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MEMORANDUM

TO: Utah Wildlife Board / Regional Advisory Councils

FROM: Daniel Sallee, District Wildlife Biologist

DATE: November 17, 2023

SUBJECT: Elk unit plan revisions.

After the approval of the new Statewide Elk Management Plan in the fall of 2022 Division staff conducted reviews and updates of all unit elk management plans. The Statewide plan directs that unit plans with minor updates are reviewed and approved by the Division Director. Unit plans with significant changes, including changes to population objectives and/or unit boundaries are presented to the RACs and Board for approval.

These updated plans were developed with input and support of local unit elk plan committees comprised of diverse constituencies and local stakeholders. The following table shows the unit plans with proposed changes to the population objectives.

Elk Units with Changes to Population Objectives			
Unit name	Current objective	Proposed objective	Difference*
Box Elder	675	1,075	400
Morgan-South Rich	3,800	4,200	400
Yellowstone	5,000	3,500	-1,500
Nebo	1,450	2,200	750
Southwest Desert	975	1,050-1,250	175
Fillmore	1,600	1,450-1,750	0
Beaver	1,050	1,150-1,350	200
Panguitch Lake	1,100-1,300	1,100-1,500	150

*In population objectives with ranges, the mid-point of the range is used for calculations.

The Division also proposes splitting two of the unit plans that were previously combined so the plans more closely represent separate elk populations. The Central Mountains



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elk unit plan would be split into separate plans for the Manti and Nebo units. We also propose splitting the South Slope unit plan to have a plan for the Yellowstone unit and a plan for the Diamond Mtn/Vernal/Bonanza elk population.

Please see the proposed unit plans in their entirety included in the RAC packet.