

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024?

Strongly disagree

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

My main concern is the Vernon limited entry unit. 210 total tags is excessive. I spend a lot of time on this unit (14+ years) and last years winter had a bigger impact than people realize. The burns, chainings across the unit have put a hurt on areas inside the unit. Age class is way low, predator numbers (mostly lion) on the unit have risen significantly the last few years. I wish we could cut tags on this unit, tag costs are only \$80 if drawn for residents but upping the costs of tags by just a little to offset what tags are cut to keep the money the same. Tags cuts could benefit this unit for the deer and also give hunters a better quality limited entry hunt experience. I'm also not asking for tag cuts to be crazy but a little can go a long ways. I hope this message reaches someone and take it into consideration. Thanks.

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024?

Strongly disagree

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

I live and ranch in central Utah I'm 35 years old and I have never seen the deer population as low as it is now normally I have hundreds of deer in my fields in the fall and spring. There was less than a hundred deer that wintered around my place the few bucks that were with the does were not worth harvesting I feel the spikes and two points shouldn't be included in the buck to doe count there were no bucks even close to mature it's a sad day to see what the deer herds have turned into in the state of Utah especially on some of the general units

Form Name:
Submission Time:

April 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback
March 29, 2024 1:00 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024?

Strongly disagree

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

Please for the love of any chance of good management do not increase the tag numbers with these huge numbers! If you wanna increase tags do it at a rate of about 100-200 a year..... not a thousand at once!! Please listen! This is what majority of Utahns want!

Form Name:
Submission Time:

April 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback
March 29, 2024 1:21 pm

Which best describes your position Strongly disagree
regarding the recommended changes to
shed antler gathering rules and the big
game rule?

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

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

I really appreciate the effort that the DWR puts into managing our elk herds. I would like to recommend some adjustments to general season elk permits. I recommend removing general bull muzzle loader from the pool of 15,000 tags and put it in a category of its own with unlimited tags. This hunt only represents a small amount of tags sold. I also see the muzzle loader hunt becoming more difficult with recent changes regarding magnification use. The general muzzle loader hunt is under utilized by hunters and may create more opportunities by offering unlimited tags. Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

April 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback
March 29, 2024 1:51 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations? I trust the DWR scientists and am happy they make changes when the data drives the change. Good work.

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations? I feel the division shall add more tags on the late archery archery elk hunts hardly any elk got harvested so why not increase tags and get more ways for points to be used and decrease the point creep.

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat agree

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

I agree on all the recommendations except for the southern region recommendations. The divisions biologists have been very accurate and know what they're doing. I think we should go with the biologists model recommendations. The pine valley and the zion are general season units and should be managed according to the parameters that are set. By not increasing the tag numbers we will be out of parameters which should not be accepted. Again these are GENERAL units not limited entry. They have a specific buck to doe ratio objective. It doesn't matter if the bucks that are there are 2 points they are still bucks, and should be managed according to the parameters set.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommended rule changes? Please specify which rule.

I agree with the proposed changes.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

April 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback
March 29, 2024 3:08 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024?

Strongly disagree

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

Do not increase tag numbers for oquirrh stansburry our herd is finally starting to recover and they already killed 90% of the bull elk these mountains are getting devastated. The country does not offer enough cover for that many people I think success rates are much higher than the dnr imagines

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations? We absolutely do not need to raise deer tag numbers right now. They need a few more years. 1 good year doesnt justify upping tag numbers. I hunt the ouqirrh stansbury units and the state says its 25-100 and that is absolutely incorrect. I spent roughly 60 days on the unit last year and it's nowhere near that.
The deer need a few good winters before we consider raising tag numbers. We would rather wait a year or two longer to hunt to ensure a healthy population and age class

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations? I had a late season nebo sandpitch tag last year. I'd say pull back on tags. We seen 75+ bulls in 9 days and most bulls being young. A few mature bulls but not like it was 3-4 years ago. I think the age class is too low....

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations? It seems like we are using different methods to determine the actual numbers of deer. Whatever methods that you guys are using seems to inflate the numbers in the favor of increasing deer herds, while it seems that many sportsmen like myself have seen a dramatic drop in the deer herds that I watch and hunt.

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Strongly disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations? Get rid of these units and put the tags back into the draw.

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

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

I've seen a gradual decrease in the overall buck and doe numbers on both the Wasatch unit and the Nebo unit. Adding more tags will have the opposite of a positive effect on deer on both of those units. The number of tags has gone up on the Nebo for the last couple of years and the deer numbers are just constantly declining. In my opinion both of these units can't handle more tags and pressure on the deer and other wildlife.

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations? I feel like most people for some reason don't understand the actual affect we have as hunters on the deer populations and my concerns are all about protecting and improving habitat, and giving the deer the best chance at growing in population, I don't believe hunting affects it as much as people say and I am all for making it easier for me to finally draw another tag

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations? I just want to hunt sheep, I only hunt archery and would love for more opportunities to draw a tag with that weapon

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations? I'm waiting for a limited entry deer tag, (my mistake was picking that when I was 13 and not I'm stuck with it) so I doubt I'll draw a elk tag for a very long time, I'm much more interested in seeing a September archery hunt on all units, I feel like you can give out more archery tags that way, and with moving the rifle and muzzy tags back I'm sure you could offer more tags for those seasons as well, get more people through the draws faster and still keep you similar bull to cow ratios and bull age classes

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the buck pronghorn permit recommendations? I would like to see higher populations of pronghorn, they are the one limited entry tags that my wife actually wants to hunt and it's hard enough to get a tag with current numbers that it may be hard to keep her and the rest of my family as interested in hunting as I am

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommended rule changes? Please specify which rule. I agree with it all, I'm not sure how much non residents affect shed hunting at least where I go but I'm not against it in anyway, everything else I am definitely on board with

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat agree

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat agree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommended rule changes? Please specify which rule. I think that it would be better if both resident and nonresident had a May 1 opener just to keep people out of the hills from harassing the game when the snow is deep less stress on the animals

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Form Name:
Submission Time:

April 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback
March 30, 2024 8:35 am

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

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

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommended rule changes? Please specify which rule. Money grab. SHED antlers do not belong to the state.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

Form Name:
Submission Time:

April 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback
March 31, 2024 3:20 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024?

Strongly disagree

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

Why don't we manage deer like we manage elk... For age class instead of Buck to Doe ratio??? How about shutting one kind of weapon down on each unit each year? Example: 2025, Zion, Archery hunt, NO Muzzleoalder, Rifle... 2026, Zion, Archery Hunt, Muzzleloader, NO Rifle... 2027, NO Archery, Muzzleloader, Rifle, then start again... BUT don't move the tags to the other seasons... Just take the hit and give the animals some relief.

Form Name:
Submission Time:

April 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback
March 31, 2024 8:59 pm

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024?

Strongly disagree

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

Still have the issue with the Stansbury/Oquirrh unit with everyone hunting the Stansbury's with Oquirrh's having so much private property so a 500 permit increase means 500 more tags for the Stansbury's which is already in very poor shape, I have been hunting both mountains for 46 years and this is the worst I have ever seen our deer heard.

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024?

Strongly disagree

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

Hello there Utah lifetime hunter here have hunted Utah for about 14 years now and have had some great success! I've watched deer herds since I was 10 years old with my old man around the winter ranges and watched the changes of the herds since then. I'm now currently 25 years old and I've noticed a complete change where we use to go watch deer on the winter range there is no longer a "herd" there is maybe 10 deer in each location and usually not a single buck. I've searched and covered tons of miles and country through the past years of my hunting in Utah and I've noticed a sever decrease in deer and buck to doe ratio. I hunted a general rifle tag last year and was unsuccessful for many reasons. I hunted harder then I have ever hunted a general tag and I seen less deer alone then I ever have on a hunt not to mention more hunters. I range the entire unit before during my hunts to try and get the full perspective of what I am in for during my hunt or family members hunts. And never have seen such terrible deer herds on the nebo range alone. I hear my dads stories of what it was like when he was my age and younger and could only imagine growing up then and living some of his hunting story's when there was a great deer herd. I personally know that deer herds and numbers have dropped by a long ways just from my years of watching and hunting. I hope one day that we can turn this all around and get our deer herds back to like they were when my dad was a kid so one day my kid can see how great Utah hunting can be! Money is not the mission here it is our future and our animals! Thank you! Hopefully this reaches somewhere and can maybe help change a mind or two.

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations? At this point we all know the division can't manage deer and doesn't listen to the public. Here is my 2 cents for anyone that reads this I would like to see a study of different hunting methods in southern region to see how deer population and hunter satisfaction is affected.

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat agree

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations? No doe antelope hunting on the Parker you have destroyed the population and never let it recover there are 1/4 the antelope that there used to be the public would like to see the herd return unfortunately I doubt it ever will under the divisions management.
No antlerless elk hunting in southern region until elk populations are at the top end of the objective range we have good conditions right now this seems reasonable.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommended rule changes? Please specify which rule. If a non res wants to come drive to Utah to look for sheds there should not be a season

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations? I strongly agree with the deer permit recommendations. I appreciate how the DWR has constantly been doing a better job of making the data more easily digestible for the average hunter and really taking the time to educate and communicate with the hunting community. Hopefully this allows the hunting community to support more data driven management.

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommended rule changes? Please specify which rule. Now that hunting influencers have discovered how to monetize shed hunting content, there are individuals shed hunting at a commercial level and perpetuating the idea that everyone should shed hunt at a commercial level. Because of this, we now need regulations that limit individuals from taking excessive quantities of shed antlers in order to preserve the quality of shed hunting for the general public. Eventually we will need a system where individuals can "tag" a specific quantity of shed antlers annually to prevent single individuals or groups from harvesting a disproportionate amount of this limited resource. Ideally there should be regulations preventing individuals and groups from monetizing and commercializing the killing or taking of ANY wildlife resource that is held in public trust.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024?

Somewhat agree

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

I would like to thank you for your efforts in managing the deer population. I am an avid hunter, I am currently a Dedicated Hunter on the Manti unit.

First off, I would like to commend you on your commitment to manage predators and would like to see this taken up a notch or two. I feel predator control is a major reason we are starting to see a difference on the population of the deer herd, thus helping me to be somewhat in favor of the tag increases. I personally have noticed a good fawn crop the past two years, I feel that with good results moving towards the population objective, a tag increase understandable. I would love to see the population get back to the 40,000 deer on the Manti, as that is where I am most vested. I believe hunting pressure is excessive regardless on this unit, but with a few more deer on the landscape, I can still have the hunt that I desire and I believe the steps that are currently in place with regards to predator control are helping. I would really like to see more push to bring coyote, lion and bear populations down.

I would like to see some restrictions put into place for general season hunting. I would love to see a point restriction (4 point or better) put in place for tag holders who are 18 years old or older, Dedicated Hunters and for late season muzzleloader LE tags. Youth tags should be open to any buck. This would not restrict any opportunity, but would allow for more deer to make it to an older age class as well as open opportunity for more tags to be allotted because more bucks should be on the landscape in one to two years.

I understand the division doesn't feel that bucks contribute significantly to the population objective, however I do believe added pressure pursuing bucks does affect our doe/fawn population. If we can increase the overall population, more tags are needed.

If we continue to see good fawn/doe survival and I continue to see mostly twins and even a couple sets of triplet fawns each spring and summer. I then would agree with some slight increases in buck tags annually based on percentages of where the population is compared to the objective. Currently I feel we are starting to see a turn around in the right direction for the deer population, this is good for everyone. Smaller controlled adjustments are needed, but please refrain from extremes on an annual basis.

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024?

Somewhat agree

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

I have been infomed, hopefully it is not true, that there were buffalo hunters on the Book Cliffs that had got their points given back because of a poor hunt. I DO NOT agree with this. I understand that it's a once in a lifetime tag, however if an individual puts in for any hunt, they take on the responsibility of knowing the risks involved with that hunt/unit. I don't believe it was a wise choice to return their points and let them hunt that hunt again.

I could make an argument that any hunt that I am unsuccessful on should require the same treatment, because I didn't have the opportunity as expected.

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024?

Strongly disagree

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

Elk hunting is not my first love...but I feel that the direction the division is going with the elk is completely wrong. I don't believe you are doing much good for elk hunting. We are not in Colorado, where they have the biggest elk herd in the world. We have had exceptional elk for the past couple of decades but it is going by the wayside and the direction the division is going is going to run our elk herds into the ground.

Last year was the the poorest I can remember for seeing good bulls. I don't see it getting better with the direction the division has chosen.

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024?

Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024?

Strongly disagree

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

I don't like antlerless hunts anytime we are not a population objective.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule?

Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2024?

Somewhat disagree

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

I also disagree with tag allocations on CWMU's etc. I think it should be 50/50 for both antlerless and antlered species.

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations? I would strongly agree if the recommendations in the southern portion of the state were set as high as they should be set. The state is quick to cut tags whenever conditions support the cut, but very slow to increase tags when conditions are right. If the southern units can and should sustain greater harvest to get in line with the management plan, then the recommendations for be for more tags. These are general season, opportunity tags. How many years has it been since the Pine Valley unit has been at buck:doe objective? How many years have we squandered opportunity because we are unwilling to follow the plan on that unit?

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations? I still do not understand why the Parker pronghorn hunt was ever closed. Now we are proposing a doe hunt because there are too many pronghorn. I agree with this hunt. Let's try to not do kneejerk reactions in the future.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations? Don't increase any deer tags the herds are hurting

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations? I strongly agree but I think you should increase the amount of tags for the late archery elk tags very low success hunt why not give put more tags and help reduce point hike

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Somewhat agree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024?	Strongly agree
Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations?	It is the right thing to do to increase deer tags when the data supports an increase. The Kamas unit should have a larger decrease. Even the biologist said it is struggling more than expected.
Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024?	Somewhat agree
Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations?	Did bison hunters from last year get another hunt? What a joke if they did.
Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024?	Strongly agree
Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations?	Well done offering more mature Bull opportunity.
Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024?	Strongly agree
Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024?	Somewhat agree
Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations?	No more cow moose permits on the Wasatch.
Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule?	Somewhat agree
Do you have any additional comments about these recommended rule changes? Please specify which rule.	Make residents start April 1st.
Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2024?	Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations? CWMUS are safe havens for elk and limit public access.

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the buck deer permit recommendations? Age class of bucks needs to increase and less tags given.

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about the bull elk permit recommendations? Less bull tags need to be given out and bulls age class needs to be increased.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Strongly disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommended rule changes? Please specify which rule. Non resident shed season is ridiculous. Remove the ethics course. Removal deadhead laws as well

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024?

Somewhat agree

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

Cameron Phillips with Strawberry Bay. Rac members; grateful for your service. Would like to speak directly concerning the proposal to cut approximately 125 LE permits in response to falling age class on the Wasatch unit. I am opposed to the cuts for a couple of reasons chiefly centered on the over arching issue of point creep the entire state faces going forward.

Please consider these points:

1. The unit is over objective. We reacted strongly to the aggressive cow hunts in place from 2014-2019. The moves have been very successful in redistribution of elk across the landscape. Current population estimates have the Wasatch at 10,800 head. We have an excess of bulls to hunt. A product of the large recruitment classes of 2019-2022. My experience on the ground concurs with this. Cutting permits is illogical when we consider it a reaction to a short term problem that will resolve itself with large age classes of bulls coming up the proverbial pipeline.

2. Hunter satisfaction remains steady. If we do not have a biological or population based argument to make for tag cuts we turn to social. Hunters have continued to make it clear that opportunities to hunt are much higher than antler size and age class on their priority list. We have worked in recent years with elk committee and management plans to move our strategies and plans accordingly. This proposal is a step backwards from that in my opinion.

Please consider taking an aggressive stand against the cuts. I would suggest or propose leaving tag numbers the same for the next 2 years and allow the larger recruitment classes to get to the management age before making significant changes.

Not doing so I believe will continue to perpetuate a boom bust cycle that we have seen for the last 2.5 decades. One that has us continually making knee jerk reactions without considering the context that has brought us to this point. We have a unique opportunity to break that cycle and allow hunters to realize the increased opportunities that creative management strategies hunters and biologists teamed up to implement just 5 years ago.

Thanks for your time, consideration, and service.

Cameron

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

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

I am extremely tired of seeing Utah leave hunting opportunity on the table year after year (last year was exceptionally disheartening) because we're scared to raise permit numbers even though the data clearly show that conditions allow for it. Most of us just want to go hunting! Please approve all recommended permit increases in all units.

I also think there's room for a few more HAMSS tags on East Canyon and possibly the others.

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

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

Thank you for your efforts to maximize opportunity for these species.

Wyoming is proposing "management ram" tags (3/4 curl or less) this year on some units where the ram to ewe ratio is high but there aren't a lot of really big rams. Maybe we should think about employing those if/when the situation calls for it?

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

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

Please approve the bull elk permit recommendations as presented. Let's stick to the new plan for a few years so we can see where it gets us.

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Somewhat disagree

Do you have any additional comments about these recommended rule changes? Please specify which rule.

Requiring an ethics course through the end of May seems excessive. I suspect the rule would catch a number of turkey hunters, who happen to find a shed while hunting but who weren't really looking for them, off guard.

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2024?

Somewhat agree

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

For CWMUs without antlerless permits (this is the case for a lot of deer CWMUs in particular), I don't think we should be offering the 90/10 split option. It is a huge gain for the landowner and provides little in return to the public.

Which best describes your position regarding the buck deer permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the once-in-a-lifetime permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the bull elk permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the buck pronghorn permit recommendations for 2024? Strongly agree

Which best describes your position regarding the antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat agree

Do you have any additional comments about the antlerless permit recommendations? Please change the antlerless moose regulations to not allow the harvest of a cow moose with a calf at her side. Other states do not allow the harvest of a cow moose with a calf. Studies show that moose stay with their mother for a year or more and moose calves orphaned in the Fall can struggle to thrive/survive over the winter. Moose are not herd animals like deer or elk and an orphaned calf may not learn the basic survival skills like an orphaned calf elk that remains with its herd. I am not against cow moose hunting, I applied for a cow moose out of state this year.

Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to shed antler gathering rules and the big game rule? Neither agree nor disagree

Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU antlerless permit recommendations for 2024? Somewhat disagree
