



State of Utah

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TO: Utah Wildlife Board / Regional Advisory Council Members

FROM: Avery Cook

SUBJECT: 2023 Pen-reared Gamebird Recommendations

Summary of Recommended Changes:

Pen-reared gamebird related rules sections are currently distributed across six Division rules and one Department of Agriculture and Food rule. This recommendation is to update rules to align conflicting rule language across agencies, simplify Division rule by consolidating pen-reared gamebird provision into a single rule, shift regulation of commercial gamebirds growers to the Department of Agriculture and food, and update disease testing requirements to meet challenges of emerging disease.

Pen-reared Gamebird Recommendation

- **R657-4: Possession of Live Game Birds**
 - Repeal
- **R657-4: Possession and Release of Pen-reared Gamebirds**
 - Replacement rule
 - Defines “Gamebirds”
 - Defines permitting requirements for possession and release separately.
 - Establishes UDAF as the agency regulating commercial gamebird growers (more than 1000 gamebirds).
 - Establishes the Division as the agency regulating personal use of pen-reared gamebirds.
 - Allows permitless possession for holding gamebirds less than 60 days and less than 50 pen-reared gamebirds.
 - Requires registration for long-term holding or quantities between 50-1000 pen-reared gamebirds.
 - Establishes the Division as the agency regulating release of pen-reared gamebirds.



- Allows release of less than 10 pen reared-gamebirds or 3 per dog without permitting.
 - Requires permitting for larger releases (field trials and commercial hunting areas).
 - Establishes standards for disease testing.
- **R657-06 Taking Upland Game**
 - Moved section R657-46-6 regarding training dogs on wild birds to the upland game rule, R657-06-20.
 - There are additional unrelated changes in R567-06, see upland game rule memo and presentation for additional upland game rule amendments.
- **R657-20 Falconry**
 - Remove R657-20-26: Use of Pen-reared Game Birds for Meets, Trials and Training, and other language related to pen-reared gamebirds or game birds and replace with references to R657-04.
- **R657-22 Commercial Hunting Areas**
 - Repeal.
 - Commercial Hunting areas will now be regulated by R657-4.
 - Provisions related to release to the wild, hunting area, and hunting pen-reared gamebirds remain generally unchanged.
 - Provisions related to possession of more than 1000 pen-reared gamebirds is now regulated by UDAF.
- **R657-46 Game Birds in Training and Trails**
 - Repeal.
 - Provisions related to pen-reared gamebirds have been moved to R657-04.
 - Provisions related to wild upland game have been moved to R657-06.

