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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 / Regional Advisory Council Members

FROM: Heather Talley

DATE: April 28, 2025

**SUBJECT:** 2025 Sage-grouse Translocations and Pen-reared Gamebird Rule Amendments

### Summary of Recommended Changes:

#### **Sage-grouse Translocations**

- Requesting approval for sage-grouse translocations to occur on Tabby Mountain, Browns Park, and the Tidwell Slopes/Mytoge Mountain areas. These areas fall within the Strawberry, Uintah and Parker Sage-grouse Management Areas. Translocated birds will be sourced from the Blue, Diamond, and Parker Mountains.

#### **Possession and Release of Pen-reared Gamebirds**

- **R657-4:** Minor updates, formatting, and clarifications to improve the clarity, without changing the meaning of the rule
- **R657-4-2: Definitions**
  - Defined "propagation"
- **R657-4-3: Prohibited Possession of Pen-reared Gamebirds**
  - Further clarified prohibited species
  - Prohibited poultry dealers, such as feed stores, from selling pen-reared gamebirds
- **R657-4-8: Records of Sale or Purchase of Live Pen-reared Gamebirds**
  - Added disease testing records to requirements of buyers and sellers
- **R657-4-9: Unlawful Release of Pen-reared Gamebirds**
  - Clarified that releasing birds from a flock showing clinical signs of disease is prohibited
- **R657-4-10: Disease General Provisions**
  - Added that the Division may conduct random disease testing
  - Further clarifies thresholds for Commercial Gamebird Facilities
- **R657-4-11: Disease Provisions for Release of Gamebirds**
  - Removes mandatory testing for mycoplasma gallisepticum and synoviae
  - Further clarifies Avian Influenza testing requirements
- **R657-4-15: Personal Use Pen-reared Gamebird Release**
  - Provides guidance on short-term, small volume releases

