33(3)]~~657-5-34(3).

#### **R~~[657-5-33]~~657-5-34. Antlerless Elk Hunts.**

(1) To hunt antlerless elk, a hunter must obtain an antlerless elk permit.

(2)(a) An antlerless elk permit allows a person to take one antlerless elk using the weapon type, within the area, and during season dates specified on the permit and in the Antlerless guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(b) A person may not hunt antlerless elk on an elk cooperative wildlife management unit unless that person obtains an antlerless elk permit for that specific cooperative wildlife management unit.

(c) Antlerless elk control permits are not valid on cooperative wildlife management units.

(3)(a) A person may obtain three elk permits each year, in combination as follows:

(i) a maximum of one bull elk permit;

(ii) a maximum of one antlerless elk permit issued through the division's antlerless big game drawing; and

(iii) a maximum of two antlerless elk permits acquired over the counter or online after the antlerless big game drawing is finalized, including antlerless elk:

(A) control permits, as described in Subsection (5);

(B) depredation permits, as described in Section R657-44-8;

(C) mitigation permit vouchers, as defined in Subsection R657-44-2(2); and

(D) private lands only permits, as described in Subsection (6).

(b) Antlerless elk mitigation permits obtained by a landowner or lessee under Section R657-44-3 do not count towards the annual three elk permit limitation prescribed in this subsection.

(i) "Mitigation permit" has the same meaning as defined in Subsection R657-44-2(2).

(c) For the purposes of obtaining multiple elk permits, a hunter's choice elk permit is considered a bull elk permit.

~~[(4)(a) A person who obtains an antlerless elk permit and any of the permits listed in Subsection (b) may use the antlerless elk permit during the established season for the antlerless elk permit and during the established season for the applicable permits listed in Subsection (b), provided:]~~

~~[ (i) the permits are both valid for the same area;]~~

~~[ (ii) the appropriate archery equipment is used, if hunting antlerless elk during an archery season or hunt; and]~~

~~[ (iii) the appropriate muzzleloader hunt equipment is used, if hunting antlerless elk during a muzzleloader season or hunt.]~~

~~[ (b)(i) General buck deer for archery, muzzleloader, any legal weapon, or dedicated hunter;]~~

~~[ (ii) General bull elk for archery, muzzleloader, any legal weapon, or multi-season;]~~

~~[ (iii) Premium limited entry buck deer for archery, muzzleloader, any weapon, or multi-season;]~~

~~[ (iv) Limited entry buck deer for archery, muzzleloader, any legal weapon, or multi-season;]~~

~~[ (v) Limited entry bull elk for archery, muzzleloader or any legal weapon, or multi-season; and]~~

~~[ (vi) Antlerless deer or elk, excluding antlerless elk control permits.]~~

~~[ (c) A person that possess an unfilled antlerless elk permit and harvests an animal under authority of a permit listed in Subsection (b), may continue hunting antlerless elk as~~

~~prescribed in Subsections (a) and (b) during the remaining portions of the Subsection (b) permit season.]~~

~~[(5)]~~

(4)(a) To obtain an antlerless elk control permit, a person must first obtain a big game buck, bull, or once-in-a-lifetime permit. An antlerless elk control permit allows a person to take one antlerless elk using the same weapon type, during the same season dates, and within areas of overlap between the boundary of the buck, bull, or once-in-a-lifetime permit and the boundary of the antlerless elk control unit, as provided in the Antlerless guidebook by the Wildlife Board.

(b) Antlerless elk control permits are sold over the counter or online after the division's antlerless big game drawing is finalized.

(c) A person that possess an unfilled antlerless elk control permit and harvests an animal under the buck, bull, or once-in-a-lifetime permit referenced in Subsection (b), may continue hunting antlerless elk as prescribed in Subsection (b) during the remaining portions of the buck, bull, or once-in-a-lifetime permit season.

~~(6)~~(5)(a) A private lands only permit allows a person to take one antlerless elk on private land within a prescribed unit using any weapon during the season dates and area provided in the Big Game guidebook by the Wildlife Board.

(b) No boundary extension or buffer zones on public land will be applied to private lands only permits.

(c) Private lands only permits are sold over the counter or online after the division's antlerless big game drawing is finalized.

(d) "Private lands" means, for purposes of this subsection, any land owned in fee by an individual or legal entity, excluding:

(i) land owned by the state or federal government;

(ii) land owned by a county or municipality;

(iii) land owned by an Indian tribe;

(iv) land enrolled in a Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit under Rule R657-37;

and

(v) land where public access for big game hunting has been secured.

### ~~R[657-5-34]~~657-5-35. **Buck Pronghorn Hunts.**

(1) To hunt buck pronghorn, a hunter must obtain a buck pronghorn permit.

(2) A person who has obtained a buck pronghorn permit may not obtain any other pronghorn permit or hunt during any other pronghorn hunt.

(3)(a) A person who has obtained a limited entry or cooperative wildlife management unit buck pronghorn permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a buck pronghorn.

(b) Limited entry and cooperative wildlife management unit buck pronghorn permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's Internet address.

(c) A person who fails to comply with the requirement in Subsection (a) shall be ineligible to apply for any once-in-a-lifetime, premium limited entry, limited entry, or cooperative wildlife management unit permit or bonus point in the following year.

(d) Late questionnaires may be accepted pursuant to Rule R657-42-9(2).

(4) A buck pronghorn permit allows a person to take one buck pronghorn within the

area, during the season, and using the weapon type specified on the permit, except on a pronghorn cooperative wildlife management unit located within a limited entry unit.

**R[~~657-5-35~~657-5-36]. Doe Pronghorn Hunts.**

- (1)(a) To hunt doe pronghorn, a hunter must obtain a doe pronghorn permit.
- (b) A person may obtain only one doe pronghorn permit or a two-doe pronghorn permit through the division's antlerless big game drawing.
- (2)(a) A doe pronghorn permit allows a person to take one doe pronghorn using the weapon type, within the area, and during the season specified on the permit and in the Antlerless guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.
- (b) A two-doe pronghorn permit allows a person to take two doe pronghorn using the weapon type, within the area, and during the season dates specified on the permit and in the Antlerless guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.
- (c) A person may not hunt doe pronghorn on any pronghorn cooperative wildlife management unit unless that person obtains a doe pronghorn permit for that specific cooperative wildlife management unit.

**R[~~657-5-36~~657-5-37]. Antlerless Moose Hunts.**

- (1) To hunt antlerless moose, a hunter must obtain an antlerless moose permit.
- (2)(a) An antlerless moose permit allows a person to take one antlerless moose using any legal weapon within the area and season specified on the permit and in the Antlerless guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.
- (b) A person may not hunt antlerless moose on a moose cooperative wildlife management unit unless that person obtains an antlerless moose permit for that specific cooperative wildlife management unit as specified on the permit.

**R[~~657-5-37~~657-5-38]. Bull Moose Hunts.**

- (1) To hunt bull moose, a hunter must obtain a bull moose permit.
- (2) A person who has obtained a bull moose permit may not obtain any other moose permit or hunt during any other moose hunt.
- (3) A bull moose permit allows a person to take one bull moose within the area, during the seasons, and using the weapon type prescribed by the Wildlife Board, excluding any moose cooperative wildlife management unit located within a limited entry unit.
- (4)(a) A person who has obtained a bull moose permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a bull moose.
- (b) Bull moose permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's Internet address.
- (c) A person who fails to comply with the requirement in Subsection (a) shall be ineligible to apply for any once-in-a-lifetime, premium limited entry, limited entry, or cooperative wildlife management unit permit or bonus point in the following year.
- (d) Late questionnaires may be accepted pursuant to Rule R657-42-9(2).

**R[~~657-5-38~~657-5-39]. Bison Hunts.**

- (1) To hunt bison, a hunter must obtain a bison permit.
- (2) Except as provided in Subsection (7), a person who has obtained a bison permit

may not obtain any other bison permit or hunt during any other bison hunt.

(3) A hunter's choice bison permit allows a person to take a bison of either sex within the area, during the seasons, and using the weapon type prescribed by the Wildlife Board.

(4)(a) Must review a shot placement article provided by the Division

(b) An orientation course is required for bison hunters who draw an Antelope Island bison permit. Hunters shall be notified of the orientation date, time and location.

(c) The Antelope Island hunt is administered by the Division of Parks and Recreation.

(5) A cow bison permit allows a person to take one cow bison within the area, during the seasons, and using the weapon types as specified on the permit and in the Antlerless guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(6) An orientation course is required for bison hunters who draw cow bison permits. Hunters will be notified of the orientation date, time and location.

(7)(a) A person who has obtained a management bison permit may take a bison of either sex within the unit boundaries and during the season dates established by the Wildlife Board.

(b) Management bison units may be established by the Wildlife Board in areas where management objectives are for zero bison.

(c) Management bison permits may be made available over the counter at a division office.

(d) A person must successfully complete an online orientation course before obtaining a Management Bison permit.

(e) A person who obtains a management bison permit forfeits any bison bonus points accrued under Section R657-62-8 and incurs the associated waiting period identified in Subsection R657-62-18(6)(d) but remains eligible to acquire a management bison permit in subsequent years.

(f) A person may only obtain one bison permit and harvest one bison in a single hunt year.

(8)(a) A person who has obtained a bison permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a bison.

(b) Bison permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's Internet address.

(c) A person who fails to comply with the requirement in Subsection (a) shall be ineligible to apply for any once-in-a-lifetime, premium limited entry, limited entry, or cooperative wildlife management unit permit or bonus point, or obtain any management bison permit, in the following year.

(d) Late questionnaires may be accepted pursuant to Subsection R657-42-9(2).

### **R~~657-5-39~~657-5-40. Desert Bighorn and Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep Ram Hunts.**

(1) To hunt a ram desert bighorn sheep or a ram Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, a hunter must obtain the respective permit.

(2)(a) A person who has obtained a ram desert bighorn sheep may not obtain any other desert bighorn sheep or hunt during any other desert bighorn sheep.

(b) A person who has obtained a ram Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit may

not obtain any other Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit or hunt any other Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep.

(3) Ram desert bighorn sheep and ram Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permits are considered separate once-in-a-lifetime hunting opportunities.

(4)(a) A ram desert bighorn sheep permit allows a person to take one desert bighorn ram within the area, during the seasons, and using the weapon type prescribed by the Wildlife Board.

(b) A ram Rocky Mountain sheep permit allows a person to take one Rocky Mountain bighorn ram within the area, during the seasons, and using the weapon type prescribed by the Wildlife Board.

(5) Successful hunters must deliver the horns of the bighorn sheep to a division office within 72 hours of leaving the hunting area. A numbered seal will be permanently affixed to the horn indicating legal harvest.

(6)(a) A person who has obtained a desert bighorn sheep or Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a desert bighorn sheep or Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep.

(b) Desert bighorn sheep or Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's Internet address.

(c) A person who fails to comply with the requirement in Subsection (a) shall be ineligible to apply for any once-in-a-lifetime, premium limited entry, limited entry, or cooperative wildlife management unit permit or bonus point in the following year.

(d) Late questionnaires may be accepted pursuant to Rule R657-42-9(2).

#### **R[~~657-5-39.5~~657-5-40.5. Desert Bighorn and Rocky Mountain Bighorn Ewe Hunts.**

(1) To hunt a ewe desert bighorn sheep or a ewe Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, a hunter must obtain the respective ewe permit.

(2)(a) A ewe permit allows a person to take one ewe using any legal weapon within the area and season specified on the permit and in the Antlerless guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(3) Ewe desert bighorn sheep and ewe Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permits are considered separate hunting opportunities.

#### **R[~~657-5-40~~657-5-41. Rocky Mountain Goat Hunts.**

(1) To hunt Rocky Mountain goat, a hunter must obtain a Rocky Mountain goat permit.

(2) A person who has obtained a Rocky Mountain goat permit may not obtain any other Rocky Mountain goat permit or hunt during any other Rocky Mountain goat hunt.

(3) A Rocky Mountain goat of either sex may be legally taken on a hunter's choice permit.

(4) The goat permit allows a person to take one goat within the area, during the seasons, and using the weapon type prescribed by the Wildlife Board.

(5) A female-only goat permit allows a person to take one female goat within the area, during the seasons, and using the weapon type specified on the permit and in the Antlerless guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(6)(a) An orientation course is required for Rocky Mountain goat hunters who draw

or purchase a female-only goat permit or a hunter's choice permit.

(b) The orientation course must be completed online through the division's website.

(c) The orientation course must be completed before the hunter obtains their permit.

(7)(a) A person who has obtained a Rocky Mountain goat permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a Rocky Mountain goat.

(b) Rocky Mountain goat permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's Internet address.

(c) A person who fails to comply with the requirement in Subsection (a) shall be ineligible to apply for any once-in-a-lifetime, premium limited entry, limited entry, or cooperative wildlife management unit permit or bonus points in the following year.

(d) Late questionnaires may be accepted pursuant to Subsection R657-42-9(2).

#### **R[~~657-5-41~~657-5-42]. Depredation Hunter Pool Permits.**

(1) When big game are causing damage or are considered a nuisance, control hunts not listed in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game may be held as provided in Rule R657-44. These hunts occur on short notice, involve small areas, and are limited to only a few hunters.

(2) For the purpose of this section, nuisance is defined as a situation where big game animals are found to have moved off formally approved management units onto adjacent units or other areas not approved for that species.

#### **R[~~657-5-42~~657-5-43]. Carcass Importation.**

(1) It is unlawful to import dead elk, moose, mule deer, or white-tailed deer or their parts from any state or province which has deer or elk diagnosed with Chronic Wasting Disease, except the following portions of the carcass:

(a) meat that is cut and wrapped either commercially or privately;

(b) quarters or other portion of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached;

(c) meat that is boned out;

(d) hides with no heads attached;

(e) skulls or skull plates with antlers attached, so long as all brain matter and spinal column material is removed;

(f) antlers with no meat or tissue attached;

(g) upper canine teeth, also known as buglers, whistlers, or ivories; or

(h) finished taxidermy heads.

(2)(a) The affected states, provinces, game management units, equivalent wildlife management units, or counties, which have deer, elk, or moose diagnosed with Chronic Wasting Disease shall be available at division offices and through the division's Internet address.

(b) Importation of harvested elk, moose, mule deer, or white-tailed deer or its parts from the affected areas are hereby restricted pursuant to Subsection (1).

(3) Nonresidents of Utah transporting harvested elk, moose, mule deer, or white-tailed deer from the affected areas are exempt if they:

(a) do not leave any part of the harvested animal in Utah and do not stay more than 24 hours in the state of Utah;

- (b) do not have their deer, elk, or moose processed in Utah; or
- (c) do not leave any parts of the carcass in Utah.

**R~~[657-5-43]~~657-5-44. Chronic Wasting Disease - Infected Animals.**

(1) Any person who under the authority of a permit issued by the division legally takes a deer, elk, or moose that is later confirmed to be infected with Chronic Wasting Disease may:

- (a) retain the entire carcass of the animal;
- (b) retain any parts of the carcass, including antlers, and surrender the remainder to the division for proper disposal; or
- (c) surrender all portions of the carcass in their actual or constructive possession, including antlers, to the division and receive a free new permit the following year for the same hunt.

(2) The new permit issued pursuant to Subsection (1)(c) shall be for the same species, sex, weapon type, unit, region, and otherwise subject to all the restrictions and conditions imposed on the original permit, except season dates for the permit shall follow the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game published in the year the new permit is valid.

(3) Notwithstanding other rules to the contrary, private landowners and landowner associations may refuse access to private property to persons possessing new permits issued under Subsection (1)(c).

(4)(a) The division may identify big game hunting units where an individual may be randomly selected to submit their harvested animal to the division for Chronic Wasting Disease testing.

(b) Big game hunting units that are eligible for mandatory testing will be identified in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(c) Individuals who are randomly selected as participants in the big game Chronic Wasting Disease testing program will be notified in writing prior to the opening day of their hunt with a list of program requirements.

(d) An individual who fails to comply with mandatory testing requirements in this rule may be declared ineligible to apply for or receive any big game licenses, permits, or certificates of registration until they comply with the requirements of this rule and any assessment of fees under R657-42-9.

**~~[R657-5-44. Management Bull Elk Hunt.]~~**

~~[(1)(a) For the purposes of this section "management bull" means any bull elk with 5 points or less on at least one antler. A point means a projection longer than one inch, measured from its base to its tip.]~~

~~[(b) For purposes of this section "youth" means any person 17 years of age or younger on July 31.]~~

~~[(c) For the purposes of this section "senior" means any person 65 years of age or older on the opening day of the management bull elk archery season published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.]~~

~~[(2)(a) Management bull elk permits shall be distributed pursuant to Rule R657-62 with 30% of the permits being allocated to youth, 30% to seniors and the remaining 40% to hunters of all ages.]~~

~~[(3) Management bull elk permit holders may take one management bull elk during the season, on the area and with the weapon type specified on the permit. Management bull elk hunting seasons, areas and weapon types are published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.]~~

~~[(4)(a) A person who has obtained a management bull elk permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a management bull elk.]~~

~~[(b) Management bull elk permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's Internet address.]~~

~~[(5)(a) Management bull elk permit holders who successfully harvest a management bull elk, as defined in Subsection (1)(a) must have their animal inspected by the division.]~~

~~[(b) Successful hunters must deliver the head and antlers of the elk they harvest to a division office for inspection within 72 hours after the date of kill.]~~

~~[(6) Management bull elk permit holders may not retain possession of any harvested bull elk that fails to satisfy the definition requirements in Subsection (1)(a).]~~

~~[(7) A person who has obtained a management bull elk permit may not hunt during any other elk hunt or obtain any other elk permit, except as provided in Subsection R657-5-33(3).]~~

#### **R657-5-45. [General Any Weapon Buck Deer and Bull Elk Combination Hunt.]**

~~[(1) Permit numbers, season dates and unit boundary descriptions for the general any weapon buck deer and bull elk combination hunt shall be established in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.]~~

~~[(2) A person who obtains a general any weapon buck deer and bull elk combination permit may use any legal weapon to take one buck deer and one bull elk during the season and within the unit specified on the permit.]~~

~~[(a) A general any weapon buck deer and bull elk combination permit does not authorize the holder to hunt deer or elk within any cooperative wildlife management unit.]~~

~~[(3) A person who has obtained a general any weapon buck deer and bull elk combination permit may not hunt during any other deer or elk hunt or obtain any other deer or elk permit, except:]~~

~~[(a) antlerless deer, as provided in Subsection R657-5-27, and]~~

~~[(b) antlerless elk, as provided in Subsection R657-5-33.]~~

~~[(4)(a) Lifetime license holders may obtain a general any weapon buck deer and bull elk combination permit.]~~

~~[(b) Upon obtaining a general any weapon buck deer and bull elk combination permit, the lifetime license holder foregoes any rights to receive a buck deer permit for the general archery, general any weapon or general muzzleloader deer hunts as provided in Section 23-19-17.5.]~~

~~[(c) A refund or credit is not issued for the general archery, general any weapon or general muzzleloader deer permit.]~~

#### **[R657-5-46.] Management Buck Deer Hunt.**

(1)(a) For the purposes of this section "management buck" means any buck deer with 3 points or less on at least one antler above and including the first fork in the antler. A point means a projection longer than one inch, measured from its base to its tip. The eye guard is not counted as a point.

~~[(b) For purposes of this section "youth" means any person 17 years of age or younger on July 31.]~~

~~[ (c) For the purposes of this section "senior" means any person 65 years of age or older on the opening day of the management buck deer archery season published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.]~~

(2) Management buck deer permits shall be distributed pursuant to Rule R657-62.

(3) Management buck deer permit holders may take one management buck deer during the season, in the area and with the weapon type specified on the permit. Management buck deer hunting seasons, areas and weapon types are published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(4)(a) A person who has obtained a management buck deer permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a management buck deer.

(b) Management buck deer permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's Internet address.

(5)(a) Management buck deer permit holders who successfully harvest a management buck deer, as defined in Subsection (1)(a) must have their animal inspected by the division.

(b) Successful hunters must deliver the head and antlers of the deer they harvest to a division office for inspection within 72 hours after the date of kill.

(6) Management buck deer permit holders may not retain possession of any harvested buck deer that fails to satisfy the definition requirements in Subsection (1)(a).

(7) A person who has obtained a management buck deer permit may not hunt during any other deer hunt or obtain any other deer permit, except as provided in Section R657-5-27.

#### **R~~657-5-47~~657-5-46. Cactus Buck Deer Hunt.**

(1) For the purposes of this section "cactus buck" means a buck deer with velvet covering at least 50% of the antlers during the season dates established by the Wildlife Board for a cactus buck deer hunt.

(2)(a) Cactus buck deer permit holders may take one cactus buck deer during the season, in the area, and with the weapon type specified on the permit.

(b) Cactus buck deer hunting seasons, areas and weapon types are published in the guidebooks of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(3)(a) A person who has obtained a cactus buck deer permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, regardless of whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a cactus buck deer.

(b) Cactus buck deer permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's Internet address.

(4)(a) Cactus buck deer permit holders who successfully harvest a cactus buck deer, as defined in Subsection (1)(a), must have their animal inspected by the division.

(b) Successful hunters must deliver the head and antlers of the deer they harvest to a division office for inspection within 72 hours after the date of harvest.

(5) Cactus buck deer permit holders may not retain possession of any harvested buck deer that fails to satisfy the definition requirements in Subsection (1).

(6) A person who has obtained a cactus buck deer permit may not hunt during any

other deer hunt or obtain any other deer permit, except as provided in Section R657-5-27.

**R[~~657-5-48~~657-5-47]. Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only Hunt.**

(1) The division may establish Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only hunts for any big game species.

(2) An individual may only use the following weapons on a Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only hunt:

(a) a legal handgun for the species being hunted, consistent with Section R657-5-9 and Subsection (5), with no attached scope;

(b) legal archery equipment consistent with Section R657-5-11;

(c) a legal muzzleloader consistent with Section R657-5-10, with no attached scope; or

(d) a legal shotgun consistent with Section R657-5-8, with no attached scope.

(3) A person who has obtained a Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only permit may take one animal of the big game species identified on the permit.

(4) A person who has obtained a Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only permit may only hunt under that permit during the season dates and within the boundaries identified on the permit and in the guidebooks of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(5) In addition to the requirements in Section R657-5-9, a handgun used to take a big game animal in a Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only hunt must:

(a) have no more than a single barrel 15 inches or less in length, including the chamber;

(b) have a single rear handgrip without any form of a:

(i) fixed, detachable, or collapsible buttstock;

(ii) apparatus or extension behind the rear grip capable of being used to steady the handgun against the body while firing; or

(iii) vertical foregrip; and

(c) be no more than 24 inches in overall length.

(6) A Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only hunt is not a centerfire rifle hunt for purposes of Section 23-20-31 or R[~~657-5-49~~657-5-48].

(7) A Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only permit may not be used on an extended archery hunt.

**R[~~657-5-49~~657-5-48]. Hunter Orange Exceptions.**

(1) A person shall wear a minimum of 400 inches of hunter orange material on the head, chest, and back while hunting any species of big game, with the following exceptions:

(a) Hunters participating in a once-in-a-lifetime, statewide conservation, or statewide sportsmen hunt;

(b) Hunters participating in an archery or muzzleloader hunt outside of an area where an any weapon general season bull elk or any weapon general season buck deer hunt is occurring;

(c) Hunters participating in a Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only hunt outside of an area where an any weapon general season bull elk or any weapon general season buck deer hunt is occurring;

(d) Hunters hunting on a cooperative wildlife management unit unless otherwise required by the operator of the cooperative wildlife management units;

(e) Hunters participating in a nuisance wildlife removal hunt authorized under a certificate of registration by the division; and

(f) Hunters participating in an archery hunt with unit boundaries and season dates that overlap the unit boundaries and season dates for the youth any bull elk hunt.

**R[~~657-5-50~~657-5-49]. Authorization to Remove Bighorn Sheep from Domestic Sheep Operations.**

(1) The division may issue a certificate of registration to the owner of a domestic sheep operation allowing for the removal of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep or desert bighorn sheep found to have physical contact with domestic sheep.

(2) If a domestic sheep grazing operation wishes to acquire a certificate of registration, it must submit an application to the division.

(3) In evaluating the application, the division may consider:

(a) the size and location of the domestic sheep operation;

(b) past efforts to maintain spatial separation between wild and domestic sheep;

(c) the ability of state officials to respond to potential commingling events in a timely manner;

(d) future plans to improve spatial separation between wild and domestic sheep;

(e) historical disease status of the wild sheep population; and

(f) management priorities for the wild sheep population.

(4) The division may deny an application for a certificate of registration if, in the opinion of the division, there are other means available to respond to a commingling event.

(5) The division shall require any certificate of registration holder to comply with the following provisions:

(a) the grazing operation shall immediately notify the division if a wild bighorn sheep is found within 1 mile of any domestic sheep;

(b) the grazing operation shall utilize all reasonable means to notify the division of the threatened commingling event prior to undertaking any lethal removal action;

(c) a wild bighorn sheep may only be lethally removed if it is within 1 mile of a domestic sheep;

(d) the grazing operation will inform the division within 24 hours of a lethal removal effort, or as soon as practical thereafter, considering access and logistical limitations;

(e) all lethally removed wild bighorn sheep will be field-dressed and preserved in a manner so as to allow donation for human consumption;

(f) the entire carcass of each lethally removed bighorn sheep shall be relinquished to division personnel, including intact head, horns and cape; and

(g) only legal weapons identified in R657-5 may be used in lethal removal activities.

(6)(a) Owners, employees, and immediate family members may be named as authorized individuals to act under the authority of a certificate of registration.

(b) Any individual acting under the authority of a certificate of registration must be specifically named on the certificate of registration.

(7)(a) The division may establish a term for the validity of a certificate of registration.

(b) The division may revoke a certificate of registration where the certificate of registration holder, an individual named on the certificate, or someone acting under their direct authority violated any provision of this rule, the Wildlife Resources Code, or the certificate of registration.

(8) The procedures and rules governing any adverse action taken by the division or the Wildlife Board against a certificate of registration or an application for certificate of registration are set forth in Rule R657-2.

**KEY: wildlife, game laws, big game seasons**

**Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: March 14, 2022**

**Notice of Continuation: September 8, 2020**

**Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 23-14-18; 23-14-19; 23-16-5; 23-16-6**

## **R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources.**

### **R657-62. Drawing Application Procedures.**

#### **R657-62-1. Purpose and Authority.**

(1) Under authority of Sections 23-14-18 and 23-14-19, the Wildlife Board has established this rule for drawing applications and procedures.

(2) Specific season dates, bag and possession limits, areas open, number of permits and other administrative details that may change annually are published in the respective guidebooks of the Wildlife Board.

#### **R657-62-9. Preference Points.**

(1) Preference points are used in the applicable drawings to ensure that applicants who are unsuccessful in the drawing will have first preference in the next year's drawing.

(2)(a) A preference point is awarded for:

(i) each valid, unsuccessful application applying for a general buck deer, antlerless deer, antlerless elk, doe pronghorn, Sandhill Crane, Sharp-tailed grouse, Greater sage grouse or Swan permit; or

(ii) each valid application when applying only for a preference point in the applicable drawings.

(b) Preference points are awarded by species for:

(i) general buck deer;

(ii) antlerless deer;

(iii) antlerless elk;

(iv) doe pronghorn;

(v) Sandhill Crane;

(vi) Sharp-tailed Grouse;

(vii) Greater sage grouse; and

(viii) Swan.

(3)(a) A person may not apply in the drawing for both a preference point and a permit for the species listed in Subsection (2)(b).

(b) A person may not apply for a preference point if that person is ineligible to apply for a permit.

(4) Preference points for the applicable species are forfeited if a person obtains a general buck deer, antlerless deer, antlerless elk, doe pronghorn, Sandhill Crane, Sharp-tailed grouse, Greater sage grouse or Swan permit, whether obtained through a division drawing or over the counter, except points are not forfeited if a person obtains one or more of the following:

(a) youth archery buck deer permit;

(b) mitigation permits issued to a landowner Rule R657-44, [~~not~~]including mitigation permit vouchers;

(c) antlerless elk control permits; [~~and~~]

(d) a general landowner buck deer permit or landowner appreciation permit issued pursuant to Rule R657-43; and

(e) private land only antlerless elk permits.

(5) Preference points are not transferable.

(6) Preference points are averaged and rounded down when two or more applicants apply together on a group application.

(7)(a) Preference points are tracked using social security numbers or division-issued

customer identification numbers.

(b) The division shall retain copies of electronic applications from 2000 to the current applicable drawings for researching preference point records.

(c) Any requests for researching an applicant's preference point records must be submitted within the time frames provided in Subsection (b).

(d) Any preference points on the division's records shall not be researched beyond the time frames provided in Subsection (b).

(e) The division may eliminate any preference point obtained by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or in violation of law.

**KEY: wildlife, permits**

**Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: March 10, 2022**

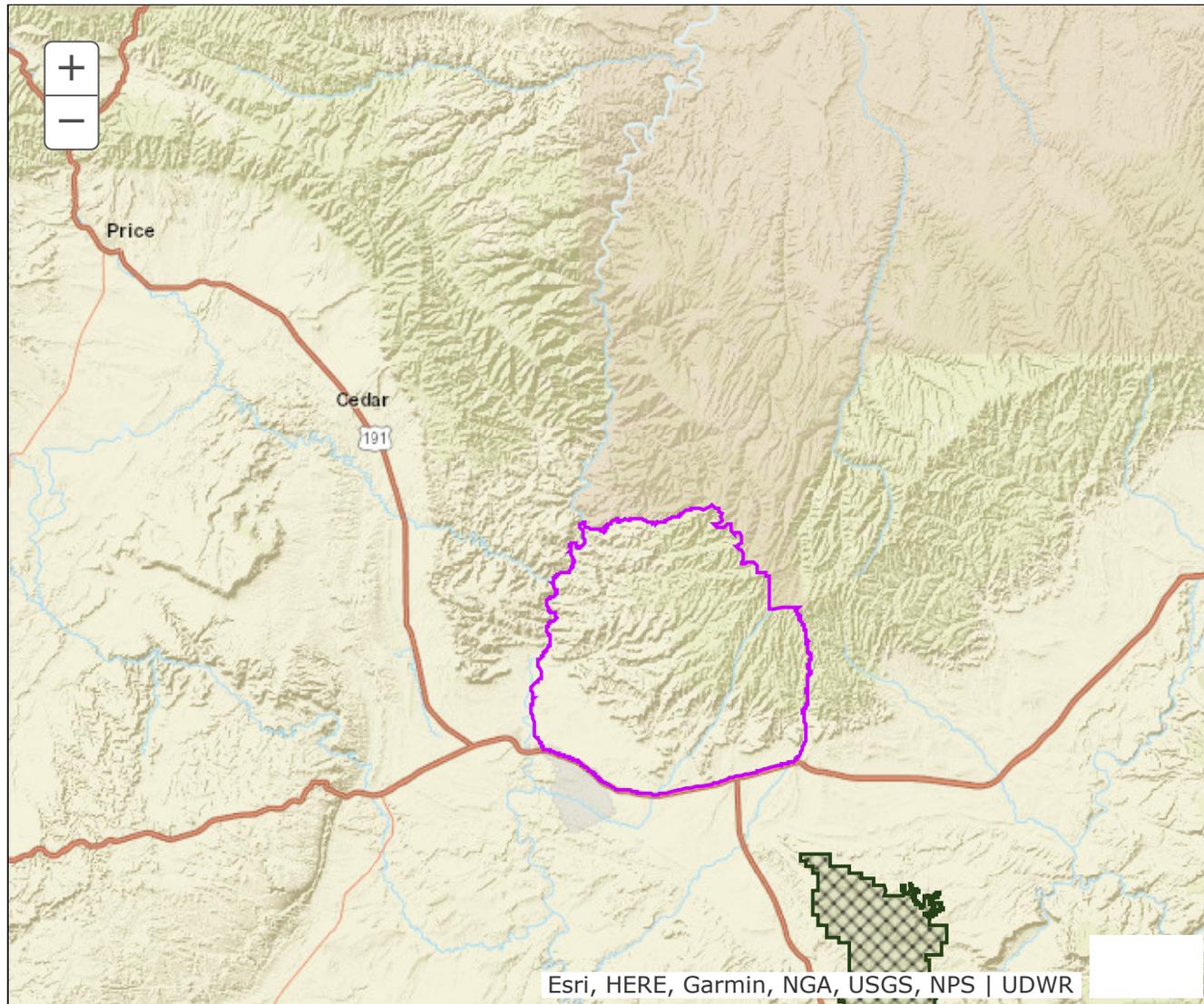
**Notice of Continuation: April 9, 2019**

**Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 23-14-18; 23-14-19**

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Book Cliffs, Floy Canyon

**SPECIES** Elk

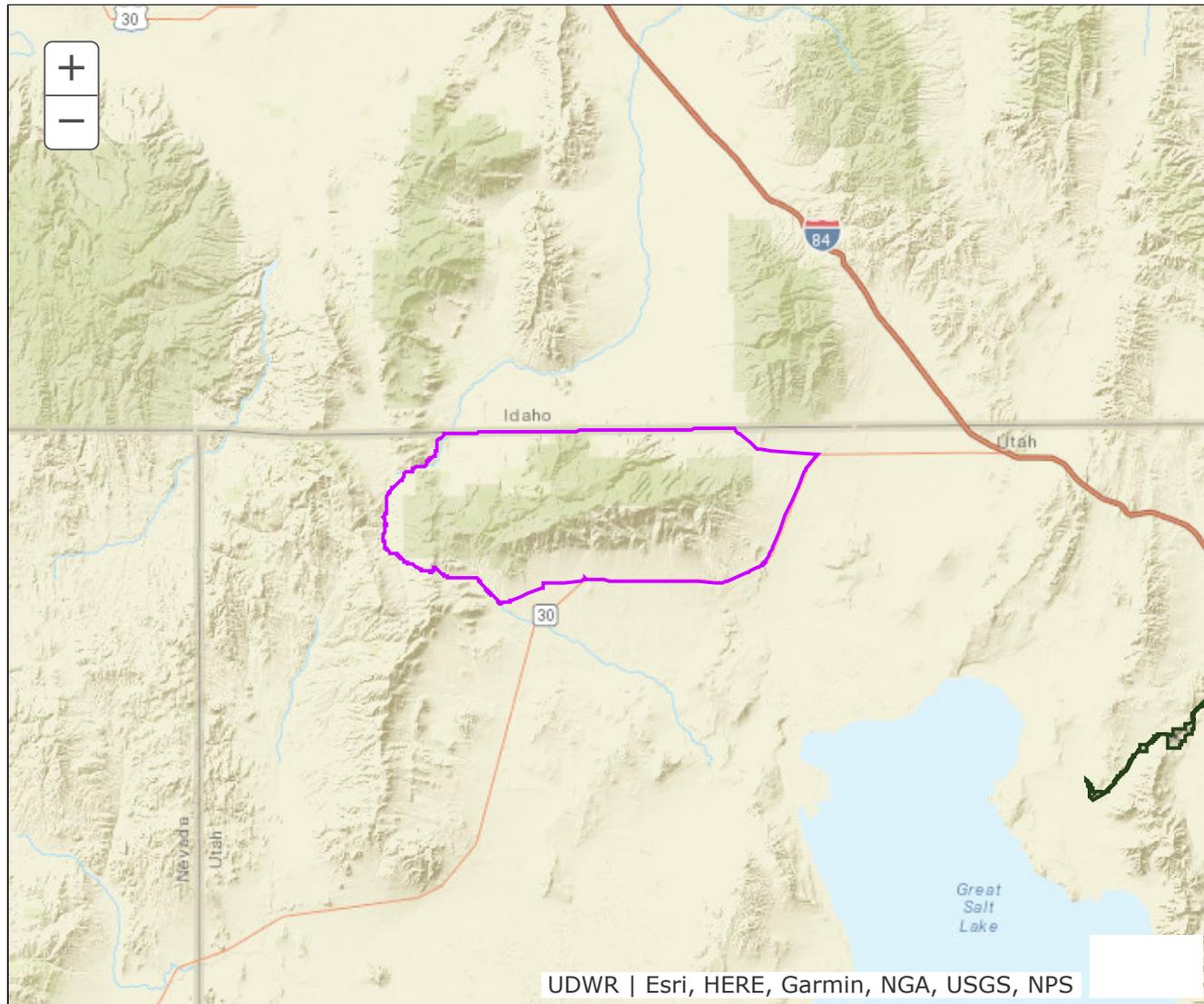


**Updated Boundary:** Grand County - Boundary begins at Exit 164 on I-70 near the town of Green River; east on I-70 to the Thompson Canyon road at Thompson; north on this road to the Sego Canyon road; north on this road to the Ute Indian Reservation boundary; west along this boundary to the Green River; south along this river to Swasey's Boat Ramp and the Hastings Road; south on this road to SR-19; south and east on SR-19 to Exit 164 on I-70 near the town of Green River. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LAND WITHIN THE BOUNDARY. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Huntington, Westwater. Boundary questions? Call the Price office, 435-613-3700

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Box Elder, Sawtooth

**SPECIES** Elk

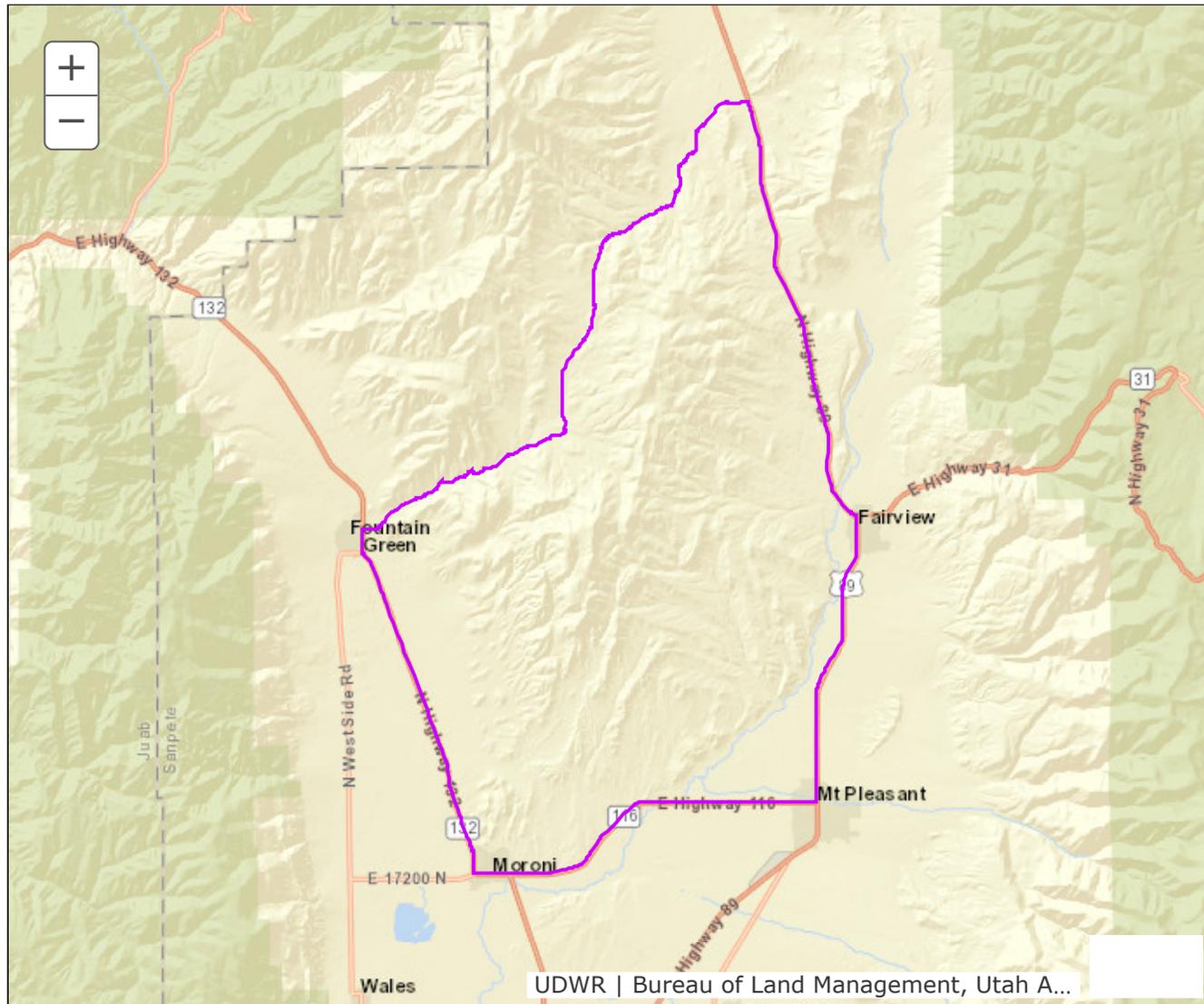


**Updated Boundary:** Box Elder County — Boundary begins at the Lynn/Almo, Idaho road and the Utah-Idaho state line; southwest on this road through the Raft River Narrows to Lynn and the Lynn Valley road; south on this road to the Dove Creek road; southeast on this road over Dove Creek Pass to SR-30 near Rosette; northeast on SR-30 to SR-42; northwest on SR-42 to the Utah-Idaho state line; west on the state line to the Lynn/Almo, Idaho road. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Grouse Creek. Boundary questions? Call Ogden office, (801) 476-2740.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Central Mtns, Moroni Hills

**SPECIES** Elk

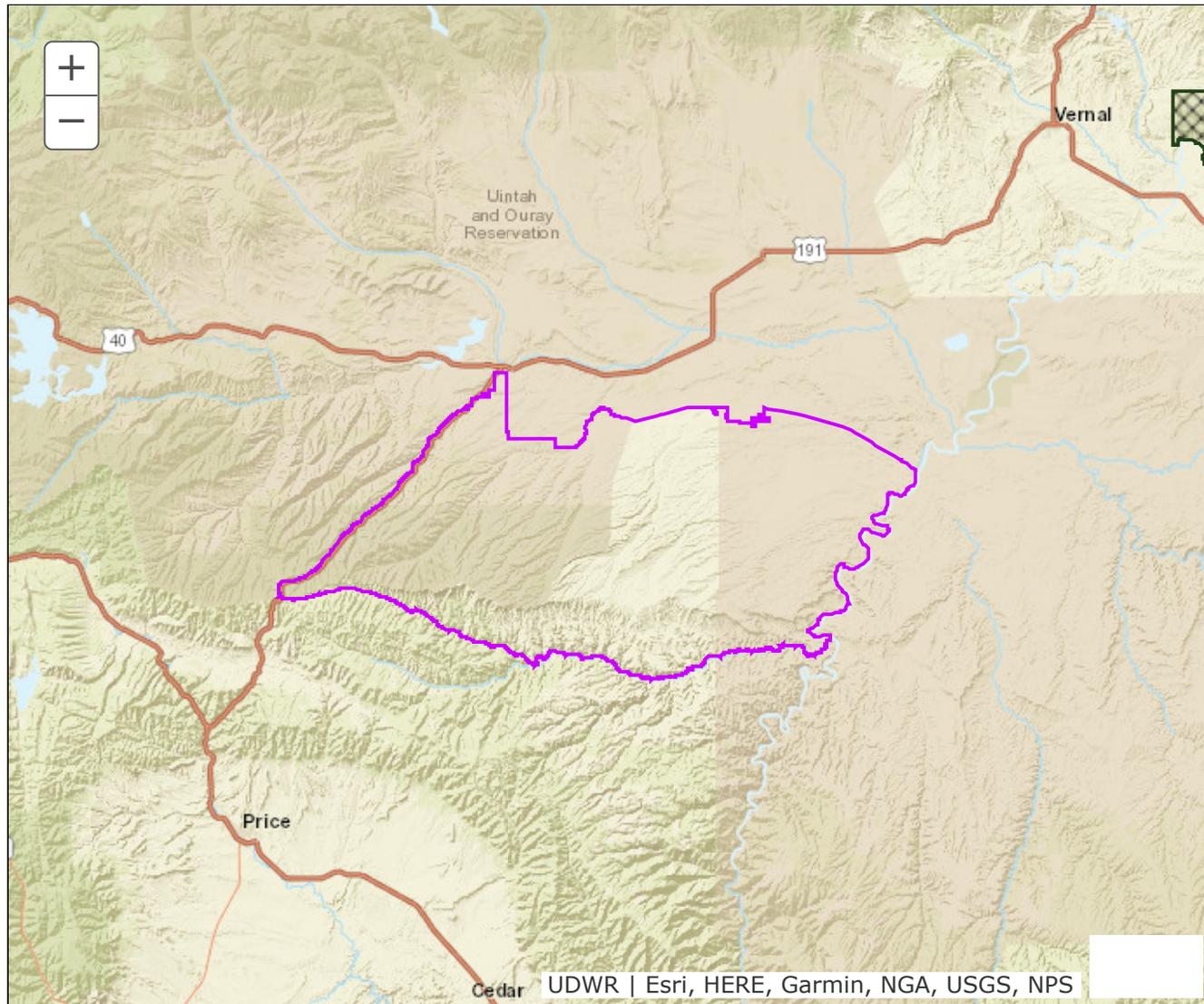


**Updated Boundary:** Sanpete County--Boundary begins at SR-132 and Big Hollow Rd in Fountain Green; east and northeast on Big Hollow Rd to US-89; south on US-89 to Main St (SR-116) in Mount Pleasant; west on SR-116 to SR-132 in Moroni; north on SR-132 to Big Hollow Rd in Fountain Green. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Nephi. Boundary questions? Call the Springville office, 801-491-5678.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Nine Mile, Anthro

**SPECIES** Elk

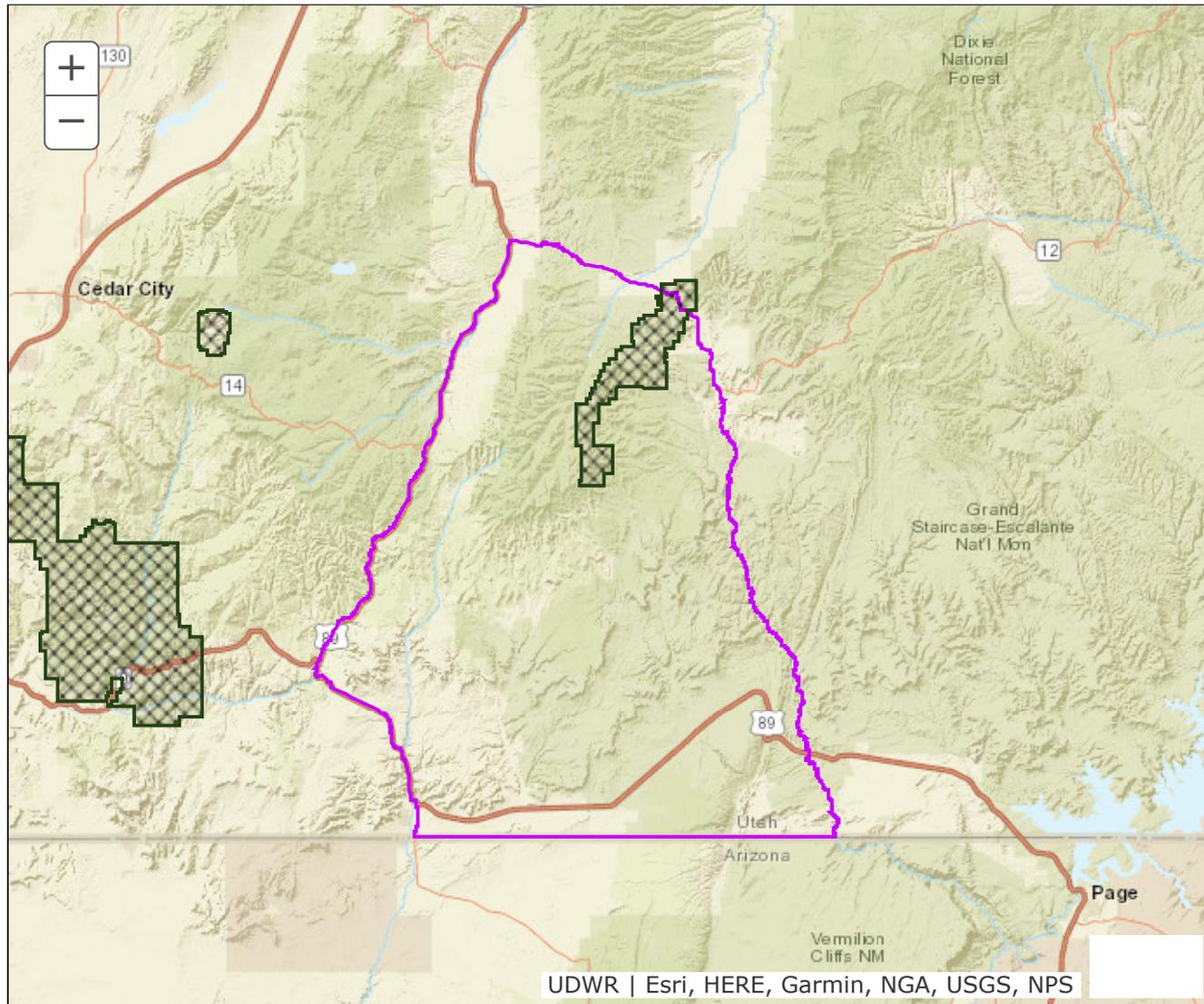


**Updated Boundary:** Duchesne and Uintah counties—Boundary begins at US-191 and the Argyle Canyon Road; southeast on this road to the Nine Mile Canyon Road; east along this road to its end near Bulls Canyon; south from the end of this road to Nine Mile Creek; east along this creek to the Green River; north along this river to the BLM boundary near Pariette Draw; west along the BLM boundary to the Pleasant Valley Road (CR-31); west along this road to the Antelope Canyon Road (CR-27); south along this road to the Sowers Canyon Road (CR-24); south along this road to the Ute Tribal boundary; west along this boundary to the Cottonwood Ridge WMA boundary; west and north along this boundary to the Ute Tribal boundary; north and west along this road to US-191; south along US-191 to the Argyle Canyon Road. EXCLUDING ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LAND WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Duchesne, Price, Seep Ridge, Vernal. Boundary questions? Call the Vernal office, 435-781-9453.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Paunsaugunt

**SPECIES** Elk

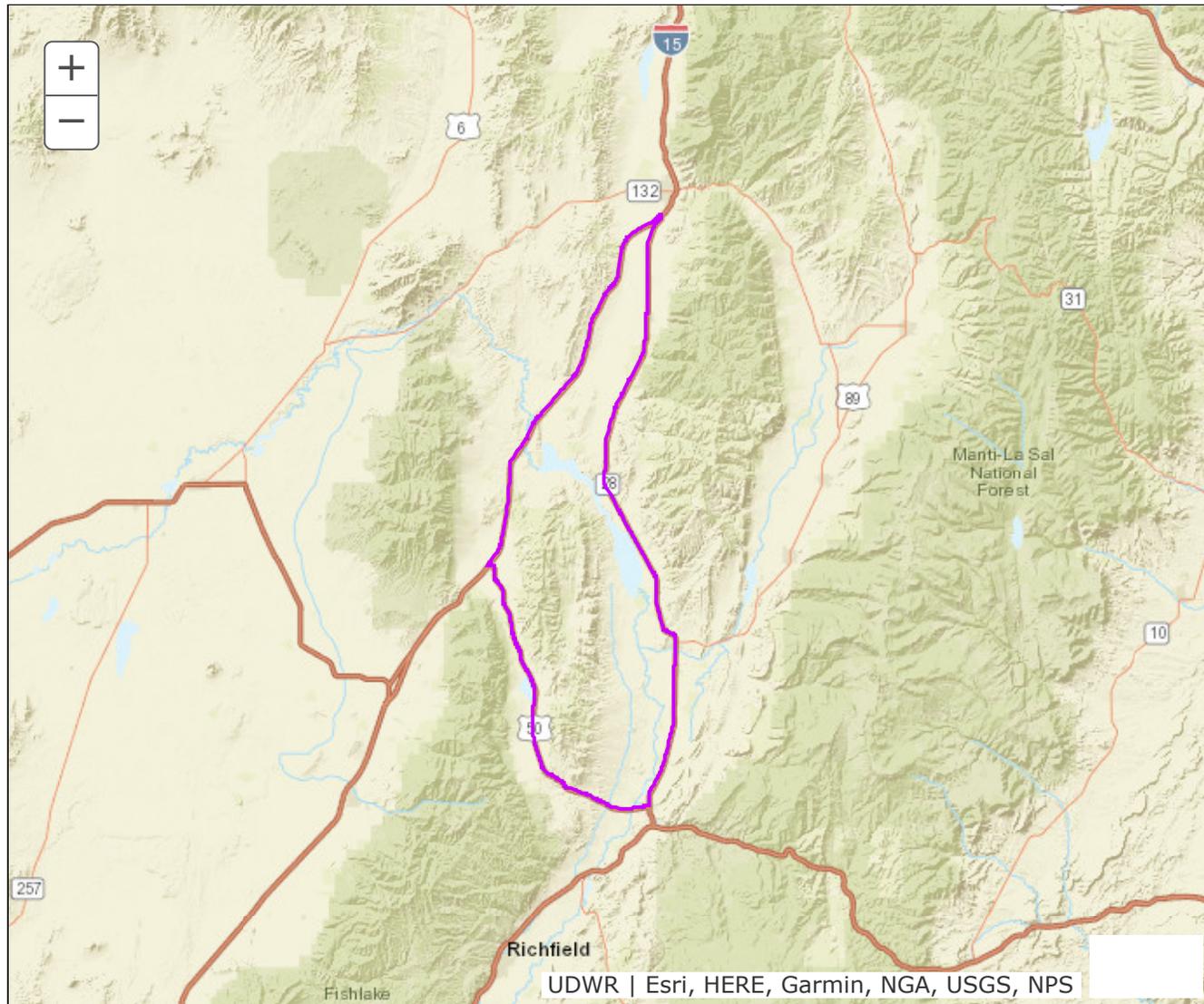


**Updated Boundary:** Garfield and Kane counties—Boundary begins at US-89A and the Utah-Arizona state line; north on US-89A to US-89; north on US-89 to SR-12; east on SR-12 to the Paria River; south along the Paria River to the Utah-Arizona state line; west along this state line to US-89A. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Kanab, Panguitch. Boundary questions? Call the Cedar City office, 435-865-6100.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Valley Mtns

**SPECIES** Elk

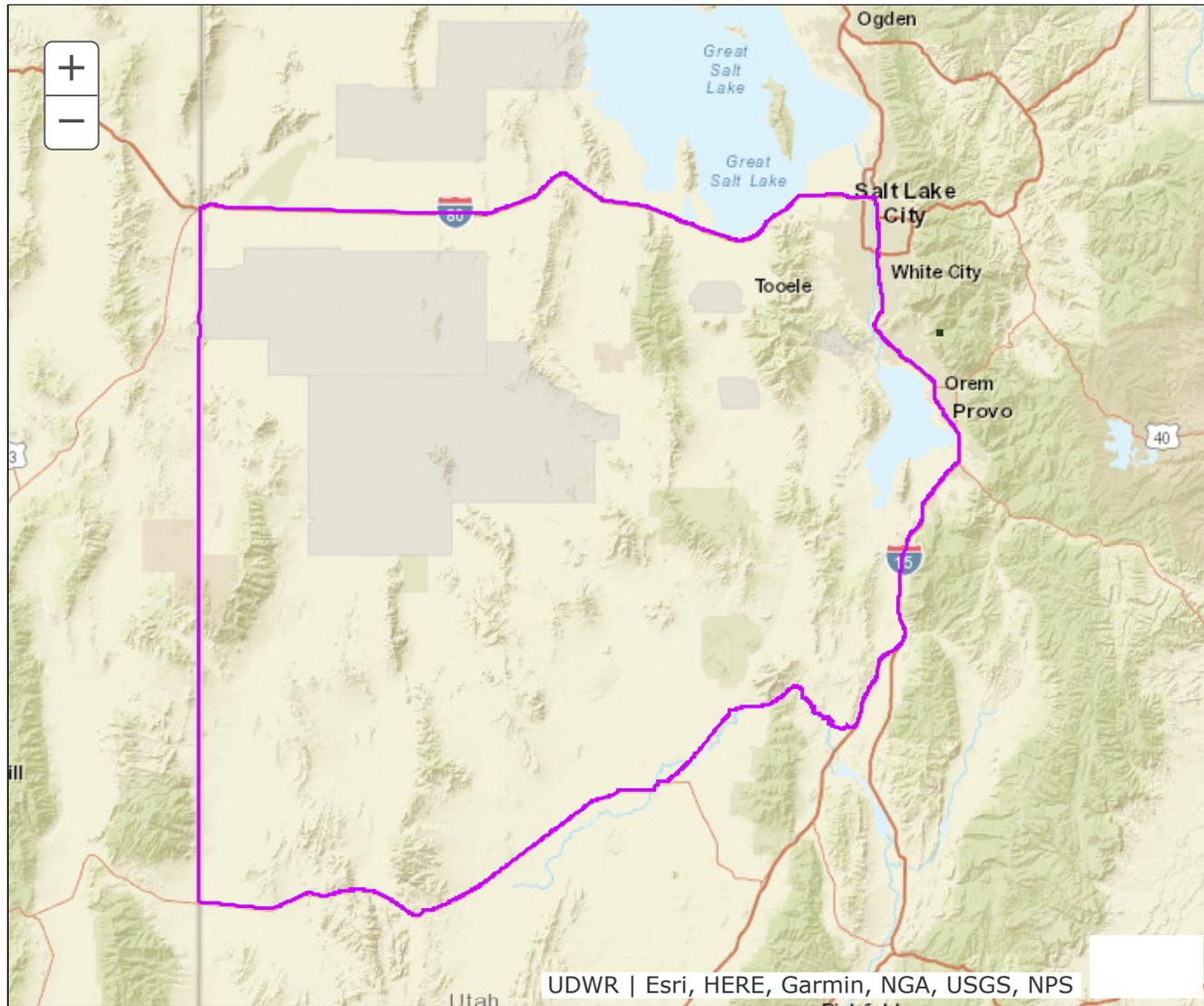


**Updated Boundary:** Sanpete, Millard and Juab counties – Boundary begins at I-15 and SR-28 at Nephi; south on SR-28 to US-89 in Gunnison; south on US-89 to Main St (SR-50) in Salina; northwest on SR-50 to 400 N in Scipio; west on 400 N to I-15 at Scipio; north on I-15 to SR-28 at Nephi. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Maps: Delta, Nephi, Salina. Boundary questions? Call the Springville office, 801-491-5678

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** West Desert

**SPECIES** Elk

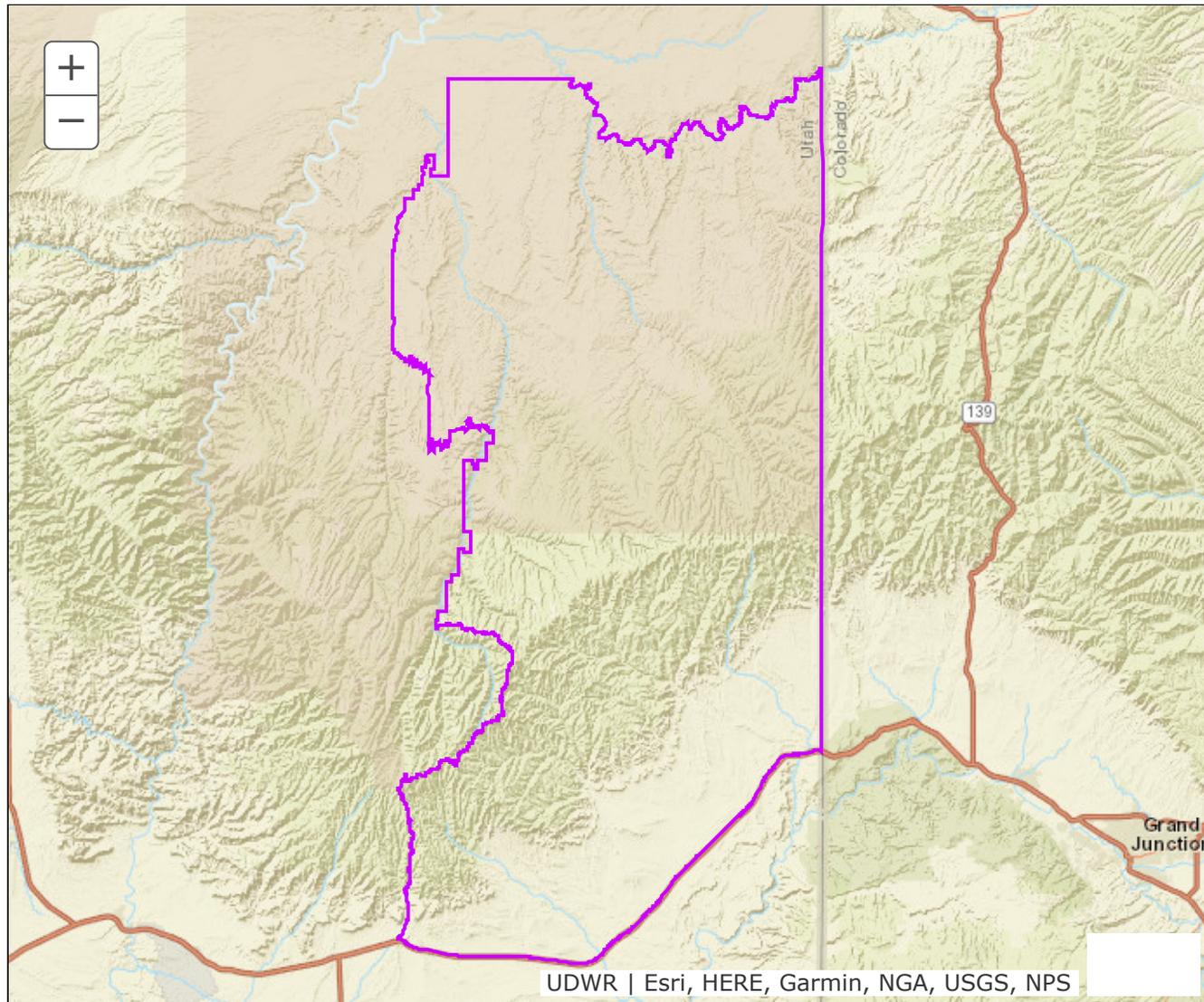


**Updated Boundary:** Juab, Millard, Salt Lake, Tooele, and Utah counties -- Boundary begins at Nevada-Utah Stateline and I-80 in Wendover; east on I-80 to I-15; south on I-15 to Exit 207 and the Mills road; west on this road to the Sevier River; north along the Sevier River to SR-132; west on SR-132 to US-6; southwest on US-6 to US-6/50; west on US-6/50 to the Nevada-Utah Stateline; north on this Stateline to I-80. Excludes all CWMU, military and tribal lands.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East

**SPECIES** Elk



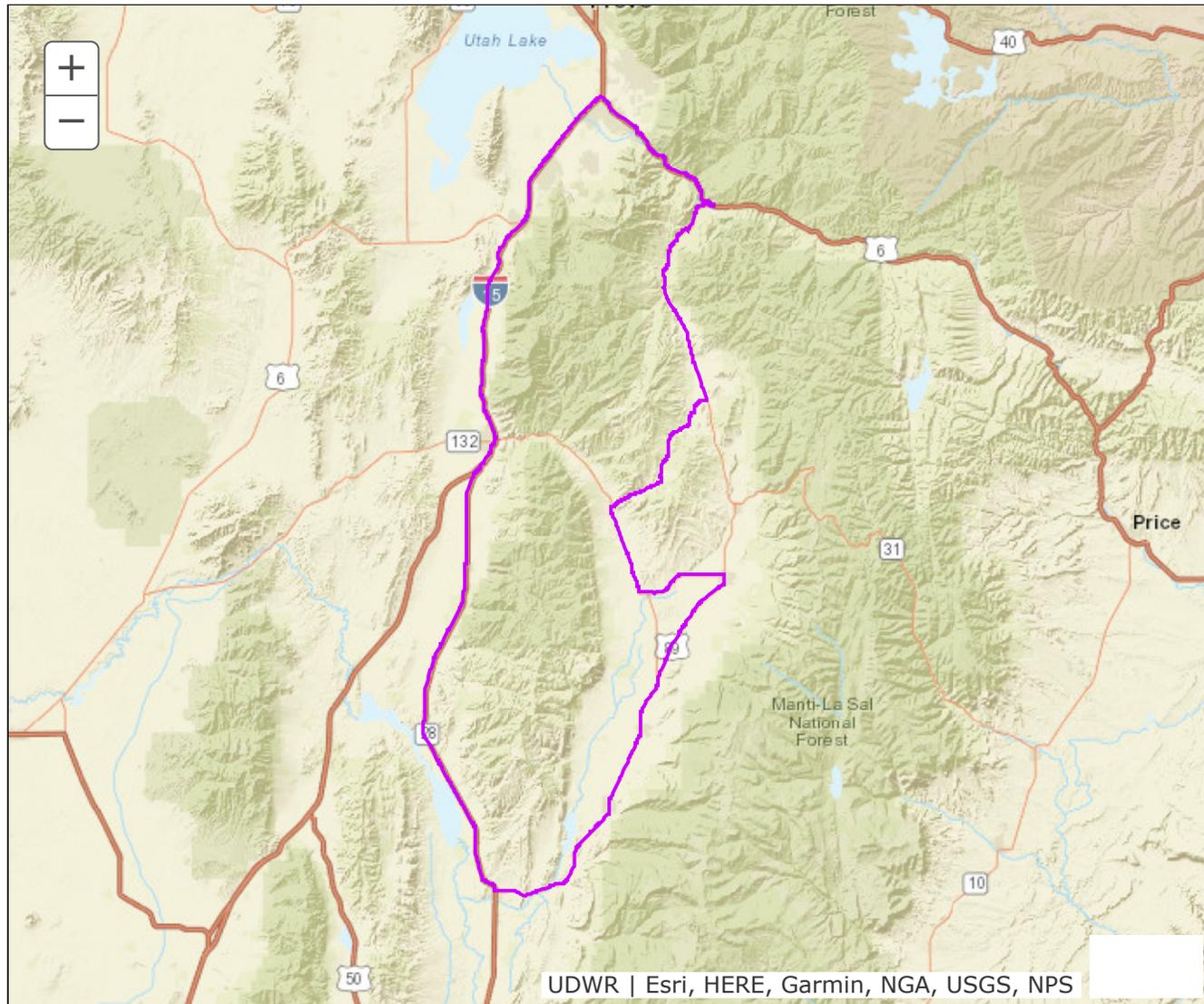
**Updated Boundary:** Grand and Uintah counties--Boundary begins at the Utah-Colorado state line and the White River; west along this river to the Green River; south along this river to the southern boundary of the Ute Indian Reservation; east along this boundary to the Segoe Canyon road; south on this road to the Thompson Canyon Road; south on this road to Thompson and I-70; east on I-70 to the Utah-Colorado state line; north on this state line to the White River. EXCLUDES THE BOOK CLIFFS, LITTLE CREEK ROADLESS UNIT. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LAND WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Huntington, Moab, Price, Seep Ridge, Vernal, Westwater. Boundary questions? Call the Vernal office, 435-781-9453 or the Price office, 435-613-3700. EXCLUDES Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless Unit as follows: Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless Grand County--Boundary begins at Steer Ridge road and Ten Mile Knoll; southwest along Diamond Ridge and the Book Cliffs summit (north-south drainage divide) to the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation boundary (Hells Hole/head of Segoe Canyon); north along this boundary (west side of West Willow Creek)

to the Wildlife Management Area/Ute Tribe Fence at the confluence of East and West Willow Creek; northeast to the west fork of the Steer Ridge road (NW 1/4 Sec 7, T17 S R 21 E); south and east along the Steer Ridge road (atop the drainage divide) to Ten Mile Knoll. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LAND WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Westwater. Boundary questions? Call the Vernal office, 435-781-9453.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns

**SPECIES** Elk

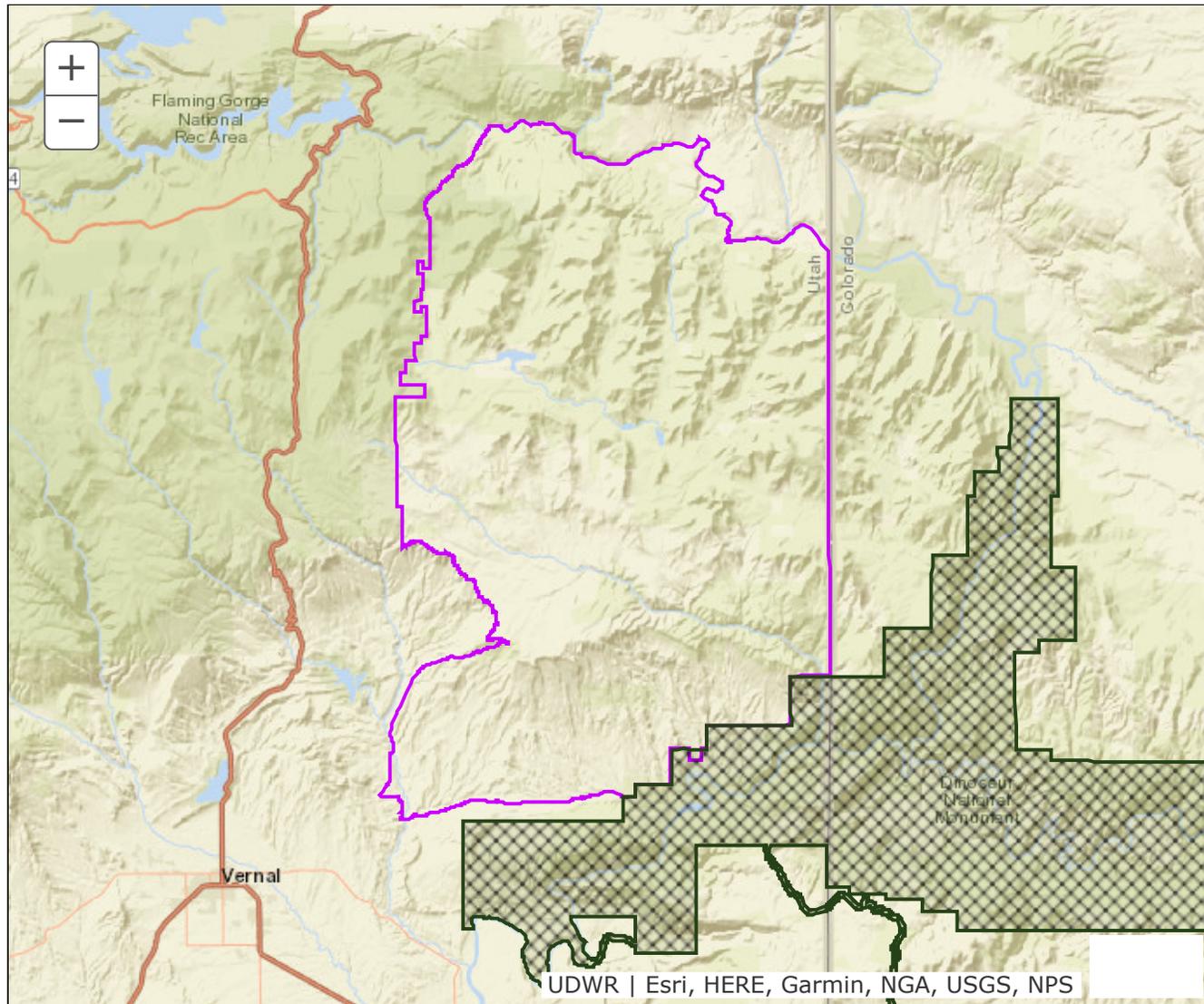


**Updated Boundary:** Juab, Millard, Sanpete, Sevier and Utah counties—Boundary begins at US-6 and I-15 at Spanish Fork; southeast on US-6 to US-89 near Thistle; south on US-89 to Big Hollow Rd; west on Big Hollow Rd to SR-132 in Fountain Green; South on SR-132 to Main St (SR-116) in Moroni; East on SR-116 to US-89 in Mount Pleasant; south on US-89 to SR-28 in Gunnison; north on SR-28 to I-15 in Nephi; north on I-15 to US-6 at Spanish Fork. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Maps: Delta, Manti, Nephi, Provo, Salina. Boundary questions? Call the Springville office, 801-491-5678.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** South Slope, Diamond Mtn

**SPECIES** Elk



**Updated Boundary:** Daggett and Uintah counties--Boundary begins at the Utah-Colorado state line and the Green River at Browns Park; west along this river to Gorge Creek; south along Gorge Creek to the USFS/private land boundary at the head of Davenport Draw; south along the USFS/private land boundary on the west side of Davenport Draw to the BLM boundary; south along the BLM boundary approximately one-third of a mile to the rim of Diamond Mountain; south and easterly along this rim until the rim intersects the Diamond Mountain road (Jones Hole Road); south and west on this road to the Brush Creek road; south on this road to the Island Park/Rainbow Park road; east on this road to the Dinosaur National Monument boundary; north and east on this boundary to the Utah-Colorado state line; north on this state line to the Green River. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Dutch John. Boundary questions? Call Vernal office, 435-781-9453.



## State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
*Governor*

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
*Lieutenant Governor*

## Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
*Executive Director*

### Division of Wildlife Resources

J. SHIRLEY  
*Division Director*

## MEMORANDUM

Date: October 21, 2022

To: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

From: Rusty Robinson, Once-in-a-lifetime Species Coordinator

Subject: Proposed changes to the 2023-2024 hunt structure and season dates for Utah's once-in-a-lifetime species

The attached documents summarize the DWR's recommended changes to hunt structure and season dates for once-in-a-lifetime species.

### Recommended changes by species:

#### Bison

1. New hunt:
  - a. The DWR is recommending an additional late-season bison hunt in the Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South unit to spread out hunting pressure and reduce hunter crowding on the earlier hunts.

#### Bighorn sheep

1. New hunt:
  - a. The DWR is recommending a new desert bighorn sheep hunt on the Mineral Mountains unit, beginning in 2024.

#### Mountain goat

1. Discontinued hunt:
  - a. The DWR recommends discontinuing the North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas Central archery-only mountain goat hunt and moving it to the Beaver unit. (See item 2a below.) This change will better meet the intent of this hunt, which is outlined in the statewide mountain goat plan.
2. New hunt:
  - a. The DWR is recommending a new archery-only mountain goat hunt on the Beaver unit. (See item 1a above for details.)

**Please refer to the hunt tables and maps to see all recommended dates and season structure changes.**



2023 and 2024 OIAL Hunt Dates and Season Structure Recommendations			Recommended Discontinue	New Hunt
<b>Once in a Lifetime</b>				
<b>Bull Moose</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
MB6000	Cache	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
MB6001	Chalk Creek	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	N
MB6002	East Canyon	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	N
MB6003	East Canyon, Morgan-Summit	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	N
MB6004	Kamas	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	N
MB6005	Morgan-South Rich	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
MB6006	North Slope, Summit	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
MB6007	North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
MB6008	Ogden	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
MB6009	South Slope, Diamond Mtn/Vernal	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	N
MB6010	South Slope, Yellowstone	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	N
MB6011	Wasatch Mtns/Central Mtns	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
<b>Bison</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
BI6500	Antelope Island	Dec 04 2023 - Dec 06 2023	Dec 02 2024 - Dec 04 2024	N
BI6536	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek (Cow Only)	Nov 18 2023 - Dec 03 2023	Nov 16 2024 - Dec 01 2024	Y
BI6534	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek (Hunter's Choice)	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
BI6535	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek (Hunter's Choice)	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
BI6532	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek (Hunter's Choice, Archery)	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
BI6531	Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South (Hunter's Choice)	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
BI6529	Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South (Cow Only)	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 31 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 29 2024	Y
BI6530	Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South (Hunter's Choice)	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
BI6533	Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South (Cow Only, Muzzleloader)	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
BI6528	Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South (Hunter's Choice, Archery)	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
BI6537	Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South (Hunter's Choice)	Nov 1 2023 - Jan 31 2024	Oct 30 2024 - Jan 31 2025	Y
BI6516	Henry Mtns (Hunter's Choice)	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 13 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 11 2024	Y
BI6505	Henry Mtns (Cow Only)	Dec 16 2023 - Dec 27 2023	Dec 14 2024 - Dec 25 2024	Y

BI6506	Henry Mtns Cow Only)	Dec 30 2023 - Jan 16 2024	Dec 28 2024 - Jan 14 2025	Y
BI6503	Henry Mtns (Hunter's Choice)	Nov 04 2023 - Nov 15 2023	Nov 02 2024 - Nov 13 2024	Y
BI6504	Henry Mtns (Hunter's Choice)	Nov 18 2023 - Nov 29 2023	Nov 16 2024 - Nov 27 2024	Y
BI6509	Henry Mtns (Hunter's Choice, Archery)	Jan 17 2024 - Jan 31 2024	Jan 15 2025 - Jan 31 2025	Y
BI6527	Nine Mile (Over the Counter, Hunters Choice)	Aug 1 2023 - Jan 31 2024	Aug 1 2024 - Jan 31 2025	Y

<b>Desert Bighorn Sheep</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DS6600	Henry Mtns	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	N
DS6601	Kaiparowits, East	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	Y
DS6602	Kaiparowits, Escalante	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	Y
DS6603	Kaiparowits, West	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	Y
DS6604	La Sal, Potash/South Cisco	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	N
DS6625	Mineral Mtns	NA	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	N
DS6621	Pine Valley, Beaver Dam	Oct 28 2023 - Dec 24 2023	Oct 26 2024 - Dec 22 2024	N
DS6620	Pine Valley, Virgin River	Oct 28 2023 - Dec 24 2023	Oct 26 2024 - Dec 22 2024	N
DS6606	San Juan, Lockhart	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	N
DS6622	San Juan, North	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	N
DS6623	San Juan, San Juan River	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	N
DS6607	San Juan, South	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	N
DS6608	San Rafael, Dirty Devil	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	Y
DS6624	San Rafael, Dirty Devil (Archery)	Nov 30 2023 - Dec 20 2023	Nov 28 2024 - Dec 18 2024	N
DS6609	San Rafael, North	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	N
DS6610	San Rafael, South	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	Y
DS6611	Zion	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 10 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 10 2024	N

<b>Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
RS6701	Book Cliffs, South	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Nov 01 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y
RS6703	Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 27 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 25 2024	Y
RS6704	Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn	Oct 28 2023 - Nov 17 2023	Oct 26 2024 - Nov 15 2024	Y
RS6722	Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn (Archery)	Nov 18 2023 - Dec 10 2023	Nov 16 2024 - Dec 08 2024	N
RS6725	Central Mtns, Nebo	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Nov 01 2024 - Nov 30 2024	N
RS6720	Fillmore, Oak Creek	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 27 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 25 2024	N

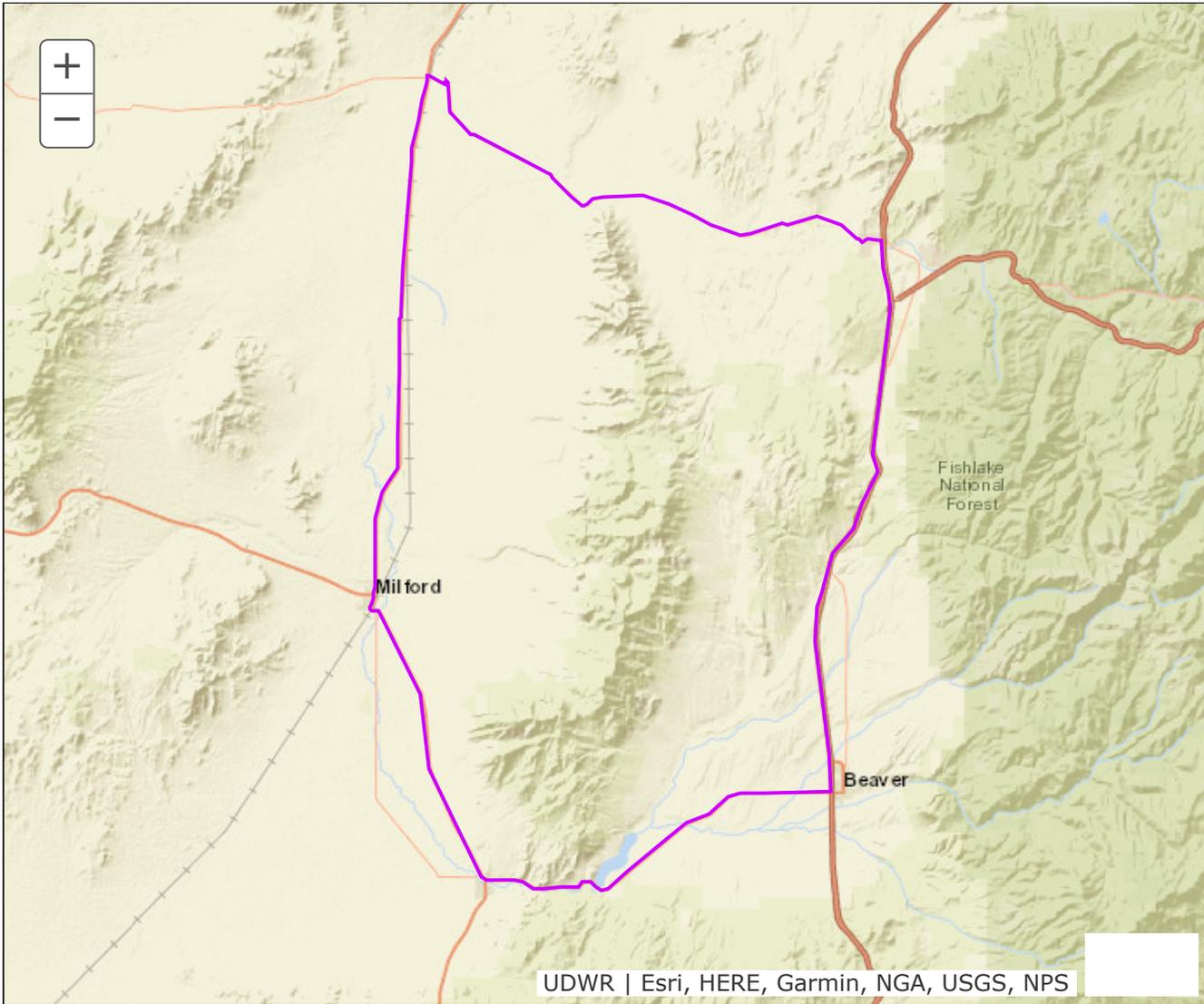
RS6726	Fillmore, Oak Creek	Oct 28 2023 - Nov 17 2023	Oct 26 2024 - Nov 15 2024	Y
RS6727	Fillmore, Oak Creek (Archery)	Nov 18 2023 - Dec 10 2023	Nov 16 2024 - Dec 08 2024	N
RS6712	Nine Mile, Gray Canyon	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Nov 01 2024 - Nov 30 2024	N
RS6713	Nine Mile, Jack Creek	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Nov 01 2024 - Nov 30 2024	N
RS6709	North Slope, Summit/West Daggett	Sept 18 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Sept 16 2024 - Nov 30 2024	N
RS6708	North Slope, Three Corners	Sept 18 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Sept 16 2024 - Nov 30 2024	N
RS6721	Oquirrh-Stansbury, West	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Nov 01 2024 - Nov 30 2024	N
RS6724	Wasatch Mtns, West	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Nov 01 2024 - Nov 30 2024	N

<b>Mountain Goat</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
GO6800	Beaver	Sept 09 2023 - Oct 01 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Sept 29 2024	Y
GO6801	Beaver	Oct 02 2023 - Oct 30 2023	Sept 30 2024 - Oct 28 2024	N
GO6822	Beaver (Archery)	Oct 31 2023 - Nov 13 2023	Oct 29 2024 - Nov 11 2024	N
GO6803	Central Mtns, Nebo	Sept 30 2023 - Nov 29 2023	Sept 28 2024 - Nov 27 2024	Y
GO6821	Central Mtns, Nebo (Archery)	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 29 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 27 2024	Y
GO6804	Chalk Creek/Kamas, Uintas	Sept 09 2023 - Oct 31 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Oct 31 2024	N
GO6817	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Sept 09 2023 - Nov 29 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Nov 27 2024	Y
GO6814	Mt Dutton	Sept 09 2023 - Nov 29 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Nov 27 2024	N
GO6805	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas Central	Sept 09 2023 - Oct 31 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Oct 31 2024	Y
GO6815	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas Central (Archery)	NA	NA	NA
GO6806	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas East	Sept 09 2023 - Oct 31 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Oct 31 2024	Y
GO6807	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas Leidy Peak	Sept 09 2023 - Oct 31 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Oct 31 2024	N
GO6808	North Slope/South Slope, High Uintas West	Sept 09 2023 - Oct 31 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Oct 31 2024	Y
GO6810	Ogden, Willard Peak	Sept 09 2023 - Nov 29 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Nov 27 2024	N
GO6818	Wasatch Mtns, Box Elder Peak	Sept 09 2023 - Nov 29 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Nov 27 2024	N
GO6819	Wasatch Mtns, Lone Peak	Sept 09 2023 - Nov 29 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Nov 27 2024	N
GO6813	Wasatch Mtns, Provo Peak	Sept 09 2023 - Nov 29 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Nov 27 2024	N
GO6820	Wasatch Mtns, Timpanogos	Sept 09 2023 - Nov 29 2023	Sept 07 2024 - Nov 27 2024	N

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Mineral Mountain

**SPECIES** Bighorn



**Updated Boundary:** Beaver and Millard Counties: Boundary begins at Black Rock Road and I-15 near Cove Fort; west on Black Rock Road to SR-257; south on SR-257 to SR-21; south and east SR-21 to I-15; north on I-15 to Black Rock Road near Cove Fort.



## State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
Lieutenant Governor

## Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
Executive Director

### Division of Wildlife Resources

J. SHIRLEY  
Division Director

## MEMORANDUM

Date: October 21, 2022

To: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

From: Dax Mangus, Big Game Program Coordinator

Subject: 2023-2024 deer, elk and pronghorn proposed season dates

The attached documents summarize the DWR's recommended changes to the *Utah Big Game Application Guidebook*. This year, we are making recommendations for two hunting seasons: 2023 and 2024. If needed, changes to the 2024 big game seasons may be brought before the Utah Wildlife Board in the fall of 2023.

### **Deer, elk and pronghorn season dates for 2023-2024:**

See attached tables for details.

### **Big game guidebook recommendations by species:**

#### **Deer**

1. General-season hunts:
  - a. Currently, we hunt buck deer on the combined Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich hunting unit and manage their deer populations at the individual unit level. We recommend a change in how we hunt these units, moving to individual-unit hunting, starting in 2023. This will create three separate general-season buck deer hunting units (i.e., Chalk Creek, East Canyon and Morgan-South Rich). This change will allow us to manage the populations **and** conduct buck hunting on these units at the same scale. This will also allow for more precision in addressing emerging CWD concerns on the East Canyon unit.
  - b. We recommend discontinuing the Pine Valley, New Harmony and the Southwest Desert, Cedar Valley extended archery deer hunts. Hunter access has become an issue in these areas. We propose working directly with landowners to resolve localized depredation issues.



## 2. Limited-entry hunts

- a. We are recommending limited-entry muzzleloader hunts — running Nov. 1-9, 2023 — on the Chalk Creek unit, the East Canyon unit and the Morgan-South Rich unit. (See above 1a. for rationale.)
- b. We recommend discontinuing the HAMS hunt on the Morgan-South Rich unit.
- c. We recommend a new HAMS buck deer hunt — running Nov. 11-30, 2023 — on the East Canyon unit. This hunt will take the place of the HAMS hunt that was on the Morgan-South Rich unit and will allow for a unique opportunity and additional buck harvest on a CWD-positive unit.

## Pronghorn

### 1. Recommended changes:

- a. We recommend discontinuing the Cache/Morgan-South Rich pronghorn hunts and replacing them with the Cache/Rich hunt boundary that includes the areas where pronghorn are located on accessible lands.
- b. We recommend eliminating the Plateau, Highlands pronghorn hunts and expanding the boundary to include all of Parker Mountain. This will reflect pronghorn distribution changes in the area.
- c. We recommend discontinuing the San Juan, Hatch Point archery pronghorn hunt because the pronghorn population in this area has substantially declined. All buck pronghorn permits for this unit would be offered as any legal weapon permits under this recommendation.

## Elk

The new statewide elk plan calls for creating many new hunts and substantial changes to how we hunt elk in Utah.

### 1. General-season hunt dates:

We recommend having two separate 7-day any legal weapon any bull hunts. The first hunt would run from Oct. 7-13, 2023, and the second hunt would run from Oct. 14-20, 2023. In 2024, the dates will be Oct. 5-11 and Oct. 12-18, 2024.

### 2. General-season archery elk hunts:

- a. We recommend that general-season archery elk permits be changed from “hunter’s choice” to “bull only.” This is part of a strategy in the new statewide elk plan to help the DWR be more precise in management and harvest.
- b. We will also recommend a general-season archery antlerless elk hunt in the spring of 2023. The intent of this recommendation is to address point creep for antlerless elk and to provide a new opportunity for archery elk hunters that will help increase the harvest of antlerless elk.

### 3. Limited-entry hunts:

- a. As part of the effort in the new elk plan to increase challenge and hunter opportunity for limited-entry elk hunters, we are recommending adding a mid-season (Oct. 7-19, 2023 and Oct. 5-17, 2024) any legal weapon hunt on the



following units that didn't previously have a mid-season hunt. This hunt overlaps the general-season spike-only hunt and the early rifle deer season on some units. It is intended to be a challenging season for elk hunters.

New mid-season limited-entry hunts (Oct. 7-19, 2023 and Oct. 5-17, 2024)

Beaver, East	Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	Panguitch Lake
Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	Fillmore, Pahvant	Plateau, Boulder
Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	San Juan Bull Elk
Cache, Meadowville	Monroe	Southwest Desert, South
Cache, South	Mt Dutton	

- b. In addition, the DWR is recommending a late-season (Dec. 2-17, 2023 and Nov. 30-Dec. 15, 2024) limited-entry archery elk hunt on most of our existing limited-entry elk units. This hunt will be extremely challenging and allow a small number of bold archers to try their luck during a difficult time of year.

New late-season archery limited-entry elk hunts (Dec. 2-17, 2023 and Nov. 30-Dec. 15, 2024)

Beaver, East	Fillmore, Pahvant	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes
Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	San Juan Bull Elk
Cache, Meadowville	Monroe	South Slope, Diamond Mtn
Cache, South	Mt Dutton	Southwest Desert, South
Central Mtns, Manti	Panguitch Lake	Wasatch Mtns
Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	Plateau, Boulder	

- c. We also recommend a late-season (Nov. 11-19, 2023 and Nov. 9-17, 2024) any legal weapon hunt on Diamond Mountain.
  - d. We recommend an adjustment to the dates for the Limited Entry HAMS elk hunts to run Nov. 11-30, 2023 and Nov. 9-30, 2024.
4. Boundary modifications/new hunts
- a. We recommend the creation of the Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East limited-entry elk unit and the Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns limited-entry elk unit to reflect boundary changes, as portions of the previous units were recommended to become any bull areas. These new units will replace the former Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South and the Central Mtns, Nebo units.

**All other recommended hunt structure, season dates, and boundary description changes are included in the RAC and Board packet.**



			Recommended Discontinue	
<b>2023 and 2024 Buck Deer Hunt Dates and Season Structure Recommendations</b>			New Hunt	
<b>General Season Buck Deer</b>				
<b>General Season Archery Hunts</b>				
		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
DB1500	Beaver	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1501	Box Elder	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1502	Cache	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1503	Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1504	Central Mtns, Nebo	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1600	Chalk Creek	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1505	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	NA	NA	NA
DB1604	East Canyon	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1506	Fillmore	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1508	Kamas	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1509	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1510	Monroe	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1608	Morgan-South Rich	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1511	Mt Dutton	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1512	Nine Mile	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1513	North Slope	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1514	Ogden	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1515	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1516	Panguitch Lake	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1517	Pine Valley	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1518	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1519	Plateau, Fishlake	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1520	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1521	San Juan, Abajo Mtns	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1522	South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1523	South Slope, Yellowstone	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y

DB1524	Southwest Desert	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1525	Wasatch Mtns, East	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1526	Wasatch Mtns, West	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1527	West Desert, Tintic	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1528	West Desert, West	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1529	Zion	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y

<b>General Season Any Legal Weapon Hunts (early)</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DB1601	Chalk Creek	Oct 11 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Oct 09 2024 - Oct 13 2024	Y
DB1590	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	NA	NA	NA
DB1605	East Canyon	Oct 11 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Oct 09 2024 - Oct 13 2024	Y
DB1591	Fillmore	Oct 11 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Oct 09 2024 - Oct 13 2024	Y
DB1592	Kamas	Oct 11 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Oct 09 2024 - Oct 13 2024	Y
DB1609	Morgan-South Rich	Oct 11 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Oct 09 2024 - Oct 13 2024	Y
DB1593	Nine Mile	Oct 11 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Oct 09 2024 - Oct 13 2024	Y
DB1598	North Slope	Oct 11 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Oct 09 2024 - Oct 13 2024	Y
DB1594	Panguitch Lake	Oct 11 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Oct 09 2024 - Oct 13 2024	Y
DB1595	Pine Valley	Oct 11 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Oct 09 2024 - Oct 13 2024	Y
DB1596	Plateau, Fishlake	Oct 11 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Oct 09 2024 - Oct 13 2024	Y
DB1597	Zion	Oct 11 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Oct 09 2024 - Oct 13 2024	Y

<b>General Season Any Legal Weapon Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DB1530	Beaver	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1531	Box Elder	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1532	Cache	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1533	Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1534	Central Mtns, Nebo	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1599	Chalk Creek	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1535	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	NA	NA	NA

DB1603	East Canyon	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1536	Fillmore	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1538	Kamas	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1539	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1540	Monroe	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1607	Morgan-South Rich	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1541	Mt Dutton	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1542	Nine Mile	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1543	North Slope	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1544	Ogden	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1545	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1546	Panguitch Lake	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1547	Pine Valley	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1548	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1549	Plateau, Fishlake	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1550	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1551	San Juan, Abajo Mtns	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1552	South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1553	South Slope, Yellowstone	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1554	Southwest Desert	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1555	Wasatch Mtns, East	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1556	Wasatch Mtns, West	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1557	West Desert, Tintic	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1558	West Desert, West	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1559	Zion	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y

General Season Muzzleloader Hunts		Recommended Season Dates		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
DB1560	Beaver	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1561	Box Elder	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1562	Cache	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1563	Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y

DB1564	Central Mtns, Nebo	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1602	Chalk Creek	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1565	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	NA	NA	NA
DB1606	East Canyon	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1566	Fillmore	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1568	Kamas	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1569	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1570	Monroe	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1610	Morgan-South Rich	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1571	Mt Dutton	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1572	Nine Mile	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1573	North Slope	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1574	Ogden	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1575	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1576	Panguitch Lake	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1577	Pine Valley	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1578	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1579	Plateau, Fishlake	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1580	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1581	San Juan, Abajo Mtns	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1582	South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1583	South Slope, Yellowstone	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1584	Southwest Desert	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1585	Wasatch Mtns, East	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1586	Wasatch Mtns, West	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1587	West Desert, Tintic	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1588	West Desert, West	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1589	Zion	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
<b>Extended Archery Deer</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DX0012	Box Elder, West Bear River	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y

DX0006	Herriman South Valley	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y
DX0009	Nine Mile, Green River Valley	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 15 2024	Y
DX0002	Ogden	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y
DX0007	Pine Valley, New Harmony	NA	NA	NA
DX0008	Sanpete Valley	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 15 2024	Y
DX0010	South Wasatch	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 15 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Oct 15 2024	Y
DX0011	Southwest Desert, Cedar Valley	NA	NA	NA
DX0003	Uintah Basin	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y
DX0005	Utah Lake	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y
DX0004	Wasatch Front	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y
DX0001	West Cache	Sept 16 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y

**Premium Limited Entry Buck Deer**

<b>Premium Archery Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DB1000	Henry Mtns	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1001	Paunsaugunt	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y

<b>Premium Any Legal Weapon Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DB1002	Antelope Island	Nov 15 2023 - Nov 22 2023	Nov 13 2024 - Nov 20 2024	N
DB1003	Henry Mtns	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1004	Paunsaugunt	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 31 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 31 2024	Y

<b>Premium Muzzleloader Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DB1005	Henry Mtns	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1006	Paunsaugunt	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y

<b>Management Buck Hunt</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DB1010	Paunsaugunt (Any Legal Weapon)	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 05 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 03 2024	Y
DB1073	Paunsaugunt (Archery)	Aug 26 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 24 2024 - Sept 13 2024	N
DB1058	Paunsaugunt (Cactus Buck)	Nov 04 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 02 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
DB1074	Paunsaugunt (Muzzleloader)	Sept 29 2023 - Oct 04 2023	Sept 27 2024 - Oct 02 2024	N
<b>Multi-Season</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DB1007	Henry Mtns	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
DB1008	Paunsaugunt	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
<b>Limited Entry Buck Deer</b>				
<b>Limited Entry Archery Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DB1011	Book Cliffs	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1012	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1013	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	Nov 04 2023 - Nov 17 2023	Nov 02 2024 - Nov 15 2024	N
DB1014	San Juan, Elk Ridge	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1015	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
DB1016	West Desert, Vernon	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
<b>Limited Entry Any Legal Weapon Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DB1017	Book Cliffs, North	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1018	Book Cliffs, South	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1019	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1020	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	Nov 18 2023 - Nov 26 2023	Nov 16 2024 - Nov 24 2024	Y
DB1022	San Juan, Elk Ridge	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
DB1023	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y

DB1024	West Desert, Vernon	Oct 21 2023 - Oct 29 2023	Oct 19 2024 - Oct 27 2024	Y
<b>Limited Entry Muzzleloader Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
DB1025	Book Cliffs	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1026	Cache, Crawford Mtn	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 26 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 24 2024	Y
DB1029	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1031	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	Nov 29 2023 - Dec 07 2023	Nov 27 2024 - Dec 05 2024	N
DB1037	San Juan, Elk Ridge	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1038	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
DB1042	West Desert, Vernon	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
<b>Multi-Season</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
DB1044	Book Cliffs	Multiseason	Multiseason	Y
DB1045	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
DB1046	San Juan, Elk Ridge	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
DB1047	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
DB1048	West Desert, Vernon	Multiseason	Multiseason	Y
<b>Limited Entry Late Season Muzzleloader</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
DB1059	Beaver	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1077	Box Elder	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1078	Cache	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1079	Central Mtns, Manti/San Rafael	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1080	Central Mtns, Nebo	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1100	Chalk Creek	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1027	Chalk Creek/East Canyon/Morgan-South Rich	NA	NA	NA
DB1101	East Canyon	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y

DB1028	Fillmore	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1030	Kamas	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1081	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1032	Monroe	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1103	Morgan-South Rich	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1053	Mt Dutton	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1033	Nine Mile	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1065	North Slope	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1054	Ogden	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1082	Oquirrh-Stansbury	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1083	Panguitch Lake	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1034	Pine Valley	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1084	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1055	Plateau, Fishlake	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1036	Plateau, Thousand Lakes	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1085	San Juan, Abajo Mtns	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1086	South Slope, Bonanza/Vernal	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1094	South Slope, Myton	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 26 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 24 2024	N
DB1039	South Slope, Yellowstone	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1040	Southwest Desert	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1041	Wasatch Mtns, East	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1087	Wasatch Mtns, West	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1088	West Desert, Tintic	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1089	West Desert, West	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
DB1043	Zion	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y

<b>Limited Entry Late Season HAMS</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
DB1090	Book Cliffs, Floy Canyon	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 26 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 24 2024	Y
DB1105	East Canyon	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 26 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 24 2024	Y
DB1091	Kaiparowits HAMS	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y
DB1092	Morgan-South Rich	NA	NA	NA

			Recommended Discontinue	
<b>2023 and 2024 Buck Pronghorn Hunt Dates and Season Structure Recommendations</b>			New Hunt	
<b>Limited Entry Pronghorn</b>				
<b>Archery Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
PB5000	Beaver	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5001	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5002	Book Cliffs, South	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5003	Box Elder, Promontory	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	N
PB5004	Box Elder, Puddle Valley	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5005	Box Elder, Snowville	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5006	Box Elder, West	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5074	Cache, Rich	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5007	Cache/Morgan-South Rich/Ogden	NA	NA	NA
PB5008	Fillmore, Oak Creek South	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5009	La Sal, Potash/South Cisco	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	N
PB5332	Mt Dutton/Paunsaugunt	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5011	Nine Mile, Anthro-Myton Bench	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5053	Nine Mile, Range Creek	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	N
PB5012	North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5054	Panguitch Lake/Zion, North	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5013	Pine Valley	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5064	Plateau, Highlands	NA	NA	NA
PB5077	Plateau, Parker Mtn	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5058	San Juan, Hatch Point	NA	NA	NA
PB5055	San Rafael, Desert	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	N
PB5015	San Rafael, North	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5016	South Slope, Bonanza/Diamond Mtn	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5017	South Slope, Vernal	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5018	Southwest Desert	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y

PB5019	West Desert, Riverbed	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5020	West Desert, Rush Valley	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
PB5021	West Desert, Snake Valley	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 13 2024	Y
<b>Muzzleloader Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
PB5075	Cache, Rich	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
PB5022	Cache/Morgan-South Rich/Ogden	NA	NA	NA
PB5065	Fillmore, Oak Creek South	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
PB5059	Nine Mile, Anthro-Myton Bench	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
PB5066	North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
PB5061	Panguitch Lake/Zion, North	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
PB5062	Pine Valley	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
PB5067	Plateau, Highlands	NA	NA	NA
PB5078	Plateau, Parker Mtn	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
PB5056	San Rafael, North	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
PB5060	South Slope, Bonanza/Diamond Mtn	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
PB5072	South Slope, Vernal	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
PB5024	Southwest Desert	Sept 27 2023 - Oct 05 2023	Sept 25 2024 - Oct 03 2024	Y
<b>Any Legal Weapon Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
PB5025	Beaver	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5026	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5027	Book Cliffs, South	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5028	Box Elder, Promontory	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5029	Box Elder, Puddle Valley	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5030	Box Elder, Snowville	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5031	Box Elder, West	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5073	Cache, Rich	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y

PB5032	Cache/Morgan-South Rich/Ogden	NA	NA	NA
PB5033	Fillmore, Oak Creek South	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5034	Kaiparowits	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	N
PB5035	La Sal, Potash/South Cisco	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5331	Mt Dutton/Paunsaugunt	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5037	Nine Mile, Anthro-Myton Bench	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5038	Nine Mile, Range Creek	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5039	North Slope, Summit	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5040	North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5041	Panguitch Lake/Zion, North	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5042	Pine Valley	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5063	Plateau, Highlands	NA	NA	NA
PB5076	Plateau, Parker Mtn	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5044	San Juan, Hatch Point	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	N
PB5045	San Rafael, Desert	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5046	San Rafael, North	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5047	South Slope, Bonanza/Diamond Mtn	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5048	South Slope, Vernal	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5049	Southwest Desert	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5050	West Desert, Riverbed	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5051	West Desert, Rush Valley	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
PB5052	West Desert, Snake Valley	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y

		Recommended Discontinue		
2023 and 2024 Bull Elk Hunt Dates and Season Structure Recommendations		New Hunt		
<b>General Season Elk</b>				
<b>Spike Bull Elk</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
EB1009		Multiseason	Multiseason	Y
EB1003	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB1006	Archery Spike Bull	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 08 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 06 2024	Y
EB1004	Muzzleloader Spike Bull	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
<b>Any Bull Elk</b>				
<b>Any Bull Elk</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
EB1008		Multiseason	Multiseason	Y
EB1001	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 13 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 11 2024	Y
EB1010	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 14 2023 - Oct 20 2023	Oct 12 2024 - Oct 18 2024	Y
EB1005	Archery Any Bull	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 20 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 18 2024	Y
EB1002	Muzzleloader Any Bull	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	Y
<b>Youth Any Bull Elk</b>				
<b>Youth Any Bull Elk</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
EB1007	Youth General Any Bull Elk	Sept 16 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 14 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
<b>Extended Archery Elk</b>				
<b>Extended Archery Elk</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
EX0001	Uintah Basin	Aug 19 2023 - Dec 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EX0002	Wasatch Front	Aug 19 2023 - Dec 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y

EX0003	West Cache	Aug 19 2023 - Dec 15 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
<b>Limited Entry Bull Elk</b>				
<b>Archery Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
EB3000	Beaver, East	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3160	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3001	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	NA	NA	NA
EB3002	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	N
EB3130	Box Elder, Pilot Mtn	Aug 19 2023 - Sept 09 2023	Aug 17 2024 - Sept 07 2024	N
EB3003	Cache, Meadowville	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3005	Cache, South	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3006	Central Mtns, Manti	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3007	Central Mtns, Nebo	NA	NA	NA
EB3173	Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3008	Fillmore, Pahvant	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3009	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3010	Monroe	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3011	Mt Dutton	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3013	North Slope, Three Corners	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3015	Panguitch Lake	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3016	Paunsaugunt	NA	NA	NA
EB3145	Plateau, Boulder	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3018	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3019	San Juan Bull Elk	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3020	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3146	Southwest Desert, South	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y
EB3022	Wasatch Mtns	Aug 23 2023 - Sept 19 2023	Aug 21 2024 - Sept 17 2024	Y

<b>Any legal weapon hunts (early rifle)</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
EB3024	Beaver, East	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3162	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3026	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	NA	NA	NA
EB3028	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	N
EB3147	Box Elder, Grouse Creek	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3031	Box Elder, Pilot Mtn	Sept 16 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 21 2024 - Oct 11 2024	Y
EB3032	Cache, Meadowville	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3036	Cache, South	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3038	Central Mtns, Manti	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3040	Central Mtns, Nebo	NA	NA	NA
EB3175	Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3042	Fillmore, Pahvant	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3045	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3047	Monroe	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3049	Mt Dutton	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3056	Panguitch Lake	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	N
EB3058	Paunsaugunt	NA	NA	NA
EB3148	Plateau, Boulder	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3063	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3066	San Juan Bull Elk	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3068	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3149	Southwest Desert, South	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
EB3072	Wasatch Mtns	Sept 20 2023 - Sept 24 2023	Sept 18 2024 - Sept 22 2024	Y
<b>Any legal weapon hunts (mid rifle)</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
EB3159	Beaver, East	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y

EB3164	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3167	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3150	Box Elder, Grouse Creek	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3169	Cache, Meadowville	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3171	Cache, South	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3126	Central Mtns, Manti	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3177	Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3181	Fillmore, Pahvant	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3183	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3185	Monroe	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3187	Mt Dutton	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3053	North Slope, Three Corners	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3189	Panguitch Lake	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3059	Paunsaugunt	NA	NA	NA
EB3191	Plateau, Boulder	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3064	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3194	San Juan Bull Elk	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3069	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3198	Southwest Desert, South	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y
EB3127	Wasatch Mtns	Oct 07 2023 - Oct 19 2023	Oct 05 2024 - Oct 17 2024	Y

Any legal weapon hunts (late rifle)		Recommended Season Dates		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
EB3025	Beaver, East	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3163	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3027	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	NA	NA	NA
EB3033	Cache, Meadowville	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3037	Cache, South	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3039	Central Mtns, Manti	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3041	Central Mtns, Nebo	NA	NA	NA

EB3176	Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3043	Fillmore, Pahvant	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3044	La Sal, Dolores Triangle	Dec 09 2023 - Jan 31 2024	Dec 07 2024 - Jan 31 2025	Y
EB3046	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3048	Monroe	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3050	Mt Dutton	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3057	Panguitch Lake	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3060	Paunsaugunt	NA	NA	NA
EB3151	Plateau, Boulder	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3065	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3067	San Juan Bull Elk	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3196	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3152	Southwest Desert, South	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y
EB3073	Wasatch Mtns	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 19 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 17 2024	Y

Muzzleloader Hunts		Recommended Season Dates		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
EB3077	Beaver, East	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3166	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3078	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	NA	NA	NA
EB3079	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	N
EB3153	Box Elder, Grouse Creek	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3081	Cache, Meadowville	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3083	Cache, South	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3084	Central Mtns, Manti	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3085	Central Mtns, Nebo	NA	NA	NA
EB3179	Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3086	Fillmore, Pahvant	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3087	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3088	Monroe	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y

EB3089	Mt Dutton	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3091	North Slope, Three Corners	Nov 01 2023 - Nov 09 2023	Oct 30 2024 - Nov 07 2024	N
EB3093	Panguitch Lake	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3094	Paunsaugunt	NA	NA	NA
EB3154	Plateau, Boulder	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3096	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3097	San Juan Bull Elk	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3098	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3155	Southwest Desert, South	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y
EB3100	Wasatch Mtns	Sept 25 2023 - Oct 06 2023	Sept 23 2024 - Oct 04 2024	Y

Multi-Season		Recommended Season Dates		
Hunt #	Hunt Name	2023	2024	Nonres Permits
EB3102	Beaver, East	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3165	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3103	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3104	Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3105	Cache, Meadowville	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3107	Cache, South	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3108	Central Mtns, Manti	Multiseason	Multiseason	Y
EB3109	Central Mtns, Nebo	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3178	Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3110	Fillmore, Pahvant	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3111	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3112	Monroe	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3113	Mt Dutton	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3115	North Slope, Three Corners	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3117	Panguitch Lake	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3118	Paunsaugunt	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3156	Plateau, Boulder	Multiseason	Multiseason	N

EB3120	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Multiseason	Multiseason	Y
EB3121	San Juan Bull Elk	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3122	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3157	Southwest Desert, South	Multiseason	Multiseason	N
EB3124	Wasatch Mtns	Multiseason	Multiseason	Y

<b>September Archery</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
EB3131	Box Elder, Sawtooth	NA	NA	NA
EB3132	Cache, North	Sept 01 2023 - Sept 30 2023	Aug 31 2024 - Sept 30 2024	Y
EB3133	Nine Mile, Anthro	NA	NA	NA
EB3134	Oquirrh-Stansbury	NA	NA	NA
EB3135	Plateau, Barney Top/Kaiparowits	Sept 01 2023 - Sept 30 2023	Aug 31 2024 - Sept 30 2024	Y
EB3136	Southwest Desert, North	Sept 01 2023 - Sept 30 2023	Aug 31 2024 - Sept 30 2024	Y
EB3137	West Desert, Deep Creek	NA	NA	NA

<b>HAMS Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>
EB3138	Box Elder, Sawtooth	NA	NA	NA
EB3139	Cache, North	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y
EB3140	Nine Mile, Anthro	NA	NA	NA
EB3141	Oquirrh-Stansbury	NA	NA	NA
EB3142	Plateau, Barney Top/Kaiparowits	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y
EB3143	Southwest Desert, North	Nov 11 2023 - Nov 30 2023	Nov 09 2024 - Nov 30 2024	Y
EB3144	West Desert, Deep Creek	NA	NA	NA

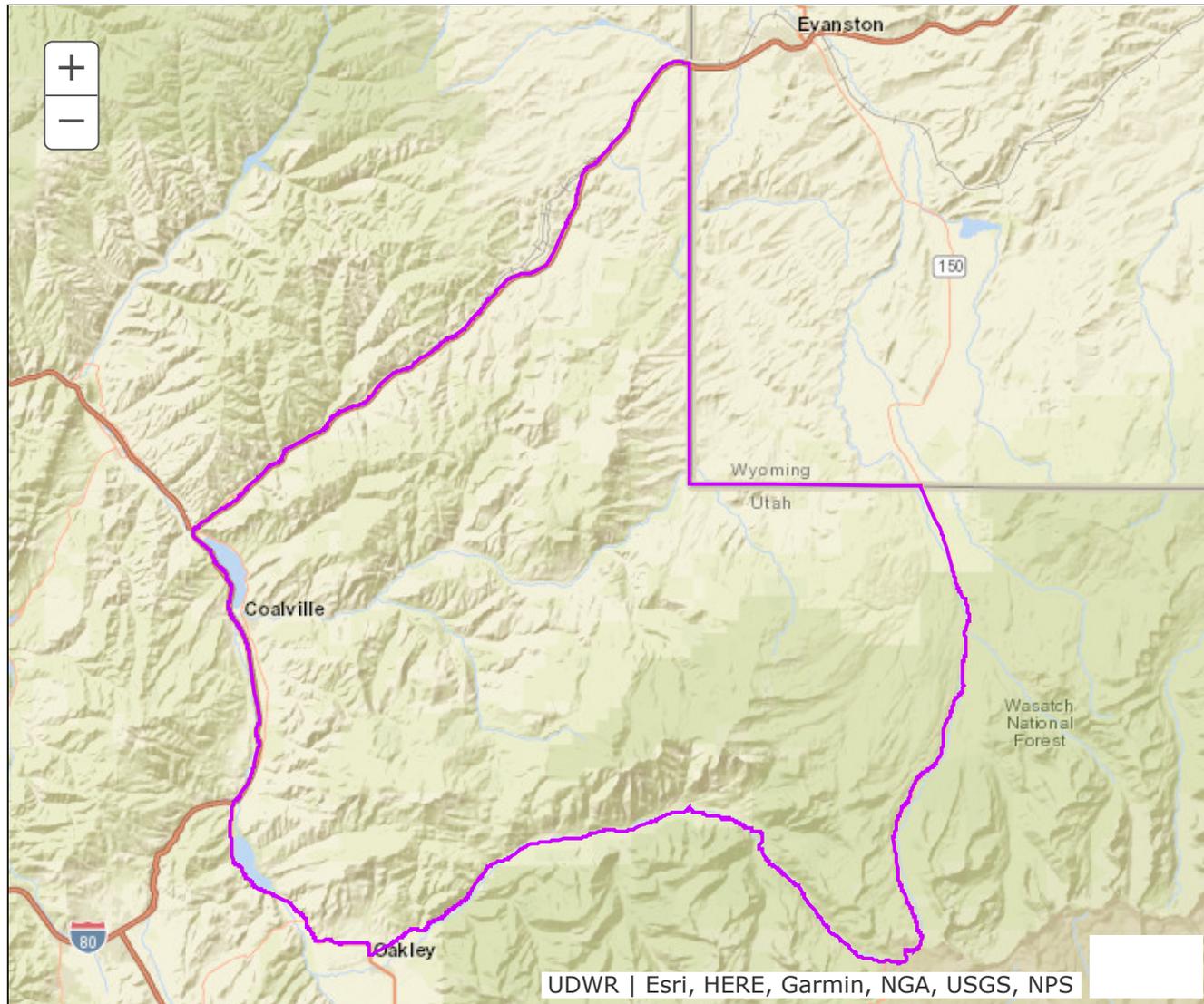
<b>Late Season Archery Hunts</b>		<b>Recommended Season Dates</b>		
<b>Hunt #</b>	<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Nonres Permits</b>

EB3158	Beaver, East	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3161	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3168	Cache, Meadowville	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3170	Cache, South	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3172	Central Mtns, Manti	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3174	Central Mtns, Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3180	Fillmore, Pahvant	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3182	La Sal, La Sal Mtns	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3184	Monroe	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3186	Mt Dutton	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3188	Panguitch Lake	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3190	Plateau, Boulder	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3192	Plateau, Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3193	San Juan Bull Elk	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3195	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3197	Southwest Desert, South	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y
EB3199	Wasatch Mtns	Dec 02 2023 - Dec 17 2023	Nov 30 2024 - Dec 15 2024	Y

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Chalk Creek

**SPECIES** Deer

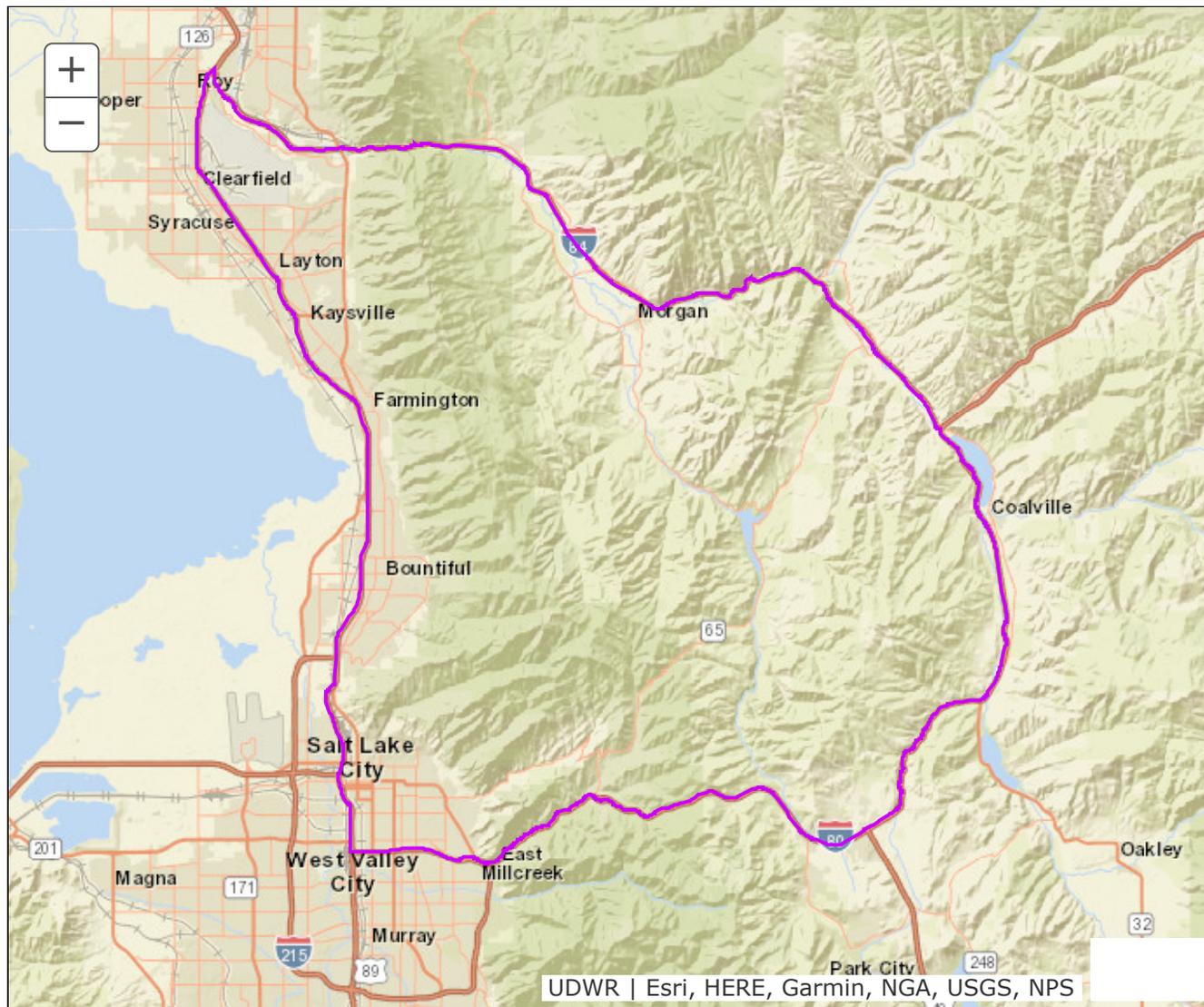


**Updated Boundary:** Primarily private land--Summit and Duchesne counties--Boundary begins at I-84 and I-80 near Echo; northeast on I-80 to the Utah-Wyoming state line; southeast along this state line to SR-150; south on SR-150 to Pass Lake and the Weber River trail; west on this trail to Holiday Park and CR 2596 (Weber Canyon road); west on this road to SR-32; northwest on SR-32 to I-80 at Wanship; north on I-80 to I-84 near Echo. This hunt is comprised of all or largely private property. Hunters should acquire written permission from the landowner before applying for this hunt. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Kings Peak, Ogden, Salt Lake City. Boundary questions? Call the Ogden office, (801) 476-2740.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** East Canyon

**SPECIES** Deer

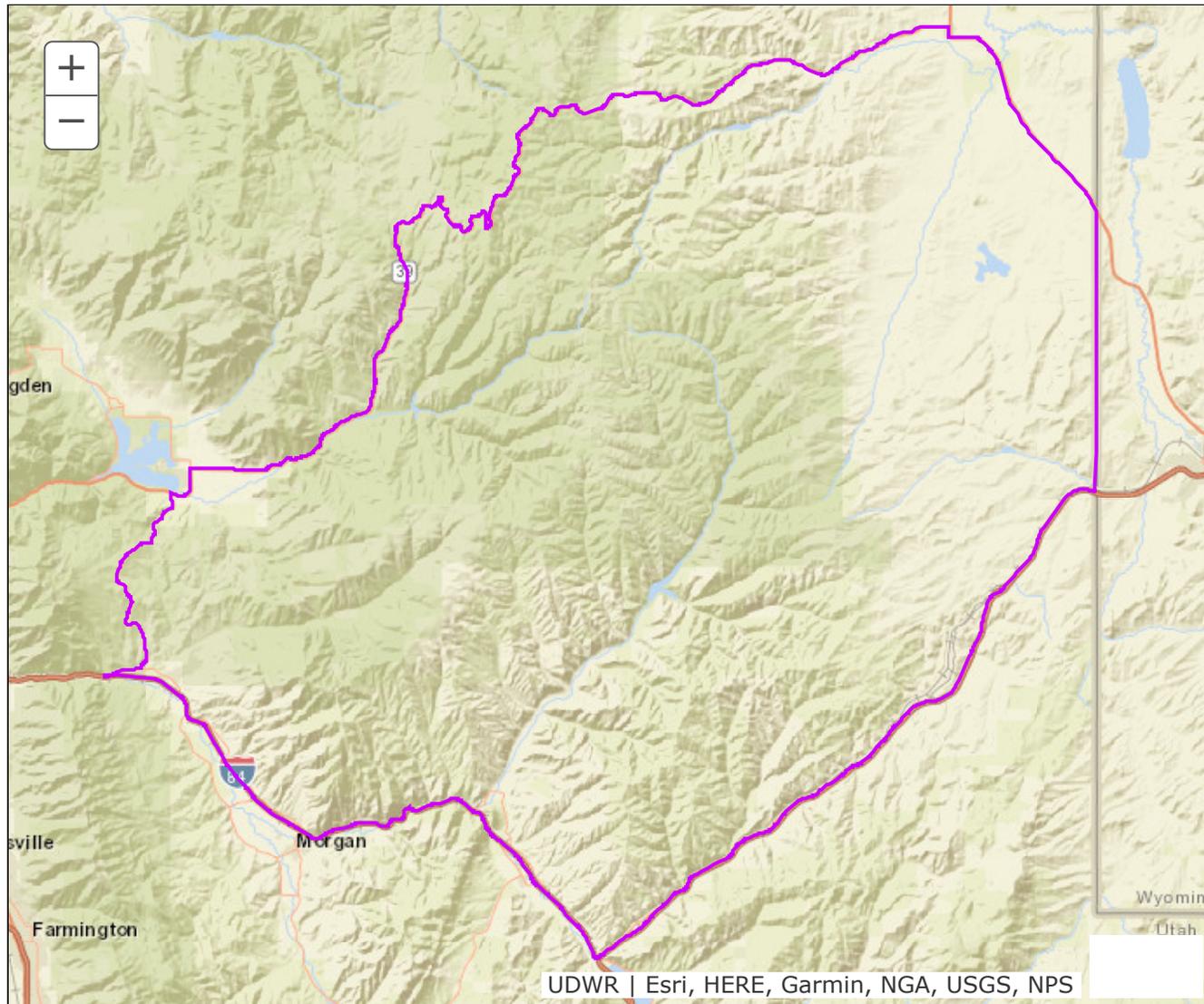


**Updated Boundary:** Davis, Morgan, Salt Lake and Summit counties--Boundary begins at Echo Junction and I-80; southwest along I-80 to I-15; north on I-15 to its junction with I-84 near Ogden; east on I-84 to Echo Junction. This hunt is comprised of all or largely private property. Hunters should acquire written permission from the landowner before applying for this hunt. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Salt Lake City, Ogden. Boundary questions? Call the Ogden office, 801-476-2740.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Morgan-South Rich

**SPECIES** Deer

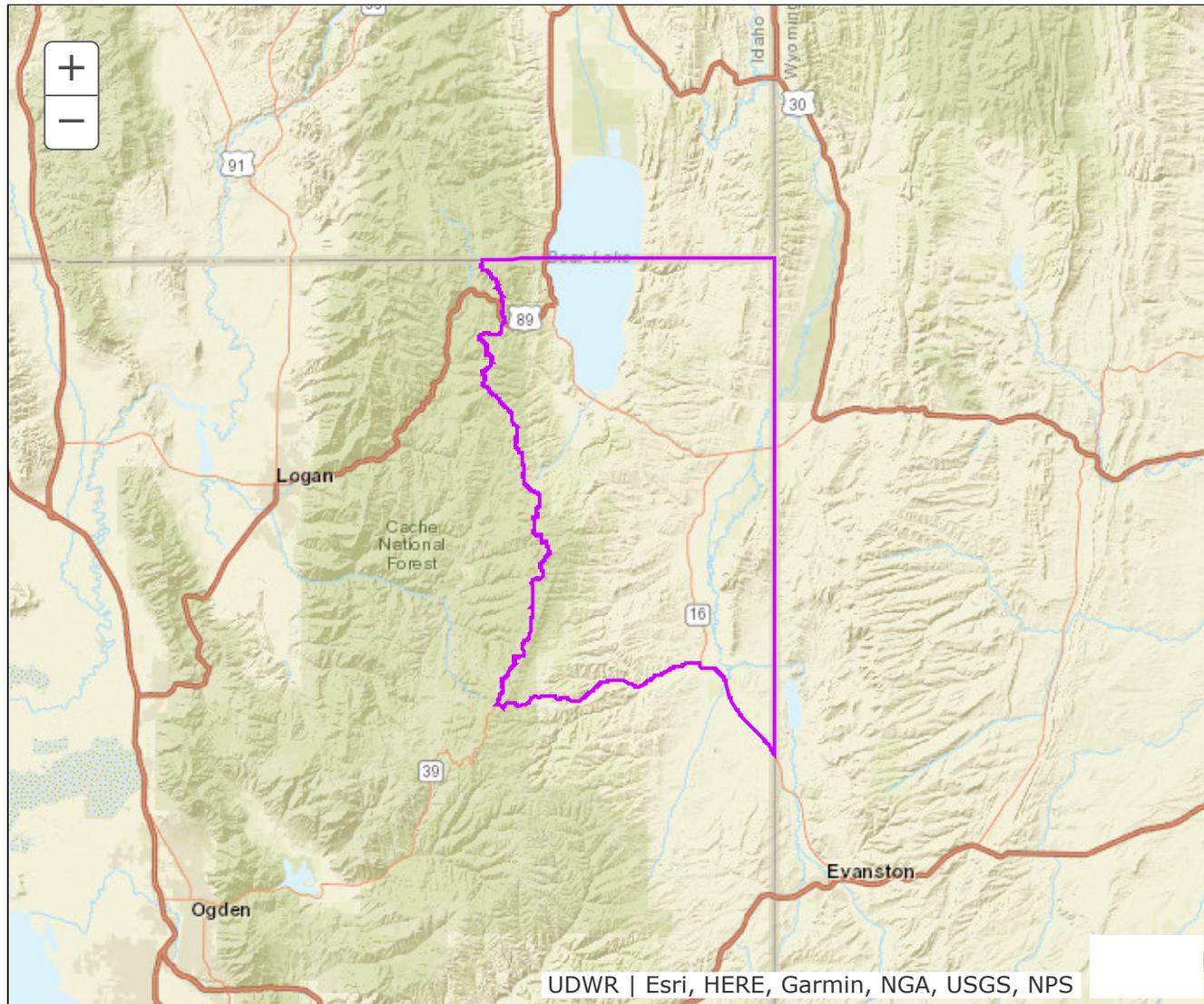


**Updated Boundary:** Morgan, Rich, Summit and Weber counties--Boundary begins at I-80 and the Utah-Wyoming state line; west on I-80 to Echo Junction and I-84; west on I-84 to SR-167 at Mountain Green (Trappers Loop Road); north along SR-167 to SR-39; east along SR-39 to Woodruff and SR-16; southeast on SR-16 to the Utah-Wyoming state line; south along the state line to I-80. Excludes all CWMUs. This hunt is comprised of all or largely private property. Hunters should acquire written permission from the landowner before applying for this hunt. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Logan, Ogden. Boundary questions? Call the Ogden office, 801-476-2740.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Cache, Rich

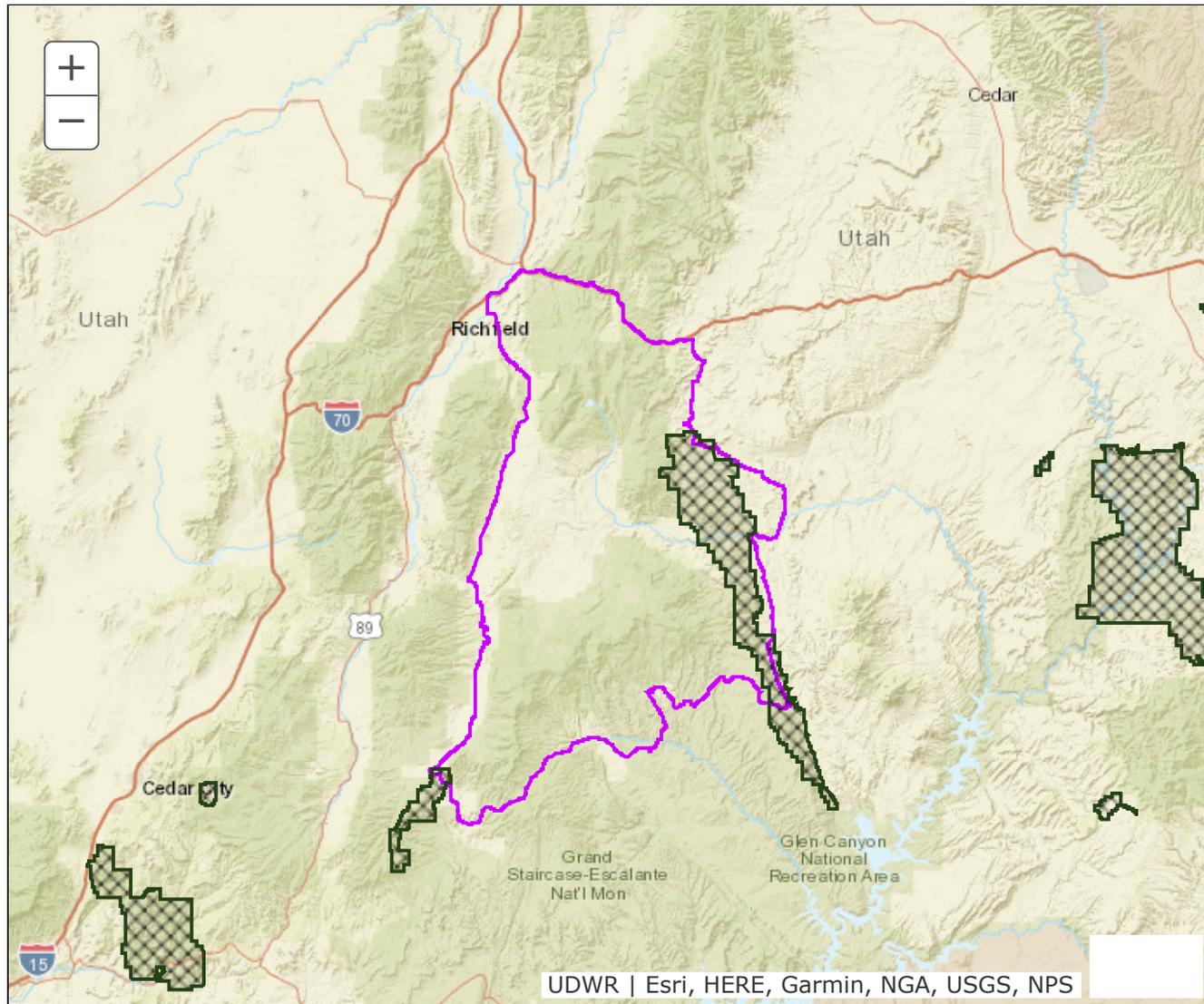
**SPECIES** Pronghorn



**Updated Boundary:** Rich County--Boundary begins at the Utah-Wyoming state line and SR-16; northwest on SR-16 to SR-39; west on SR-39 to the Rich-Cache county line; north on this county line to the Utah-Idaho state line; east on this state line to the Utah-Wyoming state line; south on this state line to SR-16. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Logan, Ogden. Boundary questions? Call Ogden office, 801-476-2740.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Plateau  
**SPECIES** Pronghorn



**Updated Boundary:** Garfield, Piute, Sevier and Wayne counties—Boundary begins at I-70 and US-89 north of Sigurd south on US-89 to SR-24 south on SR-24 to SR-62 south on SR-62 to SR-22 south on SR-22 to the Widtsoe-Antimony road south on the Widtsoe-Antimony road to SR-12 east on SR-12 to the Burr Trail at Boulder east on the Burr Trail to the Notom road north on the Notom road to SR-24 east on SR-24 to the Caineville Wash road north along the Caineville Wash road to the Cathedral Valley road west on the Cathedral Valley road to Rock Springs Bench and the Last Chance Desert road north on the Last Chance Desert road to the Blue Flats road north and east on the Blue Flats road to the Willow Springs road north on the Willow Springs road towards Windy Peak and the Windy Peak road west on the Windy Peak road to SR-72 north on SR-72 to I-70 west on I-70 to US-89 north of Sigurd. EXCLUDES ALL NATIONAL PARKS. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Loa, Salina, Escalante. Boundary questions? Call the Cedar City office, 435-865-6100.



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
Lieutenant Governor

## Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
Executive Director

### Division of Wildlife Resources

J. SHIRLEY  
Division Director

## MEMORANDUM

Date: October 26, 2022

To: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

From: Sergeant Gabe Patterson, Technologies Committee Co-Chair

Subject: R657-5 Taking Big Game rule change, definitions for restricted weapons hunts and statement on current and emerging technologies

The DWR is recommending changes to Rule R657-5 to define a new restricted weapons hunt for archery, handguns, muzzleloaders, shotguns and rifles. This proposed change would create new definitions for restricted weapons and modify existing HAMS hunt weapons definitions. If this recommendation passes, this would allow the Division to create new restricted weapon hunts in addition to the archery, muzzleloader and rifle hunt types currently allowed for in rule. This recommendation will not discontinue the current hunt types but would be in addition to them. The DWR is also recommending the following for restricted weapons hunts:

### **Restricted weapons definitions by weapon type:**

1. Archery:
  - a. The bow must be a single-stringed recurve or a longbow
  - b. It must not have sights or any cables, pulleys, cams or attached electronic devices
2. Muzzleloader:
  - a. Be equipped only with a flint percussion cap or a musket cap (209 primers and all other modern ignition types are prohibited)
  - b. Be equipped with an ignition system in which any portion of the cap is clearly exposed and visible when the hammer of the weapon is cocked and ready to fire
  - c. Be free of any electronic devices
  - d. Have only open sights or peep sights
3. Any Weapon (Rifle):
  - a. Have only open sights or peep sights
  - b. Be free of any electronic devices
  - c. Not be a semi-automatic rifle



4. Handgun:
  - a. Have only open sights or peep sights
  - b. Be free of any electronic devices
  - c. Have no more than a single barrel 15 inches or less in length, including the chamber
  - d. Have a single rear handgrip, without any form of a fixed, detachable, or collapsible buttstock
  - e. Not have any apparatus or extension behind the rear grip capable of being used to steady the handgun against the body while firing; or a vertical foregrip
  - f. Be no more than 24 inches in overall length
5. Shotgun:
  - a. Have only open sights or peep sights
  - b. Be free of any electronic devices
  - c. Be 20 gauge or larger
  - d. Fire only size 00 or larger buckshot or slug ammunition

**Statement on current and emerging technologies:**

1. Utahans value wildlife and hunting, and they have a constitutional right to hunt.
2. Regulated hunting is the primary source of funding for conservation and wildlife management.
3. New and emerging technologies could present ethical challenges and negatively influence public support for hunting — and decrease conservation funding.
4. Technological advancements could also limit opportunity and influence experiences for future hunters.
5. The DWR is committed to evaluating the use of new and emerging technologies for hunting and believes in the benefits of common-sense regulations.

**See redline version of rule and full text of statement on current and emergency technologies included in the RAC and Board packet.**





State of Utah

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*Governor*

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*Lieutenant Governor*

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*Executive Director*

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J. SHIRLEY  
*Division Director*

## CURRENT AND EMERGING HUNTING TECHNOLOGY STATEMENT

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources acknowledges that wildlife species are of significant value to the residents of Utah, who have a long-standing tradition of hunting. In 2020, this tradition became state law with the passage of Constitutional Amendment E, which established a constitutional right to hunt and fish for all residents of Utah. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources further affirms that regulated hunting is one of the cornerstones of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and the primary source of funding for conservation and wildlife-management efforts in North America. In Utah, specifically, the vast majority of conservation funding comes from the sale of hunting licenses and permits and from excise taxes on hunting equipment purchases. Nonetheless, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources recognizes that new and emerging technologies may challenge the ethics — or the perceived ethics — associated with hunting, which may negatively influence public support for this critical source of conservation funding. Moreover, technological advancements have the potential to limit opportunity and influence quality experiences available to hunters in the future.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources will continue to evaluate the use of new and emerging technologies for hunting. Although Utah prides itself on innovation and technological advancement, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources understands that common-sense regulations that limit the use of technology for hunting can help managers meet objectives in species management plans, increase opportunity for hunters, and preserve this important tradition into the future.



## **R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources.**

### **R657-5. Taking Big Game.**

#### **R657-5-1. Purpose and Authority.**

(1) Under authority of Sections 23-14-18 and 23-14-19, the Wildlife Board has established this rule for taking deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bison, bighorn sheep, and Rocky Mountain goat.

(2) Specific dates, areas, methods of take, requirements, and other administrative details which may change annually are published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

#### **R657-5-47. Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only Hunt.**

(1) The ~~[division]~~Wildlife Board may ~~[establish]~~prescribe Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only hunts for any big game species.

(2) An individual may only use the following weapons on a Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only hunt:

(a) a legal handgun for the species being hunted, consistent with Section R~~[657-5-9 and Subsection (5), with no attached scope]~~657-5-48(2);

(b) legal archery equipment consistent with Section R~~[657-5-11]~~657-5-48(3);

(c) a legal muzzleloader consistent with Section R~~[657-5-10, with no attached scope]~~657-5-48(4); or

(d) a legal shotgun consistent with Section R~~[657-5-8, with no attached scope]~~657-5-48(5).

(3) A person who has obtained a Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only permit may take one animal of the big game species identified on the permit.

(4) A person who has obtained a Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only permit may only hunt under that permit during the season dates and within the boundaries identified on the permit and in the guidebooks of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(5) ~~[In addition to the requirements in Section R657-5-9, a handgun used to take a big game animal in a]~~A Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only hunt [must:]is not a centerfire rifle hunt for purposes of Section 23-20-31 or R657-5-49.

~~[—(a)]~~

(6) A Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only permit may not be used on an extended archery hunt.

#### **R657-5-48. Restricted Weapons Hunt**

(1)(a) The Wildlife Board may prescribe specific Restricted Weapon Type seasons on designated units.

(b) Restricted Weapon Type seasons may be designated for the following hunt types:

(i) general season;

(ii) limited entry;

(iii) premium limited entry; and

(iv) once in a lifetime

(c) A person who has obtained a Restricted Weapon Type permit may not hunt within Cooperative Wildlife Management unit areas.

(d) A person who has obtained a Restricted Weapon Type permit may only hunt within the unit specified on the permit and no other general season, limited entry, or premium limited units, except as provided by the Wildlife Board in the guidebooks for big game.

(e) A permit issued for a Restricted Weapon Type season identified in subsection (1)(a) allows a person to take a species designated on the permit within the area, during the season dates, and using the weapon type described in subsections (2) through (6) and specified on the permit.

(2) "Restricted Handgun Equipment" means a handgun as detailed in R657-5-9(1) and (2) with the following exceptions:

(a) Contains only open sights or peep sights;

(b) Has no attached electronics;

(c) have no more than a single barrel 15 inches or less in length, including the chamber;

(~~b~~)d) have a single rear handgrip without any form of a:

(i) fixed, detachable, or collapsible buttstock;

(ii) apparatus or extension behind the rear grip capable of being used to steady the handgun against the body while firing; or

(iii) vertical foregrip; and

(~~e~~)e) be no more than 24 inches in overall length.

~~[(6) A Handgun Archery Muzzleloader Shotgun-Only hunt is not a centerfire rifle hunt for purposes of Section 23-20-31 or R657-5-48.]~~

~~[(7) A Handgun Archery Muzzleloader Shotgun-Only permit may not be used on an extended archery hunt.]~~

(3) "Restricted Archery Equipment" means archery equipment as detailed in R657-5-11(1) and (2) with the following exceptions:

(a) Must be a single stringed long bow or recurve bow with no cables, pulleys or cams; and

(b) Has no sights or attached electronics.

(4) "Restricted Muzzleloader Equipment" means muzzleloader equipment as detailed in R657-5-10(1) and (2) with the following exceptions:

(a)(i) The ignition system is limited to traditional flintlock, musket cap, or percussion cap which must be entirely visible when the hammer is drawn back; and

(ii) all other ignition systems, including 209 primers, are prohibited;

(b) Contains only open sights or peep sights; and

(c) Has no attached electronics.

(5) "Restricted Shotgun Equipment" means a shotgun as detailed in R657-5-8(3) with the following exceptions:

(a) Contains only open sights or peep sights; and

(b) Has no attached electronics.

(6) "Restricted Rifle Equipment" means a rifle as detailed in R657-5-8(1) with the following exceptions:

(a) Contains only open sights or peeps sights;

(b) Has no attached electronics; and

(c) Cannot be semi-automatic.

(7) Restricted Archery permits may not be used on an extended archery hunt.

(8) A person who has obtained an any weapon permit for big game may use any

restricted weapon authorized in this section to take the species authorized in the permit.

**R657~~-5-48~~-5-49. Hunter Orange Exceptions.**

(1) A person shall wear a minimum of 400 inches of hunter orange material on the head, chest, and back while hunting any species of big game, with the following exceptions:

(a) Hunters participating in a once-in-a-lifetime, statewide conservation, or statewide sportsmen hunt;

(b) Hunters participating in an archery or muzzleloader hunt outside of an area where an any weapon general season bull elk or any weapon general season buck deer hunt is occurring;

(c) Hunters participating in a Handgun-Archery-Muzzleloader-Shotgun-Only hunt outside of an area where an any weapon general season bull elk or any weapon general season buck deer hunt is occurring;

(d) Hunters hunting on a cooperative wildlife management unit unless otherwise required by the operator of the cooperative wildlife management units;

(e) Hunters participating in a nuisance wildlife removal hunt authorized under a certificate of registration by the division; and

(f) Hunters participating in an archery hunt with unit boundaries and season dates that overlap the unit boundaries and season dates for the youth any bull elk hunt.

**R~~657-5-49~~657-5-50. Authorization to Remove Bighorn Sheep from Domestic Sheep Operations.**

(1) The division may issue a certificate of registration to the owner of a domestic sheep operation allowing for the removal of Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep or desert bighorn sheep found to have physical contact with domestic sheep.

(2) If a domestic sheep grazing operation wishes to acquire a certificate of registration, it must submit an application to the division.

(3) In evaluating the application, the division may consider:

(a) the size and location of the domestic sheep operation;

(b) past efforts to maintain spatial separation between wild and domestic sheep;

(c) the ability of state officials to respond to potential commingling events in a timely manner;

(d) future plans to improve spatial separation between wild and domestic sheep;

(e) historical disease status of the wild sheep population; and

(f) management priorities for the wild sheep population.

(4) The division may deny an application for a certificate of registration if, in the opinion of the division, there are other means available to respond to a commingling event.

(5) The division shall require any certificate of registration holder to comply with the following provisions:

(a) the grazing operation shall immediately notify the division if a wild bighorn sheep is found within 1 mile of any domestic sheep;

(b) the grazing operation shall utilize all reasonable means to notify the division of the threatened commingling event prior to undertaking any lethal removal action;

(c) a wild bighorn sheep may only be lethally removed if it is within 1 mile of a domestic sheep;

(d) the grazing operation will inform the division within 24 hours of a lethal removal

effort, or as soon as practical thereafter, considering access and logistical limitations;

(e) all lethally removed wild bighorn sheep will be field-dressed and preserved in a manner so as to allow donation for human consumption;

(f) the entire carcass of each lethally removed bighorn sheep shall be relinquished to division personnel, including intact head, horns and cape; and

(g) only legal weapons identified in R657-5 may be used in lethal removal activities.

(6)(a) Owners, employees, and immediate family members may be named as authorized individuals to act under the authority of a certificate of registration.

(b) Any individual acting under the authority of a certificate of registration must be specifically named on the certificate of registration.

(7)(a) The division may establish a term for the validity of a certificate of registration.

(b) The division may revoke a certificate of registration where the certificate of registration holder, an individual named on the certificate, or someone acting under their direct authority violated any provision of this rule, the Wildlife Resources Code, or the certificate of registration.

(8) The procedures and rules governing any adverse action taken by the division or the Wildlife Board against a certificate of registration or an application for certificate of registration are set forth in Rule R657-2.

**KEY: wildlife, game laws, big game seasons**

**Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: March 14, 2022**

**Notice of Continuation: September 8, 2020**

**Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 23-14-18; 23-14-19; 23-16-5; 23-16-6**



SPENCER J. COX  
Governor

DIEDRE M. HENDERSON  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

JOEL FERRY  
Executive Director

### Division of Wildlife Resources

J. SHIRLEY  
Division Director

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

FROM: Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator

DATE: Oct 20, 2022

**SUBJECT: 2023 Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) and Landowner Association (LOA) permit recommendations**

The following is a summary of the 2022 CWMU recommendations for bucks and bulls. There are three types of applications the DWR receives for CWMUs: new, renewal and change applications.

The DWR received **28** CWMU applications for 2023 and recommends the approval of:

- 18 of 19 renewal applications
- 3 new applications
- 6 change applications that require RAC/Board approval

There will be a total of 136 CWMUs for the 2023 hunting season, based on the DWR's recommendations. The following table summarizes the recommended number of CWMU permits statewide for bucks, bulls and turkeys:

Species	Private	Public
Bull elk	211	26
Buck pronghorn	17	14
Buck deer	391	45
Bull moose	7	10
Turkey	6	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>101</b>



The following is a summary of the DWR's 2023 LOA recommendations for bucks and bulls.

- One change request from Diamond Mountain for 5 more deer tags and 4 more elk tags.

CW





Region	CWMU	Species	Sex	Change	First Year	Rec Private	Rec Public	Rec Hunt Date	Rec Ratio	COR Type	Acres Private	Acres Public	Unit	County
NRO	Junction Valley	Deer	Buck	(+10)	2022	54	6	09/01 - 10/31	90:10:00	Change	33362	350	1	Box Elder
NRO	Middle Ridge	Deer	Buck	(-8)	2021	5	2	09/11 - 11/10	90:10:00	Change	5187.64	1337.3	4	Rich
NRO	North Promontory	Deer	Buck	(-10)	2021	18	2	09/11 - 11/10	90:10:00	Change	20790	0	1	Box Elder
NRO	Two Bear	Elk	Bull	(+10)	2021	36	4	09/01 - 10/31	90:10:00	Change	35336	0	6	Summit
NRO	Two Bear	Moose	Bull	(-1)	2021	2	1	09/01 - 10/31	60:40:00	Change	35336	0	6	Summit
SERO	West Ridge	Deer	Buck	(+3)	2021	27	3	09/11 - 11/10	90:10:00	Change	15384	0	11B	Carbon
SRO	Sweetwater	Elk	Bull	Split rec (DWR) (+3)	2022	2	1	09/01 - 10/31	90:10:00	Change	8246.427	0	25C	Garfield
SRO	Sweetwater	Elk	Bull	Split rec (CWMU) (+4)	2022	3	1	9/01 - 10/31	90:10:00	Change	8246.427	0	25C	Garfield

<b>LOA name</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Qualified</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Change</b>
Diamond Mountain	Deer				5
Diamond Mountain	Elk	36	36	36	4