Central Region Advisory Council Springville Jr. High 165 S. 700 E. Springville September 16, 2008 ≪ 6:30 p.m.

# **Motion Summary**

Fishing Guidebook & Rule R657-13

MOTION: To approve the fishing guidebook and rule as presented Passed unanimously Central Region Advisory Council Springville Jr. High 165 S. 700 E. Springville September 16, 2008 ≪ 6:30 p.m.

#### **Members Present**

#### **Members Absent**

Micki Bailey, BLM Calvin Crandall, Agriculture Byron Gunderson, At Large Richard Hansen, At Large George Holmes, Agriculture Doug Jones, Forest Service Gary Nielson, Sportsmen Fred Oswald, Non-consumptive, Vice Chair Jay Price, Elected John Bair, Sportsmen Ed Kent, Chair Duane Smith, Non-consumptive Allan Stevens, At Large

#### 1) <u>Approval of the Agenda</u> (Action)

#### VOTING

Motion was made by George Holmes to accept the agenda as written Seconded by Jay Price

Motion passed unanimously

#### 2) <u>Approval of the August 19, 2008 summary</u> (Action)

#### VOTING

Motion was made by Doug Jones to accept the summary notes as written Seconded by Byron Gunderson Motion passed uponimously

Motion passed unanimously

#### 3) <u>Regional Update</u> (Information) - John Fairchild, Central Regional Supervisor

#### Wildlife

- Biologists and conservation officers are working on the Central Region hunt recommendations for 2009 that will be presented to the RAC in November.
- Chukar flight completed last week on the Cedar Mountains shows numbers are still down, population about the same as last year.
- We're adding two check stations to collect CWD samples from Unit 17 on opening weekend of the rifle deer hunt (Provo and AF canyons).
- Check stations also planned for Spanish Fork Canyon (3 days), Santaquin (3 days) and Salt Creek (2 days). Dedicated Hunters will be needed to help at these stations. RAC members are invited to participate anytime.

Aquatics

- The Utah Lake Fish Forum will be held this Thursday, Sept. 18, 2008, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at Springville Jr. High School. The forum is a stakeholder involvement process that will assist the DWR to develop a successful Utah Lake fishery while supporting the recovery of June sucker, an endangered fish that is endemic to Utah Lake.
- Kokanee Festival at Strawberry this Friday and Saturday.

- Sportfish Bio II position currently being announced (Mike's vacant position); will close Sept. 24.
- URMCC is moving forward with plans to improve Diamond Fork. Wetland development and stream restoration may get started this fall.
- Aquatics personnel will accompany our RAC member (Richard Hansen) to check out the Bear Canyon tributary to Salt Creek for Bonneville cutthroat trout on Sept. 23.

#### <u>Habitat</u>

- Cameras have been installed at several locations along Highway 6 where new crossing structures have been proposed. Work continues on the bridge at milepost 200.1, where significant modifications to the original design were incorporated into the project to benefit big game.
- Division of Parks and Recreation has invited DWR to participate on a task force convened to develop a master plan for Wasatch Mountain State Park (next meeting scheduled for October 16).

Conservation Outreach

- Raptor Viewing Day is September 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Youth Chukar Hunt was a success. The Youth Pheasant Hunt will be held at the same place (Carr Fork WMA near Tooele) on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### Law Enforcement

• Reports from Strawberry are that we're issuing a lot of citations for illegal possession of cutthroat trout. Anglers are keeping fish in the slot (15-22 inches).

## 4) <u>Fishing Guidebook & Rule R657-13</u> (Action)

- Roger Wilson, Wildlife Program Coordinator

# **Questions from the RAC**

Byron Gunderson – What if you have a fish that resembles a classic rainbow but has cuthroat markings under the chin? How do we instruct the public to behave with that situation?

Roger Wilson – We had that problem at Strawberry. There are fish that are delivered out of our hatcheries that have a little bit of the slashing on the throat. Scofield is a little different than Strawberry in that we are not managing Scofield with natural reproduction. In talking with Paul Birdsey in the southeastern region he thinks that less than two percent of the harvested fish are hybrids. We hope we have good discretion on the part of our enforcement officers down there as well. There are similar regulations at other waters in the state and we have had some problems. Slashing is not the best marking. There are two subspecies of cutthroat at Scofield and some hybridization so at this point in time we wanted to be fairly general and see how it plays out.

Byron Gunderson – So I can tell the people I deal with that if a fish generally looks very much like a rainbow but has orange under its chin to not be too worried about that? Roger Wilson – If it has obvious slashing on the throat that probably ought to go back. Education will be part of this program as well. We need to promote this much like we did at Strawberry with brochures and signage. There are always issues along those lines and there will be problems no doubt.

Byron Gunderson – I get the impression then that if a rainbow has definite red-orange slashes it should go back. Otherwise you better bring CSI in and do a little DNA.

Roger Wilson – Most anglers that have caught a lot of rainbows know that if you look at the size of the scales, the head shape, the spotting on the head those are great characteristics for rainbow. We need to educate people that if you have white tipped anal and pelvic fins that is a rainbow. There are things you can look for.

Doug Jones – Last year and the year before we caught a lot of hybrids at Scofield. Roger Wilson – If you have a fish with cutthroat markings it would have to go back. Doug Jones – From my experience there are a lot of hybrids at Scofield. The last two summers my friends and I could catch 25 in a morning.

Roger Wilson – Our regional personnel felt it was somewhat limited there. Natural reproduction is not part of our management plan at Scofield and we are just trying to protect the predators. I see a lot of anglers at Strawberry calling fish hybrids that are not. We need to get signs up to educate people.

Bryon Gunderson – When I first heard of the problem of chubs at Scofield and was asked for my opinion I said we should protect all trout in the slot rather than just cuts and tigers. Roger Wilson – That is the approach being taken at Panguitch and they have had some problems with that. That is why they are now allowing one fish in the slot. We want to maintain a harvest component. There is no biological reason to protect rainbows. They are not good predators and do not survive well when chubs come on. If you base the management of a reservoir on rainbows the fishery will collapse. We have seen that time and again. We have collected a lot of data.

# **Questions from the Public**

Ken Strong – Recently at Strawberry there was a big effort made to increase the size of fish being planted there. A lot of that money came from Strawberry Bay Marina, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife and so on. Are you taking into consideration that you are going to have to plant bigger fish in Scofield and where is the money going to come from?

Roger Wilson – We are considering that down the road. The Bear Lake cuts going in there this year are going to be seven to eight inches. Generally speaking you need a three year old cutthroat to be an effective predator. We are stocking fairly large rainbows. In the past we have put three inch rainbows and seven inch rainbows and we have moved completely to seven inch rainbow stocking. At Strawberry we have moved to eight inches and higher. That seems to be the magic line. We will adjust that as needed. Scofield is important enough that we will find the money.

# **Comments from the Public**

Ray Shelby - Rocky Mountain Anglers – I would like to comment on the new Lee Kay warm water fishery. Rocky Mountain Anglers would like to commend the DWR and especially the aquatics section for developing the new warm water fish hatchery at the Lee Kay Center in Salt Lake. For many years they have been searching for a suitable site for a warm water hatchery in the state. The Lee Kay site is conveniently located, has plenty of water and lots of room to expand, which will surly be necessary down the road. We feel this was a fantastic choice. In our opinion this project has been a success in every way. Rocky Mountain Anglers president, Brad Cutler and I, spent some hours volunteering during the construction. The DWR crew assigned to the is task from hatcheries and community fisheries put in long hard days over several weeks in 100

degree heat and windy dusty conditions. We were very impressed by the job they did and the way they did it. We feel this hatchery will provide a considerable benefit to Utah's anglers. In the short term it will provide a local disease free source for tiger muskies and wipers and the means to maintain the states community fisheries. In the long term it will provide management options and an economical way to enhance and maintain our warm water fisheries. Rocky Mountain Anglers applaud the Division and the proactive spirit displayed by Walt Donaldson and his staff in working together to make this warm water hatchery a reality. We look forward to seeing the ponds fill up this week and hopefully the fish go in next month.

Jim Carter – Strawberry Anglers Association – Listening to the presentation brought back a lot of memories about what we went through at Strawberry Reservoir ten years ago. We got involved with wildlife resources because we wanted to learn more about Strawberry and about how the fishery worked. We knew that as anglers we liked to get fish on the end of a line and we knew that if we got rainbows we got a heavy fighting fish. We knew if we got cutthroat we got a fish that didn't fight quite as much. We didn't understand all of the biological background. We worked hand in hand literally with the wildlife resources biologists. We went out every time they planted fish. Every time they went gill netting we went gill netting. We helped pull the fish out of the gill nets and separate them into the categories. We helped count them, measure them, weight them and later on we learned about the stomach content. As we learned these things as anglers we started to realize that the biological basis for managing a fishery is more important than the fight of the fish on the end of the line. What we found out was if we did what biologically sounded correct we would get good results. With Strawberry that has worked. There are still some problems at Strawberry and a lot of them are angler problems. We still have a great fishery at Strawberry. Now I am seeing a sister reservoir that may be facing the same problem. Scofield is a very important fishery. I fish it a lot and have done all my life. I have to tell you that we need to do something quickly. I really support what the wildlife resources is suggesting at this time for Scofield. I say that because as an angler working hand in hand with the DWR I have learned more in the last ten years about fishing than I knew the first sixty years when I was raised at Strawberry Reservoir. I am concerned with how quickly are we going to be able to protect those fish. Maybe we need to speed this up to save the fishery. I would say to the anglers if you are concerned about what is going on at Scofield and if you really want to learn get involved. Go join with the DWR biologists and learn.

#### VOTING

Motion was made by Jay Price to approve as presented Seconded by George Holmes In Favor: All Motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. 55 in attendance Next board meeting October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the DNR Auditorium Next RAC meeting November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Springville Jr. High School

# NORTHEASTERN RAC MEETING SUMMARY-MOTIONS PASSED Western Park, Vernal/September 11, 2008

5.FISHING GUIDEBOOK & RULE R657-13 MOTION: to accept as presented Passed unanimously

## NORTHEASTERN REGION ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY Western Park, Vernal 9-11-2008 Started at 6:30 pm; Adjourned at 7:35 pm

#### **RAC MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Amy Torres-Chair Rod Morrison-Sportsmen Carlos Reed-Native American Curtis Dastrup-Agriculture Karl Breitenbach-At Large Kevin Christophersen-NER Supervisor

#### EXCUSED RAC MEMBERS:

Rod Harrison-Elected Official Bob Christensen-Forest Service Kirk Woodward-Sportsmen Beth Hamann-Nonconsumptive

#### **UDWR PERSONNEL PRESENT:**

Adam Cochran-NER Tabby Mtn C.O. Ron Stewart-NER Conserv. Outreach Mgr Gayle Allred-NER Office Mgr Roger Schneidervin-NER Aquatics Mgr Roger Wilson-SLC Aquatic Pgm Mgr Drew Cushing-SLC Aquatic Biologist

#### **UNEXCUSED RAC MEMBERS:**

Floyd Briggs-At Large Dave Chivers-Agriculture

## **1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA MOTION by Karl Britenbach to approve the agenda** Second by Curtis Dastrup

**Passed unanimously** 

# 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION by Karl Breitenbach to approve the minutes** Second by Rod Morrison

**Passed unanimously** 

#### 3. OLD BUSINESS - None

#### 4. REGIONAL UPDATE: Kevin Christopherson

Introduced Conservation Officer Adam Cochran from Washington. He is working in the Tabby Mountain, Duchesne area.

#### Quagga in NER

There is some preliminary indication we may have Quagga or zebra mussels in the region. We took samples, which are looked at under a microscope for velligers. From there, the samples will be sent off for DNA analysis to know more definitively. There are three waters in the region which may be affected. In a week or so we'll have more information. We will be watching the reservoirs this weekend. The waters are Red Fleet, Pelican on DWR property and Midview (on the tribal property).

Carlos Reed: We had a meeting today with the Ute Tribe Game Board and we are hoping to get samples back by Monday.

Kevin Christopherson: We've retaken samples from those reservoirs today. It will probably be at least next week before we get those samples back.

Carlos Reed: Our Board is seriously contemplating restricting boating on the Bottle Hollow boat ramp. We had a boat try to get onto Bottle Hollow today coming from Pelican. We sent it over to a wash station.

#### Bison release on the Book Cliffs

A lot of people made this work. Besides UDWR, we had involvement from counties, BLM and other agencies. There were multiple non-government agencies too, such as The Nature Conservancy, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, etc. We're excited about this. It came sooner that we expected but the Tribe offered some bison from their roundup and we got them and were able to collar them, tag them and test them to make sure they are disease-free.

#### Allan Smith property

Last year we purchased a conservation easement on some of the Smith property to set aside for wildlife habitat. This year they put it up for sale and gave us First Right of Refusal. We're going through the RDCC process and starting the procedure. We have met with them a couple of times. We will meet with the land council. So far there are no big hurdles. It's 6000 acres and it will tie into the other property and make a very large WMA, making it a large hunting access forever. If someone else were to buy it they could close it. That's one of the reasons we're stepping in. It's northwest of Duchesne. They have 20,000 acres up there. It is part of the Tabby Mountain WMA.

We have little pieces of lands scattered all over and they're trying to consolidate them to some degree. We have sold the Roosevelt Game Farm and are trying to get this block.

Karl Breitenbach: It's nice to save winter range.

Kevin Christopherson: One of the reasons the county isn't opposing it is a lot of elk came into the valley last year into haystacks and we're really hoping that by buying this habitat we'll give these animals some place to go and keep them out of agricultural lands.

# **Questions from Public: None**

# **Questions from RAC:**

Rod Morrison: I saw one bunch of six and one single buffalo on Moon Ridge in the roaded area.

Ron Stewart: Moon Ridge is not in the roaded area. We put them in the Bogart Cabin area. We heard they had moved around to the top of She Canyon.

Kevin Christopherson: We have radio collars on most of them and we're tracking them.

Carlos Reed: The Tribe has buffalo on Moon Ridge. We've got about ten head that crossed the Range Creek area.

## Videos

The Elk Foundation produced these. It's a history of Wildlife Management in the area. I thought it might be interesting for the public to see this and I'll provide a copy to each of the RAC members.

# **5. FISHING GUIDEBOOK & RULE R657-13: Roger Wilson, Aquatic Pgm Mgr** See handout

#### <u>Statewide</u>

1. We want standardization of the language in the fishing guide to make the rules easier to understand. The actual calendar date will be removed from the reference to make annual changes and date adjustments unnecessary.

2.Establish a pro-rated fishing tournament fee structure to allow smaller tournaments to operate at lower cost than the larger tournaments was taken to the RAC in August and September's Wildlife Board meeting

3. Update Community Fishing Waters list and clarify regulations

Specific Water Proposals:

NER:

Flaming Gorge Reservoir (Daggett County):

-Allowance for the use of up to six lines during the ice-covered period and only when fishing through the ice. When using more than two lines, the angler's name shall be attached to all lines, and the angler shall check only their lines. To ensure consistency with Wyoming's regulations, a second pole permit would not be required during the ice-covered period when fishing through the ice, but would be required for the use of a second pole when fishing open water any time of the year.

-Allowance to pursue/take burbot while engaged in underwater spear fishing activities yearlong, 24 hours a day, with a provision for the use of artificial lights. (Note: this idea

was provided by the public at the NER spring information meeting, and is intended to provide enhanced angler removal of an aquatic invasive species)

Three major changes to fishing rule: R657-13-6: Adds wording for fishing through the ice at Flaming Gorge

13-7: Will be changed to Fishing with More than One Pole (Second Pole Permits)5) A person may use up to six lines when fishing at Flaming Gorge through the ice....

13-9: Underwater Spear fishing ... Except as provided in Subsection (6) below. Fishing at night with artificial light.

13-9: (6) Flaming gorge is open to taking burbot by means of underwater spear fishing from January 1 through dEcember31, 24 hours each day... for burbot (see entire section)...

13-11: Artificial lights are permitted at Flaming Gorge...

Karl Breitenbach: What will we accomplish with this?

Roger Wilson: Burbot are the fish that go for this technique in the winter and I don't think the region would be upset if a few lake trout were taken as well.

Also, Red Fleet Reservoir has a limit of six bass. There is no limit for walleye. Anglers must not release any walleye they catch. All walleye must be immediately killed.

**Questions from Public: None** 

**Questions from RAC: None** 

**Comments from Public: None** 

**Comments from RAC:** 

Rod Morrison: Is there a lot of interest in the six poles?

Roger Schneidervin: That's been standard procedure in Wyoming east of the continental divide. We found out last winter that on the Wyoming side, very rarely would rainbows or kokanee salmon take tip-ups. The tip-ups are catching 90-95% burbot and 5-10% lake trout. They have used the system in Buffalo Bill and Boysen Reservoirs, etc. The anglers were fishing with at least a third or fourth line. And some would utilize six lines. It's a lot of action. The fish are very active from right before dark until one to two hours after dark. One night last winter Wyoming law enforcement personnel estimated there were 45 parties out on the ice burbot fishing. It goes a long way toward controlling

burbot and is consistent with our management objectives. We're hoping the spear fishing regulation will do the same.

Rod Morrison: Would the light at night thing be beneficial? What's your opinion?

Michael Weyland: It would be very beneficial. To dive at night without a light is stupid. To dive under the ice without a light is stupid. I'm sure we'll harvest a lot of burbot.

Roger Wilson: Are they hard to harvest being long and slender?

Michael Weyland: They come in in droves and people have said the burbot are bigger than a man's forearm. They're very carnivorous and the harvest is good.

Karl Breitenbach: Are the big lake trout eating the burbot?

Roger Schneidervin: Some, but not as much as we'd hoped. On the other hand, burbot are very carnivorous and prey on all other fish species. The disturbing thing is that we've lost the peaks in the kokanee salmon cycle. We've documented burbot preying on small kokanee, and suspect they are foraging on kokanee eggs as well during the spawning season.

# MOTION by Karl Breitenbach to accept as presented

Second by Curtis Dastrup

#### Passed unanimously

Karl Breitenbach: Rod, could you update us on the Mule Deer Committee Meeting?

Rod Morrison: Yes. Several sportsmen's groups across the state have been giving their ideas on what we could do. The majority would like to see a few more bucks and few more numbers and a tad bit more quality. We came up with some ideas and we'll see what the Board thinks and keep you posted.

Kevin Christopherson: We've got Kokanee Salmon Day coming up the 20<sup>th</sup> of September. If there's any interest, we could turn that into a RAC trip and have a hamburger fry. We're trying to get a late kokanee run so we're trying to get some started on the Wyoming side...(check with Roger).

Ron Stewart: If you decide to go up, Manila has a benefit going on at the same time. They'll be putting on a dinner and entertainment that night, so we could continue up afterwards and attend their dinner.

Youth Hunting Day: The youth general any bull elk hunt runs from September 13 to September 23 on general any bull elk units across Utah. If you obtain a permit for this hunt, you may use any legal weapon to take a bull elk of any size, including a spike bull, on any general season any bull elk hunt in Utah. You may NOT hunt on a spike bull elk unit.

The late season youth any bull elk hunt runs from November 15 to November 25 on a portion of the South Slope, Bonanza any bull elk unit in northeastern Utah. If you obtained a permit for this hunt, you may use any legal weapon to take a bull elk of any size, including a spike bull, within the hunt boundaries.

# EMAIL TO RAC MEMBERS THE INFO RE: KOKANEE SALMON DAY.

# Meeting Adjourned 7:35 pm

# Northern Regional Advisory Council Meeting Motions

Wednesday 17 September 2008 Brigham City Community Center

Motion to accept present Agenda including minutes. Moved:Neville Second: Marsh. Passed unanimously.

Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13Moved: GaskillSecond: Marsh. Passed unanimously.

Swan Creek Treatment Plan Moved: Byrnes Second: Cowley Passed unanimously.

Adjourn - moved to adjourn: Gaskill. Second: Neville

# MOTIONS MATRIX SOUTHEAST REGIONAL WILDLIFE ADVISORY COUNCIL JOHN WESLEY POWELL MUSEUM IN GREEN RIVER September 10, 2008

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**MOTION:** to approve the agenda as written. **PASSED:** unanimously

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**MOTION:** to approve the minutes of the August 13 meeting as written. **PASSED:** unanimously

#### FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13

- **MOTION:** to accept changes to the 2009 Fishing Guidebook as presented by Roger Wilson with the recommendation that regulation changes at Scofield Reservoir be implemented as soon as possible after approval by the Wildlife Board.
- **PASSED:** unanimously

#### SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY John Wesley Powell Museum in Green River September 10, 2008 Commence at 6:30 p.m. Adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

#### **RAC MEMBERS PRESENT:**

| At Large                   |
|----------------------------|
| U.S. Forest Service        |
| <b>Regional Supervisor</b> |
| At Large                   |
| Sportsmen                  |
| Agriculture                |
| Environmental              |
| Sportsmen                  |
| BLM                        |
| At Large                   |
| Elected Official           |
|                            |

#### **EXCUSED RAC MEMBERS:**

| Bayles, Lyle  | At Large      |
|---------------|---------------|
| Kamala, Laura | Environmental |

#### **UNEXCUSED RAC MEMBERS:**

Lewis, Kurt Agriculture

# UTAH WILDLIFE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

None

#### **DWR PERSONNEL PRESENT:**

Birdsey, Paul Cushing, Drew Hart, Justin Mickelsen, Casey Stettler, Brent Stilson, Randall Wilson, Roger

#### PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE 2

#### **CONDUCTING THE MEETING**

-James Gilson, Chairman

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**Questions from the RAC:** 

**Questions from the Audience:** 

**Comments from the Audience:** 

**Comments/Discussion from the RAC:** 

| MOTION by | Bruce Adams |
|-----------|-------------|
| SECOND by | Pam Riddle  |
| PASSED    | unanimously |

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Questions from the RAC:** 

**Questions from the Audience:** 

**Comments from the Audience:** 

#### **Comments/Discussion from the RAC:**

| MOTION by | Terry Sanslow |
|-----------|---------------|
| SECOND by | Verd Byrnes   |
| PASSED    | unanimously   |

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

-By Terry Sanslow and Kevin Albrecht.

Terry Sanslow presented an overview of the last Wildlife Board meeting. The Board had approved most of the motions this RAC had passed.

Terry indicated that the youth hunt had been delayed until the 27<sup>th</sup> to allow extra time for DWR to accomplish permitting work.

Terry reported on problems with Internet applications and permit mailings for sharp-tailed grouse and sage-grouse this year.

Kevin Albrecht briefed the RAC on the direction of the statewide mule deer committee. The committee met for the first time in June with representatives from across the state. Director Karpowitz gave the committee some sideboards. He asked the committee to remember the

importance of recruiting youth. Karpowitz asked that all recommendations be revenue-neutral, and that the committee seek consensus in all recommendations.

So far, the committee has recommended that any deer unit, falling below the 15 bucks to 100 doe ratio, be automatically targeted for a five day season. New hunter education recruits would automatically receive one bonus point. The committee developed new buck: doe objectives for deer season categories. For the general season deer hunt, the recommendation is 15-25 bucks per 100 does; for limited entry 25-35:100; and for premium limited entry 35-45:100.

#### **Questions from the RAC:**

**Questions from the Audience:** 

**Comments from the Audience:** 

**Comments/Discussion from the RAC:** 

MOTION: N/A SECOND: PASSED:

#### **REGIONAL UPDATE**

-By Bill Bates, Regional Supervisor After the regional overview, Bill revealed preliminary analyses of sediment samples taken at certain waters across the state, which tested positive for the presence of larval quagga or zebra mussels. Follow-up analyses will be conducted to confirm or dismiss preliminary findings.

**Questions from the RAC:** 

**Questions from the Audience:** 

**Comments from the Audience:** 

**Comments/Discussion from the RAC:** 

MOTION: N/A SECOND: PASSED:

#### FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13

-By Roger Wilson, Wildlife Program Coordinator

#### **Questions from the RAC:**

Terry Sanslow asked if tape worms were responsible for the waning popularity of Scofield Reservoir for fishing.

Roger Wilson affirmed that tape worms have been a public concern, and acknowledged that the Division could do more to educate the public about the tapeworm. Roger added that trout

typically become infected after eating chubs and redside shiners, which are the preferred hosts of this tape worm species.

Walt Maldonado asked if the proposed regulation changes had been advertised in the media. Roger answered that they had.

Drew Sitterud asked about the stocking regimen at Joes Valley Reservoir.

Paul Birdsey indicated that 40,000 splake had been stocked during the second week in June. Stocking of tiger trout has been discontinued, because of the species' failure to thrive. Walt Maldonado asked if the Division still planned to put tiger muskies in Joes Valley. Paul Birdsey answered in the affirmative.

#### **Questions from the Audience:**

#### **Comments from the Audience:**

Tom Ogden asked the RAC to consider implementation of the newly proposed Scofield regulations as soon as the Board gives it approval. Tom indicated that a lot of large trout are harvested in the fall and early winter. Early implementation would help us get ahead of the problem that much sooner.

#### **Comments/Discussion from the RAC:**

In behalf of the Utah Bass Federation, Walt Maldonado thanked the Division for inviting the federation to participate in fisheries planning and management.

Kevin Albrecht asked if it were feasible to implement the new regulations for Scofield before the first of January.

Roger Wilson stated that Director Karpowitz would probably have to declare an emergency change.

James Gilson asked if that were even possible.

Roger Wilson replied that an emergency change would be possible, based on the director's decision.

- **MOTION by** Drew Sitterud to accept changes to the 2009 Fishing Guidebook as presented by Roger Wilson with the recommendation that regulation changes at Scofield Reservoir be implemented as soon as possible after approval by the Wildlife Board.
- SECOND by Walt Maldonado

PASSED unanimously

James Gilson adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

# Southern Regional Advisory Council Meeting Beaver High School Beaver, UT September 9, 2008 7:00 p.m.

# **REVIEW & ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES AND AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Motion to accept agenda and minutes with changes made to cover page.

**VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

# FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13

**MOTION:** Motion to accept the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R-657-13 as presented, and to set up a working committee for the Kolob Reservoir. Jack Hill seconded.

**VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

# PAUNSAUGUNT ANTLERLESS DEER HUNT SEASON EXTENSION

**MOTION:** Motion to accept Paunsaugunt Antlerless Deer Hunt Season Extension as presented.

**VOTE:** Motion carried, 6 in favor 2 opposed.

# Southern Regional Advisory Council Meeting Beaver High School Beaver, UT September 9, 2008 7:00 p.m.

| RAC Members Present  | DWR Personnel   | Wildlife Board             | RAC Members                                     |
|--|---|----------------------------|---|
|  | Present   | Present                    | Not Present                                     |
| Dell LeFevre<br>Rex Stanworth<br>Jack Hill<br>Steve Dalton<br>Chairman Jake Albrecht<br>Sam Carpenter<br>Steve Flinders<br>Clair Woodbury<br>James Edwards | Douglas Messerly<br>Natalie Brewster<br>Teresa Bonzo<br>Heather Perry<br>Micah Evans<br>Lynn Chamberlain<br>Brent Farnsworth<br>Mike Ottenbacher<br>Richard Hepworth<br>Roger Wilson<br>Drew Cushing<br>Mike Hadley | Paul Neimeyer<br>Tom Hatch | Harry Barber<br>Gary Hallows<br>Cordell Pearson |

Chairman Jake Albrecht called the Meeting to order at 7:01 pm. There were approximately 44 interested parties in attendance in addition to the RAC members, Wildlife Board members and DWR employees.

Jake Albrecht: Okay, it's time to get started. My name is Jake Albrecht. I'm the chairman of the Southern RAC. I represent the elected officials. At this time I'd like to recognize our Wildlife Board members, Tom Hatch and Paul Neimeyer. They're seated right over here. And I will start on my left with Clair Woodbury and let them introduce themselves, the RAC members.

Clair Woodbury: Clair Woodbury from Hurricane. I'm an at-large member.

Sam Carpenter: Sam Carpenter from Kanab, sportsman.

Steve Dalton: I'm Steve Dalton from Teasdale. I'm an at-large representative.

Rex Stanworth: Rex Stanworth, at-large, from Delta.

Douglas Messerly: My name's Doug Messerly. I'm Regional Supervisor for the Utah Division of Wildlife out of Cedar City, the southern region. Myself and my staff act as executive secretary for this committee.

Jack Hill: I'm Jack Hill from Cedar City, a non-consumptive member.

Jim Edwards: I'm Jim Edwards from Delta, representing the sportsman.

Steve Flinders: Steve Flinders representing Fish Lake and Dixie National Forests.

Dell LeFevre: Dell LeFevre representing agriculture, Boulder Escalante area.

Jake Albrecht: Okay, before we get started with tonight's agenda I'm going to read the RAC procedures. Uh, after each presentation we will have questions from the RAC, and then questions from the public. And then following that we will have comments from the public, they're three minutes per individual, five minutes per organized group. And then we'll have comments from the RAC, RAC motion, discussion and vote. If you, anybody that would like to make comments needs to fill out a comment card like the gentleman has, he's holding up his hand right there. The Wildlife people have some of those with them. We ask you to put your name and which subject you'd like to talk about. Okay, moving right along we'll go to procedures for dedicated hunters. Uh, Heather Perry. Welcome Heather.

# Procedure for Dedicated Hunters to Receive RAC Credit (Informational) 2:43 to 3:29 of 1:42:21

-Heather Perry, Dedicated Hunter Program Coordinator

Jake Albrecht: Thanks Heather. Our first item is the review and acceptance of RAC meeting agenda and minutes.

# Review and Acceptance of Agenda and Minutes (action)

Jake Albrecht: Uh, let's do this individual because I want to talk a little bit about the minutes. A motion to approve tonight's agenda?

Rex Stanworth: I'll make that motion.

Jake Albrecht: A motion by Rex.

Jim Edwards: I'll second it.

Jake Albrecht: A second by Jim Edwards. Any other discussion? All in favor? Any against? Motion carries.

# Rex Stanworth made the motion to accept agenda only, Jim Edwards seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Jake Albrecht: Okay. Approval of August 12, 2008 minutes. On the cover sheet, and I don't know whether this is part of the minutes or not but uh, under the electric meeting rule amendment Rule Amendment R-657-39, that should read electronic. And then on page 9 of 21 it says, Jake Hill, which is the issue of Roberts Rules of Orders, and that should read Jack Hill. And other than that I don't have anything else. Does anybody have anything? Motion to approve as corrected then?

Jack Hill: I would so move.

Jake Albrecht: Motion by Jack Hill. Second by Steve Dalton. Any other discussion? All in favor? Any against? Motion carries.

# Jack Hill made the motion to accept minutes as corrected, Steve Dalton seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Jake Albrecht: Okay, I'm going to turn the time to Doug Messerly for the Wildlife Board Update and Regional Update.

## Wildlife Board Update:

-Douglas Messerly: Thank you Mr. Chairman. As you know I attended the Wildlife Board meeting in your place at this last meeting. I dealt with the issues that we dealt with at the last RAC meeting so I'll just advise the committee on what happened with those.

- The proposed fee amendments that went through this committee and were passed unanimously, as I recall, were modified slightly by the Board in that the swan and crane fee increases would not occur until the year 2010. In other words the fee increase was approved but it would be in effect in 2010.
- The Electronic Meeting Rule passed the board as presented.
- There was an issue with Sage Grouse permits that came to light between the time we had our RAC meeting and the Board meeting. Apparently due to some problems in the system that we use to sell sage grouse permits this year um, some people were actually charged on their credit cards but were never sent the sage grouse permit. And we actually charged more people for permits than we had permits to distribute. So the Board wrestled with that issue and decided to resolve it using four separate motions. The first motion was to issue six more sharp tailed grouse permits than was previously authorized. Sharp tailed grouse are in a less precarious position than sage grouse and thus the increase in permits was not viewed to be significant. And that took care of the people who had applied for sharp tailed grouse permits. There was some discussion about people who attempted to apply or tried to apply but their credit cards were not charged. If you'll

recall this year was the first year we elected to distribute those permits using the Internet. And there were some people that had some problems doing that. The decision was made that no preference would be given to those people who attempted to apply but their credit cards were not charged. The third motion that passed the Wildlife Board was to give preference to those people who were actually charged on their credit cards this year for a permit. But rather than to issue a permit for this year we would offer them the opportunity to be first in line to obtain a permit next year. And finally there was a motion by the Board that the sage grouse and sharp tailed grouse permits be put on a drawing in the future rather than first come first serve and hopefully it will alleviate the problems that we experienced this year. And that passed the Wildlife Board.

- The waterfowl proclamation was passed as presented, with the exception that the youth waterfowl hunt will occur this year on September 27<sup>th</sup> and in the future will be set to be two weeks before the general waterfowl opener. There was some discussion about events that were already planned and some issues that came to light during the public process that influenced the board to make that decision.
- The turkey proclamation was passed as presented, without modification. There was some discussion about including the Manti in one region or the other but in the end the Wildlife Board voted to leave that unit as presented by the Division. And so the turkey proclamation passed as presented.
- The aquatic invasive species management plan was passed as presented.
- The evaluation of real property rule that we dealt with here was passed as presented.

Douglas Messerly: Unless there are any question, that's the Wildlife Board update.

Jake Albrecht: Any questions from the RAC? Okay, seeing none we'll go to our first item of business, which . . . oh I'm sorry. I cut Doug's time short moving right along. We'll let him do his regional update also.

# Regional Update:

-Douglas Messerly, Southern Regional Supervisor

Douglas Messerly: I'll try to be brief Mr. Chairman. The first thing I would like to announce is that law enforcement officers today investigated one of our goats that was poached up here on the east side of Mt. Holly, sometime within the last two weeks. It was a, not an extremely large bill goat but a mature billy goat that was shot with a large caliber rifle. Officers are . . . the animal was shot and left. Officers are hoping that perhaps someone will have some information, or will have seen or heard something with archery hunters being in the area etc. So we'll see a press release on that but unfortunately that occurred and it was documented today. Fall fishing is really turning on. I think I've mentioned New Castle Reservoir in the past. It remains hot for those wipers. Lakes such as Otter Creek, Panguitch, Piute, among others,

as the water cools . . . I fished Panguitch on Sunday and the water temperature was 63 degrees which is ideal for trout. And they're very active and the fishing is really good right now, if you can tear yourselves away from hunting. Habitat projects are getting wound up and ready to go this fall, it's getting to be that time of the year when our habitat folks are working day and night trying to get those projects done, and seed in the ground. So you'll see us running around doing those sorts of activities. And finally, we've got some pretty significant stream improvement projects going on in the east fork of the Sevier and on the Sevier River itself, that our aquatics folks are working on. And that pretty much comprises the bulk of our activity this time of year, except for working the hunts as they roll through. So, unless there's any questions that's my presentation.

# Questions from the RAC:

James Edwards: Mr. Chairman, I have one question. I'd like to, since we're on the regional update to have maybe Steve Dalton give us an update on the mule deer committee.

Jake Albrecht: That's probably a very appropriate, Steve go ahead.

Steve Dalton: They haven't sent us the draft yet so I don't really have a whole lot to say. T here was quite a bit of discussion about perhaps changing the opening date of the deer hunt, swapping places with the elk season. Going to early October for the deer and later October for the elk. I probably shouldn't say too much until I see the draft. And I looked today and I didn't have a copy in my e-mail so I'd like to wait until I see what they've finally decided on.

Jake Albrecht: So have you got a couple more meetings left then?

Steve Dalton: No the meetings are over. We're just waiting for Anise to get the final draft put together. Well I don't know if this is the final draft or the first draft. I haven't... We just had our last meeting the other day and it was pretty riley. A lot of discussion concerning how we're going to manage, especially the limited entry units and the premium limited entry for age class or how we're going to try and maintain some quality in those, on those units. And there's some pretty emotional discussions taking place. I've got to see what he puts in the draft.

Jake Albrecht: Okay. Sam I'm going to ask you if you want to talk about your Paunsaugunt meetings.

Sam Carpenter: We've had two meetings so far. We have really been in the early stages of this. We've been waiting for the state to come out with the recommendation so we can have some sideboards, as Doug explained it to us, to stay within to meet with the recommendations that a state plan makes. We've just done the information and discussion portions of the meetings thus far. And we have a meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> when we find out what the state has decided. And we will try to have our agenda set to make our rules at that time.

Jake Albrecht: Any other questions from the RAC then? Okay, we'll go ahead and start with our first item of business, which is Fishing Guidebook and Rule, R657-13. This is an action item. Roger Wilson.

# Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 (action) 14:36 to 29:49 of 1:42:21

-Roger Wilson, Wildlife Program Coordinator

Jake Albrecht: Mike why don't you go ahead and make your comments

Mike Ottenbacher,

30:03 to 37:30 of 1:42:21

# Questions from the RAC:

Jake Albrecht: Clair, you got a question.

Clair Woodbury: Mike, on the Scofield you mentioned the tigers and you're going to put some cutthroats in there. What, which do you consider the better predator for those chubs? Or is there any much difference?

Mike Ottenbacher: Right now I think maybe Roger can provide any information that he may have, but it's been our experience, at least in the southern region, the the Bear Lake really is the only proven biological control. There's been an instance in other waters where we have seen significant predation by tigers and maybe they'll show something at Panguitch. But uh, we haven't seen the return from our stocking on the tigers that we had hoped for. It seems in a number of waters tigers have a tendency to run upstream, go up into the tributaries and spend quite a bit of time there. So I, I think we've got to base our biological control really on the only one that's been proven to work in the state, at Strawberry and on the Bear Lake Cutthroat.

Clair Woodbury: And the other question I have is when you stock those at Scofield will it have a similar regulation to Strawberry because those Cutbows will be showing up too. Or would you have the sterile rainbows in Schofield?

Mike Ottenbacher: No I don't think there's any plan to work with sterile rainbows in Scofield. I'll let Roger. . . That's, Scofield 's actually out of our region so Roger probably is more up to speed on that.

Clair Woodbury: Well I fish some on that so I'm kind of interested in that one.

Mike Ottenbacher: Sure.

Roger Wilson: You know this has come up before. The one difference at Scofield and Strawberry is we are relying on natural reproduction at Strawberry. Scofield it's not major part of our management program. You know if we do get hybrids then uh, you know we'll have to deal with that. But there isn't a lot of reproduction there. There streams aren't in that great of shape and the recruitment is not a major part of the program there.

Clair Woodbury: So it's going to be a put and take pretty much like it has been.

Roger Wilson: Yeah. You know we uh, again Scofield's a little different than Panguitch Lake. We are allowing up to four rainbows to be taken, you know, just like Strawberry. So, you know, we're trying to balance the need of a family fishery there with some predation. And you know, we talked about this before at Panguitch. The issue here was education, can we educate the anglers that are coming largely from out of state? Can they know the difference in rainbows and cutthroats? So it's a little different here at Panguitch Lake than either Scofield or Strawberry.

Clair Woodbury: Thank you

# Jake Albrecht: Rex.

Rex Stanworth: Roger, I'm too dense on this. On your 13-16, possession and transportation of dead fish and crayfish, I'm confused on that because it says, at all waters except Strawberry Reservoir, Scofield, Panguitch Lake and Jordanell, game fish may be dressed, filleted, have heads or tails removed, or otherwise be physically altered. So on and so forth. It is unlawful to possess a fish while engaged in the act of fishing that have been dressed or filleted. This shall not be applied to fish that are processed to immediate consumption or to fish held from the previous day's catch. Then the next one comes down, trout and or salmon taken at Strawberry, Scofield, and Panguitch Lake, and smallmouth bass may not be filleted and the heads or tails may not be removed from them in the field or in transit. And I was under the impression, I'm reading that and I'm sitting here saying, well so can I or can I not fillet a fish at Strawberry or Scofield, and at my camp, and eat the fish? Because I remember we talked about that specifically.

Roger Wilson: Yeah this was extensively talked about last year and we worked hard on that language. We had a lot of different additions. And we had to draw the line somewhere for law enforcement. Where do you draw that line? And really it made sense to us to, you know, once they have ceased their fishing activity and they go into camp and they are cooking the fish, you know, those fish can be consumed. But they may not be transported, or held in the field in a filleted situation.

Rex Stanworth: So I guess, I realize you worked hard on this but I'm still sitting, what the hell is it saying to me? Can I or can I not?

Roger Wilson: If you're going down the road, leaving Strawberry, Scofield or Panguitch and you have a filleted cutthroat in your cooler then it's a violation.

Rex Stanworth: Okay.

Roger Wilson: If you uh, you know, the other waters . . . Let's just say you're at Lake Powell. You know this was an issue that really came up at Lake Powell. And the way the previous regulation was written, similar to what Wyoming has now, you could not fillet the fish, in fact it was illegal to go to the fish cleaning station at Lake Powell last year, prior to doing this change, and fillet a fish. It technically was illegal. And so we wanted to, we had all these fish cleaning stations built and we wanted to make that accommodation. So this was our attempt to allow filleting at those areas, most of the areas statewide once you complete your fishing day. But there's four waters that we have a concern with, a law enforcement concern that if you fillet fish we won't be able to determine the size of those fish. So those are the only four waters with that restriction. And Scofield we will add this year.

Rex Stanworth: But if I go to fish at Strawberry or Scofield and I'm done fishing for the day and I want to cook some fish I can fillet them and I'm okay.

Roger Wilson: Yes

Rex Stanworth: Okay.

Roger Wilson: You know this does take some law enforcement discretion, there's no doubt. But uh, it did before too and it was a far worse problem before we made this change. Because technically you could have written somebody at Willard Bay for going up and filleting their wipers. I mean, their, I guess the walleye because they had a length restriction on them.

Jake Albrecht: Del, have you got a question?

Dell LeFevre: Yeah we deal with the resident at Panguitch Lake quite a bit. They've got a concern about the catch and release and how many of them die. They're swallowing their bait; you're pulling their gills and throwing them back in. Can you explain that to me?

Mike Ottenbacher: Yeah that's been a major concern with us too Dell. I think that's one of the, with our modification that will help to address that. This will at least allow folks that take one of those fish in the slot, that it might be a bleeder, they'll be able to legally keep that fish. You know it's not going to solve the problem entirely but uh; certainly it's going to help. The bottom line is if we're going to be effective in our management plan and maintaining a biological control people are going to have to put fish back. I think it's going to be an education process. This will allow them to keep one of those bleeders. But it comes down to people are going to have to take a little bit of responsibility too. If they're using techniques that are killing fish they're going to need to change their techniques.

Jake Albrecht: Sam Carpenter.

Sam Carpenter: How you doing Mike? Uh, I've received four or five different people have contacted me about the outflow from Panguitch Lake and the tributaries below there. Do the department make any effort to post or mark any of the special restrictions that are associated with the streams below there other than what's in the proclamation?

Mike Ottenbacher: I'd have to defer to, maybe Micah can, the local conservation officer. I know we've had a problem on the tributaries above with some signage. And actually we've worked out a project with some folks that we're cited there this year to install some signs. So I think that's being taken care of. The primary area is going to be that stretch of Blue Springs, where the problem's going to be. I'm not sure what the status is right now of that signage but it's in the works.

Douglas Messerly: Sam was you questions about the outflow or inflow?

Sam Carpenter: Well in the e-mails I received it just said that they need to do a better job of posting special restrictions on the streams and reservoirs so you don't have to carry a proclamation with you all the time while you're fishing. Now this was referring to Panguitch Lake. I'm not sure inflows or outflows.

Mike Ottenbacher: Yeah and actually the special regulations don't apply to Panguitch creek below the lake. It would be just to those tributaries upstream. And it's really really limited to a mile stretch or so of Blue Springs Creek. And as I mentioned I think Micah is working with some folks right now to get signage installed there.

Sam Carpenter: Thank you.

Jake Albrecht: Any other questions from the RAC? I have one question. We have fishing at Acey Creek that comes out into the Sevier River. But from Panguitch to Circleville, is there any fish in that stream at all?

Mike Ottenbacher: There are a limited number. Actually Doug mentioned some of the habitat work that's going on this fall. It's getting better all the time. We've really invested a lot of money and time into that upper Sevier system from the confluence of Acey Creek in the upper Sevier just east of 89, on down to Hatch. And that's primarily where the trout habitat and the trout are. Below Panguitch it's pretty marginal. You might see a fish in there once in a while. We've done some experimental stocking down in Circleville Canyon, haven't had very good survival. It's just not trout water now. Stan Beckstrom keeps working at the pace he is maybe in 10 years it will be. We're working on it.

Jake Albrecht: But from Panguitch to Circleville you have tried a little bit of stocking in there then?

Mike Ottenbacher: We've stocked in Circleville Canyon, specifically. There have been some habitat improvements there as a result of some land management changes with the BLM. And so we've been trying periodically to stock that section with brown trout and see what survival we had. And in fact I had an angler call me this last summer and he said he spent a lot of time on it and fished it. And he actually did catch a few brown trout in there. So we're getting some survival but it's, it's pretty limited. It's not a spot that I'd recommend you go. Try that upper Acey Creek because it is improving and there are some good fish in there, below the highway, you know, below the private part.

Jake Albrecht: Okay, any other questions from the RAC? Do we have any questions from the public?

# **Questions from the Public:**

None

Jake Albrecht: Seeing none we're going to go to comments from the public. And I'm going to handle this a little bit different tonight. Rather than turning it loose for different situations we're going to discuss the first one and receive the comments from the public then we're going to

discuss it from the RAC if there's any questions or whatnot comments. And then we'll go to the next one. The first one is Steve Cox from Hurricane City, uh, fishing rules, Kolob regulations. Come on up Steve.

# **Comments from the Public:**

Steve Cox: First of all I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak with you guys here tonight. And I'd like to thank Mike and Clair for giving me some pointers on what I'm supposed to do here because I haven't ever done this before. I'm probably the last man that should be doing this but apparently it wasn't being done so I took it over. Um, my name is Steve Cox and I'm here to represent the people that want to change Kolob Reservoir. Um, I was going to e-mail all of you and let you know about this but my e-mail went out, you know how that will happen and I apologize for that.

Jake Albrecht: Steve, could I get you to pull up to the mic just a little bit.

Steve Cox: Oh okay. Anyhow, I do have a petition for changing Kolob back to general fishing. And that's going around right now. Um, the reasons are, and like I said, these, only I can highlight these because I do not have enough time for the time that I do have. The reasons are the fishing to me when it was put into the situation that it is now it was for just a select few. Um, the family fishing is now gone at the lake. The whole mountain is a private lake; it's all landowners. The landowners don't even fish it anymore because they don't, it's a waste of time. The people that do come to the lake now are just going up to camp. They don't spend any time on the lake fishing. They might walk down, throw their pole in, we're bored, back to camp. The adults and kids now instead of fishing they just get on their 4-wheelers fly around the lake. The mountain's all private so really all they can go on is the roads and they just fly around and anything else they can do to satisfy their day while they're on the mountain. Um, people that have pushed to get this in the beginning the rules that they are now you go there and you don't see these people there anymore. Um, you can go there at any time you might see two float tubers on the lake. You might see two boats. It's just, nobody's using the lake anymore. And it's because the quality has gone down and the people are tired of not going, going to the mountain and not being able to catch a fish. It's the closest alpine lake in our area. So I mean a lot of people do go there. You know it does get hot in St. George and Hurricane so Kolob is guite nice to be able to go to and cool down. Um, and for the price of the fuel it would be nice if you could go over to Fish Lake but you know, or Panguitch, or, but it's a little expensive. Very few fish at this time are being caught let alone legal fish. I, there on the lake almost every weekend, I have a place right close to it and I do watch the lake every weekend. I do talk with the people that are there that are fishing and it's not a good report. So the people that are going up are just camping so we are losing a lot of money in fishing licenses from out- of- staters and also locals. A lot of the kids won't fish there now because they get bored because they can't catch a fish. A lot of them don't even want to go to Kolob anymore because of the way the situation is. Oh we don't want to go with the family, we don't want to go up there. We keep hunting, lowering the hunters age to keep kids interested in the hunting. To me this is pretty much the same thing. It feels like to me that the elitists are over the masses. All this time I have, at this time I have 2093 signatures on those papers. Over 600 signatures have been removed and taken by other people. Um, and this is in just over three weeks of time. Seems to me that this is an outcry from the people that want to fish or do

fish Kolob Reservoir and return it back to the family lake that it was meant for. I do have some support from several mayors and hierarchy in the area but have not received them at this time because it's been such a short time. And Mr. Chairman I would like to have this put on the agenda for the next RAC meeting. And I want to thank you for your time. And any questions?

Jake Albrecht: Any of you guys got questions for Steve? Sam.

# Comments from the RAC:

Sam Carpenter: What would you like to see happen up there to make this better?

Steve Cox: Well the people that I've talked to right now would like, most of them would like to go back the way it was. You know we do have a few that do agree with the slot limit and I personally, but that's just me I'm just one person, but the majority of the people that I've talked to would like to go back to just general fishing where they can go up, take their kids fishing, you know, catch a fish, maybe it's only 4 fish, maybe, whatever fish, but at least they can go up and the kids can catch a fish. And right now you can go up there and fish all day and in a boat and maybe catch 3 fish. So it's quite slow.

Sam Carpenter: Okay. Do you have any problem with the fact that you can't use bait up there, the lures and flies only, is that a problem for you?

Steve Cox: That is a problem they're having because lures, you can sit there and throw a lure from the bank all day and you might catch one, two. And then the ones you catch it might only be six inches long.

Rex Stanworth: I guess I was gonna ask Roger, since this is dealing with fishing, what was the purpose of Kolob going to a slot?

Roger Wilson: You know Mike might be better to answer that question. He has a better history (unintelligible).

Rex Stanworth: Okay. Well from what the special regulations are it's anything 18 inches or smaller has to be thrown back, is that correct?

Mike Ottenbacher: Yes

Rex Stanworth: So even if you caught it you had to turn it back.

Mike Ottenbacher: There is no slot; it's a minimum size.

Rex Stanworth: Well there is a slot. The slot is if it's 1 to 18 you have to throw it back, anything over 18 that you can keep. And it's strictly artificial lures. Is the lake a tough lake to stock?

Mike Ottenbacher: I don't know Mr. Chairman if folks have other questions of Steve, if you want to finish up there. I've got a couple of slides that I put together on Kolob just to give you a little background as a response. If anybody, if we're through questioning Steve I could go

# ahead.

Jake Albrecht: I'd like to thank Steve. He did call and talk to me several times at the office. I appreciate that. More often than not folks will just show up cold at these meetings without any contact with us. So you know knowing that Kolob was going to be an issue tonight, and it has been raised is the past RACs various times, various aspects of the regulations. I put together a couple of slides just to give you some background. And then I think we discussed it within the region and at our fisheries staff and with Doug and have a proposal. But uh, I'll show you these couple of background slides. A little bit of the history, uh; historically Kolob was managed just as a family type, primarily rainbow trout fishery under the general statewide regulations. And it was a popular fishery. It was drained in 1996 in conjunction on some work on the outlet works. At that same time there had been some interest within the region based on some surveys that the state had done statewide, some interest in improving the quality in fishing statewide. It was actually about a fifty fifty split in the respondents. Half were fine with general regulations and half wanted an improvement in guality and more restrictive regulations in some of our waters. Looking at our waters down here in southern region we really didn't have much that we had restricted regulations on at that time and that you could guality trout fishery, Minersville, being one. At the same time we had a group of anglers in St. George, the Southern Utah Anglers Group that was interested in developing a quality fishery somewhere in close proximity to St. George. So that's kind of the genesis of the special regulations and the new management plans at Kolob. Basically the new plan went into effect with new regulations in 1998. Again, the main objectives were to increase the quality, decrease management costs, right then we were kind of in the straights with some of our hatcheries and Kolob was a water that would produce fish, grow fish on it's own, did have some natural recruitment. We could manage using natural recruitment and natural production and not have to rely on hatchery production. So that was another benefit or objective that we saw as going to those special regulations. The regulation that, the initial regulation was two trout that had to be over 18 inches in length. Since that time I think it went to 20 inches, the length limit went to 20 inches one year at the request, I think, of the Southern Utah Anglers Group. And then it was standardized: it actually went to 22 for a time period to standardize it with the other length regulations in the state. A couple of years ago we decided we, one of the objectives we weren't meeting we knew was our harvest objective there. We wanted to try and improve that so we decided to go back to the 15-inch length limit a couple of years ago. And that's where we are at. 18, sorry. These are the objectives of the plan that was developed in 1998 and I presented to the RAC and Wildlife Board at that time, I believe. Decrease management costs, we did achieve that. We went from, oh it ranged between 4 and 5 thousand dollar annual cost to stock the hatchery fish. Our stocking was comprised of both stocking fingerling fish, but the major component was stocking 5 thousand 10-inch rainbow trout each year. And we had to do that to maintain the fishing that we had with the fishing pressure and the harvest that our general regulations allowed. It simply wasn't possible to manage it without that stocking of catchable trout. Which is, again, a major expense in a lot of our fisheries. At the same time we saw an avenue there to utilize those fish other places. About that time we were starting to develop our community fisheries in the St. George area and we're scrambling to come up with catchable size rainbow trout and this was one spot where they came from. Other objectives were to maintain or increase the abundance of trout in the reservoir even though we decreased our stocking and we're relying on mainly natural reproduction. Our netting information, which gives us an index of abundance, has told us that our fish numbers have

remained relatively high in the reservoir. The other objective was to reduce or delay harvest of those younger fish and in that way to improve quality, to have a bigger fish for people to catch. One objective that we, we also wanted to maintain some harvest and our goal was to maintain 50 percent of the harvest by weight. That doesn't mean you're going to, I know we envisioned catching at least half as many fish as under the general regulations but we hoped that we would be providing enough of those bigger fish that the harvest by weight would be maintained at 50 percent. And that objective we, with the data that we have, we haven't met. We wanted to increase the angler catch rate, make it better fishing. We have limited data. We actually did an evaluation, a survey, in the year 2000, three years after the regulations to give us this evaluation of the program. And at that time the catch rate was about .7 fish per hour compared to .4, between .4 and .5. So actually the fishing did increase, at least up till that time. It would be nice if we had that data for every year since then but we don't. Again, the objective was to increase the proportion of cutthroat. Cutthroat were the species that naturally reproduced and recruited to the fishery. Typically were a little bit tougher to catch so they would survive to a bigger size and improve the quality. The second to the last is to (unintelligible) two thirds of the previous use. We anticipated that it probably would be a decline in use, at least temporarily with special regulations. With that survey in the year 2000 we were right at 70 percent of use that we had the years before. I can't really speak to what our pressure has changed since then. A final thing that we were concerned with was keeping our youth involved and evaluating the use by kids. And you know that we don't have a very good handle on. We didn't have any data on that before. The year of the survey there was only about, it was less than 10 percent of the anglers during that survey year that were, I think, under 14 years of age. So that about covers it as far as the history and our objectives and where we're at with at least the information that we have. As far as improving the quality of the fishery, I think we have. From that creel survey data the fish harvested, or caught and not harvested necessarily, was over 2 inches larger than under the general regulations. In fact closer to 3 inches larger. So we went from rainbow trout that were less than an average of 12 inches to one that was between 14 and 15 that year, as far as being caught. Our trend netting samples, the fish that we collect in our gill nets, have averaged 2 to 3 inches larger each spring than what we saw in the netting results before the special regulations went into effect. Numbers, again, I had mentioned have stayed comparable. So I think we have achieved our main objective of increasing the quality and size of fish there. Having said that I, certainly there has been some interest in previous RAC meetings to maybe look at some changes at Kolob. I think it's appropriate that we, it's time to evaluate the program. It's been 10 years since special regulations went into effect. And talking it over with our staff in the region our proposal would be to probably put a group together involving those that would like to see some change. I know Steve wants to be on the committee or have a representative of the landowners up there that would be appropriate. And put together kind of just a tentative list off the top of my head of folks that we'd probably want to have involved. Steve's group or representative, the Southern Utah Anglers, certainly they were involved in the initial regulation, the local governments have expressed some interest so we'd probably want some representation from them. Washington County Water Conservancy District owns the surrounding land and has the water rights. Certainly they would be one on the list. Possibly another wildlife group, Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife or the Dixie Wildlife Federation that have an interest and not necessarily related to fly fishing, but another potential member. But anyway that was kind of a list of folks off the top of my head that we might be able to put together and review our status and see where we want to go with Kolob. And somebody from the RAC, if they are so inclined. Any other

suggestions, anybody from the audience who has an interest in Kolob contact me and I'll give you a card. We will probably be putting this together here after the field season. I don't want to put it off so it may not happen until after the first of the year, with the way things go, but at least by then to get a group together and start looking at where we're at with Kolob and seeing if there's some other alternatives that we can meet the desires of folks involved.

Jake Albrecht: Mike you mentioned the Southern Utah Anglers Group, who is that group and are they still active?

Mike Ottenbacher: They are still active. I don't know what their membership. They're, in fact they are one of the primary sponsors of the kids fishing derby down in the St. George area. Every year they've been really involved in developing community fisheries, with mentoring groups down there. Yeah, they're active. I believe Dave Black is the president.

Jake Albrecht: So is that where this Kolob kind of came from is the angling group at that time?

Mike Ottenbacher: It was kind of both, the Division, the region here, as I said, was looking at some options to increase the number of quality trout waters in the region at that time. And kind of at the same time the group was looking for a spot too to do the same thing. They were one of the main proponents.

Jake Albrecht: Okay Steve back to you. Are you on this petition, which I know you are probably the main person on that, but did you have some other people that are involved with you?

Steve Cox: No I don't at this time. Uh, there have been several other people that have showed interest and at this time I just wanted this to be something that I brought to you. If I've got to go for it then we're going to have, there will be an awful lot of people that will be behind me and be with me. Like I said, I didn't know how this would go. I just got tired of going to the lake, driving by the lake. I don't fish it much anymore because it's no fun for me either, and I'm right there. Um, I just got kind of tired of it, seeing the kids, like I said all they do is run around on their 4-wheelers now, nobody fishes. And it's just to the point where something had to be done. So I just kind of took it on my shoulders for right now. And I did present the petition on my own. So at this time that's all it is.

Jake Albrecht: Okay. I noticed on the petitions that they range from Laverkin to Las Vegas. Las Vegas people I assume have been at the fisheries?

Steve Cox: Yes there's a lot of out-of-staters. Actually you go up there and probably at least a third of the campers on that mountain are either property owners or they just go to the lake, and most of the ones that you do see, or the ones that do go to the lake and camp. So, but they don't fish much either. I mean they used to. There used to be a lot of out-of-staters come up and fish. But now it's....

Jake Albrecht: Clair, I remember you brought this up a year ago, if I'm not mistaken. And the way I remember it was the mayor or county commissioner was concerned.

Clair Woodbury: Yeah Mayor Hersey of Hurricane had talked to me and expressed his great

desire to see it go back to a family fishery. He commented, where I haven't talked to Mayor McArthur of St. George, but he said Mayor McArthur suggests supported that also. I just kind of brought it up a year ago just to kind of throw it out to be thought about. Steve has obviously ... I talked to Mayor Hersey again this last week. He was going to be here but he had a meeting in Salt Lake, a mayor's meeting or something, he and Mayor McArthur.

Steve Cox: That's where all the mayors are right now.

Clair Woodbury: So they couldn't be here. But if we get this study group going I'm sure that they would want to have some input in because they were quite concerned with it.

Jake Albrecht: Jack, do you have a question?

Jack Hill: Comment if I may.

Jake Albrecht: Go ahead.

Jack Hill: Wasn't it last year at this time that we had that gentleman come in and wanted to change Otter Creek to a trophy fishery? When was that Mike?

Mike Ottenbacher: I don't recall anything about Otter Creek.

Jake Albrecht: What's your point Jack?

Jack Hill: Well maybe it was Koosharem. Yeah I guess maybe it was Koosharem. My point is . . . Go ahead.

Mike Ottenbacher: I don't recall anything on Otter Creek. But there has been some interest in special regulations on other waters including Koosharem.

Jack Hill: My concern is if we change that back to a regular fishery then there will be not that I know of, of a trophy fishery in southern Utah. Is there?

Douglas Messerly: Minersville.

Jack Hill: Minersville, oh that's right, yeah. So that's one issue. The other issue that came to my mind, you take a lake that small that's as close as it is to St. George and you put people on it and make it a 4 fish limit, you're not going to be able to keep that lake stocked, are ya? As little as it is?

Mike Ottenbacher: Well that's what I think I mentioned before Jack. Our stocking program under general regulations was a lot more intensive than it has been under special regulations. One of our main objectives was to decrease our management costs. At that time we were stocking 5000 catchable rainbow trout in each year, plus 15,000 fingerlings, rainbows, plus I think we put the occasional cutthroat in, and brook trout. So yeah, our management costs back at that time were between 4 and 5 thousand dollars annually.

Jack Hill: That's 10 years?

Mike Ottenbacher: Yeah, 10 years ago.

Jack Hill: I wonder what the population increase has been in Washington County in 10 years? What's the population increase in 10 years?

Clair Woodbury: I'm not exactly sure but it's at least double.

Jack Hill: I don't know that that lake could handle that kind of pressure as small as it is.

Clair Woodbury: You know that's a question I asked Doug last year, do we have the fish? You know I talked to him after the meeting. He says, and I can't remember, it's so many million fish or pounds of fish you have to plant and you just put them wherever the public wanted them. He didn't really care that much.

Mike Ottenbacher: Maybe Roger can speak to it. And we've been making some strides in our hatcheries and increasing our production but it's just a matter of priority. If it takes us, it may well take us more than 5000 catchables a year to maintain a fishery at Kolob under general regulation. It may take twice that many now. You know that's 10,000 fish a year that have got to come from some other quota.

Jake Albrecht: Okay, any other questions or comments?

Clair Woodbury: One more Jake.

Jake Albrecht: Clair.

Clair Woodbury: Mike, the gill or creel surveys, the last one you have is in 2000, is that correct?

Mike Ottenbacher: The last angler survey was in 2000. And we had set that up when we started the new management plan to evaluate it after two or three years. And then since then we haven't had an angler survey. We've had annual netting surveys almost each year since that time.

Clair Woodbury: I was wondering as we get this study group going maybe a current creel survey, maybe this fall would be good to have a little more current information on that and then we'd have a little something to work on.

Mike Ottenbacher: Certainly that's an option. Again, we're, one of the problems with creel survey is they're really expensive. You know you've got to have a guy out there but there maybe some other options. We may be able to do . . . .

Clair Woodbury: How quick can we train Steve there how to do that? He's up there every week. I'm sure he'd be glad to do that.

Steve Cox: I'd be happy to do it.

Mike Ottenbacher: Yeah and we may, without having a full blown survey we may be able to come up with, you know, partial survey for the more popular months or something that way to get us a little bit more information on the catch rate and the amount of pressure up there too.

Jake Albrecht: Okay.

Steve Cox: I do have one more comment on that though.

Jake Albrecht: Go ahead Steve. And then we'll . . .

Steve Cox: Okay. You know the creel surveys if you do them now, this is, October's coming up which is the highest prime time to fish there is because all the fish are getting fat; nobody's up there camping anymore.

Jake Albrecht: Okay, I'm going to read the opening comments of the fishing petition into the minutes. Okay, this petition is to return Kolob Reservoir back to general fishing rules. Let's make it a family lake once again. Any questions contact Steve Cox at 435-632-6742. Okay, Steve as you know our fishing proclamation has to be approved tonight for the following year. So we've got two choices that we can do here when we go to motions, we can change it to a general fishing rules, or we can leave it as it is and go with maybe Mike's suggestions that we get a group of people together and see which direction it needs to go. But we can't have it on the agenda for the next meeting, which is in November, because this needs to go forward tonight.

Jack Hill: Mr. Chairman? Could Steve; you implied that you had an e-mail address.

Steve Cox: Yes.

Jack Hill: Can you give me that? I have a couple of issues that I'd like to point out to you.

Steve Cox: Okay. It's csteve@cityofhurricane.com

Jake Albrecht: Okay, now you got that in the minutes. Uh, so anyway what we were going to do is we're going to go to the next comment card and then when we come to the motions at the end of the meeting why we'll make a decision on that. Thanks Steve for your time. Okay, our next comment card is Victor Davis from Panguitch Lake Resort. Come up Victor, you have five minutes.

(More comments from the public)

Victor Davis: First I'd like to thank you for allowing me to speak tonight. And I just want to come out in support of the slot limit up at Panguitch Lake. We've had about an 80 percent positive response from our customers. The fly fishermen have been particularly enthusiastic. There's been a lot of catch all summer by the fly fisherman. They've done very well. We've had an older couple that has been up there for 30 days and their count of fish in 30 days, they

caught 450 fish that they catch and released. Which is pretty good. We've had comments that the lake for the fly fisherman that have been up has been fishing better than any other lake in the country for trout, which has been really great. Of course this is our first year up there so we can't tell you how it's been in the past but we can tell you right now that it's been generally positive. That's it.

Jake Albrecht: Okay, anyone got any questions from the RAC? I have one. How many businesses are open now at Panguitch Lake?

Victor Davis: Currently there's Bear Paw Resort. We're open but we do not have campers because we're selling lots but the restaurant is open and our boat rentals are open. Rocky Point Boat Rentals is open, and I believe the store. And that's it. So there's three boat rental companies, one campground, Bear Paw that has some RV spaces and then there is some RV spaces at Owens Brothers but they're year to year rentals.

Jake Albrecht: So how has your summer been as far as fishing and people coming in and staying?

Victor Davis: Like I say this is our first year of business there but we felt that it was fairly busy. I mean on the holiday weekends the lake was covered in boats. There was a lot of fishing pressure on the lake on the holiday weekends. Not as much on the regular weekends but the holiday weekends were very busy.

Jake Albrecht: Okay, has anybody else got any other questions?

Jack Hill: I got a question.

Jake Albrecht: Jack Hill.

Jack Hill: Is there any kind of marketing plan that you people put together up there?

Victor Davis: Yes

Jack Hill: I mean as a group.

Victor Davis: Well not as a group. Ourselves, we do market in Las Vegas, essentially. We do have billboards up as well. But mostly marketing the real estate issue with our project. But I really don't see anything else from the other of the businesses up there.

Jack Hill: Thank you

(More comments from public, email read by Jake Albrecht)

Jake Albrecht: Okay, thanks. I got one other letter that I need to read into the minutes. It came by way of e-mail it says: Jake, can't be at the RAC meeting on Tuesday. For what it's worth I go to Panguitch Lake usually twice a week or more, each Sunday to the church meeting and then again during the week. I don't see much fishing activity, not like I used to be;

usually only four to six boats on Sunday mornings. Since many know that I used to work for DWR they sure do complain about the fishing regs. I am very supportive of the treatment and management at Panguitch Lake to keep chubs out or at least controlled. However, since there are as yet no cubs, hopefully never, and the rainbows are not much above predator fish would in not be possible to increase the PR in educating fisherman at the difference between rainbows and cutthroats? Then let them catch and keep the rainbows regardless of size. So many are caught, released and wasted. Sure seems that a much bigger harvest of rainbows would be okay. I meet hundreds of people in the LDS branch where I am assigned. So many used to fish the lake but not now. It used to be a great family fishery. They are discouraged. I never want to see another chub in the lake again as does everyone, however, can't regulations be designed to harvest the rainbows while still protecting some of the large cutthroat? If a chub again shows in the gill net then adjust as needed to keep the large predator fish. Hope your meeting goes well, Norm McKee. Mike, have you got any comments to that?

Mike Ottenbacher: Sure, I appreciate Norm's comment. And I, you know that's one that we've struggled with from the beginning. What kind of slot, what kind of restrictive regulation would work best for Panguitch? And certainly the specific to cutthroat slot limit has worked at Strawberry but Panguitch is a little bit different situation than Strawberry. Again, one of our primary interests was in maintaining use up there and accommodating the businesses. Early on we were looking at a species-specific regulation just on cutthroat at Panguitch. We saw that as being a real potential problem with the clientele we have there. That's not saying that the Strawberry anglers are smarter than Panguitch area folks. It's basically because of the clientele, the non-resident clientele which is important to the businesses. We've got folks that probably their only fishing experience is maybe their one trip to Panguitch Lake each year from Nevada. At Strawberry I think we've got a clientele that we could educate that are a lot of local folks that are repeat users, where it's was a different situation at Panguitch. We just felt that it was worth a try of using that nonspecific slot limit to accommodate those folks. To make it as simple as possible to still have a restrictive regulation that accomplishes our biological objective. I don't know if it's going to work. Eventually we may have to go up to a speciesspecific slot but I really want to give this non-specific slot a try. I think it is valuable statewide. You know we're struggling with restrictive limits and slots in other parts of the state. If it works here at Panguitch it might provide us another option to use statewide. So I guess that in a nutshell is why we haven't gone or patterned ourselves exactly after Strawberry. So it's the hope that we would be able to do something a little bit simpler, a little bit more acceptable to that clientele that uses Panguitch and still achieve our objectives.

Jake Albrecht: Commissioner, have you got any other comments? LeFevre? Dell? Nothing? Okay, it's been three years?

Mike Ottenbacher: Well yeah, two and a half.

Jake Albrecht: Okay so we've got some problems . . .

Mike Ottenbacher: We actually didn't have these regulations in effect until January 2001, so it's been two years with special regulations on it.

Jake Albrecht: Okay. We got some positive comments from Victor. I think that's good. You

know a couple of years, just looking at it I think maybe we ought to give it a little more time and see where it goes.

Mike Ottenbacher: I might mention and Roger can chime in too, the regulation we have at Strawberry wasn't the original regulation proposed there. I think they went through two or three iterations at Strawberry before they ended up with that regulation that they feel is effective now. So we've got iteration or two to go yet before we, maybe, figure where we need to be.

Jake Albrecht: Well I don't think you can jump back and forth and come up with a good something down the road there. So maybe give it a little time. Rex Stanworth.

# RAC Discussion and Vote:

Rex Stanworth: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion that we accept the fishing guideline rule, R657-13 as presented, and with a proposal that a committee be set up to look at and study the fishing regulations on Kolob Reservoir making it a more family friendly fishing hole

Jake Albrecht: Okay, we have a motion by Rex to accept the fishing regulations as presented and also that we set up a working committee for the Kolob Reservoir Unit. The only thing that I think probably needed to be added into that Rex is what type of people you want on that committee, something probably very similar to the other working groups? You guys can set that up that way. Okay, do we have a second on it then?

Jack Hill: I'll second it.

Jake Albrecht: Second by Jack Hill.

Jake Albrecht: Do you have that in in the minutes the way you, the way Rex said it or the way I said it? You're okay with that then? Okay. Okay, any other discussion? All in favor, aye. Any against?

Jack Hill: I was going to ask her to read it back.

Jake Albrecht: Motion carries.

# Rex Stanworth made the motion to accept the Fishing Guideline Rule R-657-13 as presented, and to set up a working committee for the Kolob Reservoir. Jack Hill seconded. Motion carried unanimously

Jake Albrecht: Okay, our next item is Paunsaugunt Antlerless Deer Hunt Season Extension; this is also an action item. Teresa.

Paunsaugunt Antlerless Deer Hunt Season Extension (action) 1:32:31 to 1:35:07 of

# 1:42:21 -Teresa Bonzo, Wildlife Program Manager

Rex Stanworth: So Teresa, is the purpose of the permit, is it to take care of depredation or is it to reduce the herd by 50 does?

Teresa Bonzo: The main purpose is to reduce the population. We are above our population by quite a bit. As we are doing that we would like to take the worst deer, if there are the worst deer, we'd like to target those ones specifically. But it didn't work out the way that we had hoped. So to help these people that drew a tag that didn't even have an opportunity to harvest a deer because the deer were not in at the boundary like we had anticipated them, So this, doing a later hunt the deer, as you all know, they move down off the plateau and they're moving south, so they will be within the area in November.

Rex Stanworth: It's definitely a different hunt if we're not taking deer that are affecting agriculture and we're just reducing the population.

Teresa Bonzo: So it really, we kind of have contemplated making it a, opening it up into the entire unit. At this point, you know we may do that in years to come because we'll certainly be, unless we have the population plummet, we'll probably be recommending some doe hunts in the next several years to get the population back in check and help the habitat. But at this point we've already recommended these boundaries so we would like to stick with these boundaries for this year.

Rex Stanworth: So are the landholders, are we getting landholders that are supporting this, this hunt and this hunt boundary?

Teresa Bonzo: Well it's not all private land. Some of it is but I'm not exactly sure if I'm understanding. . .

Rex Stanworth: Well I guess what I'm saying is we pitched it as a depredation hunt. And I would assume that if we had a depredation hunt some landowners were complaining because we had too many deer there.

Teresa Bonzo: I would disagree that it's a depredation hunt. It's a population reduction/ if we were to kill, I'm just trying to say that if we were to, we were hoping that would work out, but if we are having to remove antlerless animals from the unit we would like the ones that are causing agricultural damage to be taken first. But that didn't work out. So. . I mean, really we just need to reduce the population a little bit so. But if we change the boundary at this time it would really complicate things. We may in the future but not this year. We would like to maintain the same boundary.

Rex Stanworth: Have you got that many deer down there Sam?

Sam Carpenter: I remember the discussion on this from Richfield when we had our April meeting on this. And I was told explicitly that it was a depredation problem. And I tried to

caution them on this because it is, the areas within this boundary is just almost all private where these deer hang out in these alfalfa fields. A comment that I'd like to make on it is uh, have we received these range studies we've been waiting on to determine the population of the Paunsaugunt?

Teresa Bonzo: We have not yet. Anise, we are hoping to have them for our next Paunsaugunt Management Team group, but we haven't got those yet. Those are from the range crew. But regardless, the population objective is at 65 hundred, currently under the old plan. We're at a reduction right now, a temporary reduction because of range trend to 52 hundred. Regardless, we're still over. In May, before fawns hit the ground we were at estimated 66 hundred. So we're still over.

Sam Carpenter: Right, okay, well my understanding on this and the way I feel about this is that I feel for the hunters that got the tags. You're not going to be getting a deer that caused the problems. You're going to have the entire migration down there during this period of time. And we are over population so I'm not really against having the hunt. But I am against the fact that the land owners that are complaining here are already being compensated heavily for the deer and in fact, I was told my members of the DLWA, the people that we do give these 20 tags, and these are buck tags that can be hunted during any season, were doing the complaining and they supposedly were not had signed waives or whatever that organization does not to be complaining of depredation. But for this thing I think we should allow it to happen until we get our studies and see where we're going to end up and deal with it next year.

Teresa Bonzo: Okay, thank you. I don't know that a lot of the Johnson Canyon owners, they didn't push for this hunt. It was us. So it wasn't them pushing for this as well. It was our decision. So, thank you.

Sam Carpenter: I was just told the opposite though at the meeting when we made the recommendations. I think it's in the record that it was a depredation issue.

Teresa Bonzo: I just meant that those people weren't pushing the DWR to have this hunt. We made that decision without their input.

Jake Albrecht: Teresa the boundary description, are these people going to be able to take an animal or is it posted too much?

Teresa Bonzo: No during this new time frame in November, absolutely they will be. They will be moving through; they will be down there in good numbers. We just recommended it at a time where they had not moved in there at all.

Jake Albrecht: But will they be posted so much that the people won't be able to get on the land where the deer are, is my question.

Teresa Bonzo: No, there's plenty of public land as well. We made the boundaries large enough that it's not all private.

Jake Albrecht: Okay. Any other questions?

# **Questions from the RAC:**

None.

Jake Albrecht: Okay, any other comments?

# **Questions from the Public:**

None.

# **Comments from the Public:**

None.

# Comments from the RAC:

Jake Albrecht: Jack?

Jack Hill: I was going to make a motion.

# **RAC Discussion and Vote:**

Jake Albrecht: Well go ahead then.

Jack Hill: I'd make a motion for acceptance of the Hunt Extension from November 7 through 17, and maintain the previous boundary.

Rex Stanworth: I'll second that motion.

Jake Albrecht: Second by Dell LeFevre. Any other discussion? All in favor? Any against? Motion carries.

Jack Hill made the motion to accept Paunsaugunt Antlerless Deer Hunt Season Extension as presented, Dell LeFevre seconded. Rex Stanworth and Jim Edwards opposed.

# Other Business:

Jake Albrecht: Okay. Our next meeting is Bucks Bulls and Once in a Lifetime Proclamation Rule, November 4, 2008, here at Beaver High School, at 5o'clock p.m. 5'oclock. Meeting, motion to adjourn. Second? All in favor?