



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

J. SHIRLEY
Division Director

May 1, 2023

TO: Utah Wildlife Board / Regional Advisory Council Members

FROM: Heather Talley

SUBJECT: 2023 Upland Game, Wild Turkey, and Waterfowl Recommendations

Summary of Recommended Changes:

Updated Wild Turkey Management Plan (see attached for complete plan)

- Feeding Policy
- Crash Response Plan
- Revision of Limited-Entry Boundaries
- Updated Release Sites

Wild Turkey Recommendation

- **R657-54-4: Authorized Weapons**
 - Allows the use of airguns for the take of turkeys in the fall
- **R657-69-7: Control Permit Vouchers for Turkey**
 - Allows three vouchers per individual; does not count toward fall permit allocation
- **R657-69-9: Removal of Turkeys from Commercial Poultry or Gamebird Facilities and Infection Zones**
 - Owners or operators of these facilities may apply for a COR to remove wild turkeys
- **R657-54-8: Live Decoys and Electronic Calls**
 - Prohibits robotic decoys, night vision devices and drones.
- **R657-54-10: Sitting or Roosting Turkeys**
 - Includes power poles and elevated structures
- **R657-54-19: Purchasing or Selling Wild Turkey Parts**
 - Language to align with other species' rules
- **R657-54-20: Season Dates, Bag and Possession Limits, and Areas Open**
 - Three permits (two beardless permits and one either-sex permit) offered in the fall



Upland Game Recommendation

- **R657-6-6: Authorized Weapons**
 - Air rifle recommendation
- **R657-6-20: Use of Dogs**
 - Prohibit dog training near sage-grouse and sharp-tailed grouse leks (March 1 – May 31)
- **R657-6-22: Live Decoys and Electronic Calls**
 - Prohibit night vision devices, drones and robotic decoys
- **R657-6-25: Purchasing or Selling Upland Game Parts**
 - Language to align with other species' rules
- **R657-6: Taking Upland Game**
 - General updates and housekeeping

Waterfowl Recommendations

- **R657-9-3: Stamp Requirement**
 - Allows electronic duck stamps
- **R657-9-28: Use of Dogs**
 - Clarifies the stipulations for dogs allowed at Farmington Bay
- **R657-9: Taking waterfowl, snipe and coot**
 - General updates and housekeeping

Swan Hunting Recommendations

- **R657-9-4. Permit Applications for Tundra Swan.**
 - Trumpeter swan take and possession will be illegal
 - Swan permits will be tundra-only
 - All swans must be checked in
- **R657-62-22. Tundra Swan.**
 - References tundra swans only as trumpeter take will be considered poaching.