



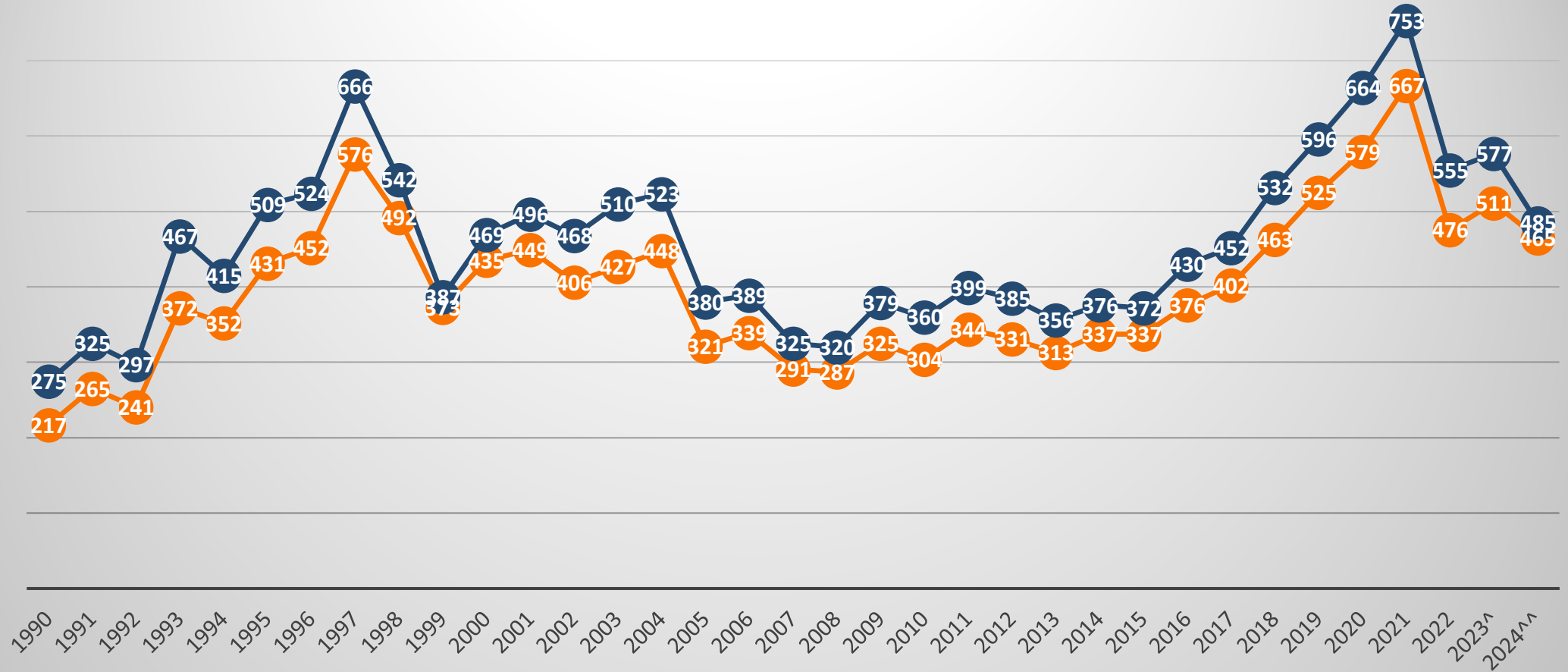
2024 COUGAR INFORMATION

CHANGE TO STATE LAW IN 2023

- A new state law went into effect last year (May 3, 2023).
- That law allows an individual with a hunting license to hunt or trap a cougar from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.
- The law is located in Utah Code 23A-4-707.



COUGAR HARVEST

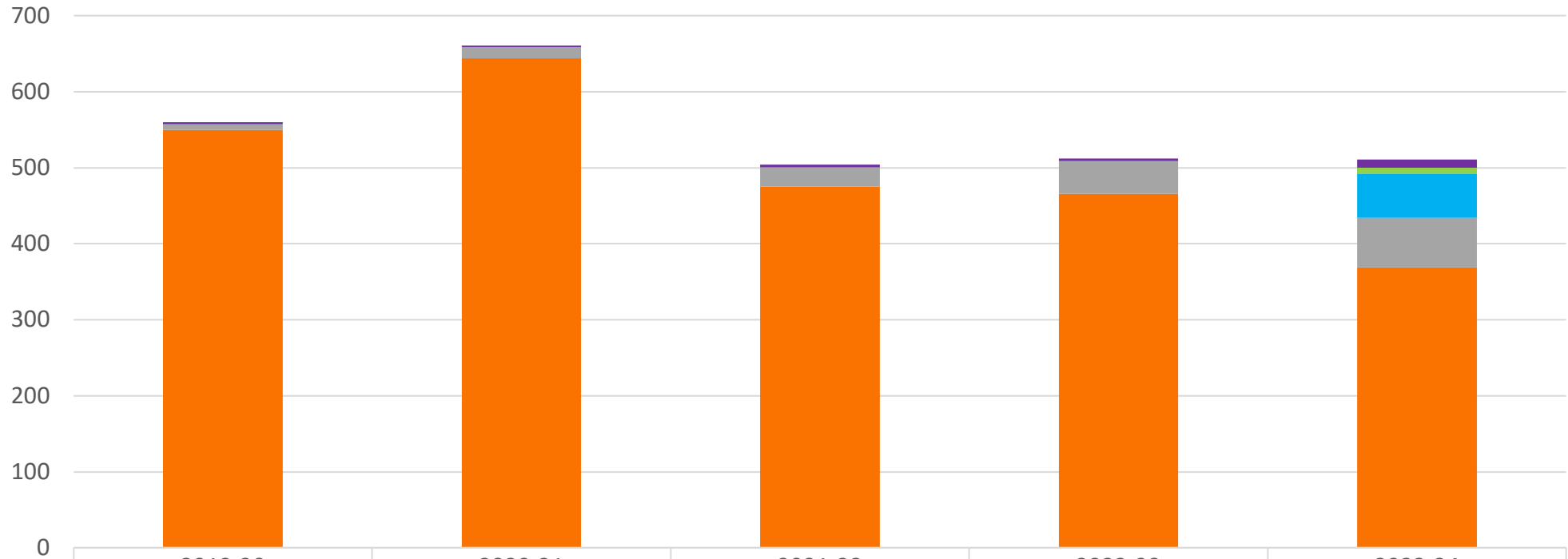


*Beginning in 2021, most harvest-objective units had unlimited quotas.

— Hunt harvest — Total mortality

COUGAR HARVEST

Cougar take by method



	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Unknown	3	2	3	3	11
Lethal Trap					7
Footholds			1		59
Spot and Stalk	7	15	25	43	65
Hounds	550	644	475	466	369

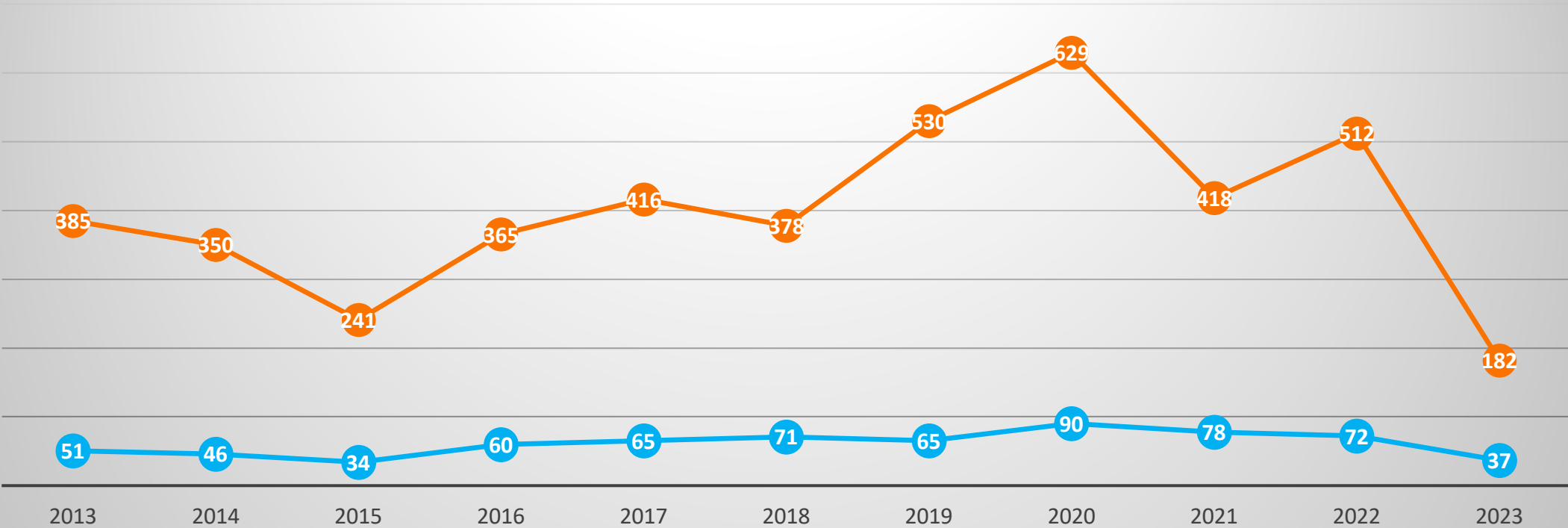
CHANGES TO DEPREDATION MANAGEMENT

- New partnership with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food
- Help livestock producers with cougars preying on their animals



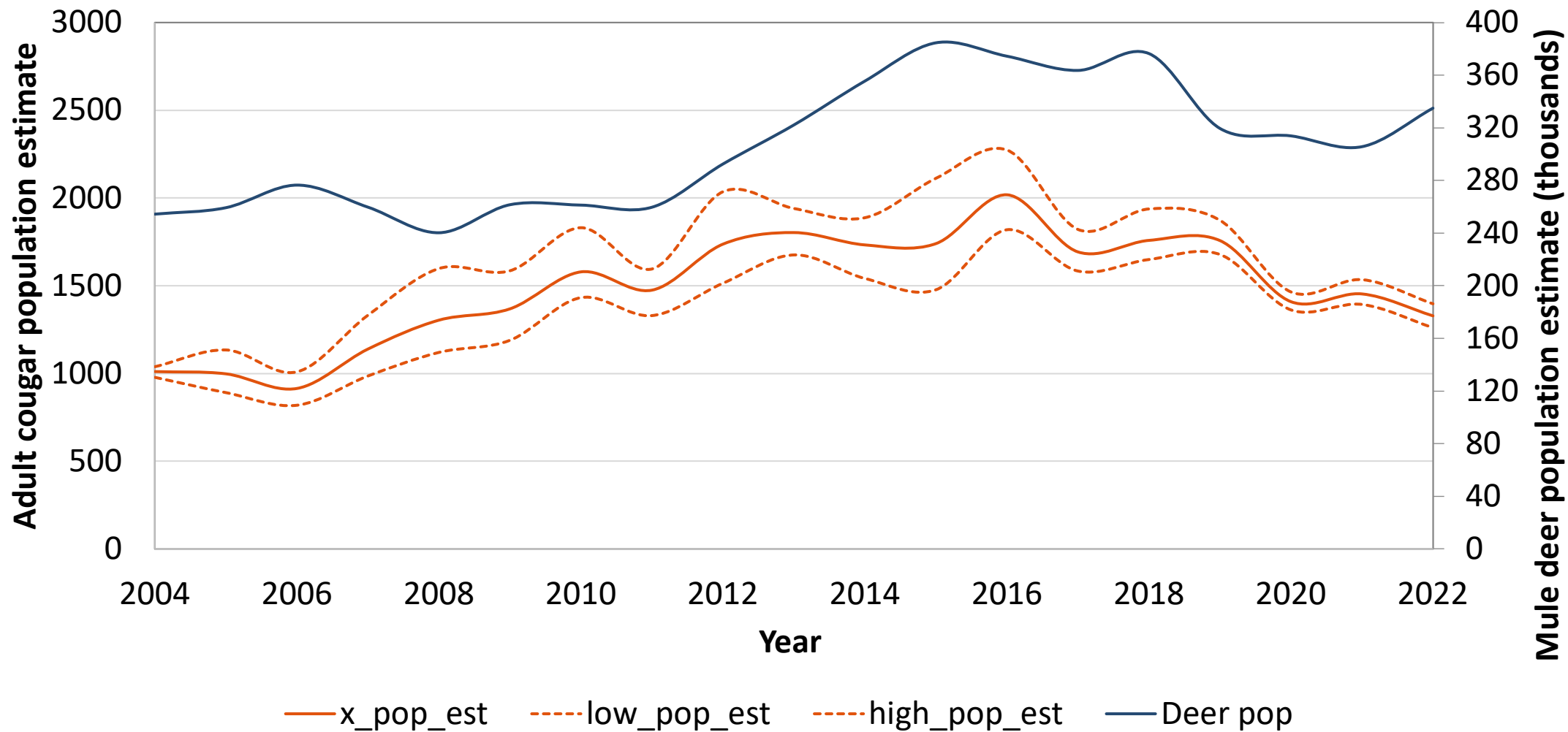
COUGAR DEPREDEATION

Number of incidents vs. losses to cougar



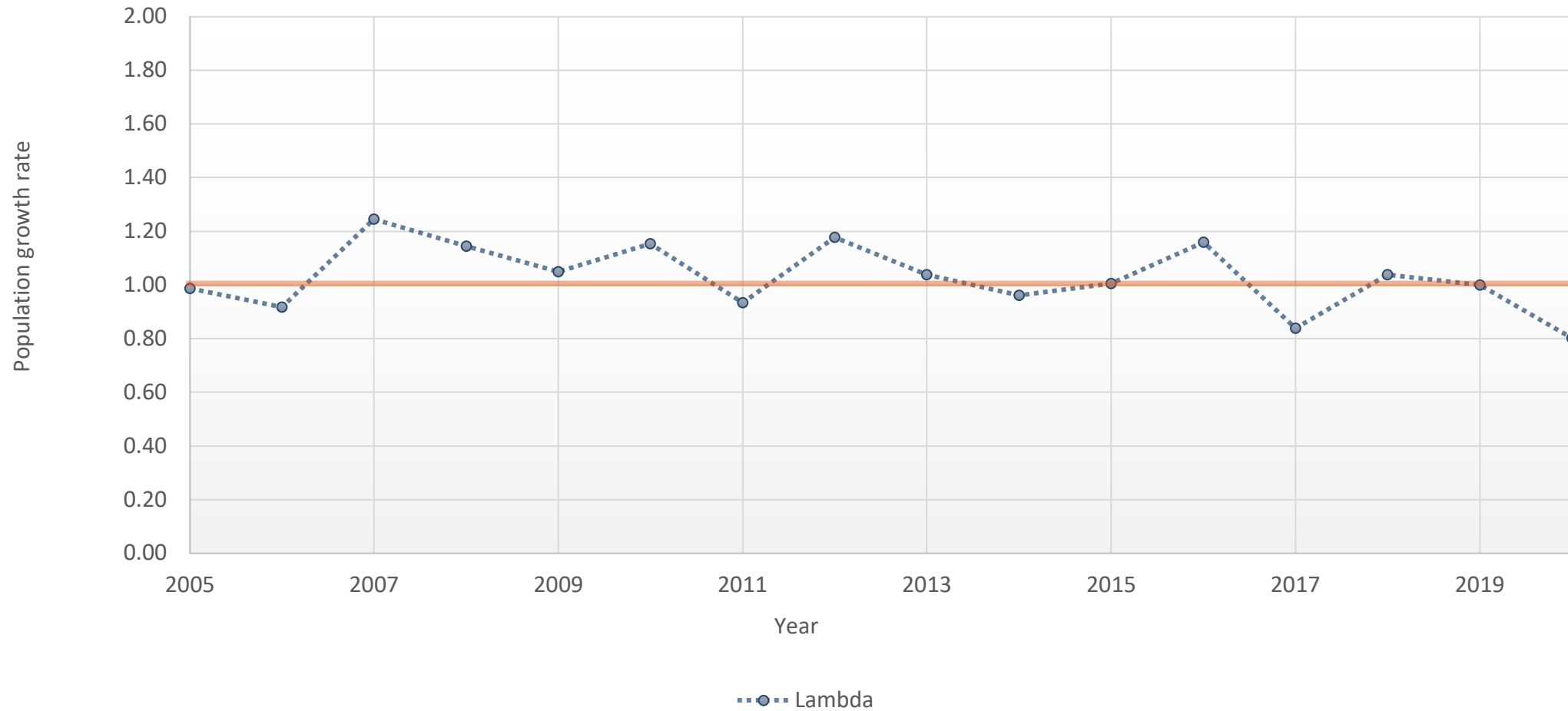
● Number of Incidents ● Confirmed Losses

Cougar adult (2+ yrs) population estimates, mean, min and max, 2004-2022, Utah, compared to mule deer population



POPULATION GROWTH RATE

Cougar adult population growth rate, 2005-2022, Utah



THANK YOU



Utah Division of
Wildlife Resources

OTHER NOTES

- Since the legislative change in May 2023 (May 2023 - May 2024):
- 21 hunters killed 2 cougars each, 5 hunters killed 3 cougars each, 2 hunters killed 4 cougars each, 2 hunters killed 5 cougars each. This does not include people who killed cougars with a depredation permit (prior to legislative change) or people who killed cougar in the act of depredation
- 66 cougars were harvested via TRAPPING, 65 via spot & stalk, 374 via dogs, and 1 via bait (6 were unknown method)
- 2 hunters indicated they trapped and released a cougar, and 1 hunter reported an incidental cougar trap (trapping coyotes)
- We have trap type data from 56 people - 4 snare, 9 kill trap, 1 foot snare, and 42 foothold
- No one used thermal scopes
- No one used electronic decoy