

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I am honestly shocked to see the amount of increases in permits across the general season deer units. We are barely recovering from record drought and now being hit with record snowpack which is going to result in winter-kill and marginal fawn survival. I understand that southern units don't see the same impact from this winter, but the unit I hunt is increasing from 825 permits in 2021 to 1500 permits this year. That is absolutely insane to me. This is why the division of wildlife gets pushback on these issues. I understand changes in permit numbers are necessary depending on year to year buck to doe ratio counts, but this is far fetched and I hope like [REDACTED] it is a mistake or a typo! You can't almost double permits in a unit and justify it. Either it is a mistake in counts or someone has a magic wand because the deer numbers didn't just magically change in two years. This is absolute insanity!

**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations?**

We are ruining our desert sheep units by giving too many permits. I want to draw a tag just as bad as the next person, but I also want a quality hunt when it's my turn!

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 4, 2023 1:14 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?** Recommendation on Radios is not enforceable and will only impact the people who obey the law.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** Strongly disagree solely for the reason of increasing permits on the Beaver unit. I have many family and friends that hunt all over this unit purely from a traditional point of view even though there hasn't been a good number of deer since the 2015-18 years. The past few years have been very rough for mature bucks and a lot of people would rather wait a couple years and have the opportunity to harvest a mature buck then hunt every year and see two points. I would just suggest waiting for the deer to rebound stronger not only on the beaver but other areas as well before increasing tags. Especially after the harsh winter we've had this year. Thanks!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2023?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

This has been one of the hardest winters if not the hardest winter ever faced in Utah. All if your counts about buck to doe ratios and numbers you've counted were in the first of winter when all the deer are still healthy. Why raise tags when the deer have struggled this winter after all the snow we have received. I've seen a lot of winter loss in my fields as I am a farmer that hosts deer herds in my area during the winter and I have seen the affects on this herd locally. Within the past month the deer have really started to struggle and die off as there has been no green up like on normal years due to cold temperatures and continued moisture. I don't think the permit numbers should have gone up for any unit in the state. We constantly battle the deer herd struggling and yet you want to up tags and kill more off. If you're going to up tags then cut hunt dates down to fewer days allowed in the field or do a 3 point or better system this year. You can't manage everything by what the opportunity hunter cries over every single year. Give these animals a chance after this hard winter.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

The tag increases in the south are far too much. The northern units need cuts and there was some in the proposal. The northern tag cuts provided will not be enough to account for winter loss but that will not be completely evident until May and the snow melts off. I feel like the southern deer herd which is doing slightly better than 2021 is going to pick up the tab for the winter loss in the north. Most hunters realize that managing game herds is costly endeavor, why not keep the cuts in the north and leave the south alone for one more year. Raise resident tag prices 10 percent and nonresident 20 percent for 2023 to offset the revenue loss. I do not know anyone that would not understand this to keep the tags low and temporarily raise prices. This is a record setting winter and it is being treated as normal.

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

My family owns land and hunts on both the Panguitch Lake Unit and the Mt. Dutton Unit. The number of deer seen over the past two seasons & ESPECIALLY during the 2022-2023 winter in Southern Utah in general makes me wonder where in the world you're getting your recommendation #'s. I hunted the EARLY RIFLE hunt on the Panguitch Lake last year & over 5 days (on private property that gets very little pressure) I saw a TOTAL of 2 bucks & 6 does. The bucks were a spike and a two point. There seem to be NO deer in the fields in Panguitch, Parowan, Summit, Hatch, and other surrounding communities this winter. I cannot imagine INCREASING the permit numbers in these units when decreasing them in Northern Utah. My vote would be to end the General Season Deer Hunt in Utah for two years. I know the DWR will get all upset & think they will have to let staff go. I would even pay for an (unused) tag in those years as an investment in the future of mule deer hunting in Utah. If you increase tags in these Southern Utah units this year, I think you'll effectively wipe out the deer herd. Who knows what weather we'll see next year.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 4, 2023 5:00 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** Just a simple question, if objectives are down, why are we issuing more tags??

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?** Just a simple question, if objectives are down, why are we issuing more tags??

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations?** Just a simple question, if objectives are down, why are we issuing more tags??

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 4, 2023 5:53 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?** Just for clarification most scopes are still ok on guns. Just not range finding scopes or things like that?

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

The southern Utah units are in no better shape than the north. Hunters have been trying to tell you for years that the deer numbers are just not what we are being told. I have a passion for the Beaver unit and there is not 1,500 deer total on that unit. Please do the right thing now and close this unit down, and then take a closer look at numbers. This winter has not been good on what few deer are left. I know others feel the same way on all of these southern units.

Now is the time to make the right decision for the sake of the deer herd.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** Need massive cuts across the board absolutely no increases.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations?** Need massive cuts

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?** Stop the increasing!!! Need massive cuts!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations?** No increase!!! They all need to be cut drastically if not shut down

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations?** Massive decreases needed

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

For those of us who have purchased a Garmin Xero when it is perfectly legal to use to hunt with, have made large investments on these bow sites. I think there should be a buyback to compensate us for the equipment we purchased for hunting when it was legal.

For clarification, the Garmin bow site will only allow you to shoot where you have practiced and already shot accurately to. For example, with my bow, my Garmin Xero bow site will not allow me to shoot beyond 70 yards. Many sliders and other sites allow hunters to shoot way beyond that distance. With a hand held range finder, if you draw after ranging the animal and the animal moves, you have a very high chance of miscalculating and wounding an animal. With the Garmin you can re-range and make an ethical shot. This is way more ethical than lobbing arrows at guessed distances. It is not a magic site that guarantees success, I still need to practice shooting my bow, I still need to be an accurate shot. I still need to get within range of an animal and have a clear shooting lane. Archery hunters have such low success rates, we don't need more regulation to make it harder, especially when we have already invested money in our equipment that was and should remain legal.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** I agree with the permit cuts for the northern regions impacted by the current weather. I do not support a 1100 tag increase on the Pine Valley. The drought affected that unit for far too long. I do not support any increase on the Zion unit. Hunting pressure is already unenjoyable on most hunts due to the amount of private property.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed CWMU rule change?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?** I appreciate the proactive approach to keeping fair chase fair. I wish there was more resources to properly enforce the laws in place. The honest guy will always stay honest, but it doesn't seem like there is enough officers in the field to ensure laws are being abided by.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

Here in southern Utah our Deer Heard have struggled for the past few years, the divisions and the RAC decision last year cutting tags was a great decision. The current recommendations stated we have had a good fawn crop starting out 2023 season in the southern part of the state and i do not agree with that tag increase for the 2023 season just because we have a good fawn growth this past year, essentially the division is saying since we have a good fawn crop we can increase tags witch makes no since in my mind because the young fawns bucks are now going to be at max 2-3 point young buck and that's what most hunters will harvest. I think we should delay another year or two and let these bucks and does grow and mature before we give more tags and kill the young bucks. lets wait at least another year before we increase Deer tags and make sure that we have a solid, healthy and mature Deer heard.

Dusty White (435)691-5116 Email: [dusty@dustytrailsoutfitting.com](mailto:dusty@dustytrailsoutfitting.com)

**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations?**

Here in southern Utah our Deer Heard have struggled for the past few years, the divisions and the RAC decision last year cutting tags was a great decision. The current recommendations stated we have had a good fawn crop starting out 2023 season in the southern part of the state and i do not agree with that tag increase for the 2023 season just because we have a good fawn growth this past year, essentially the division is saying since we have a good fawn crop we can increase tags witch makes no since in my mind because the young fawns bucks are now going to be at max 2-3 point young buck and that's what most hunters will harvest. I think we should delay another year or two and let these bucks and does grow and mature before we give more tags and kill the young bucks. lets wait at least another year before we increase Deer tags and make sure that we have a solid, healthy and mature Deer heard.

Dusty White (435)691-5116 Email: [dusty@dustytrailsoutfitting.com](mailto:dusty@dustytrailsoutfitting.com)

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 5, 2023 2:54 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?**

Great job on these changes. I appreciate what you do for our wildlife in Utah. I look forward to hunting and seeing my kids hunt also. Specifically, I love the lower of the age objectives, I like the new December archery limited entry hunts. I also like that you are decreasing the number of elk tags for the early limited entry rifle. I've never understood why we can even hunt elk during their most vulnerable time with the most successful weapon.

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I spend as much time as possible outdoors. I have spent hundreds of hours on the Zion, Panguitch and Pine Valley units the past couple years. My unit of choice is the Zion unit. I grew up hunting it and have watched the hunting slowly go down hill. There has been many factors involved such as drought, predators and deer getting hit on the highways. That being said the tag cuts that were made last year was an amazing effort to try and rebuild the numbers on the unit. I would love if the deer had a couple years to bounce back. The snow levels have been extreme this year and have taken a huge toll on all of our animals in the state. Cutting tags ultimately cuts revenue and I understand that is something that the DWR does not do. I would love it if the tag prices were raised but keep the number of tags down to allow the herds to rebuild. I know there is a lot of factors that go into the equation. I just hope and pray that the decisions made are in the best interest of the wildlife and not in lining the pockets of the state. I appreciate all the efforts made on behalf of our wildlife. I am extremely passionate when it comes to hunting and preserving the quality animals that Utah used to be famous for producing. Cutting tags in the northern part of the state and raising the tags by 28% in the southern region seems a little out of line. I hope that you will reconsider and allow our deer to keep rebuilding their numbers.

**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

2 Way radios have always played a huge part in the way that we hunt. The radios are not used in a spot and stalk situation, but more in a way to communicate and keep our group of guys in the same area trying to accomplish the same goal. Safety is also important and a lot of areas do not have cell phone service. Radios are an awesome way to communicate and keep everyone safe. The DWR's over reach and wanting to control every aspect of outdoorsmen's lives is starting to get old. I hope they will reconsider passing the ban on 2 way radios and texting while hunting. It will be extremely hard to enforce and its unnecessary. Lets focus our effort to rebuilding our Deer and Elk herd numbers instead of blaming everything under the sun for the reasons why the hunting in Utah continues to go down hill.



Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 5, 2023 6:42 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I dont know where you guys think you're gonna find the deer in southern utah for a 28% increase of tags? That might be the dumbest proposal I've ever seen. Cut tags all over this state and quit worrying about money for 1 year. This is ridiculous. It snowed bad throughout the state. And there aren't more than 2,000 deer across 3 different mountain ranges in the southwest desert.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 5, 2023 10:29 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

Why no illuminated reticle for crossbows? We are very limited in sights/scopes for these. Finding a no magnification scope without illumination is almost impossible. And it also has to be able to handle reverse recoil. I have contacted vortex and they do not offer anything that has zero magnification without illumination. And no open sights are offered that I can find.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

With the Winter we have had this year and colder temperatures all across the state we should cut deer tags significantly for this year on all Units. The record snow pack event we have had should cause an immediate reduction in all deer tags including units that show an increase in buck deer over the last 3 years causing their average to meet or exceed objective!! We do not know yet the amount of older age bucks that have died since dropping their horns due to the extreme snow depth and cold conditions that we are still seeing in April. Please reduce all tags by 30% for at least this year to save some older age bucks for the future.

Thanks you for closing the shed season even as I know many are not following this rule. I am an avid shed hunter and agree fully with the shed closure.

Bryant Johnson

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 6, 2023 2:47 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

Adding 150 tags to the southwest desert is something that you should not do!!! I am lifetime hunter 4596 and hunt the west desert every year, there are 2600 deer in this unit and at 18 does to every 100 bucks that is 468 bucks, you are recommending 475 tags? Obviously there is a problem when you have more tags than there are deer to be killed. For once don't be worried about the money you will lose cause this will wipe the deer herd out

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

Want to wipe out what is left of the southwest desert deer herd? Do what you are doing, at 2600 deer in the unit 18 bucks to 100 does is 468 bucks, you are recommending 475 tags for this unit??? This is not right and you guys know it, I am 66 years old and I have hunted this unit my whole life. When the unit starts to do a little better as far as deer numbers now you increase tags by 150 because of winter kill in the other areas? How about winter kill in this unit, southwest desert got a lot of snow also, do you not think you lost any deer here? I have had a lifetime license for lots of years and my 2 boys do also, there should only be cut tags not an increase, by your own admission you are down 80,000 deer from what it was before 2015. Do not add tags on the southwest desert, that would kill the unit once again.

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I am a lifetime license holder that hunts the southwest desert every year, it is crazy to think that you guys want to raise the tags out there 150 tags???

There are 2600 deer in this unit by your own count, probably less, 18 bucks to 100 does is 468 bucks, you want to give 475 tags???

That is crazy stupid, I know you only care about money but if you have no deer for the future, where will your money be then???

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

Southern Region Units listed are increasing 2525 permits even though most of them are under objective or just at objective. This is being done after the longest, coldest, wettest, winter in Utah History. Why???? This is when tags should be decreased due to the likelihood that many of the bucks that were counted could have died after losing their horns during their most vulnerable time of winter February - April when at the weakest!!!! Don't let them kill the bucks this year when in reality they don't have any idea what survived after February. These counts are done prior to that right??? If they all lived we should have plenty of feed to hold them over due to all the water in the hills until 2024. This is not stockpiling, this is common since!!!! CONSIDER WAITING A YEAR TO INCREASE TAGS AFTER WE KNOW THE FULL EFFECT TO OUR DEER AFTER THE MOST SIGNIFICANT WINTER ON RECORD!!!! INSTEAD DECREASE TAGS FOR THE TIME BEING!!

Beaver under objective 3 year - Pahvant in objective parameter - Monroe Under Objective 3 year  
Dutton under objective 3 year - Zion in objective parameter - Pine Valley in objective parameter

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** I really like the increases that were made for the Pine Valley and Zion units. I can support what they were increased to. I know Pine Valley has always been a unit of contention when a tag increase is proposed. I probably spend as much time or more than anyone else that hunts there and I like seeing big deer just the same as the next person. But right now, the odds to draw that tag if you were to start with 0 points last year. It would take 15 years to draw the second rifle hunt. That's not what we want to see for a GS deer unit. The deer are down right now but I still seen good bucks last year. They are still there. I just had to work a little harder to find them. PLEASE!! Don't decrease the tags lower then what the proposed numbers are. Thanks for your time

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations?** I wish the presentation had a more detail on why a unit is being increased or decreased from the previous year.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?** I really appreciate all that was involved in restructuring the elk hunts. I think this is a great step to having options to be able to increase tags over the next few years.  
I would like to see more tags issued on the Beaver unit. Last year it was increase by 27 tags and the average age still went up. With it being 1.4 years over the objective I believe it could be raised up closer to 85-90 tags and still be just fine.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

I was one that was in favor of scopes on muzzleloaders. I think we made a mistake by allowing that. I would like to see it go to open sights only. Utah is one of the last states now to allow a scope on a muzzy. The same reason tags were cut on the early rifle elk hunt is the same reason to go back to open sights on muzzys. That hunt will still be a very high success rate as long as we allow scopes to be used. Also, when the late season muzzy deer hunts were passed there was no scopes allowed. I believe that hunt would have never pass today with the way muzzleloaders can shoot with a scope.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 7, 2023 8:19 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

Being very familiar with the Beaver unit- I strongly disagree with the amount of allocated tags. The buck to die ratio may be up- however there are significantly less does on this unit than is made out to be. Massive struggles with high bear populations and fawn survival especially at higher elevations. This was increasingly depressing to see increase of tags in this area. I feel that yearling bucks need to be preserved in more general season areas. Why can we not slash by 3/4 or 1/2 in order for those yearlings killed to at least be a little larger for general communities to enjoy a better hunting community.

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I would like to express my feelings and personal experiences on the Pine valley unit. I know some units are better known for quality over quantity and vice versa and we as hunters get to choose what unit within the state we want to hunt as a general season deer tag. Having said that I've chosen Pine valley as were I want to go and am willing to wait my turn in preference points to hunt there even though I'm a resident in Ogden I'm more than willing to use preference points and make the travel to hunt more mature type bucks on a general tag. Now the passed three years that unit has had severe drought and the biologists and conservation officers attested to that. The division made the right call in 2022 to significantly cut tags in Pinevalley and other southern units because of drought. You all preached through podcasts and articles why the tags would be cut and I 100% supported for the sake of the future of the deer within Pinevalley and other units like zion because those unit tend to hold more mature deer which many like hunters as myself choose to pursue. Now after 1 year of tag cuts you significantly increase the Pinevalley tags by 2000 tags over all weapon types and contradicting everything you did and said in 2022. Pinevalley and zion need recovery years from the drought. Just because we are having one high precipitation winter that doesn't undo the 3 years of extreme drought the mule deer herds suffered from. So I would like to ask you to reconsider your increase in tag numbers to be much lower in these units. It's hard to think its conservation when those high tag numbers would just means all the young bucks that were just saved be harvested. I understand the division tries to keep a balance with keeping hunters happy with the social aspect of actually getting a tag and going hunting. So I would like to suggest if tags have to be increased to a reasonable level then implement a two point restriction and let the young ones actually live a little and perhaps let the deer herds recover. Maybe allow the youth and senior citizens take a two point if they choose to.

Next I mentioned I live in northern Utah and as you already know our winter was bad! After seeing the small amount of proposed tag cuts for the northern units I was very discouraged that the division is not taking it more serious in reduction of tags. Mainly the cache, ogden, Wasatch front and back are my areas of focus and there is hardly anything left. As hunters we have to care about the species future. I preach conservation religiously but how can any of us think the take from hunting is necessary after mother nature has already taken more animals than any of us have ever seen her take. Please reconsider the northern herds because the proposed tag numbers is sad and we need to manage what left of the herd better.

**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

The two items I would like to state my input on are the two way radios or cell phone usage on taking of big game. That is something that could not possibly be enforced properly so it really seams silly because it would just be all back and forth arguing if accused of using radios or cell phones. Secondly if the division is really concerned about technology getting to advanced then let us vote again on muzzleloaders with scopes and the definition of a muzzleloader.

Now days with the new accuracy and advancement in muzzleloaders we now have another long range weapon which on some units that like having 3 high powered rifle seasons which our herds just suffer because we are now way to efficient with killing with muzzleloaders.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

Getting rid of the use of radios or cell phones for stalking or locating hunter and game is an abomination! What are we supposed to do, walk into the mountains and just magically trip into a deer? If you want to try and make it harder for hunters to be successful just sell less tags, stop micromanaging so much. If you continue at this rate, might as well ban binoculars! Additionally, without radios or cell phone communication it makes hunting more dangerous! What happens when you start running into other hunters that could easily be avoided had your hunting partner radioed you to tell you where other hunters are or where to avoid their line of fire? Or to try and stay out of dangerous canyons or unmarked trails? Common guys, this recommendation is seriously flawed and stupid!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** I really like the increases that were made for the Pine Valley and Zion units. I can support what they were increased to. I know Pine Valley has always been a unit of contention when a tag increase is proposed. I probably spend as much time or more than anyone else that hunts there and I like seeing big deer just the same as the next person. But right now, the odds to draw that tag if you were to start with 0 points last year. It would take 15 years to draw the second rifle hunt. That's not what we want to see for a GS deer unit. The deer are down right now but I still seen good bucks last year. They are still there. I just had to work a little harder to find them. PLEASE!! Don't decrease the tags lower then what the proposed numbers are. Thanks for your time

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations?** I wish the presentation had a more detail on why a unit is being increased or decreased from the previous year.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?** I really appreciate all that was involved in restructuring the elk hunts. I think this is a great step to having options to be able to increase tags over the next few years.  
I would like to see more tags issued on the Beaver unit. Last year it was increase by 27 tags and the average age still went up. With it being 1.4 years over the objective I believe it could be raised up closer to 85-90 tags and still be just fine.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

I was one that was in favor of scopes on muzzleloaders. I think we made a mistake by allowing that. I would like to see it go to open sights only. Utah is one of the last states now to allow a scope on a muzzy. The same reason tags were cut on the early rifle elk hunt is the same reason to go back to open sights on muzzys. That hunt will still be a very high success rate as long as we allow scopes to be used. Also, when the late season muzzy deer hunts were passed there was no scopes allowed. I believe that hunt would have never pass today with the way muzzleloaders can shoot with a scope.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 7, 2023 3:21 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** Good to see increased tag numbers in the south, but would like to see not as big an increase at once, increase half the recommended and give another year and see if another increase is possible.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?** Good to see more opportunity for limited entry tags, need to do away with unlimited archery and late general tags

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Neither agree nor disagree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 8, 2023 10:28 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

Deer number are way down. There are few deer on dutton. I spend lots of time on the mountain and the deer numbers are pitiful. The doe hunts of the past few years in the valley surrounding and the cougars have dropped deer number way low. I don't agree with the increase of deer tags on this unit.

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

The southwest desert can not handle any more pressure on our deer herd there has been a significant decline in the last five years, allowing more people to hunt in the southwest desert will only cripple. The herd further in the state of Utah, is all having a hard winter across the state even in the southwest desert hopefully we have a great spring and a nice fall so the does and what fawns are left can you get stronger and healthier for the next winter 2024 and the does will all get bred and were able to have healthy and stronger fawns in the spring of 25 I asked the Dwr please do not put any more pressure on the deer herd in southern Utah as you know, Nevada has cut deer permits, drastically on the Utah Nevada border. We should be cutting tags not issuing more. I know the northern part of Utah has been hit severely with this winter, but that doesn't give a reason to get more deer tags in the southern region. I strongly disagree with the recommendations and ask the Dwr just stop over Hunting and save our deer herd. Let mother nature take care of deer

Herds don't over manage please. Even though I am not a resident at this time I have lived in southern Utah and hunted by whole life. I am on property in the southwest desert out in Hamel Valley on the Nevada border so I am out there six months out of the year I have a cabin there 1000 acre ranch and all I do is try to help the elk and deer herd out there so I do know what's going on out there

We have way to much pressure out there starting

With the spike elk hunts

Save the deer herds a priority, and not the money

Thank you very much

Barry thiriot

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I strongly disagree with the proposed tag increases for general season buck deer hunts in Utah. While the central and northern portions of the state have suffered great winter mortality in out deer, the southern units have been much better. In my not so professional opinion, just boots on the ground observation, the deer units in southern Utah have been greatly impacted by the drought in recent years. (As you Know).

I have been happy with the tag decreases in recent years, especially on the Pine Valley. Last years tag cuts were amazing in trying to rebound the deer heard on that unit. We have had an exceptional winter on the Pine Valley and the current conditions there are adding up to help the deer rebound greatly! THAT REBOUND WILL NOT HAPPEN IN ONE YEAR! With the survival of last years fawns you are essentially issuing 1100 yearling buck tags.

It does not make any sense to not try and give the first decent fawn crop to survive in years a break... It also does not feel like we are managing based off our buck to doe ratio objectives. There are proposed increases on units that are below the three year average. Also, Pine Valley is on the bottom end of their three year objective but there are still massive increases proposed. Why cant we try and achieve the upper end of our buck to doe ratio or even be over objective before we increase tags? I feel like if we are within our ratio we should hold tags steady instead of issuing more tags. Over Objective= Tag increase. At objective=Stay the same. Under objective= Decrease tags.

It feels to me like the DWR is covering the tags they are cutting in Northern Utah and Issuing more in Southern Utah to cover their Bottom line. I have always believed the division was not money hungry like everyone claims, This sure feels like I have been wrong on that...

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 10, 2023 6:12 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat disagree  
**regarding the technology**  
**recommendations for 2023?**

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**Do you have any additional comments**      Don't remove scopes from Muzzleloaders.  
**about the technology**  
**recommendations?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I appreciate the work and effort of the technology committee. I do not agree with limiting technology on bows. Bows will always have a very limited effective range. Archery will always be a fair chase hunt. It's the only weapon where the animal actually has a chance to see you, smell you, and hear you. Allowing electronics on bows creates a more enjoyable shooting experience. It does not make the bow more lethal, nor does it increase the weapons effective range. Let's not worry about a weapon with such a short effective range and rather let's worry about muzzleloaders shooting 600 yards with magnified scopes, and rifles shooting 1000 yards. Both create an environment where the animal potentially does not have the fair chance to see you, smell you, or hear you. I hunt with all weapon types and enjoy each one. Technology restrictions should focus on making it more fair for the animals. Let's not remove electronics from bows just because that's what is happening with rifles and muzzleloaders. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** I think these numbers permit are looking good and support them.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?** I like the new structure, but I do believe there should be many more tags issued for the new late season archery elk hunts. These hunts will absolutely have an extremely low success rate, so why not give a hefty amount of tags. I honestly expected 50-100 permits on each of these hunts. I think the RAC and Board should consider upping those numbers substantially.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed CWMU rule change?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed big game rule changes?** Mandatory harvest reporting will give a lot of people confidence in the harvest numbers. Nice job there. The tenderloin requirement is a but excessive, as many people don't even know where they are or how to properly get them out. It also requires the diaphragm to be opened up, which a lot of folks do not like to do. I would recommend taking that part out of the requirements.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

While I totally understand the spirit behind it, I think the idea of restricting radios/phones while stalking is terrible idea. EVERYONE has a phone all the time, and a majority of hunters also use radios for communication. This type of restriction is a disadvantage to the honest people only, and is totally unenforcible. Very much like the shed hunting closure, the honest people are getting hosed, while there are many who are "turkey hunting" or taking their dogs for a walk, who have the hills to themselves and will surprisingly find many dark brown sheds hanging in trees on May 1st ( and I've seen lots of photos going around!!!). In my opinion, the restriction is a very bad idea. For those who think that using them in the stalking of animals is unethical or not fair chase, they are welcome to make that decision for themselves and choose not to do that.

I also think the July 31st date of restricting flying and thermal use is a bit excessive. In many states you can fly the day before you hunt, so I think the current 48-hour restriction is good enough.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 11, 2023 11:20 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

There seems to be an extremely quick tag influx on the Zion and pine valley that need to keep last years tag cuts. These units have been pounded with hunting and one year of tag cuts is not nearly enough time for these animals to recover from a 3 year drought and high tag numbers. We need more recruitment before tag numbers go up this quick!!!



**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I feel like ramping tags up in units like the Dutton, Beaver, LaSal, and the Panguitch while the overall population is declining or staying at par might not be a good idea. I know that these buck tags in theory do not dictate population numbers but in the Dutton that buck to doe ratio is highly suspect and should not be an indicator for increasing tags. [REDACTED], the Monroe is creeping up in buck/doe ratio and the current ratio is at the low end of the spectrum of the 18-20. I do not agree with some of these tag increases but at the end of the day I guess it is only general buck hunting and if there is still some bucks left might as well harvest them.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?**

I like the direction of the tag allocation shifting to more tags outside the rut.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations?**

I am glad there is not many antlerless deer tags in the state, so I agree with that, but I personally know some of these southern units like Pine Valley, Mt Dutton, Panguitch, Monroe, Southwest Desert, and Boulder and there is a problem with your numbers. I don't know what 18,000 deer looks like on the Pine Valley but I know you are a long ways off of 1,500 deer to reach your carrying capacity of what that unit has supported in the past for deer. I don't know if your current numbers are correct and the numbers the DNR had in the past were underestimating the amount of deer on these units but there is something drastically off. And anyone that thinks the Zion is within 1,000 deer of hitting objective is completely wrong! We have got to communicate more with local landowners, hunters, and ranchers when assessing these numbers.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

I like the restrictions on some of the technology that is coming about but we need to strip the scopes off of muzzleloaders. They are not a primitive weapon and I am not a believer that the harvest success would be the same without scopes. And if it is then why not pull them off muzzleloaders?. Anyone that has hunted with and without a variable power scope on a muzzleloader is a liar if they say given the choice its not an advantage. Scopes of any kind need to be removed from it and if guys want to hunt with a muzzleloader but cant see through open sights lets go back to the way it used to be and let them hunt with it during the any weapon season.

Another thing we need to address is the disability exceptions for archery crossbow permits and extended season dates. The exceptions should include old age. If you cant physically pull a bow back anymore maybe its time to pick up a rifle. This is a slippery slope and having old guys out there competing with youth on the any bull draw hunt is wrong. Most of them had there hunts.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

There is no reason to increase tag numbers in southern units, especially Zion and Pine Valley. Yes, there have been good survival rates, but that will serve to increase the impact of continuing with the original proposal to significantly reduce tag numbers for 3 years in order to rebound not only the number of bucks, but also the age class. These units have been in severe drought and have been hunted hard the last 5 years, also the numbers are still well below what they have been or can be for this part of the state.

Secondly, having a mindset of "Hunt them while they are here" and "not stockpiling deer" doesn't make sense from a management perspective. The point of management is to ensure the hunting is good now and in the future. It is very shortsighted to only think about keeping tag numbers up to or as close to what they were last year after a winter like this. An overall reduction of 2% is a joke. Just because we can get away with it without completely destroying the deer population this year, doesn't mean that it is the best biological decision for the future of hunting in this state. The general season hunting will be so much better in terms of age class and buck to doe ratios in the next 3 years if we can handle one year of reduced tag numbers. A larger reduction in tags will limit the number of hunters, but we are already at 50% success rate in drawing tags anyways, so dropping that number a little more will not have as much negative impact on hunting as what is already being presented. Also harvest success % and overall hunter satisfaction will increase dramatically over the next 3 years due to more deer and more mature deer. Even this year the people who do draw will have a better hunt if there are less people in the woods rather than more. So it will definitely not negatively influence people's opinions on the DNR any more than what they already are. I want to hunt every year just like everyone else, but even I realize that on a year like this, for the sake of the animals, we have to make a sacrifice as hunters to ensure the future of hunting. That is the whole point of management, not finding a way to justify only reducing tag numbers by 2% so that the most tags can be sold.

**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?**

Somewhat disagree

<b>Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?</b>	I understand that there is an attempt to increase opportunity with the goal of lowering point creep, but it is not a good idea in my opinion to hunt these elk from August to the end of November. It is going to have huge negative impacts down the road such as age class and the behavioral changes of elk to seek shelter in places like private property, where they can also be shot at from landowner permits. I believe that the bulls that survive October should be able to rest and eat in order to build up reserves to not only survive winter, but grow bigger for the next year. Healthy, strong, and older elk are always better to hunt.
<b>Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?</b>	Somewhat agree
<b>Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations?</b>	I really appreciate the continued reduction in for deer permits with the objectives of increasing deer populations. I believe there should be more private land only cow elk tags and less public draw cow tags, the state of Utah is so unique in its ability to actually have high elk and deer numbers simultaneously. I believe that either the state objective number of elk needs raised or a higher number of cows need to be killed on private land.
<b>Which best describes your position regarding the proposed CWMU rule change?</b>	Strongly agree
<b>Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?</b>	Somewhat agree
<b>Do you have any additional comments about the proposed big game rule changes?</b>	Make sure wording of the "inedible byproducts" is clear to not include shed antlers. Because by basic understanding a shed is an inedible byproduct.
<b>Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?</b>	Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

It makes no sense to not allow a Bluetooth "location" enabled arrow/"projectile" to aid in recovery or locating of said projectile. If this technology is available, it should be used. It only will increase the number of injured animals being relocated, or allow a hunter to find his arrow and see if it was a clean miss or if he should be tracking the animal. This rule seemingly contradicts the new enforcement of meat waste management. If there is technology that helps locate injured or dead animals, we should allow it due to the ethical nature of wanting to be as efficient of a hunter as we can be for the sake of the animal we are pursuing.

Secondly, I would argue that banning the use of cellphones or radios to communicate with other hunters is more dangerous to humans than it is helping the animal have a "fair chance". I believe it will not accomplish what you are trying to achieve. The largest application that these items are used for is spot and stalk archery style hunts, and people can just use mirrors or reflective devices, light, or smoke signals to accomplish the same goal.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed CWMU rule change?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?** I like the idea of taking scopes off muzzleloaders, but I believe that if you do that, you also have to reign in long range rifles at the same time.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

Panguitch Lake management is good. and it's working. Keeping the tags lower has tremendously helped the herd. I have a property in Panguitch and spend a lot of time there. The reduction a few years back has helped the herd recover.

Now speaking on the Pine Valley Unit. the tag numbers need to remain where they were reduced last year for at least 2 more years. I Avidly hunt PV and have since I was born. The unit is in worse shape than ever right now. Yes, the fawn and doe are healthy on the unit due to having a mild winter range, year in and year out. I recommend keeping the tag numbers from last year on this unit. 1700 total tags. 2800 tags is WAY too many for the shape the unit is currently in. Maybe in 2 more years, you could increase the tags to 2300 but that should be the absolute max on this unit.

**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?** I think this is a sustainable plan, although I always hesitate to introduce new hunts and increase tags. I understand everyone wants more opportunities. but at what cost? I think you guys are in the ballpark on this plan. it's not perfect but i think it can work.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed big game rule changes?** I am a trophy hunter but I also provide wild game to my family to survive. I do not buy processed meats. I strongly agree with making people be more responsible.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?** I do not have a problem with these changes for the most part. I personally use radios to hunt. They also can be crucial to aiding in the recovery of a wounded animal though. I think the radio section needs work for these reasons.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 11, 2023 9:24 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

This is just another way for DWR to take more of our rights. My family has hunted for years using radios and to think that this is going to help ain't true i would Like to see some logic behind this. This is ridiculous. You guys are ruining hunting with all these new rules. Do something that will actually help our animals and big game hunting making these rules ain't doing nothing. I worry For my kids and the future of hunting for them

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

Dear Council Members,

With respect to the 2023 permit recommendations proposed by UDWR for the Southern Region; I disagree with many of units having a proposed increased in permit numbers for the 2023 season. Many units including Beaver, Monroe, Dutton and Fillmore are either below their 3 year buck:doe ratio objective, or in the case of Fillmore, show a significant downward trend that correlates directly with tag increases the last several years that has put the unit on the fast-track to being below objective. How is this proper management of our resource? To increase tags on these units that are either below objective, or show obvious signs of a herd in decline is completely unwarranted. I urge the council to take the stance of- no permit increases for these units.

**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

I don't agree with limiting communication via 2-way radios as this is not a significant impact to the resource and can not be enforced.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 12, 2023 12:34 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

I am ok with the current proposed rules, I do not want to see the scopes removed from muzzleloaders for the regular muzzleloader hunts, and do not want to see that proposed in the future.

I also feel that the technology committee should be focused more on emerging technologies rather than current technology's especially the ones that have been around for a long time.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

Based on Derrick Ewell's presentation, We should go back to stone knife's and clubs but the stone must have a shore hardness on lees the 3 so that you only wound your self trying to humanly take an animal. Most of my current weapons will now be obsolete. They are not a great advantage as it is. More effort should be put on hunter ethics like not shooting something beyond a reasonable range. I think if these recommendations and enacted that I will be done hunting in Utah and will no longer support The DNR or its activity.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

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Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

Why does Utah want the same tags in the South and maybe more. You don't do range rides anymore to actually see whats on the is not working. The public would welcome a reduction and even closures if necessary. Try building the herds with common sense. If i ran my cow herd the way you manage deer, I'm out of business. Try listening for a change. Other states around us seem to do much better. Quit killing does and cows and make your CO's really work out the problems with the landowners.. Other surrounding states are reducing numbers based on the harsh winter. People would support cuts and closures.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I mostly agree with permit recommendations for deer. I do believe we have some northern Utah units that have suffered more this winter than in other areas of the state though and we should really be looking at cutting back tags further on units like Diamond Mountain, South Slope/Yellowstone, and the Cache unit. I don't think we have a complete grasp of how bad mortality has been there this year. Maybe we have the bucks right now, but let's be smart in planning for the overall future of these herds. We don't need to set them back inadvertently.

Second is a comment on the overall population objective for the Plateau Boulder/Kaiparowits. A year or 2 ago the new big game plan called for cutting the population objective on this unit...I can't remember the exact numbers...seems like cutting the objective from roughly 12,000 deer back to 8,500 deer. This is unacceptable to me. This unit used to produce a great deer herd. I feel like this was a step the DWR took in saying, "this is the best we can do, we give up on the higher population objective". This unit has been largely neglected compared to other southern Utah deer units in terms of both summer and winter range/habitat improvements and predator control, and collaring has only recently begun to really start to analyze the migration patterns of this herd. We need to get to work on raising this population objective again and getting a decent sized herd reestablished to what it used to be on this unit!

**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?**

I support a lot of the elk recommendations. I do not support the new mid-season hunts taking place during the spike hunt...what a cluster! The amount of hunters in the field already, these elk will be run ragged, good luck having a decent hunting experience on this hunt. I agree we need some more opportunity, and more rut rifle tags isn't the answer. The placement of the mid-season hunt is terrible. Maybe we should have considered changes to the spike hunt season, or maybe we need to cut down on spike tag numbers as well.

The changes to the general elk hunt...horrible! Making most of the tags available on a later hunt equals less elk harvested. Sure, you'll make your money on the tag sales and get more hunters afield, but the success will be poor. As things have been the elk high tail it to private or tribal lands and are few and far between on the current general hunt. This will be a greater issue during a later general hunt. I'm not saying you should make harvesting elk easier, but I am saying that dates that hamper a hunt due to migration of elk to where you can't hunt them is completely asinine.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?**

Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?**

Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

I agree with most of the Tech recommendations. I do NOT agree with the recommendation in regards to 2-way communication. This seems very over-reaching, and an abuse of rights and safety. I understand the intent, but let's face it, people separate to better scout and there's nothing wrong with that...especially for people that have waited 20-30 YEARS to draw a tag. It's a small advantage, yes. I feel like we keep sliding down this slope where we take one thing, then another, and another...where does it stop? Trail cameras was a hard one to sell most people on. It's not the time to go after radios and phones. We use these hunting as a family group. Rarely does it lead to a successful harvest however it does add to a positive experience to the hunt in my opinion and certainly has its uses. I fail to see anything presented that makes the use of radios and phones seem unethical or irresponsible. Helping someone sneak in on an animal using a radio...is that really unethical or that big of a deal? It's still a stalk. It's still not easy.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?**

Maybe people in our state have applied for most of there life. Many of my family have been waiting for the chance to hunt mature bull's that are at the prime age some hunt with rifle and some with muzzle loader. By changing the age on some units and adding more tag's in my opinion with kill off most of the prime bulls on the best units. Speaking for my family that want a book or bull of a lifetime it's very sad to see the state change the entire state just for opportunity.

**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

I feel that technology is getting more advanced every year and if we start changing the way the world is revolving with technology then we might as well just close hunting in Utah. We have more rules than the surrounding states. Many hunter in the city I live in are starting to hunt other states. I have seen the hunting change for the worst in my life. We have restrictions on everything to do with hunting or guiding but we have no changes for farming land or cattle in wildlife areas. Not only we can't hunt as a family now but the entire mountain is covered year around with beef cow's. I hate to see Utah dwr rack change anything else with hunting until they change the rules for everything that pertains with public land. I feel that hunting in Utah will be a thing of the past in the next 10 years.



**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** I think they should go to a 5 day hunt, go to 3 point or better, and quit cutting tags, their other ways of bring the herd back, quit killing the spikes, and two points

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations?** Quit killing the does, just remember a doe can't have a fawn with out a buck, and that is why they should quit killing the small bucks, so they may become a herd buck, it harder to take a herd buck on the hunt, I know the more herd bucks you have with the doe's the better the fawn crop

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?** Get rid of all trail camera and scopes off the muzzle loader

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** 1 year of tag cuts on the pine valley and Zion isn't helpful If they are increased the following year. Yes there will be more bucks to hunt, but they're all going to be yearling bucks. The southern units should not suffer tag increases to make up for the cuts up north. Utah can easily find another solution to make up funds lost from tag cuts and people up north are just gonna have to suck it up for a few years like we have with the drought for the last few years

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations?** Just cancel the Zion hunt

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?** I think utah is headed in the right direction moving the season dates and getting tags pulled from the early rifle and shortening that season. We could issue more tags for more opportunity with other weapon types in different seasons like other states do. However, if we are going to continue to increase bull elk tags every year, spike hunts need to be put to an end so you actually have bulls to hunt. i worry that the boulder tag increases will end up decreasing age class more than expected. I also don't really trust the way utah ages elk because of the inaccurate age I received for my elk in 2017

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations?** Killing cows with the new elk management plan is the dumbest thing we can be doing. keeping Them alive is the only way you can increase populations. Instead of providing depredation tags for landowners, build a high fence around their property if they hate the elk so much. That would save money in the long run for damage compensation.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

Two way radios are definitely effective for archery hunters and there's no denying that. However, there is no scientific evidence that they are hurting hunting in any way. It's not like more animals die because of radios. It only helps you target Specific animals. I think there are many other issues worse than radios. I've never had a bad experience in the hills because another hunter used a radio. If restrictions are going to continue to be placed on us, they need to be enforced. Enforcement requires funding for more officers. It would be perfect for sfw to fund the enforcement since they've been so eager to sponsor restrictions on technology

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** Just to say that I think the recommendations for permits were well thought out and analyzed for the current situation and effects of the harsh winter. As well as well thought for increasing permit numbers for areas in the southern portion of the state that saw improving effects from this winter and making recommendations based on information that reflects that.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2023?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed big game rule changes?**

I really like the meat salvage requirement, however, I would advocate for even more of the taken game animal to be harvested. For myself, I harvest all of the meat that I can off of the animal but it is a good start to introducing meat salvaging requirements. I agree with the idea of discontinuing the free replacement of permit for CWD positive game but I think that could be looked deeper into and offering a replacement permit at a cost. Even though a hunter has removed an animal off of the landscape, it is a positive in the fact of removing a CWD positive animal but there are questions surrounding keeping game meat from a CWD positive animal. Even though, as of now, there are no recorded incidences of CWD transfer from game meat to humans, and is still a choice a hunter has whether to keep or unfortunately discard that meat and if discarded, that hunter has lost all of that resource. At least offering a replacement at cost still provides the opportunity for a hunter to again potentially harvest an animal and hopefully not CWD positive because without obvious physical signs of disease, a hunter has no way of knowing if the animal is positive or not when taking that animal. Even though that hunter may take 2 animals off the landscape in total, 1 would have been CWD which should not stay on the landscape but the other would then be "counted as normal" so to speak.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** The deer in the Pine Valley unit have been in a decline, regardless what the DWR are telling us! One year of tag cuts with a good fawn crop is a far cry from a tag increase! I totally disagree with the thought of you can't stock pile deer! That is BS! We used to have piles of deer! We still give doe tags out, yet we say fawn servile is key to deer populations? Why are we killing the mothers? I am as avid of a sportsman as there is and the decline in deer population on the Pine Valley and Zion Units is sickening! I own an outdoor business and hear over and over every [REDACTED] year how poor the hunting is! Also how many less deer hunters are seeing! Management is terrible at best! Raising the tags is unbelievably disappointing!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?** More tags! That's always the answer! No way on is the beards in the kind of shape you think to support that kind of increase in tags? Quality of bulls is in the absolute tank!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck pronghorn permit recommendations?** Let the herds grow! The bucks you see on units are extremely young! Also the numbers are embarrassing!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations?** Please cut all mule deer doe tags! That is absolutely disgusting! The deer herds are in horrible shape and to even think there should be a tag is stupidity at the highest level!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?** More government overreach! Try and manage radios and cell phones?  
What is the logic?

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I agree that when the deer numbers are healthier that permit numbers can be increased, however I dont understand why they would be increased on a positive year following drought when the population numbers are still lower than the good years we had in 15-17. Wouldn't we want the numbers to get back to that objective?

I also believe that 15-18 bucks per 100 does can be achieved with more mature deer on general units. As someone who has hunted pinevalley all my life I know there are mature bucks, but it's really frustrating to see spikes/2 point bucks being slaughtered on opening morning. Let them grow! Is it possible to only allow youth to harvest smaller bucks and any other tag holder must harvest 3pt or bigger? I just would like to see more mature deer on a general unit like pine valley since it takes about 4-5 points just to draw.

Hopefully what I have to share can be discussed. Thank you for all your efforts to conserve our wildlife!

**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

I agree with everything except for using two way communication when stalking an animal. I understand the intent, but how is that enforced? I could see this becoming a rule to abide by but it becoming a disadvantage to the honest hunter. Unless their is a way to enforce it I don't see a reason for including that recommendation.



**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

**\*\*PINEVALLEY\*\***

I would like to voice my opinion having hunted Pinevalley general deer. It was really nice to see you guys cut tags way back last year to help save the deer herd after all the drought years that unit experienced. It made sense why you guys cut tags so aggressively because the deer numbers had drastically decreased year after year and hunters were everywhere. Now I see you guys significantly increase the buck tags immediately after one year of helping the deer herd. WHY? Why backtrack and ruin the good you guys were trying to do to help our deer herd and make for a more quality hunt in the future? I understand many challenges you all face with managing our herds but your actions for this unit contradict themselves when last year you spoke of the struggles of the deer in Pinevalley and then the next year you want to slaughter them all again? The young bucks that you saved last year will for the most part be taken out by this years huge increase in tags therefore last years efforts go to waste. I defend the DWR often because majority of the population don't understand what you are all up against but this unit and these decisions your making here are why many do not have faith in what you say from year to year because you contradict your efforts. Pine valley has been know for more mature and better genetic deer and that is why we are willing to wait our turn with saving preference points to go there. Please reconsider to lower tag number back down to around last years numbers and let the deer herd bounce back. Also a Two point restriction would really be nice to see in some units maybe even Pinevalley. Perhaps allow the youth and senior citizens to take a 2 point if they choose but the rest of the sportsmen should stop shooting young deer and help our efforts to increase deer herds for the future. Thanks for listening

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I still think we need a couple more tags . I think we need to focus on deer quality deer quality. Versus quantity or opportunity.  
I think we need to save the younger generation deer I think we need to bring back three pointer better teach the youth it's not always about killing a deer or having an opportunity

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?** I would prefer to see tag numbers lower for a year or two but understand your recommendations.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?** Prefer to see older age class bulls on more units. I realize im the odd one out here.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed big game rule changes?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

I have two concerns, one is the archery portion and the use of communication devices.

As for communication devices, i strongly disagree with the proposal. I do fully understand that success rates are improved with radios, however i see the benefit using radios has on allowing more people-particularly children to be involved more with other peoples hunts. I went back over the last 8 year and hunts myself and my 12 & 16 year old kids have been able to be a major part of due to radios and helping and it is substantial. We as a family have gone on 9 different hunts that we assisted friends and neighbors with that my kids and wife loved being a part of. The level of involvement was different with each hunt, but the main connection was the ability to help via the use of radios. 80% of these hunts we were helping families that other children had the tags. We have been the direct connection via radios to direct hunters to the correct location at times and other literally sat back and watched and just used radios to pick up folks after walks. The point i make is my kids love to go help now as much as they do hunt with their own tags. with out the ability to use radios for "stalking" it can limit the involvement of others (especially children). I believe in and practice my own definitions of fair chase and do believe we need to regulate things, however i have a hard time with radios. I have personally seen the benefits my kids and other children have had by being able to be a part of a hunt through the use of radios. Furthermore, in the last 3 years, i was involved with 3 hunts that i personally was able to assist the hunters in either locating downed game after a shot or help stay of the wounded animal that re-joined the herd after the shot. A cow bison hunt on the Henry mountains last fall is prime example of both of my concerns. We had the opportunity to assist a youth hunter by spotting and directing them to a herd of Bison. After the shot the wounded cow gathered back with the herd, the hunter nor her father could tell which animal was wounded. I had a different vantage point that allowed my to stay on the correct animal and guide them to a follow up shot on the correct animal. Had i not been there and had the ability to help via radio she may have lost the bison or accidentally shot a different one. One other cow was coughing blood that confused the hunters. Lastly regarding radios, the enforcement side is a concern to me. If radios are still allowed in the field but not during stalking, this creates a challenge to enforce. Most of us will still use them for safety, to find each other, etc and that opens the concern for interpretation. Please re consider this portion.

As for a 25 year archer who recently (two years ago) switched to an electronic site, i disagree with this proposal. i mostly hunt with a rife/muzzleloader and agree with those weapons but not with Archery. In switching i have not personally gained any distance or greater effective shooting. It simply makes it funner and slightly quicker. I shoot a lot but don't archery hunt a bunch. Archery is still a very limited distance weapon and removing the electronic site does not change this that much. Thank you for your time, effort and consideration.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I have been hunting and guiding on Pine Valley for years and think your tag increases are coming too soon. The buck-to-doe ratios might be within the 18-20 goal, but the overall deer numbers are down A LOT from where they were even 2-3 years ago. Why not keep the permit numbers lower for another few years and give the deer a chance to rebound?? It would be the best thing for the deer. Who care if it takes people an extra year or two to draw a tag.

Give the deer herd another few years to get back up to where it used to be!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations?**

Stop killing does on deer units that have low deer numbers! Let the herds rebound!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

The electronic communication regulation will be impossible to enforce. Radios aren't allowed for hunting in Nevada and guess what, everyone uses radios while hunting... It's a dumb regulation that can't be enforced.

If you actually want to make a change that will help the animals then prohibit scopes on muzzleloaders! Follow New Mexico and ban scopes. Muzzleloaders these days are basically single shot rifles. I know of multiple people who have killed deer from 500+ yards with a muzzleloader. The deer are very vulnerable during the muzzy seasons and many of the bigger bucks get killed then. If you aren't going to ban scopes at least make it a 5 day hunt to give the bucks a better chance of surviving.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I know that Southern Utah is looking good for fawn survival this year and has actually had good survival the last two years overall. I just don't understand the permit increases on several of the units throughout the state and even the Southern Region.

Beaver - hasn't had a year in the last three that isn't within the three year average and increasing.

Monroe - finally has its 1st year in three that within objective however the three year average is still below and increasing.

Dutton - finally has its 1st year in three that within objective however the three year average is still below and increasing.

Panguitch Lake - finally has its 1st year in three that within objective however the three year average is still below and maintaining, makes sense.

Pine Valley - 2 of 3 years at objective 3 year average at objective and trended up, perfect, increase but maybe a couple hundred, not 1100 Fishlake, SWD, Zion etc perfect mild increases sure looks good.

San Juan Abajo, all three years above objective, three year objective above, but maintaining? Is that because Guy in an hory old sucker and stingy with deer permits? haha but really it should see increases...

Box Elder - Significantly over all three years, and three year average maintaining?

Just frustrating to see the inconsistency, I know the reasoning but it is all projection, projection with a lot of unknowns makes me nervous. If the bucks are there I have no problem issue the permits and kill them. But what if we get back into another drought, or if we get a weird winter down here next year and we are cutting tags again. Lets just slowly work our way into objective.

**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations?**

I know that Mtn Goats have struggled the last few years in the State, sad to see as they are a great OIL species to apply for to have an actual chance to draw at some point. It reminded me that a few years ago we ran some Mtn Goat plans through the RAC and Board that were approved for transplants. I know Panguitch Lake was one of them. Just thinking since the BH Fire I think it would be a great place to have them and I would really like to see that plan revisited. A lot of time, and effort went into that and think it could help struggling populations. Panguitch Would be a good one as they really have hit the mtn lions hard up there the last five years so that would not be a limiting factor for them. I feel that it is a limiting factor on the Dutton right now for them.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?**

Lets try and get some elk population increases in the SRO! The Panguitch Lake could easily maintain 500 plus more elk, despite what Gibb says. The agencies did all that work to rehab the BH fire and it has rebounded significantly. I added it up and we only have one elk per 5 acres inside that burn scar alone, not counting the rest of the 200,000 acres of elk habitat in the unit. We have the habitat, lets use it please. We need to get a return on the work and money spend there. collar the elk you will see they don't bother Gibb his property or allotments. For the new plan to be successful we need more elk

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?**

The 2 way radio rule is going to be unenforceable and follows lines of ethical fair chase, not a rule/law issue. I feel like that is a road we don't want to go down! The courts were barley able to convict two guys that illegally killed a deer a mile deer in Utah with an Arizona deer tag with a mound of evidence against them. It's going to impossible to prosecute a law that is 90% untraceable. Lets focus on the things that effect draws odds, harvest, and deer populations please.

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April 13, 2023 6:37 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Strongly disagree  
**regarding the buck deer permit**  
**recommendations for 2023?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?**

I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the southern general season deer permit recommendations.

I provide my feedback from the perspective that we are coming off several years of extreme drought in southern Utah which has dramatically decreased fawn recruitment and hurt overall deer populations in most units. I am surprised to see the proposed general season permit increases after just one good summer/winter precipitation year, and can only assume that the DWR feels that the yearling buck recruitment will be so good that they can justify increasing permits now, immediately after years of healthy tag cuts, despite many units that they are recommending tag increases being below the approved buck:doe objective or directly at objective. I find some blaring inconsistencies in units I'd like to illustrate. I might emphasize the we hear all the time from the UDWR that we manage according to the management plan in place and approved by the RAC/ Board process, not to speculation or gut feel, or whatever else. We should not be looking at one good precipitation year and anticipated good yearling buck recruitment year as a trend, or basis for "feeling" that in 2023 units will see increasing post-season buck:doe ratios in November 2023. We manage to the plan and the plan says we manage for a 3 year average buck: doe ratio of 15-17 or 18-20 bucks per 100 does on all general season units.

1. The Beaver unit shows an average buck:doe ratio over the past 3 years at 15.1 bucks:100 does with individual years being 13.2, 14.8, and 17.3 bucks:100 does in 2020-2022. As you can see, this unit is not in compliance with the approved management plan of 18-20 bucks:100 does postseason. So it should be a candidate for permit cuts, however the UDWR is recommending a 300 permit increase from 1,500 to 1,800 for 2023. How is this justified?? I believe the Beaver unit should see a permit cut for 2023.

2. The Monroe unit shows an average buck:doe ratio over the past 3 years at 17.2 bucks:100 does with individual years being 16.5, 16.7, and 18.4 bucks:100 does in 2020-2022. As you can see, this unit is not in compliance with the approved management plan of 18-20 bucks:100 does postseason. So it should be a candidate for permit cuts, however the UDWR is recommending a 150 permit increase from 650 to 800 for 2023. How is this justified?? I believe the Monroe unit should see a permit cut, or at minimum, no change for 2023.

3. The Mt Dutton unit shows an average buck:doe ratio over the past 3 years at 16.7 bucks:100 does with individual years being 11.9, 17.4, and 20.6 bucks:100 does in 2020-2022. As you can see, this unit is not in compliance with the approved management plan of 18-20 bucks:100 does postseason. So it should be a candidate for permit cuts, however the UDWR is recommending a 100 permit increase (>30%) from 250 to 350 for 2023. How is this justified?? I believe the Mt. Dutton unit should see a permit cut for 2023.

4. The Panguitch Lake unit 3 year average buck:doe ratio is sitting at 17.1 bucks per 100 does, which is below objective, but no recommended cuts?? Why are the Beaver, Monroe, and Mt Dutton units which all have similar or lower buck:doe ratios, all seeing permit increases?

There is no consistency in following the approved plans when comparing one unit vs another.

5. The Pine Valley Unit 3 year average buck:doe ratio is sitting at 18.9 bucks per 100 does, which is directly in the middle of the acceptable range in the approved plan of 18-20 bucks per 100 does, with individual years being 21.1, 16.1, and 19.4 bucks:100 does in 2020-2022. Yet an enormous 1,100 permit increase is recommended from 1,700 to 2,800 for 2023? How is this justified?? One can only conclude that the UDWR is anticipating a good yearling buck crop next fall and so the recommended permit increase is justified. But an anticipated great 4th year of yearling buck recruitment, is not a metric the plan calls for when setting permit recommendations. I believe we should leave the Pine Valley with no permit change for 2023.

To further illustrate the inconsistency among big public land southern Utah units lets look at another unit.

To use the San Juan Abajo unit as an example The San Juan Abajo unit shows an average buck:doe ratio over the past 3 years at 20.9 bucks:100 does with individual years being 20.3, 22.6, and 19.9 bucks:100 does in 2020-2022. As you can see, this unit is in compliance and at, or even slightly over objective all 3 years. It is in compliance with the approved management plan of 18-20 bucks:100 does postseason, and could even be justified for a permit increased. But even with a 3 year buck:doe ratio of 20.9, the UDWR is recommending NO permit increases, and it recommended to leave as status quo for 2023. How is this justified??

How can a unit like the San Juan Abajo unit which is over objective see no permit increases, and the Pine Valley which is a full 2 bucks per 100 does lower than the San Juan Abajo Mt unit and in the perfect middle range within the plan, see a 1.100 permit recommended increase. There is no rational explanation.

In conclusion, as we come out of one of the hardest winters in the last 40+ years, it is inconceivable that the UDWR's general season deer permit recommendations are a measly 1,500 less than in 2022. How is this possible? One can only conclude that the bigger cuts in the north must be offset by increases in the southern part of the state, to try and keep the overall tag numbers somewhat comparable, even if they are not warranted or justified as I've pointed out. The UDWR seems too eager to increase tags with just one year of positive precipitation and only anticipated, but not actual population or buck numbers increasing yet.

I highly suggest that the southern RAC consider the data presented against the approved UDWR management plan in place, and do not increase

permits where there is not a basis for doing so.

Thanks for your consideration and for your time and efforts in serving southern Utah Sportsmen.

Sincerely,

Adam R. Bronson

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Submission Time:

April 2023 RAC Proposals Feedback  
April 13, 2023 9:12 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2023?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations?** Would like to see some archery little creek south bison tags later in the season

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**Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the technology recommendations for 2023?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the technology recommendations?** Really Like the 2 way communication ban in aiding in the take of game

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