

# Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

October 2, 2014, DNR, Boardroom  
1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah

## Thursday, October 2, 2014, Board Meeting 9:00 am

1. Approval of Agenda ACTION
  - Jake Albrecht, Chairman
  
2. Approval of Minutes ACTION
  - Jake Albrecht, Chairman
  
3. Old Business/Action Log CONTINGENT
  - Bill Fenimore, Vice-Chair
    - Update on Premium Limited-entry deer tags action log item
    - Update on Management Buck Tags on the Book Cliffs action log item
    - Update on additional muzzleloader pronghorn hunting opportunities
    - Update on Goat Seasons action log item
    - Update on Non-resident Sheep Permit Quota action log item
    - Update on Mineral Mountain Range action log item
  
4. DWR Update INFORMATION
  - Gregory Sheehan, DWR Director
  
5. Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 ACTION
  - Drew Cushing, Aquatic Program Coordinator
  
6. Native Cutthroat Trout New Introductions ACTION
  - Richard Hepworth, Regional Aquatic Program Manager
  
7. Conservation Permit Audit ACTION
  - Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief
  
8. Conservation Permit Allocation – 1 year ACTION
  - Bill Bates, Wildlife Section Chief
  
9. Conservation Permit Annual Report ACTION
  - Bill Bates, Wildlife Section Chief
  
10. 2015 RAC/Board Dates ACTION
  - Staci Coons, Wildlife Board Coordinator
  
11. Other Business CONTINGENT
  - Jake Albrecht, Chairman
    - Winter WAFWA

**Board Appeal at 1:00 p.m.**  
**Brad Turner**

**Board Appeal at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Chauncey Filler**

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act - Persons needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) for this meeting, should contact Staci Coons at 801-538-4718, giving her at least five working days notice.*

**Wildlife Board Motions**

Following is a summary of Wildlife Board motions directing the Division to take action and the response to date:

**Spring 2013 – Target Date – Preference Point Presentation**

**MOTION:** I move that we ask the Division to give a presentation on the preference point system relative to the new 30 unit deer plan.

Assigned to: Judi Tutorow / Lindy Varney

Action: Under Study

Status: Recommendation will go to the RAC/Board during the November/December Tour

Placed on Action Log: June 6, 2012

**Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Premium Limited-entry deer tags**

**MOTION:** I move that we have placed on the action log that the Division look into a premium limited entry deer tag similar to the premium limited entry elk tag.

Assigned to: Bill Bates/Judi Tutorow

Action: Under Study

Status: Update the Wildlife Board on October 2, 2014

Placed on Action Log: May 3, 2012

**Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Mineral Mountain Range**

**MOTION:** I move that we ask the division to study the issues and concerns of making the Mineral Mountain Range (west side of Beaver unit) a limited entry buck deer unit and that it be discussed during the revision of the deer plan with the Deer Management Committee. This is to be placed on the action log.

Assigned to: Bill Bates

Action: Under Study

Status: Update the Wildlife Board on October 2, 2014

Placed on Action Log: December 6, 2012

**Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Additional muzzleloader Pronghorn hunting opportunity**

**MOTION** I move that we ask the division to study additional muzzleloader pronghorn hunting opportunity as presented in the November RAC meetings by Mr. Zundel. This is to be placed on the action log.

Assigned to: Bill Bates

Action: Under Study

Status: Update the Wildlife Board on October 2, 2014

Placed on Action Log: December 6, 2012

**Late Fall 2013 – Target Date – Non-Resident Sheep Permit Quota**

**MOTION:** I move that we ask the division to prepare a sheet for the Board and the NRO RAC that shows the sheep unit grouping and permit percentage rules that were passed (by the board) last year – and subsequent total permits and breakout between OIAL, conservation and convention permits, for each sheep species and each unit group.

Assigned to: Bill Bates

Action: Under Study

Status: Update the Wildlife Board on October 2, 2014

Placed on Action Log: May 2, 2013

### **Summer 2014 – Target Date – Fish Surveys (2 motions)**

**MOTION:** I move that we ask the division to place on the action log the two questions from the SRO RAC concerning the next fisheries survey, and that both questions be included in the next survey.

**Question 1 – To** include in the next fisheries survey a question regarding instating an 8 fish limit statewide.

**Question 2 – To** include in the next fisheries survey a question regarding the taking of catch and kill species by spear fishermen in all waters where it applies.

**MOTION:** I move that we ask the division to place on the next survey questions concerning the 3-day possession limit and processed fish in order to obtain public input.

Assigned to: Drew Cushing

Action: Under Study

Status: Pending

Placed on Action Log: November 7, 2013

### **Fall 2014 – Target Date – Management Buck Tags on the Book Cliffs**

**MOTION:** I move that the Division be asked to review the buck management tags on the Book Cliffs. People are always reporting the presence of big two and three point bucks in that area. Perhaps these permits could be given to youth. This is to be addressed during the revision of the Deer Management Plan in 2014.

Assigned to: Bill Bates

Action: Under Study

Status: Update the Wildlife Board on October 2, 2014

Placed on Action Log: December 1, 2011

### **Fall 2014 – Target Date – Goat Seasons**

**MOTION:** I move that we add Ben Lowder's request to extend the goat hunt season to the action log and have the Division evaluate the hunt structure and report on their findings at the same time next year.

Assigned to: Bill Bates

Action: Under Study

Status: Update the Wildlife Board on October 2, 2014

Placed on Action Log: December 5, 2013

# Utah Wildlife Board Meeting

August 28, 2014, DNR, Boardroom  
1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah  
AGENDA

Thursday, August 28, 2015 – 9:00 am

1. Approval of Agenda ACTION  
– Jake Albrecht, Chairman
2. Approval of Minutes ACTION  
– Jake Albrecht, Chairman
3. Old Business/Action Log CONTINGENT  
– Bill Fenimore, Vice-Chair
4. DWR Update INFORMATION  
– Greg Sheehan, DWR Director
5. Proposed Fee Schedule FY 2016 ACTION  
– Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief
6. Cougar Management Plan Revisions and 2015 Recommendations ACTION  
– Leslie McFarlane, Mammals Coordinator
7. Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations ACTION  
– Leslie McFarlane, Mammals Coordinator
8. Turkey Depredation Rule – New Rule R657-69 ACTION  
– Jason Robinson, Upland Game Coordinator
9. Additional Turkey Transplant Sites ACTION  
– Jason Robinson, Upland Game Coordinator
10. Monroe Mtn. Aspen Restoration – Letter of Support ACTION  
– Jason Kling, Forest Service
11. CR Deer Management Plans ACTION  
– Covy Jones, Regional Big Game Coordinator
12. Antlerless Elk Permit Re-evaluation INFORMATION  
– Bill Bates, Wildlife Section Chief
13. Convention Permit Audit ACTION  
– Kenny Johnson, Administrative Services Section Chief
14. Convention Permit Allocation ACTION  
– Mike Fowlks, Deputy Director
15. CRC - Recommendation ACTION  
– Staci Coons, CRC Chair
16. Other Business CONTINGENT  
– Jake Albrecht, Chairman



**Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**  
August 28, 2014, DNR Auditorium  
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah  
**Summary of Motions**

1) Approval of Agenda (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.**

2) Approval of Minutes (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the June 5, 2014 Wildlife Board Meeting with corrections to the Turkey Transplant Proposed List – page 1, line item #4 in Summary of Motions and page 6, line item #6 – changing the name of Birchville to Birch Creek.**

3) **Proposed Fee Schedule FY2016 (Action)**

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed 5-1; John Bair opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the Proposed Fee Schedule FY2016 as presented by the Division.**

Calvin Crandall amended the motion which passed 4-2. Mike King and Bill Fenimore opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we amend the motion to include an increase to the ewe non-resident fee from \$300 to \$1,000.**

4) Cougar Management Plan Revisions and 2015 Recommendations (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 4-2. John Bair and Kirk Woodward voted against the motion.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the Cougar Management Plan Revisions and Recommendations as presented by the Division.**

5) Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations (**Action**)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 4-2. Mike King and Bill Fenimore dissented.

**MOTION: I move that we extend the bobcat season by one week.**

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the remainder of the furbearer and bobcat harvest recommendations as presented.**

- 6) Turkey Depredation Rule – New Rule R657-69 (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the new Turkey Depredation Rule R657-69 as presented by the Division.**

- 7) Additional Turkey Transplant Sites (**Action**)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the Additional Turkey Transplant Sites as presented.**

- 8) Monroe Mtn. Aspen Restoration – Letter of Support (**Action**)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we table a motion until the letter has been revised.**

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we remove the tabled motion.**

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the letter of support for the Monroe Mountain Aspen Restoration.**

9) CR Deer Management Plans (**Action**)

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously. Mike King left before the presentation.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the Central Region Deer Management Plans as presented the Division.**

10) Convention Permit Audit (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed with one abstention by John Bair.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the Convention Permit Audit as presented by the Division.**

11) Convention Permit Allocation (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously. John Bair abstained from voting.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the Convention Permit Allocation as presented by the Division.**

12) CRC Recommendation (**Action**)

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the CRC Recommendation as presented.**

**Utah Wildlife Board Meeting**  
August 28, 2014, DNR Auditorium  
1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah  
[http://wildlife.utah.gov/public\\_meetings/board\\_minutes/audio/14-08-28.mp3](http://wildlife.utah.gov/public_meetings/board_minutes/audio/14-08-28.mp3)

**Wildlife Board Members Present**

Jake Albrecht – Chair  
Bill Fenimore – Vice-Chair  
Greg Sheehan – Exec Sec  
Mike King  
Calvin Crandall  
John Bair  
Kirk Woodward  
Steve Dalton

**RAC Chairs Present**

Central – Gary Nielsen  
Southern – Dave Black  
Southeastern – Chris Wood  
Northeastern - Carrie Mae Messerly  
Northern – Robert Byrnes

Mike Fowlks  
Rory Reynolds  
Mike Canning  
Staci Coons  
Thu Vo-Wood  
Kenny Johnson  
Leslie McFarlane  
Jason Robinson  
Martin Bushman  
Kirk I Smith  
Spencer Dushane  
Scott White

**Public Present**

Bryce Pilling  
Garth Ogden  
Aaron Johnson, UHA  
Jerry Carlson, UTA  
Guy Webster, UHA  
Troy Justensen, SFW

**Division Personnel Present**

Karen Caldwell	Darren Debloois
Phil Gray	Lindy Varney
John Fairchild	Justin Dolling
Boyde Blackwell	Kevin Bunnell
Scott McFarlane	Mark Hadley
Bill Bates	Anita Candelaria
Greg Hansen	Jordan Nielsen
Guy Wallace	Bryan Christensen
Teresa Griffin	Tom Becker
Dax Mangus	Tyler Thompson
Randy Wood	Cory Noble
Robyn Pearson	

Bill Christensen, RMEF  
Byron Bateman, SFW  
Bret Selman, UT Wool Growers  
Lee Tracy, United Wildlife Cooperative  
Kirk Robinson, Western Wildlife Conservancy  
Kent Fowden, UT Trappers Association  
Sterling Brown, Utah Farm Bureau  
Jason Kling, Forest Service

Chairman Albrecht welcomed the audience and introduced the Wildlife board and RAC Chairs.

- 1) Approval of Agenda (**Action**) **00:01:54 – 00:02:21 of 05:11:24**

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the agenda.**

- 2) Approval of Minutes (**Action**) **00:02:24 – 00:03:29 of 05:11:24**

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the minutes of the June 5, 2014 Wildlife Board Meeting with corrections to the Turkey Transplant Proposed List – page 1, line item #4 in Summary of Motions and page 6, line item #6 – changing the name of Birchville to Birch Creek.**

3) Old Business/Action Log (Contingent) 00:03:32 – 00:03:45 of 05:11:24

There were no action log items at this time.

4) DWR Update (Informational) 00:03:46 – 00:11:16 of 05:11:24

Greg Sheehan summarized meetings with federal agencies and other state agencies. He also mentioned DWR's Employee Awards banquet and read the names of winners.

5) Proposed Fee Schedule FY2016 (Action) 00:12:35 – 00:49:50 of 05:11:24

Kenny Johnson presented the FY2016 Proposed Fee Schedule.

**Board Questions 00:23:36 – 00:27:55**

There were specific questions about monitoring processes and procedures.

**Public Questions 00:28:02 – 00:30:06**

Public questions were accepted at this time.

**RAC Recommendations 00:30:14 – 00:34:38**

Southeast, Southern, and Northeast RAC passed the proposed fee schedule with varying opposition. They all requested the bobcat tag fee stay within the \$15 range or less.

Central RAC passed the fee proposal, but recommended the resident bobcat fee increase to \$10 and the nonresident ewe fee be the same as the nonresident ram fee.

Northern RAC unanimously approved the FY2016 Proposed Fee Schedule as presented.

**Board Discussion 00:34:49 – 00:49:50**

Chairman Albrecht summarized the RAC and asked the Board to consider their concerns.

John Bair reiterated the Central RAC's concerns of the bobcat fee. The Board debated the fee increase to the rate of return.

The following motion was made by Mike King, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed 5-1; John Bair opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the Proposed Fee Schedule FY2016 as presented by the Division.**

Calvin Crandall amended the motion which passed 4-2. Mike King and Bill Fenimore opposed.

**MOTION: I move that we amend the motion to include an increase to the ewe non-resident fee from \$300 to \$1,000.**

- 6) Cougar Management Plan Revisions and 2015 Recommendations (**Action**) **00:49:56**  
**– 2:50:21 of 05:11:24**

Leslie McFarlane presented the Cougar Management Plan Revisions and 2015 Recommendations.

**Board Questions 01:10:52 – 01:30:56**

Questions were focused on population numbers based on harvest and clarification of proposal's direction and purpose.

**Public Questions 01:31:02 – 02:00:24**

Public questions were accepted at this time.

**RAC Recommendations 02:00:26 – 02:03:31**

Southern and Northern RAC unanimously approved the Cougar Management Plan Revisions and Recommendations as presented.

Central, Southeast, and Northeast RAC passed the plan revisions and recommendations with varying opposition. Northeast stipulated a 30% female sub quota, which they amended to 40%. Southeast made a similar request to limit the harvest of female cougars to no more than 40% of all units including predator management plan units except limited entry and bighorn sheep areas. They also added that the female harvest be accounted for in the quota for all units. They also required GPS locations on harvest data.

**Public Comments 02:03:35 – 02:26:10**

Public comments were accepted at this time.

**Board Discussion 02:26:16 – 02:50:11**

Chairman Albrecht summarized the RAC votes and summarized a letter from Pine Valley Sportsman's Partners.

The Board discussed the GPS request and female subquota.

There were members of the Board who expressed disappointment that the plan had not improved.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 4-2. John Bair and Kirk Woodward voted against the motion.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the Cougar Management Plan Revisions and Recommendations as presented by the Division.**

- 7) Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest Recommendations (Action) 02:50:22 – 03:05:30 of 05:11:24

Leslie McFarlane presented the furbearer and bobcat harvest recommendations.

**RAC Recommendations 02:55:08 – 02:56:57**

Northern RAC unanimously passed the Furbearer and Bobcat Harvest recommendations as presented. Southeast RAC approved the recommendations with one opposing vote.

Central, Southern, and Northeast RAC approved the recommendations with some dissent; however, Southern and Northeast requested a one week extension at the end of the season. Central requested two weeks.

**Public Comments 02:57:00 – 02:58:35**

Public comments accepted at this time.

**Board Discussion 02:58:38 – 03:05:27**

Chairman Albrecht summarized the RAC votes.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of extended seasons.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed 4-2. Mike King and Bill Fenimore dissented.

**MOTION: I move that we extend the bobcat season by one week.**

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the remainder of the furbearer and bobcat harvest recommendations as presented.**

- 8) Turkey Depredation Rule – New Rule R657-69 (**Action**) **03:05:36 – 03:18:20 of 05:11:08**

Jason Robinson presented the new Turkey Depredation Rule R657-69.

**Board Questions 03:12:42 – 03:15:23**

Mike King wondered what recourse landowners had while DWR develops an action plan within the 72 hour period.

**RAC Recommendations 03:15:48 – 03:17:29**

All RACs unanimously passed the new turkey depredation rule R657-69 as presented. Northern RAC requested that buffer zones exclude public lands.

**Board Discussion 03:17:30 – 03:18:20**

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Mike King and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the new Turkey Depredation Rule R657-69 as presented by the Division.**

- 9) Additional Turkey Transplant Sites (**Action**) **03:18:22 – 03:22:05 of 05:11:24**

Jason Robinson presented the Additional Turkey Transplant Sites.

**Public Questions 03:20:10 – 03:21:06**

Public questions were taken at this time.

**RAC Recommendations 03:21:08 – 03:21:30**

Southern RAC unanimously approved the additional turkey transplant sites as presented by the Division.

**Board Discussion 03:21:35 – 03:22:00**

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Steve Dalton and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the Additional Turkey Transplant Sites as presented.**

- 10) Monroe Mountain Aspen Restoration – Letter of Support (**Action**) **03:22:07 – 04:15:30 of 05:11:24**



Kevin Bunnell gave some background for this topic and why it went through this process. Jason Kling from the Forest Service presented the Monroe Mountain Aspen Restoration. He requested an additional sentence referencing support of the Threshold document.

**Board Questions 03:41:46 – 03:53:00**

The Board asked about the benefits of fencing and water improvement projects. Most questions were centered on the burn process.

**RAC Questions 03:53:01 – 04:00:55**

Central RAC asked about options besides reducing elk population to meet objectives. Central also asked if logging was permissible in assisting with controlled burns.

Martin Bushman explained how and why the letter was drafted with particular language.

**Public Comments 04:01:07 – 04:09:39**

Public comments were accepted at this time.

**RAC Recommendations 04:09:40 – 04:09:54**

Southern RAC unanimously supported the Aspen Restoration plan letter by the Forest Service.

**Board Discussion 04:09:54 – 04:15:20**

Greg Sheehan read the letter into record.

There was a long discussion about language to include the Threshold document in the letter.

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we table a motion until the letter has been revised.**

11) CR Deer Management Plans (Action) 04:15:40 – 04:34:12 of 05:11:24

Covy Jones presented the Central Region Deer Management Plans.

**Board Questions 04:28:39 – 04:32:46**

The Board asked about treatment options for pinyon-juniper removal and assessment for deer numbers.

**RAC Recommendations 04:33:07– 04:33:36**

Central RACs unanimously passed the CR Deer Management Plans as presented.

**Board Discussion 04:33:38 – 04:34:10**

The following motion was made by John Bair, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously. Mike King left before the presentation.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the Central Region Deer Management Plans as presented by the Division.**

- 12) Antlerless Elk Permit Re-evaluation (**Informational**) **04:34:15 – 04:40:01 of 05:11:24**

Bill Bates presented the Antlerless Elk Permit Re-Evaluation.

**Board Questions 04:37:36 – 04:40:01**

Steve Dalton asked for an update on the BLM wild horse roundup. Calvin Crandall asked for clarification on some issued antlerless permits.

- 13) Convention Permit Audit (**Action**) **04:40:05 – 04:56:50 of 05:11:24**

Kenny Johnson presented the Convention Permit Audit.

**Public Questions/Comments 04:50:04 – 04:54:18**

Public questions and comments were accepted at this time.

**Board Discussion 04:54:23 – 04:56:50**

Chairman Albrecht and Greg Sheehan talked about the convention and the good funding has provided for conservation projects around the state.

The following motion was made by Bill Fenimore, seconded by Kirk Woodward and passed with one abstention by John Bair.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the Convention Permit Audit as presented by the Division.**

- 14) Convention Permit Allocation (**Action**) **04:56:51 – 04:07:05 of 05:11:24**

Mike Fowlks presented the Convention Permit Allocation.

**Public Comments 04:59:13 – 05:00:01**

Public comments were accepted at this time.

**Board Discussion 05:00:04 – 05:00:25**

The following motion was made by Kirk Woodward, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously. John Bair abstained from voting.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the Convention Permit Allocation as presented by the Division.**

15) CRC Recommendation (Action) 05:00:28 – 05:07:00 of 05:11:24

Staci Coons presented the CRC recommendation for Shane Richens' commercial and education variance request.

**Board Questions/Discussions 05:04:02 – 05:06:51**

The Board asked for detailed description of the species under the request.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by Bill Fenimore and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we accept the CRC recommendation as presented by the Division.**

16) Other Business (Contingent) 05:07:00 – 05:11:24 of 05:11:24

The Board returned to item 10 discussion: Monroe Mountain Aspen Restoration – Letter of Support.

The following motion was made by Calvin Crandall, seconded by John Bair and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we remove the tabled motion.**

The following motion was made by Steve Dalton, seconded by Calvin Crandall and passed unanimously.

**MOTION: I move that we approve the letter of support for the Monroe Mountain Aspen Restoration letter of support.**

Meeting adjourned.

**Regional Advisory Council Meeting  
September 2014**

**FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13**

**SRO:**

**MOTION:** To accept the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented by the Division with the exception to include trout in the removal of the possession limit once they are at the permanent domicile and to include “where the person votes” in the definition of domicile.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**NERO:**

**MOTION:** To support the Division's plan with the exception that we include what Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife has proposed because I feel that's an issue that trout be on the unlimited side also

**VOTE:** Motion passed 5 to 3

**CR:**

**MOTION:** - Recommend the Wildlife Board approve Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented.

**VOTE:** Motion Passes unanimous

**NR:**

**MOTION:** - Recommend the Wildlife Board approve Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented.

**VOTE:** Motion Passes: For: 8 Against:1

**SERO:**

**A full quorum was absent, so no motions could be made.**

**NATIVE CUTTHROAT TROUT NEW INTRODUCTIONS**

**SRO:**

**MOTION:** To accept the Native Cutthroat Trout New Introductions as presented by the Division.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**Southern Regional Advisory Council Meeting  
Sevier Valley Center (Snow College Building)  
Richfield, UT  
September 9, 2014  
7:00 p.m.**

**1. 1. REVIEW & ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES AND AGENDA**

**MOTION:** To accept minutes and agenda as written.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

**2. FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13**

**MOTION:** To accept the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented by the Division with the exception to include trout in the removal of the possession limit once they are at the permanent domicile and to include “where the person votes” in the definition of domicile.

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**3. NATIVE CUTTHROAT TROUT NEW INTRODUCTIONS**

**MOTION:** To accept the Native Cutthroat Trout New Introductions as presented by the Division .

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**Southern Regional Advisory Council Meeting  
Sevier Valley Center (Snow College Building)  
Richfield, UT  
September 9, 2014  
7:00 p.m.**

<b>RAC Members Present</b>	<b>DWR Personnel Present</b>	<b>Wildlife Board Present</b>	<b>RAC Members Not Present</b>
Mack Morrell Clair Woodbury Dale Bagley Dave Black Harry Barber Layne Torgerson Rusty Aiken Sam Carpenter Mike Staheli Mike Worthen Cordell Pearson	Lynn Chamberlain Stephanie Rainey Richard Hepworth Mike Hadley Stan Beckstrom Nic Braithwaite Kevin Bunnell Seth Decker Eric Bond Paul Birdsey Drew Cushing Greg Sheehan Mike Styler	Steve Dalton Jake Albrecht	Sean Kelly (excused) Brian Johnson

Dave Black called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. There were approximately 12 interested parties in attendance in addition to RAC members, members of the Wildlife Board, and Division employees. Dave Black introduced himself and asked RAC members to introduce themselves. Dave Black explained RAC meeting procedures.

**Review and Acceptance of Agenda and Minutes (action)**

Dave Black: We'd like to welcome you out to the RAC meeting this evening. First of all we'd like to recognize two of the board members that are here; we have Steve Dalton and Jake Albrecht, he's the board chairman. We appreciate your attendance. And next thing we'd like to do is introduce the RAC members; maybe start down here on my far right with Mack,

Mack Morrell: Mack Morrell, Bicknell, representing agriculture.

Clair Woodbury: Clair Woodbury, Hurricane. I represent the public at large.

Dave Black: I'm Dave Black from St. George.

Dale Bagley: Dale Bagley from Marysvale. I represent an elected official.

Kevin Bunnell: I'm Kevin Bunnell. I'm the regional supervisor for the Division of Wildlife.

Harry Barber: Harry Barber, BLM, from Kanab.

Layne Torgerson: Layne Torgerson, Richfield, sportsman's representative.

Rusty Aiken: Rusty Aiken, Cedar City, agriculture.

Sam Carpenter: Sam Carpenter, Kanab. I represent the sportsman.

Mike Staheli: Mike Staheli, Delta, public at large.

Mike Worthen: Mike Worthen, Cedar City, public at large.

Dave Black: Okay, thank you. Now just real quickly, as a reminder a reminder on the meeting order as we go tonight, first we'll hear the presentations and then we'll have questions from the RAC, and then an opportunity for the public to ask questions. And then we'll hear comments from the public, so if you have comments make sure you fill out the comment cards, we have one up here already. So we'll make sure we get to those. And the two officers in the back have the comment cards, so you can see them. And then following comments from the public we'll have comments from the RAC and then we proceed for a motion and voting. On the agenda the first item is that we need to have a motion to accept the RAC meeting agenda and minutes. Do we have somebody to do that?

Rusty Aiken: Chair, I'll make a motion to accept the minutes and the agenda.

Dave Black: Okay, we have a motion from Rusty. It looks like a second from Layne. All those in favor? Okay, that's unanimous.

**Rusty Aiken made the motion to accept the agenda and minutes as presented. Layne Torgerson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Dave Black: The next item on the agenda is the Wildlife Board update.

**Wildlife Board Update:  
-Dave Black, Chairman**

Dave Black: As we go down through last meeting's agenda there was a proposal, a proposed fee change and they were setting the fees for the coming years and one of the items on there was the bobcat fee. And at our RAC meeting they didn't have the information as far as the detailed costs of the program. When we went to the Board Meeting they had that information so that was presented. Our motion here was to raise the fee to \$15.00 and that's the way the Board voted as well. And so for the bobcats the fee is going to change to \$15.00. And there was also a fee discussed on there that in case they start hunting the ewe bighorn sheep and set a fee for that. And that was voted on as proposed except for the ewe tags and they voted to raise those tags to \$1,000.00 if those ever go into place, for nonresidents. The cougar management plan just as in our RAC meeting there was a lot of discussion. There was a lot of ideas for

change. There was a lot of agreement that there needed to be a change. But the plan will go through the process for revisions this next year. There is a committee that will be assigned to work on that. And so the Wildlife Board voted to approve the plan as presented. They also gave a pretty strong direction that that committee needs to come back with a plan that is simplified that people can understand, and they gave them a year. And I believe they were quoting a Tom Hatch saying, that if you guys don't do it then we'll do it. So I think we can look forward to seeing a good plan, or a new plan coming forth. On the furbearer and bobcat harvest recommendations our RAC had recommended an extension of one week on the tail end, and that was also voted on and approved by the Wildlife Board and so there will be a one-week extension there. The turkey depredation rule passed as presented. The transplant sites passed as presented and that was the locations that came out of our RAC to add some additional transplant sites, and that passed. And then there was the item on the Monroe Mountain aspen restoration program. And if you recall the Forest Service came here and was looking for a letter of support; our RAC agreed to support that, and just as well the Wildlife Board had a letter that they had drafted up in support of that program. So that's all I have as far as a report from the last board meeting. And we'll turn the time over to Kevin now for a regional update.

### **Regional Update:**

#### **-Kevin Bunnell, Southern Regional Supervisor**

Kevin Bunnell: Okay, thanks Dave, I'll just run quickly through the different programs in the region. First from our law enforcement section, as you can imagine they're heavy into it with the hunts going on. We have had a couple of really good cases that have been made, one that happened a couple weekends ago. We had a report from a hunter reporting somebody that had killed a bull elk out on the Southwest Desert. By the time I found out about it there was a guy that had been booked into the Beaver County jail and had already confessed. So that one went really quick and it all came about because of a help stop poaching report. So those things are critical. If we can get on things fresh our guys are really good at tracking down and putting all the information together, like I said, and that one less than 48 hours they had it tied up and taken care of. So if you see something out there that you're not sure about, you know, don't hesitate to call and, and, like I said, if there's nothing to it our guys are good when they interact with the public but if there's something that needs to be dealt with they're very good at that as well. You'll hear a lot from our aquatic section tonight, but just a couple of the updated, the Clear Creek treatment here off of the north end of the Beaver Mountain is pretty well done. Fish will go back in that next fall. We looked at that a little, at some of that just on our way down this afternoon and it's really, you know, these rains have got it really murky right now but the work that we, that the Division along with the Forest Service has done up there is going to make a big difference in that and how that stream looks over the next several years. And then also we've been talking about treating Piute Reservoir for a couple of years now. That, well and when I talked to Richard this morning that was scheduled for mid October. When I talked to Richard this evening it's now scheduled for late November. The reason being that he had a chance to visit with the water master in the mean time and they won't be shutting the gates on the reservoir until mid to late November and as soon as that happens they'll go in and get the treatment done. Still planning on doing that. In conjunction with that the trout limit on Piute Reservoir has been doubled just to get people as much opportunity to harvest those fish as they can. However, the fishing is pretty tough right now which is why we're treating the reservoir because of the chub population. But, by this time next year fishing at Piute Reservoir should be really good and so I hope everybody is looking forward to that. From our wildlife section, we did another transplant of goats off of the Tushers and over to the LaSal Mountain last week. We took 15 goats, we were hoping for 20. But winds and hot weather we came up a little short on that goal. There's also a tour scheduled for the



goat population on the Dutton, on Mt Dutton next Tuesday. If you want more information on that I'd be happy to pass that on to you. Really good reports coming in from the archery deer hunt so far. People are seeing, having a lot of success and seeing some good animals. We have a waterfowl clinic scheduled at Redmond Reservoir this Saturday for kids or anybody that wants to learn more about the techniques and how to get involved with hunting waterfowl. You can call our office and get signed up for that, as well as our youth pheasant hunts at Pahvant Redmond. What's the dates on those Stephanie, mid, early November? And there's a lot of demand for those so they fill up fast so if you have kids, you know any kids under 17, especially those that haven't had much introduction to hunting that's a really good way to get a kid excited about hunting. And so please call the office and pass the word out and call our office to get signed up for that. From our habitat section, this is really the time when there's a lot of diesel fumes going in the air with all of the habitat treatments that are going on, specifically the pinion juniper treatments. It's almost unbelievable, but just the southern region this year if we get all the projects done that we have approved we'll treat 40,000 acres of pinion juniper just in the southern region this fall which is the most that we've ever done. And it will do a lot of good over the next 25 to 30 years. So they're in full swing right now. With the outreach program, Lynn spent several days up involved with the goat watch both the formal event that we do and then in conjunction with the Piute ATV festival. And through, I think over the course of 4 or 5 days we had more than 975 people, so almost 1,000 people that stopped and had a chance to view goats and had a good experience there. We've also put over 3,000 people through the summer archery program with our outreach program, which is phenomenal, trying to get people introduced and more comfortable using a bow. And then just last week we hired a wildlife recreation program manager in the region so you'll see a lot more emphasis coming out with things like the waterfowl clinic and fishing clinics. And as much as we can we'll be doing those jointly with the different conservation organizations and trying to get as many new people involved with hunting and fishing as we can, and just enjoying the outdoors and wildlife. And then lastly, just to make you aware, and this is open for comments if anybody has any, there is a proposal that will go to the wildlife board October 2<sup>nd</sup> to change up the schedule for RAC meetings next year. So instead of the southern region being first where, and sometimes we kind of get the short end of the stick being first, and the bobcat stuff from the last RAC was a prime example where we didn't have all the information because there's questions that get asked through the process and the folks from the division are able to then gather that information and have it ready for the other RACs. So, so what they are, the proposal is to have the northern and central region go first and then it would go southern region, southeastern region and northeastern region and put, put us right in the middle, which, in my experience and doing a lot of RAC tours, I think that's probably a position where you can have, probably maximize the influence of this group because you have all the information at that point, you have some idea of what the hot items are in the RACs and have a chance to influence the process going forward. So it would still be on a Tuesday but in the middle of the process instead of at the very first. Anybody have any thoughts or comments on that that I can pass on to Stacie and the board members can hear about? It order to, if we're thinking about where to have the most influence I think that puts this committee in a position to have more influence than they do being very first because sometimes you don't, we don't get all the information that some of the later RACs do just because you know, the process evolves as it goes forward, so . . . and with that if there aren't any questions I'll turn the time back to Dave.

Sam Carpenter: Can I ask you one question, on your uh?

Kevin Bunnell: Sure.

Sam Carpenter: The habitat work you've done in southern Utah you said you've done or what's going to

be around 40,000 acres, can you be more specific, which units did we do that on?

Kevin Bunnell: Oh boy there's some everywhere. Sam I'd have to go, let me have, take it back to Gary and have his send you a list of all the projects.

Sam Carpenter: It's not that important. I just wondered if you knew. Did they do some on the Zion?

Kevin Bunnell: Yeah, I know there's some on the, there's more of that, the expansion of that project up by the Coral Pink Sand Dunes I think.

Harry Barber: We started the Skutumpah piece we did.

Kevin Bunnell: Something on the Skutumpah.

Sam Carpenter: So is this in conjunction with the BLM?

Harry Barber: It's, it's, yeah.

Kevin Bunnell: A lot of the projects are co-projects between the division and BLM and then some on the Forest as well.

Harry Barber: We had our dozer show up yesterday and the chain and then we promptly got 2.5 inches of rain over there. Dozers are sitting in mud right now. As soon as they can move they'll start that one up on the Skutumpah country.

Kevin Bunnell: That's no longer a dirty word.

Rusty Aiken: Yeah, there is a rumor going around Cedar that you caught the poachers that poached the deer last winter I guess it was, the big one south of town.

Kevin Bunnell: I wish that I could confirm that, I hadn't even heard the rumor Rusty. But you know, I, I get asked that regularly and so I ask our law enforcement guys regularly if there's any updates and last I was told, which was within the last couple of weeks, they kind of played out all the leads that they had and at this point they're waiting for new information to come forward. As you know a lot of times the way these things go is they'll go cold for a while and somebody will start feeling comfortable and then they'll start bragging about it and making comments. And sometimes it's 3 or 4 years down the road but it's certainly not one that we've forgotten about and we'll continue to follow up on any leads that we get.

Dave Black: Thank you Kevin. The next two items that we have on the agenda are both informational items so there's won't be action taken. The first of those is the Fish Lake Management Plan by Richard Hepworth.

**Fish Lake Management Plan (Informational) 16:45 to 29:29 2:20:44**  
**-Richard Hepworth, Aquatics Program Manager**  
(See attachment 2)

Dave Black: Any questions from the RAC? Sam.

Sam Carpenter: On these boll weevils that you are planting, does anything feed on them or are they, for, at that expense, that seems like?

Richard Hepworth: Well, that, that was one of the major questions and concerns we had going into this. And based on the places they've used these in other states, they have not had issues with perch or some of the other fish we have in Fish Lake feeding on them.

Sam Carpenter: Okay, so will they reproduce or?

Richard Hepworth: Yes they will reproduce.

Sam Carpenter: And eventually they could take all that weed out then, couldn't they not?

Richard Hepworth: They probably won't ever eliminate the weed. What they found in other locations is you end up with kind of this predator prey cycle; where some years you may have a reduction of, maybe up to 90 percent of the weeds but then you have die offs of the weevils and the weeds will come back and then the weevils get strong again and knock it back. So you're going to see a fluctuation most likely up there. But on a long-term kind of level we expect to see possible up to 50 percent or more reduction in those weed beds.

Dave Black: Mack.

Mack Morrell: I see in the information that we were sent that there was only 40,000 fish introduced into Fish Lake this year.

Richard Hepworth: That's the splake.

Mack Morrell: The splake and tiger trout.

Richard Hepworth: And tiger trout. Yes, that's in combination.

Mack Morrell: And no rainbow trout.

Richard Hepworth: No the rainbow trout are stocked every year.

Mack Morrell: Well it doesn't show in 2014 any being stocked.

Richard Hepworth: Um, in that plan it might not have but they go in 100,000 in the spring and 100,000 in the fall. And they'll continue unless, if the kokanee program starts to take off and work really well the idea or hope is to reduce those rainbow numbers to some degree as well and make that balance a little better. But as of right now we continue to stock 100,000 in the spring and 100,000 in the fall.

Mack Morrell: Okay, another question, it doesn't relate to this a little bit, but we have a hatchery in Loa and is that being closed?

Richard Hepworth: As far as I know right now it's being shut down.

Mack Morrell: Why?

Richard Hepworth: Because the need wasn't there and we have a snail issue there; an exotic species that we . . . So we can't stock fish out of there into certain places. And right now from my understanding of that is the need wasn't there to keep that open at this time.

Mack Morrell: You mean you have enough hatcheries producing enough fish that you can, without Loa, to restock all the lakes?

Richard Hepworth: Yes.

Mike Worthen: Richard, on your kokanee program, it appears in this plan that the previous kokanee stocking was a large part not successful because of lack of spawning areas, is that the case? And then if so is this going to be back into the trout issue of restocking every year just to maintain those kokanee populations?

Richard Hepworth: When that was done back in the 70's, um, I couldn't find for sure what kind of strain of kokanee was used, but one of the issues of Fish Lake is we don't have a big stream, river, coming in that those kokanee generally spawn in. However, in the last 5 to 10 years with Strawberry and Flaming Gorge kokanee they've developed a lake spawning kokanee. These kokanee are spawning actually in the lakes not necessarily running up the streams. And so that's the strain of kokanee we're trying to get for Fish Lake because we've got a lot of under water springs, we've got good spawning opportunities in the lake out in front of Twin Creeks for example. And you're right, I mean there's still some questions on whether this kokanee situation will work or not. The other thing back when it was done before it was a one-time stocking. They put them in one year and then just waited to see what would happen. Obviously it worked for a while because they persisted for about 15 years in the lake. We know that we're going to have to do some type of stocking continuously up at Fish Lake with the kokanee. We're hopeful that it won't be at a real high level, that we'll have enough natural recruitment in the lake that those numbers won't be as high as what we have to do with the rainbow to maintain it. We're hoping over all this will be a reduction in costs to the program up there and at the same time improve the fishery. At least not an increase in cost, that's the one thing we can't do, is start increasing the cost of stocking up there. Does that make sense? Okay.

Dave Black: Anybody else?

Dale Bagley: On the, it says if you get the perch under control up there you'd do some transfer of chub from other reservoirs, Piute I guess, Otter Creek and a couple of others. What would it hurt to put perch in some of those reservoirs that we have a chub problem or are they not cohesive with it, I guess?

Richard Hepworth: Well, perch, in a lot of cases the problem we have is they over populate a lake just like they've done up at Fish Lake; where you end up with this boom bust cycle. Somewhere like Piute, they may be a possibility down the road. We're treating it, we're going to go back with the same plan that we've been doing for the last 25 years there. Once that fishery crashes and we're pretty confident it will because it has every other time, then we're going to set up a similar committee and go through this exact process for Piute. And it may lead to perch as one of the answers there. But what we've found with

perch across the state is you never have a real consistent fishery. You always end up with these booms and busts or where you end up with a situation like we have at Fish Lake, a lot of small stunted perch. So does that answer your question?

Dale Bagley: Yeah, thank you.

Dave Black: Oh, excuse me. Could we have you come up to the mic and state your name and then we can get it on the record as well?

Danny Washburn: I'm Danny Washburn and I just wanted to ask him if they considered anything on improving the launches? Because some of the launches there's a good reason why a lot of people don't go and take their boats because it's terrible. And if we're going to build jetties or whatever could we build a good launch up there somewhere?

Dave Black: Thank you

Richard Hepworth: Yes, in fact, I don't know that it's necessarily in the plan but we have been working with county commissioners and others right now to develop a little better launch down, possible by Joe Bush. Chances are it's a couple of years out with getting funding and everything else but we are working towards finding a little better launch. Because I agree, the launches we have are tight, shallow, and so we will be looking at some of that.

Dave Black: Hold on just a second Deloss, do we have any more questions from the board? Okay we'll get to you in just a quick second. Clair.

Clair Woodbury: Yeah, you mentioned tiger trout, where do they fit in the plan up there?

Richard Hepworth: The way we put them into the plan... in the last 3 maybe 4 years we've struggled sometimes with raising the splake we need for our statewide needs and so we've had to make some cuts at Fish Lake. This year was the second year those cuts have had to be made. And prior to that we didn't have really a good way to replace those fish we missed with something comparable. We've got approvals and we're going to use tiger trout up at Fish Lake; on those occasions where we're short on the splake needs we have. So our splake quota is 60,000, this year we were short 23,000 on our splake and we got an additional 20,000 tiger trout and I'm still looking for more tiger trout to put in there to get us up to that 60,000. So they are there as a replacement for our shortages on splake.

Clair Woodbury: Are they similar to splake? I know the tiger trout are very predatory on some of these, like a perch and stuff. Are they similar?

Richard Hepworth: Yeah, they are very similar. Um, you know, they may hang out a little bit shallower than splake do. Where splake is a cross between a brook trout and lake trout, tiger trout are a cross between brook trout and brown trout. So they have a little bit different behavior but they fill that same niche or that same food requirement, things like that. So they'll be very similar and they may be even more catchable during the summer months than what splake are.

## **Questions from the Audience**

Dave Black: Okay, we'll turn the time over to the audience for question. Deloss do you want to come forward?

Deloss Christensen: Deloss Christensen, Glenwood, Utah. I had the privilege of participating on this committee and I just want to commend the folks in the division that administered the committee and prepared the document that you have seen tonight. I've been on lots of different committees for wildlife over the last 35 or 40 years, I've never been on a committee where there was better information presented in a more succinct understandable way than Mr. Hepworth and the folks that held this committee did on this effort. It was just outstanding. And questions that we had, any concerns that anyone had on the committee were answered directly. They were very honest. And there was really no disagreement from the anglers and the others that served on that committee with the proposals that they made. So I just want to thank them for their effort. It was an excellent committee. Thanks.

Dave Black: Thank you for your comments. Do we have any other questions from the audience? Please come forward.

Shawn Saunders: So I have a curiosity question. Um, we're going to stock less rainbows at Fish Lake and we're going to put in more kokanee. Is the reason why we're not going to have as many rainbows, is that kind of a direct result of that hatchery closing?

Richard Hepworth: No, the reason for the rainbows, the fish are still there and they'll still be there to be used in other places. The reason behind this more or less is because of that cost. The cost of raising those rainbows is a lot more than what the cost of raising these kokanee is going to be. So, um, we're trying to reduce overall costs. And that really played into the Loa fish hatchery as well, is just the overall costs associated with running that hatchery for fish that we really don't need.

Shawn Saunders: I forgot to say Shawn Saunders; I live in Wayne county. A follow up question: um, of the hatcheries in the state, which ones have been closed because of snails?

Richard Hepworth: As far as I know no other hatcheries have been closed at this time because of snails.

Paul Birdsey: My name is Paul Birdsey. I'm the cold-water sport fish coordinator with the Division of Wildlife Resources. The Loa hatchery has been recommended for closure this year, or probably next year actually, simply as Richard said the cost of maintaining that facility in the face of having the New Zealand mud snail infestation at that hatchery... made it just not economical and we really don't need the fish. We currently produce about 1.2 to 1.3 million pounds of fish in our hatchery system right now; most of which are Rainbow Trout. And that actually is more than what is recommended for stocking by our various managers. The Loa facility for example is capable of producing somewhere in the neighborhood of 160 thousand pounds of fish per year. It does so well and it does so very efficiently but because of the New Zealand mud snails where we cannot stock those fish except in areas where we have the mud snail they've only been able to produce about 1/3 to 1/2 of that, anywhere from 50 to 70,000 pounds per year. So that in fact increased the cost per pound there. We can raise fish in Springville or Fountain Green, haul them to Fish Lake for less money than it's costing us to raise them at Loa right now. So it really comes down to how can we achieve the goal of providing good fishing statewide at the most economical cost because I buy a fishing license like everybody else, I don't necessarily want to see my costs go up as a result, especially if it's a result of inefficiencies. So, and no, no other hatcheries have been infested with mud snails to date and no other ones have been closed.

Sam Carpenter: While you are up there can I ask you a question? What's the reason rainbows cost so much to produce compared to the other fish you're doing?

Paul Birdsey: Well actually rainbow, it depends on the size of the fish. Okay, for 8-inch fish, but if you take just an average of all the fish that we raise statewide, everywhere from fingerlings up to catchable size fish, it costs about \$3.40 per pound if we average out all of those fish statewide. Some are more expensive than that. If we raise, Bear Lake cutthroat trout like we have at Panguitch Lake, those fish actually cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$4.50 per pound. If we raise fingerling rainbow Trout, they're probably somewhere in the neighborhood of 80 or 90 cents a pound. But if we average them all out it comes out to around \$3.40 per pound. And that's the number that Richard used to calculate that \$175,000, was just that average cost for the um, every pound of fish that we produce in the hatchery.

Richard Hepworth: The biggest reason for the cost savings on the rainbows and kokanee is the rainbows are stocked at about 8 inches, kokanee will be stocked closer to 4 inches, so the weight, total pounds that will be stocked of the rainbows is a lot less. The rainbows we have to stock them bigger to try and avoid as much of that lake trout predation. Kokanee will do better at avoiding that predation than the rainbows do. Does that?

Sam Carpenter: That makes sense now.

Dave Black: Okay, another question?

Jack Albrecht: Jake Albrecht, Glenwood. What will the division do with their property in Loa then?

Paul Birdsey: There is, although we don't plan on operating the facility, we don't have any proposal at this point in time of getting rid of the facility per say. Um, we are going to essentially, as I understand it, mothball it just in case we need that production in the future. If at some point in time we need it in the future we will have to tear that facility down. Go through and rebuild it completely, make it more secure from the mud snail. So we're looking at a 10 to 12 million-dollar investment. But we do have good water there and we certainly are keeping that, I guess you could say we're keeping that card in our pocket say that if we need it in the future we'll go there.

Jake Albrecht: Okay, so he answered the second part, thanks.

Dave Black: At this time I would like to recognize Greg Sheehan that joined our meeting, he's the director of the Division of Wildlife Resources. And Mike Styler, he a DNR director as well. So we appreciate you joining our meeting this evening. Do I have any other questions from the audience on this item?

Shawn Saunders: So I'm kind of curious still about catchable kokanee. Um, we've got all these areas on Fish Lake around the edges that make it not very fishable to the average angler and I think those harvest numbers, I think a lot of those are probably due to no boaters, it's probably the anglers that are fishing from the banks. And my curiosity is with the kokanee are they going to be, we know they're going to be in the lake but are they going to make it more catchable for the average angler than rainbows?

Richard Hepworth: We don't know that for sure. It may or it may not. Kokanee in a lot of cases there's

a learning curve that's required there that our anglers are going to have to go through. So my thought is to start with catch rates may go down a little bit, but then again I don't, we're not necessarily going to decrease those rainbow numbers until our kokanee are at a point where the catch rates are better as well. So we're going to watch that real close. I mean the whole idea of this is to maintain and possible improve the fishing up there. So if we see introducing kokanee as reducing or hurting that then obviously we'd probably suspend that program and not continue

Dave Black: Thank you Richard. Well it looks like you are up next for the next item, which is the Boulder Mountain Fish Management Plan.

**Boulder Mountain Fish Management Plan (Informational) 48:35 to 1:01:22 of 2:20:44**

**-Richard Hepworth, Aquatics Program Manager**

(See attachment 2)

Dave Black: Do we have any questions from the board? Clair.

Clair Woodbury: S you mentioned that the main problem in the last few years has been the winterkill. Is that solar aeration one, is that kind of the prime way to treat that or are we getting lakes that are silting in or what is the problem there?

Richard Hepworth: Some of that, I think some of it has just been some of the drought conditions we've been faced over the last 5 to 7 years. But yes, the aeration devices will help with that. The spring develop can help with that and even some of the dam repairs in some of the lakes may help with that. Vegetation control can also help with that too.

Dave Black: Anybody else? Mike.

Mike Worthen: Yeah, regarding the tiger trout planting. I was talking to a couple of antlers this past summer that had fished up at Kings Pasture, which I believe is probably the Gar-Kane East impoundment, and they said all they're catching out of there it tiger trout out of that impoundment. The brook trout are totally gone in there. And if I was an angler looking for good quality Brook trout and you're putting tiger trout in there I'd be a little concerned that tiger trout are going to eat them out of house and home.

Richard Hepworth: Um, the brook trout in that we poisoned that 31/2 years ago, something like that, a little over 3 years ago, 5 years ago trying to get rid of the Brook trout. They were stunted and we're trying to restore that Boulder Creek to a cutthroat stream. We've got native cutthroat in the very head waters of that stream that are really threatened by the brook trout in there. We've got one treatment done and had some problems, well not problems, some concerns from Boulder town and some issues with GarKane settlement agreements and lawsuits that's put that back but we didn't want to lose the fishing in that lake in this time that all this is trying to get sorted out, so we put the tiger trout in there so there is a fish in there for people to catch in the meantime.

Mike Worthen: Okay, that's good to know.

Dave Black: Any body else.



### **Questions from the audience:**

Dave Black: Do we have any questions from the audience? Okay, come forward and please state your name.

Matt Simm: My name is Matt Simm; I'm from Wayne county. By the way I am really excited about the management plan that these guys have put together. My question is how will you monitor these, all these lakes from year to year? Are you just going to do like gill net surveys or?

Richard Hepworth: That's a real good question. Um, yes it's mostly going to be gillnet surveys. We rely a lot on angler reports; those help us a lot. In the past week we've got six lakes done up there. But yeah, that's with 80 something lakes on the mountain, monitoring is going to be one of the toughest things for us to get completed but we're committed to doing the best job we can with that..

Matt Simm: Just a follow up question, I know you talked about angling reports and different things, you know there's a group, there's two or three guides in Loa, are you going to rely on their expertise to kind of tell you what's going on or? I fish 40 lakes on the Boulder a year; I could also let you know what's going on.

Richard Hepworth: Every bit of information you can send us would be, I ask all the time for any reports we can get and those are very helpful, especially in the spring when guys start going out and going up there I get tons of calls on which lakes winterkilled and I can't get to all of them. So angler reports are always important so please send them to me.

Dave Black: Anybody else? Okay, please state your name one more time as well.

Shaun Saunders: Shaun Saunders, Wayne county. Dams, what uh, when you mean dam repairs can you go into a little bit more detail on what that means?

Richard Hepworth: Yeah, if you know where Middle Donkey or Chris Lake is, both of those dams have been breached in the past due to they were not maintained as needed and there were safety issues, so those were breached. What it means is working with the water users and coming up with some kind of an agreement that they give us a specific amount of water as dead storage in the reservoir in exchange for us coming in and doing the repairs to fixing the lake. Rebuilding the dam.

Shaun Saunders: Okay, so that means draining the lake and then starting over.

Richard Hepworth: Yes, and no. In those two cases, Middle Donkey and Chris Lake there really isn't lakes. Chris Lake has a little bit of water behind it but compared to what it was historically it's not even really a lake anymore. Same with Middle Donkey, it's more of a marsh.

Shaun Saunders: What about Mcgath, specifically?

Richard Hepworth: Mcgath lake has had a leak in it that it's been threatened to breach that one numerous times. We've had a little bit of a struggle working with the water users but I think we're getting to a point where that one will happen. I don't think we'll have to completely drain that one. It will require

lowering it a little bit but it's at a minimum pool right now and we could see a definite increase in the amount of water there if we get that fixed.

Shaun Saunders: Okay, rotenone plans for 2014, some of the ones you mentioned on there those are going to happen in 2014 with Donkey or?

Richard Hepworth: No what that means is this year we'll start working towards the public process. The very earliest, and I think this is very ambitious, would be fall of 2015 before that could be treated. But we'll start working with talking to anglers, holding public meetings, working with the Forest Service; doing all those steps we have to do before that can be done, and so part of what we're doing here today is part of that process. But it would be 2015 before anything could be done there.

Dave Black: Anybody else? Richard, we appreciate those two presentations, very well done. We also appreciate the questions from the audience. As we move forward our first action item is item number 7, Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13, this will be Drew Cushing. Also as we go forward following questions from the RAC we'll have questions from the audience as well. If you want to make comments please fill out the comment cards, and those are in the back with the officers and they can bring them forward. So Drew we'll turn the time to you.

**Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 (action) 1:08:54 to 1:35:20 of 2:20:44**

**-Drew Cushing, Warmwater Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**

**-Paul Birdsey, Coldwater Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**

(See attachment 3)

**Questions from the RAC:**

Dave Black: Thank you. Do we have any questions from the RAC? You must have done a real good job. Any questions from the Audience?

Dale Bagley: One question real quick. All the surveys you talk about, are they a random survey or are they on your website or now to do you get involved in those surveys.

Drew Cushing: They are in Internet survey. That was the easiest way to go about it. And we felt, it's not scientific by any means but it gives us an idea of the people that are interested on that topic, the response. You know the people that aren't interested we felt wouldn't respond and the ones that were would.

Dale Bagley: Okay, thanks.

Drew Cushing: I might say that if you are talking about the angler, the yearly survey that we do that's on line. The other surveys were scientific. So the 2011 angler survey, the statewide was scientific. And then the graph that I showed on Willard Bay was actually the result of a creel survey and some age and growth, and so that's scientific. And then the survey that the group did that we hired that was scientific as well. So does that help?

Dale Bagley: Yes.

Dave Black: Any body else?

### **Questions from the public:**

Dave Black: Okay, Deloss. Oh sorry Jake.

Jake Albrecht: Jake Albrecht. Drew, on the slide you had on spearfishing comparing spearfishing from other states, what percentage of spear fishers come from outside of our state and what kind of money do they pay compared to what the locals do?

Drew Cushing: To be honest Jake we really don't know how many spear fishermen we have in the state. We know that we have a contingent of spear fisherman that comes from Colorado. We don't know how many. The only thing that they do buy is their regular out of state fishing license. And so but as far as numbers we really don't know. What is an out of state license? A combination is \$75.00 and just the fishing license is . . .

Jake Albrecht: So is Colorado on the liberal side or the conservative side on spearfishing?

Drew Cushing: I believe they were conservative. I believe they were non-game only, as I recall.

Dave Black: Okay, Deloss.

Deloss Christensen: Deloss Christensen, Glenwood. Question, I have been told, and I haven't experienced this personally, but I've been told by some of the folks from here in the valley who use our little mountain lakes on Monroe Mountain as kind of our urban fishery because we don't have a pond for kids and old men to fish out of. And apparently sometime in the last year or two or three maybe, the size of fish that they've been putting in those ponds has changed from sever or nine inches to six to seven inches. And we only have a growing season up there of about three or four months. And the local folks who fish that a lot say it's just not worth fishing up there because they're going to fish to catch fish to eat, that's why they're going. And a seven to an eight inch fish just doesn't get large enough to make a very edible fish by the end of October when that fishery kind of ends up there. Just wondering if there might be some consideration for some of these urban small lakes that some of these smaller communities use for stocking a little bigger fish so that those fish would be a little more edible.

Drew Cushing: I will give you the statewide answer and then I'll let Richard follow-up with his regional perspective. From the statewide perspective there is rational for stocking bigger fish. We have some exceptions for the Mirror Lakes up north, the Manti lakes for stocking a little larger fish it's based on use. And we have to evaluate use and then the return on those fish. There is one other fish, is that our budget is flat in our hatchery system. And so you know we talked about we have enough money to do what we need to do and we have the fish we need, however with the certain amount of money you can only have, you know, 50,000 of this size or 20,000 of this size. And so if you ask for bigger fish you're probably going to get fewer of them.

Deloss Christensen: I think in t his particular case maybe those who have been expressing that concern would say we'd rather have a little fewer fish and maybe have of a little larger size.

Richard Hepworth: Just real quick to add to that, I am very familiar with the situation up there. I've talked to a lot of people that have mentioned that issue and there are a number of issues around the region. To answer your question we will be looking and evaluating the fish size and numbers this fall before we get into a freeze and we lose what's left in the lake. It will help give us some ideas of where we are at. We're just getting information from anglers; this will help give us that solid information. And we will be looking at what we need to do to maybe improve that Deloss. So it's on our mind right now and it's something we're looking at for the next year or two to make that decision and solve that. And I'm assuming your big Annabelle deep lakes are the ones you're talking about.

Deloss Christensen: Thanks Richard

Dave Black: Any other questions?

### **Comments from the public:**

Dave Black: Okay, we'll move to the comment section. I have two comment cards. The first one is Ken Strong.

Ken Strong: Ken Strong, representing Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife. I thank you for the opportunity to address the RAC here. And I also had a great time this year working with Paul Birdsey and Drew Cushing. They're two fine men and we've worked together on a lot of this stuff. We haven't agreed on everything but we haven't beat each other up yet. Right now Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife accepts all the proposals that Drew has given up to this point except for not having the trout on the taking off the limit once you get them home. We would like the trout added with all fish, once they get to your primary domicile they no longer count on your limit. There's several reasons for this. One of them to give you an example is the Boulders talk about raising the Brook trout limit to 16. That means if somebody goes up there fishing, they spend the night, they can actually bring 32 Brook trout home. Once they get 32 Brook trout home they can't go fishing anywhere until those fish are consumed down below a normal, a limit of below 8 fish before they can go again. So they're asking the public to help them out and then in the process the public kind of gets punished for helping them out. Uh, one of the other things they worried about the people, it was mentioned Panguitch Reservoir where the people come up and stay in their trailers, uh, it was suggested by Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife that we use the primary domicile which Drew talked about, that would include the place you vote from, you don't vote from your trailer or your mountain cabin or anywhere else, you vote from one place and that's your primary domicile. Another thing on the survey that Drew talked about, uh, a slight majority of the people wanted the limit taken off of all fish once they get to your home. One thing about this is it's a rule that in the last 20 to 30 years has been enforced twice. It's basically unenforceable. If it's unenforceable why really have it on the books? Another thing that come in on the survey was people were saying I didn't know it was against the law to have fish in your freezer. They already thought it was that way, which it isn't. But therefore the people that are most likely to consume more fish, bottle them, or freeze them, are probably already doing that now so it wouldn't make much of a decrease on the fish that are being produced. When it's only been two or three times in the last 30 years that it's been enforced, it's just, it's an issue that shouldn't be there. I just want to say thanks for your time. Thanks for the great work that you guys do. Thanks for the Wildlife Board and the Fish and Game; they're making great leaps this year in fishing and making the state of Utah the number 1 place in the country. Thank you.

Dave Black: Thank you Ken. The next card that I have is Brad Bradley followed by Deloss.

Brad Bradley: I wasn't going to stand up but it looked like too much fun to do it. I like to see watch the hair stand up on the back of Richard's neck when I get up here. Just looking at a few things when they put the Internet survey up here. I don't know, I have a little bit of a problem with Internet surveys. In other words the only people that vote on them are the ones that kind of get invited. I happen to see it in Richfield Reaper so I thought I better chime in and vote on it. So you know it kind of appeals to just a special interest audience and those who want to put forth the effort. It really doesn't tap, you know you can see there's our little group here but I can guarantee that out there in Richfield there's thousand and thousands of fishing licenses that probably have an opinion but they just don't have the interest to take the time. Plus, I have a little bit of a problem with Internet surveys, like Survey Monkey, um; if you go in and delete the cookie you can vote again. I only voted for the immediate family members, I didn't use my whole contact list, okay. So, I'd really approach those Internet surveys with a grain of salt. I watched, I saw Drew's article in the newspaper encouraging retention of harvest, bring the fish home. And last year, you know, I stood up here and I said let's go with an 8 fish limit. And I listened tonight and every time we talk about the limit it gets, we want a little bit of harvest, we want them home, the regulations keep getting more and more complex on that. Back to 2002 and prior to that 8 fish, people caught them, they had enough fish, they took them home, it's easy to understand. You get 8 fish in possession. You can do it, you don't have to do it on one day, and then 4 on the next day. You can only clean so many of them and others have to be . . . Let's just make it easy. I don't think that will go anywhere but I'm going to throw that out again. The other thing I saw on the Internet survey, which really make me have to stand up, and I don't know why it just kind of prompted me when I was sitting at home the other night, and I didn't know that the more regulation thing was going to come up with that high of a response on the Internet survey. But I got kicking around and I got thinking about slot limits and I need a little help from Richard because I know he was in the central region for a while. 1991, Prove River above Deer Creek, general regulation on walleye or is that a restricted?

Richard Hepworth: Off mic. (I don't remember on the walleye, probably the same as what the lake was).

Brad Bradley: As Deer Creek, so it would be general reg. Okay, well that answers that question. So I went through the trophy fisheries that's listed on the Division's website. So if you look at this chart everything that's not in green is caught in general regulation water. Okay? There's only like 5 waters that had special regulations that produced trophy fish. Okay? The more you protect the fish the less likely you are you're going to put a fish in the record book. When it comes from what we've talked about about getting too many fish in the pond. And I really think you're worse off with too many fish in the pond than not enough fish. You can always restrict harvest a little bit and increase the fish but once you get too many fish nobody wants them. So I'd be really cautious about slapping a whole bunch of slot limits and regulations and what they accomplish. That's just some thoughts for you to consider. So I've said my piece, I'll go set back down.

Dave Black: Thank you Brad.

Deloss Christensen: Deloss Christensen. Before this meeting I called a few of the local folks to see if they might come and express their opinion on the day limit and possession limit on fish. And when I told them that they could only have, when I told them they could only have 4 fish in their possession they didn't want to come. They didn't want anybody to see who they were. I don't think anybody knows that's the law. Nobody's, nobody's applying that. I had a fellow at the gas station this afternoon say

well what about the fish I just brought from down from Henrys Fork that I caught this weekend? Can I have those? How are they going to tell if they check me if those Idaho fish were caught in Otter Creek or here? So it's, it's just doesn't seem very logical to have just 4 fish and then have to gorge yourself. If you're a single guy that's a lot of fish every day. But it just doesn't seem to be very practical. I may not be practical to have people canning fish on the shoreline and I understand that. But maybe this law got put in place by 3 or 4 knot heads doing something that we thought was going to become a trend and so we had to put a regulation in place. But maybe we need to reconsider that and set a little different regulation there. Thanks.

Dave Black: Thank you Deloss. That's all the comment cards I have.

### **RAC Discussion and Vote:**

Dave Black: Do we have comments from any RAC members? Sam. Rusty, do you guys have a comment you want to share with us?

Sam Carpenter: So I'll ask you Deloss, we're talking about Rainbow trout? Right, okay. And you're suggesting that you can have as many as you want in your residence instead of having some kind of a limit on it?

Deloss Christensen: Right now it's 4.

Sam Carpenter: It's actually eight.

Rusty Aiken: It's 8.

Deloss Christensen: And so that's my recommendation, once they get to your primary domicile.

Sam Carpenter: They are not counted anymore.

Deloss Christensen: (Off mic) You're not going to have CO's going into people's homes and looking (off mic inaudible). And if somebody's misbehaving on the reservoir and coming back and catching boat loads (inaudible).

Sam Carpenter: All right, but if someone was doing that then we eliminate the possession rule then they can do that.

Deloss Christensen: (Off mic).

Kevin Bunnell: So Lynn's telling me that we're not getting any of this on the recording. So just for the record that conversation was about removing the possession limit on trout once you reach your permanent residence.

Dave Black: That's my fault. Do we have any other comments from the RAC? Do you want to come to the mic?

Brad Bradley: Okay, I just have a question, all the major fisheries, Strawberry, Deer Creek, Fish Lake,

all our major fisheries we collect creel census data on them. I know that prior to, I don't know, middle '90s, about '91 or something there was a lot of creel census done on small lakes. Okay? So to like of put the biologists in the hot seat and you're probably not going to have that information today, but, do we have any information on what the average creel when an angler is finished and goes home? Now I ask this question because I had an argument with a biologist one time, and we went in circles about 8 fish limit, 4 fish limit. And the comment was most people don't catch 4 fish anyway. Of course my comeback was if they don't catch 4 fish why do we even worry about a limit? In other words do we have a guess of what the average fisherman leaves the pond with? If they don't catch more than 4, if they don't catch more than 8, then we start to move into kind of a moot point range of how many fish, what our ceiling should be on our limits. It would be nice to know what the average take home . . . when I ask that question to friends on the Internet, on Face Book and stuff, and you've got two adults and three kids out fishing and I say how many fish did you catch on that trip? Just for my curiosity, and they tell me well we came home with like 4. And I'm going like, well you had 5 anglers in the water, you only came home with 4 fish. So there's some people that no matter how they fish, you could put dynamite on their hook and they'll never catch a fish. There are other people that are going to catch a limit every time. But it would be nice to know what that average fisherman take home is if we have some creel data that we can look at.

Dave Black: Thank you Brad. Any other comment, oh, Richard is going to comment to that.

Richard Hepworth: Yeah, just to address what Brad was kind of asking. I've conducted a lot of creel surveys over the year and what we see in kind of an average that he's looking for is we see catch rates of about .5 fish per hour, or a catch rate of 1 fish every 2 hours. It's on an average of a reservoir, most of our reservoirs. And that's kind of a goal that we shoot for as well. As far as a harvest rate it varies depending on species things like that. For trout species you're looking at around .2 fish per hours. So every 5 hours of fishing you see 1 fish harvested. Now that's over everybody in a survey. Now one other piece of information as you guys are discussing this that may be really valuable to you, when you're talking limits with fishing this is something I learned back in college and something that I see all the time, is when you're talking about a 4 fish limit, an 8 fish limit, a 2 fish limit, limits don't necessarily effect all the time how many fish are taken out of a lake. And we use Otter Creek as an example, if I had a 4 fish limit or an 8 fish limit, every year I'm going to have almost the same number of fish harvested out of that lake. What the limit does is by reducing that from an 8 to a 4 it distributes those fish amongst more anglers. So if you have an 8 fish limit fewer people take home fish because there's only so many fish in the lake. If you have a 4 fish limit more people get to take home fish. Does that, that might help and is applicable to the conversation.

Dave Black: Thank you Richard. Any further comments from the RAC? Then we must be ready to entertain a motion. Let me just recap while you're formulating a motion. We heard from the SFW, they supported the DWR's presentation with the exception that the trout not count on your limit once you take that home to your freezer. I think we heard that same sentiment from Deloss as well. We also heard from Brad a suggestion of raising the limit from 4 fish to 8 fish. So those would be some things that you may want to consider or not as you formulate your motion.

Rusty Aiken: I'll try a motion here, to accept with the recommendations of the Division with the exception of the home limit restriction. Does that work?

Dave Black: Uh, we need to be a little bit more specific to trout probably.

Rusty Aiken: Okay, to trout.

Sam Carpenter: All fish including trout there would be no limit.

Rusty Aiken: Okay, all fish including trout.

Sam Carpenter: No limit as long as it is a permanent residence.

Rusty Aiken: To have no limit at your, okay.

Kevin Bunnell: So it's actually the possession limit not the daily limit, right? The possession, to remove the possession limit for all species of fish whereas the Division's recommendation was to remove it for only warm-water and cool-water fish. Is that?

Rusty Aiken: Right, right. Oh okay, okay.

Kevin Bunnell: Do you want to read that one more time Rusty?

Rusty Aiken: We'll try. Okay, to accept with the Division's recommendations with the exception of including trout in the possession at the permanent residence. Does that make sense?

Kevin Bunnell: Removal of the possession limit at the domicile.

Rusty Aiken: Right.

Dave Black: Okay, let me read the motion then, as I understand it. Okay, we'll wait for Kevin. There was also a comment from the SFW that the domicile definition includes the location from where you vote. And I don't know if you want to include that or not.

Rusty Aiken: Yes, I'd like to include that too, that's a good idea.

Dave Black: I'll help you with your motion then.

Kevin Bunnell: Okay, try that.

Dave Black: This is the way I understand the motion then. To accept the motion, accept the recommendation presented by the DWR with the exception to include trout in the removal of the possession limit once they are at the permanent domicile and to include where a person votes in the definition of domicile. Does that meet the intent of your motion? Okay. Do we have a second on the motion? We have a second by Sam. Do we have any discussion on the motion? Okay, Clair.

Clair Woodbury: I would just have one question for someone in the division. The description you gave of the permanent residence, is that the same as voting, where you vote? Is it already included in that permanent? Do you quote it and put it in a code or something like that?

Drew Cushing: Yeah. That's if you apply for like a license, whether you're a resident or nonresident, it



would be that address.

Clair Woodbury: Is that the same as a voting address?

Drew Cushing: Maybe, maybe not. This is one that was given to us by our lawyers. And you know we'd have to talk to them about you know, what fits because it's not just the Division of Wildlife definition, it's other agencies as well and so we would kind of work within the framework we have.

Kevin Bunnell: I would assume they're close Clair but I don't know. For the record, to establish residency for the purposes of hunting and fishing you have to have, it has to be your permanent residency for 6 months or longer before you establish residency for the purpose of applying for tags or buying licenses. So that's the definition that they're talking about.

Clair Woodbury: And that's the same definition for voting also, I think, or it's close.

Drew Cushing: That's what I don't know.

Dale Bagley: Um, on your uh, permanent domicile, I mean that, it doesn't really have a lot of bearing if you're here for the summer is all as far as that restriction. I mean you may be from Nevada up here and have a cabin here for 5 or 6 months of the year; and you may vote in Nevada, so I'm not sure if that has a lot of bearing or a primary residence has much to do with the possession limit really does it?

Kevin Bunnell: Well, Drew can chime in here if he likes. I think what they were trying to avoid is people that are just going to, you know the whole idea of a trailer parked in a campground and calling that a domicile. What this would do, if, if, if the motion, you know, eventually passes the Wildlife Board is it would make, it would remove the possession limit essentially for permanent residence of Utah. You would still have, if I'm understanding things correctly, a possession limit two days which consists of two day's limit for just the situation you were describing, somebody that has a cabin at Panguitch Lake and they're there 4 months out of the year. That wouldn't qualify as their permanent residence so they would not be excluded from the possession limit. And so it would, it would keep things exactly the way they are for nonresidents. It would remove the possession limit for residents, essentially, is what we're talking about. Yes, and they would be fishing on a nonresident license. Exactly, and it does add some clarification for enforcement.

Dave Black: Okay, any further discussion?

Sam Carpenter: So we are including the language the department has on the resident as well as the voting place? We will keep the language?

Dave Black: That's the way the motions states right now. Okay, all those in favor? Is that unanimous? Motion carries.

**Rusty Aiken made the motion to accept the Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented with the exception to include trout in the removal of the possession limit once they are at the permanent domicile and to include "where the person votes" in the definition of domicile. Sam Carpenter seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Dave Black: Okay, we'll move to our last action item, which is on the Native Cutthroat Trout New Introductions. And I believe that will be Richard that presents that for us.

**Native Cutthroat Trout New Introductions (action) 2:06:06 to 2:09:08 of 2:20:44**

**-Drew Cushing, Warmwater Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**

**-Richard Hepworth, Aquatics Program Manager**

(See attachment 1)

**Questions from the RAC:**

Dave Black: Okay,

Mike Worthen: Richard, when you talk about reintroducing the cutthroat, are you talking about killing all the other fish in that fishery, kind of like what they did up at GarKane?

Richard Hepworth: Yes, yeah, and in some . . .

Mike Worthen: The upper streams of Mammoth Creek would be totally native cutthroat?

Richard Hepworth: Yes, that's what we are talking about, above the spring which is just upstream a little ways from that little cabin area and the little community there.

Dave Black: Any other questions from the RAC

Kevin Bunnell: Can I add a clarification? And you tell me if I'm wrong Richard, it doesn't mean that you necessarily go back with only native cutthroats. In some instances they're putting in sterile, other sterile fish like tiger trout and things of that nature, is that correct?

Richard Hepworth: Exactly, and it depends on the situation and some of the . . . See all of these we've still got some work to do with public, you know, talking to the people and making sure that the anglers and public are wanting to do this. This is 5 to 10 years out. We're just trying to get these things done through this process before we take it to the next step. But in numerous cases we've used, say tiger trout in conjunction with these to maintain a good support fishery if people aren't happy with the cutthroat.

Dave Black: Question? Yeah, go ahead,

Harry Barber: What, and maybe you can elaborate just a little bit, what was, was there a hang-up with Garfield County, why they didn't vote?

Richard Hepworth: Um, I'm not 100 percent sure what their hang-up was. They quoted some things that really had nothing to do with fisheries, elk for example. Until we get elk under control they don't want to approve anything. But like I said, they didn't tell us no they just decided not to vote on it at this time.

Harry Barber: I'm working close with them on uh, well I was on the phone this evening with commissioner Pollock and we were talking about sage grouse, (unintelligible) and some of the work

we're trying to get done there in terms of restoration projects, and I really try to understand with the county is doing and I didn't quite understand why they would be against that.

Richard Hepworth: Their fear is another listed species. And you know, really that's what this is all about is keeping these from being listed. And the work that's gone into this up to this point has kept them from being put on a threatened or endangered list. And as long as we keep moving forward with additional habitat, additional streams with these fish in it we can keep them off. But it scares them, I think, and that was part of it.

Harry Barber: Lastly, I see some of these introductions are in Garfield County, so they're not going to fight it, it doesn't appear.

Richard Hepworth: As of right now I don't think, but I think they left the door open to where they can say well we didn't approve this. I think that was their kind of stance there. Based on our code, Utah Code, it's the Wildlife Board that has the final decision on this. But it's what we do, we go into the counties as well and, you know, right now we've got some work to do in Garfield County and we're going to continue to do that. And I don't think I'd move forward with any of these until Garfield County was more open to it.

Kevin Bunnell: Just to clarify, the fact that Richard and his staff even went directly to the counties is an extra step than what's required by the law. What was required was to do the RDCC process and through that process we've received no comments. But knowing the sensitivity to threatened and endangered species, Richard and his staff rightly so went individually to each county and said listen this is what we're planning and that gives an opportunity to answer questions specifically. And so we've already met the requirements of the law relative to the counties, but that doesn't mean we're going to go over the top of them and do something that they don't want. We'll continue to work closely with all of them and try to resolve whatever concerns we can.

Rusty Aiken: So in the chemical treatment of say like the Mammoth, is there a possibility of affecting downstream with the chemical treatment?

Richard Hepworth: There's always the possibility that we goof up, yeah.

Rusty Aiken: Don't goof up.

Richard Hepworth: But um, you know, we use potassium permanganate that neutralized the rotenone. And we've got a really success record on that. Generally we're really good at just killing where we want to kill.

Rusty Aiken: Except the Panguitch Creek, the last time you did Panguitch that was . . .

Richard Hepworth: Yeah, but it's back to what you always knew it as. It didn't take that long.

Rusty Aiken: Yeah, okay, that's it. Are there barriers? Have you got barriers anywhere? Sometimes you talk about having a barrier, you plan above the barrier?

Richard Hepworth: In some cases we will have to go in and build barriers where those are necessary.

### **Questions from the public:**

Dave Black: Do I have any questions from the public? Come to the mic please.

Brad Bradley: I am a little bit uneasy in asking this question, but confidence in rotenone and treating I think is, well there's some big questions with that. Um, I'm curious if anybody here knows about what happened on the Bicknell Bottoms this last year? Does anybody? I know you know. Is there anybody else that knows? Um, and I don't think I'm the person to really bring that up as far as details but I'm not real confident in that procedure. Maybe you can let us know.

Richard Hepworth: Yeah, that wasn't a rotenone treatment. That was, we're dealing with disinfecting the Eagan Hatchery to get rid of cold-water disease that was in our trout. Part of the process they used Clorox to basically bleach the whole hatchery system. Some of that got out and we lost somewhere in the neighborhood of 100 to 150 fish in the bottoms. I've spent some time down there since just evaluating exactly how bad that was and felt like, yeah, we lost fish but it's not the end of the world. And that was, like I said, that wasn't rotenone that was Clorox which is a little bit more difficult to neutralize and basically we had some seals break on some balloon seals that allowed that to escape.

Brad Bradley: Sorry, I want to acknowledge that you have done some really good work; I appreciate that. Um, but opinion, there were a lot more fish lost than 150 fish; I have to bring that into question. You know I've been on the water every week for the last probably 5 months, fish are not moving up into that fishery. We mentioned Calf Creek, East Fork above Tropic; these are fisheries that we use with regularity in our guide process with clients. Um, yeah, I have some big concerns with that. I just wanted to make note of that.

Dave Black: Do we have any other questions from the audience? Please come to the mic.

Matt Simm: Um, Matt Simm again. When you uh, is that going to include Tropic Reservoir when you treat the stream up above Tropic Reservoir? Are you going to do Tropic Reservoir as well?

Richard Hepworth: We haven't got that far into the planning process at this time. But Tropic Reservoir right now has got a lot of red side shiners in it. And our idea there would be yes, to see if we could get rid of those at the same time and improve the quality of the fishery at Tropic. But like I said, we're not that far along in the planning process on this

Matt Simm: Thank you, I would like to see Tropic Reservoir be a trophy fishery. So it sounds good.

### **Comments from the public:**

Dave Black: Okay and I don't have any comments cards for this item.  
None

## **RAC Discussion and Vote:**

Dave Black: Do we have any comments from the RAC?

Layne Torgerson: Mr. Chairman I'd like to make a motion that we accept the Native Cutthroat presentation as presented by the DWR.

Dave Black: Okay, we have a motion. It looks like we have a second from Rusty. Uh, we have a third from Harry. Is there any discussion on the motion? Okay, Clair.

Clair Woodbury: Yeah, I'd just like to compliment Richard and his crew. I've worked with him in the past and they do a marvelous job in what is expected and desired of them.

Dave Black: Thank you. Mike.

Mike Worthen: Yeah, I would just like to encourage you to continue, even though you've already met the requirements that the state requires you to meet in the public notification and the information, but I'd encourage you to work with the commissioners and the public in making sure that people know what's going on with these because some of them are right in the backyard, they're dear to their heart. And so that's all I would just encourage you to do that.

Richard Hepworth: Thanks and I agree 100%, and we will continue to do that.

Dave Black: Okay, if there's no further discussion we'll vote. All those in favor of the motion? It looks like that's unanimous.

**Layne Torgerson made the motion to accept the Native Cutthroat Trout New Introductions as presented. Rusty Aiken seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **Other Business (contingent)**

**-Dave Black, Chairman**

Dave Black: That concludes our action items. I have no other business so we will call this meeting adjourned. Oh, hold on just a minute.

Clair Woodbury: One question for Richard or someone, our last fishing meeting we had an extensive discussion on Navajo Lake, what is the report on that?

Richard Hepworth: The dike repairs are moving forward. We are still looking to get all the funding required. Right now as are as kind of a tentative schedule is possible doing a controlled breach next fall, about a year from now to start draining the lake down and then following mid summer as soon as things dry out we'd start rebuilding the dike. Um, there's a boat ramp, we're looking at new boat ramps up there, lots of things going on but we're moving forward with all of that.

Clair Woodbury: Thank you.

Dave Black: Thanks Clair that was a good question. Anybody else? Okay, I'm calling this meeting

adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

**Southeast Region Advisory Council  
John Wesley Powell Museum  
1765 E. Main  
Green River, Utah  
September 10, 2014**

*Motion Summary*

**Approval of Agenda and minutes**

**MOTION:** Because the majority of the RAC were absent, no motions were made or passed.

**Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13**

**MOTION:** None made.

**Southeast Region Advisory Council  
John Wesley Powell Museum  
1765 E. Main  
Green River, Utah**

**September 10, 2014 6:30 p.m.**

***Members Present***

Kevin Albrecht, USFS

Trisha Hedin, Sportsperson

Wayne Hoskisson, Environmental

Karl Ivory, BLM representative

Derris Jones, Sportsmen

Charlie Tracy, Agriculture

Chris Wood, Regional Supervisor

***Members Absent***

Seth Allred, At Large

Sue Bellagamba, Environmental

Blair Eastman, Agriculture

Jeff Horrocks, Elected Official

Todd Huntington, At Large

Darrel Mecham, Sportsmen

Christine Micoz, At Large

**Others Present**

Dr. Mike King

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**1) Welcome, RAC introductions and RAC Procedure  
-Kevin Albrecht, Chairman**

**Kevin Albrecht-** Alright I would like to welcome everyone out tonight for our September RAC meeting. As of right now we are one RAC member short of a majority.

**2) Approval of the agenda and minutes (Action)  
-Kevin Albrecht, Chairman**

**Kevin Albrecht-** We would like to have an approval of the agenda and minutes.

**Chris Wood-** Can we approve the agenda and minutes if we don't have a quorum?

**Kevin Albrecht-** I think we can.

**Derris Jones-** We can't without a quorum.

**Chris Wood-** Are there any comments on the agenda?

**Kevin Albrecht-** No comments.



## VOTING

Due to absence of a quorum, no motion was made.

### 3) Wildlife Board Meeting Update

**-by Chris Wood**

**Chris Wood**-At the last RAC meeting Kevin was on fire duty, so Todd Huntington filled in as our RAC Chairman. He was unable to make the board meeting so I sat in and represented our RAC at the board meeting. There were a lot of motions. I will list some of the ones that we discussed in our RAC meeting. The first was the turkey depredation rule. It passed as presented unanimously at the board meeting. It passed our RAC unanimously as well. There wasn't a whole lot of discussion with that.

The board meeting was several hours long. Some of the items took several hours of discussion and several hours of public comment and they certainly took everyone's comments into consideration. Talking about the proposed fee schedule, which included bobcats at \$5 per tag, the proposal was to make them \$15 per tag and there was quite a bit of discussion whether that the jump needed to be three-fold or not. At our RAC, we felt that big game hunting and tags should not supplement other programs in the division. So they felt that there should be an increase in the bobcat tags. At that time we were the second RAC of the five RACs that met and at that time the division indicated that the current \$5 fee doesn't cover the cost to administer the program but there weren't any hard numbers on how much it did cost to administer the program, so our RAC struggled with trying to come up with a dollar amount. Basically, our RAC ended up saying that the bobcat fee should be increased to cover the cost and if it takes \$15 a bobcat tag, then it should be \$15 per tag. The board approved the proposed fee with one amendment that I will discuss here in a minute. After our RAC meeting, the division ran the numbers and reports showing the cost was more than the \$15 to run that program. So even at \$15 per tag, the increase still doesn't cover the cost to administer the bobcat program. This was presented at the other RACs and so they chose to increase the bobcat tags to \$15 per tag. The board approved the proposed fee schedule and it passed 4:2 Mike King and Bill Fennimore opposed.

If you remember, it was brought up that we also didn't have a ewe bighorn sheep hunt fee. That could be an upcoming opportunity where we need to go in and remove some bighorn sheep, and so we would like to have the ewe fee on the books. The fee was \$300. Some members on the board thought that was way too low. We looked at some other states such as Nevada and it was a much higher fee, so the board approved 4:2 to increase the non-resident ewe hunt from \$300 to \$1000. I will say that I just learned about that an hour ago that the \$15 per bobcat tag price still has to go through the legislature. So when bobcat tags go on sale Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> they will still be \$5. They will be unlimited and 6 tags each at \$5 a pop. So that fee won't take place until July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 if the legislature approves it.

There was also a lot of discussion about the cougar management plan. Some of the other RACs, such as the Northeast RAC also had concerns about not having a female sub-quota. Their RAC voted to have a female sub-quota. The RAC heard from the houndsmen and sportsmen. The wildlife board approved unanimously the division's

recommendations as presented, but they did say this is only a band aid for this year. The cougar plan is very complicated. It is going to be re-done this year and next year we will have a cougar plan that will take some of these concerns into consideration. So as a band aid, this is the best that they could do for this year and they approved it. I should also mention that in the previous discussions with bobcats that there was a motion or a request to extend the bobcat season. I think the public wanted two weeks. There is something about that later season the bobcats when they are more active. The large trophy toms are more active and you have a much higher chance of getting one if you extend the season one or two weeks. I think the surrounding states do that as well. The wildlife board heard that discussion and there was a motion that was passed 4:2 with Mike King and Bill Fennimore being opposed. They extended that bobcat season by one week. Other than that, the turkey depredation passed unanimously. They had turkey transplant sites on the plan as well, which also passed unanimously. Mike, did I leave anything out? Did I represent the board well?

**Mike King-** As far as I can remember, I had to leave early. After 2 p.m., I wasn't there.

**Chris Wood-** Alright, are there any questions about that?

**Chris Wood-** Ok

**Kevin Albrecht-** Let's go to the regional update. Chris, you're up again.

#### **Questions from the RAC**

No questions

#### **Questions from the Public**

No Questions

#### **Comments from the Public**

No Comments

#### **RAC Discussion**

No Comments

#### **4) Regional Update**

**-Chris Wood, Regional Supervisor**

**Chris Wood-** It is a busy time of year.

The Aquatics Section has a lot of things going on. Two weeks from this week they are going to be surveying Huntington Creek, both in the middle area and then below the dam. There is Kokanee Salmon day at Flaming Gorge on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and the last few weeks they have been taking bluehead suckers out of Millsite and releasing them into the San Rafael. Some of the bluehead suckers took a hit due to the Seeley Fire and some of

the sediment and flows that came down hindered the population so they took some suckers out of Millsite. This time of year we do a lot of gill-netting in our reservoirs. Here's the schedule for this year. All of you are certainly invited to attend all of these events. It is really a nice time to rub shoulders with the biologists and pull nets and see what our reservoirs have and to see what kinds of fish and the size of fish that are in them. If you're interested in attending any of those just let me or Justin Hart know and we will get you the times and the locations to do that. We would love to have you.

In outreach, we have a new outreach employee, Walt Maldonado. You probably know him. He currently officially took on this new program in our agency called Wildlife Recreation and he is now our Wildlife Recreation Specialist. His job will be to host events, such as Kid's Fishing Day, archery clinics in Moab, having archery events, and shooting events. There is archery in the schools. He is our guy to help run that program. He will also continue to do our walk in access program, and dedicated hunter program as well. We are excited to have Walt on in that capacity. We did have a kid's fishing day this week at the Green River state park. And in the following week we are going to have a float in the parade. This is the first year that will have a float in the parade. Walt is leading that effort. Going on right now is the Utah State Fair in SLC. We have a wildlife building there that has a really cool display. We get a lot of visitors in that building.

Habitat Section is very busy this time of year. This time of year the habitat section does most of the restoration projects. The idea is to get seed on the ground before snow flies. The winter and spring moisture will then allow the seed to germinate and be successful. We have a lot of projects going on. We are flying seed tomorrow on the Henry Mountains. We are doing some aspen work on Cold Springs both on some private lands up there that are adjacent to our WMA. We have stuff going on in the Book Cliffs and on Cedar Mountain. A lot of these projects are conducted with our federal partners, the BLM and Forest Service and SITLA. We are working with private land owners as well and we are all coming together with our money and resources to restore thousands and thousands of acres each year in our region.

Law Enforcement is busy as well they work all of the hunts and talk with people, respond to calls and leads.. They are also continuing to work on our AIS Check stations at Bull Frog ramps and are teaching people about the quagga mussel and making sure people are draining their boats correctly. Here are some different hunts that are going on. Hunting of course has already started, and we have several hunts coming up especially for the youth. This year for the first time we will be doing a youth hunt at Hatt's Ranch. So if you're interested in getting a youth signed up for these hunts, you can do so at our office on Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>. Each hunt is limited to 20 youth, but we would like to have them. They usually fill up pretty fast. So if you're interested on getting them on the list, call our office on the 29<sup>th</sup> and reserve a spot for your youth. The youth waterfowl hunt will start in the next two weeks, and the general season hunt will start on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>. There are some other dates for you as well for some other species. We just hosted a clinic at Desert Lake on Saturday. We teamed up with Ducks Unlimited and we 5 or 6 different stations. The youth and general public came and they all learned about waterfowl hunting. So they came and learned about waterfowl identification. We had a trap shoot station along the way that people could practice trap shooting. We learned about firearms. We learned about duck calling, how to run your dogs, and how to set up decoys. This was the first of its kind that we have had in our region and actually statewide. Most of the other regions

are going to have these clinics. We were expecting maybe 30-40 people to show up. We actually had 150 people show up. That was really promising. People of all ages came. I am sure we are going to be doing this next year and for years to come. Here are some other dates for hunts that are starting soon. You guys are all probably aware of this and probably have tags for some of those. This is a recap of what the wildlife section has been doing. They've been doing bison surveys in July, pronghorn classifications, and last week on Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> we transplanted an additional 15 mountain goats to the La Sals from the Tushars, which was part of the plan that the board passed last summer. The Mountain goat plan for the La Sals authorized transplanting 40 mountain goats to the La Sals. Last year we did 20, this year we did 15. We were hoping to do 20 this year as well but the weather and flight conditions kept it to 15. We will get those other five goats next year and they might come from a different herd. Last summer when the wildlife board past the La Sal mountain goat plan, they asked the division to put together a stake holder's group meeting, and that meeting will be on September 22 on a Monday. We will meet at 10:00 am at the forest service office in Moab and the idea is to carpool up and head to the mountain and discuss mountain goats. GPS and telemetry data show where they have gone and what areas they have come in and out of. The data shows how they are using the RNA. We will hear from other groups that may have some concerns. The U.S. Forest Service will be there, Farm Bureau will be there, the Nature Conservancy and the Grand Canyon trust, as well as Wild Utah. A grazing permit holder will also be there. It is open to anybody that wants to discuss mountain goats. Hopefully it will be a good event. The idea is to get out on the ground and not necessarily be confined to a classroom or to a small room. We are hoping for some good dialog and good discussion. That is all that I have.

I'll take any questions if you have any?

### **Questions from the RAC**

**Charlie Tracy-** When is the goat meeting again?

**Chris Wood-** Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Meet at 10 a.m. and hopefully to be back by 4 or 5pm.

**Trisha Hedin-** Meet at the forest service?

**Chris Wood-** Outside the forest service office and we load into cars from there.

**Kevin Albrecht-** any other questions for Chris?

### **Questions from the Public**

**Dennis Blackburn-** What was the bison count?

**Chris Wood-** My biologists aren't here. I don't have the exact number but I know it is right where they wanted the bison numbers to be.

**Dennis Blackburn-** What is Walt's phone number?

**Brent Stettler-** 820-8147

### **Comments from the Public**

No Comments

### **RAC Discussion**

No comments.

#### **5) Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 (Action)**

**-Drew Cushing, Warm water Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**

**-Paul Birdsey, Cold Water Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**

#### **Questions from the RAC**

**Kevin Albrecht-**Since we don't have a quorum, let's go ahead and express our thoughts to each of the action items, so that the wildlife board can know what we are thinking.

**Wayne Hoskisson-**Is there any information about injuries or accidents related to spear fishing?

**Paul Birdsey-** We don't have any information. Do you mean human injury?

**Wayne Hoskisson-** Yes that is mostly what I was thinking about.

**Paul Birdsey-** I am not aware of any injury that has resulted from spear fishing. That doesn't mean that it hasn't happened, but I am not aware of any.

**Wayne Hoskisson-** That is a projectile and would have to be treated in an emergency room.

**Paul Birdsey-** What we are primarily worried about is the conflict between the spear fisherman and the regular anglers. That would be a social conflict on the water but there is also the perception of regular anglers that the spear fishermen go out and kill all of the big fish. We don't have the information on to whether that is true or false, but none the less, there is thousands of people that have that particular sentiment.

**Trisha Hedin-**Well, if they are killing big fish, they are altering that environment.

**Paul Birdsey-** When spear fishing, they have to have a dive flag, and you have to stay 150 ft. away from that dive flag. So theoretically they can cordon off a cove in a place like Jordanelle Reservoir.

**Trisha Hedin-** That's the problem.

**Charlie Tracy-** Why do you think they practice catch and release? What do you think it is? That they just don't want to mess with them?

**Paul Birdsey-** In the 1960's, there was overharvest of fish occurring pretty much nationwide. The ethic was that if you catch it, it becomes part of your groceries. There was a significant overharvest that was occurring in any fisheries nationwide. You had the environmental groups, Trout Unlimited, BASS and some of these other large sportsman groups responding to that and then saying you should catch and release. And they didn't say you should catch and release most, they didn't say you should catch and release some. They just said you should catch and release. So we have almost two generations of anglers that have been brought up with this idea that harvesting fish is only one step above devil worship. I did talk with one of the biologists out in California and they are having the same problem. This is a nationwide ordeal. One of their lakes had less than

5% of the bass being caught and that is not enough, so they spent 5 yrs working with the anglers out there showing them what was wrong with that. They have now increased that to about 45% of the bass being caught out there are going home with the anglers. With 45% harvest rate we can actually do effective management. We can't do much with 5%

**Charlie Tracy-** That is interesting

### **Questions from the Public**

**Dennis Blackburn-** I just had a question about the survey. How do you conduct it?

**Paul Birdsey-** The survey is done online through a software product called survey monkey. But we advertised that the survey was available through news media or as many different outlets as we could to try and get the maximum amount of participation. I should mention that this is only one way that we gather information for our regulations. I used to have Justin's job. We received phone calls; our managers received phone calls, emails, letters, etc. throughout the course of the year with people making suggestions on regulation changes. Those get factored into the following year's recommendations. We also have open house meetings. We ask while we are out doing creel surveys about various waters and regulation changes there. We truly have a user-defined system of management in the aquatics section. As you saw, we try very hard to bounce new ideas amongst all of the different users groups, but it is the anglers' responsibility to come forward and tell us what they want in various waters.

**Kevin Albrecht-** Thank You. Are there any other questions or comments from the audience

### **Comments from the Public**

**Ken Strong Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife (SFW)** Thank you for your participating on these RACs. It is a great service that we need in this state. Thank you for taking the time to do so. I have been lucky this last year to work with Paul and Drew. These two guys are really concerned about fishing in the State of Utah. We have worked quite well together. They haven't beat me up too bad, so I am still here. SFW accepts all of the proposals that the division has made on the changes in fishing with the exception that we would like to see trout included, so that all fish once they get to your residence are no longer on your limit. We believe that is the proper way to go and we don't believe that there would really be a problem with it. One of the things that has come up in this presentation is on the Oak Creek in the Boulders, you are raising the limit to 16, which means that if you go up there and camp overnight and bring your fish home, you're entitled to bring 32 fish home. Once you get them home, you can't go fishing again for trout until you consume those fish. So we are just thinking it is easier for everybody if they just go ahead and put all of the fish on that limit. And like Paul just said in the proclamation, it also says that 75% of the angler's now are catch and release. It is probably a little higher than that. As far as the people coming from out of state it was brought up that they can stay in trailers. Like Paul said they have to have a non-resident license. If they have a non-resident license it's not their primary domain and they can't over-limit on fish. As a whole, we think that is the proper way to go. Also, this law has been in effect for quite a while and it is totally unenforceable. In the last 20-30 years,

there have been two or maybe three times that it has been enforced. If we can't enforce it then really there's no sense in having it on the books. We would just like to see that the limit on all fish is removed once they are at a primary domicile. Thank You.

### **RAC Discussion**

**Derris Jones-** This is probably more of a question. Paul, when you mentioned that some of the managers are concerned about the trout fishery, when it comes to the possession limit at home, once you reach your primary residence, are they concerned primarily with hatchery fish, community fisheries or natural producing fisheries?

**Paul Birdsey-** Waters such as Panguich Lake, Otter Creek, and Piute, where people tend to go, are harvest-oriented, and there is concern that anglers will go repeatedly and harvest a limit each time and perhaps over harvest those waters.

**Derris Jones-** And those waters you mentioned—are they hatchery-supplemented or hatchery managed fishery, not natural producing.

**Paul Birdsey-** They are almost entirely driven by hatchery production.

**Derris Jones-** So if it is hatchery driven, then I assume it is more of a monetary concern than it is a biological concern?

**Paul Birdsey-** That's true. Right now let's just take Otter Creek for example. We are stocking about 150,000 8-inch fish a year for Otter Creek Reservoir. There is a concern that will be insufficient for a sustainable harvest throughout the course of the year under this scenario. That 150,000 fish cost us in the neighborhood \$150,000 to maintain. With flat budgets we don't have the opportunity to increase stocking in an unlimited fashion and that is what the concern is there.

**Derris Jones-** But on the other hand when the fish are caught and they are all gone, then I assume the concern goes from there to fishing licenses not being bought because fishing was so lousy.

**Paul Birdsey-** Right

**Derris Jones-** ok

**Paul Birdsey-** Richard is a nice guy and he doesn't want to get 500 phone calls getting told on how bad the fishing is.

**Derris Jones-**I guess I have one more question for Paul. On the slide you showed from your survey this was a third year in a row for increased need from enforcement and there was one more category.

**Paul Birdsey-** That was stream access. That continues to be a hot button topic.

**Derris Jones-** With those two being hot buttons for such a long period of time, is the division taking any steps toward increasing enforcement or actually taking a position on the stream access versus a neutral position?

**Paul Birdsey-** Well as you know the State of Utah was sued by the Utah Stream Access Coalition over House Bill 141. Those two law suits are moving their way through the fourth district court right now. The state attorney General's office is actively fighting that law suit. The division is part of the executive branch; the Division of Wildlife Resources is supporting the state's position. We are neutral but not withstanding, we are providing support in terms of data, etc. to that effort. In terms of law enforcement, I know that messages has hit home and many of the previous vacant CO districts have been filled

over the last couple of years and hopefully we will start to see people get checked more often. We do have the walk in access program that we have been a ton of money on to provide access to stream segments that were closed as a result of HB141. It is being dealt with.

**Derris Jones-** The miles of stream with public access due to the walk-in access program, is it still steadily increasing or did it plateau out?

**Paul Birdsey-** It has plateaued just because of the funding and availability. I expect for it to start go back up a little bit now with the change to the wildlife recreation program.

**Wayne Hoskisson-** I have a question about the enforcement. That could mean a lot of different things. Were they specifically saying that they weren't seeing enforcement officers? Or is there some specific kinds of activities that they were reporting or is just in vague that they just want more enforcement?

**Paul Birdsey-** First of all I just would mention that the people that respond to these surveys are the people that tend to be the most vocal. They have to be in order to take the time to participate in this survey because it's not a random stop someone on the street and ask them questions. By in large I am sorry to say that there are a lot of racist people in this state. Almost invariably those comments revolved around whatever minority group they happen to see out there particular fishing water are the ones that were taking home five gallon buckets full of fish. I know myself in years and years of fishing out in this state I think I have been checked in the field less than six times in all of the fishing that I have done. Some of the comments were just a general "I buy a fishing license and I want someone to ask me to see it". But there were a lot of suggestions about minorities taking all the fish.

**Wayne Hoskisson-** It just seems that fishing is just one of those things that everybody can do if you have a hook and line and there are a lot places that you can get to. Enforcement I think is like one of those laws that you have because you want people to be cooperative not because you're able to enforce things.

**Paul Birdsey-** I don't disagree with you, but one of the things that changed over the last 35 years is the perception in the public that it was ok for Jon Doe to go out and kill a deer during the off season because he was going to take it home to feed his family. But now we have the Help Stop Poaching program. We need to move the angling public to that same level of recognition that they are the eyes and ears of the conservation officers.

**Kevin Albrecht-** The one comment I have is I would like to apologize to the Wildlife Board and to Mike that we don't have a quorum tonight and we will work on that . I think part of it could be time of year. But I would just ask those of us that here tonight to do our best to give the Wildlife Board the best direction we can even though we don't have a vote. Be real clear in our thoughts and send Mike to the WildLife Board with some direction even though we don't have a vote.

**Derris Jones-** So do you want us to go around the room or just?

**Kevin Albrecht-** I would say yes. I would say whoever wants to give their opinion and if they have stated their thoughts very well then maybe it's covered, but if there is something or some other thoughts you have make sure that if it is not represented to please give those thoughts.

**Derris Jones-** If I was making a motion, I would make a motion to support the divisions recommendations as presented. I side with SFW's putting trout in to the category as the rest of the fish and I hope we get there someday but I also appreciate the division's



concern of going 20 years back in time as far as some of those fisheries, if they get over-fished. I am pleased that the division is doing some kind of study to see if it is going to be effective or not and it sounds like they are more than willing to add trout to it if it does not affect it. So I would support the division's recommendation as they have presented it.

**Wayne Hoskisson-** I would agree with that. I thought it was pretty well presented. I was wondering about spear fishing but my questions were answered.

**Trisha Hedin-** I agree with it. There were some great comments.

**Charlie Tracy-** Me, too. I want to know if anybody has ever speared fish those big catfish down by Lake Powell. You always hear about they are like the size of cars. I would really like to know that.

**Trisha Hedin-** Would you want to come face to face with one of those things? (Laughing)

**Charlie Tracy-** I don't even get in the water. If you accidentally nick them they may just get mad enough that they would come try and eat you. (Laughing)

**Trisha Hedin-** I have spear fished in warm tropical weather. I don't understand this idea of wanting to jump into a super cold lake with a wet suit on. That doesn't sound fun to me.

**Charlie Tracy-** I stay out of the water. I swim like a rock.

**Kevin Albrecht-** Along those lines I would just like to make a comment. I think that fishing in Utah is at this time is incredible. I think with as much work that has been done throughout the state and the diversity between the high mountain lakes and the management all the way to Lake Powell and the diversity that the state has an incredible diversity. And I am not a fisherman, but because of the management of the state, I have found myself more and more loving to fish because of the opportunity that this state provides and so I would be in line with Derris's comments as well to be in line with the division's proposal.

**Karl Ivory-** I appreciate the information and the presentation here to. It was thorough and very informative. I appreciate that. I would go along with what has been presented here and I support that of what the division has said.

**Kevin Albrecht-** We have another question from the audience, Mr. Blackburn.

**Dennis Blackburn-** I would just like to say that SFW and what they were saying. I didn't even know they even cared about fish. (Laughing) Simplicity encourages compliance. The limit is at 4? Didn't it use to be at 12, 8, and now it is 4? And how much do we spend in hatcheries? What is the dollar figure? We can't produce more fish?

**Drew Cushing-** Last year we had the 2-day possession limit. If you look at our creel surveys, people don't take home a limit of fish every day. If you increase the limit from 4 to 8 it doesn't encourage that kind of harvest. What we are trying to do is to get people to become comfortable on going back for multiple trips. And making them feel comfortable in doing what people are probably doing already. So it is that kind of thing more than anything. And as far as our hatchery system, we actually produce enough fish to do more than what we need. We actually have one hatchery. Loa is scheduled to be closed this fall. The reason is excess. As Dennis said, we have reconstructed a number of hatcheries and Fountain Green for example produces twice as much fish as it used to because the technology has advanced there. And so if you have a hatchery like Loa which doesn't employ that technology and you don't have the money to update it and you have mud snails, it is probably one that you should look at moth-balling and waiting until you have money to deal with it.

**Kevin Albrecht**-Thank you. I think the comments we have given has provided the board with some good direction. I appreciate the comments from the public and from SFW.

**Kevin Albrecht**- Thanks everyone. The meeting is adjourned.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

The next Wildlife Board meeting will take place on Oct. 2 at 9 a.m. in the DNR ballroom, 1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City.

The next SER RAC meeting will take place on November 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the John Wesley Powell Museum in Green River.

**NORTHEASTERN RAC MEETING SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**  
**Utah Wildlife Resources Office, 318 N Vernal Avenue, Vernal**  
**September 11, 2014**

**5. FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13**

**MOTION to support the Division's plan with the exception that we include what Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife has proposed because I feel that's an issue that trout be on the unlimited side also**

Motion passed 5 to 3

Dan Abeyta: It just takes a few people to have an effect on a large group of people. It's taking away a resource from other people, so I'm supportive of keeping the trout restriction.

**NORTHEASTERN REGION RAC MEETING SUMMARY**  
**Utah Wildlife Resources Office, 318 N Vernal Ave, Vernal**  
**September 11, 2014**

**RAC MEMBERS PRESENT:**

John Mathis, Public Official  
Mitch Hacking, Agriculture  
Dan Abeyta, Forest Service  
Joe Batty, Agriculture  
Rod Morrison, Sportsmen  
Randy Dearth, Sportsmen  
Beth Hamann, Non consumptive  
David Gordon, BLM  
Boyde Blackwell, NER Supervisor

**UDWR PERSONNEL PRESENT:**

Paul Birdsey, Coldwater Fisheries Coord.  
Drew Cushing, Warmwater Fisheries Coord.  
Randy Scheetz, NER Law Enforcement  
Trina Hedrick, NER Aquatics Manager  
Gayle Allred, NER Office Manager  
Ron Stewart, NER Conservation Outreach

**RAC MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Wayne McAllister, RAC Chair  
Andrea Merrell, Non consumptive

**RAC MEMBERS UNEXCUSED:**

Carrie Messerly, At Large  
Tim Ignacio, Ute Tribe

**1. WELCOME, RAC INTRODUCTIONS AND RAC PROCEDURE - Boyde Blackwell**

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES - Boyde Blackwell**

Approval of agenda and minutes  
Beth Hamann/David Gordon  
Unanimous

**4. REGIONAL UPDATE - Boyde Blackwell**

Alex Hansen now has the Wildlife Recreation position officially

September 13 we'll be holding the first annual Outdoor Hunting Clinic for Waterfowl and Upland Game. The clinic will include ducks and upland game identification, decoys and blinds, shotgun shooting, dog training, recipes, etc.

Kokanee are starting to run at Sheep Creek. There will be an egg take September 16. All RAC members are invited. We will meet at the Mann Campground.

Kokanee Day will be held September 20th

Chukar release September 20th will be done in time for the youth waterfowl day

Bear problems: We've had problems with bears this year in campgrounds, trailers, even in town

Bison surveys begin next week.

Green River fish surveys were held last week below Flaming Gorge. The first night went well. The second night the boat engine threw a rod and they were not able to do the second night. We'll see if they are able to reschedule.

The Middle Fork of Sheep Creek fish treatment is finished and we'll be treating Brown's Draw Sept 24, Starvation spillway at the spilling basin Sept 17 and Sears Creek September 18

Mountain goat surveys are completed

Bighorn sheep capture was attempted. There were several cold and snowy day just before they were supposed to begin so the sheep moved out. They may come back.

Hunts are underway. Officers are busy.

Road issues with the county are being worked through.

A new phone application will be available soon for hunters. In the next meeting, I will be giving you a demonstration of a new phone app. which is a direct tie into accessing Division licenses, finding out where to fish, hunt boundaries, all kinds of different things. It will be Google based. phones ready but not for iPhones yet.

Changes will be taking place on our RAC. I want to take care of all changes at one time. If you feel like you've served your time, please send me a note within the next four weeks.

Dan Abeyta: We came up with \$30,000 to do additional bighorn sheep flights.

Boyde Blackwell: We appreciate that but at this point we have some concerns. This is a once-in-a-lifetime hunt area and don't want to infringe on somebody's hunt, since they've been waiting a long time to hunt.

### **3. WILDLIFE BOARD UPDATE**

They went with everything that our RAC recommended, except bobcats went to \$15. Regarding the cougar, the Board decided to go with the Division's recommendation for one year, and asked the Division to get together and talk about a new management plan or they will do it for us.

### **5. FISHING GUIDEBOOK AND RULE R657-13 - Paul Birdsey, Coldwater Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**

(See handout)

#### **Questions from Public:**

None

#### **Question from RAC:**

Mitch Hacking: On the throwing away of fish, are there regulations in the proclamation on how to dispose of them?

Paul Birdsey: There are recommendations on how people can dispose of them. It is difficult in terms of regulations. What we have is the ways you can't dispose of fish and recommendations on how you can. The best way is to puncture the air bladder and let them sink to the bottom, right back in the water. Ways to dispose of fish include taking them home to plant in your garden, give to their friends, take them to the dump, etc. It has not been a problem. Probably the biggest species that is harvested and has a catch and kill regulation statewide is carp, and we don't have reports of tens of thousands of carp washing up on the shores of Utah Lake.

Dan Abeyta: Regarding smallmouth bass in the regulations. Why is it okay to have largemouth and not smallmouth bass?

Paul Birdsey: Smallmouth evolved as a river fish and largemouth as reservoir fish. The largemouth don't survive.

Dan Abeyta: Pacu are like piranha?

Paul Birdsey: A piranha has sharp teeth, a paco has molars eating vegetation

Rod Morrison: How many lakes did you say have the 16 trout limit on Boulder?

Paul Birdsey: Just one. When fish get overpopulated they get stunted.

Rod Morrison: On Starvation, are the walleye not doing really well there?

Trina Hedrick: Below the spillway that ends up in Green River they put predation on fish in the Green River, so we've been working hard to figure out a way to stop those fish from going downstream in the spilling basin, so they don't go downstream.

Randy Dearth: How did you determine who was going to be surveyed, and how many surveys did you send out?

Paul Birdsey: We simply told people through news releases saying this survey is available, go to this link and fill out the survey.

Randy Dearth: So people who are interested filled out the survey.

Paul Birdsey: The people who are really interested in fishing come to RAC meetings, like Ken. The people who think things are wonderful don't come to RAC meetings. How do you survey them? This was what we tried. Open houses attended by 20-30 people max. There is an inherent bias in this survey technique but we don't know of another good way.

Randy Dearth: The spear fishing survey slide showed substantial support for spear fishing in Green but GROGA and USFS thought there would be too many problems. Why did you choose to go with the guides and the Forest Service?

Paul Birdsey: We went with the idea that people may not have been fully aware of all the conflicts. The people who spend the most time on the water said this was not a good way to go.

Drew Cushing: Also, if you looked at all waters, there are only four or five you could add to the waters that already have it.

Paul Birdsey: There was support for the spearfishing by the fishermen in the Green River. One of the things I noticed in looking at the comments, there may only be 200 spear fishermen in the state of Utah, who are incredibly well-organized. If you get all of them filling out the survey, it may make a disproportionate difference.

John Mathis: Have you ever thought of a survey when they apply for a license?

Paul Birdsey: We have. We're still dealing with how we go about doing that. With a 356-day license, when do we want to start that. There are some logistical questions. What we tried to work this year but had technical difficulties with, is to have an online-type of open house, where people don't have to drive to a location, and they can interact with the biologists and mention things at this time. We do the survey, but that is only one method that we receive input from the public. Trina gets calls and emails and letters every day that she comes into work about fishing. We take all that information, creel survey interviews are taken, open house information is used also. We are contacting as many people as we possibly can and monitor the forums online so we can address it.

John Mathis: Regarding the at-home possession limit, is that actually ever enforced?

Paul Birdsey: I've worked for the Division full time for just under 29 years. In that period, I know of three cases that have been made where we obtained a search warrant and busted them for an egregious over limit of fish.



John Mathis: Is it worth even having?

Paul Birdsey: You folks need to resolve that. What we're talking about with trout fisheries is where we back a truck up to and dump fish into. You really need to see that as dollar bills. So if having an unlimited possession does create an overharvest situation, we either need a four-fish limit to a two-fish limit, or we have to produce more fish, or the fishing goes to pot later in the summer. That's the concern there, is what that does to our bottom line.

John Mathis: Do you anticipate that the possession will skyrocket?

Paul Birdsey: I don't know the answer to that question. When we don't know, we'd like to be cautious.

Dan Abeyta: So currently the at-home possession limit is two bag limits?

Drew Cushing: Are you adding your fish, Dan?

### **Comments from Public:**

Ken Strong (Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife): As sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, we support everything that has been presented except the trout being left off the limit. 16 fish limit Oak Creek in Boulders. helping to dispose of brook trout. You could bring home 32 fish. But once you come home, you cannot go fishing again until you consume those fish. In one way you're helping. Most of the people who are going to do it are already doing it. If we take the limit off, them out, another you're getting penalized.

If you go to Strawberry or Flaming Gorge and you come home, you can't go fishing again until you consume those fish. So with this rule of putting the trout in, that would enable you to go back again .

I can understand the situation with the regional managers . I have talked with Paul and Drew that if it falls apart, we will address it. Most people don't even know it's illegal.

Mitch Hacking: You made a point that when you brought them home, you'd have to eat them. You can give them to relatives without having to eat them.

Ken Strong: You could give them to cousins or neighbors. Allowing trout would do away with this problem.

Mitch Hacking: Does it still count in your limit?

Boyde Blackwell: You can donate them with a donation slip and it is off your limit.

Randy Scheetz: You're taking a trout limit no matter who you give them to.

Beth Hamann: Most of the times when it's enforced it's hundreds of fish when someone calls and informs us if we don't actually see them fishing.

Paul Birdsey: Overt limits happen all the time.

Beth Hamann: You follow them home?

Randy Scheetz: We don't follow them home. The only tool we have is if someone informs us. Sometimes the only thing we can actually cite them with is this rule. It has been important in some instances.

Beth Hamann: There's no other way you can enforce that other than that regulation?

Randy Scheetz: Not really. Sometimes people don't want to testify, possession is the only way we have to address it.

Drew Cushing: It was supported by the public. The reason we'd like to move forward is they're self-propagating. We have an under harvest on warm and cool water fish. We'd like to look at a lake like Starvation where we have warm and cool water fish and trout to see how many fish they took. If it's safe, let's do it, if it's not safe, let's be aware.

Mitch Hacking: I look that it's not the letter of the law but the intent of the law. It's to catch the guys who are really abusing it, not the little old ladies who are canning.

Randy Scheetz: The two years may be able to determine how much of an effect it's having.

Boyde Blackwell: He's got to have a warrant too. You don't just walk in.

John Mathis: If you leave it in place, you've got that tool, but you're really not going to change people's behavior.

Randy Scheetz: There's an article in Outdoor Life of people who are doing egregious violations. It's a small percentage, but is that regulation going to cause more violations?

Beth Hamann: I hate to see a rule that you're not enforcing anyway, why have the rule?

Paul Birdsey: We had a community fishery in the Southeastern Region, where people would fish every day and catch their limit. I talked with them on multiple occasions telling them you need to be eating the fish every day. If you are, come back tomorrow. We had the law enforcement officers down there stop by and tell them the same thing. It got to the point where they were telling us they put them in their freezer. The only way that we could drive that point home. We're talking hundreds of fish in a one-acre pond. They cost the program thousands of dollars as a result of their behavior. It's only case but without that tool, there's no way we could protect that fishery.

Randy Scheetz: I've told thousands of people and that's a level of enforcement, issuing warnings is enforcement, and that's being done. Lots of things involve a lot less that knocking on somebody's door with a piece of paper. So don't look at it like there's no law enforcement being done.

Dan Abeyta: The story Paul just shared is a good example. It just takes a few people to have an effect on a large group of people. It's taking away a resource from other people, so I'm supportive of keeping that.

Paul Birdsey: The people who were responsible for depopulating that lake complained that they were no longer catching fish in that pond.

Drew Cushing: When Paul has given his presentation, there have been a number of people who were unaware of this. It is complicated. With no limit on walleye at Lake Powell, if a person takes 50 walleye and lives somewhere around Willard Bay, legally, he can't go to Willard Bay and harvest. So using this, we can evaluate for the next couple of years.

### **Discussion and Motion**

#### **MOTION:**

**Randy Dearth move to support the Division's plan with the exception that we include what Ken from Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife has proposed because I feel that's an issue that trout be on the unlimited side also.**

**Rod Morrison: Second**

**Favor: Beth Hamann, Randy Dearth, Rod Morrison, Joe Batty, Dan Abeyta**

**Against: David Gordon, Mitch Hacking, John Mathis**

**Motion passed 5 to 3**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm**

**Next meeting: November 13, 2014 on bucks, bulls and CWMUs**

Central Region Advisory Council  
DNR Boardroom  
1594 W North Temple, Salt Lake City  
September 16, 2014 @ 6:30 p.m.

## **Motion Summary**

### **Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

MOTION: To accept the agenda written  
Passed unanimously

MOTION: To accept the minutes as written  
Passed unanimously

### **Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13**

MOTION: To support the proposals as presented  
Passed unanimously

Central Region Advisory Council  
DNR Boardroom  
1594 W North Temple, Salt Lake City  
September 16, 2014 @ 6:30 p.m.

**Members Present**

Matt Clark, Sportsmen  
Timothy Fehr, At large  
Larry Fitzgerald, Agriculture  
Richard Hansen, At large, Vice Chair  
George Holmes, Agriculture  
Gary Nielson, Sportsmen, Chair  
Danny Potts, Non-consumptive  
Jay Price, Elected

**Members Absent**

Sarah Flinders, Forest Service  
Karl Hirst, Sportsmen  
Kristofer Marble, At large  
Michael Gates, BLM  
Christine Schmitz, Non-consumptive

**Others Present**

Mike Canning, Assistant Director

- 
- 1) **Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure (Action)**
    - Gary Nielson, RAC Chair
  - 2) **Approval of the Agenda and Minutes (Action)**
    - Gary Nielson, RAC Chair

**VOTING**

**Motion was made by George Holmes to accept the agenda**  
**Seconded by Danny Potts**  
**Motion passed unanimously**

**Motion was made by Larry Fitzgerald to accept the minutes as written**  
**Seconded by Richard Hansen**  
**Motion passed unanimously**

- 3) **Wildlife Board Meeting Update (Information)**
  - Gary Nielson, RAC Chair
- 4) **Regional Update (Information)**
  - John Fairchild, Central Regional Supervisor

**Aquatics**

- Phase II of the Mill Creek Restoration Project completed last week
- Jackie Watson selected to fill the sport fish biologist position
- Mill Creek Canyon Road to be closed Sept. 22nd for a culvert replacement project
- Gillnetting Deer Creek and Jordanelle reservoirs October 7 and 8
- Gillnetting Yuba Reservoir October 30
- Main Creek Restoration Project volunteer opportunity - willow planting Sept. 19 and 22 and maybe the 23<sup>rd</sup> (contact Chris Crockett to sign up)

**Wildlife**

- Unit 17 (Wasatch) added to CWD sampling program this fall (deer and elk)

- Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and Rocky Mountain goat management plans are completed and will be presented at the November RAC and December Wildlife Board meetings
  - Goat transplant proposed for the Deep Creek Mtns.
  - Will meet with the Goshute Tribe and BLM to review plans
  - Pronghorn proposed for Sanpitch Mtns (Antelope Flat)
- Urban Deer Control Update
  - Highland City to proceed with 2<sup>nd</sup> year of their pilot program
  - Herriman City working with landowners to utilize depredation permits to reduce deer numbers on agricultural lands (archery only)
  - Mapleton City also working with landowners to accept depredation permits (archery only within city limits)
  - Vernon landowner association removing deer from agricultural lands in town
  - Draper, Holladay, Provo, Woodland Hills have expressed interest in reducing deer numbers within their city limits

#### Habitat

- Wildfire Impacts
  - Anaconda Fire burned 913 acres on the Pine Canyon WMA east of Tooele. An herbicide treatment prior to aerial seeding and chaining planned for this fall.
  - Deep Creek Fire burned 675 acres on the wildlife management area (Sanpitch Range, south of Levan). Fire rehabilitation project planned for this fall.
- Food Plots planned for this fall (Salt Creek, Nephi, Steele Ranch)
- Participating on a UDOT-led team to reduce big game/vehicle collisions on Hwy 89

#### Conservation Outreach

- Tonya Kieffer rehired as the wildlife recreation specialist
- Kokanee Salmon Viewing Day Saturday Sept. 20
- Raptor Viewing Day Saturday Sept. 27

#### Law Enforcement

- Field training continues for new CO Lucas McTaggart.
- Officers responding to numerous UTIP hotline calls (1-800-662-3337)

#### 5) Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 (Action)

- **Drew Cushing, Warmwater Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**
- **Paul Birdsey, Coldwater Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**

#### Questions from the RAC

Richard Hansen – What are the native fish in Fish Lake?

Drew Cushing – None that I'm aware of. Originally there were probably some suckers I would imagine.

Roger Wilson – We had a pretty good population of cutthroat in there. Maybe some sculpin.

Richard Hansen – So why are we not moving to that native fish?

Drew Cushing – It really ceased to exist years ago and there is an angler desire there I guess is the simple answer. It is not conservation water. It is a sport fishery and has been for years.

Matt Clark – I know the Division did a perch transplant from Fish Lake to Yuba. Can you give us an update on that and how that is going and the impact of that?

Drew Cushing – We don't know yet. John mentioned that the central region is going to go out on a gill netting expedition at Yuba at the end of October. That will be the time

that can be evaluated. There were 35,000 five to six inch perch moved from Fish Lake to Yuba and how those survived the predation is going to be answered this fall.

Gary Nielson – Are you going to gill net for yellow perch or are you just going to see how the pike are doing?

#### **Questions from the Public**

Joe Johnson – So as of right now there are no spearfishing recommendations, is that correct?

Drew Cushing – That is our recommendation.

#### **Comments from the Public**

Paul Dremann – Utah Angler Coalition – The coalition is made up of most of the major angling organizations in the state including Bass Anglers, Rocky Mountain Anglers, Trout Unlimited, Strawberry Anglers, Friends of Strawberry Valley and Salt Lake County Fish and Game as well as several commercial organizations. One of our purposes is to represent the interest and promote aquatics in the state of Utah and as part of that on an annual basis we work with the Division on making recommendations when they propose regulations. There is a lot of give and take and we are just part of the process that goes on. At that point in time we reach a conclusion or recommendation with an organization as to whether we support or have a deviation. Even if there is an issue where we don't support something we will back off and give it a year to try it and so forth. I am here just to say that we appreciate the work being done by the Division and as an organization we fully support the recommendations that you have heard. Thank you.

Joe Johnson – With the spearfishing issue kind of resolved the question I have is in regards to tournament fishing. It is really pretty simple. I have been a tournament director in southern Utah and have heavily participated in tournaments throughout Utah on almost every water where it is legal to have them. The question I have is about something that has already taken place and I would ask that it would be considered again but more for the grass root groups and that is that a tournament variance or a tournament certificate allowing anglers to weigh five fish on a given body of water as long as they are certified with an actual tournament. Let me give you an example. Last year on Utah Lake FLW came in and held a championship event and they were allowed to weigh five fish if they were over 12 inches. My question is that flies in the face directly of what the regulations allow and what we have to do as grass roots organizations when we hold tournaments there. We have to have special weigh-ins and only weigh two fish at a time. My question is why is it we cannot apply for and receive that same treatment?

Drew Cushing – That proposal went through the Wildlife Board as all variances do which allows people to do something that is otherwise illegal. If they feel the need to pursue that in that form that is within their right.

Joe Johnson – My question is, right now we have to have a COR and go through this process. So if we have a COR and we are willing to be part of the solution and not part of the problem why not allow us or at least a process to be able to have that? If it's happened already and they received a variance was it just a money issue or was it something else because it seems to me that there is differential treatment there.

Truthfully we would love to have tournaments where we can weight five fish. That is the long and short of it.



Steven Ross – Salt City Bass Masters Club – Our comment is about spearfishing. If we keep letting these guys spearfish and taking trophy fish we already have an out of balance with small fish in all the lakes let alone the water dropping, if they keep taking all the trophy fish there won't be any fish in there but small fish. We need to put more regulations on these guys on their kills. I just feel that we need to do that or we aren't going to have anywhere to fish.

Ryan McChimcy – I would like to talk about spearfishing. The first thing I wanted to say is I think the state limit is already the policing factor on what fish you can keep in each water. If I go to Deer Creek and I am spearfishing or I am hook and line if I am still allowed to go home with the same amount of fish I don't really understand how spearfishing is more detrimental. If I am allowed to fish all day until I catch four big ones and I take four big ones home or if I shoot four big ones and I take four big ones home. Either way I am still allowed to take four fish or whatever the limit is. Also I think there are a lot more big fish in the waters that the bass anglers are concerned about than they think. Being underwater allows you to see those fish and there are a lot of fish out there. I think just because big fish aren't being caught doesn't mean that they are not there. Sometimes it is difficult to convince them to eat so I don't think that just because you are not catching big fish doesn't mean spear fishermen have already shot them all. I can promise you they are still down there. If you ever get underwater you can see them. Once we reach our limit, we reach our limit just like anyone else and we don't take any more fish so I think the limit is really what keeps us all in the same area. I also think the number of spear fisherman is very small compared to average anglers and if you think about catch and release, if a fish is hooked deep the average is about 35 percent survival. If I catch and release fish all day long and I deep hook ten of them those are going to die. If I am just spearfishing and I shoot four, four die. You don't have hooking mortality. In that way it is pretty controlled. I like fishing with fly rod, spinning rod, bait and spearfishing. I like doing it all and I really appreciate having that opportunity here to do everything. It is very nice and I take home more fish when I'm fishing with a worm and a bobber than I do any other way. Spearfishing is not like shooting fish in a barrel, I promise. I just wanted to say something as someone who has been on both sides. I think if there is a concern that spear fishermen are taking a lot of fish then it would be really easy to monitor on the fishing license. If the fishing license said will you be participating in spearfishing yes or no and just like after the deer hunt when they call you and ask where you hunted and if you were successful I think you could talk to spear fishermen about what they did and see what kind of numbers are doing what rather than thinking just because I am not catching big bass that they are not there because they have all been killed. I really like fishing in Utah and just want to say I appreciate fishing and all aspects of it.

Gary Nielsen – As I read through the recommendations I didn't see any further restrictions of any kind on spearfishing and I think we are making progress for the people who really like to spearfish.

Ryan McChimcy – I just know that it is easy to think that new people are doing something detrimental but I don't think there are enough of us out there to do something detrimental and we appreciate the fish just as much as anybody else.

Ken Strong – Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife – I would to thank you for the opportunity I have at this time to address this RAC. Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife approves of all

the proposals that has been brought forth by the Division on fishing with the exception that we would like trout added to the species of fish that no longer count on your limit once they get home. I know the Division is worried about several reservoirs like Panguitch and Otter Creek for fear that the people would fish out those lakes. That can't happen under your primary domicile rule because a trailer or cabin is not your primary domicile. Only the place you vote is your primary domicile and anybody with an out of state license doesn't qualify for this because they haven't lived here six months. One of the things they talked about was the brook trout in Oak Creek Reservoir on the Boulders. They want to raise the limit to 16. The reason for that is because there are so many brook trout in there that it has stunted their growth. We agree with that limit, the question we have is if a person goes there and they stay overnight and fish two days they are allowed to bring 32 fish home however, once they reach their primary domicile with those 32 fish they cannot go trout fishing again until they consume those fish and get them below the number of eight. A different situation but basically the same thing is Flaming Gorge and Strawberry where you are allowed to catch four fish. There is no other limit than four so if you bring four fish home from Strawberry you cannot go fishing again until you consume those four fish. As we use the primary domicile as an example that just kind of puts it all into where it needs to be. They have to be at your primary domicile. In the survey that was talked about and was taken the majority of the people wanted the limits taken off once they got home. They were in favor of that. It wasn't a big majority but there was a majority of people who wanted that. Right now there are people we know who have bottled fish and fish in their freezers. Those fish technically still count on your limit in the state of Utah. Those people are basically breaking the law and there are a lot of people doing it because there are a lot of people that don't know the law. Bringing this in and putting the trout on it, those people will probably still continue to do it because they don't know what the law is but all it is going to do is change the law to make it legal and the people that are doing it are already doing it. In fact in last 20 to 30 years there has been three times where the Division was able to enforce this rule of fish in your freezer or home. If we are going to have the law, lets enforce it but basically it is unenforceable so why do we have the law. One of the things people think is the more fish we have the bigger fish we get. Of course that is not true. That is shown with the Oak Creek Reservoir and the middle Provo and other places where there is enough food in the water to supply x amount of pounds of fish whether they are big or little. I don't think it will hurt anything to put all fish once they reach your primary domicile they are no longer on your limit. Thank you for your time.

Robin Spicer – I want to talk about tiger muskie. I find it funny that you are worried about mortality in Johnson's but you are letting people kill them in Fish Lake. I know you don't really want them in there but you really do want them in there. It's only a matter of time before we need to stick them in there. Tiger muskie is great. They are going to eat those perch, you know that. I think it is going to set a bad example for little kids catching all those perch and wasting them. I don't know how that is going to look. I would rather load the tiger muskie in Fish Lake. Trout fishing is really coming on at Joes Valley because of tiger muskie. I just want to get that out there.

### **RAC Discussion**

Richard Hansen – What would be wrong with changing the total limit once they get it home and once it is either consumed or processed which would be either frozen or bottled so that technically would not count against your limit? Why would that be a problem?

Drew Cushing – The answer is we don't know what effect this will have on some fisheries and we do have what we consider a benefit in the warm and cool water fisheries. We would like to put it on and use some creel limits that we just finished to evaluate the effect on behavior. I think there is a problem here with what people are doing now versus what they may be doing when you actually tell people you have unlimited possession rights in your freezer and we don't know whether people's behavior will change or not so to use the argument that they are doing it already doesn't answer the question of what are they going to do when they actually know they can have an unlimited possession. What we are asking is a two year window to evaluate their change in behavior if there is any. If there is not then certainly move forward. It is the cautious approach.

Richard Hansen – So right now you are trying to evaluate whether or not that would create a problem.

Drew Cushing – Yes, on the cold water side of things.

Richard Hansen – I am just thinking when I grew up as a kid how many times were we breaking the law. We used those fish but we froze them and used them. I would like to see you go forward with this and figure it out and if it works to change it then change it.

### **VOTING**

**Motion was made by Danny Potts to support the proposals as presented**

**Seconded by Matt Clark**

**In Favor: All**

**Opposed:**

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.**

**38 in attendance**

**Next board meeting October 2, 2014 at the DNR boardroom, Salt Lake**

**Next RAC meeting THURSDAY November 6, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. Springville Public Library**

**Northern Regional Advisory Council Meeting**

September 17, 2014

Brigham City Community Center

Brigham City, Utah

**Summary of Motions**

**Meeting Begins: 6:01 p.m.**

**Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion: Move to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting.**

**Motion Passes: Unanimous**

**Approval of the August 6, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion: Approve the August 6, 2014 Minutes of the Northern Regional Advisory Council.**

**Motion Passes: For:7 Abstain:1**

**Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13**

**Motion: Recommend the Wildlife Board approve Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented.**

**Motion Passes: For: 8 Against:1**

**Meeting Adjournment**

**Motion: Move we adjourn.**

**Motion Passes: Acclamation by RAC Chair**

**Meeting Ends: 7:15 pm.**

**Northern Regional Advisory Council Meeting**

September 17, 2014

Brigham City Community Center

Brigham City, Utah

**Draft Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Begins: 6:01 p.m.**

**RAC Present**

Robert Byrnes- Chair, At Large  
John Blazzard- Agriculture  
John Cavitt- Nonconsumptive  
Paul Cowley- Forest Service  
James Gaskill- At Large  
R. Jefre Hicks- At Large  
Russ Lawrence- At Large  
Kristin Purdy- Nonconsumptive  
Bryce Thurgood- At Large  
John Wall- At Large

**DWR Present**

Jodie Anderson  
Justin Dolling  
Brandon Baron  
Mitch Lane  
Devin Christensen  
Paul Thompson  
Paul Birdsey  
Chris Penne  
Krystal Tucker

**Wildlife Board**

**RAC Excused**

Jon Leonard- Sportsman  
Craig Van Tassell- Sportsman

**Unexcused**

Joel Ferry- Agriculture  
G. Lynn Nelson- Elected  
Bruce Sillitoe- BLM

**Agenda:**

Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure  
Approval of Agenda  
Approval of August 6, 2014 Meeting Minutes  
Wildlife Board Meeting Update  
Regional Update  
Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13

### **Item 1. Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure**

Welcome: Robert Byrnes, Chair

Introduction of RAC Members

RAC Procedure: Robert Byrnes, Chair

### **Item 2. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion:** James Gaskill- Move to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting.

Second: Russ Lawrence

Motion Passes: Unanimous

### **Approval of August 6, 2014 Minutes**

**Motion:** Russ Lawrence- Approve the August 6, 2014 Minutes of the Northern Regional Advisory Council.

Second: John Wall

Motion Passes: For: 7, Abstain: 1 Blizzard- Was not at last meeting.

### **Item 3. Wildlife Board Meeting Update**

Robert Byrnes, RAC Chair

Robert Byrnes- On August 28th the Wildlife Board met on the items from our last meeting. For turkey depredation, the wording was tightened up a little bit. They felt there would be no possibility of transferring a permit to someone and that someone being able to sell that. Even tighter than when we saw it. The Wildlife Board did pass it as presented. They felt if you excluded public lands from those buffer areas, that it would inhibit their ability to handle those depredating turkeys. That is why they did not follow our motion. On the fee schedules, they did increase the non-resident ewe permit from \$300 to \$1000. They felt non-residents would be interested in getting those tags and we could get a little more money out of that. Other than that they passed all the action items as presented.

### **Item 4. Regional Update**

Justin Dolling, Regional Supervisor

Wildlife Section- Preparing for the Waterfowl and Upland Game Youth hunts. General waterfowl opener will be October 4th. Phragmites treatments are completed for the year. Wildlife Biologists are writing big horn unit management plans as well as mountain goat unit management plans. Extension on the pheasant season and are allowed to hunt an extended length on state, federal or private land we have leased for public hunting.

Capture Plans- Antelope Island Mule Deer and Big Horn sheep on Newfoundland mountain.

Law Enforcement- Trevor Domain continuing training and is the new officer here in Box Elder County.

Interacting with the archery hunters. Archery hunters are seeing a good amount of small bucks but are scattered.

Outreach- Waterfowl youth fair at Farmington Bay. Good participation in the dale chick program. 400 chicks were given out to raise and release prior to the hunts.

Set back- Water system at Hardware Ranch. Will not have clean water at the ranch this winter. Project has been put on hold for another year.

Administrative Section- Bobcat sales start October 1st. You are allowed 6 permits this year with no cap or quota on number of permits that can be sold.

Habitat Section- Working on a lop and scatter project in Telephone Hollow on the Uintah's to open up areas for Big Horn Sheep, Elk and Deer. Putting final touches on several wildlife management area plans and will see them here at the RAC in the future. Bull Hog projects in Box Elder County. In the process of doing riparian restoration in west Box Elder County by using beavers and installing starter dams.

Aquatic Section- The Fish and Wildlife Service found the least chub was not warranted for listing. Northern Region was able to establish seven new populations. Working on a second treatment for Johnson Creek to try and restore a native population of Yellowstone Cutthroat. Community waters are fishing very well. The high Uintah lakes are fishing well.

## **Item 5. Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13**

Paul Birdsey, Coldwater Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator

### **See Handout**

### **RAC Question during presentation**

James Gaskill- Are those vertical access numbers actual numbers?

Paul Birdsey- They are actual numbers, they are those that responded to the question.

### **RAC Questions**

Robert Byrnes- It looked like possibly in the free form section of your open access survey, that a lot of your respondents were the very vocal segment of our fishing population.

Paul Birdsey- That is correct.

Robert Byrnes- Do you put those same questions into a scientific survey you conduct periodically?

Paul Birdsey- Many forms of those same questions go into our statewide angler survey which is done every five years. We see similar types of patterns there in terms of the desire of increased quality and some of those other broad generalizations that we talked about. We do not ask the same questions so it is difficult to make the leap from one to the other. We use to have the informational RAC. We were getting input from 50-100 people statewide on our regulation recommendations when we had that. We attempted open houses and there were maybe 30 people or so. We are dealing with around 100-200 people statewide which were influencing the recommendation process. This is not a perfect process and we understand that. At least we are hearing from 1,300 people as part of the recommendations.

Robert Byrnes- In the spear fishing recommendations, that was the open access survey?

Paul Birdsey- That is correct. When I refer to survey on this, with the exception of that last data slide I showed, I was talking about that online open access survey.

R. Jefre Hicks- You mentioned you were going to do a treatment and fish barrier on the right hand fork of the Logan. If you did do it, how did it go?

Paul Birdsey- I will let Paul Thompson answer that one.

Paul Thompson- We just actually wrapped that project up today. We did a chemical treatment on the right hand fork in 2012 and 2013. A barrier was in place before the first treatment and we put in a second barrier this year as a precaution in case one failed. We have been collecting eggs and we stocked 450 Bonneville Cutthroat Trout last year after the second treatment. This year, we had a great take and survival in the hatchery system. We stocked 2,000 2" Bonneville Cutthroat. We have the brown trout out.

John Blazzard- When you are talking about possession limits, how do you propose to enforce that?

Paul Birdsey- Enforcement has been difficult for that particular regulation throughout the years. Ken will talk in just a minute about the number of cases made. It requires a search warrant to go into someone's home to look at that. There are other ways of dealing with that particular issue. We had this discussion with one of the officers in the Northwest region. If they get information from someone of someone coming home with a whole bunch of fish, we will start to watch that individual if they are taking more than the limit on that particular day. There is the soft enforcement approach that basically says that you cannot have more than your limit at home. That is the way it has been done throughout the years until now. What we have attempted to do in the past is deal with the egregious violators. It is not so much the enforcement and going into someone's home, it continues to provide a tool if we need to, we have that tool but we will continue to do all the things we do anyway.

Kristin Purdy- I am trying to understand wording on the possession limit also. One of the recommendations is the warm and cool water fish species all fish that are not trout, at your permanent residence do not count as part of your possession limit. When I look at the definition of possession limit it says for purposes of this rule only, two daily limits, including fish at their permanent residence in a cooler, etc. So, what I don't understand is the difference.

Paul Birdsey- Limited and two day?

Kristin Purdy- Right, it sounds like holy cow, you can have your house filled to the top of your window sills with fish.

Paul Birdsey- The two day possession limit is an in the field possession. If you go fishing for a weekend at Currant Creek Reservoir, for example, you may have two days limit in your possession when you are in the field. That is a trout fishery, so you can only have two days in your possession. If you were to go to Starvation Reservoir and catch a bunch of Walleye or small mouth bass, you could have your two day in possession in the field. You can go back out and go fishing at Starvation Reservoir and catch more Walleye and Small Mouth Bass without worrying if you have consumed all the fish you have in your freezer. Don't take any more trout because you get into that over limit situation. I admit it is confusing and it gets to the point where a lot of people know about the regulation, some don't. We inadvertently created an issue several years ago when we went to a no limit on Walleye at Lake Powell. Theoretically, you could not fish at Willard Bay or Starvation Reservoir for Walleye until you had eaten those fish. We want to remove that confusion. It is our intention, if there is no significant overharvest occurring, we will remove that confusion in two years. Right now, we want to ease into it.

Kristin Purdy- The issue is we are really talking about two different possession limits. One is in the field and the other is at your place of residence. But, the rule does not define that there are two possession limits.

Paul Birdsey- That is what our attorneys are trying to figure out the language.

Kristin Purdy- Do you anticipate more changes to the wording of this rule before the guidebook is published?

Paul Birdsey- I anticipate the rule probably will be an A and B to that rule now. A- There will be an field possession and B -an at home possession.

Kristin Purdy-Thank You.

### **Public Comment**

Ken Strong- Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife- We agree with all proposals today with the exception that we would like all fish put on the, once they hit your primary residence, they no longer count on your limit.

### **RAC Comment**

R. Jefre Hicks- You mentioned something about creel surveys to see how it went for a year or two. Can you give me a response regarding the trout situation vs. warm and cool water fish.

Paul Birdsey- That question has come up in several of the other RAC's and I am going to have to give you the same answer I gave the other RAC's which is I don't know the answer. We don't know whether having a rule, which is stated in the proclamation that you have, of unlimited possession fish in your home will actually affect people's behavior or not. We don't know the answer to that. That is why we have the surveys in place now and will do similar surveys after this rule change and we will see if it is affecting behavior. If it is not, we will be back. If it is, we will be back to tell you that too.

R. Jefre Hicks- How many years are you going to do the creel surveys to determine this?

Paul Birdsey- We have 4-5 surveys we do every year. Some of those will be repeats on waters we have done in the last few years. We will have probably close to about 10 different waters surveyed that we will be able to look at historical harvest vs. what the harvest is with this change.

Paul Cowley- If the law has only been enforced a limited number of times over the years when we have had extreme cases of this. Do you foresee any way to enforce it in these extreme cases if it were to go to a rule that once the fish hit your domicile, then you don't worry about them.

Paul Birdsey- No, because it will no longer be illegal. There has only been a few cases where it has been made as a primary investigation for having an over limit of fish. That is why the search warrant was obtained. There have been other cases where a search warrant was obtained because there was probable cause for deer or elk or something else that had been taken illegally. As a result of that investigation, they found an over limit in the freezer also. Whether that case was made at that point and time, I don't know. From talking to law enforcement, they have gone in on other things and have found an over limit of fish. Again, it probably was not the principle cause for the search warrant.

James Gaskill- You can go fishing if you have a limit of fish in your freezer, you just can't keep any.

Paul Birdsey- Correct.



James Gaskill- It is not like we are stopping you from going fishing, just stopping you from packing your freezer. We have lots of laws on the books that are rarely enforced. Laws are not necessarily just to be enforced but to help us control our behavior. I am in favor of this.

John Cavitt- I would agree as well. Typically, it is probably a better idea to ratchet down any kind of regulation rather than trying to decide we made a mistake a couple of years down the road and have to go back to that. I think it is a good idea and we should exclude trout for the time being.

Paul Cowley- You spoke about the reservoir where we said we were going to open up to 16 brook trout.

Paul Birdsey- Correct.

Paul Cowley- Would there be a reason to put a limit on brook trout. Generally, you cannot harvest enough anyway. If we are going to end up treating this water if we don't harvest enough in the first place, to me, that would be an opportunity to allow anglers to work them over good and see if we can put a big dent in the population to allow those stunted fish to expand.

Paul Birdsey- Biologically, there is no difference between 16 fish and an unlimited number. We would prefer to have people take as many out as they can. There has been a reluctance from a social standpoint with regard to trout saying there are no limits. That has just been an agency policy. We are really pushing the edge of what the agency has ever done before. It is a social regulation, not based on biology.

Paul Cowley- Thanks.

James Gaskill- If you had unlimited brook trout on one lake, then that would defeat your two day limit in the freezer. All they do is say they caught them in the lake where it is unlimited. It kind of tosses out the plan.

Paul Birdsey- It does do that and, as I have already admitted, this is kind of a quicksand kind of thing and is very complicated when you have different regulations on adjacent waters. Even as mobile as our society is now, anywhere in the state of Utah, it becomes difficult. We do want to ease into this as rationally as we can.

Bryce Thurgood- I like the idea of keeping it simple sometimes and less regulation. Sometimes you are just going to confuse people. I don't think you are going to change the way people that are doing it now, they will continue doing it. The people that are trying to obey the law, it is just going to confuse them. Maybe stay more consistent and leave it the way it was.

Robert Byrnes- You are specifically talking about the possession limit?

Bryce Thurgood- Yes.

## **Motion**

**Motion:** John Cavitt- Recommend the Wildlife Board approve Fishing Guidebook and Rule R657-13 as presented.

Second: James Gaskill

Motion Passes: For: 8, Against:1 Thurgood.

Thurgood- I think it is too confusing and needs to be kept more simple.

## **Meeting Adjournment**

**Motion:** Gaskill - Motion to adjourn.

**Motion Passes:** Acclamation by RAC Chair

**Meeting Ends: 7:14 p.m.**



GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board  
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Internal Audit  
Ducks Unlimited (DU)

### Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Ducks Unlimited (DU) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

### Overview

The contact for DU was Lora Trujillo. All information requested was promptly provided. DU was given 4 of the 317 permits in 2014. At the time of sale division staff independently verified auction prices of 1 permit sold and compared it to the price being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 23,075.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 2,307.50)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$ 6,922.50)
Total eligible to be retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 13,845.00
Carry-over funds	\$ 12,987.00
Total:	\$ 26,832.00
Less 2014 Projects billed	(\$ 5,528.86)
Funds remaining for projects	<u>\$ 21,303.14</u>
Verified Bank Statement Balance	<u>\$ 21,303.14</u>



Page 2

October 2, 2014

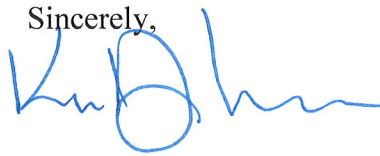
Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Audit – Ducks Unlimited

**Findings and Recommendations**

All 2014 projects were properly approved and project funds are placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank Ducks Unlimited for their time, their prompt response, and willingness to provide the information requested. If you have any questions, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan  
Wildlife Board Members  
Ducks Unlimited



GARY R. HERBERT  
*Governor*

SPENCER J. COX  
*Lieutenant Governor*

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
*Executive Director*

### Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
*Division Director*

September 15, 2014

To: Ducks Unlimited (DU)  
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
Subject: 2014 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Ducks Unlimited,

It has been determined from the 2014 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$ 21,303.14. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Ducks Unlimited concur on the above Project Fund balance.

---

DU- Please Print Name

---

DU- Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief





GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board  
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Internal Audit  
Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS)

### Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

### Overview

The contact for FNAWS was Don Peay. All information requested was promptly provided. FNAWS was given 23 of the 317 permits for 2014. At the time of sale division staff independently verified auction prices of 8 permits sold and compared that with the prices being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 516,200.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 51,620.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$ 154,860.00)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 309,720.00
Carry-over funds	\$ 633,278.85
Total:	\$ 942,998.85
Less 2014 Projects paid	(\$ 589,214.03)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 353,784.82
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 353,784.82

**Findings and Recommendations**

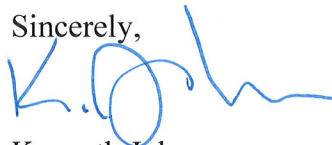
One 2014 project was not approved prior to work beginning. A small amount of non-conservation permit funds were temporarily held in the conservation permit bank account. All project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We recommend the following:

- Non-conservation Permit money should not be put into the Conservation Permit bank account.
- Projects must be approved by the division prior to beginning.

We sincerely thank FNAWS for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan  
Wildlife Board Members  
FNAWS





GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS)  
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
Subject: 2014 Conservation Project Fund Balance

September 15, 2014

Dear Foundation for North American Wild Sheep,

It has been determined from the 2014 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account should equal a total of \$ 353,784.82 . This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Foundation for North American Wild Sheep concur on the above state Project Fund balance.

\_\_\_\_\_  
FNAWS – Please Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
FNAWS - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief





GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board  
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Internal Audit  
Mule Deer Foundation (MDF)

### Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the Mule Deer Foundation (MDF) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

### Overview

The contact for MDF was Eric Tycksen. All information requested was promptly provided. MDF was given 84 of the 317 permits in 2014. At the time of sale division staff independently verified auction prices of 38 permits sold and compared that with the prices being reported. The bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 975,530.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 97,553.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$ 292,659.00)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 585,318.00
Carry-over funds	\$ 981,779.41
Total:	\$ 1,567,097.41
Less 2014 Projects billed	(\$ 311,897.14)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 1,255,200.27
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 1,255,200.27

### Findings and Recommendations





Page 2

October 2, 2014

Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Audit – Mule Deer Foundation

All 2014 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank MDF for their time, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan  
Wildlife Board Members  
Mule Deer Foundation



GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Mule Deer Foundation (MDF)  
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
Subject: 2014 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Mule Deer Foundation,

It has been determined from the 2014 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account should equal a total of \$ 1,255,200.27. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Mule Deer Foundation concur on the above Project Fund balance.

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MDF – Please Print Name

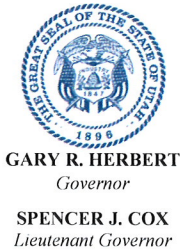
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MDF - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief





State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief
Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contacts for NWTf were Brandon Houck and Melanie Mercer. All information requested was promptly provided. NWTf was given 21 of the 317 permits in 2014. At the time of sale division staff independently verified auction prices of 4 permits sold and compared them to the prices being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Total Permit Revenue (\$ 99,335.00), Less 10% retained for administrative expenses (\$ 9,933.50), Less 30% remitted to DWR (\$ 29,800.50), Total retained by organization for project(s) (\$ 59,601.00), Carry-over (\$ 63,055.27), Total (\$ 122,656.27), Less 2014 Projects billed (\$ 50,000.00), Funds remaining for projects (\$ 72,656.27), and Verified Bank Statement Balance (\$ 72,656.27).



Page 2

October 2, 2014

Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Audit – National Wildlife Turkey Federation

**Findings and Recommendations**

All 2014 projects were approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank NWTF for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan  
Wildlife Board Members  
National Wild Turkey Federation



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY J. SHEEHAN
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF)
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Subject: 2014 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear National Wild Turkey Federation,

It has been determined from the 2014 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account should equal a total of \$ 72,656.27. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and National Wild Turkey Federation concur on the above Project Fund balance.

NWTF - Please Print Name

NWTF - Signature

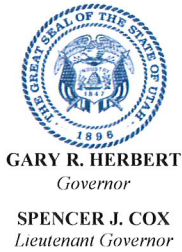
Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kenneth Johnson

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief







State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY J. SHEEHAN
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board
From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief
Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Internal Audit
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF)

Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

Overview

The contact for RMEF was Shane Cronk. All information requested was promptly provided. RMEF was given 26 of the 317 permits in 2014. At the time of sale division staff independently verified the auction price of 8 permits sold and compared that with the price being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Total Permit Revenue (\$ 334,995.00), Less 10% retained for administrative expenses (\$ 33,499.50), Less 30% remitted to DWR (\$100,498.50), Total retained by organization for project(s) (\$ 200,997.00), Carry-over funds (\$ 171,679.25), Total (\$ 372,676.25), Less 2014 Projects billed (\$ 151,300.00), Funds remaining for projects (\$ 221,376.25), and Verified Bank Statement Balance (\$ 221,376.25).



Page 2

October 2, 2014

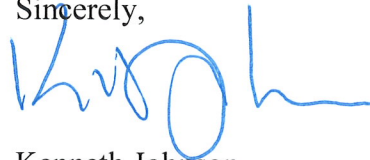
Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Audit – Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

**Findings and Recommendations**

All 2014 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank RMEF for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-4837.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan  
Wildlife Board Members  
National Wild Turkey Federation



GARY R. HERBERT  
*Governor*

SPENCER J. COX  
*Lieutenant Governor*

# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
*Executive Director*

Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
*Division Director*

September 15, 2014

To: Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF)  
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
Subject: 2014 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation,

It has been determined from the 2014 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$ 221,376.25 . This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation concur on the above Project Fund balance.

---

RMEF – Please Print Name

---

RMEF - Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief





GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board  
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Internal Audit  
Safari Club International (SCI)

### Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Safari Club International (SCI) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

### Overview

The contact for SCI was Don Isgar. All information requested was promptly provided. Safari Club International was given 21 of the 317 permits for 2014. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 172,950.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 17,295.00)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$ 51,885.00)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 103,770.00
Carry-over funds	\$ 79,348.20
Total:	\$ 183,118.20
Less 2014 Projects billed	(\$ 75,000.00)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 108,118.20
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 158,056.15
Adjustments	(\$ 49,937.95)
Adjusted Bank Balance	\$ 108,118.20



**Findings and Recommendations**

All 2014 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

There were four adjustments identified through the reconciliation as follows:

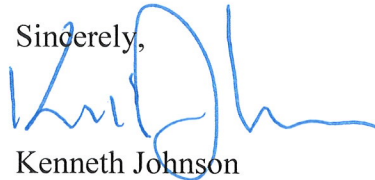
Check 117 to DWR (30% of permit proceeds) - Not Cleared	(\$51,885.00)
Permit proceeds (10% and 60%) over deposited	(\$ 750.00)
Interest earned that needs to be placed in Admin Acct.	(\$ 991.95)
Check 113 written from wrong account	<u>\$ 3,689.00</u>
Total Adjustments	(\$49,937.95)

We recommend the following:

- Deposits and transfers of 10% admin fees, as well as 30% payment should take place on or before 09/01 of each year.
- Non-Conservation Permit money should not be put into, or taken out of, Conservation Permit bank account.

We sincerely thank Safari Club International for their time, their prompt response, and willingness to provide the information requested. If you have any questions, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan  
Wildlife Board Members  
Safari Club International



GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Safari Club International (SCI)  
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
Subject: 2014 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Safari Club International,

It has been determined from the 2014 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$ 108,118.20 . This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Safari Club International concur on the above Project Fund balance.

---

SCI – Please Print Name

---

SCI - Signature

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Johnson".

Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief





GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board  
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Internal Audit  
Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW)

### Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

### Overview

The contact for SFW was Byron R. Bateman. All information requested was promptly provided. SFW was given 124 of the 317 permits in 2014. At the time of sale division staff independently verified the auction price of 37 permits sold and compared that with the price being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$ 1,273,679.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 127,367.90)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$ 382,103.70)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 764,207.40
Carry-over funds	\$ 628,107.17
Total:	\$1,392,314.57
Interested donated to the DWR	(\$ 93.52)
Less 2014 Projects billed	(\$ 397,586.14)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 994,728.43
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 994,728.43



Page 2

October 2, 2014

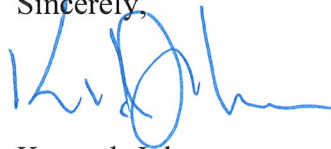
Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Audit – Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife

**Findings and Recommendations**

All 2014 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank SFW for their time, their prompt response, and their willingness to provide the information requested. If there are questions regarding this report, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan  
Wildlife Board Members  
Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife





State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director
Division of Wildlife Resources
GREGORY J. SHEEHAN
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW)
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Subject: 2014 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife,

It has been determined from the 2014 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$ 994,728.43. This amount includes \$93.52 in interest that was donated to the division to be used for future projects. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Sportsmen for Wildlife concur on the above Project Fund balance.

SFW- Please Print Name

SFW- Signature

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature of Kenneth Johnson]

Kenneth Johnson
Administrative Services Chief





GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
Division Director

September 15, 2014

To: Jake Albrecht, Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board  
Bill Fenimore, Vice Chairman, Utah Wildlife Board

From: Kenneth Johnson, Administrative Services Chief

Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Internal Audit  
Utah Bowmen for Habitat

### Background

In accordance with R657-41, a review of Utah Bowmen for Habitat (UBH) has been conducted. This audit was performed internally by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources fiscal section. Our report focuses on verifying that funds were placed in a secure account and that expenditures on projects were approved prior to performance.

### Overview

The contact for Utah Bowmen for Habitat was Kevin Adamson. All information requested was promptly provided. UBH was given 14 of the 317 permits in 2014. At the time of sale division staff independently verified auction prices of all 14 permits and compared that with the prices being reported. Bank account statements were obtained and reviewed. The calculations are as follows:

Total Permit Revenue:	\$64,875.00
Less 10% retained for administrative expenses	(\$ 6,487.50)
Less 30% remitted to DWR	(\$19,462.50)
Total retained by organization for project(s):	\$ 38,925.00
Carry-over funds	\$ 34,963.07
Total:	\$ 73,888.07
Less 2014 Projects billed	(\$ 30,000.00)
Funds remaining for projects	\$ 43,888.07
Verified Bank Statement Balance	\$ 43,888.07



Page 2

October 2, 2014

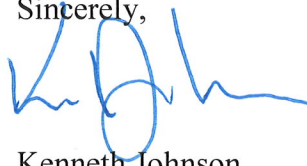
Subject: 2014 Conservation Permit Audit – Utah Bowmen for Habitat

**Findings and Recommendations**

All 2014 projects were properly approved and project funds were placed in a secure, separate account.

We sincerely thank Utah Bowmen for Habitat for their time, their prompt response, and willingness to provide the information requested. If you have any questions, please contact me at 801-538-7437.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief

GS:sms

cc: Gregory Sheehan  
Wildlife Board Members  
Utah Bowmen for Habitat





GARY R. HERBERT  
*Governor*

SPENCER J. COX  
*Lieutenant Governor*

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
*Executive Director*

### Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
*Division Director*

September 15, 2014

To: Utah Bowmen for Habitat (UBH)  
From: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources  
Subject: 2014 Conservation Project Fund Balance

Dear Utah Bowmen for Habitat,

It has been determined from the 2014 Conservation Permit Audit that the Project Funds remaining in the Conservation Permit Account equal a total of \$ 43,888.07. This is the net amount to be used exclusively for approved projects.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Utah Bowmen for Habitat concur on the above Project Fund balance.

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UBH- Please Print Name

---

UBH- Signature

Sincerely,

Kenneth Johnson  
Administrative Services Chief

## Conservation Permit Audit - Executive Summary

Organization	Total # of Permits	2014 Funds Available to the Organization (60%)	Carry over Funds from previous years	Available Funds from 2012-2014	Funds Spent on Approved Projects	Required Fund Balance per Audit	FY2015 Committed Project Funds
FNAWS	23	\$309,720.00	\$633,278.85	\$942,998.85	\$589,214.03	\$353,784.82	\$57,800.00
Mule Deer Foundation	84	\$585,318.00	\$981,779.41	\$1,567,097.41	\$311,897.14	\$1,255,200.27	\$358,150.00
National Wild Turkey Federation	21	\$59,601.00	\$63,055.27	\$122,656.27	\$50,000.00	\$72,656.27	\$39,000.00
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	26	\$200,997.00	\$171,679.25	\$372,676.25	\$151,300.00	\$221,376.25	\$154,500.00
Safari Club International	21	\$103,770.00	\$79,348.20	\$183,118.20	\$75,000.00	\$108,118.20	\$84,500.00
Sportsmen for Wildlife	124	\$764,207.40	\$628,107.17	\$1,392,314.57	\$397,586.14	\$994,728.43	\$556,130.44
Ducks Unlimited	4	\$13,845.00	\$12,987.00	\$26,832.00	\$5,528.86	\$21,303.14	\$0.00
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	14	\$38,925.00	\$34,963.07	\$73,888.07	\$30,000.00	\$43,888.07	\$32,000.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>\$2,076,383.40</b>	<b>\$2,605,198.22</b>	<b>\$4,681,581.62</b>	<b>\$1,610,526.17</b>	<b>\$3,071,055.45</b>	<b>\$1,282,080.44</b>



GARY R. HERBERT  
*Governor*

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
*Executive Director*

### Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY J. SHEEHAN  
*Division Director*

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Utah Wildlife Board Members

FROM: Bill Bates, Wildlife Section Chief *BB*

DATE: September 18, 2014

SUBJECT: 2015 Single-year Conservation Permits

This year, the Division is recommending the distribution of single-year conservation permits for 2015 amongst 2 conservation groups. The attached table details how the permits will be distributed amongst the participating conservation groups. The Division is recommending the distribution of 22 of 26 available permits at the October Board meeting.

2015 Single Year Conservation Permits - DWR Recommend

September 18, 2014

Agency	Species	Hunt Area	Condition	Permits	Bid	P.F.	Adjusted	DWR Recommend
Ducks Unlimited	Buck Deer	South Slope, Diamond Mtn	Any Season	1	\$5,000.00	135.14%	\$6,757.00	X
<b>Ducks Unlimited</b>	<b>Buck Deer</b>	<b>West Desert, Vernon</b>	<b>Any Weapon</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	135.14%	<b>\$6,757.00</b>	<b>X</b>
Ducks Unlimited	Bull Elk	West Desert, Deep Creek	Any Season Choice except for Premium	1	\$5,500.00	135.14%	\$7,432.70	X
Ducks Unlimited	Bull Elk	Cache, South	Any Season Choice except for Premium	1	\$5,500.00	135.14%	\$7,432.70	X
<i>Ducks Unlimited</i>	<i>Bull Elk</i>	<i>Wasatch</i>	<i>Any Weapon</i>		<i>\$5,500.00</i>	135.14%	<i>\$7,432.70</i>	

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Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bear	Plateau, Boulder/Kaiparowits	Premium	1	\$3,000.00	134.49%	\$4,034.70	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bear	Wasatch Mountains, West	Premium	1	\$3,000.00	134.49%	\$4,034.70	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Buck Deer	Book Cliffs	Archery	1	\$4,800.00	134.49%	\$6,455.52	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bull Elk	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek South	Archery	1	\$7,500.00	134.49%	\$10,086.75	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bull Elk	Central Mountains, Manti	Archery	1	\$6,000.00	134.49%	\$8,069.40	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bull Elk	La Sal, La Sal Mountins	Archery	1	\$4,500.00	134.49%	\$6,052.05	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bull Elk	Plateau, Fish Lake, Thousand Lake	Archery	1	\$6,500.00	134.49%	\$8,741.85	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bull Elk	South Slope, Diamond	Archery	1	\$5,000.00	134.49%	\$6,724.50	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Bull Elk	Southwest Desert	Archery	1	\$7,500.00	134.49%	\$10,086.75	X
<b>Utah Bowmen for Habitat</b>	<b>Bull Elk</b>	<b>Wasatch</b>	<b>Archery</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$6,500.00</b>	134.49%	<b>\$8,741.85</b>	<b>X</b>
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Cougar	Cache Mangement Area		1	\$2,000.00	134.49%	\$2,689.80	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Cougar	Monroe Management Area		1	\$2,000.00	134.49%	\$2,689.80	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Cougar	Oquirrh-Stansbury Management Area		1	\$2,000.00	134.49%	\$2,689.80	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Cougar	Wasatch, Manti Management Area		1	\$2,500.00	134.49%	\$3,362.25	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Pronghorn	Plateau	Archery	1	\$1,500.00	134.49%	\$2,017.35	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Turkey	Central Region		1	\$250.00	134.49%	\$336.23	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Turkey	Northeastern Region		1	\$100.00	134.49%	\$134.49	X
Utah Bowmen for Habitat	Turkey	Southern Region		1	\$450.00	134.49%	\$605.21	X
<i>Utah Bowmen for Habitat</i>	<i>Buck Deer</i>	<i>West Desert, Vernon</i>	<i>Archery</i>		<i>\$3,600.00</i>	134.49%	<i>\$4,841.64</i>	

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**Utah's Conservation Permit Program**  
**FY 2014 Annual Report**

## Program overview

Conservation permits are hunting permits auctioned annually at banquets, fundraisers and other events sponsored by various conservation groups. Since the program began in 1981, these permits have raised more than \$35 million. The majority of that revenue—more than 90 percent—has gone toward projects that directly benefit the species for which the permit was issued. These projects include:

- Habitat enhancement and restoration
- Species transplants
- Radio telemetry studies and research projects
- Aerial surveys
- Education efforts

The Conservation Permit Program funds important wildlife and habitat projects with minimal impact to Utah hunters. In April 2014, the conservation and sportsmen groups that participate in the program allocated approximately \$1.3 million in new money toward DWR-approved projects for the coming year.

## How the program works

Although the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) distributes conservation permits, the Utah Wildlife Board has authority over the number and type of permits issued. Board members have adopted a detailed administrative rule that determines how many conservation permits are available and how they are distributed.

The conservation groups that partner with the DWR in this program can then auction the permits to members of the public who attend their annual banquets and fundraising events. Conservation permits are available for the following species: bear, bighorn sheep (desert and Rocky Mountain), bison, cougar, deer, elk, moose, pronghorn, mountain goats and turkey.

After the permits are auctioned, the funds are allocated as follows:

- The group that sold the permits retains 10 percent of the proceeds to cover administrative costs. The group can keep that money for its own use, but groups sometimes donate it back to the DWR.
- The DWR receives 30 percent to benefit the species for which the permits were sold.
- The remaining 60 percent may be kept by the group that sold the permits. Those funds **must be spent on DWR-approved wildlife projects or activities**. Groups must follow the administrative rule to continue participating in the Conservation Permit Program.



*Using revenue from conservation permits, the DWR captured and moved more than 200 mule deer to new areas in 2014.*



For 2014, the Utah Wildlife Board approved 317 conservation permits, 211 of which were for limited-entry or once-in-a-lifetime big game hunting. To put this in perspective, the DWR issues approximately 6,500 limited-entry hunting permits each year. You can see detailed information about conservation permit numbers and revenue from 2001–2014 at the end of this report or by visiting [wildlife.utah.gov/pdf/conservation\\_permit\\_revenue.pdf](http://wildlife.utah.gov/pdf/conservation_permit_revenue.pdf).

### **Program benefits**

Because of the funding it generates, the Conservation Permit Program benefits all Utah hunters:

- The program's revenue has been critical in keeping permit fees low and ensuring that most permits go to Utah residents. The percentage of Utah permits available to nonresidents is among the lowest in the western states.
- All hunters have benefited from abundant wildlife numbers enhanced by the use of conservation permit funds, resulting in the opportunity to hunt mule deer, elk, black bear, bighorn sheep, bison, moose and mountain goats. The Conservation Permit Program has funded transplants of 686 bighorn sheep, 350 pronghorn and 80 bison to provide some of these additional opportunities. Last year, 86 mountain goats were moved using Conservation Permit Funds. In 2015, the DWR plans to transplant bighorn sheep, mountain goats and mule deer to supplement existing herds.
- Utah leads the West in habitat work, restoring more than 1.1 million acres of wildlife habitat since 2005. The Conservation Permit Program contributed to 429 different projects from 2006–2014.
- Utah has launched numerous studies and research projects to better understand changes in big game populations. The program is currently funding studies on highway mortality, bison, moose and deer survival, and the effects of predators on mule deer.



*Conservation permits helped fund mountain goat transplants in 2013 and 2014.*

Revenue from the Conservation Permit Program provides funding for projects that could not otherwise be funded under the DWR's normal operating budget. Without the program, Utah's general deer and elk permit fees would likely increase by an additional \$15 to \$20, or a larger percentage of those permits would have to go to nonresidents, who pay higher permit fees.

### **Participating conservation and sportsmen groups**

The Conservation Permit Program relies on partnering with conservation and sportsmen groups who raise funds by auctioning conservation permits at banquets held throughout Utah. In FY 2014, seven groups participated in the program including: Ducks Unlimited, Mule Deer Foundation, National Wild Turkey Federation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, Utah Bowmen's Association and Utah Foundation for North American Wild Sheep.

## Detailed information about projects

After they auction conservation permits each year, members of the participating conservation groups meet with the DWR to decide how to spend the 60 percent of permit revenue that funds many wildlife projects. The groups' representatives discuss proposals and then indicate which projects they want to fund.

In fiscal year 2014, the conservation and sportsmen groups spent more than \$1.6 million on DWR-approved projects. You can see these habitat and research projects listed at the end of this report. They are also available online at [www.wildlife.utah.gov/pdf/conservation\\_permit\\_projects.pdf](http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/pdf/conservation_permit_projects.pdf).

The screen shot above provides a quick look at one of the projects they supported with conservation permit funds. If you visit this page (project 2697, located at [wri.utah.gov](http://wri.utah.gov)), you can click the items in the left column to learn more about necessary equipment, budget components, affected species, proposed features and other relevant project details.

The DWR tracks detailed information about all habitat-restoration projects using the Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative's online database (located at [wri.utah.gov](http://wri.utah.gov)). The DWR and its partners launched the initiative in 2005. Since then, the initiative has generated approximately \$125 million to restore more than 1.1 million acres of habitat. The Conservation Permit Program has provided more than \$8.2 million of the \$125 million. When possible, the DWR uses the conservation permit revenue to obtain matching funds and donations from other agencies and the federal government.

## Program audits

The Utah Legislature performed an audit of the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and released its final report in November 2011 (available online at [le.utah.gov/audit/11\\_14rpt.pdf](http://le.utah.gov/audit/11_14rpt.pdf)). The auditors specifically reviewed the Conservation Permit Program (pages 27–30) and reached the following conclusion:

*The sale of conservation permits promotes habitat improvement on public lands with no expense to the taxpayer, while negligibly reducing the public's opportunity to draw a permit for a limited-entry hunting area. We would encourage the division to continue to support this program.*

The DWR annually audits the Conservation Permit Program and presents the results to the Utah Wildlife Board.



The screenshot displays the 'Utah's Watershed RESTORATION INITIATIVE' website. The main content area shows the 'Title Page' for project 2697, titled 'Blacksmith Fork juniper thinning and shrub restoration'. The project description states: 'To create and enhance winter habitat for mule deer, juniper stand will be removed or thinned, and the shrub component'. The location is 'Blacksmith Fork Canyon east of Hyrum, Utah'. The project manager is Ron Greer. The project ID is 2697, and the UWRI region is Northern. The lead agency is the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and the fiscal year is 2014. Under 'Submit proposal to:', the options are:  UWRI,  Habitat Council,  External Conservation Permit,  BRFAC, and  Wildfire rehab project. A checkbox for 'Check this if your proposal is a wildfire rehab project:' is also present.

*The online database contains in-depth information about the habitat-restoration projects funded by the Conservation Permit Program.*



*DWR personnel use a bulldozer to improve wildlife habitat on the Henry Mountains.*



**2001 - 2014 Conservation Permit Revenue and Number of Permits by Organization**

Updated: September 18, 2014

YEAR	Sportsmen for Fish & Wildlife Inc.		Mule Deer Foundation		FNAWS		Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation		Safari Club International		National Wild Turkey Federation		Ducks Unlimited		Utah Bowmen Association	
	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits
2001	\$188,539.00	55	\$158,400.00	29	\$283,880.00	17	\$168,665.00	43	\$15,770.00	4	\$101,398.00	68	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0
2002	\$429,038.00	97	\$90,964.00	63	\$252,950.00	8	\$119,915.00	61	\$28,700.00	8	\$120,112.00	57	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0
2003	\$656,521.00	197	\$51,853.00	43	\$226,500.00	5	\$270,205.00	54	\$1,250.00	5	\$51,835.00	26	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0
2004	\$848,790.00	135	\$252,310.00	41	\$291,320.00	9	\$300,770.00	97	\$0.00	0	\$46,312.00	14	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0
2005	\$522,647.00	178	\$622,040.00	82	\$310,600.00	10	\$175,975.00	27	\$28,500.00	11	\$19,901.00	26	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0
2006	\$710,875.00	109	\$932,400.00	113	\$258,650.00	14	\$306,445.00	47	\$710,875.00	22	\$91,035.00	56	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0
2007	\$1,039,552.00	102	\$913,220.00	151	\$405,870.00	24	\$336,775.00	30	\$81,515.00	8	\$82,670.00	37	\$19,000.00	4	\$6,000.00	2
2008	\$1,079,055.00	102	\$976,510.00	152	\$382,650.00	24	\$288,390.00	30	\$83,760.00	8	\$89,425.00	37	\$14,625.00	4	\$10,250.00	2
2009	\$860,000.00	102	\$822,802.00	152	\$390,075.00	24	\$250,675.00	30	\$72,055.00	8	\$66,365.00	37	\$26,200.00	6	\$6,750.00	2
2010	\$948,400.00	116	\$900,020.00	95	\$502,090.00	43	\$262,095.00	39	\$148,850.00	7	\$68,085.00	32	\$18,300.00	6	\$15,400.00	4
2011	\$799,290.00	116	\$754,695.00	97	\$486,785.00	43	\$235,000.00	39	\$102,500.00	7	\$65,470.00	32	\$0.00	0	\$28,700.00	7
2012	\$876,600.00	104	\$968,715.00	92	\$494,400.00	41	\$247,740.00	38	\$93,500.00	6	\$70,210.00	31	\$9,215.00	3	\$37,500.00	7
2013	\$1,083,725.00	124	\$971,285.00	84	\$519,500.00	23	\$275,135.00	26	\$128,747.00	21	\$104,535.00	21	\$12,430.00	4	\$53,525.00	13
2014	\$1,273,679.00	124	\$975,530.00	84	\$516,200.00	23	\$334,995.00	26	\$172,950.00	21	\$99,335.00	21	\$23,075.00	4	\$64,875.00	14
	<b>\$11,316,711.00</b>	<b>1661</b>	<b>\$9,390,744.00</b>	<b>1278</b>	<b>\$5,321,470.00</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>\$3,572,780.00</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>\$1,668,972.00</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>\$1,076,688.00</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>\$122,845.00</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>\$223,000.00</b>	<b>51</b>

YEAR	California Deer Association		Boone & Crockett		Total	
	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits	Amount	Permits
2001	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$916,652.00	216
2002	\$14,010.00	5	\$0.00	0	\$1,055,689.00	299
2003	\$27,565.00	10	\$0.00	0	\$1,285,729.00	340
2004	\$3,270.00	8	\$0.00	0	\$1,742,772.00	304
2005	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$1,679,663.00	334
2006	\$10,500.00	20	\$11,500.00	1	\$3,032,280.00	382
2007	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$2,884,602.00	358
2008	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$2,924,665.00	359
2009	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$2,494,922.00	361
2010	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$2,863,240.00	342
2011	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$2,472,440.00	341
	<b>\$55,345.00</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>\$11,500.00</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$2,797,880.00</b>	<b>322</b>
2013					\$3,148,882.00	316
2014					\$3,460,639.00	317
					<b>\$32,760,055.00</b>	<b>4591</b>

## Conservation Permit Funds Spent on FY 2014 Projects

Project #	Title	Group	Amount
TBD	Gary Slot Tribute Wetland Project	DU	\$ 5,528.86
		<b>DU Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,528.86</b>
1680	Hoop Lake Sage Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project	FNAWS	\$ 7,455.38
2054	2012 Mt Dutton Dry Hollow Guzzler	FNAWS	\$ 2,000.00
2062	Holt Canyon/Cedar Knoll Wildlife Guzzlers	FNAWS	\$ 2,000.00
2207	Moab Guzzler Restoration/ Installation	FNAWS	\$ 8,000.00
2426	Kaiparowitz Bighorn Guzzlers Yr 1	FNAWS	\$ 42,000.00
2341	Guidelines for Effective Placement and Use of Wildlife Water Developments	FNAWS	\$ 22,708.65
2432	Limiting Factors for Utah Moose	FNAWS	\$ 30,000.00
2872	Domestic Sheep AUM Buyout and Conversion to Cattle	FNAWS	\$ 325,000.00
3084	Nevada Sheep Capture and Transplant	FNAWS	\$ 44,050.00
2860	Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat Biologist	FNAWS	\$ 51,000.00
3125	Bighorn Sheep Survey and Transplant Projects	FNAWS	\$ 50,000.00
3213	Emergency Water Haul	FNAWS	\$ 5,000.00
		<b>FNAWS Total</b>	<b>\$ 589,214.03</b>
2571	Stockton Bullhog Phase 3	MDF	\$ 7,500.00
2575	Stockton Sagebrush Enhancement	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2534	Onaqui East Bench Bullhog Phase 2	MDF	\$ 3,000.00
2527	East Tintic Bullhog Phase 2	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2552	West Vernon- Phase 3 Dutch Creek	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2291	Little Valley Fuels Reduction and Habitat Improvement FY14	MDF	\$ 2,000.00
2577	FY14 San Pitch Mountains Fuels Reduction and Habitat Restoration	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2605	Strawberry Phase 4 (Sage Creek Bay)	MDF	\$ 3,000.00
2629	Sheep Creek Phase 1	MDF	\$ 7,500.00
2688	North Canyon Knapweed Project Phase I	MDF	\$ 2,500.00
2602	Bear Mountain CWMU Habitat Enhancement	MDF	\$ 2,000.00
2674	Hilltop Conservation Easement Bullhog	MDF	\$ 8,747.14
2287	FY14 Hayes Canyon Guzzler	MDF	\$ 1,500.00
2570	Tabby Mountain Chaining Maintenance	MDF	\$ 10,000.00
2562	Marshall Draw / Warren Draw Lop and Scatter	MDF	\$ 2,500.00
2626	Moonshine Bullhog Phase III	MDF	\$ 4,000.00
2589	Park Ridge Bullhog Maintenance	MDF	\$ 2,500.00
2635	Jack Trap Canyon	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2640	Inidan Springs Bullhog Maintenance	MDF	\$ 2,000.00
2628	Steer Ridge Lop and Scatter	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2647	Bookcliffs Water Development	MDF	\$ 1,000.00
2681	Tabby Browse Plots	MDF	\$ 5,000.00

2642	Blacksmith Aspen Prescribed Burn Project	MDF	\$ 7,500.00
2679	Curtis Aspen Prescribed Burn Project	MDF	\$ 10,000.00
2697	Blacksmith Fork Juniper Thinning and Shrub Restoration	MDF	\$ 30,000.00
2520	Hoop Lake Lop and Scatter	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2535	Poison Mountain Lop and Scatter	MDF	\$ 1,050.00
2574	West Grouse Creek Bullhog Phase 2	MDF	\$ 20,000.00
2560	Brigham Face WMA Shrub Planting	MDF	\$ 7,500.00
2620	Lackey Basin Aspen Restoration Project	MDF	\$ 2,000.00
2627	Swasey Wildlife Habitat Improvement and Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Phase IV	MDF	\$ 1,500.00
2554	Black Ridge Fuels Reduction and Vegetative Restoration - Phase III	MDF	\$ 2,500.00
2616	Horse Canyon Fuel Reduction and Habitat Restoration- Phase II	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2593	South Book Cliffs Vegetation Improvement Phase 1	MDF	\$ 2,000.00
2540	Dugout Creek Fuels Reduction and Habitat Restoration: Phase III	MDF	\$ 3,000.00
2556	Burma Rd. Pinyon/Juniper Removal	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2693	Stump Flat Pinyon/Juniper Removal Project	MDF	\$ 3,000.00
2680	South Canyon (Graveyard)	MDF	\$ 2,500.00
2701	UKC Thompson Creek	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2696	Upper Kanab Creek Phase II Bullhog - Bald Knoll	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2687	Yellowjacket (Kinnickinnic)	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2547	Parker Front PJ removal	MDF	\$ 2,500.00
2690	Hatch Bench Vegetation Enhancement Phase II	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2707	Browse Seeding on FY13 Fires	MDF	\$ 11,100.00
2669	Panguitch Creek WMA PJ Thinning	MDF	\$ 2,500.00
2704	Duncan Creek Phase II Vegetation Enhancement	MDF	\$ 10,000.00
2623	Ezra Flat Winter Range Restoration	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
2597	Antimony Fuels Reduction and Habitat Improvement FY14	MDF	\$ 2,000.00
2665	Pioneer WMA Bullhog	MDF	\$ 2,500.00
2705	Parowan Front PJ Maintenance and Bitterbrush Seeding	MDF	\$ 3,000.00
2716	Sieler Stewardship	MDF	\$ 25,000.00
2668	Beaver Easement Wildlife Management Area Herbicide Application	MDF	\$ 2,500.00
2683	Marshall Guzzler Tank Replacement	MDF	\$ 1,250.00
2685	Proctor Canyon Guzzler Fly-In	MDF	\$ 2,500.00
2710	South Antelope Valley Guzzler Rebuild	MDF	\$ 1,000.00
2721	Bear Population Estimation Improvement	MDF	\$ 1,250.00
2719	Assessment of Disturbance Size and Ecological Conditions on Wildlife Impacts of Aspen Regeneration	MDF	\$ 2,500.00
2772	Mountain Goat Capture on the Tushars and Willard Peak	MDF	\$ 10,000.00
2748	FY14 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	MDF	\$ 5,000.00
		<b>MDF Total</b>	<b>\$ 311,897.14</b>
2626	Moonshine Bullhog Phase III	NWTF	\$ 2,550.00
2635	Jack Trap Canyon	NWTF	\$ 2,500.00
2647	Bookcliffs Water Development	NWTF	\$ 1,500.00

2627	Swasey Wildlife Habitat Improvement and Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Phase IV	NWTF	\$ 2,500.00
2658	Riparian Enhancement: Follow-Up Treatments on Private Land Parcels Along the Colorado River	NWTF	\$ 2,500.00
2554	Black Ridge Fuels Reduction and Vegetative Restoration - Phase III	NWTF	\$ 1,500.00
2707	Browse Seeding on FY13 Fires	NWTF	\$ 2,000.00
2704	Duncan Creek Phase II Vegetation Enhancement	NWTF	\$ 2,000.00
2597	Antimony Fuels Reduction and Habitat Improvement FY14	NWTF	\$ 1,000.00
2665	Pioneer WMA Bullhog	NWTF	\$ 2,450.00
2505	Little Pine Fire Grass and Forb Seeding	NWTF	\$ 2,000.00
2716	Sieler Stewardship	NWTF	\$ 25,000.00
2748	FY14 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	NWTF	\$ 2,500.00
		<b>NWTF Total</b>	<b>\$ 50,000.00</b>
2571	Stockton Bullhog Phase 3	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2575	Stockton Sagebrush Enhancement	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2291	Little Valley Fuels Reduction and Habitat Improvement FY14	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2577	FY14 San Pitch Mountains Fuels Reduction and Habitat Restoration	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2602	Bear Mountain CWMU Habitat Enhancement	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2674	Hilltop Conservation Easement Bullhog	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2287	FY14 Hayes Canyon Guzzler	RMEF	\$ 2,450.00
2570	Tabby Mountain Chaining Maintenance	RMEF	\$ 5,000.00
2562	Marshall Draw / Warren Draw Lop and Scatter	RMEF	\$ 2,500.00
2626	Moonshine Bullhog Phase III	RMEF	\$ 5,000.00
2589	Park Ridge Bullhog Maintenance	RMEF	\$ 1,000.00
2635	Jack Trap Canyon	RMEF	\$ 2,500.00
2583	Upper Anthro Lop and Scatter Phase 1 (Jeep Trail, Nutters Ridge)	RMEF	\$ 1,000.00
2465	Anthro Mountain P-J Treatment	RMEF	\$ 5,000.00
2640	Inidan Springs Bullhog Maintenance	RMEF	\$ 1,000.00
2598	Little Mountain Lop and Scatter phase II	RMEF	\$ 1,500.00
2643	Bookcliffs Aspen Exclosure Phase III	RMEF	\$ 1,000.00
2234	Little Mountain Lop and Scatter Phase I	RMEF	\$ 1,500.00
2647	Bookcliffs Water Development	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2630	Bare Top Bighorn Sheep Guzzler Replacement	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2651	West Bookcliffs Aspen Study	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2681	Tabby Browse Plots	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2642	Blacksmith Aspen Prescribed Burn Project	RMEF	\$ 5,000.00
2679	Curtis Aspen Prescribed Burn Project	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2697	Blacksmith Fork Juniper Thinning and Shrub Restoration	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2520	Hoop Lake Lop and Scatter	RMEF	\$ 5,000.00
2535	Poison Mountain Lop and Scatter	RMEF	\$ 1,050.00
2637	Cold Springs Conifer Removal/Aspen Regeneration Phase II	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2620	Lackey Basin Aspen Restoration Project	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00

2627	Swasey Wildlife Habitat Improvement and Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Phase IV	RMEF	\$ 2,500.00
2554	Black Ridge Fuels Reduction and Vegetative Restoration - Phase III	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2593	South Book Cliffs Vegetation Improvement Phase 1	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2540	Dugout Creek Fuels Reduction and Habitat Restoration: Phase III	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2556	Burma Rd. Pinyon/Juniper Removal	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2693	Stump Flat Pinyon/Juniper Removal Project	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2680	South Canyon (Graveyard)	RMEF	\$ 5,000.00
2701	UKC Thompson Creek	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2696	Upper Kanab Creek Phase II Bullhog - Bald Knoll	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2547	Parker Front PJ Removal	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2707	Browse Seeding on FY13 Fires	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2669	Panguitch Creek WMA PJ Thinning	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2623	Ezra Flat Winter Range Restoration	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2597	Antimony Fuels Reduction and Habitat Improvement FY14	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2706	Circleville Vegetation Enhancement	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2665	Pioneer WMA Bullhog	RMEF	\$ 2,500.00
2726	Monroe Mountain Livestock Management Improvement Project	RMEF	\$ 5,000.00
2703	Spike Hollow Vegetation Enhancement	RMEF	\$ 1,000.00
2599	Traingle Mountain Guzzler	RMEF	\$ 6,300.00
2683	Marshall Guzzler Tank Replacement	RMEF	\$ 2,500.00
2710	South Antelope Valley Guzzler Rebuild	RMEF	\$ 2,000.00
2719	Assessment of Disturbance Size and Ecological Conditions on Wildlife Impacts of Aspen Regeneration	RMEF	\$ 5,000.00
2723	Guidelines for Effective Placement and Use of Wildlife Water Developments Year 5	RMEF	\$ 3,000.00
2860	Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat Biologist	RMEF	\$ 10,000.00
		<b>RMEF Total</b>	<b>\$ 151,300.00</b>
2571	Stockton Bullhog Phase 3	SCI	\$ 1,000.00
2552	West Vernon- Phase 3 Dutch Creek	SCI	\$ 3,000.00
2570	Tabby Mountain Chaining Maintenance	SCI	\$ 3,000.00
2589	Park Ridge Bullhog Maintenance	SCI	\$ 1,000.00
2635	Jack Trap Canyon	SCI	\$ 1,000.00
2647	Bookcliffs Water Development	SCI	\$ 1,000.00
2630	Bare Top Bighorn Sheep Guzzler Replacement	SCI	\$ 4,000.00
2632	Mail Draw Water Development Project	SCI	\$ 2,000.00
2681	Tabby Browse Plots	SCI	\$ 3,000.00
2642	Blacksmith Aspen Prescribed Burn Project	SCI	\$ 2,000.00
2679	Curtis Aspen Prescribed Burn Project	SCI	\$ 2,000.00
2697	Blacksmith Fork Juniper Thinning and Shrub Restoration	SCI	\$ 2,000.00
2520	Hoop Lake Lop and Scatter	SCI	\$ 4,000.00
2535	Poison Mountain Lop and Scatter	SCI	\$ 3,000.00
2620	Lackey Basin Aspen Restoration Project	SCI	\$ 1,000.00

2616	Horse Canyon Fuel Reduction and Habitat Restoration- Phase II	SCI	\$ 2,000.00
2556	Burma Rd. Pinyon/Juniper Removal	SCI	\$ 1,000.00
2768	Green River Bighorn Sheep Capture and Transplant	SCI	\$ 5,000.00
2680	South Canyon (Graveyard)	SCI	\$ 2,000.00
2696	Upper Kanab Creek Phase II Bullhog - Bald Knoll	SCI	\$ 2,000.00
2707	Browse Seeding on FY13 Fires	SCI	\$ 2,000.00
2669	Panguitch Creek WMA PJ Thinning	SCI	\$ 1,000.00
2665	Pioneer WMA Bullhog	SCI	\$ 1,000.00
2668	Beaver Easement Wildlife Management Area Herbicide Application	SCI	\$ 1,000.00
2710	South Antelope Valley Guzzler Rebuild	SCI	\$ 2,000.00
2770	Zion Bighorn Sheep Capture and Transplant	SCI	\$ 5,000.00
2721	Bear Population Estimation Improvement	SCI	\$ 3,000.00
2719	Assessment of Disturbance Size and Ecological Conditions on Wildlife Impacts of Aspen Regeneration	SCI	\$ 1,000.00
2723	Guidelines for Effective Placement and Use of Wildlife Water Developments Year 5	SCI	\$ 3,000.00
2748	FY14 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	SCI	\$ 2,000.00
2773	Moose Monitoring on the North Slope and Wasatch units	SCI	\$ 5,000.00
2860	Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat Biologist	SCI	\$ 4,000.00
		<b>SCI Total</b>	<b>\$ 75,000.00</b>
2571	Stockton Bullhog Phase 3	SFW	\$ 5,000.00
2575	Stockton Sagebrush Enhancement	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2534	Onaqui East Bench Bullhog Phase 2	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2527	East Tintic Bullhog Phase 2	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2552	West Vernon- Phase 3 Dutch Creek	SFW	\$ 5,000.00
2291	Little Valley Fuels Reduction and Habitat Improvement FY14	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2577	FY14 San Pitch Mountains Fuels Reduction and Habitat Restoration	SFW	\$ 3,000.00
2605	Strawberry Phase 4 (Sage Creek Bay)	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2629	Sheep Creek Phase 1	SFW	\$ 4,000.00
2688	North Canyon Knapweed Project Phase I	SFW	\$ 2,500.00
2602	Bear Mountain CWMU Habitat Enhancement	SFW	\$ 7,000.00
2674	Hilltop Conservation Easement Bullhog	SFW	\$ 7,247.14
2287	FY14 Hayes Canyon Guzzler	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2570	Tabby Mountain Chaining Maintenance	SFW	\$ 7,500.00
2562	Marshall Draw / Warren Draw Lop and Scatter	SFW	\$ 5,000.00
2626	Moonshine Bullhog Phase III	SFW	\$ 4,000.00
2589	Park Ridge Bullhog Maintenance	SFW	\$ 5,000.00
2635	Jack Trap Canyon	SFW	\$ 1,000.00
2583	Upper Anthro Lop and Scatter Phase 1 (Jeep Trail, Nutters Ridge)	SFW	\$ 1,250.00
2640	Inidan Springs Bullhog Maintenance	SFW	\$ 1,250.00
2598	Little Mountain Lop and Scatter Phase II	SFW	\$ 2,500.00
2643	Bookcliffs Aspen Exclosure Phase III	SFW	\$ 2,500.00
2234	Little Mountain Lop and Scatter Phase I	SFW	\$ 2,500.00

2628	Steer Ridge Lop and Scatter	SFW	\$ 7,500.00
2647	Bookcliffs Water Development	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2632	Mail Draw Water Development Project	SFW	\$ 8,000.00
2681	Tabby Browse Plots	SFW	\$ 1,000.00
2642	Blacksmith Aspen Prescribed Burn Project	SFW	\$ 10,000.00
2679	Curtis Aspen Prescribed Burn Project	SFW	\$ 10,000.00
2697	Blacksmith Fork Juniper Thinning and Shrub Restoration	SFW	\$ 30,000.00
2520	Hoop Lake Lop and Scatter	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2535	Poison Mountain Lop and Scatter	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2574	West Grouse Creek Bullhog Phase 2	SFW	\$ 10,000.00
2637	Cold Springs Conifer Removal/Aspen Regeneration Phase II	SFW	\$ 7,000.00
2620	Lackey Basin Aspen Restoration Project	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2627	Swasey Wildlife Habitat Improvement and Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Phase IV	SFW	\$ 2,500.00
2554	Black Ridge Fuels Reduction and Vegetative Restoration - Phase III	SFW	\$ 2,500.00
2616	Horse Canyon Fuel Reduction and Habitat Restoration- Phase II	SFW	\$ 2,500.00
2593	South Book Cliffs Vegetation Improvement Phase 1	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2540	Dugout Creek Fuels Reduction and Habitat Restoration: Phase III	SFW	\$ 3,000.00
2556	Burma Rd. Pinyon/Juniper Removal	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2693	Stump Flat Pinyon/Juniper Removal Project	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2680	South Canyon (Graveyard)	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2701	UKC Thompson Creek	SFW	\$ 5,000.00
2696	Upper Kanab Creek Phase II Bullhog - Bald Knoll	SFW	\$ 5,000.00
2687	Yellowjacket (Kinnickinnic)	SFW	\$ 5,000.00
2547	Parker Front PJ removal	SFW	\$ 2,500.00
2690	Hatch Bench Vegetation Enhancement Phase II	SFW	\$ 7,500.00
2707	Browse Seeding on FY13 Fires	SFW	\$ 11,100.00
2669	Panguitch Creek WMA PJ Thinning	SFW	\$ 2,500.00
2704	Duncan Creek Phase II Vegetation Enhancement	SFW	\$ 2,500.00
2623	Ezra Flat Winter Range Restoration	SFW	\$ 2,500.00
2597	Antimony Fuels Reduction and Habitat Improvement FY14	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2665	Pioneer WMA Bullhog	SFW	\$ 5,000.00
2705	Parowan Front PJ Maintenance and Bitterbrush Seeding	SFW	\$ 15,804.00
2726	Monroe Mountain Livestock Management Improvement Project	SFW	\$ 1,000.00
2668	Beaver Easement Wildlife Management Area Herbicide Application	SFW	\$ 685.00
2599	Traingle Mountain Guzzler	SFW	\$ 1,500.00
2683	Marshall Guzzler Tank Replacement	SFW	\$ 1,250.00
2685	Proctor Canyon Guzzler Fly-In	SFW	\$ 5,000.00
2710	South Antelope Valley Guzzler Rebuild	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2721	Bear Population Estimation Improvement	SFW	\$ 2,000.00
2719	Assessment of Disturbance Size and Ecological Conditions on Wildlife Impacts of Aspen Regeneration	SFW	\$ 2,500.00
2723	Guidelines for Effective Placement and Use of Wildlife Water Developments Year 5	SFW	\$ 1,000.00

2748	FY14 Sage Grouse Initiative Biologists	SFW	\$ 5,000.00
2772	Mountain Goat capture on the Tushars and Willard Peak	SFW	\$ 50,000.00
2773	Moose monitoring on the North Slope and Wasatch units	SFW	\$ 31,000.00
2767	South Slope Feral Horse Gather	SFW	\$ 40,000.00
		<b>SFW Total</b>	\$ 397,586.14
2552	West Vernon- Phase 3 Dutch Creek	UBH	\$ 2,500.00
2629	Sheep Creek Phase 1	UBH	\$ 2,500.00
2635	Jack Trap Canyon	UBH	\$ 1,000.00
2598	Little Mountain Lop and Scatter Phase II	UBH	\$ 1,500.00
2234	Little Mountain Lop and Scatter Phase I	UBH	\$ 1,500.00
2628	Steer Ridge Lop and Scatter	UBH	\$ 1,000.00
2679	Curtis Aspen Prescribed Burn Project	UBH	\$ 2,000.00
2697	Blacksmith Fork Juniper Thinning and Shrub Restoration	UBH	\$ 2,000.00
2620	Lackey Basin Aspen Restoration Project	UBH	\$ 2,000.00
2593	South Book Cliffs Vegetation Improvement Phase 1	UBH	\$ 2,000.00
2556	Burma Rd. Pinyon/Juniper Removal	UBH	\$ 2,000.00
2701	UKC Thompson Creek	UBH	\$ 2,000.00
2707	Browse Seeding on FY13 Fires	UBH	\$ 2,000.00
2665	Pioneer WMA Bullhog	UBH	\$ 2,000.00
2668	Beaver Easement Wildlife Management Area Herbicide Application	UBH	\$ 2,000.00
2721	Bear Population Estimation Improvement	UBH	\$ 2,000.00
		<b>UBH Total</b>	\$ 30,000.00
		<b>Grand Total</b>	\$ 1,610,526.17





GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

SPENCER J. COX  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Wildlife Resources

GREGORY SHEEHAN  
Division Director

September 15, 2014

TO: Utah Wildlife Board / Regional Advisory Council Members

FROM: Staci Coons  
Wildlife Board Coordinator

SUBJECT: 2015 RAC/Board Meeting Dates and Timeline

The Division requests your approval on the proposed 2015 RAC/Wildlife Board meeting dates.

A few things that are new this year:

- The RAC order will be Northern and Central region the first week, followed by Southern, Southeastern and Northeastern the second week.
- The December Board meeting will be held on a Wednesday due to conflicts with the board room.
- The January board meetings will be held on a Tuesday to accommodate Winter WAFWA
- New this year - the Field regulations and Season dates for all species will go out to the RAC's in December and be approved by the Wildlife Board at the January meeting. This will allow us to print the "2015 Hunting Guidebook" in late February. As you know, this guidebook will replace the individual guidebooks previously printed in the past. The Big Game Application guidebook will continue to be printed and the other species will have online application guidebooks only.
- The Brown bag on August 18 will be moved to August 25 to accommodate those attending the Tri-state meeting.
- The Northern Region RAC meeting scheduled for Dec.1 will be moved to December 3 (Thursday) to alleviate any confusion from having a new RAC tour start prior to the board meeting for the old RAC tour proposals. The board meeting is December 2.
- The training for all new RAC and Board Members will be scheduled for Wednesday, August 26 and will most likely be held at Scheels again.



Draft 2015 RAC & BOARD MEETING TIME LINE (Revised 9/15/2014)

RAC Meeting Month	Agenda Item	Rule 5 Year Lapse Date	Mngrs Mtg (TBA by program mngnr.)	Regional Recs Due to Program Coordinator (Mondays) - 2 wks to Brown Bag -	Review Program Recs with Director- no later than	Brown Bag (Tuesdays)	Final Draft Due to Rules Coord. for mailing	Powerpoints Due to Rules Coordinator	RAC Meetings	Board Meeting Year 2015 (Thursdays)	Final Review of Proc. with PRC (Mondays)	Content Online	Guidebook to Printer (Thursdays)	Guidebook Distribution	Application Period	Comments
December	Falconry Recommendations - 2015			10/27	11/7	11/13 (Thursday)	11/13	11/27	12/2-11	01/06/2015 (Tuesday)						RAC order is CR, NR, then SR, SER, NER
December	Hunting Field Regulations, Season Dates & Guidebook - 2015			10/27	11/7	11/13 (Thursday)	11/13	11/27	12/2-11	01/06/2015 (Tuesday)						
December	Bear Recommendations & Guidebook (not on the agenda until 2015)			10/27	11/7	11/13 (Thursday)	11/13	11/27	12/2-11	01/06/2015 (Tuesday)					Feb.	3-yr guidebook started 2012
January	No meetings															
February	No meetings															
March	No meetings															
April	Big Game Permit Numbers for 2014 season			02/27	03/13	03/17	03/19	04/02	04/07-16	04/30						RAC order is NR, CR then SR, SER, NER
May	Fishing Informational - Online Survey			03/27	04/10	04/14	04/17	04/30	05/5-14	06/04						
May	Upland Game and Turkey hunt tables and permit numbers			03/27	04/10	04/14	04/17	04/30	05/5-14	06/04					July	3-yr guidebook started 2011
May	Waterfowl Bag Limits			03/27	04/10	04/14	04/17	04/30	05/5-14	06/04						3-yr guidebook started 2011
June	No meetings															
July	Cougar hunt tables and permit numbers			06/26	07/10	07/14	07/16	07/23	07/28-08/6	08/26-27	Tri-state Aug. 17-19, 2015					RAC order is NR, CR then SR, SER, NER
July	Bobcat Permit Numbers			06/26	07/10	07/14	07/16	07/23	07/28-08/6	08/26-27	WAFWA July 16-22				Oct.	3-yr guidebook started 2010
July	Proposed Fee Schedule			06/26	07/10	07/14	07/16	07/23	07/28-08/6	08/26-27						
July	Convention Permits Audit (Board Only)			06/26	07/10	07/14	07/16	07/23	07/28-08/6	08/26-27						
July	Convention Permits Allocation (Board Only)			06/26	07/10	07/14	07/16	07/23	07/28-08/6	08/26-27						
August	No meetings															
September	Fishing Recommendations & Guidebook - 2016			7/31	08/14	08/25	08/20	09/03	09/08-17	10/1						RAC order is NR, CR then SR, SER, NER
September	Conservation Permit Audit - 1yr permits (Board Only)			7/31	08/14	08/25	08/20	09/03	09/08-17	10/1						
September	Conservation Permit Allocation - 1yr Permits (Board Only)			7/31	08/14	08/25	08/20	09/03	09/08-17	10/1						
September	Conservation Permit Allocation - 3yr Permits (Board Only) (happens in 2015)			7/31	08/14	08/25	08/20	09/03	09/08-17	10/1						
September	Conservation Permit Annual Report (Board Only)			7/31	08/14	08/25	08/20	09/03	09/08-17	10/1						
September	Board Approves 2016 Meeting Dates (Board Only)			7/31	08/14	08/25	08/20	09/03	09/08-17	10/1						
October	No meetings															
November	Big Game 2016 Hunt Tables and Dates			10/02	10/16	10/20	10/22	11/5	11/10-19	12/2 (Wednesday)						
November	CWMU Management Plans			10/02	10/16	10/20	10/22	11/5	11/10-19	12/2 (Wednesday)						RAC order is NR, CR then SR, SER, NER
November	CWMU and Landowner Permit Recommendations			10/02	10/16	10/20	10/22	11/5	11/10-19	12/2 (Wednesday)						
December	Falconry Recommendations			10/23	11/6	11/10	11/12	12/3	12/2-10	01/05/2016 (Tuesday)						RAC order is CR, NR then SR, SER, NER
December	Hunting Field Regulations, Season Dates & Guidebook - 2016			10/23	11/6	11/10	11/12	12/3	12/2-10	01/05/2016 (Tuesday)						
December	Bear hunt tables, permit numbers & Guidebook (not on the agenda until 2015)			10/23	11/6	11/10	11/12	12/3	12/2-10	01/05/2016 (Tuesday)					Feb.	3-yr guidebook started 2012

Revised 09/15/14

# 2015 WILDLIFE BOARD/RAC SCHEDULE

All information is subject to change and all agendas are tentative. Please check the DWR website often at [www.wildlife.utah.gov](http://www.wildlife.utah.gov) for complete agendas and meeting locations posted prior to meetings. **Unless otherwise noted, all Wildlife Board meetings are on Thursdays in the DNR Salt Lake office auditorium, 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City.** Board meetings begin at 9 a.m, unless otherwise indicated. Additional meetings may be scheduled if necessary. RACs meet at the locations and times listed below unless otherwise noted. Scheduling changes will be posted on the DWR website. Please check it often.

**SR RAC – 7 PM**  
Beaver High School  
195 E. Center St., Beaver

**NER RAC – 6:30 PM**  
Wildlife Resources NER Office  
318 North Vernal Ave, Vernal

**SER RAC – 6:30 PM**  
John Wesley Powell Museum  
1765 E. Main St., Green River

**NR RAC – 6 PM**  
Brigham City Community Center  
24 N. 300 W., Brigham City

**CR RAC – 6:30 PM**  
Springville Public Library Meeting Room  
45 S. Main Street, Springville

## Schedule & Tentative Agendas

**January – Board Meeting Thursday, January 6, 2015 (Tuesday):**

- Bear Proclamation & Rule (contingent)
- 2015 Hunting Field Regulations and Season Dates
- Convention Permit Rule
- Falconry Rule (contingent)

No RAC meetings scheduled.

**February –** No Board or RAC meetings scheduled.

**March –** No Board or RAC meetings scheduled.

**April – RAC meetings:**

- Big Game Permit numbers.
- Antlerless Permit numbers
- CWMU Rule Amendments

7 - NR  
8 - CR  
14 - SR  
15 - SER  
16 - NER

**Board meeting April 30**

- Big Game Permit numbers.
- Antlerless Permit numbers

- CWMU Rule Amendments

**May –**

**RAC meetings:**

- 2015 Fishing – online survey
- Upland Game & Wild Turkey hunt tables and permit numbers
- Waterfowl bag limits and season dates

5 – NR  
6 – CR  
12 – SR  
13 – SER  
14 – NER

**June –**

**Board meeting June 4**

- 2015 Fishing – online survey
- Upland Game & Wild Turkey hunt tables and permit numbers
- Waterfowl bag limits and season dates

No RAC meetings scheduled.

**July –**

No Board meeting scheduled.

**RAC meetings:**

- Cougar hunt tables and permit numbers
- Bobcat permit numbers
- Fee Proposals

July 28 – NR  
July 29 – CR  
Aug 4 – SR  
Aug 5 – SER  
Aug 6 – NER

**August**

**Board meeting August 26-27**

- New RAC and Board Member Orientation
- Cougar hunt tables and permit numbers
- Bobcat permit numbers
- Fee Proposals
- Convention Permit Audit
- Convention Permit Allocation

No RAC meetings scheduled.

**September**

No Board meeting scheduled.

**RAC meetings:**

- Fishing Recommendations and Guidebook –2016

8 – NR

9 – CR  
15 – SR  
16 – SER  
17 – NER

**October -**

**Board meeting October 1**

- Fishing Recommendations and Guidebook –2015
- 2016 meeting dates approval
- Conservation permit Allocation 1 yr
- Conservation permit Allocation 3 yr ( scheduled for 2015)

**November –**

No Board meetings scheduled.

**RAC meetings:**

- Big Game 2016 Hunt Tables and Dates
- CWMU Recommendations

10 – NR  
12 – CR - Thursday  
17 – SR  
18 – SER  
19 – NER

**December –**

**Board meeting December 2 (Wednesday):**

- Big Game 2016 Hunt Tables and Dates
- CWMU Recommendations
- Conservation permit annual report
- Conservation permit audit

**RAC meetings:**

- Bear hunt tables and permit numbers
- 2016 Hunting Field Regulations and Season Dates

2 – CR  
3 – NR (Thursday)  
8 – SRO  
9 – SERO  
10 – NERO

**January -**

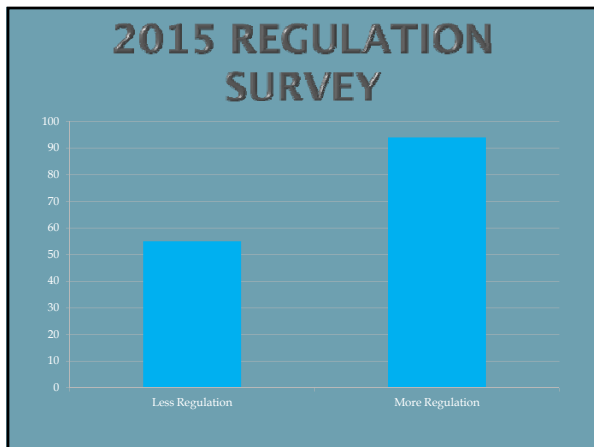
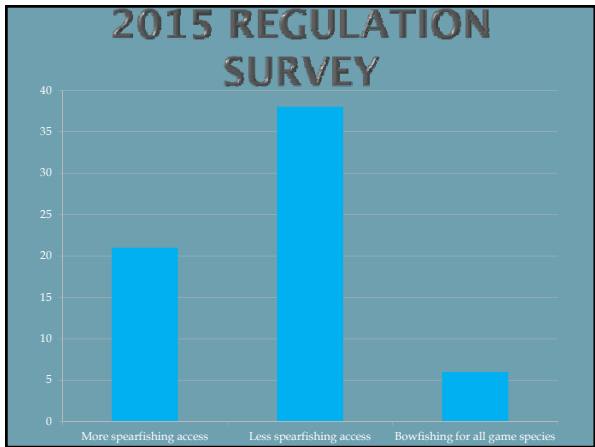
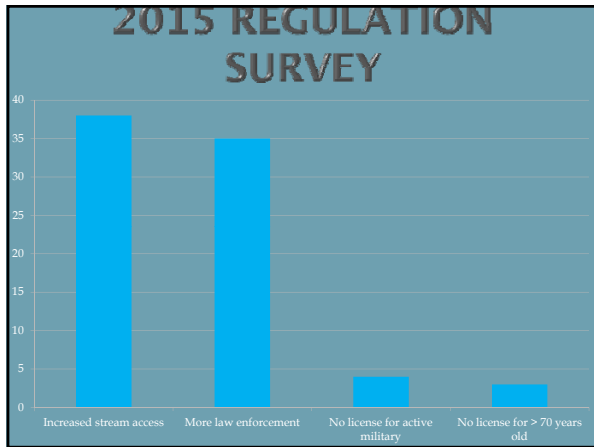
**Board Meeting January 5, 2016 (Tuesday):**

- Bear hunt tables and permit numbers
- 2016 Hunting Field Regulations and Season Dates



### 2015 REGULATION SURVEY

- ▣ The survey was conducted from 5/15 - 6/18/2014
- ▣ A total of 1302 responses were received on 13 different questions
- ▣ 750 respondents provided comments in a free form response field
- ▣ 294 of the comments were related to regulation changes, the remainder were management suggestions that have been referred to the regional managers.



### DISPOSAL ALLOWANCE WATERS AND SPECIES




- ▣ Blue Lake (Pacu)
- ▣ Fish Lake (Yellow perch)
- ▣ Gunlock, Sand Hollow and Quail Creek Reservoir, Washington County, (Smallmouth bass)

## WILDLIFE BOARD ACTION ITEM

- Explore an allowance for spearfishing at all waters that have catch and kill regulation in place for the species that have a catch and kill regulation on them.
  - DWR completed an on-line survey and two of the waters had substantial support (Green River for Burbot and Utah Lake for Northern Pike)
    - GROGA and the USFS are opposed to spearfishing on the Green River because of user conflicts.
  - Sand Hollow, Gunlock and Quail Creek Reservoirs were almost evenly split between support and opposed.
    - State Parks and Recreation is opposed to spearfishing at Sand Hollow and Quail Creek because of user conflicts.
  - We are not recommending this change at this time. All additional waters will be considered for underwater spearfishing on a case basis in order to assess the biological risks as well as the social conflicts.

## UNDERWATER SPEARFISHING

- 6 States have explicit prohibitions on spearfishing statewide
- 31 States allow spearfishing on non-game fish only
- 1 State allows spearfishing for non-game fish species but only with a special license
- 5 States allow spearfishing for selected game and non-game fish on selected waters (including Utah)

## UNDERWATER SPEARFISHING

- Pre-2008 underwater spearfishing had a 2 fish limit: One fish over 22 inches and one fish under 22 inches
- 2008 all limits that applied to spearfishermen were made consistent to the limits that applied to regular anglers.
- Pre 2008, 12 waters were open to spearfishing
- 2008, 2 additional waters were opened
- Currently there are 22 Utah waters open to spearfishing

## UNDERWATER SPEARFISHING



□Blue Lake (Pacu) Illegal Introduction

## WILDLIFE BOARD ACTION ITEM

- Allowance for unlimited "at home" possession.
  - Survey completed in 2014. There was good support for this change on the survey.
  - However DWR Regional Aquatics Managers have concerns about the effect of this change on some fisheries.
  - Underharvest is an issue on many of our warm and coolwater fisheries.
  - We are recommending the change for warm and coolwater species as we continue the evaluation of the effects of the two day possession limit on coldwater species passed in the 2013 Wildlife Board meeting.
  - Evaluation will be completed by 2016 utilizing two creel surveys. If angler harvest remains constant, we will move forward with trout at that time.

## WARM/COOL WATER POSSESSION LIMIT

The warm and coolwater fish species (all fish that are not "trout") at your permanent residence do not count as part of your possession limit

### □Definition

- Permanent residence- the domicile an individual relies upon in establishing residency for the purposes of Utah Code §23-13-2(37).



## SOUTHERN REGION

**Fish Lake, Sevier County**


- No limit on yellow perch
- Trout limit 4 fish. You may only possess one trout over 24 inches



## SOUTHERN REGION

**Lake Powell, Garfield, Kane and San Juan Counties**

- Allow dead striped bass to be used as bait or chum



## SOUTHERN REGION

**Boulder Mountain Lakes and Reservoirs, Garfield and Wayne Counties**

- Remove boundary description
- See specific water restrictions for individual waters. Statewide regulations apply to those waters not specifically identified.



## SOUTHERN REGION (BOULDER MT. LAKES)

**Beaver Dam Reservoir, Bulberry Lakes, Fish Creek Reservoir, Honeymoon Lake, Long Willow Bottom, Mcgath Lake, Pacer Lake, Pine Creek Reservoir, Round Willow Bottom, Scout Lake, Solitaire Lake Garfield and Wayne Counties**

- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 a.m. on the third Saturday of April and Nov. 1 through Dec. 31

## SOUTHERN REGION

**Oak Creek Reservoir (Upper Bowns Reservoir) (Boulder Mt. Lake), Garfield County**

- Limit 16 Brook Trout ( To improve the quality of the fishery)



## SOUTHERN REGION

**Sand Hollow, Gunlock, Quail Creek, Washington County**

- No limit on smallmouth bass. Anglers must not release any smallmouth bass they catch. All smallmouth bass must be immediately killed.

(These are illegal introductions. There are endangered fish in the Virgin and Santa Clara River systems. As a result smallmouth bass are prohibited)



## SOUTHERN REGION

Aspen-Mirror Lake, Duck Creek and Duck Creek Springs Lake (Kane County)

Remove seasonal closure  
(These will provide additional local ice fishing opportunities)

## SOUTHERN REGION

Johnson Reservoir, Sevier County



□ Remove 1 inch bait size restriction.




## NORTHEAST REGION

Bullock and Cottonwood Reservoirs (Uintah County)

□ Remove 1 inch bait restriction.

## CENTRAL REGION

Blue Lake, Tooele County

□ No limit on pacu. Anglers must not release any pacu they catch. All pacu must be immediately killed.

(This is an illegal introduction.)

## NORTHERN REGION

Bear Lake, Rich County

Any angler possessing a valid Utah or Idaho license may fish within both Utah and Idaho portions of Bear Lake

An individual may fish with up to two rods anywhere on the Utah portion of Bear Lake that are open to angling. Anglers utilizing the Idaho portion of the lake should check the appropriate Idaho regulation

## NORTHERN REGION

Logan River, Cache County

□ From Card Canyon Bridge upstream to the highway bridge at Red Banks Campground, including all tributary streams in between, **not including any of the ponds or reservoirs**

- Limit 2 trout and whitefish in the aggregate.
- Artificial flies and lures only

□ From the highway bridge at Red Banks Campground upstream to the Idaho state line, including all tributaries.

- Limit 2 trout and whitefish in the aggregate
- CLOSED Jan. 1 through 6 am on the second Saturday in July

## SOUTHEAST REGION

**Knight-Ideal Community Fishing Pond,**  
Carbon County

- Community Fishery, limit 2 fish regardless of species

## PRIORITIES IN SELECTING WHERE TO FISH

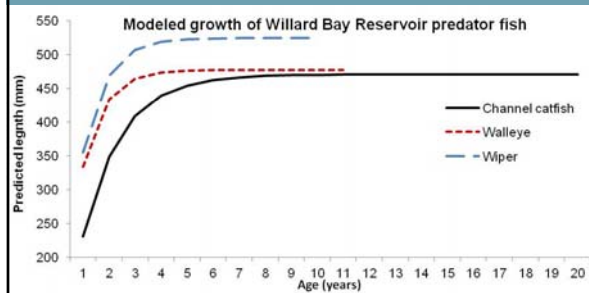
### Active Anglers

1. There are good sized fish
2. The fish anglers prefer will be available
3. There will be lots of fish available
4. The area will not be crowded
5. The fish will be safe to eat

### Lapsed Anglers

1. The area will not be crowded
2. There will be good sized fish
3. The fish anglers prefer will be available
4. There will be lots of fish available
5. The fish will be safe to eat.

## WILLARD BAY AGE AND GROWTH



## SOUTHERN REGION SPECIES INTRODUCTIONS

- Bonneville Cutthroat Trout
  - Clear Creek (Sevier Co)
  - Mill Creek (Sevier/Piute Co) (Clear Creek tributary)
  - Pinto Creek (Washington Co)
  - Bear Creek (Iron/Garfield Co)
  - Mammoth Creek & tributaries above Mammoth Spring (Iron/Garfield Co)
  - East Fork Sevier River & tributaries above Tropic Res (Garfield/Kane Co)
  - Horse Creek & Birch Creek (Garfield Co) (John's Valley)

## SOUTHERN REGION SPECIES INTRODUCTIONS

- Southern Leatherside
  - East Fork Sevier River & tribs above Tropic Res (Garfield/Kane Co)
- Colorado River Cutthroat Trout and Bluehead Sucker
  - Calf Creek (Garfield Co)

## Thank You!!!!

**Share your ideas with the DWR by June 15 annually**

**Share ideas at RAC meetings**

**E-mail ideas to: [dwrcomment@utah.gov](mailto:dwrcomment@utah.gov)**

**Mail ideas to:**

**Sport Fisheries Program Coordinator**

**Division of Wildlife Resources**

**PO Box 146301**

**Salt Lake City, UT 84114-6301**

**Web based survey to seek public input on line <http://wildlife.utah.gov/dwr/>**