



State of Utah

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Department of Natural Resources

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MEMORANDUM

Date: October 31, 2024

To: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members

From: Devri Tanner, Wildlife Biologist

Subject: Recommended changes to R657-64, Predator Control Incentives

In response to legislative feedback the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources recommends an increased predator control incentive for coyotes taken in areas that are critical to mule deer survival. The Division also recommends removal of the ear and pelt submission and marking requirements in response to feedback from program participants who wish to maintain the quality of their coyote pelts. Other minor changes to R657-64 are proposed to reflect procedural updates and to improve the organization and clarity of the rule. A summary of the recommendations is as follows:

1. Change language to allow increased payments for coyote removal in crucial mule deer habitat while maintaining \$50 compensation elsewhere.
 - a. Projections based on past data show that increasing the bounty to \$75 per coyote in crucial mule deer habitat will not exceed the allocated \$250,000 per fiscal year.
 - b. The map of increased bounty locations will be published on the Utah Hunt Planner.
2. Remove the ear and pelt check-in requirement and provide alternative ways to prevent duplicate submissions such as removing both premolar teeth or keeping the jaw.
3. Add language to reflect the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food taking on the targeted predator control of coyotes that was previously performed by the United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services.
4. Update language to reflect changes in certificate of registration and compensation form requirements due to electronic certification and mobile app implementation.
5. Update existing language to improve rule organization and clarity.

Further context and details can be found in the [latest coyote annual report](#) and in the redline version of the rule in the RAC and Board packet.

