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# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

JOEL FERRY  
Executive Director

### Division of Wildlife Resources

RILEY PECK  
Division Director

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Utah Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Councils

FROM: Dax Mangus, Big Game Coordinator

DATE: March 26, 2025

**SUBJECT: Overview of 2025 buck pronghorn permit recommendations**

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources biologists and staff have evaluated aerial counts and ground-classification information to examine population status, sex ratios and reproductive rates in the state's pronghorn populations. The count and classification data — along with harvest data that includes the tooth ages of pronghorn bucks — have informed the DWR's recommendations for 2025 buck pronghorn permits.

The Utah Pronghorn Statewide Management Plan directs the DWR to manage for an average age of 2-3 years old for harvested bucks. After evaluating the collected data in the context of the age objective in the statewide plan, the DWR recommends increasing limited-entry buck pronghorn permits from 1,506 permits to 1,739 permits. This is a proposed increase of 233 permits, or about 15%.

Utah has 28 buck pronghorn units, and all units are meeting or exceeding the age objective of 2-3 years for harvested bucks. We are recommending a reduction on two units — the Mt Dutton/Paunsaugunt and San Juan, Hatch Point units — due to long-term drought impacts. We are recommending no change on five units and permit increases on 21 units. These recommendations are designed to maintain or move toward compliance with the objectives in the statewide management plan.

Please see the buck pronghorn hunt recommendations listed in the hunt tables in this packet for a detailed breakdown of recommended permits for each unit. The hunt tables also show how permits are allocated among weapon types and split between residents and nonresidents.