



State of Utah

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Department of Natural Resources

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Division of Wildlife Resources

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 21, 2024

TO: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

FROM: Lindy Varney, Wildlife Licensing Coordinator

SUBJECT: **Proposed rule amendments R657-62:
First-time youth general-season buck deer preference point
Youth unutilized allocation conversion
General-season buck deer/dedicated hunter applications**

The Statewide Mule Deer Committee met earlier this year, while meeting and discussing ways to better the odds of drawing out for a deer permit, and exploring ways to get more opportunities to our hunters, the following recommendations are being proposed.

With only 44% of our first-time youth applicants being successful on drawing out for a general-season buck deer permit, the Division would like to recommend that all first-time youth general-season buck deer applicants receive one general-season buck deer preference point.

We currently offer 20% allocation to youth for general-season buck deer permits. However, not all of the percentage is being utilized due to not enough youth applications on certain units. The division would like to propose a rule change that would allow us to convert any remaining permits from the unutilized youth allocation to legal weapon regular season permit after evaluation all youth applications.

Another option the statewide mule deer committee explored to get more opportunity to our hunters was ways to reduce applications. In 2024, 88% of dedicated hunter applicants also applied for general-season buck deer permit. The Division would like to propose to only allow hunters to apply for a general-season buck deer permit/point OR the dedicated hunter COR/point – but no longer allow them to apply for both types of permits.

