



**State of Utah**  
**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
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*Executive Director*  
**Division of Wildlife Resources**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Utah Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Councils

FROM: Dustin Mitchell, Southeastern Region Wildlife Program Manager

DATE: Aug 1, 2025

**SUBJECT: Unit deer plans for San Juan, La Sal and Manti/San Rafael units**

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) revises its mule deer unit plans on a 5-year rotational schedule. This occurs in conjunction with the reports of the Utah Range Trend Monitoring Project and updated Statewide Mule Deer Management Plan. For 2025, the deer unit plans for the Southeastern Region have undergone full revisions. The Statewide plan directs that unit plans with minor updates are reviewed and approved by the Division Director. Unit plans with significant changes, including changes to population objectives and/or unit boundaries are presented to the RACs and Board for approval.

There are three units or sub-units with proposed increases to the population objective. These increases are due to changes in statewide modeling efforts which have caused an increased shift in current population estimates and now exceed current population objectives. Given this factor along with recent increased or stable habitat quality ratings, an increase in the population objective is needed.

These updated plans were developed with input and unanimous support of local unit deer plan committees comprised of diverse constituencies and local stakeholders. The following table shows the unit plans with proposed changes to the population objectives.

Deer Units with Changes to Population Objectives			
Unit name	Current objective	Proposed objective	Difference
La Sal, La Sal Mtns	8,000	11,500	3,500
Manti/San Rafael	28,000	38,000	10,000
San Juan, Abajos	13,500	17,000	3,500

Please see the proposed unit plans in their entirety included in the RAC packet.

