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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members
FROM: Covy Jones, Wildlife Section Chief
DATE: March 26, 2025
SUBJECT: **Overview of recommended changes to R657-55a the Wildlife Expo**

Permit Rule

Esteemed members of the RAC and the Utah Wildlife Board, the list below is a synopsis of the major recommended changes to R657-55. For the full list of changes, please review the rule, included in the RAC packet.

- Eliminate all non-resident-only expo permits
- Match the Conservation Permit rule in how expo permits are
 - Presented
 - Approved
 - Accounted for
- Allow for variances and describe the conditions and process to hold a virtual expo
- Remove COVID-19 language
- Allow and expo permit application to cost no less than \$5 and no more than \$10
- Provide a detailed explanation of how the funds generated will be divided and used
 - 20% allocated for fees associated with running the expo drawing
 - 10% returned to the DWR to be used for wildlife management
 - 70% kept by the contractor and spent to benefit Utah wildlife:
 - 35% must be spent in a joint agreement with the DWR
 - 35% must be spent by the group on Utah wildlife
- Add tundra swan permits as an option for the expo hunt drawing
- Other minor changes based on current legislative language