

RAC AGENDA – May 2024



1. Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure
- RAC Chair
2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
- RAC Chair **ACTION**
3. Wildlife Board Meeting Update
- RAC Chair **INFORMATIONAL**
4. Regional Update
- DWR Regional Supervisor **INFORMATIONAL**
5. Cougar Update
- Darren DeBloois, Mammals Coordinator **INFORMATIONAL**
6. CWMU Rule Amendments – R657-37
- Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator **ACTION**
7. Conservation Permit Program Rule Amendments – R657-41
- Covy Jones, Wildlife Section Chief **ACTION**

Regional Presentations Only

- Juab County WMA's Habitat Plan – CR Only **INFORMATIONAL**
- Mark Farmer, Habitat Program Manager

CR RAC – May 14th, 6:00 PM
Wildlife Resources Conference Room
1115 N. Main Street, Springville
<https://youtube.com/live/HlroRCqox4g>

NR RAC – May 15th, 6:00 PM
Weber County Commission Chambers
2380 Washington Blvd. Suite #240, Ogden
https://youtube.com/live/JSH9N5v_Fk4

SR RAC – May 21st, 6:00 PM
DNR Richfield City Complex
2031 Industrial Park Rd., Richfield
<https://youtube.com/live/iBN9Z908Hq8>

SER RAC – May 22nd, 6:00 PM
John Wesley Powell Museum
1765 E. Main St., Green River
<https://youtube.com/live/RC3VROuljhE>

NER RAC – May 23rd, 6:00 PM
Wildlife Resources NER Office
318 North Vernal Ave., Vernal
<https://youtube.com/live/fyrcLwzrSxg>

Board Meeting – June 13th, 9:00 AM
Eccles Wildlife Education Center, Farmington
<https://youtube.com/live/sMQihQZGxKc>



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

J. SHIRLEY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Utah Wildlife Board

FROM: Darren DeBloois, Predatory Mammals and Furbearer Program Coordinator

DATE: May 6, 2024

SUBJECT: Cougar Informational for 2024

Since significant changes were made to wildlife Code in 2023 (23A-4-707) and adjustments to rule 567-10 (Taking Cougars) were made last year, DWR is not recommending any changes to rule for the 2025 hunting season. We are however presenting information about how legislative changes have impacted cougar harvest over the past year (from May 3, 2024 when the new legislation took effect and May 2, 2024).

This information can be viewed in the presentation on our website, and in the PowerPoint slides contained in the information packet.





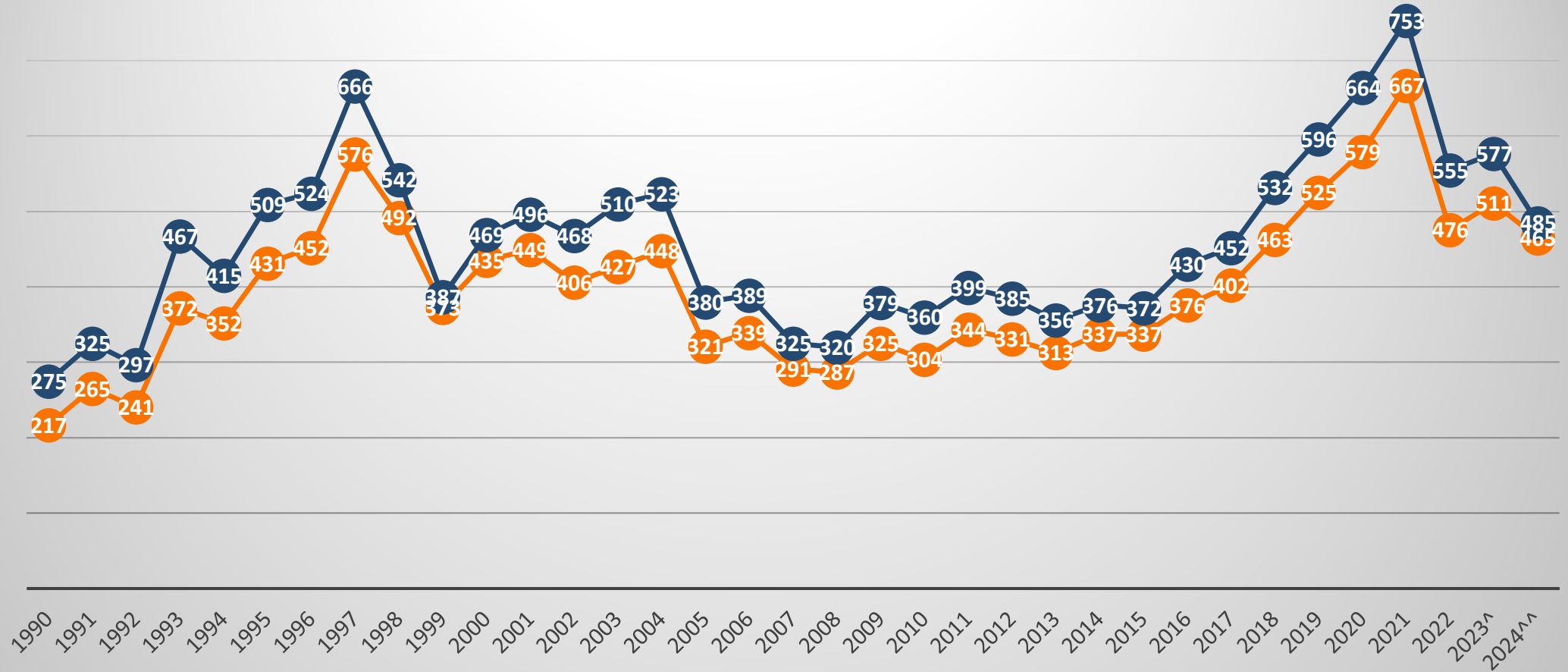
2024 COUGAR INFORMATION

CHANGE TO STATE LAW IN 2023

- A new state law went into effect last year (May 3, 2023).
- That law allows an individual with a hunting license to hunt or trap a cougar from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.
- The law is located in Utah Code 23A-4-707.



COUGAR HARVEST

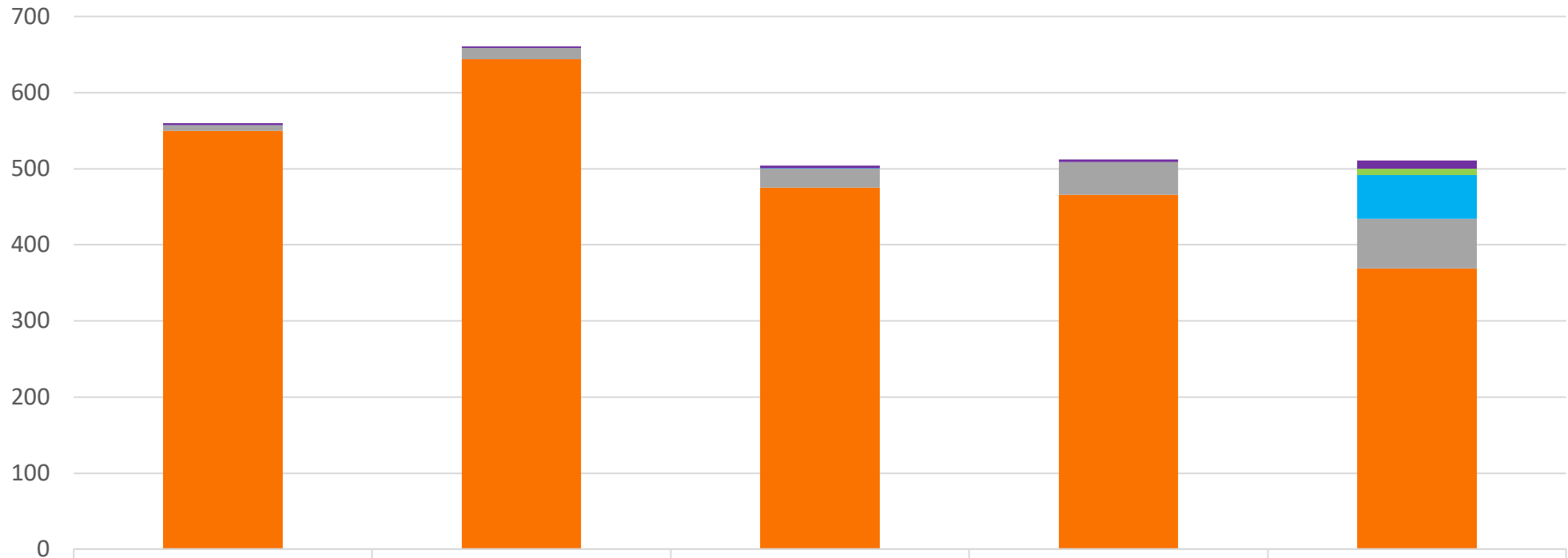


*Beginning in 2021, most harvest-objective units had unlimited quotas.

—○— Hunt harvest —●— Total mortality

COUGAR HARVEST

Cougar take by method



	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Unknown	3	2	3	3	11
Lethal Trap					7
Footholds			1		59
Spot and Stalk	7	15	25	43	65
Hounds	550	644	475	466	369

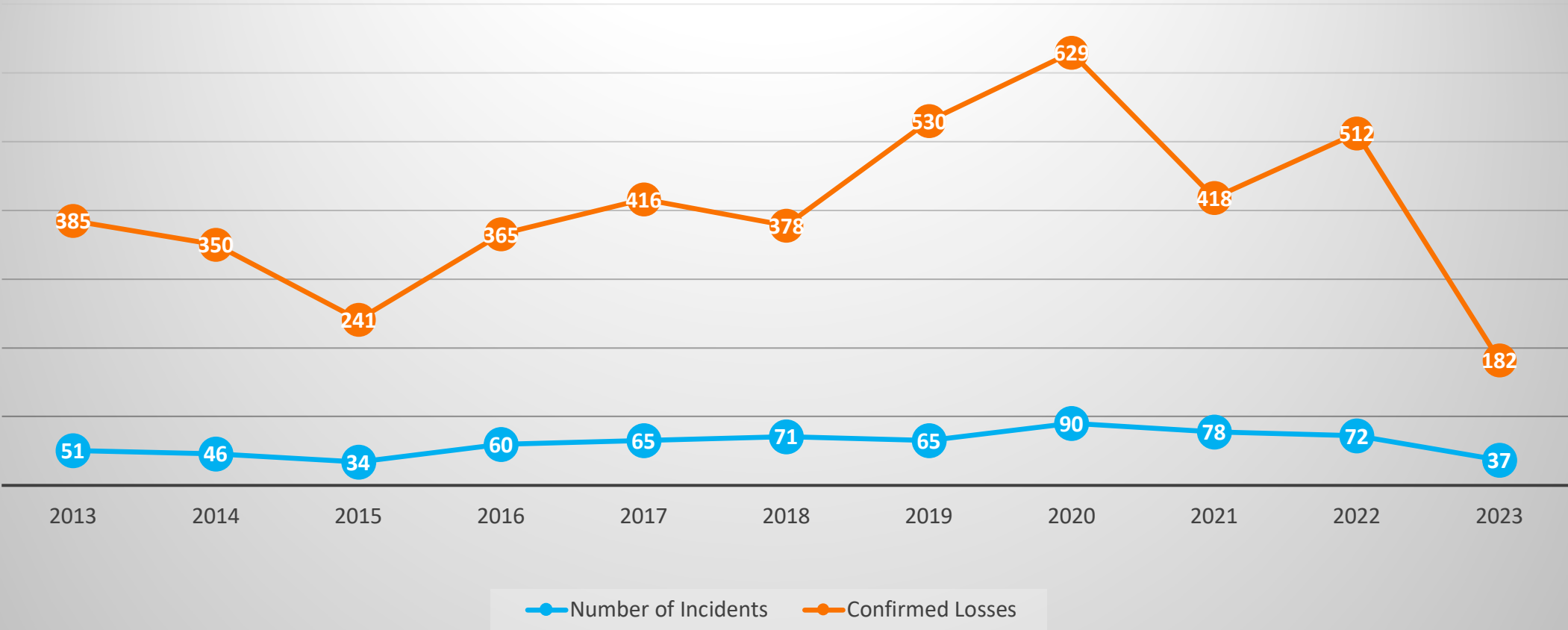
CHANGES TO DEPREDATION MANAGEMENT

- New partnership with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food
- Help livestock producers with cougars preying on their animals

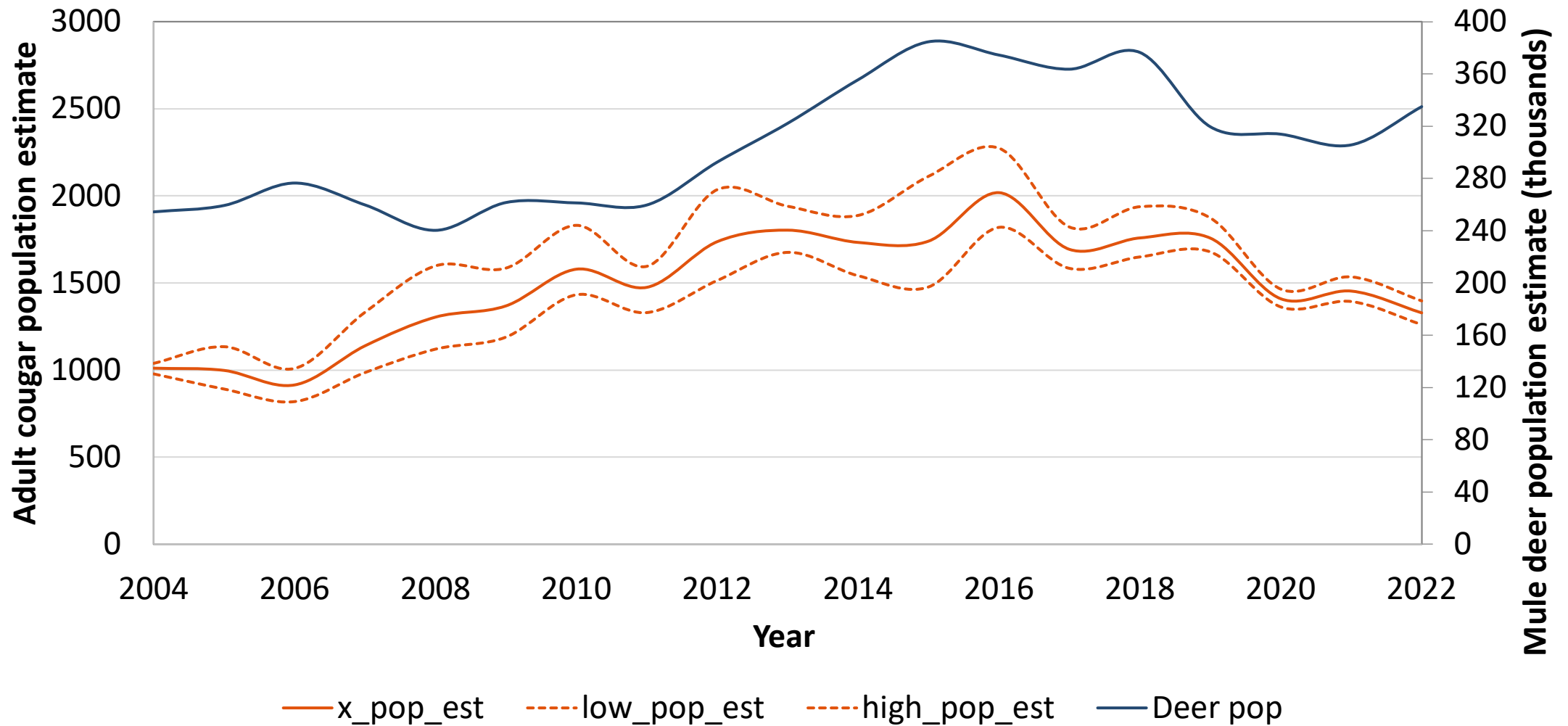


COUGAR DEPREDEATION

Number of incidents vs. losses to cougar

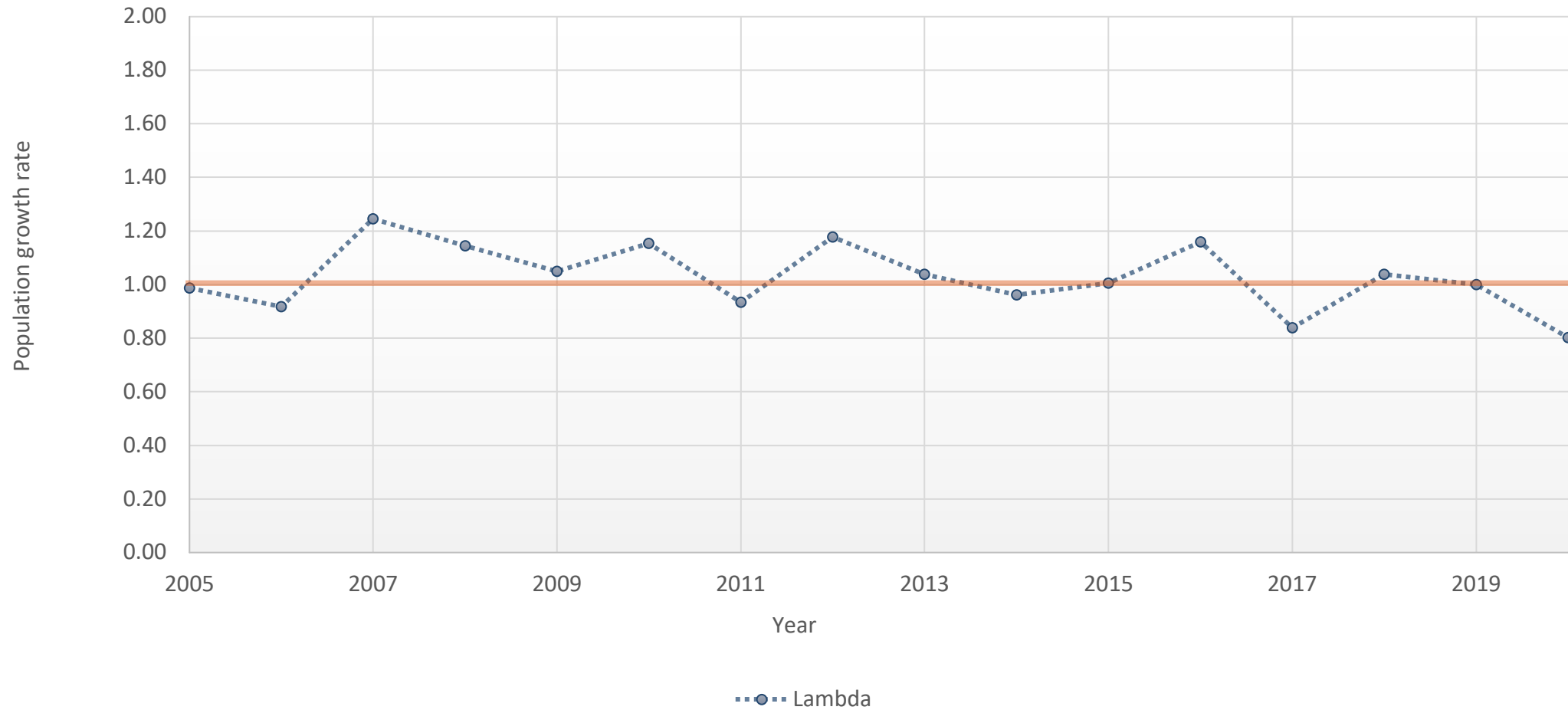


Cougar adult (2+ yrs) population estimates, mean, min and max, 2004-2022, Utah, compared to mule deer population



POPULATION GROWTH RATE

Cougar adult population growth rate, 2005-2022, Utah



THANK YOU



Utah Division of
Wildlife Resources

OTHER NOTES

- Since the legislative change in May 2023 (May 2023 - May 2024):
- 21 hunters killed 2 cougars each, 5 hunters killed 3 cougars each, 2 hunters killed 4 cougars each, 2 hunters killed 5 cougars each. This does not include people who killed cougars with a depredation permit (prior to legislative change) or people who killed cougar in the act of depredation
- 66 cougars were harvested via TRAPPING, 65 via spot & stalk, 374 via dogs, and 1 via bait (6 were unknown method)
- 2 hunters indicated they trapped and released a cougar, and 1 hunter reported an incidental cougar trap (trapping coyotes)
- We have trap type data from 56 people - 4 snare, 9 kill trap, 1 foot snare, and 42 foothold
- No one used thermal scopes
- No one used electronic decoy



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State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

JOEL FERRY
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

J. SHIRLEY
Division Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

FROM: Chad Wilson, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator

DATE: May 3, 2024

**SUBJECT: Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) rule amendments
R657-37**

The following is a summary of the recommended rule amendments to the CWMU rule R657-37:

- Eliminate acreage variances and allow for under acreage applications if the CWMU is within 90% of the acreage requirements and agrees to allocate an additional permit for each species to be awarded in the public draw
- Create strategies and tools to help with CWMUs that are over objective on management units including:
 - Allowing all current CWMU permit holders to purchase a second antlerless permit
 - Conducting depredation hunts on a CWMU
 - Requiring CWMU's to form an antlerless harvest plan and report on plan completion progress to the CWMU Advisory Committee
 - Adding emergency antlerless hunts
 - Issuing additional non-marketable antlerless permits/vouchers to a CWMU
- Allow for the addition of non-contiguous land to a CWMU under certain circumstances including:
 - Parcel at least 640 acres
 - Land is within 4 miles of current core CWMU boundary
 - Non-contiguous lands cannot be used to meet minimum acreage requirement
 - Non-contiguous lands cannot contain public land
- Provide guidelines for the administration of trade lands
- Clarify the purpose of the CWMU Advisory Committee
- Define and clarify other existing parts of the rule

CW

R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources.

R657-37. Cooperative Wildlife Management Units for Big Game or Turkey.

R657-37-1. Purpose and Authority.

(1) Under authority of Section 23A-7-102, this rule provides the standards and procedures applicable to Cooperative Wildlife Management Units organized for the hunting of big game or turkey.

(2) Cooperative Wildlife Management Units are established to:

- (a) increase wildlife resources;
- (b) provide income to landowners;
- (c) provide the general public access to private and public lands for hunting big game or turkey within a Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit;
- (d) create satisfying hunting opportunities;
- (e) provide adequate protection to landowners who open their lands for hunting; and
- (f) provide landowners an incentive to manage lands to protect and sustain wildlife habitat and benefit wildlife.

R657-37-2. Definitions.

(1) Terms used in this rule are defined in Sections 23A-1-~~101~~ and ~~101and~~ 23A-7-~~102~~ ~~101~~.

(2) In addition:

- (a) "CWMU" means Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit.
- (b) "CWMU agent" means a person appointed by a landowner association member to protect private property within the CWMU.
- (c) "General public" means all persons except landowner association members and their spouse or dependent children.

(d) "Geospatial file" refers to a digital file submission that accurately portrays information about the location and shape of geographic features, such as the interior and exterior boundaries of the CWMU. Acceptable formats include a zipped (compressed) Esri shapefile or .kml or .kmz file

(e) "CWMU Harvest Objective" means the minimum number of antlerless animals a CWMU needs to harvest in order to help contribute to achieving a unit wide species population objective

~~(f)~~ (d) "Landowner association" means a landowner or group of landowners of private land organized as a single entity for the purpose of applying for, becoming and operating a CWMU.

(g[e]) "Landowner association member" means:

- (i) an individual landowner or the managing members of a legal entity holding a fee interest in private property enrolled in a CWMU;
- (ii) a landowner association president;
- (iii) a landowner association operator; and
- (iv) employees, agents, and volunteers operating under the authority of or at the direction of a landowner association president or operator.

~~(h)~~ (f) "Landowner association operator" means a person designated by the landowner association to operate the CWMU and handle day-to-day interactions of the landowner association with the public.

~~(i)~~ (g) "Landowner association president" means a representative of the landowner association who is responsible for all internal operations of the landowner association and is ultimately responsible for the CWMU.

(j) "Trade lands" means private lands opened up for big game hunting to compensate for public land included in the CWMU.

~~(k)~~ (h) "Voucher" means a document issued by the division to a landowner association member, allowing a landowner association member to designate who may purchase a CWMU big game or turkey hunting permit from a division office.

R657-37-3. Requirements for the Establishment of a Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit.

(1) A CWMU may be established for the purposes of hunting one or more of the following:

- (a) mule deer;

- (b) elk;
- (c) moose;
- (d) pronghorn; and
- (e) turkey.

(2) The Wildlife Board may approve the issuance of a certificate of registration for a CWMU, provided:

- (a) the property is capable of independently maintaining the presence of the respective species and harboring them during the established hunting season;
- (b) the property is capable of accommodating the anticipated number of hunters and providing a reasonable hunting opportunity;
- (c) the property exhibits enforceable boundaries clearly identifiable to both the public and private hunters;
- (d) the CWMU contributes to meeting division wildlife management objectives;
- (e) as needed, the CWMU provides reasonable assistance to the division in minimizing and addressing damage to agricultural interests within and adjacent to the CWMU caused by wildlife; and
- (f) the CWMU meets the technical specifications provided in this rule.

(3) A CWMU shall satisfy the following criteria:

- (a) a CWMU for elk or moose must contain at least 10,000 contiguous acres;
- (b) a CWMU for deer, pronghorn, or turkey must contain at least 5,000 contiguous acres;
- ~~(c)~~ (b) the CWMU shall consist of private land to the extent practicable;
- ~~(d)~~ (e) only private lands may be included in calculating minimum acreage requirements;
- ~~(e)~~ (d) land parcels adjoining corner-to-corner may not be included for the purposes of meeting minimum contiguous acreage requirements; and

~~(f)~~ (e) all lands counting towards the minimum acreage requirements shall provide quality hunting opportunity and form a quality hunting unit. ~~;~~ ~~or~~

~~(4) If a~~ ~~(f) the~~ CWMU does not satisfy the criteria contained in Subsection (3) the CWMU can apply to be a CWMU if:

- (a) the CWMU meets 90% of the acreage requirements; and
- (b) the CWMU gives one extra permit each year to the public draw.
- (5) A CWMU currently operating below the required minimum acreage that was previously granted [must receive approval for] a variance for not meeting the minimum acreage requirement will continue to receive that acreage variance unless enrolled acreage is further reduced below the required minimum acreage. ~~[as described in R657-37-5(4).]~~

~~(6)~~ ~~(4)~~ A CWMU may include public land only if:

- (a) the public land is surrounded by private land or is otherwise publicly inaccessible;
- (b) the public land is necessary to establish an enforceable and identifiable hunt boundary; or
- (c) inclusion of the public land is necessary to achieve statewide and unit management objectives.
- ~~(7)~~ ~~(5)~~ A CWMU may not include:
 - (a) any lands comprising Domesticated Elk Facilities and Domesticated Elk Hunting Parks, as defined in Section 4-39-102(2) and Rules R58-18 and R58-20;
 - (b) any lands already included in another active CWMU; or
 - (c) differing hunt boundaries for multiple species approved on a single CWMU.
- (6) The Wildlife Board may deny a CWMU that meets technical requirements of this rule but does not otherwise fulfill the purposes of the CWMU program.

R657-37-4. Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit Management Plan.

(1)(a) ~~A~~ ~~The~~ landowner association shall manage the CWMU in compliance with a CWMU Management Plan approved by the division.

(b) The CWMU management plan shall be consistent with statewide and unit management objectives for the respective species hunted on the CWMU.

(c) CWMUs that occur within a general season unit may be managed for higher buck to doe ratios and older age class animals, consistent within a limited entry unit.

(2)(a) The CWMU Management Plan shall be completed as part of the certificate of registration application and renewal processes.

(b) If approved by the Wildlife Board, the CWMU management plan is incorporated into the CWMU's certificate of registration.

(c) Amendments to the CWMU Management Plan may be requested by the Wildlife Board, the division, or the CWMU landowner association operator or president, and may result in an amendment to the certificate of registration, consistent with Section R657-37-5.5.

(3)(a) The CWMU Management Plan must include:

(i) species management objectives for the CWMU that are consistent with statewide and unit management objectives for the respective big game or turkey management unit;

(ii) antlerless harvest objectives;

(iii) dates that the general public with buck or bull CWMU permits will be allowed to hunt;

(iv) a detailed explanation of how comparable hunting opportunities will be provided to both the private and public permit holders on the CWMU including an equal ability to use atvs/utvs, horses, track machines, or other means of transportation~~[as required in Section 23A-7-205]~~;

(v) an explanation of the purpose for including public land within the CWMU boundaries, if public land is included;

(vi) an explanation of how the public is compensated by the CWMU when public land is included;

(vii) rules and guidelines used to regulate a permit holder's conduct as a guest on the CWMU;

(viii) submission of a digital geospatial boundary file~~County Recorder Plat Maps or equivalent maps~~ depicting parcel boundaries and ownership information for each parcel of real property included within the CWMU;

(A) parcel data should be sourced from the most recent County Recorders Plat records;

(B) if the CWMU requires tradelands, an additional geospatial file should be submitted~~[-(ix) two original 1:100,000 USGS maps]~~ depicting each additional parcel of real property to be considered in trade for public land included with the CWMU boundary;

(ix) submission of a digital geospatial boundary file that accurately depicts an enforceable interior and exterior boundary of the ~~[proposed]~~ CWMU.

(A) any sections of the CWMU unit closed to hunting for both public and private hunters should be clearly identified and excluded from the mapped boundary;

(B) geospatial boundary files must be submitted to the division for approval at the time of initial application and again with any renewal or variance applications;

(x) strategies and methods that avoid, mitigate, and if necessary compensate for adverse impacts to adjacent landowners and lessees resulting from the operation of the CWMU;

(xi) strategies and methods that avoid, mitigate, and if necessary compensate for adverse impacts to agricultural lessees within and adjacent to the CWMU;

(xii) identification of areas within the CWMU that are closed to hunting by both public and private hunters;

(xiii) any request for reciprocal agreements.

(b) Noncontiguous lands can be added to the CWMU if:

(i) there are at least 640 contiguous acres;

(ii) it is owned by a landowner already in the CWMU; and

(iii) it is within four miles of the contiguous minimum acreage;

(c) A CWMU cannot incorporate noncontiguous lands containing any public land into the CWMU.

(d)~~(b)~~ The division shall review each CWMU Management Plan and make recommendations to the Wildlife Board.

(4)(a) CWMU operators are required to complete a CWMU training session provided by the division on an annual basis.

(b) Failure to complete the CWMU training session may result in the CWMU operator being referred to the CWMU Advisory Committee described in Section R657-37-~~17~~¹⁵ or may result in administrative action taken against a certificate of registration as described in Section R657-37-~~15~~¹⁴.

R657-37-5. Application for Certificate of Registration~~;~~ ~~Variance Process~~.

(1) An application for a CWMU certificate of registration satisfying the acreage and parcel configuration requirements in R657-37-3 must be completed and returned to the regional division office where the proposed CWMU is located no later than August ~~10~~¹.

(2) The application must be accompanied by:

(a) the CWMU Management Plan, including all maps and a geospatial file of~~[GIS shapefile in NAD 83 depicting]~~ the CWMU boundary;

(b)(i) a petition containing the signature and acreage of each participating landowner agreeing to establish and operate the CWMU as provided in this rule and Title 23A, Chapter 7, Cooperative~~[of the]~~ Wildlife Management Units~~[Resources Code]~~; or

(ii) a copy of a legal contract or agreement identifying:

(A) the private land;

(B) the duration of the contract or agreement; and

(C) the names and signatures of landowners conveying the hunting rights to the CWMU landowner association;

(c) a signed waiver from each landowner or lessee holding agricultural interests within the boundaries of the proposed CWMU releasing all claims for any assistance pertaining to any~~[those]~~ lands that may otherwise be available from the division under R657-44 during the term of the certificate of registration;

(d) the name of the landowner association operator;

(e) the name of the landowner association president; and

(f) the nonrefundable handling fee.

(3)(a) The division may reject any application that is incomplete or completed incorrectly.

(b) Applicants must update the division regarding any changes to the substance of their application while it is under consideration or it may be considered incomplete or incorrect.

~~(4) (4)(a) An application for a new CWMU that fails to meet the acreage or parcel configuration requirements in R657-37-3 must submit a written variance request to the division by February 1st prior to the annual August 1st application deadline.~~

~~(b) Upon receipt of a completed variance request, the division will forward the variance request to the CWMU Advisory Committee for review and recommendations.~~

~~(c) The division will review the variance request and make recommendations to the CWMU Advisory Committee.~~

~~(d) The CWMU Advisory Committee will consider the variance request and the division's recommendations and make recommendations to the Wildlife Board on the advisability of granting the CWMU application.~~

~~(5)~~ In analyzing an application for a CWMU, the Wildlife Board shall consider:

(a) the application materials;

(b) the division's recommendation; and

(c) any conviction of~~[recommendation from the CWMU Advisory Committee regarding]~~ a plea~~[variance request; and~~

~~(d) any violation of the provisions]~~ of no contest to, or a plea held in abeyance to a crime under Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Act or a crime of moral turpitude~~[Code]~~ by the CWMU operator, president, or landowner association member that when considered with the functions and responsibilities of a CWMU operator bears a reasonable relationship to on whether the applicant's ability to responsibly operate a CWMU~~[applicant should be approved to participate in the program]~~.

(6) Upon receiving the application and recommendation from the division, the Wildlife Board may:

(a) authorize the issuance of a certificate of registration allowing the landowner association to operate a CWMU; or

(b) deny the application and provide the landowner association with reasons for the decision.

(7) A certificate of registration is issued on a three-year basis and shall expire on January 31.

(8) The CWMU application and the management plan agreement are binding upon the landowner association members and all successors in interest to the CWMU property or the hunting rights thereon as it pertains to allowing public permit holders reasonable access to all CWMU property during the applicable hunting seasons for purposes of filling the permit.

R657-37-5.5. Amendment to a Certificate of Registration; Termination of Certificate of Registration.

(1)(a) Amendments to a certificate of registration can take place between June 1 and Aug 10 and
a[~~—(1)(a) A~~] CWMU must notify the division in writing regarding any requested change in:

(i) permit numbers or allocation;

(ii) season dates;

(iii) landowner association membership;

(iv) acreage of the CWMU;

(v) operator;

(vi) the CWMU Management Plan; or

(vii) any other matter related to the management and operation of the CWMU not originally included in the certificate of registration.

(b) Written notification of a requested change must be submitted to the appropriate regional division office where the CWMU is located.

(c) The division must be notified of all changes in landowner association membership, acreage, and operator within 30 days of such changes occurring.

(d) The CWMU must provide the division with the written release identified in Subsection R657-37-5(2)(c) from new agricultural lessees within the boundaries of the proposed CWMU that are not participating members of the landowner association within 30 days of any changes occurring.

(e) Changes in the CWMU described in Subsection R657-37-5.5(1)(a) require an amendment to the certificate of registration.

(2) Requests to amend buck and bull permit numbers, permit allocation, or season dates:

(a) may be initiated by the CWMU or the division;

(b) are due on August 10[+] of the year prior to when hunting is to occur, unless requested changes are in response to an ecological event or condition occurring after the August 1 deadline and beyond the control of the CWMU;

(c) shall be forwarded to the Regional Advisory Councils and Wildlife Board for consideration; and

(d) upon approval by the Wildlife Board, an amendment to the original certificate of registration shall be issued in writing.

(3) Requests to amend antlerless permit numbers or season dates:

(a) may be initiated by the CWMU or the division;

(b) must be submitted to the division by the last day of February;

(c) shall be forwarded to the Regional Advisory Councils and Wildlife Board for consideration; and

(d) upon approval by the Wildlife Board, an amendment to the original certificate of registration may be issued in writing.

(4)(a) If acreage totals in the CWMU decrease by more than 33% over the term of the certificate of registration, the certificate of registration shall:

(i) remain effective for the hunting season beginning in that calendar year; and

(ii) following completion of that hunting season, the certificate of registration shall terminate.

(b) A CWMU whose certificate of registration is terminated under this section may reapply consistent with Section R657-37-5.

(c) If a reduction in acreage occurs on a CWMU that does not trigger the 33% threshold identified in Subsection~~[subsection]~~4(a) and the resulting acreage total is below the standard totals generally required by Section R657-37-3:

(i) the certificate of registration will remain effective for the current hunt year; or

(ii) if the CWMU is not within 90% of acreage requirement~~[will be reported to the CWMU Advisory Committee for a variance request using the process described]~~ in Subsection R657-37-~~5~~4(i); and

~~_____ (iii) the Wildlife Board shall make a determination regarding variance approval and amendment of]~~ the certificate of registration shall terminate.

(5)(a) All other requests for amendments shall be reviewed by the division.

(b) If the division recommends approval of the amendment, the division will submit that recommendation to the director.

(c) Upon approval by the director, an amendment to the original certificate of registration shall be issued in writing.

R657-37-6. Renewal of a Certificate of Registration.

(1)(a) At the end of a certificate of registration term, the certificate of registration may be renewed, consistent with this section.

(b) A certificate of registration terminated pursuant to Section R657-37-5.5 or Section R657-37-~~15~~14 is not eligible for renewal, but may reapply consistent with Section R657-37-5.

(2) An application for renewal of a certificate of registration must be completed ~~[and returned to the regional division office where the CWMU is established]~~ no later than August 10~~[+]~~ of the year preceding the expiration of the certificate of registration term.

(3)(a) The renewal application must identify all changes from the previous certificate of registration and CWMU Management Plan.

~~_____ (b) _____ (b) A CWMU renewal application that, due to its acreage totals or parcel configuration would otherwise require variance approval, may proceed without completing the variance process, provided:~~

~~_____ (i) the CWMU legally possessed a CWMU certificate of registration during the previous year that allowed for corner to corner land parcels or noncontiguous land parcels;~~

~~_____ (ii) the CWMU's renewal application does not add additional corner to corner or noncontiguous parcels from the previously approved CWMU certificate of registration; and~~

~~_____ (iii) the CWMU renewal application at a minimum maintains the equivalent acreage totals and configuration from its previously approved certificate of registration.~~

~~_____ (e)]~~ A CWMU renewal application that includes a request for modified season dates is not required to obtain an additional variance upon renewal if those dates are identical to what was previously approved in their current certificate of registration.

(4) The renewal application must be accompanied by:

(a) the CWMU Management Plan as described in Subsection~~[Section]~~ R657-37-4(3); ~~[and]~~

(b) all maps as described in Subsection~~[Section]~~ R657-37-4(3) if the CWMU boundaries have changed; ~~[and]~~

(c)(i) a petition containing the signature and acreage of each participating landowner agreeing to establish and operate the CWMU as provided in this rule and Title 23A, Chapter 7, Cooperative~~[-of the]~~ Wildlife Management Units~~[Resources Code]~~; or

(ii) a copy of a legal contract or agreement identifying:

(A) the private land;

(B) the duration of the contract or agreement; and

(C) the names and signatures of landowners conveying the hunting rights to the CWMU agent or landowner association operator;

(d) a signed waiver from each landowner or lessee holding agricultural interests within the boundaries of the proposed CWMU releasing all claims for any assistance pertaining to any~~[those]~~ lands that may otherwise be available from the division under Rule R657-44 during the term of the certificate of registration;

- (e) the name of the designated landowner association operator; and
- (f) the nonrefundable handling fee.
- (6) The division may reject any application that is incomplete or completed incorrectly.
- (7) The division shall consider:
 - (a) the contents of the renewal application;
 - (b) the past performance by a CWMU in fulfilling management responsibilities identified in the CWMU Management Plan;
 - (c) hunter satisfaction ratings; and
 - (d) any conviction of, a plea of no contest to, or a plea held in abeyance to a crime under Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Act or a crime of moral turpitude~~[violation]~~ by the CWMU operator, ~~[CWMU]~~ president, or ~~[any-]~~landowner association member that when considered with the functions~~[of Title 23A, Wildlife Resources Code, this rule, stipulations contained in the certificate of registration]~~ and responsibilities of a CWMU operator bears a reasonable relationship to the applicant's ability to responsibly operate a CWMU~~[all other relevant information provided from any source related to participation in the CWMU program]~~.
- (8) After evaluating a complete renewal application, the division shall:
 - (a) recommend approving renewal of the certificate of registration and forward the permit recommendations to the Regional Advisory Councils and Wildlife Board; or
 - (b) recommend denying the renewal certificate of registration and state the reasons for denial in writing to the applicant; and
 - (c) forward the application, reason for denial and recommendation to the Regional Advisory Councils and Wildlife Board.
- (9) Upon receiving the division's recommendation as provided in Subsections (7) and (8), the Wildlife Board may consider:
 - (a) the contents of the renewal application;
 - (b) the past performance by a CWMU in fulfilling management responsibilities identified in the CWMU Management Plan;
 - (c) hunter satisfaction ratings;
 - (d) any conviction of, a plea of no contest to, or a plea held in abeyance to a crime under Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Act or a crime of moral turpitude~~[violation]~~ by the CWMU operator, ~~[CWMU]~~ president, or ~~[any-]~~landowner association member that when considered with~~[of Title 23A, Wildlife Resources Code, this rule, stipulations contained in the certificate of registration and all other relevant information provided from any source related to the applicant's participation in]~~ the functions and responsibilities of a CWMU operator bears a reasonable relationship to the applicant's ability to responsibly operate a CWMU~~[program]~~;
 - (e) any probationary status or recommendation provided by the CWMU Advisory Committee if the landowner association has been referred to the CWMU Advisory Committee during the term of the certificate of registration; and
 - (f) the recommendations of the division and Regional Advisory Councils.
- (10) A certificate of registration approved for renewal is authorized for three years and shall expire on January 31, providing the certificate of registration is not revoked, suspended, or terminated prior to the expiration date.

R657-37-7. Operation by Landowner Association.

- (1)(a) A CWMU must be operated by a landowner association who is represented by a president or a landowner association operator.
- (b) A landowner association president or landowner association operator may appoint CWMU agents to protect private property within the CWMU; however, the landowner association president, or landowner association operator must assume ultimate responsibility for the operation of the CWMU.
- (2)(a) A landowner association ~~[president or landowner association operator may enter into reciprocal agreements with other landowner association presidents or landowner association operators to~~

~~allow hunters who have obtained a CWMU permit to hunt within each other's CWMUs as provided in Subsection R657 37 4(3)(a)(xii).~~

~~(b) Reciprocal hunting agreements may be approved only to:~~

~~(i) raise funds to address joint habitat improvement projects;~~

~~(ii) address emergency situations limiting hunting opportunity on a CWMU;~~

~~(iii) raise funds to aid in essential management practices for the benefit of CWMU species, including obtaining age or species population data as recommended by regional division personnel and approved by the division's wildlife section chief;~~

~~(iv) be used with unused vouchers as provided in Subsection R657 37 9(12)(a); or~~

~~(v) be used to achieve antlerless harvest objectives for big game populations that may migrate across different CWMUs.~~

~~(e) If a person is authorized to hunt in one or more CWMUs as provided in Subsection (a), written permission from the landowner association member or landowner association operator and written authorization from the division must be in the person's possession while hunting.~~

~~(d) The division may identify an individual to administer and coordinate reciprocal agreements and each expenditure of funds generated therefrom.~~

~~(e) The division must provide written approval prior to any expenditure of funds generated from reciprocal agreement permits.~~

~~(f) The administrator of the reciprocal agreement program must provide an annual accounting of proceeds generated from reciprocal agreement permits and how those funds were spent or administered.~~

~~(3)(a) A landowner association member or landowner association operator must provide general public CWMU permittees a minimum of:~~

~~(i) five full days, each of which beginning 30 minutes before shooting hours, to be in the area the public permittee wants, to hunt with their buck, bull or turkey permits; and~~

~~(ii) three full days, each of which beginning 30 minutes before shooting hours, to be in the area the public permittee wants [— (ii) three days] to hunt with antlerless permits.~~

~~(b) Sunday hunt days may not be included in minimum hunt days except by mutual agreement of the permittee and the operator.~~

~~(c) General public CWMU permittees shall be allowed to hunt the entire CWMU during their established season dates, unless areas are deemed closed to both public and private hunters and described in the CWMU Management Plan as closed.~~

~~(d) A person who has obtained a CWMU permit may hunt only in the CWMU for which the permit is issued, except as provided under Subsection (2).~~

~~(4)(a) Each landowner association member or landowner association operator must:~~

~~(i) clearly post each boundary of the CWMU at all corners, streams~~[corner, fishing stream]~~ crossing property lines, roads, gates~~[road, gate]~~, and rights~~[right]~~-of-way entering the land with signs that are a minimum of 8 1/2 by 11 inches on a bright yellow background with black lettering, and that contain the language provided in Subsection (b); and~~

~~(ii) if a CWMU uses public land for the purpose of making a definable boundary for the CWMU then that boundary shall be posted every three hundred yards.~~

~~(b) Only persons with a valid CWMU permit for the CWMU may hunt moose, deer, elk, pronghorn or turkey within the boundaries of the CWMU.~~

~~(c) The general public may use accessible public land portions of the CWMU for legal purposes, other than hunting big game or turkey for which the CWMU is authorized.~~

~~(5) A landowner association member or landowner association operator must provide a written copy of its guidelines used to regulate a permit holder's conduct as a guest on the CWMU to each permit holder.~~

~~(6)(a) A CWMU and the division shall cooperatively address the needs of landowners who are negatively impacted by big game animals or turkeys associated with the CWMU.~~

~~(b) The CWMU and the division shall cooperatively seek methods to prevent or mitigate agricultural depredation caused by big game animals or turkeys associated with the CWMU.~~

(7) A landowner association member may not harass or haze wildlife in an effort to retain animals on the CWMU or herd animals onto the CWMU unless:

(a) the division determines that such actions are necessary to mitigate agricultural damage on neighboring lands;

(b) the CWMU is fulfilling their obligations described in their CWMU Management Plan regarding agricultural damage to neighboring landowners; and

(c) the division provides prior written authorization approving the actions of the CWMU.

(8) A landowner association member may not receive depredation payments from the Division if any land owned by a landowner association member is enrolled in a CWMU regardless of species.

R657-37-8. Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit Agents.

(1) A landowner association member may appoint a CWMU agent to monitor access and protect the private property of the CWMU.

(2) Each CWMU agent must wear or have in possession a form of identification prescribed by the Wildlife Board which indicates the agent is a CWMU agent.

(3) A CWMU agent may refuse entry to or remove from a CWMU any person who:

(a) does not possess a valid CWMU permit;

(b) endangers or has endangered human safety;

(c) damages or has damaged property within a CWMU;

(d) fails or has failed to comply with reasonable rules of a landowner association; or

(e) does not have the legal right to be on lands within a CWMU.

(4) A CWMU agent may not refuse entry to the general public onto any public land within the boundaries of a CWMU that is otherwise accessible to the public for purposes other than hunting big game or turkey for which the CWMU is authorized.

(5) In performing the functions described in this section, a CWMU agent must comply with the relevant laws of this state.

R657-37-9. Permit Allocation.

(1) The division shall issue CWMU permits for hunting big game or turkey to permittees:

(a) qualifying through a drawing conducted for the general public as defined in Subsection R657-37-2(2)(c); or

(b) named by the landowner association member or landowner association operator.

(2) CWMU landowners, presidents, operators, and their spouses and dependent children cannot apply for CWMU permits specific to their CWMU that are offered in the public drawing.

(3) A landowner association member or landowner association operator shall be issued vouchers that may be used to purchase hunting permits from division offices.

(4)(a) The Wildlife Board may establish the maximum number of permits that may be issued per acre, ~~except~~~~excepted~~ as provided in Subsection 4(b).

(b) In accordance with ~~Section~~~~Subsection~~ 23A-7-204, ~~(5)~~, a CWMU unit shall issue one buck deer permit or less per every 320 acres to be eligible to receive buck deer permits.

(c) The division and the landowner association operator must, in accordance with Subsection (4), determine:

(i) the total number of permits to be issued for the CWMU; and

(ii) the number of permits that may be offered by the landowner association to the general public as defined in Subsection R657-37-2(2)(c).

(d) In determining the total number of permits allocated under Subsection (4)(a), the division will consider:

(i) acreage and habitat conditions on the CWMU;

(ii) management objectives of the CWMU and surrounding wildlife management units;

(iii) classification and survey data;

(iv) depredation and nuisance conflicts; and

(v) other factors that may influence hunt quality and the division's ability to meet wildlife management objectives.

(e) A CWMU may only offer a management buck permit for a public hunter if that CWMU lies entirely within a wildlife management unit that also offers management buck hunts.

(5) The Wildlife Board shall increase the number of permits or hunting opportunities made available to the general public to reflect the proportion of public lands to private lands within the CWMU.

(a) Trade lands may be used to provide additional hunting opportunities to the general public.

(b) Proposed trade lands will be evaluated by a division biologist and another division employee to verify comparable habitat and equity compared to the public land in the CWMU.

(c) Proposed trade lands will be presented to the CWMU advisory committee before they are included in the CWMU and at each renewal.

(d) The CWMU advisory committee's recommendation will be presented to the Wildlife Board.

(e) Trade lands will be made open for big game hunting and for no other purposes.

(f) Trade lands must be posted as trade lands open to the public for big game hunting.

(g) Distance from the CWMU should be considered when recommending trade lands.

(h) CWMUs will ensure the DWR trade lands map is accurate.

(i) Trade lands will have clear boundaries.

(j) Justifications for the trade lands will be published before CWMU Advisory Committee

Meetings and RAC meetings.

(k) Trade lands cannot be used to get additional landowner permits based on species.

(l) Trade lands must be owned by a landowner in the CWMU.

(6)(a) Big game permits may be allocated using an option from:

(i) Table 1 for moose and pronghorn; or

(ii) Table 2 for elk and deer.

(b)(i) Over the term of the certificate of registration, and at all times during [~~the~~]its term, at least 40% of the total permits for bull moose and buck pronghorn and at least 60% of the antlerless moose and antlerless pronghorn permits will be allocated to the public and distributed via the public drawing.

(ii) Notwithstanding Subsection (b)(i) and Tables 1 and 2, if the proportion of permits allocated to the public over consecutive certificate of registration terms substantially deviates from that identified in Subsection (b)(i), the Wildlife Board may approve a modified permit distribution scheme that fairly allocates public and private permits.

(c) At least one buck deer or bull elk permit or at least 10% of the bucks or bulls permits, whichever is greater, must be made available to the general public through the big game drawing process.

(d) If a CWMU is under acreage but greater than 90% of the acreage required, and is formed after July 1, 2024 the CWMU will give an additional permit for each species to the public draw.

(e) [~~d~~] Permits shall not be issued for spike bull elk.

(f[e]) Turkey permits shall be allocated in a ratio of 50% to the CWMU and 50% to the general public, with the public receiving the extra permit when there is an odd number of total permits.

Table 1 Moose and Pronghorn		
Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit's Share	Bucks/Bulls	Does/Antlerless
Option 1	60%	40%
Public's Share	Bucks/Bulls	Does/Antlerless
Option 1	40%	60%

Table 2

Elk and Deer		
Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit's share	Bucks/Bulls	Antlerless
Option 1	90%	0%
Option 2	85%	25%
Option 3	80%	40%
Option 4	75%	50[50+] %
Public's Share		
Option 1	10%	100%
Option 2	15%	75%
Option 3	20%	60%
Option4	25%	50%

(7)(a) The landowner association member or landowner association operator must meet antlerless harvest objectives established in the CWMU management plan under Subsection R657-37-4(3)(a)(ii).

(b) Failure to meet antlerless harvest objectives based on a three-year average may result in discipline under Section R657-37-15[14].

(8)(a) A landowner association member or landowner association operator must provide access free of charge to any person who has received a CWMU permit through the general public big game or turkey drawings and at least one companion, except as provided in Section 23A-7-209.

(b) If the CWMU does not provide guiding services, the CWMU will provide access free of charge to the amount of people that can legally fit into the permit holder's vehicle, provided the guests stay at a distance where visual and verbal communication are maintained with the permit holder.

(9) If the division and the landowner association member disagree on the number of permits to be issued, the number of permits allocated, or the method of take, the Wildlife Board shall make the determination based on the biological needs of the big game or turkey populations, including available forage, depredation, and other mitigating factors.

(10) A CWMU permit entitles the holder to hunt the species and sex of big game or turkey specified on the permit and only in accordance with the certificate of registration and the rules and proclamations of the Wildlife Board.

(11) Vouchers for antlerless permits may be designated by a landowner association member to any eligible person as provided in Rule R657-5 and the proclamation of the Wildlife Board for taking big game, and Rule R657-42.

~~(12)(a) If a landowner association has a CWMU voucher that is not redeemed during the previous year, a landowner association may donate that voucher to a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, provided the following conditions are satisfied:~~

~~(i) the voucher donation is approved by the director before transfer;~~

~~(ii) the voucher is donated for a charitable cause, and the landowner association does not receive compensation or consideration of any kind other than tax benefit; and~~

~~(iii) the recipient of the voucher is identified before obtaining the director's approval for the donation.~~

~~(b) A CWMU voucher approved for donation under this section may be extended no more than one year.~~

~~(c) The division must be notified in writing and the donation completed before August 1st the year the CWMU voucher is to be redeemed.~~

~~(d) Vouchers may be used in reciprocal hunting agreements in accordance with Subsection R657-7(2)(b).]~~

(13)(a) A complete list of the current CWMUs, and number of big game or turkey permits available for public drawing shall be published in the respective proclamations of the Wildlife Board for taking big game or turkey.

(b) The division reserves the ~~exclusive~~ right to list approved CWMUs in the proclamations of the Wildlife Board for taking big game or turkey. The division may unilaterally decline to list a CWMU in the proclamation where the unit is under investigation for wildlife violations, a portion of the property comprising the CWMU is transferred to a new owner, or any other condition or circumstance that calls into question the CWMUs ability or willingness to allow a meaningful hunting opportunity to the public permit holders that would otherwise draw out on the public permits.

(c) CWMUs will ensure the information on the hunt planner is accurate by March 1 before the opening of the public draw.

R657-37-10. CWMU's on units exceeding population objectives.

(1) If a wildlife management unit is over objective by 10% or more over a continuous three year period, the division may recommend that CWMUs on that unit participate in the following strategies:

(a) antlerless elk hunters will have the ability to purchase one additional antlerless permit. This additional permit would be issued in addition to the previously approved base number of antlerless permits on the CWMU;

(b) public and private buck/bull hunters of any species will have the ability to purchase an antlerless permit. These antlerless permits would be issued in addition to the previously approved base number of antlerless permits;

(c) CWMUs will be encouraged to participate in the antlerless reciprocal permit program;

(d) the division may call a depredation hunt using public hunters;

(e) the division may issue private vouchers to the CWMU operator, which cannot be sold, to use if it is not feasible to call a public hunt; and

(f) call an emergency hunt at the end of the season.

(2) Fulfilling a "harvest objective" requirement for CWMUs in over objective units;

(a) the division will set a harvest objective of antlerless animals that need to be harvested annually;

(b) if the prescribed hunts fail to meet the desired harvest, additional harvest will take place in February after public hunts are over;

(c) CWMUs are responsible for the additional harvest, making up the difference between what was harvested during the season and the harvest objective;

(d) all meat shall be donated to food banks with CWMUs paying for at least 50% of the processing costs; and

(e) CWMUs operating under the "harvest objective" requirement shall report to the CWMU advisory committee annually on additional efforts made to help the public hunters successfully harvest, examples if additional effort include but are not limited to;

(i) extra days above the minimum,

(ii) guided hunts

(3) CWMUs in an over objective unit will report to the CWMU advisory committee to present a plan of how they will help the unit get back to objective.

R657-37-11. Permit Cost.

(1) The fee for permits allocated to any CWMU is the same as the applicable:

(a) limited entry permit fee for elk and pronghorn;

(b) general season, limited entry or premium limited entry permit fee for deer or turkey; and

(c) once-in-a-lifetime permit fee for moose.

R657-37-12[11]. Possession of Permits and License by Hunters - Restrictions.

(1) A person may not hunt in a CWMU without having in his possession:

- (a) a valid CWMU permit; and
 - (b) the necessary hunting licenses, permits, and tags.
 - (2) A CWMU permit:
 - (a) entitles the holder to hunt only on the CWMU specified on the permit pursuant to the rules of the Wildlife Board and does not entitle the holder to hunt on any other public or private land, except as provided under Section~~[Subsection]~~ R657-37-18;~~[7(2)(a);]~~ and
 - (b) constitutes written permission for trespass as required under Section 23A-5-317.
 - (3) Prior to hunting on a CWMU each permittee must:
 - (a) contact the relevant landowner association member or landowner association operator and request the CWMU rules and requirements; and
 - (b) make arrangements with the landowner association member or landowner association operator for the hunt.
- (4) CWMUs will provide one day for public hunters to access and get oriented with the CWMU prior to their hunt.

R657-37-13~~[12]~~. Season Lengths.

- (1) A landowner association member or landowner association operator may arrange for permittees to hunt on the CWMU during the following dates:
 - (a) an archery buck deer season may be established beginning with the opening of the general archery deer season through August 31 and during the 61 consecutive day buck deer season;
 - (b) an archery bull elk season may be established beginning with the opening of the general archery elk season through October 31 and during a bull elk season variance;
 - (c) an archery buck pronghorn season may be established beginning with the opening of the statewide limited entry archery buck pronghorn season through October 31;
 - (d) general season bull elk, buck pronghorn, and moose seasons may be established September 1 through October 31, unless a season variance is approved;
 - (e)(i) general buck deer seasons may be established for no longer than 61 consecutive days from September 1 through November 10;
 - (ii) a landowner association member or landowner association operator that provides less than one buck deer permit per every 640 acres may select the following season dates:
 - (A) beginning September 1 and ending on October 31; or
 - (B) beginning on September 11 and ending on November 10.
 - (iii) A landowner association or landowner operator that provides more than one buck deer permit per every 640 acres may only have season dates beginning September 1 and ending October 31.
 - (iv) A CWMU that elects for season dates extending into November under Subsection (1)(e)(ii)(B) must allow all public hunters the option to hunt 5 full days in November;
- (f) muzzleloader bull elk seasons may be established September 1 through October 31 annually, and during a bull elk season variance;
- (g) antlerless elk seasons may be established August 1 through January 31;
- (h) antlerless deer seasons may be established August 1 through December 31;
- (i) doe pronghorn seasons may be established August 1 through October 31; and
- (j) turkey seasons may be established the second Saturday in April through May 31.
- (2)(a) The Wildlife Board may authorize bull elk hunting season variances only if the CWMU landowner association member or landowner association operator clearly demonstrates that November hunting is necessary on the CWMU, and if the Wildlife Board has received a recommendation from the CWMU advisory committee supportive of the variance.
 - (b) If a bull elk hunting season variance is authorized, the public hunters must be provided an~~[comparable hunting]~~ opportunity to hunt 5 full days during the extension~~[as private hunters]~~.
- (3) Notwithstanding the season length provisions in this section, any season described in Subsection (1) that begins on a Sunday will begin the Saturday before.

R657-37-~~14~~¹³. Rights-of-Way.

A landowner association member may not restrict established public access to public land enclosed by the CWMU.

R657-37-~~15~~¹⁴. Violations and Suspension.

(1) The Wildlife Board may refuse to issue, renew, or amend a certificate of registration to an applicant, or may revoke, restrict, place on probation, change permits or allocations or otherwise act upon a certificate of registration where the landowner association member has:

(a) violated any provision of this rule, Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Act~~[Code]~~, the certificate of registration, or the CWMU Management Plan; or

(b) engaged in conduct that results in the conviction of, a plea of no contest to, or a plea held in abeyance to a crime of moral turpitude, or any other crime that when considered with the functions and responsibilities of a CWMU operator bears a reasonable relationship to the operator's or applicant's ability to safely and responsibly operate a CWMU.

(2) The division may suspend a CWMU's certificate of registration to participate in the CWMU program under Section 23A-4-1106 and Rule R657-26 if a principal or agent of a participating CWMU:

(a) violated any provision of this rule, Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Act, the certificate of registration, or the CWMU Management Plan; or

(b) engaged in conduct that results in the conviction of, a plea of no contest to, or a plea held in abeyance to a crime of moral turpitude, or any other crime that when considered with the functions and responsibilities of a CWMU operator bears a reasonable relationship to the operator's or applicant's ability to responsibly operate a CWMU

R657-37-16. Agency Action and Administrative Appeals.

(1) Notwithstanding Section R657-37-15, the procedures and rules governing agency~~[—(2) The procedures and rules governing any adverse]~~ action taken by the division or the Wildlife Board against a certificate of registration or an application for certificate of registration are set forth in Rule R657-2.

(2) An aggrieved party to a final division action under this rule may file a request for agency action with the division under Rule R657-2.

(3) The Director or a designee appointed by the Director shall be the presiding officer for any adjudicative proceedings initiated under this Section.

R657-37-~~17~~¹⁵. Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit Advisory Committee.

(1) A CWMU Advisory Committee shall be created consisting of seven~~[eight]~~ members nominated by the director and approved by the Wildlife Board.

(2) The committee shall include:

- (a) two sportsmen representatives;
- (b) two CWMU representatives;
- (c) one agricultural representative;
- (d) one at-large public representative; and
- ~~(e) one elected official; and~~

~~(f) one Regional Advisory Council chairperson or Regional Advisory Council member.~~

(3) The committee shall be chaired by the Wildlife Section Chief, who is~~[shall be]~~ a non-voting member.

(4) The committee shall:

- (a) hear complaints dealing with fair and equitable treatment of hunters on CWMUs;
- (b) review the operation of the CWMU program;
- (c) review failure to meet antlerless objectives;

(i) if the CWMU does not meet the 3-year minimum;

(ii) harvest or harvest fewer cows than bulls;

(iii) are unlikely to meet the 3-year harvest;

~~_____ (iv) do not maintain the same or better antlerless harvest percentage as comparable surrounding units.~~

~~_____ (d) hear complaints from adjacent landowners;~~

~~_____ (e) review variance requests for elk season date extensions; and~~

~~[_____ (e) review changes in acreage totals for CWMUs that are under standard minimum acreage or parcel configuration requirements and evaluate the appropriateness of their continued participation in the program; and]~~

~~_____ (f) make advisory recommendations to the director and Wildlife Board on the matters listed in this Subsection ~~[in Subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)].~~~~

~~(5)(a) The committee may recommend to the director and Wildlife Board:~~

~~_____ (i) different hunt dates;~~

~~_____ (ii) a change in permit splits (must be ~~[after hearing evidence of complaints or violations, place]~~ a split listed above);~~

~~_____ (iii) a change in operator;~~

~~_____ (iv) ~~[CWMU on]~~ probation; and~~

~~_____ (v) termination of a certificate of registration.~~

~~(b) A CWMU placed in ~~upon~~ probationary status must provide the CWMU Advisory Committee a plan of corrective action to address concerns regarding operation of the CWMU, and report annually to the Advisory Committee during the probationary period regarding their progress in addressing such concerns.~~

~~(c) The division shall report the recommendations of the CWMU Advisory Committee ~~[shall report]~~ to the Wildlife Board prior to the ~~[any CWMU that remains on probation during a certificate of registration]~~ renewal deadline ~~[process].~~~~

~~(6) The Wildlife Section Chief shall determine the agenda, ~~[and]~~ time, and location of the CWMU Advisory Committee meetings.~~

~~(7) The director shall set staggered terms for ~~[of]~~ appointment of CWMU Advisory Committee members to ensure ~~[such that there is]~~ rotating representation and that all committee members' terms shall expire after four years.~~

~~_____ (8) Meetings will be advertised similar to Regional Advisory Council meetings and there will be a venue for public comment.~~

R657-37-18. Reciprocal Program

~~_____ (1)(a) A landowner association president or landowner association operator may enter into reciprocal agreements with other landowner association presidents or landowner association operators to allow hunters who have obtained a CWMU permit to hunt within each other's CWMUs as provided in Subsection R657-37-4(3)(a)(xiii).~~

~~_____ (b) Reciprocal hunting agreements may be approved only to:~~

~~_____ (i) raise funds to address joint habitat improvement projects;~~

~~_____ (ii) address emergency situations limiting hunting opportunity on a CWMU;~~

~~_____ (iii) raise funds to aid in essential management practices for the benefit of CWMU species, including obtaining age or species population data as recommended by regional division personnel and approved by the division's wildlife section chief;~~

~~_____ (iv) be used with unused vouchers as provided in Subsection R657-37-9(18)(2); or~~

~~_____ (v) be used to achieve antlerless harvest objectives for big game populations that may migrate across different CWMUs.~~

~~_____ (c) If a person is authorized to hunt in one or more CWMUs as provided in Subsection (a), written permission from the landowner association member or landowner association operator and written authorization from the division must be in the person's possession while hunting.~~

~~_____ (d) The division may identify an individual to administer and coordinate reciprocal agreements and each expenditure of funds generated therefrom.~~

(e) The division must provide written approval prior to any expenditure of funds generated from reciprocal agreement permits.

(f) The administrator of the reciprocal agreement program must provide an annual accounting of proceeds generated from reciprocal agreement permits and how those funds were spent or administered.

(2)(a) If a landowner association has a CWMU voucher that is not redeemed during the previous year, a landowner association may donate that voucher to a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, provided the following conditions are satisfied:

(i) the voucher donation is approved by the director before transfer;

(ii) the voucher is donated for a charitable cause;

(iii) the landowner association does not receive compensation or consideration of any kind other than tax benefit; and

(iv) the recipient of the voucher is identified before obtaining the director's approval for the donation.

(b) A CWMU voucher approved for donation under this Section may be extended no more than one year.

(c) The division must be notified in writing and the donation completed before August 1st the year the CWMU voucher is to be redeemed.

(d) Vouchers may be used in reciprocal hunting agreements in accordance with Subsection R657-18-(1)(a).

KEY: wildlife, cooperative wildlife management unit

Date of Last Change: ~~October 1~~, August 10, 2023

Notice of Continuation: March 15, 2023

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: 23A-7-102



SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

JOEL FERRY
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

J. SHIRLEY
Division Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Utah Wildlife Board / Regional Advisory Councils

FROM: Covy Jones, Wildlife Section Chief

DATE: May 6, 2024

SUBJECT: Overview of recommended changes to R657-41, Conservation and Sportsman Permit Rule

Esteemed members of the RAC and the Utah Wildlife Board, the list below is a synopsis of the major recommended changes to rule R657-41. For the full list of changes, please review the rule redline, included in the RAC packet.

- Remove cougar as a conservation permit species.
- General cleanup to the definitions section and removal of items that are not true definitions.
- Change in the season type and draft order for elk and deer conservation permits.
- Remove the season extension variance clause for unit conservation permits.
- Clarify that the Division will notify the Wildlife Board as to the results of the conservation permit distribution post conservation permit draft.
- Reinforce that Conservation Groups are required to have both a COR issued by the Division and a contract with the Division in order to sell conservation permits.
- Allow a Conservation organization to sell a permit to the runner-up bidder when the winning bidder defaults as long as the original high bid price is met.
- Clarifies that retained revenue must be spent in a manner according to the Divisions strategic plan and or consistent with a conservation species management plan.
- Extend unit conservation Bighorn permits through December 31.
 - Previously done through a variance.
- Other cleanup and organization.

R657. -Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources.

R657-41. -Conservation and Sportsman Permits.

R657-41-1. -Purpose and Authority.

(1)- Under the authority of Sections 23A-2-304 and 23A-2-305, this rule provides the standards and procedures for issuing:

(a)- conservation permits to conservation organizations for auction to the highest bidder at fund-raising events;

(b) -sportsman permits;

(c)- Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permits to a conservation organization for auction to the highest bidder at the annual wildlife exposition held pursuant to Rule R657-55; and

(d)- Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permits to successful applicants through a general drawing conducted by the division.

(2)- The division and conservation organizations shall use all revenue derived from conservation permits under Subsections R657-41-9(4) and (5)(b) for the benefit of species for which conservation permits are issued, unless the division and conservation organization mutually agree in writing that there is a higher priority use for other species of protected wildlife.

R657-41-2. -Definitions.

(1)- Terms used in this rule are defined in Section 23A-1-101.

(2) -In addition:

(a)- "Area Conservation Permit" means a permit issued for a specific unit, subunit or hunt area for a conservation permit species, and may include an extended season, or legal weapon choice, or both, beyond the season.

~~[(i) Area conservation permits issued for limited entry units are not valid on cooperative wildlife management units authorized for the same species of wildlife as the area conservation permit.~~

~~[(ii) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a), area conservation permits issued for turkey are not valid during the youth general season hunt unless the holder qualifies as a youth.]~~

(b)- "Conservation Organization" means a nonprofit chartered institution, foundation, or association founded and operated for the purpose of promoting the protection, preservation, and recreational hunting of one or more conservation permit species and has established tax exempt status under 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3), as amended.

(c)- "Conservation Permit" means any harvest permit authorized by the Wildlife Board and issued by the division for purposes identified in Section R657-41-1.

(d)- "Conservation Permit Species" means the species for which conservation permits may be issued and includes deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bison, mountain goat, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, desert bighorn sheep, wild turkey, [~~cougar,~~] and black bear.

(e)- "Retained Revenue" means 60% of the revenue raised by a conservation organization from auctioning conservation permits that the organization retains for eligible projects, including interest earned thereon less standard banking fees assessed on the account.

(f)- "Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permit" means a permit authorized by the Wildlife Board to hunt bighorn sheep or mule deer on Antelope Island State Park which is issued pursuant to ~~Section~~[~~Rule~~] R657-41-12.

(g)- "Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permit" means a permit authorized by the Wildlife Board to hunt bighorn sheep or mule deer on Antelope Island State Park which is

issued by the division in a general drawing, requiring all applicants to pay an application fee and the successful applicant the cost of the permit.

(h)- "Sportsman Permit" means a permit which allows a permittee to hunt during the applicable season dates specified in Subsection (i), and which is authorized by the Wildlife Board and issued by the division in a general drawing, requiring all applicants to pay an application fee and the successful applicant the cost of the permit.

(i)- "Statewide Conservation Permit" means a permit issued for a conservation permit species that allows a permittee to hunt:

(i)- big game species on any open unit with archery equipment during the general archery season published in the big game guidebooks for the unit beginning before September 1 ~~[, and with any weapon from September 1 through December 31, except pronghorn and moose from September 1 through November 15 and deer, elk from September 1 through January 15, and bison from August 1 through January 31];~~

~~_____~~ (ii) big game species on any open unit during the following dates:

(A) bison from August 1 through January 31;

(B) pronghorn and moose from September 1 through November 15

(C) bighorn sheep and mountain goats from September 1 through December 31; and

(D) deer and elk from September 1 through January 15;

~~_____~~ (iii) two turkeys on any open unit from April 1 through May 31;

~~(iv)iii-~~ bear on any open unit during the season authorized by the Wildlife Board for that unit.;

~~_____~~ (v) ~~[(iv) cougar on any open unit during the season authorized by the Wildlife Board for that unit and during the season dates authorized by the Wildlife Board on any harvest objective unit that has been closed by meeting its objective;~~

~~_____~~ (v) ~~Antelope Island is not an open unit for hunting any species of wildlife authorized by a conservation or sportsman permit, except for the Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permits and the Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permits; and~~

~~_____~~ (vi) ~~Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep on any open unit, excluding the Box Elder, Pilot Mountain sheep unit, which is closed to both the Sportsman permit holder and the Statewide conservation permit holder every year.~~

~~_____~~ (j)-] "Permit voucher" or "voucher" means an authorization issued by the division that entitles the designated holder to purchase the hunting permit specified in the authorization.

R657-41-3. -Determining the Number of Conservation and Sportsman Permits.

(1)- The number of conservation permits authorized by the Wildlife Board shall be based on:

(a)- the species population trend, size, distribution, and long-term health;

(b)- the hunting and viewing opportunity for the general public, both short and long term;

(c)- the potential revenue that will support protection and enhancement of the species; and

(d)- the total number of public draw permits available by species on a unit, subunit, or hunt area.

(2)- One statewide conservation permit may be authorized for each conservation permit species.

(3)- A limited number of area conservation permits may be authorized as follows:

(a)- the potential number of conservation permits available for Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and desert bighorn sheep, assigned to a hunt area or combination of hunt areas, will be

calculated based on the number of public draw permits issued the year prior to the permits being awarded using the following rule:

~~[(i)]~~ 5-14 public permits = 1 conservation permit, 15-24 public permits = 2 conservation permits, 25-34 public permits = 3 conservation permits, 35-44 public permits = 4 conservation permits, 45-54 public permits = 5 conservation permits, 55-64 public permits = 6 conservation permits, 65-74 public permits = 7 conservation permits and >75 public permits = 8 conservation permits.

(b) the potential number of conservation permits available for the remaining conservation permit species, for any unit, sub-unit or hunt area, will be calculated based on the number of public draw permits issued the year prior to the permits being awarded using the following rule:

~~[(i)]~~ 11-30 public permits = 1 conservation permit, 31-50 public permits = 2 conservation permits, 51-70 public permits = 3 conservation permits, 71-90 public permits = 4 conservation permits, 91-110 public permits = 5 conservation permits, 111-130 = 6 conservation permits, 131-150 public permits = 7 conservation permits and >150 public permits = 8 conservation permits.

(4) The number of conservation permits may be reduced if the number of public permits declines during the time period for which conservation permits were awarded.

(5) The actual number of conservation and sportsman permits available for use will be determined by the Wildlife Board.

(6) Area conservation permits shall be approved by the Wildlife Board in a separate process from approving the number of public drawing permits.

(7) One sportsman permit shall be authorized for each statewide conservation permit authorized.

R657-41-4. -Eligibility for Conservation Permits.

(1) Statewide and area conservation permits may be awarded to eligible conservation organizations for auction to the highest bidder at fund-raising events and through other authorized means of sale.

(2) To be eligible for conservation permits, a conservation organization must:

(a) satisfy the definition of a qualifying conservation organization;

(b) complete the application requirements in Section R657-41-5; and

(c) remain in good standing during the previous three-year term of participation and not subject to any suspension or revocation proceeding under Section R657-41-13.

(3) Conservation organizations applying for conservation permits may not ~~apply for or obtain conservation permits if any [employee, agent,] officer, or board of directors member of the conservation organization is an [employee, agent,] officer, or board of directors member of any other conservation organization that is also applying to participate in the program.~~

R657-41-5. -Applying for Conservation Permits.

(1)(a) Applications to participate in the conservation permit program will be accepted on a three-year application cycle uniformly applicable to all conservation organizations.

(b) A conservation organization wishing to apply for conservation permits must submit a complete application to the division by August 15 of the third year of the application cycle.

(c) Only one application per conservation organization may be submitted.

(d) Multiple chapters of the same conservation organization may not apply individually.

(2) Each application must include:

- (a)- the name, address and telephone number of the conservation organization;
 - (b)- a copy of the conservation organization's mission statement;
 - (c)- verification of the conservation organization's tax -exempt status under 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3), as amended;[~~and~~]
 - (d)- the name of the president or other individual responsible for the administrative operations of the conservation organization;
 - (e)- evidence that the application and bid has been approved by the board of directors or other necessary authority from the bidding conservation organization; and
 - (f)- a certification from the applicant that they have not consulted with any other participating conservation organization regarding the conservation permits they intend to acquire.
- (3)- An application that is incomplete or completed incorrectly may be rejected.
- (4)- The application of a conservation organization for conservation permits may be denied by the division for:
- (a)- failing to fully and accurately report on the preceding year's conservation permits;
 - (b) -violating any provision of this rule, Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Act,[~~Code of Utah,,~~] Title R657, a division guidebook, or an order of the Wildlife Board; or
 - (c)- violating any other law that bears a reasonable relationship to the applicant's ability to responsibly and lawfully handle conservation permits pursuant to this rule.
- (5) -Application denials may be appealed as[~~to the division director prior to the permit selection process~~] described in Section R657-41-15[~~7~~].

R657-41-6. -Approving New Conservation Organizations for the Program.

- (1)(a)- New applicants to the conservation permit program shall follow the same three-year application cycle established in Subsection R657-41-5(1).
- (b)- If multiple new conservation organizations submit valid applications during a single three-year application cycle:
- (i)- a maximum of two new organizations will be selected; and
 - (ii)- conservation organizations will be selected based upon an evaluation of their historical contributions to conservation permit species in Utah.
- (2)(a)- Conservation organizations accepted into the conservation permit program for the first time will be awarded 0.5% in market share, as determined in Section R657-41-7.
- (b)- Market share awarded to new applicants will be drawn from each participating conservation organizations' market share in proportion to that organization's total market share.
- (c)- Newly accepted conservation organizations shall participate in the first three-year term on a probationary status.
- (d)- During their probationary term, a conservation organization must:
- (i)- sell all conservation permits each year at a hunt-related banquet or through an online auction with prior division approval;
 - (ii) -diligently advertise and market each permit opportunity;
 - (iii)- maintain a minimum of 75% or the originally awarded market share at the end of the three-year term; and
 - (iv) -complete all mandatory reporting for auditing purposes.
- (e)- The division may deny an application from a conservation organization based upon their failure to meet the probationary requirements.
- (f) -Application denials may be appealed as[~~to the Division Director prior to the permit selection process~~] described in Section R657-41-15[~~7~~].

(3)(a)- A conservation organization that was once a program participant, but left the program while in good standing, may be reinstated during the three-year permitting cycle immediately following their departure from the program with the full market share the conservation permit organization had at the time they left the program.

(b) -A conservation organization reentering the program under the provisions of (3)(a):

(i)- will receive market share drawn from each participating conservation organization in proportion to that organization's market share; and

(ii)- may reenter the program regardless of the number of applications accepted from new conservation organizations under Subsection R657-41-1(b).

R657-41-7. -Awarding Conservation Permits.

(1)(a)- Distribution of conservation permits will be based on a sequential selection process where each eligible conservation organization is assigned a position or positions in the selection order among the other participating organizations and awarded credits with which to purchase permits at an assigned value.

(b)- Conservation organizations may not consult or coordinate with other conservation organizations regarding which conservation permits they intend to acquire prior to the permit selection process.

(2)- Permits will be awarded to eligible conservation organizations for no more than three years.

(3)- The division will determine the number of permits available.

(a)- Season types for area conservation permits for elk on any given hunt unit will be designated and assigned in the following order:

(i) -first permit -- multi-season;

(ii) -second permit -- ~~hunter's choice of season~~[~~any-weapon~~];

(iii) -third permit -- any-weapon, ~~late season~~;

(iv) -fourth permit -- archery;

(v) -fifth permit -- ~~any-weapon, mid season~~[~~muzzleloader~~];

(vi) -sixth permit -- ~~muzzleloader~~[~~multi-season~~];

(vii) -seventh permit -- ~~multi-season~~[~~any-weapon~~]; and

(viii) -eighth permit -- ~~hunter's choice of season~~[~~any-weapon~~].

(b)- Season types for area conservation permits for deer on any given hunt unit will be designated and assigned in the following order:

(i) -first permit -- ~~multi-~~[~~hunter's choice of~~]season;

(ii) -second permit -- hunter's choice of season;

(iii) -third permit -- muzzleloader;

(iv) -fourth permit -- archery;

(v) -fifth permit -- ~~multi-season~~[~~any-weapon~~];

(vi) -sixth permit -- ~~hunter's choice of season~~[~~any-weapon~~];

(vii) -seventh permit -- muzzleloader; and

(viii) -eighth permit -- archery.

(c) If a unit is missing any of the season types listed in Subsections (3)(a) or (3)(b), that season type will be skipped and the next available season type will be assigned to the permit.

~~(d)~~ ~~(e)~~ Notwithstanding the availability of multiple seasons, an any-weapon permit opportunity offered in Subsections (3)(a) and (3)(b) is restricted to a single season, which the recipient of the permit must designate prior to receiving the permit.

(4)- The division will assign a credit amount for each permit based on the average return for the permit during the previous three-year period. -If a history is not available, the value will be estimated.

(5)- The division will calculate the market total for the permit draft by summing all credit amounts from available conservation permits.

(6)(a)- The division will calculate a market share for each eligible conservation organization applying for permits.

(b)- Market share will be calculated and determined based on:

- (i)- the conservation organization's previous three years performance;
- (ii)- all conservation permits issued to a conservation organization; and
- (iii)- the percent of conservation permit revenue raised by a conservation organization during the three-year period relative to all conservation permit revenue raised during the same period by all conservation organizations applying for conservation permits.

(7)- The division will determine the credits available to spend by each group in the selection process based on their market share multiplied by the market total.

(8)(a)- If substantial changes to a hunt boundary or season date of a conservation permit occur during its three-year term, the division may cancel the permit for the remainder of the three-year term and assign an average sales price using prices from prior years within its three-year term.

(b)- If minor changes to a hunt boundary or season date of a conservation permit occur during its three-year term, the division may:

(i)- cancel the permit for the remainder of the three-year term and assign a sales price under Subsection (8)(a); or

(ii)- allow the conservation organization to sell the permit for the remainder of the three-year term.

(9)- The division will establish a selection order for the participating conservation organizations based on the relative value of each groups market share as follows:

- (a)- groups will be ordered based on their percent of market share;
- (b)- each selection position will cost a group 10% of the total market share except the last selection by a group will cost whatever percent a group has remaining;
- (c)- no group can have more than three positions in the selection order; and
- (d)- the selection order will be established as follows:
 - (i)- the group with the highest market share will be assigned the first position and 10% will be subtracted from their total market share;
 - (ii)- the group with the highest remaining market share will be assigned the second position and 10% will be subtracted from their market share; and
 - (iii)- this procedure will continue until all groups have three positions or their market share is exhausted.

(10)- At least one week prior to the permit selection meeting, the division will provide each conservation organization applying for permits the following items:

- (a) -a list of permits available with assigned value;
- (b)- documentation of the calculation of market share;
- (c)- credits available to each conservation group to use in the selection process;
- (d) -the selection order; and

(e)- date, time and location of the selection meeting.

(11)- At the selection meeting, conservation organizations will select permits from the available pool according to their respective positions in the selection order. -For each permit selected, the value of that permit will be deducted from the conservation organization's available credits. The selection order will repeat itself until all available credits are used or all available permits are selected.

(12)- Conservation organizations may continue to select a single permit each time their turn comes up in the selection order until all available credits are used or all available permits are selected.

(13)- A conservation organization may not exceed its available credits, except a group may select their last permit for up to 10% of the permit credit amount above their remaining credits.

~~(14) [-(14) Variances for an extended season or legal weapon choice may be obtained only on area conservation permits and must be presented to the Wildlife Board prior to the final assignment of the permit to the conservation organization.~~

~~(15)] Conservation organizations may not trade or transfer permits.[- to other organizations once assigned by the Wildlife Board].~~

(15) The division will notify the Wildlife Board as to the results of the conservation permit distribution.

(16)- Conservation organizations failing to comply with the reporting requirements in any given year during the period may lose the conservation permits for the balance of the award period.

(17)- If a conservation organization is unable to complete the terms of auctioning or otherwise selling assigned permits, the permits will be returned to the regular public drawing process for the duration of the allocation period.

R657-41-8. -Distributing Conservation Permits.

(1) Conservation organizations shall obtain a certificate of registration and enter into a contract with the~~[-The]~~ division to receive~~[and]~~ conservation ~~[organization receiving]~~-permits and authorize the sale of those conservation permits~~[shall enter into a contract]~~.

(2)(a)- Conservation organizations receiving the opportunity to distribute permits must ensure the permit opportunities are marketed, auctioned, and distributed by lawful means.

(b)- Conservation permit vouchers may not be purchased or redeemed by officers, agents, directors or employees of a conservation permit organization unless:

(i)- the voucher was sold at an in-person banquet or fundraiser hosted by the conservation organization;

(ii) -the sale was administered by an auctioneer; and

(iii)- the sales process was administered in a manner so as to secure fair market value for the voucher.

(3)(a) -The conservation organization must:

(i)- obtain the following information at the time of sale:

(A) -full name of the successful bidder;

(B) -date the permit opportunity is auctioned; and

(C) -winning bid amount for that permit opportunity;

(ii)- submit the information required in Subsection (3)(a)(i) to the division within 10 days of the event where the permit opportunity is auctioned to the highest bidder; and

(iii)- identify the individual who is authorized to redeem the conservation permit voucher and submit it to the division prior to the individual attempting to redeem~~[redeeming]~~ the voucher.

(b)- The division will not issue a conservation permit unless required information about the winning bidder and authorized recipient of the voucher is first received by the division.

(c)(i) ~~An~~ absentee bidder may only use an agent or representative to bid on a conservation permit opportunity on their behalf if authorized by the conservation organization.

(ii)- A winning bid offered by an agent or representative on behalf of an absentee bidder legally obligates the absentee bidder to satisfy the bid obligation submitted by the representative.

(iii)- For the purposes of this rule, an absentee bidder is considered the successful bidder when the winning bid is offered by their agent or representative.

(4)(a)~~(-)~~ If the successful bidder or a person designated by the successful bidder to receive a conservation permit voucher fails to pay the conservation organization the winning bid amount that secured the permit opportunity, the conservation organization may remarket the permit opportunity using any legal means and designate another person to receive the permit opportunity.

(b) Conservation Organization may award the conservation permit voucher to the runner-up bidder if:

(i) the runner-up bidder information is available;

(ii) the original value is collected by the conservation organization;

(A) receiving the difference between the runner-up bid from the original winning bidder;

or

(B) the runner-up bidder is willing to match the original high bid.

~~(5)(a)~~ If, for any reason, the successful bidder elects not to personally use a conservation permit opportunity, they may assign that opportunity to another person, provided:

(i)- the conservation organization is notified of the assignment;

(ii)- the original winning bid amount for the permit opportunity is received in full by the conservation organization and not decreased;

(iii)- the conservation organization handles and otherwise uses the entire winning bid amount consistent with the requirements in Section R657-41-9;

(iv)- the successful bidder executes an affidavit verifying they are not profiting from the assignment; and

(v)- the successful bidder separates all fees for guiding services from any transaction associated with assigning the permit opportunity.

(b)- If a person assigned a permit opportunity by the successful bidder or a person possessing a permit voucher is unable to use the permit opportunity for any reason, including obtaining another Utah permit for the same species, the conservation organization may remarket the permit opportunity using any legal means and designate another person to receive the opportunity, provided:

(i)- the conservation organization selects the new recipient of the permit opportunity;

(ii)- the amount of money received by the division for the permit opportunity is not decreased;

(iii)- the conservation organization relinquishes to the division and otherwise uses all proceeds generated from the re-designated permit opportunity consistent with the requirements in Section R657-41-9;

(iv)- the conservation organization and the holder of the permit opportunity execute an affidavit verifying neither is profiting from transferring the right to the permit; and

(v)- the permit has not been issued by the division to the first designated person.

~~(6)(a)~~ Except as otherwise provided under Subsections (4) and (5), neither the conservation organization, successful bidder, successful bidder's assignee, nor the holder of a

conservation permit voucher may offer for sale, sell, or transfer the rights to that designation to any other person.

(7)- A person cannot obtain more than one conservation permit for a single conservation permit species per year, except :

(a)- two elk permits may be obtained, provided one or both are antlerless permits; and

(b) -turkey.

(c)- A person may obtain both a desert bighorn ram permit and rocky mountain bighorn ram conservation permit in a single year.

(8)- The person designated on a conservation permit voucher must possess or obtain a current Utah hunting or combination license to redeem the voucher for the corresponding conservation permit.

R657-41-9. -Conservation Permit Funds and Reporting.

(1)- All permits must be auctioned or distributed by August 15, annually.

(2)- Within 30 days of the last event, but no later than August 15 annually, the conservation organization must submit to the division:

(a) -a final report on the distribution of permits;

(b) -the total funds raised on each permit; and

(c) -the funds due to the division.

(3)(a)- Conservation permits shall not be issued to a person possessing a conservation permit voucher unless the person redeeming the voucher:

(i)- possesses a valid Utah hunting or combination license;

(ii) -remits to the division the applicable permit fee; and

(iii)- is otherwise legally eligible to possess the particular hunting permit.

(b)- If the conservation organization is paying the permit fees for the permit recipient, the fees must be paid from the 10% retained by the conservation organization as provided in Subsection (5)(a).

(4)(a)- Conservation organizations shall remit to the division by August 15 of each year 30% of the total revenue generated by conservation permit sales in that year.

(b)- The permit revenue payable to the division under Subsection (4)(a), is the property of the division and may not be used by conservation organizations for projects or any other purpose.

(c)- The permit revenue must be placed in a federally insured account promptly upon receipt and remain in the account until remitted to the division on or before August 15 of each year.

(d)- The permit revenue payable to the division under this subsection shall not be used by the conservation organization as collateral or commingled in the same account with the organization's operation and administration funds, so that the separate identity of the permit revenue is not lost.

(e)- Failure to remit 30% of the total permit revenue to the division by the August 15 deadline may result in criminal prosecution under Title 76, Chapter 6, Part 4, [~~Theft,~~]and may further disqualify the conservation organization from obtaining any future conservation permits.

(5)- A conservation organization may retain 70% of the permit revenue generated from auctioning conservation permits, as follows:

(a)- 10% of the permit revenue may be withheld and used by the conservation organization for administrative expenses.

(b)— 60% of the permit revenue and accrued interest, excluding standard banking fees assessed on the account where the permit revenue is deposited, may be retained and used by the conservation organization only for eligible projects, as provided in Subsections (i) through (xii).

(i)— Eligible projects include habitat improvement, habitat acquisition, transplants, targeted education efforts and other projects providing a substantial benefit to species of wildlife for which conservation permits are issued, unless the division and conservation organization mutually agree in writing that there is a higher priority use for other species of protected wildlife.

(ii)— Retained revenue shall not be committed to or expended on any eligible project without first obtaining the division director's written concurrence.

(iii)— Retained revenue shall not be used on any project that does not provide a substantial and direct benefit to conservation permit species or other protected wildlife located in Utah.

(iv)— For direct purchases, the division may require conservation organizations to engage in a competitive bid process or otherwise document benefits to a conservation permit species as a prerequisite to division approval.

(v)— Cash donations to the Wildlife Habitat Account created under Section 23A-3-207, Division Species Enhancement Funds, or the Conservation Permit Fund shall be considered an eligible project and do not require the division director's approval, provided the donation is made with instructions that it be used for species of wildlife for which conservation permits are issued.

(vi)— Funds committed to approved division projects will be transferred to the division within 60 days of being invoiced by the division.

(vii)— If the division-approved project to which funds are committed is completed under projected budget or is canceled, funds committed to the project that are not used will be kept by the division and credited back to the conservation organization but will be made available for the group to use on other approved projects during the current or subsequent year.

(viii)— Retained revenue shall ~~[not]~~ be spent in a manner~~[used on any project]~~ that is consistent~~[inconsistent]~~ with the division's strategic plan and or consistent with a~~[division policy, including feeding programs, depredation]~~ management plan for a conservation permit species.~~[, or predator control.]~~

(ix)— Retained revenue under this subsection must be placed in a federally insured account. All interest revenue earned thereon must be accounted for and used consistent with the requirements of this subsection.

(x)— Retained revenue shall not be used by the conservation organization as collateral or commingled in the same account with the organization's operation and administration funds, so that the separate identity of the retained revenue is not lost.

(xi)— Retained revenue must be completely expended on approved eligible projects or transferred to the division by August 15, two years following the year in which the relevant conservation permits are awarded to the conservation organization by the Wildlife Board. Failure to expend or transfer to the division retained revenue by the August 15 deadline will disqualify the conservation organization from obtaining any future conservation permits until the unspent retained revenue is expended on an approved eligible project or transferred to the division.

(xii)— All records and receipts for projects under this subsection must be retained by the conservation organization for a period not less than five years, and shall be produced to the division for inspection upon request.

(6)(a)— Conservation organizations accepting permits shall be subject to annual audits on project expenditures and conservation permit accounts.

(b)– The division shall perform annual audits on project expenditures and conservation permit accounts.

R657-41-10. -Obtaining Sportsman Permits.

(1)- One sportsman permit is offered to residents through a drawing for each of the following species:

- (a) -desert bighorn (ram);
- (b) -bison (hunter's choice);
- (c) -buck deer;
- (d) -bull elk;
- (e) -Rocky Mountain bighorn (ram);
- (f) -mountain goat (hunter's choice);
- (g) -bull moose;
- (h) -buck pronghorn;
- (i) -black bear;

[~~—(j) cougar;~~] and

(j) wild turkey.

(2)- The following information on sportsman permits is provided in the guidebooks of the Wildlife Board for taking protected wildlife:

- (a) -hunt dates;
- (b) -open units or hunt areas;
- (c) -application procedures;
- (d) -fees; and
- (e) -deadlines.

(3)- A person must possess or obtain a current Utah hunting or combination license to apply for or obtain a sportsman permit.

R657-41-11. -Using a Conservation or Sportsman Permit.

(1)(a)- A conservation or sportsman permit allows the recipient to take only one individual of the species for which the permit is issued, except a statewide turkey conservation or sportsman permit allows the holder to take two turkeys.

(b)- The species that may be taken shall be printed on the permit.

(c)- The species may be taken in the area and during the season specified on the permit.

(d)- The species may be taken only with the weapon specified on the permit.

(2)- The recipient of a conservation or sportsman permit is subject to all the provisions of Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Act[Code], and the rules and guidebooks of the Wildlife Board for taking and pursuing wildlife.

(3) -Bonus points shall not be awarded or utilized:

- (a)- when applying for conservation or sportsman permits; or
- (b) -in obtaining conservation or sportsman permits.

(4)- Any person who obtains a conservation or sportsman permit is subject to applicable waiting periods for purposes of obtaining a permit for the same species through a division drawing, as provided in Rule[Rules] R657-62.

R657-41-12. Miscellaneous Area Conservation Permit Provisions.

(1) Area conservation permits issued for limited entry units are not valid on cooperative wildlife management units authorized for the same species of wildlife as the area conservation permit.

(2) Notwithstanding Subsection R657-41-2(2)(a), area conservation permits issued for turkey are not valid during the youth general season hunt unless the holder qualifies as a youth.

(3) Area conservation permits for bighorn sheep will end on December 31st.

(4) The Box Elder, Pilot MountainRocky Mountain bighorn sheep unit, is closed to both the Sportsman permit holder and the Statewide conservation permit holder.

R657-41-13. Special Antelope Island State Park Hunting Permits.

(1)(a)- The Wildlife Board may authorize a hunt for bighorn sheep and buck mule deer on Antelope Island State Park, with one or more permits made available for each species and designated as Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permits and an equal number of permits for each species made available as Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permits.

(b) -The division and the Division of State Parks~~[-and Recreation]~~, through their respective policy boards, will enter into a cooperative agreement for purposes of establishing:

(i)- the number of permits issued annually for bighorn sheep and buck mule deer hunts on Antelope Island;

(ii) -season dates for each hunt;

(iii) -procedures and regulations applicable to hunting on Antelope Island;

(iv)- protocols for issuing permits and conducting hunts for antlerless deer on Antelope Island when populations require management; and

(v)- procedures and conditions for transferring Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permit revenue to the Division of State Parks~~[-and Recreation]~~.

(c)- The cooperative agreement governing bighorn sheep and mule deer hunting on Antelope Island, and any subsequent amendment thereto, shall be presented to the Wildlife Board and the Utah State Parks Board for approval prior to holding a drawing or issuing hunting permits.

(2)(a)- Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permits will be issued by the division through its annual bucks, bulls, and once-in-a-lifetime drawing.

(i)- The mule deer Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permit is a premium limited entry buck deer permit and subject to the regulations governing such permits, as provided in this rule, Rule R657-5, and Rule R657-62.

(ii)- The bighorn sheep Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permit is a once-in-a-lifetime Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit and subject to the regulations governing such permits, as provided in this rule, Rule R657-5, and Rule R657-62.

(b)- To apply for a Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permit, the applicant must:

(i) -pay the prescribed application handling fee;

(ii)- possess a current Utah hunting license or combination license;

(iii) -not be subject to a waiting period under Rule R657-62 for the species of wildlife applied for; and

(iv)- otherwise be eligible to hunt the species of wildlife designated on the application;

(c)- A person that obtains a Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permit:

(i) -must pay the applicable permit fee;

(ii) -may take only one animal of the species and ~~sex~~[gender] designated on the permit;
(iii)- may hunt only with the weapon and during the season prescribed on the permit;
(iv)- may hunt the specified species within the areas of Antelope Island designated open by the Wildlife Board and the rules and regulations of the Division of State Parks~~[and Recreation]~~; and

(v) -is subject to the:

(A) -provisions of Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Act~~[Code]~~, and the rules and guidebooks of the Wildlife Board for taking and pursuing wildlife; and

(B)- statutes, rules, and regulations of the Division of State Parks ~~[and Recreation]~~for hunting on Antelope Island.

(d)- Bonus points are awarded and utilized in applying for and obtaining a Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permit.

(e)- A person who has obtained a Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permit is subject to all waiting periods applicable to the particular species, as provided in Rule R657-62.

(f)- A person cannot obtain a Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permit for a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep or mule deer and any other permit for a male animal of the same species in the same year.

(3)- Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permits will be provided to the conservation group awarded the wildlife expo permit series, as provided in Rule R657-55, for auction to the highest bidder at the wildlife exposition.

(a) Conservation organizations shall obtain a certificate of registration and enter into a contract with the~~[The]~~ division to receive authorization~~[and conservation organization receiving authority]~~ to auction Special Antelope Island State park~~[Park]~~ Conservation Permits~~[shall enter into a contract]~~.

(b)- The conservation organization receiving authority to auction the opportunity for Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permits must ensure~~[insure]~~ the permits are marketed and distributed by lawful means.

(4)(a)- When auctioning the Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permits, the conservation organization must:

(i) -obtain the following information:

(A) -full name of the successful bidder;

(B)- date of the event where the permit opportunity is auctioned; and

(C) -winning bid amount for that permit opportunity;~~[and]~~

(ii)- submit the information required in Subsection (4)(a)(i) to the division within 10 days of the event where the permit opportunity is auctioned to the highest bidder; and

(iii)- identify the individual who is authorized to redeem the conservation permit voucher and submit it to the division prior to the individual attempting to redeem~~[redeeming]~~ the voucher.

(b)- The division will not issue a Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permit unless information on the winning bidder and authorized recipient of the voucher is first received by the division.

(c)(i)- an absentee bidder may only use an agent or representative to bid on a conservation permit opportunity on their behalf if authorized by the conservation organization.

(ii)- A winning bid offered by an agent or representative on behalf of an absentee bidder legally obligates the absentee bidder to satisfy the bid obligation submitted by the representative.

(iii)- For the purposes of this rule, an absentee bidder is considered the successful bidder

when the winning bid is offered by their agent or representative.

~~(5)(a)-~~ If the successful bidder or the person designated by a successful bidder to receive a Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permit fails to pay the conservation organization the winning bid amount, the conservation organization may remarket the permit opportunity using any legal means and designate another person to receive the permit opportunity.

(b) Conservation Organization may award the conservation permit voucher to the runner-up bidder if:

(i) the runner-up bidder information is available;

(ii) the original value is collected by the conservation organization;

(A) receiving the difference between the runner-up bid from the original winning bidder;

or

(B) the runner-up bidder is willing to match the original high bid

(6)(a)- If, for any reason, the successful bidder elects not to personally use a Special Antelope Island State Park Permit opportunity, they may assign that opportunity to another person, provided:

(i)- the conservation organization is notified of the assignment;

(ii)- the original winning bid amount for the permit opportunity is received in full by the conservation organization and not decreased;

(iii)- the conservation organization handles and otherwise uses the entire winning bid amount consistent with the requirements in Subsection (9); and

(iv)- the successful bidder executes an affidavit verifying they are not profiting from the assignment.

(A) -For purposes of Subsection (iv), "profiting" does not include a reasonable fee for guiding services provided in conjunction with the assigned permit opportunity.

(b)- If a person assigned a Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permit opportunity by the successful bidder or a person possessing the permit voucher is unable to use the permit opportunity for any reason, including obtaining another Utah permit for the same species, the conservation organization may remarket the permit opportunity using any legal means and designate another person to receive the opportunity, provided:

(i)- the conservation organization selects the new recipient of the permit opportunity;

(ii)- the amount of money received by the division for the permit opportunity is not decreased;

(iii)- the conservation organization relinquishes to the division all proceeds generated from the re-designated permit, as provided in Subsection (9);

(iv)- the conservation organization and the holder of the permit opportunity execute an affidavit verifying neither is profiting from transferring the right to the permit; and

(v)- the permit has not been issued by the division to the first designated person.

(7)- Within 30 days of the exposition, but no later than May 1 annually, the conservation organization must submit to the division:

(a)- a final report on the distribution of the Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permits;

(b) -the total funds raised on each permit; and

(c) -the funds due to the division.

(8)(a)- Permits shall not be issued until the applicable permit fees are paid to the division.

(b)- If the conservation organization is paying the permit fees for the permit recipient, the

fees must be paid from the 10% retained by the conservation organization as provided in Subsection (9)(b).

(9)(a)(i)- Conservation organizations shall remit to the division 90% of the total revenue generated by the Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permit sales in that year.

(ii)- Failure to remit 90% of the total permit revenue to the division by the August 15 deadline may result in criminal prosecution under Title 76, Chapter 6, Part 4[~~of the Utah Code~~].

(b)- A conservation organization may retain 10% of the revenue generated by the permits for administrative expenses.

(c)- Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permits will be issued under this section and will not be limited by the requirements of Sections R657-41-3 through [R657-41]-8.

(d)- Upon receipt of the permit revenue from the conservation organization, the division will transfer the revenue to the Division of State Parks[~~and Recreation~~], as provided in the cooperative agreement under Subsection (1)(b) between the two divisions.

(10)(a)- Except as otherwise provided under Subsections (5) and (6), neither the conservation organization, successful bidder, successful bidder's assignee, nor the holder of a Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permit voucher may offer for sale, sell, or transfer the rights to that designation to any other person.

(b)- A person cannot obtain a Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permit for a Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep or mule deer and any other permit for a male animal of the same species in the same year.

(c)- The person designated to receive a Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permit must possess or obtain a current Utah hunting or combination license before being issued the permit.

(11) Antelope Island is not an open unit for hunting any species of wildlife authorized by a conservation or sportsman permit, except for the Special Antelope Island State Park Conservation Permits and the Special Antelope Island State Park Limited Entry Permits.

R657-41-14. Violations and Suspension[~~13. Failure to Comply~~].

(1)-The division or the Wildlife Board may suspend [~~or revoke~~] a conservation organization's certificate of registration to participate[~~participation~~] in the Conservation Permit Program under Section 23A-4-1106 and Rule R657-26 if a principal or agent of a participating conservation organization:

(a)- violated any provision of this rule or Title 76, Chapter 6, Part 4[~~a provision of the Utah Criminal Code cited herein~~]; or

(b)- engaged in conduct that results in the conviction of, a plea of no contest to, or a plea held in abeyance to a crime of moral turpitude, or any other crime that when considered with the functions and responsibilities of a participating conservation organization bears a reasonable relationship to their participation in the program.

R657-14-15. Agency Action and Administrative Appeals.

(1) Notwithstanding Section R657-41-14, the[~~—~~ (2) The] procedures [and rules] governing agency[~~any adverse~~] action taken by the division or the Wildlife Board against a certificate of registration or an application for certificate of registration are set forth in Rule R657-2.

(2) An aggrieved party to a final division action under this rule may file a request for agency action with the division under Rule R657-2.

(3) The Director or a designee appointed by the Director shall be the presiding officer for any adjudicative proceedings initiated under this Section.

KEY: -wildlife, wildlife permits

Date of Last Change: -October 1, 2023

Notice of Continuation: -September 8, 2020

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: -23A-2-304; 23A-2-305



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Prepared by:



UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Juab Area Wildlife Management Areas

Habitat Management Plan

Central Region Habitat Section

04/01/2024



Juab Area Wildlife Management Areas

Habitat Management Plan

RDCC Project Number and Submission Date: #85793 January 2024

Habitat Council Review Date: January 25, 2024

RAC Review Date: May ?? 2024

Director's Approval: Date:

DRAFT

Habitat Management Plan for Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in the Juab Area

Executive Summary - April 2024

This habitat management plan (HMP) contains the following sections:

- **Background information** (purpose of Division ownership, public recreation opportunities, historic uses, key wildlife species, etc.)
- **Property information** (property description, acquisition history, encumbrances, etc.)
- **Property inventory** (capital improvements, existing habitats, etc.)
- **Management goals and objectives**
- **Strategies for property management**
- **Strategies for habitat management**
- **Appendices** contain location maps of the WMAs and an access plan which explains public access opportunities.

There are seven properties covered in this Habitat Management plan totaling 16,008 acres. The WMAs were originally purchased for big game habitat values. As a result, mule deer and elk are the primary beneficiaries of the WMA, especially during winter months when they come down from higher elevation summer ranges on Mount Nebo to winter.

This HMP provides management direction to Utah Division of Wildlife Resources personnel for the WMA contained herein. Listed below is a short summary of the contents of the HMP.

PRIMARY PURPOSE OF WMAS: To preserve and protect big game winter and transitional range and reduce depredation by deer and elk on surrounding private lands.

WILDLIFE SPECIES: The WMAs contain habitat for the following wildlife species: mule deer, elk, rocky mountain bighorn sheep, black-tailed jackrabbit, golden eagle, bear, cougar, and coyote. A variety of upland game species also inhabit these WMAs including chukar partridge, dusky grouse, Rio Grande turkey, cottontail rabbit, and mourning dove. Neotropical migratory birds can also be found in sagebrush and mountain brush habitats during their breeding and nesting seasons in spring and early summer months.

SPECIES OF GREATEST CONSERVATION NEED: There are SGCN animal species that inhabit habitats in and around these WMAs including Golden eagle, swainson's hawk, lewis woodpecker, Long billed curlew, rubber boa and Western milksnake. There are 2 sensitive plants that are found on a couple of WMAs in this plan including tidedstrom beardtongue (*penstemon tidedstromii*) S2S3,G2G3 and kings aster (*tonestus kingii* var. *kingie*) S3G3.

HABITAT CONDITIONS/PROBLEMS: The WMAs contain a variety of habitat types beginning with big sagebrush at the lower elevations, transitioning to gambel oak with sagebrush, then mixed mountain brush and aspen conifer types at the highest elevations. Overall the habitat conditions are in fair to good condition. Big sagebrush densities on some areas of the WMAs have declined over the years primarily due to poor recruitment and competition with perennial and invasive annual grasses and juniper and pinyon pine trees.

The creation of new unauthorized roads and trails on the WMA is an on-going problem that is difficult to control. The Division will work with Juab County, local municipalities and law enforcement

agencies, private landowners, and other state and federal land management agencies to manage OHV activity in a responsible manner that does not negatively impact the WMAs and still allows for management goals to be met. The Division will work with WMA visitors to ensure that all activities are in compliance with administrative rule R-657-28, Use of Division Lands.

ACCESS PLAN: Motorized vehicle traffic will be confined to existing roads and trails. Roads will be maintained as needed to maintain public access. Unauthorized user created roads and trails will be closed and rehabilitated.

MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES: Fence inspection, repairs, replacement, gates, locks, road grading as needed, road closures, boundary signs, entry signs, surveys, and noxious weed control will occur annually. Annual weed control is a priority to keep weeds from expanding.

HISTORY OF WILDFIRES: Fire can have a significant impact on the WMAs and the mule deer carrying capacity due to the destruction of winter forage in the form of big sagebrush and bitterbrush, both of which are not fire tolerant. Several WMAs in this plan have been impacted by wildfires in the past, including the 2007 Salt Creek fire, 2014 Levan fire, 2020 Rocky Ridge and Williams fires.

HABITAT IMPROVEMENT: In order for the WMA to reach its potential as critical big game winter range, browse communities need to be enhanced and protected. The Division may employ a variety of methods to achieve this including prescribed grazing, prescribed burning, reseeding and seedling transplants, and mechanical treatments. Grazing will be utilized as a habitat management tool. High intensity short duration grazing systems during spring and early summer months will be used to improve browse communities for wintering big game. Water developments should only be pursued if they help reach the management objectives of the WMAs. Water developments that would result in big game becoming year-round residents on these important winter ranges should be discouraged. Water development projects that help with the grazing management plan should be pursued.

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DRAFT

Habitat Management Plan for Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in the Juab Area 2024

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

This management plan has been developed to guide management on some of the lands owned by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) in Juab County. There are seven WMAs covered in this Habitat Management plan totaling 16,008 acres. The WMAs were originally purchased for big game habitat values. As a result, mule deer and elk are the primary beneficiaries of the WMA, especially during winter months when they come down from higher elevation summer ranges on Mount Nebo to winter.

PURPOSE OF DIVISION OWNERSHIP

The WMAs in this Habitat Management Plan (HMP) were acquired primarily to protect, preserve, and enhance critical big game winter and transitional ranges. These WMAs can also provide a variety of recreational and access opportunities including hunting, hiking, camping, and limited OHV use, as long as they are compatible with the primary purpose of WMA.

HISTORIC USES

Prior to Division ownership, these WMAs were used primarily for livestock grazing, agriculture and some mineral extraction. Hunting, camping, hiking, off-highway-vehicle (OHV) use, and antler hunting were also common activities.

PUBLIC RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

All activities occurring on Division lands are managed under the direction of the Division's land use rule. Rule R657-28 discusses approved uses, prohibited activities, and the process for applying and receiving the various permits required to use Division lands. The Division will work with WMA visitors to ensure that all activities are in compliance with this rule.

The WMAs in this plan are popular for big game hunting. There are limited opportunities for upland game hunting as well as hunting and trapping for mountain lions and furbearer species. Non-consumptive uses include camping, hiking, horseback riding, and wildlife viewing. Open fires will be allowed on the WMA, but this activity is subject to state and federal policies and guidelines including closures during high risk fire season.

Seasonal closures will be implemented on all Division roads for all motorized vehicle access on the Juab county WMAs from December 1 to April 30. See the access plan in Appendix B for maps of authorized roads. Seasonal closures are used to protect wildlife, wildlife habitat, and wintering big game animals from disturbance during critical winter months and to preserve habitats from being negatively impacted during wet, winter months.

PUBLIC ACCESS

Currently there are abundant opportunities for access to the WMAs. Motorized access is limited to authorized routes as shown on the unit access maps in Appendix B. At the present time there are seasonal restrictions on motorized access from December 1 to April 30. Additional information on public access and motorized vehicle use on the WMA can be found in the access management plan which is included as Appendix B.

CAMPING

Camping is permitted on the WMAs and unless posted otherwise, is limited to 14 days as noted in Rule R657-28-4(1) I. The Division reserves the right to change the length of camping stays if needed to reach the goals and objectives of the habitat management plan. Any changes in camping regulations will be posted.

CAMPFIRES

Open fires will be allowed, but this activity is subject to state and federal policies and guidelines, including closures during high-risk fire seasons. Non-combustible materials cannot be used in the building of fires and must be removed. The Division reserves the right to ban open fires on the WMAs if needed to protect valuable wildlife habitat on the WMAs and adjacent private and municipal lands. The Division may also restrict open fires to designated areas if the use of open fires becomes a management problem.

OHV USE

OHV use is permitted, but is restricted to authorized roads and trails (see Appendix B, Access Management Plan). Some of the WMAs have been impacted by motorized recreation resulting in the creation of numerous unauthorized roads/trails. Regional personnel annually work to close and rehabilitate unauthorized roads/trails in an attempt to preserve and protect wildlife habitat. These efforts will not be successful unless WMA visitors adhere to the Division's OHV and motorized vehicle rules by staying on authorized roads and trails.

KEY WILDLIFE SPECIES

As previously described, the WMAs contained in this HMP were originally purchased for big game habitat values, primarily for mule deer. As such, mule deer and elk are the primary beneficiaries, especially during winter months.

A variety of upland game species also inhabit the WMAs, including dusky grouse, Rio Grande wild turkey, cottontail rabbit, and mourning dove. Neotropical migratory birds can also be found in sagebrush and mountain brush habitats during their breeding and nesting seasons in spring and early summer months.

The WMAs are also home to numerous other species at some time during the year, including black bear, mountain lion, fur bearers (bobcat), upland game (chukar, dove, cottontail, etc.), raptors, neotropical migratory birds, and various small mammals.

GRAZING

Grazing is used as a management tool to enhance wildlife habitat, primarily big game winter range. Grazing can help the Division achieve wildlife habitat goals by reducing fire danger and releasing browse species to provide winter forage for big game. The Livestock Grazing Plan' is included on page 21 of this HMP and outlines specific grazing activities and a complete grazing schedule.

II. PROPERTY INFORMATION

PROPERTY DESCRIPTIONS

This Habitat Management Plan (HMP) includes seven (7) Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) totaling approximately 16,008 acres. The WMAs include the following: Santaquin, West Hills, Mona Bench, Salt Creek, Triangle Ranch, Levan and Deep Creek. All of the WMAs presented here occur in Juab County with the exception of the northern third of the Santaquin WMA and portions of the West Hills WMA which are in Utah County.

The WMAs contained in this HMP are fee title lands owned by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) acquired with the cooperation of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal Aid Division. Copies of deeds for the WMAs can be found in either UDWR's Salt Lake Office, 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, UT, 84114 or the Central Region office at 1115 North Main Street, Springville, UT, 84601.

Santaquin WMA

The Santaquin WMA is the largest WMA in this plan, consisting of 4,851 acres. It occurs on the east side of Interstate 15 from Santaquin Canyon on the north end and continues four miles south to Wash canyon. The northern 1,819 acres of this WMA occurs in Utah County. The elevation ranges from 5,000 feet near I-15 on the west side of the property to 7,765 feet on the southeast portion of the WMA. Habitat ranges from lowland and mountain big sagebrush habitats on the west with increasing juniper and pinyon to the east and north. Curlleaf mahogany and bigtooth maple habitats can be found scattered through the center of the WMA at mid elevations. Rocky mountain gambel oak-mixed mountain shrubland is more prominent in the higher elevations to the southeast. At the highest elevations on the southeast corner of the property there are some aspen and mixed conifer woodlands.

The legal description is; Township 10S, Range 1E, Sections 12-14, 23-27, 33-36 and Township 11S, Range 1E, section 3, which may or may not include all of the sections listed. The property was purchased from several landowners beginning in 1970 and ending in 1989. See appendix C for a detailed description of land acquisition.

An active surface calcite mine can be found on the SE ¼ of SE ¼ of section 14, and NE ¼ of NE ¼ of section 23, T 10S, R 1E. This mine has been in operation since the 1950s and provides calcite minerals for various uses including chicken feed supplements. This mine existed before the DWR acquired the WMA and the owner retained the mineral rights when the property was sold to the Division. The operators of the mine have an active permit with the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining of the Department of Natural Resources.

West Hills WMA

The West Hills WMA consists of 754 acres which occurs along the top of the ridge on the west side of the Juab Valley, south of Rocky Ridge and north of Mona reservoir. This narrow property straddles the Utah and Juab County line with 192 acres occurring in Utah County and 562 acres in Juab County. Elevations range from 5,000 feet on the northeast near Rocky Ridge to a high point of 5,977 feet on the southwest. Habitat consists of inter-mountain basin montane sagebrush steppe with scattered patches of juniper woodlands. Most of the juniper has been affected by past wildfires leaving dead standing trees.

The legal description is; Township 10S, Range 1E, Sections 21, 28, 29-31. Only portions of these sections are owned by the DWR. All of the property was acquired from the Nature Conservancy in 1985. See appendix C for a list of parcel information.

Mona Bench WMA

The Mona Bench WMA occurs on the east side of Interstate 15. It is a long narrow rectangular strip of critical big game winter habitat a little over 4 miles long and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile in width in most places. The property sits at the base of Mount Nebo with the east border of the WMA adjacent to the Mount Nebo wilderness area. Elevation ranges from 5,000 feet on the west side of the WMA near I-15 to a high of 7,600 feet on the southeast corner. Habitats include lowland sagebrush on the lower elevations with a mixture of patchy gambel oakbrush and mountain big sagebrush farther east.

There are five isolated smaller parcels that are included with this WMA ranging in size from 2.5 acres to 80 acres. The Legal description is; Township 11S, Range 1E, Sections 10, 15, 22, 27, 28, 34, which may or may not include all of the sections listed. A 2.5 acre isolated parcel is located in section 21. Three isolated parcels of 5.5, 10 and 41 acres occur in Township 12S, Range 1E, Sections 4, 5, and 9.

Nephi Canyon WMA

This WMA consists of 5 different properties that occur on the north side of Nephi Canyon totaling 2,078 acres. The western 4 parcels have also been called the Salt Creek WMA and the parcel farthest east was previously called the Hop Creek WMA. To avoid confusion with another Salt Creek in the DWR's Northern Region, these properties will now collectively be called the Nephi Canyon WMA.

Elevations range from 5,200 feet on the northwest side of the WMA near I-15 to a high of 7,400 feet on the east side of the northernmost parcel which borders the Mount Nebo Wilderness area. There is some lowland sagebrush habitat on the lowest elevations of the WMA. Mountain big sagebrush habitat is the most abundant type with some gambel oak mixed montane shrubland at the higher elevations.

Three parcels of land totaling 1,221 acres were acquired in 1975 and 1976 from the Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act of June 24, 1926 (44 Stat. 741). The legal description of these parcels is, Township 12 S, Range 1 E., Section 25, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 26, N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$, Section 27, N $\frac{1}{2}$, NE $\frac{1}{2}$, Section 28, lots 1,2 4, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$. Section 35, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

SE ½. Township 13S Range 1E Section 2, N ½ NW ¼, NW ½, Section 3, NE ¼ NE ¼.
Township 13S Range 2E Section 6. N ½ N ½ .

The 733 acre Hop Creek parcel on the west side was acquired from James and Alvaretta Bean from Nephi in 1967. The legal description of the Hop creek parcel is Township 13S, Range 3E section 3: Lot 4, SW ¼, NW ¼, W ½ SW ¼ 160.64 acres. Section 4: Lots 1-4, S ½ NE ¼, 521 acres. Section 9: NW ¼ NE ¼ 40 acres.

The 120 acre parcel on the east side near Interstate 15 was acquired from Preston and Helen Jones of Nephi in 1955. The legal description of this parcel is Lots 2, 3 and 4, Township 13S, R1E Section 34. See appendix C for more information on acquisition history on this property and others in this plan.

Triangle Ranch WMA

The 4,805 acre Triangle Ranch WMA is located just east of the town of Nephi and south of highway 132 that runs east up Salt creek or Nephi canyon. This large WMA ranges in elevation from approximately 5,500 feet on the far west side and increases in elevation to nearly 7,500 feet as you travel east toward the San Pitch Mountains. Sagebrush habitats are found at the lower elevations transitioning to pinyon and juniper woodlands and mixed mountain shrubland farther east with some mixed aspen conifer habitat at the highest elevation on the southeast corner of the WMA.

The Legal description is; Township 13S, Range 1E, Sections 3 and 10-15 which may or may not include all of the sections listed. Most of the Triangle Ranch property was purchased from Triangle Ranch Inc. in 1968. A 120 acre parcel from section 15 was acquired from the Bureau of Land Management in 1976 under the provisions of the Recreation and Public Purposes Act.

Levan WMA

The Levan WMA contains 2,875 acres on the east side of the Juab valley about 6 miles south of the town of Nephi and about 2 miles northeast of Levan. Elevation ranges from 5,500 ft on the west side to nearly 6,700 feet at the highest point on the far east side of the property. This WMA consists of some old rangeland pastures on the west side of the property with a mixture of perennial grasses and sagebrush. Mountain big sagebrush and juniper-pinyon woodlands are abundant as you go east with gambel oak mixed montane shrubland at the higher elevations on the east side of the property.

The Legal description is; Township 14S, Range 1E, Sections 16, 17, 20-23 and 28 which may or may not include all of the sections listed. The Levan WMA property was purchased from several different landowners starting in 1946 and ending in 1978. See appendix C for more detailed information on acquisition history and encumbrances.

Deep Creek WMA

Deep Creek WMA contains 1,196 acres of land about 2 miles south of the town of Levan and east of highway 28. Elevation varies from approximately 5,300 feet near the highway to 6,200 feet about 1 mile away on the eastern edge of the WMA. The west side of the property consists of lowland and mountain sagebrush habitat with scattered juniper trees. Slopes steepen a

quarter to a half mile east of highway 28 and consists of mostly juniper and pinyon woodlands with some gambel oak habitats at the higher elevations on the southeast portion of the WMA.

The Legal description is; Township 15S, Range 1E, Sections 6, 7 and 18 which may or may not include all of the sections listed. A small portion of the WMA occurs in Township 15S, Range 1W Sections 13 and 24. The property was purchased in several pieces primarily from the Ferrell Wankier family from 1974 to 1988. See appendix C for more detailed information on acquisition history and encumbrances.

LAND ACQUISITION HISTORY

The WMAs contained in this HMP were primarily acquired through federal aid programs with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

- Project W-118-L: North Nebo Big Game Winter Range project, Santaquin, Mona Bench, West Hills, and Nephi Canyon WMAs.

Because federal funds were used in the acquisition of these properties, the Division is required to comply with all USFWS requirements, which includes the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) guidelines when considering actions that could affect the environment. The DWR may not dispose of any portion of the property without USFWS approval.

Purchasing details for each WMA are included in the previous property description section and in appendix C.

ENCUMBRANCES

The UDWR generally obtained only the surface rights to the lands they acquired. The oil, gas, mineral, coal, and geothermal rights appurtenant to the lands were generally retained by the sellers or grantors of those respective lands, including the State Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA). The sellers or grantors generally also retain the right to lease the rights of egress and ingress for the exploration, development and removal of those minerals. However, the seller or lessee shall compensate UDWR for interference with or damages to UDWR's surface lands which have resulted from activities related to minerals exploration or removal.

Santaquin WMA: J.B. Ranch retained mineral rights, except sand and gravel. They also retained the water rights to an existing well located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 22 T 10S, R 1E.

The State Road Commission has an easement for a drainage facility (.10 acres) also in section 22.

Mineral rights, except sand and gravel, a utility easement for power lines and conduit, and water rights were retained on lands purchased from the Nature Conservancy. Associated with these lands are ponds developed by the Allred family located in the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 34, T 10S R 1E.

The Federal Aviation Administration has an easement for a radio communications link repeater facility located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 22, and part of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 15, T 10S R 1E.

West Hills WMA: This property was acquired from the Nature Conservancy in 1985. They retained all mineral, oil, coal and natural gas but not including sand and gravel.

Mona Bench WMA: Herman Young retained mineral rights, except sand and gravel, and an access easement on the E ½ SW ¼ of section 27, T 11S, R 1E.

Clark Molyneaux and Janice Pritchett retained mineral rights, except sand and gravel in the SW ¼ of NW ¼ of section 34, T 11S, R 1E.

Herman Young has an easement for a 2,206 foot long water line that transports water from a spring in the mouth of Pole canyon across Division land in section 22, T 11S R 1E. Live water is to be made available for wildlife at the spring source.

Wallace Kay has an easement to transport water from a spring in the mouth of Bear Canyon across 2,600 feet of Division land in section 27, T 11S, R 1E.

Nephi Canyon WMA: Most of this WMA was acquired by the Department of Interior who retained all mineral rights and a right-of-way for all ditches and canals.

James and Alvaretta Bean who sold the Division the Hop Creek parcels, retained all mineral rights but not including sand and gravel.

There is an existing power line going through three of the Nephi canyon WMA parcels with right-of-way easements in place. Two new power lines are being built during the next few years which will parallel the existing power line corridor. The Energy Gateway South powerline is beginning in 2023 and the Transwest Express powerline will follow in the near future.

Triangle Ranch WMA: Triangle Ranch Inc. retained all mineral, oil, coal and natural gas except sand and gravel.

Levan WMA: Charles and Emma Mangelson retained all mineral, oil, coal and natural gas except sand and gravel. Farrel and Deanna Wankier retained all mineral, oil and natural gas rights. The property purchased from the State of Utah retained a right-of-way for roads, ditches, canals, or transmission lines existing on the property.

Deep Creek WMA: Ferrel Wankler SR and Jr retained all mineral, oil and gas rights but not sand and gravel. Lois Brough, Golden and Romaine Mangelson retain all mineral and oil rights.

See appendix C for a detailed description of property acquisition history and encumbrances.

III. PROPERTY INVENTORY

EXISTING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Most of the existing improvements on the WMAs include roads, fences, cattle guards and guzzlers. Roads and fences are maintained on an annual basis or as needed. Guzzlers that collect water for wildlife use have also been constructed on some of the WMAs in this plan. See the Access Management plan in appendix B for maps showing roads and fences on these properties.

ROADS

Santaquin WMA: This WMA contains a paved county road on the north end of the property that goes up Santaquin Canyon. Another dirt county road further south goes up Pole Canyon and crosses the WMA before ending on private property. A dirt road enters the WMA farther south on the west side of the property that is maintained by the county. On the south end of the WMA is another dirt road that accesses Forest Service property on the east side of the WMA. See the access management plan for detailed maps of the roads and designations on the WMA. These County roads are open year-round. Other roads and trails on the WMA are closed to motorized vehicles from December 1st until April 30th. A few roads on the WMA are restricted to administrative access only.

West Hills WMA: This property has a few primitive dirt roads that were most likely user created before DWR ownership. There is a road that goes down the ridge top from the north end of the property most of the way to the southern end. The steep terrain prevents motorized access on much of the property. Access to the road system requires traveling across private property.

Mona Bench WMA: There is a dirt County road crossing the north portion of the WMA that accesses Mona Pole Canyon and Forest Service land. There are only a few primitive roads on the rest of this property.

Nephi Canyon WMA: The parcels that makeup this WMA are isolated and mostly in difficult terrain. There are a few primitive roads and tracks on two of the 4 parcels. The coming power lines will be creating some new roads on 4 of the 5 parcels making up the Nephi Canyon WMA. These roads will be open temporarily during construction.

Triangle Ranch WMA: There is only 1 main road on this WMA and a few primitive user created ATV trails on the southwestern part of the property.

Levan WMA: There is an improved County dirt road that traverses the WMA on the west side of the property. The dirt road on the southwest half of the property was improved after the DWR purchased the property to allow trucks to move material to highway 28 without the need to drive these trucks through the town of Levan. There are a few other unimproved dirt roads on the property.

Deep Creek WMA: There is an improved County dirt road traversing the south portion of the WMA. This road travels up Deep Creek onto U. S. Forest property that borders the Deep Creek WMA on the east side. There is one other dirt County road on the far southwest side of the property. The only other roads on the property are a couple of short administrative access only roads on the northwest side of the WMA.

FENCES

Most of the WMAs in this plan have various amounts of mostly property boundary fencing. These fences are of various ages and conditions. Boundary fences are mostly 4 strand wildlife friendly barbwire type fencing with the top wire no more than 42 inches from the ground to allow easier crossing by big game animals.

GUZZLERS

Guzzlers are devices that capture rainwater and store it for use by wildlife. There are guzzlers located on some of the WMAs in this plan. Guzzler locations are not public information and not shown on any maps. This is primarily to protect these structures from human disturbance, vandalism and hunting pressure. Guzzlers are of 2 types, smaller 300 to 500 gallon upland game guzzlers and larger 1,800 gallon big game guzzlers. There are a combination of these types of guzzlers on some of the WMAs in this plan.

HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Other improvements include habitat improvement projects which are mentioned here. See the following table for information about projects that have occurred on the WMAs of this HMP. These projects can be found on the WRI database (wri.utah.gov) which includes details of the projects, budgets, funding sources and photos.

Juab County WMAs Habitat Improvement Projects				
Project no.	Project Name	Year	Treatment Type	Acres
271	Levan WMA Habitat Improvement	2007	Lop & Scatter	700
322	San Pitch CWMA Noxious Weed Inventory	2007	Weed inventory	5,000
970	Salt Creek Fire Wildfire Rehabilitation - DWR Lands	2007	Aerial seeding and chaining	1,150
1303	Santaquin WMA Wildfire Rehab Project	2008	Harrow and seeding	76
3192	Levan Fire Rehailitation	2014	Aerial seeding and chaining	1,023
3228	Santaquin WUI	2016	Bullhog	512
3447	Triangle Ranch WMA Bullhog project	2016	Bullhog	300
3894	Santaquin WMA Winter Range Enhancement	2019	Shrub seedling planting	20
3954	Levan WMA Bullhog	2019	Bullhog	709
5279	Central Region Shrub Restoration Project FY-21	2021	Shrub seedling planting	20
5524	Williams Fire Rehabilitation Project	2020	Aerial seeding fire scar	618
5562	Santaquin and Mona Benches WMA Shrub Restoration	2021	Shrub seedling planting	20
5734	Levan WMA Shrub Planting Project FY-22	2021	Shrub seedling planting	20
5863	Triangle Rance WMA Boss Tank Guzzler Project	2022	Guzzler	1
5955	Levan WMA Shrub Planting Project FY-23	2022	Shrub seedling planting	20
			Total	10,189

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Numerous historic and prehistoric sites have been identified in and around the WMAs in this HMP. Caution should be used before any ground disturbing activities are planned or approved within any of the properties to ensure that cultural resources are adequately identified and avoidance measures are taken.

SPECIES OF GREATEST CONSERVATION NEED

A search of the Division's Natural Heritage database resulted in the following species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) which are found on or in close proximity to the WMAs in this HMP.

PLANTS

Kings aster (*Tonestus kingii* var. *kingie*) S3G3 was found on the Mona bench WMA at the mouth of Bear Canyon. Tidestrom Beardtongue (*Penstemon tidestromii*) S2S3,G2G3 was found on the Triangle Ranch WMA.

BIRDS

Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos* S4, G5) nests have been found on the Deep Creek WMA just north of Deep Creek. There are also several golden eagle nest locations just south of the Levan WMA in and around Chicken and Pigeon Creeks. Swainson's hawks (*Buteo swainsoni* S3B, G5) have been identified just west of the Mona Bench WMA. Lewis woodpeckers (*Melanerpes lewis* S3, G4) have been found just east of the Nephi canyon WMAs and long billed curlew (*Numenius americanus* S3B, G5) occur just west of the Levan WMA.

REPTILES

Western milk snakes (*Lampropeltis gentilis* S3, G5) and rubber boa have been found just east of the Santaquin WMA.

IMPORTANT FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITATS

All seven of the WMAs covered in this plan are primarily classified as winter and winter/spring range for mule deer and elk. The aspect of most of these properties is generally west and south. The Santaquin, Mona bench, Nephi Canyon and Triangle Ranch WMAs are bordered on the west by the I-15 freeway. This concentrates wintering big game to a narrow strip of winter range about 1 mile or less wide as they are prevented from moving west of the freeway corridor.

The upper elevations also provide important transition habitat for big game traveling to and from winter ranges. Mammalian carnivores, primarily mountain lions, also frequent the WMAs in winter months as they follow annual winter migrations of big game herds. The vegetation zones occupied by sagebrush and other mountain browse species provide important breeding and nesting habitats for neotropical migratory birds.

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF HABITATS

HABITAT TYPES

Most of the WMAs consist of mountain big sagebrush/grass and mixed oak/sagebrush habitat types with increasing amounts of mountain shrubland at higher elevations. The lower elevation sagebrush habitats are generally in poor condition and contain various amounts of encroaching juniper and pinyon trees. Occasional wildfires have also affected sagebrush habitats on the Santaquin, Mona Bench, West Hills, Nephi Canyon and Deep creek WMAs. See table below for fire information affecting these WMAs. Also see page 9 for information on fire rehabilitation projects completed on some of these fires.

WMA	Fire	year	Acres
Nephi Canyon	Salt Creek Fire	2007	733
Deep Creek	Levan Fire	2014	675
Santaquin	Williams Fire	2020	1139
Mona Bench	Williams Fire	2020	201
West Hills	Rocky Ridge Fire	2020	237

Habitat treatments are necessary to improve these habitats and maintain the sagebrush types vital for wintering big game animals. Mountain shrub habitats are also numerous on the WMAs at higher elevations. These habitat types are generally stable and in good condition.

RANGE AND WATERSHED CONDITIONS

The Division's Big Game Range Trend Studies program monitors big game habitat conditions statewide by sampling permanently placed vegetation transects established in key areas. Transects are read on a 5-year rotational schedule based upon the Division's five administrative regions. There are 12 Range Trend study sites on or adjacent to the Santaquin, Mona Bench, Nephi Canyon, Triangle Ranch, Levan and Deep Creek WMAs. The following list contains each study by name and study number.

- Santaquin Bench 16A-2
- Santaquin Hill 16A-3
- Steele Ranch 16A-13
- North Canyon 16A-10
- Willow Creek 16A-7
- Birch Creek 16A-9
- Gardner Canyon 16A-8
- Hop Creek Browse 16A-6
- Triangle Ranch 16A-20
- Levan North 16A-22
- Chicken Creek 16A-17
- Deep Creek 16A-18

The Range Trend study sites were established in 1989 and reread in 1997, 2002, 2007, 2012, 2017 and 2022. Statewide range trend data and digital photographs for specific sites can be

found at the following web address: <https://wildlife.utah.gov/range-trends.html>

HABITAT LIMITATIONS

Healthy sagebrush is limited on some of the WMAs. In most areas, pinyon and juniper tree encroachment and loss of shrubs to wildfire are the primary problems. Keeping sagebrush stands healthy will be a key goal in managing these properties into the future. Livestock grazing is used as a tool to improve the health of sagebrush stands on the Santaquin, Mona Bench and Levan WMAs. However, cattle grazing will not address conifer invasion. Mechanical treatments will need to be an ongoing aspect of habitat management on these properties.

A more detailed discussion of these limitations and their associated solutions can be found in the habitat improvement section of this HMP.

HUMAN USE - RELATED PROBLEMS

The WMAs in this plan are used by the public for recreation and hunting. Unauthorized activities do occur on the WMAs and often create conflicts between users and place a heavy maintenance burden on the Division. While public recreation is encouraged, use of these lands by the public must be conducive to the purpose for which these parcels were acquired and should not become barriers to the Division being able to reach the management goals and strategies presented in this HMP.

MOTORIZED VEHICLES

The WMAs receive significant motorized vehicle use, especially from OHVs. While this is an approved activity, OHV and motorcycle use of the WMA needs to be closely managed. See Appendix B for the Access Management Plan and access maps for each property. Unmanaged motorized vehicle traffic, especially during winter and spring months, has resulted in degradation of access roads and critical habitats and fragmentation of crucial big game winter ranges. The Division will work with Utah/Juab County, local municipalities, law enforcement agencies, private landowners, OHV groups, and other state and federal land management agencies to manage OHV activity in a responsible manner that maintains public access to the WMAs, while helping the Division achieve its management objectives.

TARGET SHOOTING

Target shooting is a problem on some of the WMAs in this plan, particularly the Santaquin WMA. Target shooting on the northwest part of the WMA started causing problems with the housing development adjacent to the WMA and to the north. Houses were being impacted with stray bullets. The City of Santaquin and the DWR worked together to close this area to shooting. See shooting closure map in appendix B.

Farther south in the Steele Ranch area of the WMA target shooting is also popular, especially long range shooting. The DWR does not prohibit this activity but it is not something that is encouraged. Too much shooting activity is a safety problem and not conducive to the primary purpose of the WMA to protect big game winter range and wintering animals. Shooting in this area has caused damage to the power lines running south and has resulted in three fires on the WMA. Trash from targets, brass, and spent shotgun shells are also a problem in this area

requiring annual trash pickup. Shooting at signs, kiosks, gates and fences is another problem requiring annual maintenance of this infrastructure. DWR may close this area to shooting if these problems get worse. DWR is working with the city of Santaquin and Utah County on finding a solution to this problem in the form of a dedicated shooting range somewhere in the south end of Utah County. The Division is supportive of a dedicated shooting range in southern Utah County but will not entertain the idea of placing it on DWR property.

LITTERING

Littering and trash dumping is a problem in certain areas of the WMAs. Littering and dumping of all forms of trash, including yard waste, is prohibited on the WMAs. The prohibition of littering will be enforced. The Division will work to adequately sign the WMA to inform the public that littering and dumping of garbage is prohibited and encourage better stewardship of these important areas for wildlife.

CAMPING

Most camping that occurs on the WMA is related to big game hunting. Camping is limited to 14 consecutive days unless otherwise posted and/or a special use permit has been obtained from the Division authorizing a different term.

ADJACENT LAND USES AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Some of the lands adjacent to the WMA are privately held agricultural lands, county/municipal lands or National Forest lands within the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. Big game depredation on adjacent private agricultural lands is a problem in some areas. Continued growth in the Mona area may place increasing market pressures for private landowners to sell land for housing developments in the future.

ZONING AND LAND USE ORDINANCES

The northern portion of the Santaquin WMA in this plan falls into the Critical Environmental 1 zone which is defined by Utah County as:

The CE-1 Critical Environmental Zone covers the canyon, mountain, riparian and other areas of environmental concern in Utah County. Land within the zone is native pasture, watershed, and wildlife habitat, and is a pass-through area for roads and utilities. It is also the source of wildfires, flooding, avalanche, and is the water recharge area for the culinary aquifers used by the cities, and is the range essential to wildlife. Maintenance of the scenic quality of the mountain environment is important to promote tourism.

The northern portion of the West Hills WMA are within the Mining and Grazing 1 zone which is defined by Utah County as:

The M&G-1 Mining and Grazing Zone covers the dry mountain and desert areas of the county. Limitations imposed by climate, topography, soil capability, inadequate water supply, and the presence of economically significant mineral deposits has identified this zone as a place for the grazing of livestock on the open range, the mining of earth products, and the location of activities and industrial operations which are not appropriate near urban centers.

The proposed management of the WMAs does not conflict with the zoning ordinances established by Utah County.

Most of the WMAs in this plan occur within Juab County and generally fall into the Grazing, Mining, Recreation, and Forestry District GMRF-1 which limits what types of structures may be built on this type of property.

IV. MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The management of these WMAs will take into account the goals, objectives, and strategies of other Division planning efforts. These other plans are briefly discussed below.

UDWR Strategic Plan

Maintain existing wildlife habitat and increase the quality of critical habitats and watersheds throughout the state.

The management of the WMAs in this plan has relevance to the following goals and objectives outlined in the Division's most current strategic plan:

Resource Goal: Conserve, enhance and actively manage Utah's protected wildlife populations.

- *Objective R1: Increase, decrease or maintain wildlife populations, as needed, to meet the objectives in our management plans.*
- *Objective R2: Maintain existing wildlife habitat and increase the quality of critical habitats and watersheds throughout the state.*
- *Objective R5: Conduct management work to help prevent species of concern from being federally listed as threatened or endangered, and work to delist those species that are currently listed.*
- *Objective R7: Decrease the number of wildlife-related incidents — including property damage, crop depredation and threatened or endangered species listings — that negatively affect private property owners.*

Constituency Goal: Strengthen support for wildlife management by demonstrating the value and importance of wildlife to all Utahans'.

- *Objective C6: Increase hunting and fishing opportunities.*

These goals and objectives will be achieved through a variety of measures specified in the property and habitat management sections of this plan and include development and maintenance activities, habitat improvements, access management and fire management. Current and future partnerships and cooperative efforts will also aid the Division in addressing and reaching these goals and objectives. Examples of this are the Division's participation in local Coordinated Weed Management Area's (CWMA's) and watershed planning committees.

WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN

The 2015-2025 edition of the Utah Wildlife Action Plan (WAP) was created with the express purpose and goal of managing native wildlife species and their habitats to help prevent listings under the Endangered Species Act. To help achieve this goal, the WAP provides a statewide approach for the partnership-based, coordinated planning and implementation of wildlife and habitat conservation practices. The WAP addresses the following elements:

- Conservation targets include: species of greatest conservation need, and those species' key habitats; information about the status and distribution of these species; information about the location and condition of these key habitats.
- Threats and limiting factors facing these species and habitats, and research required to help managers more effectively address these problems. Threats are measured and prioritized on a statewide basis, based on how many targets they impact, and how severely the targets are impacted.
- Conservation actions required to abate the highest-priority threats, and improve the supply of these limiting factors.
- Monitoring the status of these targets, and in particular the effectiveness of these actions.
- Approaches for including the public, partners, and stakeholders, in consideration of the mission and authority of partners.
- Provisions for coordinating the WAP with other natural resource management plans.

WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN KEY HABITATS

The Utah Wildlife Action Plan identifies several key terrestrial habitats that occur on the WMAs in this plan. The WAP includes a statewide threat assessment which identifies threats to each key habitat and then ranks the impact of that threat (scope and severity (S&S) according to the number of species of greatest conservation need that could be affected from that threat. These key habitats and their priority threats include:

- Low Sagebrush: The lower elevations of the WMAs in this plan contain scattered pockets of low sagebrush habitats, specifically Inter-Mountain Basins Big Sagebrush Shrubland.
- Mountain Big Sagebrush: Mountain big sagebrush habitats on the Juab County WMAs are widespread areas and often interspersed with invading juniper and pinyon trees before transitioning into the gambel oak type at high elevations. The dominant type consists of Inter-Mountain Basin Montane Sagebrush Steppe - mountain sagebrush type. These types are key to providing browse forage for wintering big game animals on the WMAs.
 - Priority threats include:
 - Roads - transportation network (medium)
 - Droughts (high)
 - Inappropriate fire frequency and intensity (medium)
 - Problematic plant species native upland (very high)
 - Improper grazing - current (high)
 - Improper grazing - historic (very high)
 - Problematic plant species – non-native (medium)
 - Seeding non-native plants (medium)
 - Utility and service lines (low)
 - OHV motorized recreation impact (low)
- Gambel Oak: Gambel oak type habitats are common on the properties consisting primarily of the Rocky Mountain gambel oak - mixed montane shrubland - patchy and continuous types. There are small areas of the Rocky Mountain gambel oak - mixed montane shrubland - patchy type on the southern portion of the Levan WMA.
 - Priority threats include:

- Invasive Plant Species – Non-native (medium)
 - Inappropriate fire frequency and intensity (high)
- **Mountain Shrub:** Mountain shrub key habitats on the WMAs in this plan are commonly found on the higher elevations of the Santaquin, Mona Bench, Nephi Canyon and Triangle Ranch WMAs and consist of Inter-Mountain Basins curl-leaf mountain mahogany woodland and Rocky Mountain Bigtooth Maple ravine woodland habitats. This habitat includes some species which resprout after fires, while other species do not resprout.
 - Priority threats include:
 - Invasive Plant Species – Non-native (medium)
 - Seeding non-native plants (medium).
- **Aspen Conifer:** Aspen conifer key habitats occur in isolated areas on the highest elevations of the Santaquin, Mona Bench and Triangle Ranch WMAs. These habitats consist primarily of Rocky Mountain aspen forest and woodland, and Intermountain basin aspen-mixed conifer forest and woodland - low elevation.
 - Priority threats include:
 - Problematic insects - native (high)
 - Inappropriate fire frequency and intensity (very high)
 - Drought (medium)
 - Problematic animal species - native (medium)
 - Improper grazing (current) (high)
 - Improper grazing (historic) (very high)

The Juab County WMAs HMP process is used to address wildlife species and habitats found on these WMAs by including their needs in management activities. This aligns well with the intent of the WAP, which identifies specific management actions that can be taken to reduce priority threats to these species and habitats.

One of the intentions of the WAP in identifying these habitats is that local-area management efforts can better focus actions on those specific habitats where actions can have the most benefit for species of greatest conservation need. Management of the WMAs attempts to address threats to these habitats to the extent possible, by managing for a diverse range of habitats in various successional stages which maintain and benefit the wide variety of wildlife species found on the property.

UNIT MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR WILDLIFE SPECIES

Most of the WMAs in this HMP lie within the boundaries of wildlife management unit 16, Central Mountains. The West Hills WMA lies to the west of Interstate 15 and is within the wildlife management unit 19C - West Desert, Tintic. Elk and deer management plans were completed for this unit in 2016 and 2015 respectively for WMU 16. The management of the WMA will address the limiting factors and habitat needs identified in those plans and seek to implement habitat management strategies that are needed to reach population objectives. Revisions to these plans are typically done every 5 years, and will be incorporated into the management of the WMA as needed. Current deer and elk management plans can be found on the DWR website at the following web address: <https://wildlife.utah.gov/>. In the search window type in deer and elk plans for wildlife management unit 16.

V. STRATEGIES FOR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The Division will maintain existing capital improvements on the WMAs. The WMAs have established boundaries and fences that are maintained regularly. Surveys will be completed where boundary disputes occur and fences will be constructed to establish legal boundaries. Where fences are in disrepair replacement fences will be constructed. Property boundaries are signed and additional signage identifying road closures, rehabilitation areas, etc. will be placed as needed. Perennial water sources are limited. Water development projects that would improve the Division's capacity to adequately administer a grazing program on the WMA should be pursued. Unauthorized roads and trails will be closed and rehabilitated. Authorized roads will be signed and maintained to ensure access and safety to the public.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES:

- Establish property boundary
 - Maintain fencing to delineate WMA boundaries,
 - Resolve existing trespass issues, both livestock and human, with neighbors,
 - Install structures and signs to reduce and prevent vehicle trespass and damage to the WMA,
- Signage
 - Establish information kiosks at entry points to the WMAs,
 - Install signs relating to harassment of wildlife,
 - Sign authorized motorized vehicle routes,
 - Sign unauthorized trails/roads and explain closures and rehabilitation efforts,
 - Identify WMA boundaries with fences and/or property boundary signage,
 - Maintain seasonal closure signs,
- Public access
 - Work with agencies and adjacent landowners to prepare access plans or agreements that enhance wildlife habitat, range conditions, escape opportunities for big game, hunting opportunities and that reduce trespass from unauthorized vehicles. Such plans or agreements may emphasize a mix of permanent and seasonal road closures and vehicle type restrictions.

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

Assessments by Division personnel will be made annually, and a maintenance budget will be requested for the following types of activities:

- Inspect boundaries and fences and repair as needed to prevent unauthorized access into additional areas, especially by ATVs,
- Road maintenance/closures: Maintain existing roads and road closures to protect habitat and minimize abuse. Maintain close relationship with adjacent private landowners and Utah & Juab County's on access agreements and issues,
- Parking areas: Monitor and maintain parking areas including gates, signs and fencing to facilitate non-motorized access to the WMA,
- Noxious weed control:
 - Implement an integrated weed management program using herbicide

applications and biological controls. This will include an annual inventory of known infestations, the documentation of new infestations and chemical applications in these areas. Target species include whitetop, thistles and squarrose knapweed. If available, biological controls will be used where appropriate to help control musk thistle.

- Monitor for dyers woad, which is found in the area and may invade the WMAs in the future.
- Work cooperatively with the Utah and Juab County's and Forest Service weed crews to address weed infestations.
- Sign replacement: Annual inspection and replacement of missing or vandalized signs. Maintain main entrance signs to identify ownership; utilize additional signs for WMA restrictions and problems.

VI. STRATEGIES FOR HABITAT MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UNIT PLANS FOR WILDLIFE SPECIES

Strategies for habitat management will be consistent with those outlined in the deer and elk management plans for Wildlife Management Unit 16 Central Mountains, previously mentioned. Strategies consistent with the WMAs in this HMP include:

- Continue to improve, protect, and restore sagebrush steppe habitats critical to deer. Cooperate with federal land management agencies and private landowners in carrying out habitat improvements such as pinyon-juniper removal, reseeding, controlled burns, grazing management, water developments, etc. on public and private lands. Habitat improvement projects will occur on both winter ranges as well as summer range.
- Manage vehicle access on Division of Wildlife Resources land to limit human disturbance during times of high stress, such as winter and fawning.
- Protect deer winter ranges from wildfire by reseeding burned areas, creating fuel breaks and vegetated green strips and reseed areas dominated by cheatgrass with desirable perennial vegetation.
- Reduce expansion of pinyon-juniper and other woodlands into sagebrush habitats and improve habitats dominated by pinyon-juniper woodlands by completing habitat restoration projects like lop & scatter, bullhog or mastication, and chaining.
- Seek opportunities to increase browse in burned areas of critical winter range.

HABITAT STRATEGIES SPECIFIC TO THE JUAB COUNTY WMAS

- Maintain past pinyon-juniper treatments i.e. chaining, mastication and lop & scatter.
- Maintain sagebrush and mountain shrub habitats by treating phase one and two juniper woodlands on WMAs where possible.
- Utilize targeted grazing to improve the health of sagebrush and bitterbrush and as a fuel load reduction strategy to reduce threats of wildlife,
- Increase preferred shrub populations with targeted planting of shrub seed and seedlings.
- Maintain guzzlers and other water sources and continue to look for available water rights to use on these properties in the future.

HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Specific, detailed habitat improvement plans are beyond the scope of this HMP. However, when needed and as determined by Division personnel, habitat improvement projects will be submitted to the Division's Habitat Council and other potential partners for funding. Habitat improvement project plans will include specific recommendations including treatment methods, seed mixes and a total acreage targeted for treatment.

IMPROVE BROWSE COMMUNITIES

In order for the WMAs to reach their potential as critical big game winter range, browse communities need to be enhanced and improved. The Division will employ a variety of methods to achieve this including prescribed grazing, prescribed burning, reseeding and seedling transplants, and mechanical treatments. Priority areas will include sagebrush-steppe and mountain browse communities.

LIVESTOCK GRAZING AS A MANAGEMENT TOOL

Grazing will be utilized as a habitat management tool. High intensity, short duration grazing systems during spring and early summer months will be used to improve browse communities for wintering big game.

WATER DEVELOPMENTS

Water developments should only be pursued if they help reach the management objectives of the WMA. Water developments that would result in big game becoming year-round residents on these important winter ranges should be discouraged. Water development projects to help with the grazing management plan should be pursued.

ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Access Management Plan for the Juab County WMAs is found in Appendix B.

FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN

All activities dealing with wild and prescribed fire will be coordinated with the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands (DFFSL) according to guidelines established in the Memorandum of Understanding (2005) between DWR and DFFSL. Fire management provisions include:

- When prescribed fire is needed as a habitat management tool, DWR will provide all applicable information to DFFSL to ensure burn plans are complete and submitted by deadlines.
- Wildfires will be aggressively battled at lower elevations in sagebrush habitats to protect the browse communities on crucial winter ranges.
- As needed, green strips will be seeded to reduce the threat and spread of wildfire.
- Hazardous fuels will be reduced in the form of conifer removal or thinning to prevent catastrophic wildfire.

- Open fires are allowed, but cannot be unattended and adequate provisions must be taken to prevent the spread of fire (R657-28). State, federal or local fire restrictions will apply to the WMA when deemed necessary by fire officials and UDWR.
- The use of fireworks and explosives are prohibited on the WMA (R657-28).

WOOD PRODUCTS

The main wood products on these WMAs are juniper posts and firewood. Any wood product is managed according to Administrative Rule R657-28, Use of Division Lands.

LIVESTOCK GRAZING PLAN

Livestock grazing is managed according to Administrative Rule R657-28, Use of Division Lands. Livestock grazing is used as a management tool to reduce fire danger and release browse species for wintering big game. The WMAs will be evaluated by regional personnel and grazed when habitat conditions indicate the need for herbaceous fuel reduction and/or when shrubs show suppression by perennial grasses.

The West Hills WMA has not been officially grazed due to the narrow nature of the property and lack of fencing. Some grazing occurs by neighboring landowners. The Nephi canyon WMA is also not grazed due to lack of fencing and scattered property ownership.

Only the southwestern portion of the Santaquin WMA is grazed. Shrubs on this part of the property are sparse due to the past agricultural practices and wildfire history.

The Mona Bench WMA is grazed by the neighboring landowner's cattle. While a portion of the Triangle Ranch WMA is grazed occasionally by the private landowner to the south in exchange for sportsman access to the WMA.

The Levan WMA is grazed by cattle on most years to improve shrub populations and encourage shrub recruitment. The Deep Creek WMA is grazed occasionally. It has been grazed by sheep and cattle in the past, prior to the 2014 Levan fire that burned the northern two thirds of the WMA. After the burn and seeding of the burn scar, the property is only grazed every few years.

Area	AUMs	Grazing Period
Santaquin	150	May 15 - June 30
Mona Bench	150	May 15 - July 15
Triangle Ranch	100	Occasionally 5/15 - 6/30
Levan	100	May 15 - June 30
Deep Creek	100	Occasionally 5/15 - 6/30

Stocking rates and season of use will be adjusted as needed to obtain desired habitat conditions. Grazing will typically be administered through a high intensity/short duration strategy. Division personnel reserve the right to make changes to stocking rates, season of use and the grazing schedule as needed. The Division also reserves the right to prescription graze the WMAs if needed to reach habitat objectives. Prescribed grazing may result in permits being

issued to a grazer outside of the competitive bid process in order to find willing parties that are able to follow a prescribed grazing plan.

LIVESTOCK TRESPASS

At times, trespass livestock are found on the WMAs due to poor boundary fences and/or gates being left open by WMA visitors. Occurrences of trespass livestock will be handled by Division personnel according to the guidelines outlined in the Division's Land Use, R657-28-10.

VII. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF PROPOSED USES

The primary goals and objectives of the Juab County WMAs presented in this HMP are to preserve, enhance and protect big game winter range and wintering wildlife and reduce deer and elk depredation on surrounding private lands. The Division will allow for and provide wildlife-related recreational activities that are consistent with the goals and purposes for which this WMA was acquired.

VIII. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Regional habitat section personnel, the area wildlife biologist and the district conservation officer will be responsible for monitoring overall effectiveness of the program. Appropriate sections will provide expertise as required. The lead and assistant habitat maintenance specialists will monitor the needs and effectiveness of physical facilities and improvements. Range Trend program personnel will continue to monitor the existing trend studies on a 5-year rotation and will add additional monitoring sites as needed. The regional habitat section will amend this habitat management plan as needed.

IX. Appendices

- Appendix A - Maps
 - A1 - General location and land ownership
 - A2 – Santaquin WMA
 - A3 – West Hills WMA
 - A4 – Mona Bench WMA
 - A5 – Nephi Canyon WMA
 - A6 – Triangle Ranch WMA
 - A7 – Levan WMA
 - A8 – Deep Creek WMA
 - A9 – 2018 Fire Map

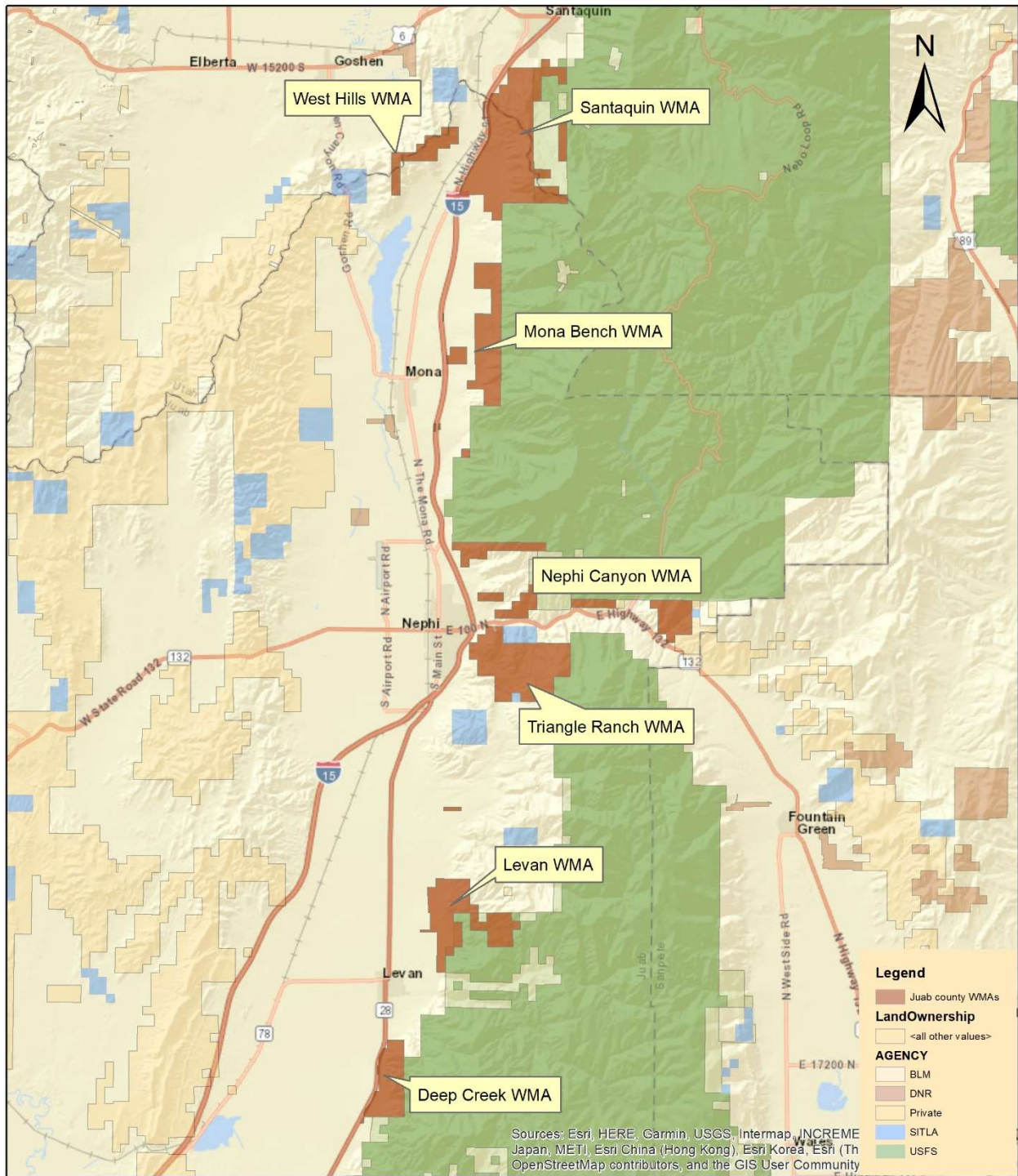
- Appendix B - Access Management Plan and Access Maps of WMAs
 - B1 – Santaquin WMA access map
 - B2 – Santaquin WMA shooting closure map
 - B3 – West Hills WMA access map
 - B4 – Mona Bench WMA access map
 - B5 – Nephi Canyon WMA access map
 - B6 – Triangle Ranch WMA access map
 - B7 – Levan WMA access map
 - B8 – Deep Creek WMA

- Appendix C – WMA parcel information

Appendix A – Maps

Map A-1

Juab County Big Game Winter Range WMAs

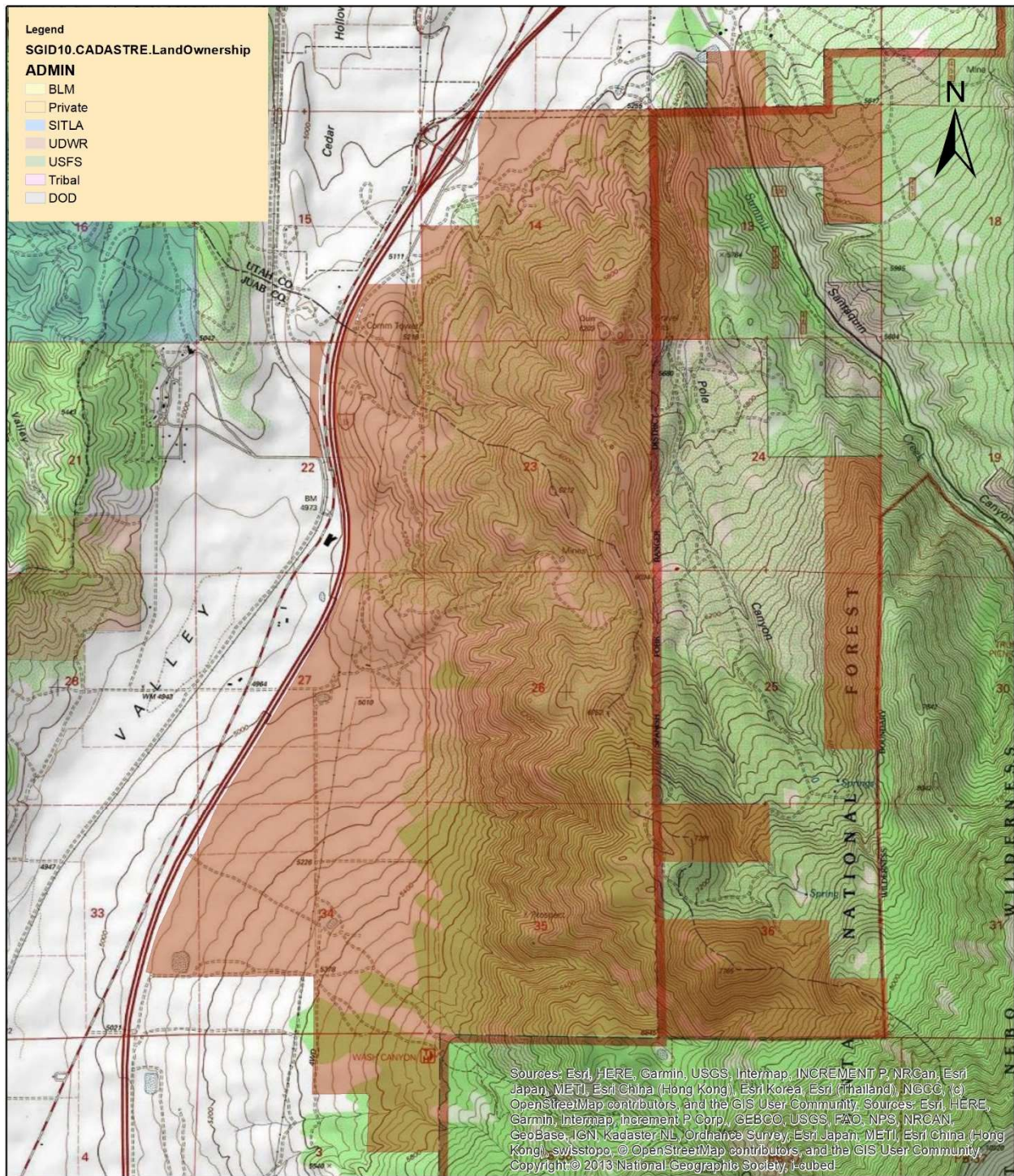


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Map A-2

Santaquin WMA

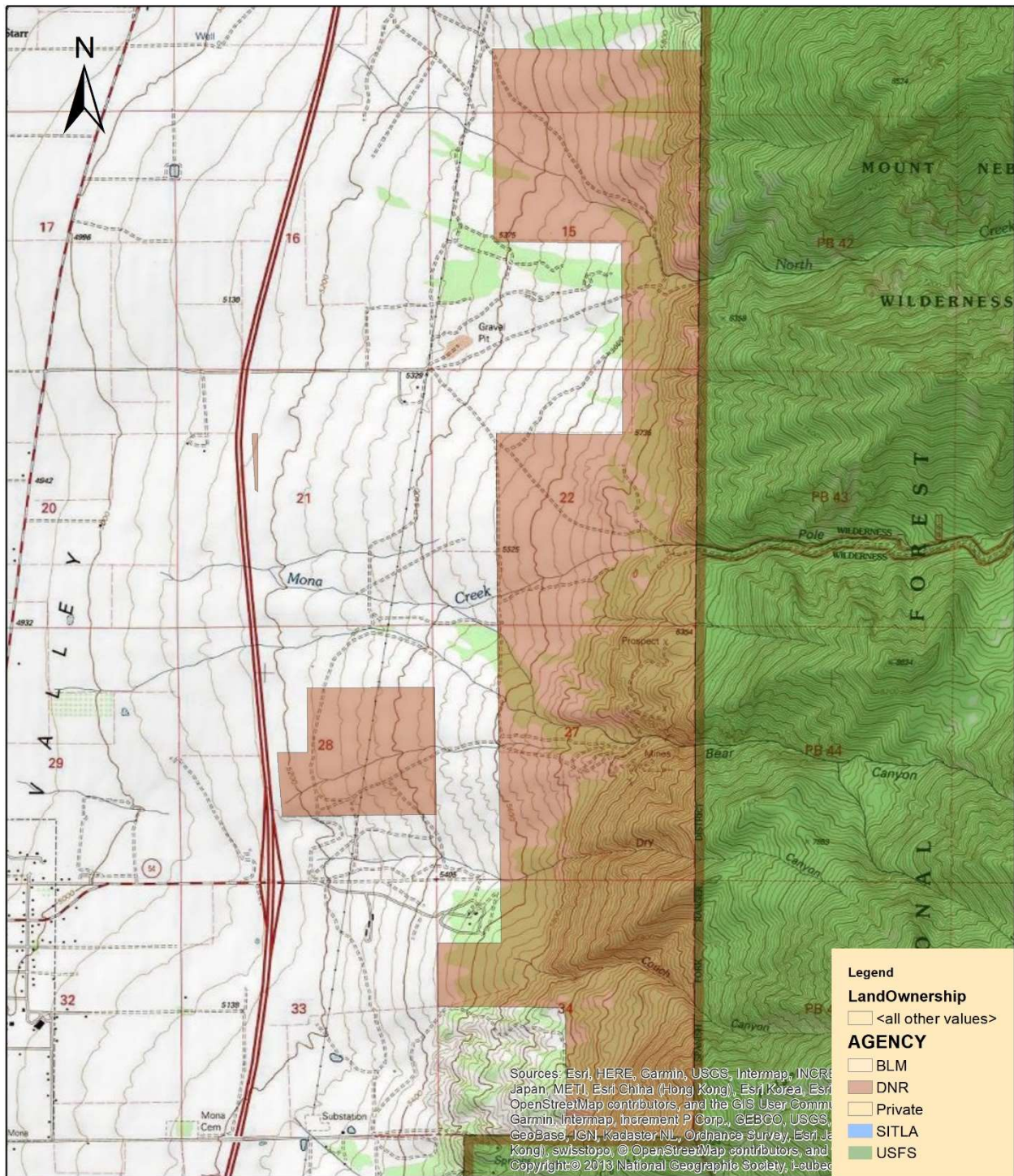


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Map A-4

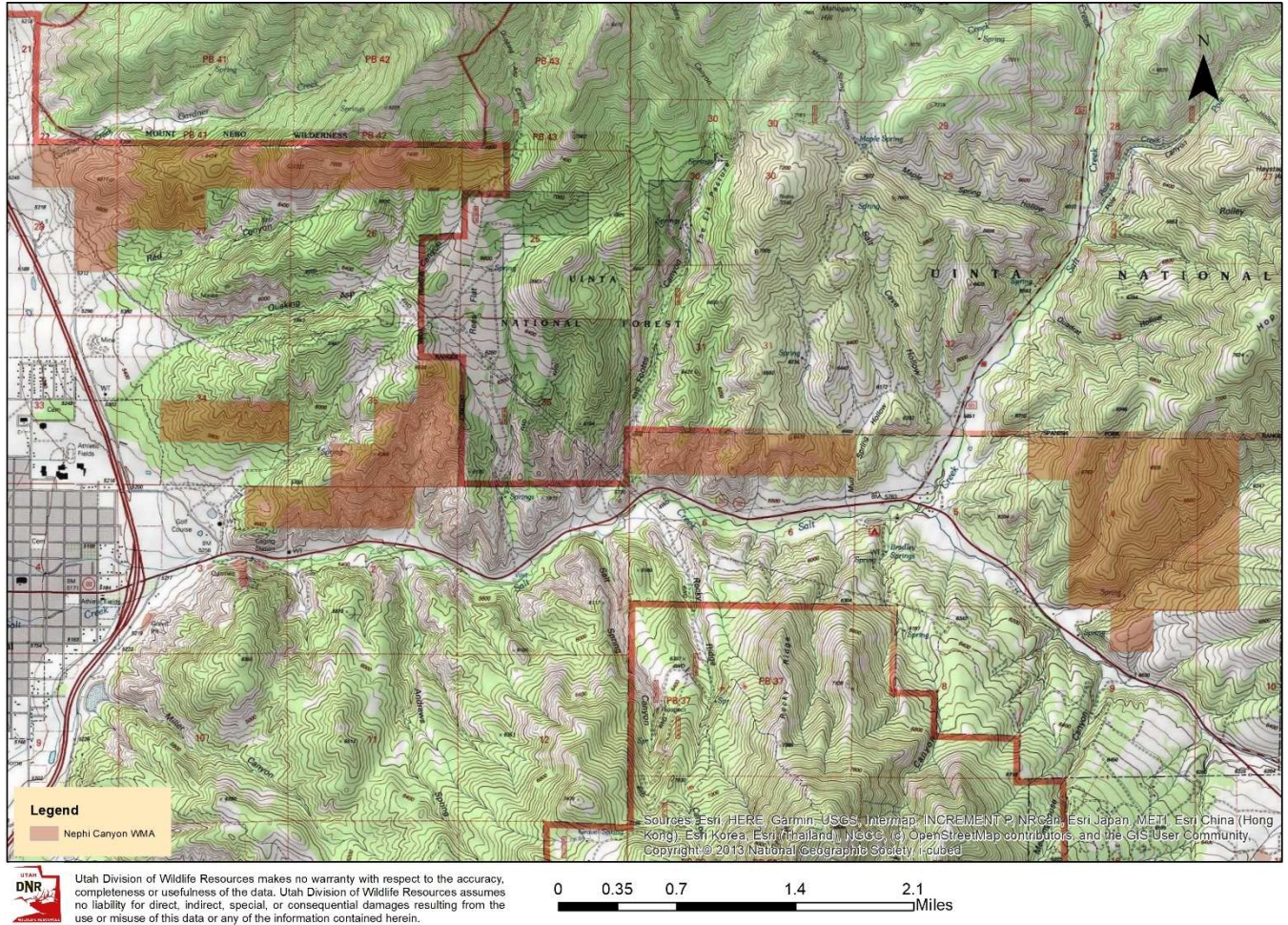
Mona Bench WMA



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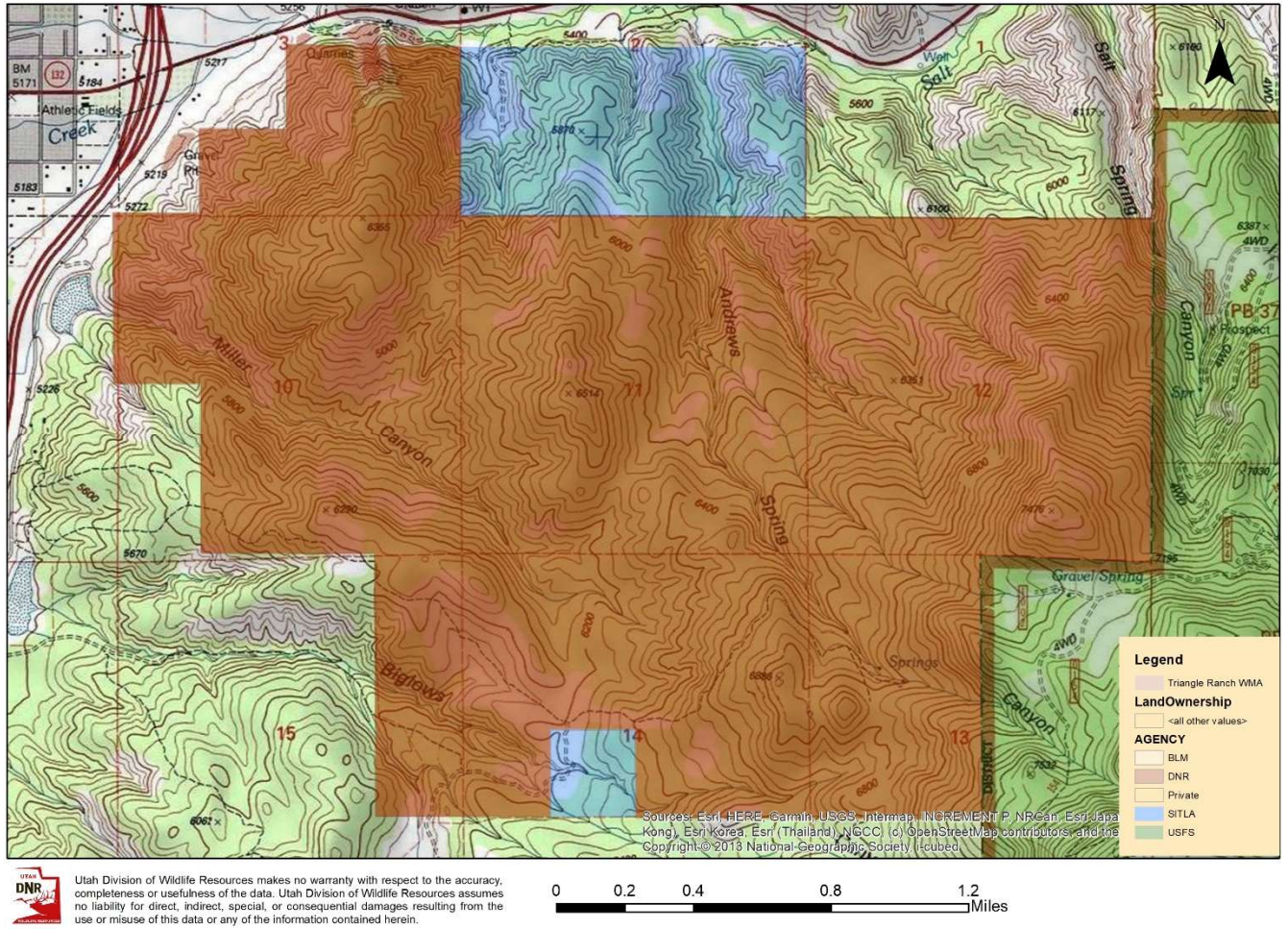


Map A5 - Nephi Canyon WMA



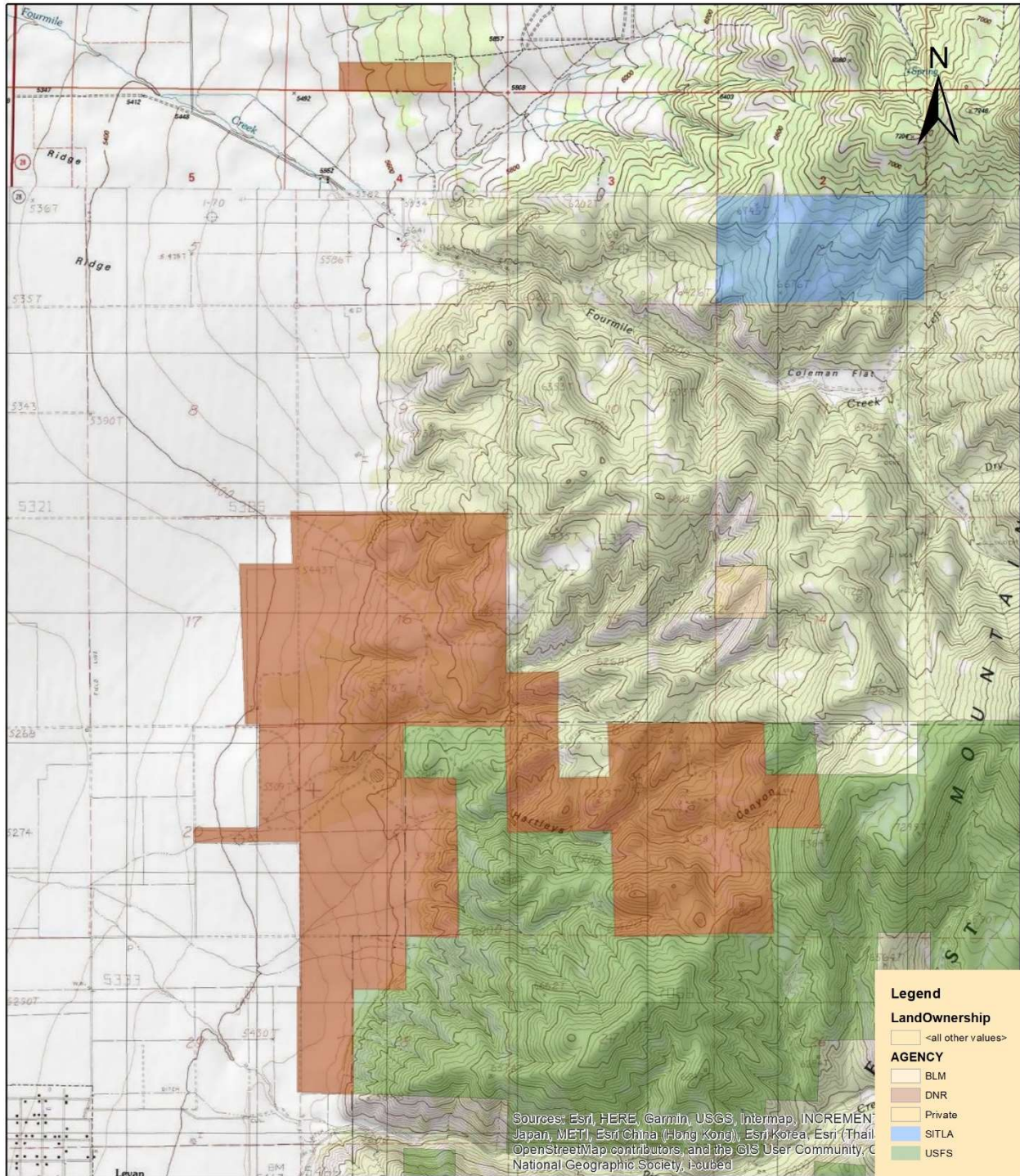
Map A-6

A-6 Triangle Ranch WMA



Map A-7

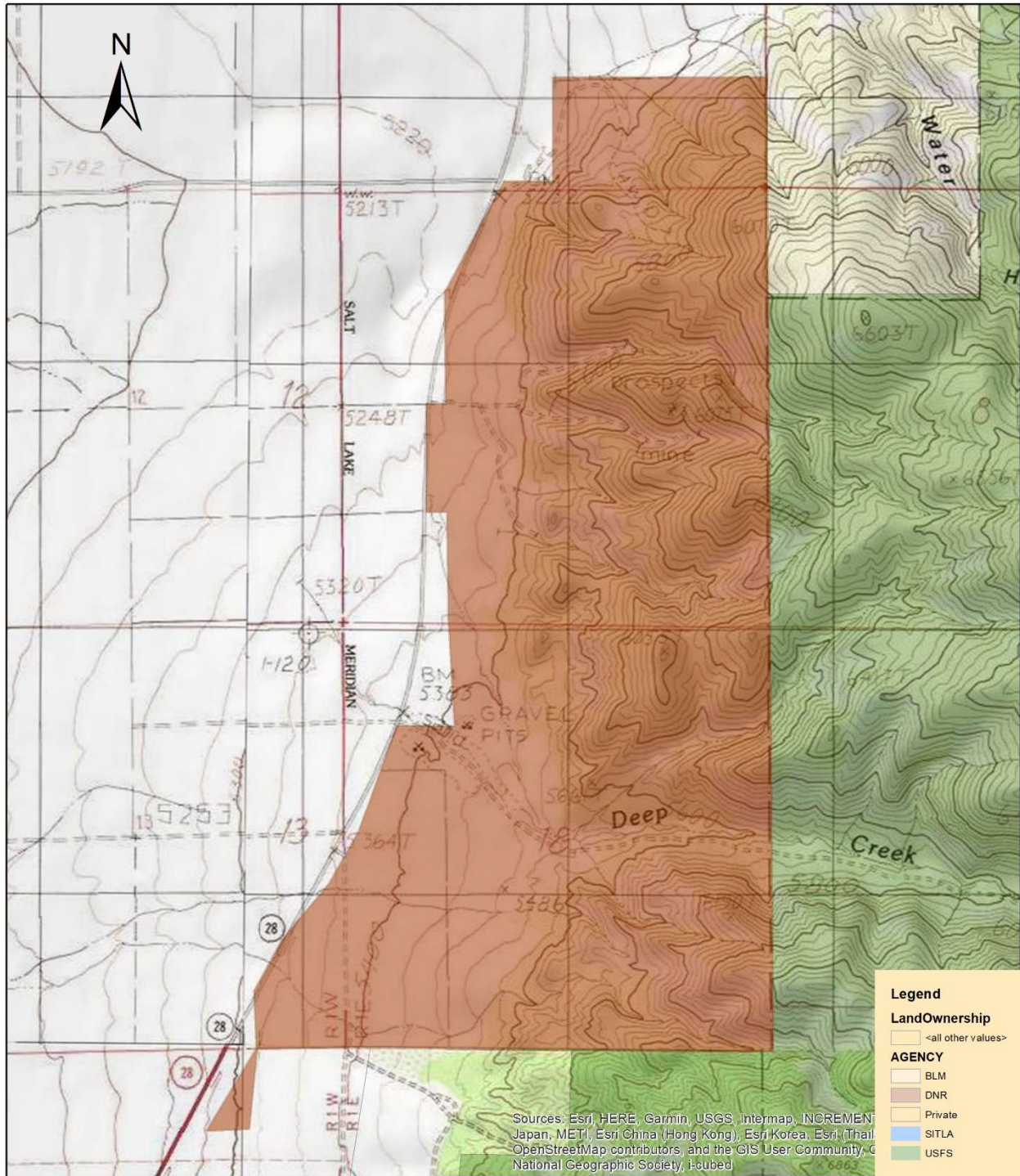
A-7 Levan WMA



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A-8 Deep Creek WMA



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Appendix B – Access Management Plan

ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN – JUAB COUNTY WMAS

PURPOSE

The WMAs contained in this plan were acquired to preserve and protect big game winter range and wintering animals. These lands provide crucial winter and spring habitat for big game in this area. The access management plan will ensure that public access and use of the WMA is done in a manner that assists the Division in achieving the goals and objectives outlined in the habitat management plan.

BACKGROUND

In addition to providing crucial habitat for wintering big game, the Division recognizes the importance of these lands as popular hunting, trapping, and outdoor recreation areas for local residents in Utah and Juab Counties as well as sportsmen statewide. As such, the Division solicited comments for the purpose of including key stakeholder and constituent interests in determining how access should be managed on the WMAs. Some of the WMAs in this plan did not have a winter closure in place in the past. A winter closure for motorized vehicles during the traditional winter period of December 1st through April 30th will be implemented where feasible. Additional seasonal restrictions will be used to address rising public and OHV use as needed.

ROAD DESIGNATION

Roads are typically categorized as one of three types: Open year round, seasonally closed, or permanently closed. Some roads on these WMAs have an additional designation of administrative access only.

OPEN ROADS

These are roads that are open year round due to agreements and/or established rights-of-ways with counties, other agencies, and private landowners with in-holdings to a Division property. Roads that do not occur within crucial habitat and/or do not result in habitat damage may also be left open year round.

SEASONALLY CLOSED ROADS

These are roads that are closed for a portion of the year and are not on established rights-of-way or under an agreement with another entity to be left open year round. Roads that fall within this category are closed to motorized vehicles generally during the winter and early spring. The purpose of seasonally closed roads is to limit disturbance to wintering wildlife, protect sensitive and crucial habitats and to prevent excessive road damage during wet winter and spring months.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACCESS ONLY

These roads are not for public use but were created to access power lines, power poles and other types of infrastructure.

PERMANENTLY CLOSED ROADS

These are roads that serve no useful purpose for management or recreational use and that fragment and damage crucial habitats. User-created roads and trails not authorized by the Division also fit into this category. These roads will be closed using signs, berms, fencing or other means. Where needed, roads may be ripped and seeded. Others will be closed and allowed to return to their natural state.

As needed, seasonal and/or permanent road and trail closures are done under the authority of Administrative Rule R657-28, Use of Division Lands.

GENERAL ACCESS PROVISIONS

Motorized access is restricted to existing roads and trails as authorized by the Division. All authorized roads and trails, including their designation, are shown on the WMA access maps at the end of this plan. Roads and trails not shown on WMA access maps are considered unauthorized. The Division reserves the right to close all unauthorized roads and trails. Authorized travel routes will be signed as open making them easy to distinguish.

Motorized vehicles, including OHV's, are restricted to existing and designated roads (Utah Code Section 41-22-10.1) and this policy will be enforced. Harassment of wildlife or damage to the environment, including abuse of lands, watershed, or impairment of plant or animal life while operating an OHV is illegal (Utah Code Section 41-22-13), and this policy will be enforced. The creation of new roads or trails by unauthorized motorized and non-motorized traffic is prohibited.

The Division cautions against motorized travel on the WMA during extended periods of wet weather. Under these conditions, roads become slick and difficult to navigate and are also easily degraded resulting in permanent damage.

ENFORCEMENT OF ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN

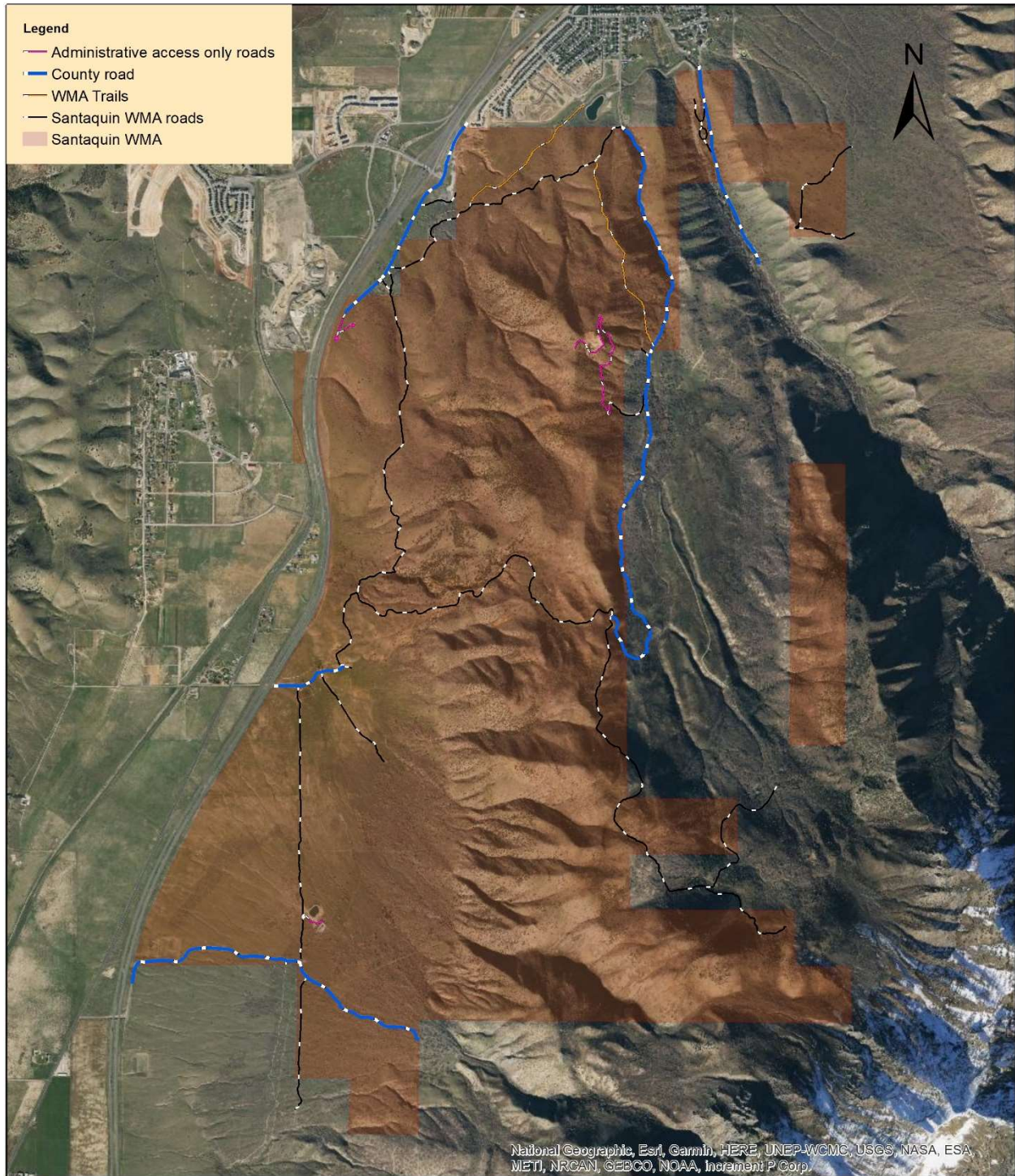
Enforcement of the access management plan will be carried out by Division personnel. However, due to the high amount of public use on the WMAs, the Division will work closely with the county sheriff's office and other local law enforcement agencies to keep motorized vehicle travel on authorized travel routes.

Division personnel will inform the public of the access plan by adequately signing access points, roads and trails, parking areas, and fence lines. In addition, media coverage may be used to disseminate information regarding the access plan and how it relates to the overall goals and objectives of the WMA contained in this plan. Seasonal closures or other issues relating to access will also be included in hunting proclamations published annually by the Division.

The Division will work with local municipalities, the county, and other state and federal Agencies to coordinate access and travel plans that are consistent with other planning efforts.

Map B-1

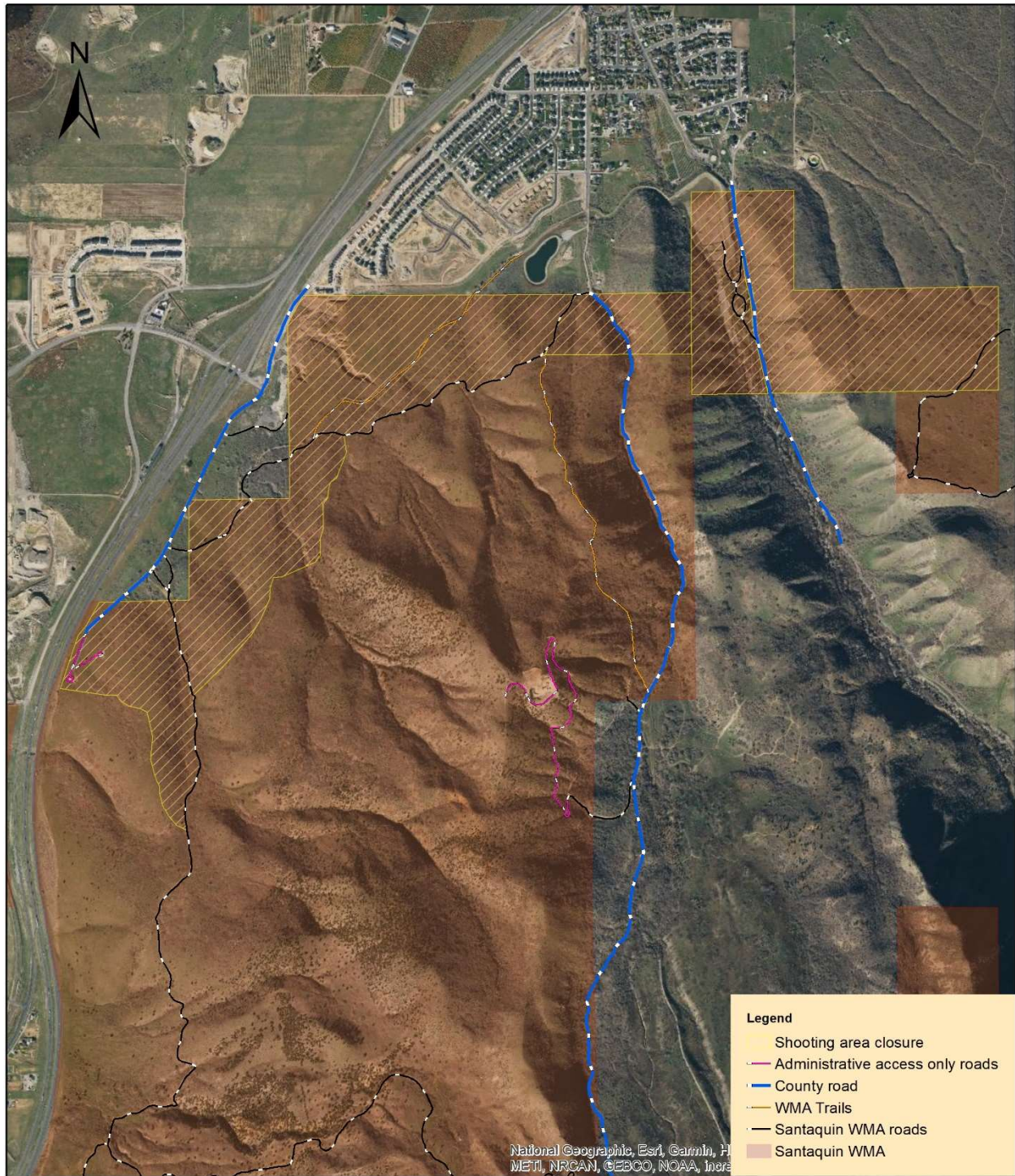
Santaquin WMA



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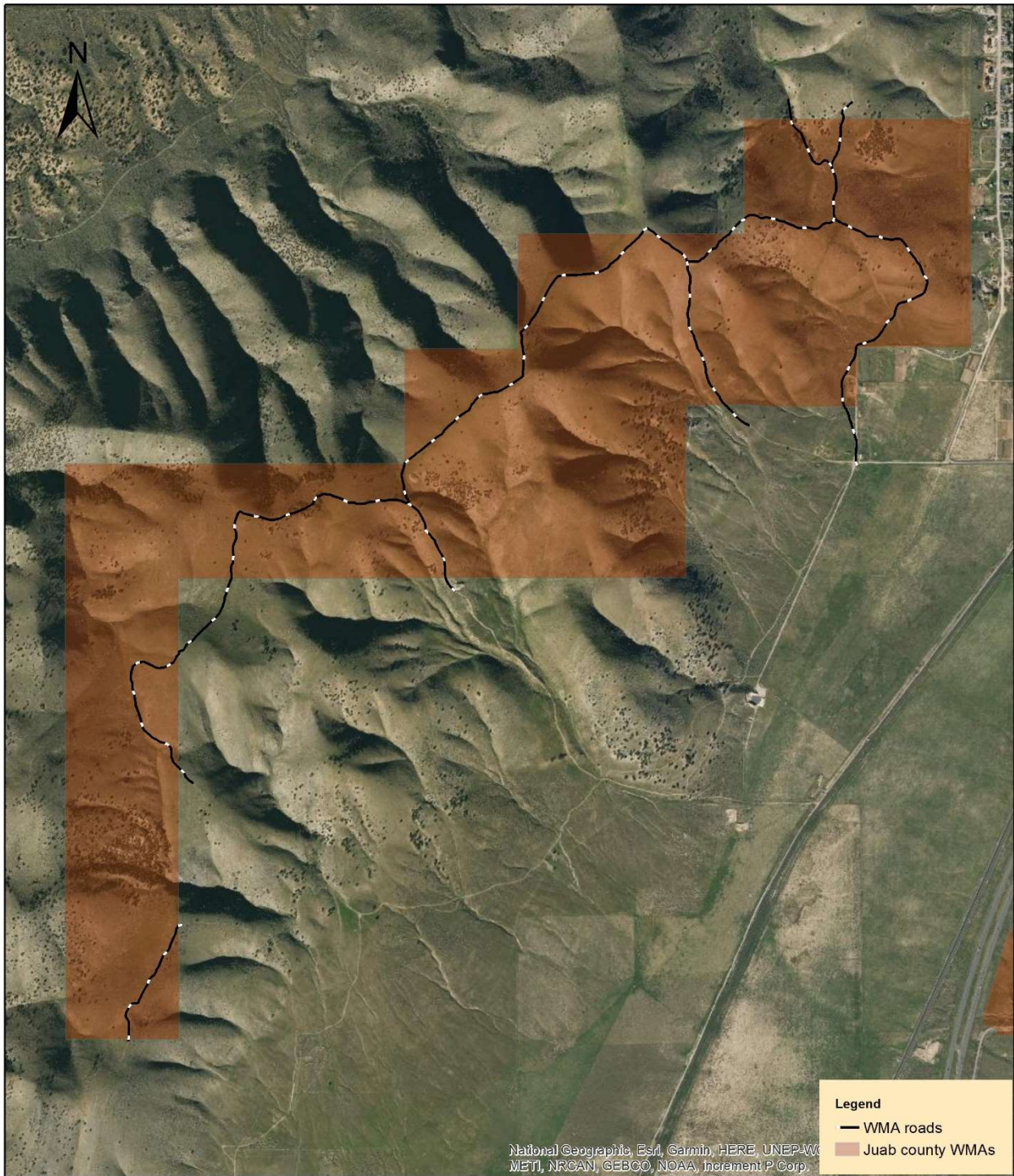
Santaquin WMA - North Shooting Closure Map



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West Hills WMA

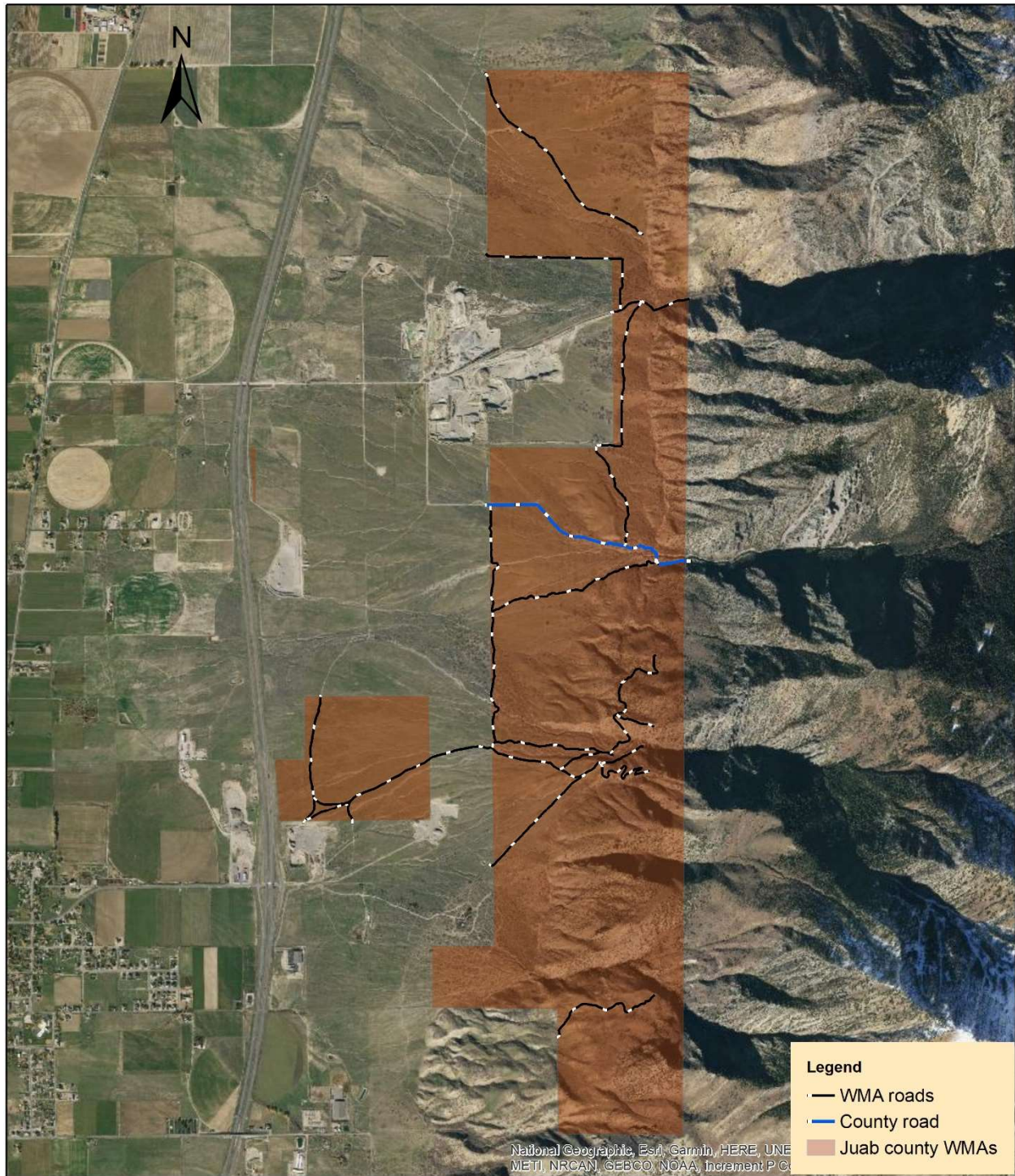


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Map B-4

Mona Bench WMA

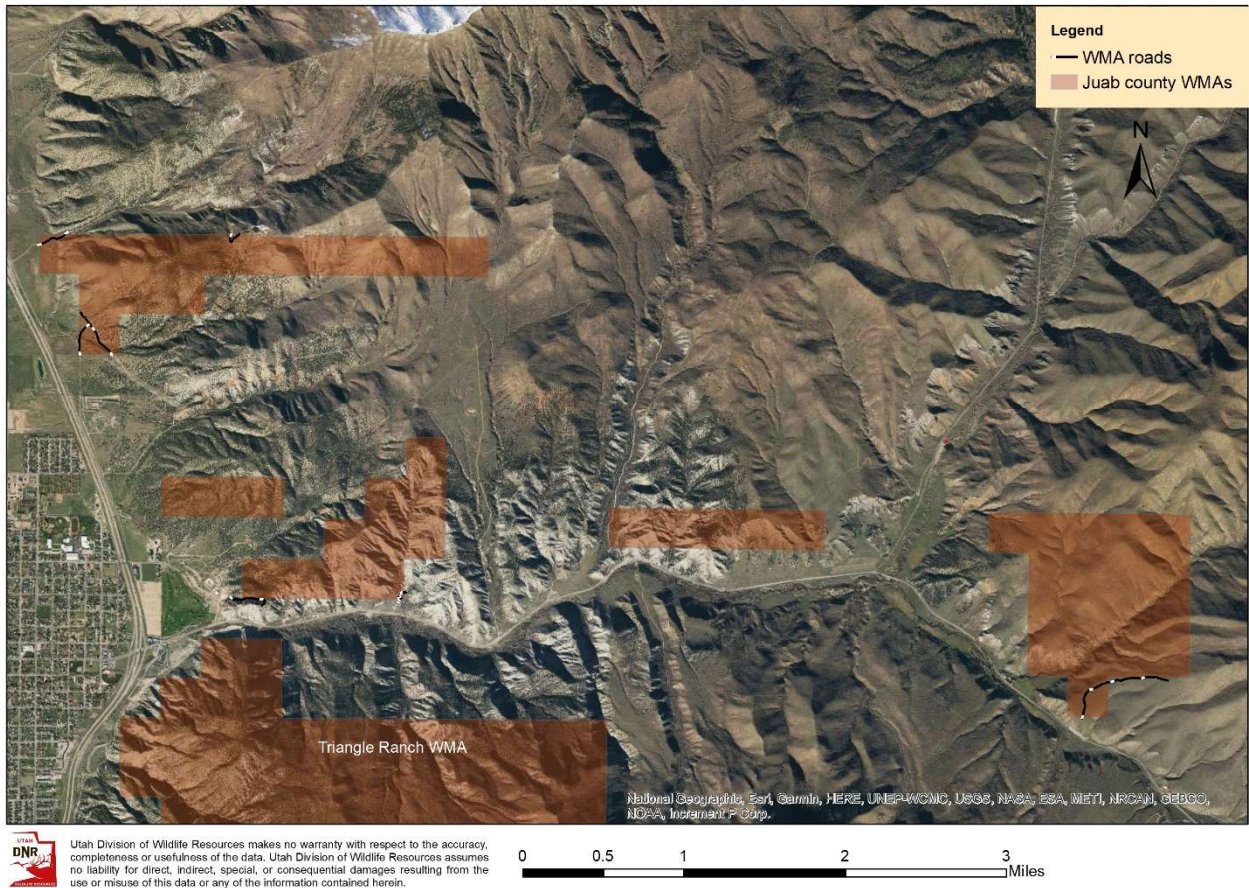


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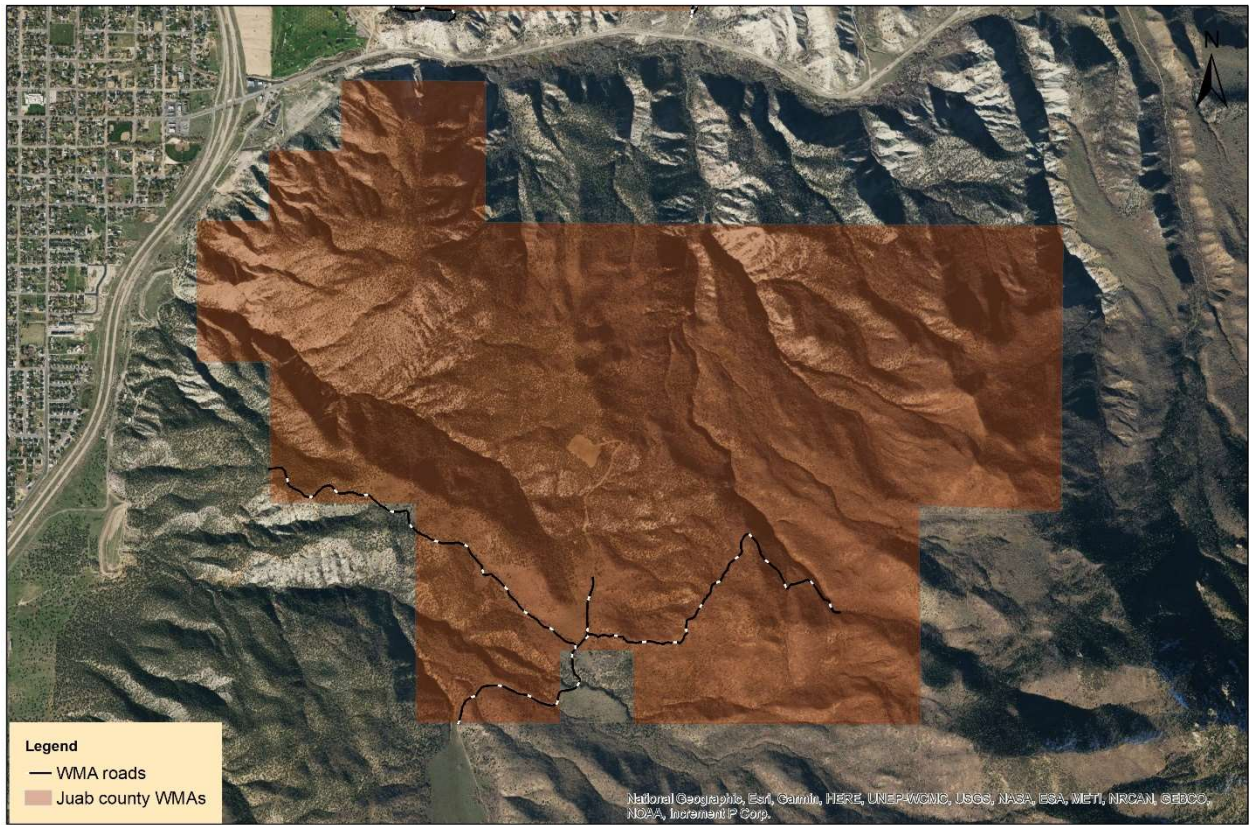
Map B-5

Nephi Canyon WMA



Map B-6

Triangle Ranch WMA



Legend
— WMA roads
■ Juab county WMAs

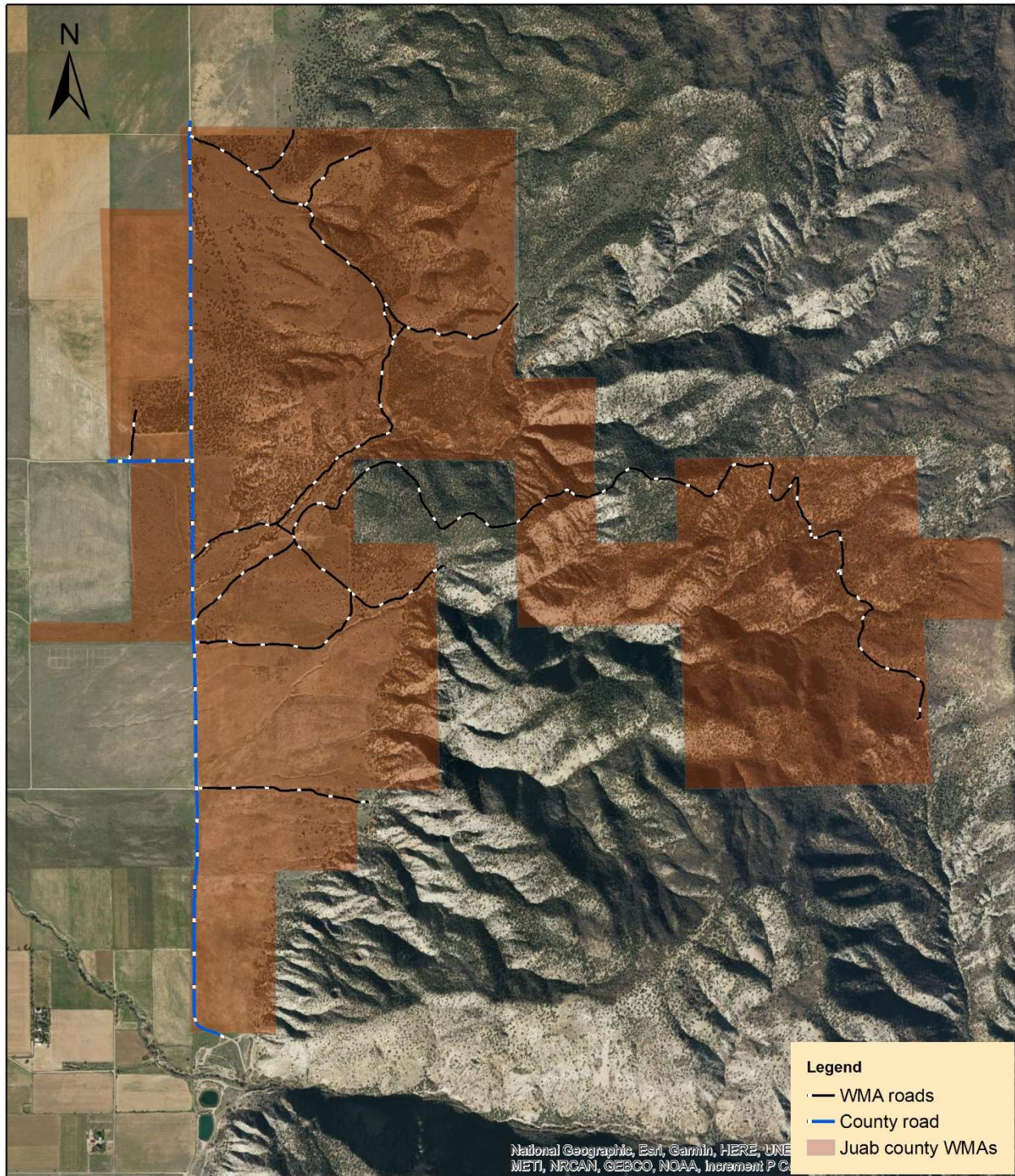
National Geographic, Esri, Garmin, HERE, UNEP/AONAS, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, SwatchNgor



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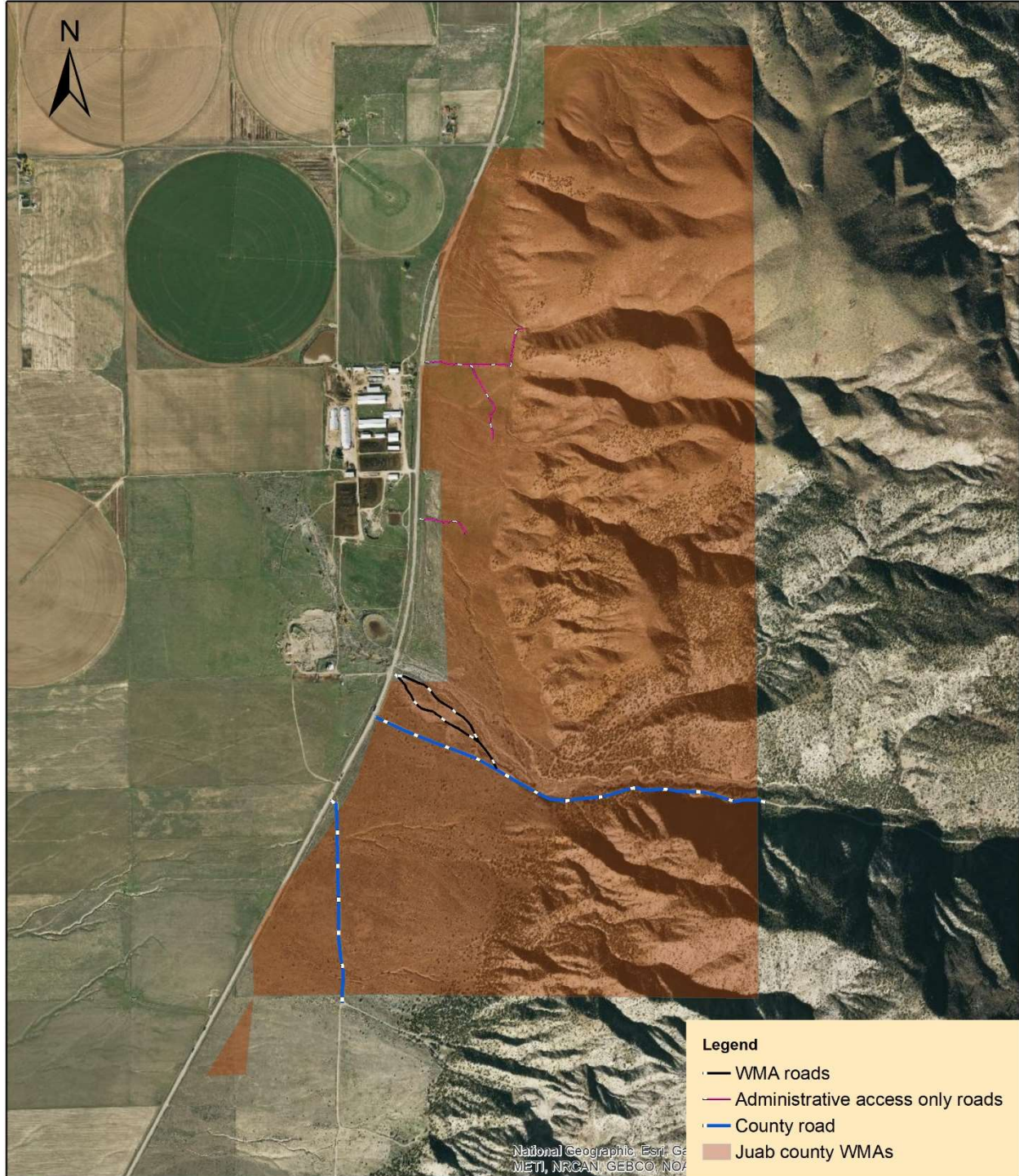
Levan WMA




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Deep Creek WMA



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Appendix C – Parcel Acquisition History

Juab County WMAs HMP Acquisitions	Location T. R. & Sec, Salt Lake Meridian	Description	Acres	Encumbrances
Levan WMA				
Nephi land and livestock - 1959	T13S, R1E Section 33	SW 1/4 or SW 1/4	49.9	
Lorinzo and Eva Mangelson -1946	T14 S, R1E Section 21	W1/2 of NE1/4 and W1/2 of SW1/4	200	
Charles and Emma Mangelson - 1946	T14S, R4E, Section 28	NE1/4 of NW1/4, W 1/2 of NW 1/4, NW1/4 of SW1/4, E 1/2 of SW 1/4 of SW1/4	180	
Angus and Ada Ingram - 1979	T14S, R1E, Section 17	SE 1/4 of NE 1/4 and E 1/2 of SE 1/4	120	Mineral, geothermal, oil and natural gas rights reserved but not sand and gravel. Retains the rights to lease, egress or ingress for the exploration, development, removal of same
	Section 20	NE 1/4 of NE 1/4, SE 1/4 of NE 1/4, SE 1/4 of NE 1/4	80	
	Section 21	NW 1/4 and SW 1/4 of NE 1/4	200	
	Section 15	SW 1/4 of SW 1/4	40	
	Section 22	W 1/2 of NW 1/4, SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 and E 1/2	440	
Farrel and Deanna Wankier - 1974	T14S, R1E Section 21	SE 1/4 of SW 1/4		All minerals and coal
State of Utah - 1978	T14S, R1E Section 16	All of section 16		ROW for roads, ditches, canals, or transmission lines now existing over, under or across said property
Juab County WMAs HMP Acquisitions				
Deep Creek WMA				
Ferrell Wankier SR - 1974				
Ferrell Wankier SR - 1977	T15S, R1W Section 13	SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 minus 4.36 acres for State Highway	35.6	All mineral, oil and gas (but not including sand and gravel)
	T15S, R1E Section 6	S 1/2 of SE 1/4	80	
	Section 7	E 1/2, E 1/2 of SW 1/4, SE 1/4 of NW 1/4	440	
	Section 18	E 3/4 of sec, all of lots 2, 3, and 4 minus 4.47 acres in lots for State Highway	585	
Ferrell Wankier JR - 1978	T15S, R1W section 13	S1/2 of NE 1/4 of SE 1/4 and east of highway 28, N 1/2 of NE 1/4 of SE 1/4 and east of highway 28	8.8	All mineral and oil rights
Lois Brough, Golden and Romaine Mangelson - 1978	T15S, R1E Section 7	NE corner of NW 1/4 of SW 1/4	7	All mineral and oil rights
Farrell Wankler Jr. - 1988	T15S, R1W section 13	SW 1/4 of SE 1/4 east of highway 28	7.55	All minerals and mineral rights except sand and gravel
	Section 24	NW 1/4 of NE 1/4 east of highway 28		

Juab County WMAs HMP Acquisitions	Location T. R. & Sec, Salt Lake Meridian	Description	Aces	Encumbrances
Mona Bench WMA				
USA - 1971 and 1972	T11S, R1E Section 10	Lots 7, 8 and 9 (S 1/2 of SE 1/4, SE 1/4 of SW 1/4)	631.3	ROW for ditches and canals. All mineral rights
	Section 15	Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 (W 1/2 of NE 1/4, E 1/2 of NW 1/4)		
	Section 22	Lots 1, 2, and 3, SW 1/4 of NE 1/4, SE 1/4 of NW 1/4, NE 1/4 of SW 1/4, NW 1/4 of SE 1/4,		
USA - 1973	T11S, R1E Section 22	Lot 4, SE 1/4 of SW 1/4, SW 1/4 of SE 1/4	625.2	
	Section 27	Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4, W 1/2 of 2 1/2, E 1/2 of NW 1/4		
	Section 34	Lots 1 and 2		
James and Zoma Painter - 1972	T12S, R 1E Section 4	Isolated parcel in NW 1/4 of SW 1/4	5.55	
Fred and Viola Lynn - 1972	T11S, R1E Section 21	Isolated parcel in SE 1/4 of NW 1/4	2.26	
USA - 1975	T12S, R 1E Section 9	Lot 2 isolated parcel (SE 1/4 of NE 1/4)	40	
BLM- 1976	T11S, R1E Section 28	S 1/2 of NE 1/4, N 1/2 of SE 1/4	160	ROW for ditches and canals. All mineral rights
Hernam and Alice Young - 1976	T11S, R1E Section 27	E 1/2 pf SW 1/4	80	All mineral, oil and gas (bu not including sand and gravel)
Clark Molyneux and Janice Pritchett - 1976	T11S, R1E Section 34	SW 1/4 of NW 1/4	40	All mineral, oil and gas (bu not including sand and gravel)
Salt Lake County - 1976	T12S, R1E Section 4 & 5	Isolated parcel NW 1/4 of SW 1/4, NE 1/4 of SE 1/4	6.73	
Juab County WMAs HMP Acquisitions				
Nephi Canyon WMA				
BLM- 1975	T12S, R1E Section 26	N 1/2 of NE 1/4, N/4 of NW 1/2	160	ROW for ditches and canals. All mineral rights
	Section 28	Lots 1, 2, and 4, NE 1/4 of SE 1/4	160	
	Section 34	NE 1/4 of SW 1/4, NE 1/2 of SE 1/4	120	
	Section 35	SE 1/4 of NE 1/4, SE 1/4 of SW 1/4, SE 1/4	240	
	T13S, R2E Section 6	lots 1,2,3,4,and 5		
Preston and Helen Jones - 1955	T13S, R1E Section 2	Lots 2, 3, and 4	120	
James and Alvaretta Bean - 1967	T13S, R2E Section 3	Lot 4, SW 1/4 of NW 1/4, W 1/2 of SW 1/4	160	All mineral, oil, coal and gas (but not including sand and gravel)
Hop creek Parcels		Lots 1,2,3,4, NE 1/4, SE 1/4 of NW 1/4, SE 1/4, E 1/2 of SW 1/4	521	
		Section 9	NW 1/4 of NE 1/4	

Juab County WMAs HMP Acquisitions	Location T. R. & Sec, Salt Lake Meridian	Description	Acres	Encumbrances
Santaquin WMA				
J. B. Ranch Inc. - 1970	T10S, R1E Section 15	SE 1/4 of SE 1/4, SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of SE 1/4	47.5	All mineral, oil, coal and gas (but not including sand and gravel)
	Section 22	E 1/2 of E 1/2, W 1/2 of NE 1/4, W 1/2 of SE 1/4, E 1/2 of SE 1/4 of SW 1/4	269.3	
	Section 27	E 1/2 of NE 1/4	80	
	Section 14	S 1/2	320	
	Section 23	All	640.4	
	Section 26	All	640	
	Section 35	All	640	
	Section 36	S 1/2 of S 1/2	160	
	Section 24	E 1/2 of SE 1/4	80	
J. B. Ranch Inc. - 1986	T10S, R1E Section 13	E 1/2 of NE 1/4, NE 1/4 of SE 1/4	120	All mineral, oil, coal and gas (but not including sand and gravel)
	T10S, R1E Section 13	W 1/2 of SE 1/4, SW 1/4 of NW 1/4	120	
	Section 36	N 1/2 of NW 1/4, NW 1/4 of SW 1/4, NW 1/4 of SE 1/4, NE 1/4 of SW 1/4	125	
	Section 14	NW 1/4 of NW 1/4	120	
Joseph and Dorothy Ambrose - 1972	T10S R1E Section 33	NE 1/4 of SE 1/4,	32	
Utah Power and Light - 1972	T10S, R1E Section 12	SE 1/4, or SW 1/4 and lots 1,2 and 3	121.59	ROW water pipeline, powerlines and water rights
	Section 13	SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4		
Idaho first National Bank - 1985	T10S, R1E Section 14	E 1/2 of NW 1/4, W 1/2 of NE 1/4. minus triangle shaped parcel on NW corner conveyed to road department	160	All mineral, oil, coal and gas (but not including sand and gravel)
Nature Conservancy - 1985	T10S, R1E Section 27	S 1/2 of SW 1/4, SW 1/4 of SE 1/4, SW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of SE 1/4, W 1/2 of SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of SE 1/4. W 1/2 of NE 1/4 east of I-15, SE 1/4	220	All mineral, oil, coal and gas (but not including sand and gravel). All water rights.
	Section 34	SE 1/4, S 1/2 of SE 1/4 of NE 1/4, E 1/2 of NE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of NE 1/4, N 1/2 of SW 1/4, NW 1/4 east of I-15, N 1/2 of NE 1/4, SW 1/4 of NE 1/4, W 1/2 of NE 1/4	400	
	Section 33	SE 1/4 of NE 1/4 east of I-15, NE 1/4 of NE 1/4 east of I-15	22	
Frank and Lilly Crook - 1987	T10S R 1 E Section 27	N 1/2 of SW 1/4 east of I-15	30	All mineral, oil, coal and gas (but not including sand and gravel)
Nature Conservancy - 1989	T10S, R1E Section 34	SE 1/4, S 1/2 of SE 1/4 of NE 1/4, E 1/2 of NE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of NE 1/4	200	All mineral, oil, coal and gas (but not including sand and gravel). All water rights
Juab County WMAs HMP Acquisitions				
Triangle Ranch WMA				
Triangle Ranch Inc - 1968	T13S, R1E Section 3	SE 1/4 of SW 1/4, N 1/2 of SE 1/4 Lots 6 and 7, S 1/2 of SE 1/4	200	All mineral, oil, coal and gas (but not including sand and gravel)
	Section 10	N 1/2, SE 1/4, E 1/2 of SW 1/4	560	
	Section 11	All	640	
	Section 12	All	640	
	Section 13	N 1/2 of SW 1/4, NW 1/4	240	
	Section 14	N 1/2, N 1/2 of SE 1/4, NW 1/4 of SW 1/4	440	
BLM - 1976	T13S, R1E Section 3	E 1/2 of NE 1/4, NE 1/4 of SE 1/4 lot 1A	120	ROW for ditches and canals. All mineral rights

Juab County WMAs HMP Acquisitions	Location T. R. & Sec, Salt Lake Meridian	Description	Acres	Encumbrances
West Hills WMA				
Nature Conservancy - 1985	T10S, R1E Section 21	SE 1/4 of SW 1/4, SW 1/4 of SE 1/4	80	All mineral, oil, coal and gas (but not including sand and gravel)
	Section 28	W 1/2 of NW 1/4 of SW 1/4, SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of NW 1/4, N 1/2 of SW 1/4 of NW 1/4, W 1/2 of NW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of NW 1/4	135	
	Section 29	N 1/2 of SW 1/4, N 1/2 of SE 1/4, S 1/2 of NE 1/4, NE 1/4 of NE 1/4	280	
	Section 30	E 1/2 of SE 1/4	80	
	Section 31	NE 1/4 of SE 1/4, E 1/2 of NE 1/4	120	