

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** I would like to see 25% of all tags go to weapons restricted hunts. Run two hunts for each unit. 25% traditional archery, 25% traditional muzzleloader, 25% flat wall open sight rifle. And run them 5 day hunts. Open up opportunity and cut down on crowds

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** 90/10 split is not worth it, CWMUs have become amazing at holding animals, that means less animals on our public land and less hunting opportunities for the public. I don't know why as the public we want our animals on private land?

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 23, 2024 3:20 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

The public wants an apology for the blatant lies told by Mr Shirley about Wade Heaton and why he is no longer on the board. We would also like an explanation why we were not told the truth to begin with and why the DWR has tried to ignore this issue as much as they can. This behavior is disgusting and inexcusable by someone of such a position. You treat us like we a children who don't know any better. It's really hard to respect anyone from the DWR when they feel like it's appropriate to tell us lies and then try to completely ignore it when the truth comes out. You're an embarrassment to not only the sportsman of utah, but all wildlife agency officials. It will be interesting to see what other ways the division will try to protect Wade as much as possible through all of this, when they would hold a public hanging for just about anyone else who got caught doing the same things. You've shown your true colors with this. Well done.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

The public wants an apology for the blatant lie told by Mr Shirley about Wade Heaton and why he is no longer on the board. We would also like an explanation why we were not told the truth to begin with and why the DWR has tried to ignore this issue as much as they can. This behavior is disgusting and inexcusable by someone of such a position. You treat us like we a children who don't know any better. It's really hard to respect anyone from the DWR when they feel like it's appropriate to tell us lies and then try to completely ignore it when the truth comes out. You're an embarrassment to not only the sportsman of utah, but all wildlife agency officials. It will be interesting to see what other ways the division will try to protect Wade as much as possible through all of this, when they would hold a public hanging for just about anyone else who got caught doing the same things. You've shown your true colors with this. Well done.

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

The public wants an apology for the blatant lie told by Mr Shirley about Wade Heaton and why he is no longer on the board. We would also like an explanation why we were not told the truth to begin with and why the DWR has tried to ignore this issue as much as they can. This behavior is disgusting and inexcusable by someone of such a position. You treat us like we a children who don't know any better. It's really hard to respect anyone from the DWR when they feel like it's appropriate to tell us lies and then try to completely ignore it when the truth comes out. You're an embarrassment to not only the sportsman of utah, but all wildlife agency officials. It will be interesting to see what other ways the division will try to protect Wade as much as possible through all of this, when they would hold a public hanging for just about anyone else who got caught doing the same things. You've shown your true colors with this. Well done.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed hunts?**

The public wants an apology for the blatant lie told by Mr Shirley about Wade Heaton and why he is no longer on the board. We would also like an explanation why we were not told the truth to begin with and why the DWR has tried to ignore this issue as much as they can. This behavior is disgusting and inexcusable by someone of such a position. You treat us like we a children who don't know any better. It's really hard to respect anyone from the DWR when they feel like it's appropriate to tell us lies and then try to completely ignore it when the truth comes out. You're an embarrassment to not only the sportsman of utah, but all wildlife agency officials. It will be interesting to see what other ways the division will try to protect Wade as much as possible through all of this, when they would hold a public hanging for just about anyone else who got caught doing the same things. You've shown your true colors with this. Well done.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

The public wants an apology for the blatant lie told by Mr Shirley about Wade Heaton and why he is no longer on the board. We would also like an explanation why we were not told the truth to begin with and why the DWR has tried to ignore this issue as much as they can. This behavior is disgusting and inexcusable by someone of such a position. You treat us like we a children who don't know any better. It's really hard to respect anyone from the DWR when they feel like it's appropriate to tell us lies and then try to completely ignore it when the truth comes out. You're an embarrassment to not only the sportsman of utah, but all wildlife agency officials. It will be interesting to see what other ways the division will try to protect Wade as much as possible through all of this, when they would hold a public hanging for just about anyone else who got caught doing the same things. You've shown your true colors with this. Well done.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

The public wants an apology for the blatant lie told by Mr Shirley about Wade Heaton and why he is no longer on the board. We would also like an explanation why we were not told the truth to begin with and why the DWR has tried to ignore this issue as much as they can. This behavior is disgusting and inexcusable by someone of such a position. You treat us like we a children who don't know any better. It's really hard to respect anyone from the DWR when they feel like it's appropriate to tell us lies and then try to completely ignore it when the truth comes out. You're an embarrassment to not only the sportsman of utah, but all wildlife agency officials. It will be interesting to see what other ways the division will try to protect Wade as much as possible through all of this, when they would hold a public hanging for just about anyone else who got caught doing the same things. You've shown your true colors with this. Well done.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** On the units that need a 15 to 18 buck to doe ratio we went 3 point or better for any one over 18 and the youth hunters would have no size restrictions that would help grow larger buck but still keep the population in check

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

How does decreasing buck to doe ratios help our current situation?!?! I would rather draw less tags with better quality bucks. Also maybe not let thousands of sheep decimate the landscape (Boulder Hay lakes area) with sheep herder moving sheep between three water holes every single day. The weapons restriction will require many to purchase all new equipment and lead to more injured and unrecovered animals. I am also curious of how many people on the board strictly hunt public land. If you have the means to buy tags it's pretty easy to sit back and recommend restrictions that will never affect you.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

Wyoming tried and studied an antler Point restriction. And it didn't work, in fact, it made it worse for the population and landscape.

There is NO WAY I would support a restricted rifle hunt! You're asking for trouble with more wounded and un-recovered animals. You impact youth hunters that are learning and older hunters with poor vision. This is an atrocious proposal and it needs to go away just like it did last year! Youth have plenty of opportunities and need to be restricted as adults are.

I hope we can all organize and fight this ridiculous proposal.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 24, 2024 7:05 am

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 24, 2024 11:21 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I would support going to b:d ratios even below 15, as the current science supports even down to 10. Boosting our deer populations, without making bucks the priority, while we can could help to position utahs herds in better positions than other states in the west that have been hammered with CWD and drought.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 24, 2024 12:54 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the proposed deer hunt**  
**strategies research project?**

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I disagree with the weapons restrictions proposals - particularly on the cache. I've hunted the cache a lot with my family (I haven't hunted the other units this has been proposed on but I'm sure the principles would be the same there too). I grew up on the cache unit. I currently live in Idaho, but that is just temporary and will be living back on the cache unit in the next few years so I feel like these proposed regulations are still very applicable to me. They've already placed restrictions on muzzle loader scopes - and I'm ok with that (although it has made the muzzle loader hunt more difficult) because if people want that challenge they can do the muzzle loader hunt (but if they just want to hunt as they have for generations they can choose to do the rifle hunt) - but restricting rifles as well to just be iron sights and no scopes would not achieve the desired outcomes. I think a lot more deer would be wounded because of poor shot quality from more primitive style rifles and hunts would be overall less enjoyable for the public - and youth in particular would have a harder time garnering interest in hunting with more restrictions.

It is also very difficult from a hunters perspective to meet all the new weapons requirements. I hunt different units and animals that do not have these restrictions and I can't afford to have a rifle solely designated for the primitive requirements (iron sights/ no scope etc...) while also using my non-primitive rifle for other hunts. But it is not reasonable to take take rifle scopes off and on when going on different hunts. You would have to re-sight the gun every time you put the scope back on.

If you want better age class of deer in these units, I'd rather see a tag restriction in the units than a weapons restriction. I'd rather wait a little longer for a tag with a chance to hunt more mature deer with my rifle than be able to hunt smaller bucks every year or two but with a primitive rifle that would be harder to kill with. The cache has the genetics for big mature deer, there are just so many hunters that deer don't often reach the age class where they reach their full potential. Fewer tags would help with this more than the weapons restriction.

I also fear that even if the proposed weapons restriction is only for 5 years, that they wouldn't ever change it after those 5 years were up. There are more and more regulations placed on hunting every year - whether optics or weapons or trail cameras or other things - and the more the wildlife board is able to make these changes the more they will continue to put more restrictions on future hunting regulations. With this current trajectory, it's scary to think how regulated things will be when my kids and grandkids will be hunting (if they are able to hunt at all). Hunting is a fun bonding experience with family and friends - and has been for generations - and the more restrictions there are, the less enjoyable those experiences become. Hunters do not want more restrictions and regulations on how they can hunt. They want a chance to hunt mature animals (even if they have to wait a little longer to get that hunt opportunity).

So I definitely do not agree with the weapons restriction proposal. More restrictions and regulations make hunting less enjoyable.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Option 1) The list of different hunt/areas that are being established, the early season, mid season, late season, archery late season, HAMSS, all these different hunts are getting out of control. You have to spend a lot of time just keeping them straight. I understand that people want the opportunity to hunt but at the same time if this keeps going the way that it is there wont be anything left to pursue in the long run. Lets not make this about money with all the different tags given out and make it about the animals and keeping them healthy.

Option 2) We need to go back to the more primitive style of hunts (Archery, muzzle loaders) for deer to be closer to the rut. Since taking away the scope on the muzzleloaders give us something back in return and move the muzzleloader hunt dates later in the year. Archery can still stay the same but i think the general muzzleloader deer hunt dates need to go back to closer to pre rut - rut. The Archery any bull dates are getting better with dates to elk rut.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I will be making more specific comments in the other provided areas, but I generally support the management plan, with reservations. The 4-point restriction should be shifted to a 3-point restriction; because this will still not impact the survival of yearling bucks (which is mentioned as a reason for the restriction) but will also prevent a "3-point buck gene" from forming; and the restricted muzzleloader regulation needs to be clarified to reflect whether "Idaho" or "Northwest" muzzleloaders are legal (i.e., inlines that use percussion caps but have an exposed cap) or if only "Montana" muzzleloaders are legal (i.e., no inline muzzleloaders allowed, and only muzzleloaders with exposed hammers are allowed). If only "Montana" legal muzzleloaders are intended to be allowed, I strongly disagree with the proposal, and suggest that Utah instead adopt the "Idaho" legal muzzleloader regulations.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

As I currently understand the proposals, I agree with the principals behind the proposals, but disagree with the implementation.

First, the 4-point restriction should be shifted to a 3-point restriction. This shift will still not impact the survival of yearling bucks (which is mentioned as a reason for the restriction) but will also prevent a "3-point buck gene" from forming. I have had experience in limited deer units in Utah where hunters focused on 4-point or better bucks, and saw a concerning number of "poor" genetic bucks as a result. Instituting a 3-point restriction would still limit harvest of young (1.5-2.5 year old) bucks, prevent poor genetics from forming by allowing hunters to harvest mature bucks that are large 3 points, and only marginally affect the age class of bucks harvested compared to a 4-point antler restriction.

Second, regarding the limits on restricted muzzleloaders, the regulation needs to be clarified to reflect whether "Idaho" or "Northwest" muzzleloaders are legal (i.e., inlines that use percussion caps but have an exposed cap; Idaho regulation: "Ignition System Must be exposed. This is defined as an ignition system in which any portion of the cap is exposed when the weapon is cocked and ready to fire. Northwest inline models are allowed.") or if only "Montana" muzzleloaders are legal (i.e., no inline muzzleloaders allowed, and only muzzleloaders with exposed hammers are allowed; Montana regulation: "Percussion caps must be used by placing the cap over a nipple and striking the cap/nipple with an external hammer. The cap must be struck with an external hammer mounted on the side of the firearm. Systems that use a percussion cap mounted on the breech are not allowed. Inline muzzleloaders and systems using shotgun or other primers are not allowed").

The regulation seems to more closely match the "Montana" legal muzzleloaders ("percussion cap which must be entirely visible when the hammer is drawn back" vs. the Idaho regulation only requiring "any portion" of the cap being exposed). I strongly disagree with only "Montana" muzzleloaders being allowed because these muzzleloaders are rare in the marketplace, provide no more significant restriction than "Idaho" muzzleloaders, and many muzzleloaders can be converted to "Idaho" legal muzzleloaders easily, while none can be converted to "Montana" legal. Montana is currently the ONLY Western state (and one of the only states in general) with such a regulation, and the market reflects that since most Western and Midwest states at least allow inline muzzleloaders, while Idaho's regulation is also followed by Oregon, and New Mexico restricted muzzleloader units, while allowing for enclosed ignition, also prohibit 209 primers. Washington used to have a "Northwest" muzzleloader restriction as well, indicating many western hunters will have muzzleloaders that are easily accessible or convertible to a "Northwest" legal muzzleloader that is still limited to percussion caps and powder restrictions, while almost NO Western/Midwest hunter has a muzzleloader that is "Montana" legal, since only Montana has this restriction, this restriction is in a rarely used season in Montana, and has only been in place since 2022. Instead, with no way to

convert their existing muzzleloader to fit this criteria, hunters would be required to purchase another, harder to find, muzzleloader. While I strongly agree with restriction technology and equipment, Utah should not put itself on an island in its muzzleloader restrictions, and I believe the Idaho and Oregon draw and harvest statistics for "Northwest" muzzleloaders show that these muzzleloaders will meet the requirements Utah is looking to meet.



**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

I partially disagree with limiting hunters from applying to both general season and dedicated hunter tags, unless the regulation and/or system is set up so existing points aren't purged. Many of us have several points in both categories, and if these points are purged before we have the ability to use them, this would be a severe breach of trust on how big game applications work, and could possibly open Utah to legal liability. As long as these points are NOT purged when hunters are limited to applying for one or the other per year, I do not oppose this change.

I do strongly oppose the recommendation to shift under-utilized youth tags to general-season youth tags. First, youth, and their parents, need to be incentivized to apply and utilize different seasons and weapon types. This is one of the main ways to reduce hunter crowding, increase opportunity, and manage populations. By shifting the under-utilized tags from the archery and muzzleloader season (where the vast majority of these tags would come from), you are going to greatly increase crowding during the general rifle season (something that the surveys clearly opposed), probably increase harvest (because hunters are generally less successful on limited weapon hunts compared to rifle), and cause unintended consequences that will then have to be fixed through lowering tag quotas for adults. What I imagine the outcome to be will be harvests over objective, causing tag quotas to fall, greatly decreasing overall opportunity because parents aren't willing to put their kids (or themselves) in for limited weapon choices.

If Utah wants to improve youth opportunity, it must be up-front about it, and shift more general season rifle tags from adults to youth, rather than this back-door attempt to do the same. It is borderline deceitful to do it this way. While I think 20% of general season tags for youth, along with other hunting opportunities, is plenty, especially when there are hundreds of tags going unsubscribed in the limited weapon hunts, maybe Utah thinks otherwise. And if it does, it should OPENLY recommend more general season rifle tags go to youth, rather than backing its way into this solution. Western big game hunting is already becoming more and more limited, and if youth are going to continue to be involved, dedicated hunters, they will likely have to pick up different weapons, or wait longer for rifle tags. If we set their expectations and weapon preferences differently now, they will be less likely to continue the sport when older, when their choices are specifically more limited.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I'm opposed to the proposal to remove scopes for only the Cache Unit. Either reduce permits, go to a 3 pt or better deer harvest, or ban scopes statewide, or a combination of these. I hunt with a muzzleloader and haven't shoot at or taken a deer for nearly 10 years. Removing scopes I will now shoot at any buck I see during the hunt regardless of size or distance. I beleive I wounded 3 possibly 4 bucks before dropping a 2 pt. (Only out being frustrated by DWR decisions on the Cache Unit)

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I've provided my comments above and will state again I'm opposed removing scopes only on the Cache Unit. Either do it statewide or come up with othe statagedy to improve the deer situation on the Cache Unit.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I worry about the elk herd as it is in the Uinta Basin. I have hunted that unit consistently for the past 10 years. Elk numbers have never in my opinion been lower than what they were this year. There has been a slow decline over the years of elk numbers. If you want the elk to be off of private land maybe you should stop flying the helicopter over the forest and dropping "poppers" down on to forest and breaking up the elk herds and pushing them down towards the Indian land which is right next to a majority of private lands. If it's not the DWR doing this, then something should be done about whoever is doing it. I was very dissatisfied with my elk hunt this year. Would be nice to see more than 11 elk over a weeks time. I put in over 30 miles on foot that week. In regards to the antler point restriction, I hunted Pine valley this year general deer Muzzleloader. I have to say I was very dissatisfied with the quality of deer on the unit. But adding further restrictions on an already restricted hunt (the deer hunt) is a terrible idea. If I had waited the three years to draw like I did this year and was not able to fill my tag because I did not see a 4 point in Pine valley I would be upset. I did not see a deer with more than 3 points on one side during my time hunting. I hunted every single day, and scouted a month in advance. Also how am I supposed to get my own children interested in hunting if I am not able to hunt a deer and harvest one with my children there? Restricting pine valley will also limit the hunting units available to us in Southern utah as well. Unlike northern utah we in southern utah have easy access to 2 units Zion and Pine valley. Also strongly disagree with the statement that it is taking 1-3 years to draw a deer tag. I have consistently been at the three year mark to draw a tag. Also my mother had to wait 4 years and same for my father to draw a tag. These numbers are ridiculous. How are we supposed to interest our children in hunting as well as hunt in the state of utah when you realistically look at it with the draw the way it is my own mother will only hunt a deer maybe 5-7 more times in her lifetime?

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

It's definitely understandable that we want the youth to be involved. However how's about instead of allocating unused youth tags to "more youth" when you just stated the numbers are not there to even give the allotted tags out to the youth with applications. You take unused tags and give those to adults like myself who have kids who are not yet old enough to hunt. That way I can hunt with my kids and teach them to respect and love hunting the same way I do. Currently I have drawn a deer tag every 3-4 years. How am I supposed to teach my kids to hunt if I myself cannot hunt but every 3-4 years? By the time I draw a deer tag a gain my oldest will be 9, almost old enough to be applying himself. But how am I supposed to spark interest with such limited availability? Also, please don't further restrict our application ability. I was just thinking of applying for dedicated hunter, however if this means I will not be able to collect points on general deer as well then I do not see how this improves draw odds. This just further restricts our ability to apply for and get deer permits.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 24, 2024 11:11 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat agree  
**regarding the proposed mule deer**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

Overall, I am happy with the recommendations of the proposed mule deer plan and the positives outweigh the negatives. Thank you to the committee and Division for taking time to bring this plan to the table. I am happy to see a focus on habitat work/management, the length of the plan to allow adequate time to see positive/negative impacts with the flexibility to adjust, changes unit boundary adjustments, new hunts (limited entry, extended archery only tags, adjusting general boundaries, Thousand Lake back to LE with restrictions, etc.), new harvest strategies, CWD plans, research plans, and youth hunting opportunities. Thank you!

Here are three suggestions.

1. I don't like the unit name West Desert, Swasey. That unit is big and has multiple mountain ranges other than Swasey. I can't think of many other general units that are named after a specific mountain unless the mountain comprises most of the unit. Why not just call it West Desert? The West Desert Tintic is likely changing to Oquirrh/Tintic. Just adjust the name of the West Desert Vernon to the 'Vernon.' Most people already call it the Vernon already. I hope the reasoning in calling it West Desert, Swasey isn't to eventually remove the Deep Creeks from the unit. The Deeps are where the majority of deer are found out there.
2. I'd like to see a limited entry option for general season units that allow a tag holder to hunt the archery, early muzzleloader, and rifle hunts (same hunts as a dedicated hunter) included in the plan. This would address point creep and allow hunters more options when applying for limited entry deer.
3. Please keep taking steps to increase deer numbers and the age class of bucks harvested on general units. I just took a nephew on a general rifle hunt on a unit in Central Utah that manages for 15-17 bucks that I've hunted for a few years. We saw approx. 300 deer over three days, which is better than most people I've talked to that hunt the same unit. It was fun to see lots of deer and has me hopeful about the future. But the lack of bucks was very concerning. We saw significantly lower buck to doe ratios than the unit is managed to achieve (7 bucks per 100 does). Of the bucks only two were over 2.5 years old. Most bucks were spikes and two points which were being shot or shot at by adult hunters. In the research proposal presentation, the Big Game Project Coordinator mentioned that some data suggests that 50% of yearling bucks don't make it. This is concerning and I hope some of the proposals help increase all deer survival including yearling buck survival rates. I just want to encourage the Board to continue to take steps to grow deer (does/fawns) and give bucks a chance to grow. I'm hopeful that objectives and strategies in this plan can help make this happen.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I really like the approach of trying something new/different to deer management rather than just doing what we typically do. I am excited to see what we can learn from these studies and see the impacts (positive and negative) of each adjustment in management. I am happy to see Thousand Lake go back to LE and trying to a point restriction unit (I think a 3 point restriction might be easier to manage).

I do feel for my friends that hunt on the experimental units (Beaver West, Boulder, and Pine Valley) as the proposed changes will affect their muzzleloader and rifle hunts for multiple years. I hope that this approach helps more bucks make it through hunting season so there are hopefully more mature bucks on the landscape. I wish a restricted weapon or antler restriction study would take place on a unit such as the Manti or Wasatch that has a large population of deer to see the impact on a larger scale and so we have a northern, central, and southern unit that is analyzed.

Thank you for being willing to try something new!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

I have no major issues with season dates, unit boundary changes, new hunts, etc. Solid recommendations across the board.

There are two items I'd like to see here.

1. All general units have an early rifle option for deer.
2. Change the name of the new general unit West Desert Swasey to West Desert. Please refer to my comments on the Mule Deer Plan section about my thoughts with this name change.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed hunts?**

I have no concerns here. Please keep transplanting/augmenting sheep herds! Awesome news to have a Moose hunt on Box Elder!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

I 100% agree with more opportunities for youth hunters! I've had so many people tell me they were discouraged that their kid hadn't drawn a tag in a year or two of applying.

Youth Proposals.

1. How will archery and muzzleloader tags be reallocated to youth? I'd suggest that we give priority to those youth that are first time hunters and applied for the unit but didn't draw. There could be a waiting list like we have for limited entry hunts to help with this. If there are still leftover tags once these criteria are met, open it up for other youth hunters to buy the tag as they currently do with leftover youth archery/muzzleloader tags. If the youth gets a reallocated tag, does that take their preference point?

Dedicated Hunter

I am a dedicated hunter that has applied for general permits while also reapplying for dedicated hunter. This has been nice as it allows me to have a general deer point to hopefully beat the odds when I haven't had a dedicated tag. As someone that enjoys having a tag in my pocket as often as I can, I hope this doesn't change. If it does change, I can see the reasoning.

This might not be a good idea but heres a thought. Is there a reason we can't have dedicated hunter and general deer be in the same draw that uses the same preference points? Some dedicated tags are extremely difficult to draw as are some general tags. This would help hunters that have options during each draw period rather than locking them into building dedicated hunter or general points. I'd imagine that would likely require a change in code but is an option that might be worth looking into.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

I don't have any concerns or comments regarding these recommendations.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 25, 2024 8:42 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

Why don't you guys put money for yourselves aside and look at what you're actually doing to the populations! Since your plan revisory in 2019 there has been a traumatic decrease in numbers of animals deer/elk seen each year. I don't know where you guys get your information but I don't believe it at all. Get your info from someone who is in the field regularly, not someone in a chair looking at a screen! I'm baffled at each year the division pushes for more and more. How about instead of giving more tags out the years following the worst winter kill in decades you shut the hunts down and let them recoup?? Money! It's all about the money! Sickening what you all are doing to this state! You want to see more chronic waste then go ahead and keep killing all our lions that help regulate the ecosystem!

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** Cwd... you're too late. Should have took it more seriously 10 years ago

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Lets talk secrets. I wont support dwr until an independent investigation from the state reveals why you wanted to keep the culling of 170 elk on deseret a secret. Two guesses are poor division management and corruption. And a public announcement as bad as your expo/swf choice instead of 100% funds from rmef because of "security" isn't a good enough answer. We dont forget...so here's my secret, i will vote against all initiatives (at random so you cant exclude my data point) going forward. Respectfully, get control of your office before its too late. The last few years clearly shows politics and money are taking over animal management. I dont blame u for it, but its your office that can stop it going forward.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I like having the Buck and Doe ratio at 15-17, I like the restrictions of weapons, but I don't like testing it out on only a few units, go all in or nothing, also I don't like increasing tags to much unless the counts are correct and there is excess bucks, plus it is already over crowded in the limited public access in most units, (there lots of deer in towns that should not be counted unhuntable) I don't like giving youth extra tags or opportunities that could go to adults that have waited longer, delayed gratification is not a bad thing (use the mentor program better for youth). Please make it that you can only apply for general deer or limited entry not both, thats what you proposed with dedicated hunters and general. Please don't cave into any special interest groups, or individual, do what the biologist want. It's time to NOT do what best for humans but what's best for the deer period. Thanks, if I think of more I'll figure out how to post more

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

Makes sure those extra tags go back to the general pool not just the youth.

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

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My contention isn't with dates but antler point restrictions proposal. Namely, these types of restrictions tend to increase the number of under-restriction bucks shot and left to waste because it can be difficult, if not outright impossible, to correctly evaluate the points from a distance, resulting in more accidental kills. This has played out in most areas of the country it's been tried.

Weapon and/or season dates restrictions are a far more effective measures and they're easier to enforce. Most importantly, they don't require an eagle-eyed PhD biologist with a \$5,000 European spotting scope to correctly comply with.

Please don't make it more difficult for good-intentioned people to do the right thing. Before you vote to approve this measure, maybe try and evaluate the antler points of a well developed 2.5y buck standing right in front of a manzanita tree at 500yds and then ask yourself if you're still convinced that's a call most hunters of any experience and eyesight can successfully make.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Young's headers to fix this problem

Clearly you as an organization are not committed capable or willing to get real changes done.

Let's raise fees drop numbers again and hope the problem goes away

I think you as a group should go away

Every time a gun agency says we are here to help it turns into a tax death spiral

Stop

Stop spending my money on wasted postings to study a issue that you clearly have no idea how to fix not so you want to

Similar to Udot you have not looked nor do you look at what was wrong just tax and spend and do it again

What a joke

Wish I could gaveled my other state residency Utah is pathetic

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?** The archery hunt should overlap with prime rut dates in September, not any legal weapon. That's a triple advantage for rifle hunters and an insult for the archery hunters using premier points for LE tags.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 27, 2024 8:41 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the proposed deer hunt**  
**strategies research project?**

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I have been in the Dedicated Hunter program since its inception. I have hunted the same area in the Cache Unit for over 46 years. I have been extremely satisfied with deer hunting. Last year hunters were required to pull magnifying scopes off of muzzleloaders. This change cost \$500 for a new sight system. Under this new proposal I will have to scrap my current muzzleloader and invest \$500 to \$600 for a muzzleloader that fits the restricted muzzleloader definition.

We will also be required to remove our scopes off our rifles. "If only our rifles had iron sights", so back to the store to purchase a rifle with iron sights. Another six to nine hundred dollars. This research study could cost each hunter a minimum of \$1,200 if they are in the Dedicated Hunter program or \$500 to \$900 if they draw muzzleloader or rifle tag.

The Cache unit currently has around 200 Dedicated Hunters. Each hunter completes 32 hours or they buy their hours at \$40 per hour. If half of the dedicated hunters drop out due to the new equipment requirements, it could be a loss of 3,200 volunteer hours. Will other sportsman's organizations step up to complete the volunteer hours? Will habitat projects on the Cache unit not be completed?

What is the purpose of this proposal? Is it to increase the number of licenses sales or is it to increase the number of bucks?

The Cache unit currently has 17 bucks per 100 doe's post season. Objective is 15 to 17 bucks per 100 doe's post season. The Cache unit is very weather dependent. When we have a hard winter we lose our deer. If we have more bucks than objective, it takes longer for the deer herds to rebound from winter loss. The bucks out-compete the doe's for survival, reducing the reproduction and survival of fawns.

Next year I will be 62 and my eyesight is declining. I depend on a scope to insure I make a humane harvest. Open sights including a peep sight with a globe front sight has made precision shot almost guess work. I can't imagine a new hunter using open sights when the hunter education course allows them to use scopes to pass their shooting proficiency test.

Lets wait until the data is collected from this years hunt before significant changes are made impacting the 4,000 plus hunters that hunt the Cache unit.

This proposal doesn't do anything for habitat that will sustain deer numbers.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 28, 2024 11:05 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

Put those 2,000+ remaining tags that youth don't draw and take the tags out and don't sell those tags. Save some mule deer for goodness sake! That alone will help with the deer population taking those undrawn tags away!

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 29, 2024 8:02 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

Fire all the rac board and let us vote on them. These people are only managing animals for profit of the state. They don't do what the sprotsman vote for they do what the head of sfw tells them to.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

It is certainly tricky to make everyone happy. Pretty tough to have more hunters and more big deer and more success. I am supportive of shorter hunts, more hunts, more restrictions. I think antler restrictions are a great idea. Give youth the opportunity to shoot up all the spikes and 2pt's, adults can shoot bigger animals. I really have no interest in shooting a 2 pt, but my kids sure do.

Thanks for all your research and time

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I love the idea of weapon and antler restrictions, gives lots of people different opportunities. If you want to hunt with a long bow, there is a place for that where you don't compete with 100 yard compound slingers. If you want to hunt with a straight bore rifle, it would be great to no have to compete with 1000 yard long range shooters. I like antler restrictions. I like more , short hunts. I love the idea of even breaking up the archery hunt, first week no compounds. Or even hunt for 10 days, then give the deer a break for a week, then hunt them again. I do think the animals need rests. Thanks for all your research and time

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

I like the new units. I would like to see the hunts shorter and more broken up. I think it takes the first weekend shock out of the hunt.

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

I think the youth needs lots of opportunities. It is all I can do to get my boys out to hunt for a day or two, and get them off video games. It's tough when they can't hunt the units close to home, or our cabin because it's too hard to draw. It would be great for them to be able to hunt closer to home, so we can run up after school, after football

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Thanks for all the work you do. I do feel like the CWMU's do need to follow the dates/hunts as the public hunters. For example, they should only be hunting with archery, during archery season. Muzzy's during muzzleloader season. I also think it is a little unfair to let them hunt the public land animals with rifles from august to october. In most areas, all the bulls head to private land for about a month during the rut. Wouldn't it be great if the the cwmu had to follow the same rules/weapon restrictions/dates as the public? I think it would help balance a little bit of the animals. That way they would have to load up the rifle hunters the same time as the public rifle hunters, so that they would be pushing animals off the private land and back to public hunters, and vice versa. I know of several cwmu's that don't allow hunting on the elk openers, to allow a "safe haven", then go in and shoot all the elk the next week. ANYway, just my 2 cents.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

As a Uintah basin resident and a ag producer it would be nice to have more information on the proposed private land elk hunt .

This looks pretty ridiculous with the boundaries they have set .

It would also be nice to know the amount of tags also . I can see the hunt mabey being useful in part of the area but in others absolutely not necessary like all the land south and east of the green river where their is no cultivatated farm land other than right along the river and none at all on the white river. And no farmed land on blue mtn .

It would make a lot more sense if this bouncy was the same as the Uintah basin extended archey .

I also think any elk hunt that allows you to hunt a 100 plus days for a bull shold be a limited entry hunt that uses the points and waiting period.

This really seams like one of those bills in legislation they just and in at a busy time to get passed.

Also if this dose pass with the season dates and boundaries there should be some consideration it putting the anthro back to a limited entry unit so those elk can push back south on to public. And build a good unit like it once was . If the elk leave public they can be harvested. But they have to have some place of refuge.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** Adults need to be limited to a certain size deer, I hate seeing 50 year old men killing a tiny 1 1/2 year old 2 point.  
An antlerless/doe tag would be great because we need a better doe-buck ratio

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I love the harvest report that was implicated this year, it is a really good idea and i think that it really needs to be highly enforced

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?** It is getting warmer and warmer later in the year. My grandpa waited 25 years to draw the limited entry bull tag in the Manti-la sal forest and it was way to warm Also 7 days is NOT enough time to find and harvest a decent bull without hurting the ecosystem/populations. I think 2 thinks should be in place, 1. The season needs to be extended 2. the hunting dates need to be later, preferably last week of September into the first week of October

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed hunts?** adults should have a better chance of drawing than youth. I know some people that have drawn once in a lifetime hunts and there is older people that have been waiting 30 years.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?** Youth need a way better chance. we need more dedicated hunters in Utah that will donate and be part of management instead of the 1-5 ratio that we have right now.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

I really think its up to the land owners on this one. Having more hunters that could create more havoc is not a good thing. It's up to the land owners.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Junction Valley with 2023 Harvest Data shows that 0 bull elk were harvested and that satisfaction was a 3.0 which is low if you compare it to other CWMU's. 2022 they have a 60% harvest rate, 2021 they have a 60% harvest rate, 2020 they have a 40% harvest rate, 2019 they have a 60% harvest rate. You have to go back to 2018 for them to have a 100% harvest rate with 5 bull elk permits. If you average it out over the history of the CWMU this CWMU is on the lower end of rates for CWMU's.

Why should they be rewarded with 2 extra bull elk permits if they are not harvesting and have low hunter satisfaction rate. Even if it is split and 1 goes to the CWMU operator and one to the public you are just setting up these hunters to fail and in the end will have a sour taste for the CWMU program which is so great in reality.

I DO NOT THINK IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO GIVE JUNCTION VALLEY 2 EXTRA BULL ELK PERMITS.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

Very supportive of the extended archery only option as long as the rest of the archery hunters still get to hunt it. I know plenty of people who regularly draw archery tags for the sole purpose of only hunting the extended and it would be nice to allow those unit tags to go to people who want to use them.

Very Supportive of the 30% +/- automatic tag changes. I believe in the past few years the wildlife board has shown they are very susceptible to political pressure to move away from our agreed to, biologically sound permit recommendations. I think this new policy will allow us to manage to plan and biological needs better.

Very supportive of the lower buck to doe ratio that was proposed for better herd management, health, and more permits.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I'm against the restricted weapons definitions for any general season hunt. Restricted weapons hunts should be a separate, stand alone season. Doing research on this topic makes me feel like in the future all general season hunts in Utah will be restricted weapons which is something I would hate to see.

I'm against the antler point restriction for pine valley. There is extensive data on antler point restrictions in other states that show they don't work. Saving bucks for future years only to have them wiped out by drought or a hard winter doesn't seem like a good management plan. There are already plenty of big bucks out there on every unit. People just need to get off the roads to see them.

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

I agree with making thousand lake a limited entry unit. I disagree with antler point restrictions and restricted weapons definitions for general season deer hunts.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Strongly agree

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

I strongly disagree with the recommendations to restrict people from applying for both general season and dedicated hunter deer permits. This proposal has already been rejected in the past and I believe it should be rejected again. While the percentage of dedicated hunter applicants that are also applying for a general season tag is high, its not a large number when looked at the other way around. There are far more people applying for only general season than are applying for general season and dedicated hunter. It is a very small group of deer hunters that is applying for both. Dedicated hunter already requires alot. Making it so now dedicated hunters can't also have a chance to apply for general season makes it harder to even want to do it. When dedicated hunters are on the program they can't get general season points anyway so they typically only come off the program with 1 point and it doesn't make that large of a difference. Please don't pass this recommendation concerning the dedicated hunter/general season application.

I fully support the recommendations surrounding the youth applicants. I think its going to give them some more opportunity without sacrificing to much of the opportunity of the rest of the hunting public.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

I agree to deny the CWMU application for JB Ranch.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 30, 2024 6:27 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

I don't think reducing JB Ranch tags by three Buck Deer is a bad idea. I think it would help keep some world class deer on the property. I don't mind waiting a year or two extra to draw if i know I have a chance of getting a large mature Buck.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 30, 2024 6:33 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

I really disagree with a point restriction on any unit. I would rather wait a year or two to draw a buck deer tag rather than have a point restriction. I say we should have less tags rather than point restriction.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 30, 2024 6:39 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

Giving Youth a point is not fair to the adults that have no points. I can see that it gets youth more interested in hunting because there odds are going up, but it puts adults at a disadvantage. I didn't draw my first deer tag until I was at least 17. Kids can wait like the rest of us and learn more before they actually get a tag.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I disagree with the restricted weapons proposal on the cache. I've grown up on the cache and still hunt it, even though I don't currently live there. I hunt it with family members that currently live there. You guys already took away the North Cache Rifle Elk Hunt (by making it a HAMS hunt) and now you guys want to ruin the Cache Rifle deer hunt too. The rifle hunt here has always been a great family tradition I've enjoyed growing up and with this proposal I wouldn't be able to use my rifle to hunt deer or elk in the areas I grew up hunting. A rifle is the only hunting weapon I own. That's the kind of hunting I enjoy the most with my family and it is really disappointing that I'll never get to rifle elk hunt the North Cache like all my family before me, but now I may not be able to ever to do a rifle hunt there with my family. I can't buy another rifle just for iron sights hunts - nor do I want to - and I can't take my scope off my current rifle. You've already ruined the (North) Cache Rifle Elk hunt, please don't ruin the cache rifle deer hunt as well. I've wanted to take my kids rifle hunting the same places I hunted as a kid, but these weapons restrictions you guys keep implimenting are ruining any chance of that.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I wish we could get to a time when the DWR's recommendations were not just to increase restrictions on hunters and cut opportunities. This is being sold as increased "opportunity," but I'm not buying it. This is undoubtedly going to result in cut opportunities for many in favor of the few. I am personally tired of having restrictions jammed down my throat and told incorrectly it is about "opportunity."

Antler point restrictions are silly. We already know they do not work, and cause issues long term. We have that data here in Utah. But why not ignore data so we can allow people to find bigger bucks easier? Unreasonable weapon restrictions simply trying to make it easier for a select few to find bigger bucks is only going to force people out of the game. It seems that is the goal now anyway, so it would make sense why we'd do it.

It's sad that Utah big game management has got to this point. I feel we are quickly approaching a point of no return when the average Joe hunter is simply no longer welcome to participate or apply. You all are going to vote how you are going to vote, but I want you to realize that the legacy of this vote will live on and loom large for a long, long time, and it will not be forgotten when it ends poorly.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?** You just keep whittling away opportunities from other groups to give them away to the archery crowd.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

I'm a land owner and hunter. I think quantity and quality have to be in the same discussion. I'm not a meat hunter. But I know a lot of people are. I think we can help both sides by putting a 3 point restriction in play for the general hunt. Then create a trophy tag hunt. Meat hunters still have just as much opportunity and help the genetic pool. The trophy tags could be sold with a much higher cost. With limits. For example maybe one deer every 4-5 years. But the dates should be really extended. I have plenty of little detail thoughts but I'm not going to type them here.

I'm really concerned about why deer aren't living in places they use to 20 years ago. I think there are lots of reasons for this. But my solution to help wildlife is this. Irrigated food plots. Find land owners like me. Have them provide 5-10 acres of ground. Implement irrigation on those acres designated for wildlife only. This would pull wildlife away from farmers fields. Provide more hunter opportunities on public land that currently there is little to no opportunity because the wildlife is not there. Obviously the land owners aren't going to want to do this for free. But I'm willing to bet if there were good trophy animals to hunt. A tag could be provided for them or to them to sell. Again, many thoughts on the details but not going to continue at this time

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

Comments below are only directed to portions of the plan. I am in favor of all other parts of the plan, other than what I address below.

I am tired of, and generally opposed to what feels like constant rule changes.

I oppose the changes to make muzzleloader restrictions different from one unit to the next in the same state. It will lead to further confusion. I was opposed to the rule change in 2024 to remove high power scopes from muzzleloaders. I don't believe hunters became more ethical simply due to a rule change. Regardless of technology advancements with inline muzzleloaders, muzzleloaders remain single-shot, limited range weapons regardless of whether they have a scope. Having a scope simply makes the shots taken more likely to be lethal sooner, rather than resulting in an unrecovered animal.

I oppose the proposed changes to enforce sidelock muzzleloaders in certain units and believe that it will only lead to more wounded/unrecovered deer.

It seems very clear to me that selling more tags and creating rule changes designed to decrease harvest rates can only serve to decrease hunter satisfaction, not increase it.

If herd numbers are too low in certain units, I suggest you decrease permits or make even smaller units.

If decreased permit sales are a necessity due to herd sizes, and this means less hunting opportunities, I believe most hunters would prefer to have fewer opportunities in favor of better opportunities. More hunting opportunities in units below objective - just means hunters see more orange in the field when they do hunt. If revenue is the issue, I suggest you raise fees. Start with out of state tag fees. Fee rates have not come close to keeping up with inflation year over year. Virtually nobody in Utah hunts solely for the "food."

Please, don't change the muzzleloader rules for certain units. Don't change the muzzleloader rules to be more restrictive anywhere.

Thank you.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I support the divisions desire to manage units at lower buck/doe ratios. The data is pretty clear that this is a great way to increase productivity and maximize opportunity. As someone who just wants to hunt more, increasing permits always sounds like a good option as long as the decision is biologically sound, which in this case it is clear that it is. Another reason that I support the decision to lower buck to doe ratios is because of CWD. The sooner we can start thinking about and managing for CWD the better. Logically it also makes lots of sense that the general season units that will remain at slightly higher buck/doe ratios are units with large amounts of private. These seem like good candidates to keep at slightly higher buck/ratios.

The conversion of the Thousand Lake to a limited entry unit seems like a great loss. For me, LE means less hunting. While I may never hunt the Thousand Lake, any general season unit that is converted to LE unit means less opportunity and less time in the field.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I do not support the implementation of APR's in Utah. The data is very clear that APR's do not do what hunters want them to. The only reasonable application of an APR would be a TEMPORARY APR after very productive fawning season when one wants to protect large numbers of young bucks.

The restricted weapons hunts seem like an interesting idea and if implemented I would be curious to see their impacts. However, I am skeptical about their effectiveness, but would love to find out.

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Strongly agree

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

The goals and most stipulations of the research project are commendable and sensible, with the exception of the adoption of current 'definitions of "restricted muzzleloader" and "restricted rifle" in Utah state code.

Hundreds, if not thousands, of muzzleloader hunters have been jerked around by UDWR over the past few years as the rules on scopes changed from 1x scopes only (or open sights), to magnification allowed, back to 1x only, and now no optics at all (only open sights allowed). The restriction on 209 primers raises the question as to whether the true objective of this study was underwritten by firearm manufacturers, because muzzleloader hunters who have hunted with the same equipment for several years are now faced with unusable equipment under this proposal.

Under both restricted weapons proposals (muzzleloader and any legal weapon), I strongly suspect that the number of wounded but unretrieved animals will increase. Already, hunters are taking pot shots during the general season. Without scopes, unscrupulous hunters are more likely to take even worse shots than to not shoot at all. I say this based on the fact that during the recent rifle (any legal weapon) hunt, I heard dozens of hunters, either solo or in groups, take between 5 and 15 shots immediately following the first report. When hunters are shooting that many times in rapid succession, they are NOT taking good kill shots and are much more likely to wound an animal. I have even been asked, "Did you get any shots off?" (My answer is always NO I didn't get a shot off unless I had time to verify the target and confirm that I had a solid kill shot. There should be one and only one shot, and a hunter should be confident in that one shot.) The times that I have personally observed this rapid-fire, sloppy shooting behavior through binoculars, the hunters made zero attempts to find a blood trail; they simply seemed to assume that if a buck didn't fall down dead, they didn't hit it.

If a major objective of the research study is to reduce the number of wounded and unretrieved animals, this proposal will not address that objective, and I suspect it will make it worse. For all of these reasons, I strongly urge the Wildlife Board to reject the weapons restrictions and instead focus on advocacy and education related to hunter ethics and when it's acceptable to take a shot.

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

As a muzzleloader and rifle hunter of buck deer in the Cache unit, I am in favor of shortened seasons for muzzleloader and, even more so, for the any legal weapon season. Alternatively, I'd rather see a season broken into two or more time periods with fewer total season days (e.g., open on Saturday and Sunday, close on Monday-Wednesday, open on Thursday/Friday, or similar). Personally I prefer the weekday hunting days, but an equitable season would include both weekend and weekday season days.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 4, 2024 8:39 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

You clearly are going out of your way to not define what restricted weapons actually are. Please treat us like adults and state explicitly what the requirements would be for weapons instead of making me have to go to lengths to pull up what I hope is credible information on the internet about these restrictions.

This is the second year in a row you are changing requirements for muzzleloader in Cache Valley. We who are on a budget (both money and time) do not have the resources to keep buying or changing our weapons. My father-in-law has the 1x scope on his muzzleloader and now won't even be able to use it as the ignition type won't be permitted. He has a busy work schedule and hunting close to home is important.

I also cannot afford to modify a hunting rifle to have open sights or purchase a new one. Hunting close to home is also important to me, so hunting another unit will be difficult. Please stop making us change our weapons (archery, too).

If you want less deer harvest, please make less general season tags available. I am fine to wait an extra year and can hunt over the counter opportunities or antlerless if I draw. Give other opportunities for more primitive hunts if you like. An antler point restriction would also be more welcome than a weapons restriction. I am fine with you managing the herd (I know the past couple winters have been tough), but please stop making us purchase new weapons.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 4, 2024 11:17 am

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat disagree  
**regarding the proposed deer hunt**  
**strategies research project?**

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

Dear Utah Wildlife Board,

I am writing to provide feedback, as requested by the DWR, regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project. I have mixed feelings about the proposed changes, which I would like to document and convey below.

First, I want to express my gratitude for the DWR's concern and willingness to consider various ideas to improve Utah's deer herds. I understand the complexity and difficulty in addressing the diverse concerns of hunters, particularly regarding herd numbers, buck quality, and quantity. Balancing these often-conflicting desires is no small task.

Regarding the proposed changes, I am fully supportive of antler point restrictions! I believe this measure has been needed for some time and would request its implementation across ALL the proposed units, not just Pine Valley. This broader application would provide a larger sample size over time, allowing for a more accurate assessment of its impact on buck quality. From a data and analytics perspective, it is crucial to maintain consistency in new variables (i.e., changes/proposals) across the units during the testing period. Rather than implementing different strategies for different units, a single variable (i.e., an antler point restriction) should be applied uniformly to gather concrete evidence of its effectiveness.

My primary concern, however, is the proposed restricted weapons strategy, specifically on the Cache unit. This issue is personal for me, as the Cache has been my family's hunting unit for my entire life. We have family property there and have always cherished the opportunity to harvest a buck on or near our place. The restriction to use only open-sighted rifles for the general deer hunt poses significant challenges. Many hunters, including myself, would need to purchase new firearms solely for this purpose, which is financially burdensome given the current economic climate. Additionally, this restriction would disproportionately affect both youth and elderly hunters. Young hunters may lack the experience to effectively harvest big game with open sights, especially when dealing with buck fever. Similarly, older hunters, who may have diminished eyesight, rely on scopes to continue hunting. I fear that mandating open sights would result in more wounded animals and fewer quick, ethical harvests, ultimately counterproductive to the DWR's goals of improving herd numbers and quality.

I sincerely urge you to reconsider and not implement this weapons restriction proposal. While I agree that changes are necessary, I believe that an antler point restriction would have a positive impact without imposing financial strain on hunters. Concerns about hunters "shooting first and checking points after the fact" can be mitigated through self-regulation and community enforcement. In my experience, hunters in our area are committed to pursuing mature bucks and ensuring ethical hunting practices.

Another alternative to consider is limiting tags. Many hunters, including myself and my family, have not drawn a northern general deer tag for the past two years. We are already accustomed to not hunting every year, so limiting tags would not be a new challenge. If it helps improve herd quality, most experienced hunters would be willing to pay a higher fee to compensate for lost revenue for the DWR.

Once again, I appreciate the DWR's efforts to seek feedback from hunters to benefit Utah's deer herds. We all share the same goal of improving herd quality. I sincerely hope that the weapons restrictions for the general deer hunt, especially on the Cache unit, will NOT be implemented. Ethical hunting practices, supported by the use of scopes, are essential for quick, clean kills, which we owe to the animals we hunt and care about.

Thank you for your efforts to support Utah's wildlife and satisfy the state's hunting community.

Respectfully,

Noel Slater

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** The committee sat through a lot of scientific evidence presentations and have come up with a great plan. Let's support this.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?** I think youth should draw every year. Their success will depend on their parents or some adult being able to take them out into the field. And we know not all of them will be able to go out. Let's not let a tag NOT being in their pocket keep that from happening. We have plenty of deer on the landscape for that.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 5, 2024 12:15 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I am not against most of what you are proposing. Change is hard but I understand some things need to change. I hunt the Boulder Unit and have for 20 years. With regards to the Weapons restriction I think you should consider the use of RED DOT's. A lot of people including myself have aging eyes and have a harder time seeing Iron Sights. A RED DOT would solve this issue and keep the Weapons Restricted but allow more people to participate. Also I do not own a rifle with Iron Sights and would need to purchase a new one to hunt with. I know a lot of people in this camp as well. If RED DOTS were allowed I could simply replace my scope with a RED DOT and keep my same rifle. Thanks

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 6, 2024 5:59 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I don't think hunts should be added to the premium deer hunts. I didn't apply for 26 years to hunt a 180 buck. Especially the late henrys hunt. It will shoot all the genes out of the unit. Just like the Crawford mt.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 7, 2024 6:04 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Strongly disagree  
**regarding the CWMU and LOA**  
**recommendations?**

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

I (Robert Eichenour, Owner of JB Ranch) am writing to request your approval of JB Ranch's application for renewal of a Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU). I understand my past conviction may raise concerns in connection with the operation of a CWMU. Despite these potential concerns and the initial recommendation of denial from the Department of Wildlife Sources, I believe that my experience, knowledge, and commitment to wildlife conservation make me a suitable candidate for this role.

I recently purchased the property known as JB Ranch on or about September 30, 2024, which I currently operate as a CWMU, but which status expires January 31, 2025. As the new owner of JB Ranch, I am passionate about continuing its legacy of providing exceptional hunting opportunities for the public, and I recognize the importance of maintaining the ranch's high standards and adhering to all rules and regulations applicable to CWMUs.

The Board's approval of JB Ranch's application of renewal for CWMU is in the best interest of the public, and I will be an exceptional partner and operator of JB Ranch as a CWMU, for at least the following reasons:

- **Extensive Operator Experience:** My 40-year career in the ranching industry, both as an operator of the historic, high fenced hunting ranch known as Circle E Ranch in Grimes County, Texas and the Canada del Oso (Canyon of the Bear) Ranch in Mora County, New Mexico, has provided me with invaluable knowledge and skills in wildlife management. During this time, I bought and sold thousands of animals all over the United States and I maintained the largest elk herd in the State of Texas for many years.
- **Dedication to Ethical Behavior and Community Involvement Following Prior Conviction:** In 2006, I was arrested and charged with smuggling white-tailed buck deer from Minnesota to Circle E Ranch in Grimes County, Texas. Shortly thereafter, I served eighteen months in federal prison, followed by a three-year probationary period. I acknowledge the serious nature of my past actions and the consequences I faced. That experience has profoundly humbled me, shaped my perspective on life, and made me a more grateful person. I have learned from my mistakes and have dedicated myself to living a responsible and law-abiding life. Since my conviction, I have demonstrated a strong commitment to ethical behavior and community involvement. I have donated many hunting opportunities to Make-A-Wish Foundation, to various church groups, to kids, and to veteran groups, and I plan to continue to make such donations for hunting opportunities on JB Ranch.
- **Public Access:** I am committed to providing public access to JB Ranch, including the campground and guided hunting opportunities. Currently, JB Ranch receives the following for the public: two buck deer tags, two bull elk tags, and twenty-one antlerless/cow tags. I hope to continue to provide hunting opportunities to the public through CWMU.
- **Commitment to Conservation and Ethical Hunting Practices:** As a lifelong hunter who harbors a deep appreciation for the outdoors and nature, I am committed to preserving wildlife populations and their habitats. I believe that a well-managed CWMU can balance hunting opportunities with



conservation goals. I promise to strictly adhere to all hunting regulations and promote fair-chase principles.

- Collaboration with DWR and State Agencies: After I served my sentence, I received no violations from any governmental authority in the states of Texas or New Mexico during my time as the operator of Circle E Ranch and Canada del Oso Ranch because I am committed to following applicable rules and regulations to these activities. When I first purchased JB Ranch, I believed cameras, feed stations and blinds would have been suitable for the ranch, as was the case with my prior operation of my prior ranches. However, I have since educated myself on why I was mistaken. I will cooperate fully with the Department of Wildlife Resources and other relevant government agencies, officials and employees to ensure the long-term sustainability of JB Ranch and the CWMU, including any and all recommendations with respect to CWD. I am committed and I pledge that we will not feed or put out mineral blocks except as may be permitted under applicable rules and regulations.

- Future Plans: I care deeply about JB Ranch. I plan to implement multiple initiatives to enhance the ranch's wildlife habitat, including planting additional forage and conducting controlled burns, all within the applicable rules and regulations and with the cooperation of, and counsel from, the Department of Wildlife Resources and other applicable governmental authorities. Additionally, I wish to surrender and waive approximately 50% of the number of harvested bucks to allow for larger antler growth, which would give the public a chance at larger mature deer in a much older age bracket.

As the Board well knows, JB Ranch is a pillar in the CWMU program. I am eager to apply my knowledge and experience to the management of JB Ranch as a CWMU. I am committed to maintaining the ranch's high standards, adhering to all CWMU rules and regulations, and promoting ethical hunting practices. I believe that JB Ranch can continue to be a valuable asset to the community and a model for wildlife conservation, as it has been for decades.

I respectfully request that the Board approve JB Ranch's application for renewal of CWMU status. I believe that this decision would be in the best interest of both the ranch and the State of Utah.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to provide any additional information or documentation that may be required.

Sincerely,

Robert Eichenour, Owner of JB Ranch

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** Let's hunt more Bears.  
There should not be trophy bears on the landscape.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** Let's get more units restricted weapons.  
Let's get long range scopes off of rifles.  
3x9 power maximum.  
Let's advocate and educate hunters to not shoot at animals farther than 400 yards.

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?** All Utah Resident youth 12-18 should be able to have a general deer tag. It's a shame how many kids 12-18 only get 1 tag in those years. Kids that play fall sports don't get time to hunt too many days. Let's get these kids hunting.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** I am fine with the changes i would like some consideration to be taken to those families that have youth hunters. every time we change the legal weapon Archery, muzzleloader, or rifle it will deter some due to the amount of time it will take to make everything legal. and sharing a single rifle with two kids is a grey area of both safety, party hunting and just not fun for one of them

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I would like to see more info and real time press releases on herd health per unit we both know you have the man power to make a small memo on each unit to release often staning concerns of the division and what you are seeing on the good side of things. And is it possible to have a youth year round whitetail hunt or release numbers on kown whitetails.

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?** I would like for defining terms on what is a legal scope especially for the hamss units if a red dot is a scope and so on. as well as straight wall cartridge for example if a 30-30 is a straight wall compaired to a 45-70.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed hunts?** Can we talk more about the death rate caused by automotive crashes on once in a lifetime as well as poaching and how that effects tag numbers or herd numbers more. ive seen four dead moose in logan canyon over the past few months. and id like the numbers on that shared a little more

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

i would like deer and elk tags to go up offer a youth dicount for resident youth or give them a "free" tag. I would also like to see any unsold youth tags go into the anyone can buy them after the hunts start. so on the first day of the season anyone can buy the remaining tags. mark them up 10-20% for non youth hunters

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

I dont think any cwms should incoperate any public land unless it is land locked. can the division make a defenition on corner crossing you might have to get the state to make a rule on this one. And that desseret thing from last winter dont let that happen you know you have hunters willing to pay for tags right. give them two weeks or so then if your numbers arent reached then take the chopper and guns.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 8, 2024 5:27 pm

**Which best describes your position  
regarding the proposed mule deer  
management plan?**

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Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

First off, I do like that you have addressed predators and have put tools in place to keep them in check in areas that need more attention.

Second, I like what the division is doing to address habitat improvement and requiring agencies to improve more habitat if they are going to disrupt crucial deer habitat.

Now for the issues I do not agree with. When Dax preaches about hunters wanting their cake and eating it too and saying that all hunters want more deer but then all they bring up is hunting bucks, THAT'S BECAUSE THAT IS ALL THE DIVISION WILL LET THE PUBLIC WAY IN ON!! The division disregards public input about what the carrying capacity should be on units, disregards the public's opinion on how few of deer are on the landscape, and disregards the public's input on how much available habitat there is. They hamstrung the deer committee on changes that could be made and painted them into a small corner that the DIVISION was comfortable with changes being made and told them they could only talk about changes x, y, and z. Dax talks to the public like all of them have in the past, like "we have a degree and you peasants do not so we will have the final say". The fact is that most of the public that is actually passionate about deer have seen the herds dwindle over the past 30 years which is longer than most of those individuals at the division have been around UT.

Next is the this ideology the division has with this chronically low buck/doe ratio being the best fit. It really aggravates me when I see this BS chart Dax puts on the screen that has zero background behind what unit/units this data came from, how long of a period this was, what other factors were involved during these years this data was collected, etc. This is not my job and I have to fact check this crap they are feeding us. I looked up the numbers from DWR from 2013-2023 on the Nebo, Pine Valley, and Panguitch and if anything the trend is higher buck;doe ratios followed higher population growth and when those units experienced lower buck;doe ratios they also had population decline. So if they are going to make these claims they had better have their poop in a group! Any idiot can see that the only way high buck;doe ratios are going to prevent herd growth is if they are over carrying capacity which we are not at anywhere in the state. Next, looking at those population ups and downs it's clear the ups follow years of no doe harvest and the declines follow years of heavy doe harvest. It's easy to find on their website, but again, why am I having to dog all this up when they are the ones that are supposed to be doing this? Also, if they believe so much in this, why don't we ACTUALLY study this and have units with 22-25 all the way down to 8-11 buck;doe ratios? Let's put their money where their mouth is.

Next, the fact they say they can't offer as many permits if they have higher buck;doe ratios is misleading. If they would actually grow deer instead of throwing their hands up and saying Mother Nature won't let them then the population would be higher and they could issue as many tags. They conveniently forget they blasted does like crazy in many units, especially in the south only going back a handful of years ago.

Next, I have never talked to anyone that hunts units that are managed for 15-17 bucks that say it is a great hunt.

What we should do is have 1-2 units that have their management set by the

racs in their region and at the end of 5 years see which units are performing better, the ones that the division comes up with the management goals or the ones that individual racs are managing. I genuinely feel like this is a complete waste of time and every year we go through the same thing and never have the division address the worst issue of, they don't know how to increase the deer herd. I guess one more thing, if they really believe in their low buck doe ratios let's get rid of our limited entry hunts completely. Also, how the [REDACTED] did they go through the entire deer committee and still have general deer, dedicated deer, limited entry deer, premium limited entry draws??? We need one deer draw for all and you can use your dang points for a unit that is managed for 15-17 or 30-35 bucks, it's not that hard.

I don't even want to get into what I think about CWD!?

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I like that they are trying a few different things with weapon restrictions for sure. I am not too much of a fan of 4 pt or better but I'm willing to try it. The elephant in the room is the only reason we are looking at this is because the division has shown they are incapable of bringing the deer herd populations back.

I think they should have expanded them to more units though.

I also don't agree with allowing youth to harvest any buck on the pine valley. If you want your kid to harvest any buck, put them in for a different unit. There no reason to mess with the numbers if this is truly a research tool.

Please set the tag numbers and not mess with them for the duration of the research. That means both buck tags and doe tags. If the population increases, i am worried based off of history that the division will start shooting does and then blame population decline on weather, or even the increase in bucks. Leave the tag numbers alone and don't shoot the dang does!

Throw the buck;doe ratio out on these ones!!!

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

I can't believe giving youth another point is your fix??? So what if they only apply for points? Does that point stay with them into the age of 18? If you are worried about youth drawing a tag up the percentage.? Why is it that hard?

Also why in the heck would you convert the all remaining permits to any legal weapon? Why wouldn't I just apply my kid for a any legal weapon then and if everyone boycotts the primitive weapon hunts all tags will then be any legal weapon.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 9, 2024 1:13 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** I wished they would have combined deer points. Point creep is really something we have got to start tackling.

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** This is fantastic. As a mother, I really would like to see a way for my kids to be able to get a tag on a regular basis and participate in a yearly deer camp. If we have to give up scopes on rifles I'm happy to do it.

This is the only way I think we can increase quality of deer and the opportunity to hunt. Great Proposal!

---

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 9, 2024 2:20 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I have dreamed of this day !  
I full heartedly agree with rifle and muzzleloader restrictions in the cache Unit. We have desperately needed change in this unit for decades. My children will greatly benifit from this change. They learned to shoot with iron sites and understand that big game hunting should be earned.  
Restricted rifle and muzzleloader in the cache unit would boost more, bigger bucks  
And also give much needed reduction in pressure to not just deer but all game.  
I am 110% all in for it.  
This is a must!!!

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Strongly agree

---

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** There's too much hate towards the utah division of wildlife. We have some of the best biologists and partners in the west. These guys all hunt to! We need to trust that they're actually doing what is best for our wildlife. I strongly agree with this mule deer plan.

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I strongly agree with the proposed research study! I think as hunters we are way too lethal in how we hunt. Deer do not even have a chance anymore with all the technology. You can spot a buck from up to 5+ miles! Then if you want to kill it you can shoot it from 1500 yards! How is that hunting? If we want to have any opportunities to hunt in the future, especially for mature deer we need to limit how we hunt. We have to sacrifice something in order to have what we want. I don't believe in the antler point restrictions but that's what the pine valley wants and it would show them that it doesn't work.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?** I think we should make thousand lakes a limited entry and have it restricted weapons unit.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?** Dedicated hunters give so much back to the wildlife in utah why should we penalize them? I think we should be thanking them instead of trying to take away more opportunities from them.

---

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 10, 2024 7:32 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support a restricted weapons season- please include traditional archery! These weapons are far more capable than most people give credit. A two blade broadhead will bleed an animal out faster than a bullet in many instances. I believe we have to make these rules based off FACTS not feelings. The FACT is millions of animals have been taken with traditional archery tackle since creation and it is extremely ethical.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 10, 2024 8:00 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Somewhat disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** I like and support the new proposed deer management plan.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support the research project.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Somewhat agree

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I think this is an excellent and much needed study that would likely address the need for increased hunting opportunities while still supporting better population dynamics and age class. I would absolutely support the evaluation of a restricted archery unit in the study, specifically traditional archery, which introduces a much greater challenge in effective range than modern compound bows and would likely have a greater desired effect of enabling more hunting opportunities via more permits, longer seasons or a combination there of while having a lesser impact on population, buck/die ratios and age class. Thank you for the time and effort expended to design such a study and really hope to see it implemented and the resulting data.

Also, I'm not an Utah resident but I was all through college and grad school and have been putting in for and hunting Utah for over 20 years and am very interested and supportive of this work.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 4:59 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I strongly support restricted weapons seasons and traditional archery and flintlock muzzleloaders in particular

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 5:21 am

**Which best describes your position** Strongly agree  
**regarding the proposed deer hunt**  
**strategies research project?**

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 5:32 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I'm in support of restricted weapons seasons. Please include longbow and recurve in traditional archery seasons.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 5:56 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I am a traditional bow hunter and support traditional bow hunting seasons. I enjoy other types of hunts, rifle and compound bow. But, I fully believe there needs to be a special season for traditional bow hunting

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 6:19 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 6:28 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 6:37 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapons seasons, and would like you to include traditional archery. Thanks!

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 6:40 am

**Which best describes your position  
regarding the proposed mule deer  
management plan?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the  
proposed management plan?**

I support restricted weapons seasons like with traditional archery  
equipment

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 6:50 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 7:22 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapon seasons, and please include traditional archery. Studies have shown that hunters overall prefer longer seasons providing them more opportunities to hunt with restricted weapons as opposed to short seasons with high-technology weapons.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 7:40 am

**Which best describes your position  
regarding the proposed deer hunt  
strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the  
research project?**

I hunt exclusively with a longbow and I would be very interested applying  
for a limited archery unit!

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 7:46 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support the proposal portion that designates restricted weapons seasons or units, and that traditional archery should be one of these seasons.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 8:41 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 9:08 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

As a member of Compton's Traditional Bowhunters and the Professional Bowhunters Society: I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 10:01 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

With the encroachment of modern technology in hunting, hunters are getting more efficient. When success rates climb, something has to give. Reducing tag numbers is one solution, but not one that people want. It takes away opportunity to regularly hunt. Weapons restrictions, such as traditional archery, is a way to keep opportunity to regularly hunt, with a minimal impact on the resource.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 10:05 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapons seasons, specifically those that include traditional archery. I believe utilizing traditional archery as a low-harvest, high-opportunity tool for mule deer management is a win-win for hunters and wildlife, and would love to see a study exploring traditional archery's utility in this way!

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 11:10 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 11:50 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include Traditional Archery. Thank You.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 11:52 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** Please include traditional archery!

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 1:05 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

As a dedicated bowhunter who chooses the challenge that traditional archery equipment "I support restricted weapon seasons" I am concerned that the advancement in technology with modern archery equipment will result in decreased opportunity for all hunters as harvest numbers continue to increase.  
Respectfully  
Scott Nolletti

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I have been a traditional bowhunter for 59 years now. I started hunting in the state of Washington which had wonderful hunting season for bowhunters. Please know that there were no compound bows in the 60's and early 70's. The bowhunting seasons in the past were not statewide hunts. They were designated areas that were open only to (traditional) bowhunters. The tag was good for either doe or buck and those seasons were open before the Rut.

The rut season should be closed. This system worked well and many hunters learned the art of hunting as they spent many more days hunting than hunters do today. The only problem with his system was then the compound bow was invented and the game departments added that equipment to the archery seasons. Let me say right here that I am not against the original compound bows or what has now become a piece of equipment that shoots an arrow. The differences are how the two weapons are promoted and used. Traditional archers are taught not to shot beyond 25 to 30 yards to eliminate wounding. The new gadget equipment is promoted to shot 75 to over 100 yards. Those distances are about the same as what the OLD muzzle load guns use to shot. The NEW muzzleloaders are basically one shot High Power rifles. I mentions all this as I have observed that game departments have not restricted new invented equipment by putting them into their own category. So please consider adding traditional bowhunting areas only open to traditional equipment. It's not any different than the way some fishing areas are only open to Fly fishing. Put the New arrow shooting equipment in with the New one shot muzzleloader equipment. Close the season to all hunters for two weeks during the Rut and then no more doe permits after the Rut. Require a designated Hunting licenses for each category as there will be hunters that will hunt with every kind of equipment which should require a separate license for using different equipment. Do away with the general hunting license or require a separate permit for each kind of equipment. Use the added funds to hire more game wardens. Thank you for taking the time to read my opinion. Dale Holpainen

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 2:54 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery. The NF of the johnday wilderness hunt in oregon is one of the best experiences I have had. I'm 34 and love hunting with my longbow, the decrease in pressure and hunter numbers during a traditional season make for a very enjoyable experience. Thank you for your time.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 3:47 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I strongly agree with the idea of a traditional archery season.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 3:56 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapons seasons and traditional archery should be included in these special seasons.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 4:21 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** Please make sure to include traditional archery equipment...

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 6:08 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery. It would be nice to see an until with just traditional archery and traditional side-lock muzzleloaders.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 6:23 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I'd rather limit technology than cut more tags. We've cut enough!

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 6:36 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 8:37 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** Please consider Traditional Archery as a legal means to take animals in this study.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 11, 2024 9:31 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapon season for the use of traditional archery equipment only

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 12, 2024 5:38 am

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 12, 2024 9:37 am

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the proposed deer hunt**  
**strategies research project?**

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I want to thank all of the employees, commissioners and board members for the time they spend. I am specifically writing today regarding the "restricted rifle" hunt on the Cache unit. I have lived on the Cache my entire life. My kids, 21 and 18 enjoy hunting but are not fanatical hunters like myself. When discussing this proposal, my daughter said don't apply me anymore. She is new to hunting and didn't really get involved until she was 16 or so. She is still learning and without a scope she has no desire or interest to go as she has grave concern about wounding a deer. With her work and schools schedule she can only get out a few days and if this proposal goes through she has no desire to apply any longer. The intent of your proposal is having the exact opposite effect of getting more people in the field. I was talking to my 21 year old son and he said, I have grown up my entire life using a scope except on a 22 rifle. I am more afraid of wounding a deer than harvesting a deer. He said most likely he won't apply because it won't be fun any more where he is more worried about wounding a deer than having a great experience. Just in my family alone, most likely there will be two less hunters applying. My dad is in his 70's and doesn't have the greatest health. He simply likes to go with family and friends. Asking him to not use a scope at his age is not practical as well. I personally have grave concern about the number of deer which will be wounded. I hear the argument a lot of deer are being wounded by people shooting long distance. Long distance shooters are much more educated and competent in their shooting ability than several generations who have most likely never shot a large rifle without a scope. I hear the argument that myself and my kids can apply for other units which allow a scope of greater than 1-power. For a Utah general season tag; this is not something we have an interest in. We want to go to our old stomping grounds with family and friends. The success of the hunt is not in the harvest but in time spent. If my kids no longer want to go then the goal of this proposal is not having the desired effect. In my job, my people complain and few offer options. So I will offer some ideas; I don't know if they are practical or not because I am not an expert in this field. How about cutting the number of days adults can hunt back from 9 to 5? The premium elk hunt dates were cut back and people still apply and have a great time. I would like to see tags be able to be transferred under the mentor program. Here is an example, my dad draws a general season deer tag. His health is not great and he cannot hike long distances. A youth has an interest in going and a person who can hike is willing to take the youth. Right now that is not possible under the program unless they are still able to communicate with each other. What about splitting the deer hunt into two 4-day seasons to spread people out. Make the 4-day hunts Mon - Thur. Consider a 4pt restriction on the Cache before requiring scopes to be removed. Please do not adopt this proposal. There are other options to consider. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 12, 2024 12:11 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapons seasons especially those involving traditional archery.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 12, 2024 12:30 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I support restricted weapon seasons. Please include more traditional archery seasons. With any luck Idaho may follow.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 12, 2024 6:04 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I strongly support using traditional archery in your restricted weapons season.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 12, 2024 7:40 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery. Restricted weapons, particularly traditional archery, are, in my opinion, a great way to maintain or increase opportunity while maintaining or increasing the quality and quantity of bucks in a unit. I travel to Oregon specifically for traditional archery hunts and would likely participate in Utah traditional archery hunt if given the opportunity.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 12, 2024 10:50 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Great program and gives great opportunities for some of us to hunt on private land

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 12, 2024 10:50 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

---

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapons seasons and please include traditional archery.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 13, 2024 8:07 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support the restricted weapon seasons including Traditional Archery!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery! With the increased capabilities of Compound Bows (out to 100+ yards) within the last 2 years and Crossbows (out to 150+ yards), I feel a Traditional Archery season would be your best option for achieving your goals. Perhaps you could do 2 separate regions for archery only: 1 for Traditional and 1 for Modern (wheeled bows). Or, perhaps do 1/2 the season with Traditional only, and then the remainder for Modern archery (wheeled bows).  
I also support Antler Point Restrictions especially when paired with the option to purchase a 2nd tag for Doe only.



Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 13, 2024 1:16 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapon seasons, especially traditional archery equipment.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 13, 2024 4:22 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery!

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

I agree overall with the presentation however, the JB Ranch has me very concerned. I just watched the Southeast regional meeting and listened to the new owner of the property talk about how he showed up to a meeting with the DWR and had talked about having 75 feeders and mineral and feed and cellular cameras, etc. etc. etc. Obviously that meeting did not go well with the division And now because he's about to lose the ability to have a cooperative unit he says all the right things. How can he be trusted out of the gate when he shows up to a meeting talking about all the illegal things he wanted to do? I would recommend he Come through a normal process and visit the advisory council before submitting for a new cooperative license next year.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 14, 2024 3:58 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** I am in support of restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery in them.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

Lowering buck to doe ratios and increasing tags is not the solution. As a Utah resident who grew up hunting in the state, I can truly say that the proposed management plan scares me for the future of deer hunting. We need to look for ways to still offer opportunity type hunts and units, but quality and overall health needs to be the priority. It appears to me that money is what is really at the core with this plan. Self-funded agencies making these decisions is not acceptable. Call it what it is; If it's really about the money, I would pay more for a tag if it meant overall general season tag numbers would go down. We as hunters need to also take responsibility and help manage the herd. I see too many people who want it all, a tag every year, do not want to see tags increase in cost, they don't want to feel crowded, and they want mature bucks around every corner. I understand this is not possible. If families truly need the meat they harvest to provide for themselves, then by all means take whatever legal buck you can. I think youth and new, inexperienced hunters should take opportunities to gain experience in the field, they don't need to worry about antler size, but I see too many experienced hunters kill anything just to say they filled their tag. We should be willing and able to make the conscious decision to hold out for mature animals. I want quality heard sizes with higher buck to doe ratios including more mature animals on the landscape. I recognize that we have become more proficient at killing. Technology and advancements in gear have aided in this among other things in today's hunting culture. It's easy to blame it on success rates, but ultimately the agencies that have the job of managing our deer herds are the ones responsible. Tag numbers need to decrease. I know people do not want to hear and or accept that, but that is what it will take in todays hunting climate. Within reason, limitations on equipment need to exist, but they already do. It is a slippery slope to start overregulating all the gear and technology, this is not the answer. You cannot regulate ethics. That comes down to the individual. It is our responsibility. Regardless of weapon, technology and equipment used, there will be bad decisions made and rules will be stretched or ignored. Educating, promoting and leading by example are the best ways to improve ethics in the field. The proposed deer management plan is highly flawed. As a resident hunter I do not support it.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

Lowering buck to doe ratios and increasing tags is not the solution. As a Utah resident who grew up hunting in the state, I can truly say that the proposed management plan scares me for the future of deer hunting. We need to look for ways to still offer opportunity type hunts and units, but quality and overall health needs to be the priority. It appears to me that money is what is really at the core with this plan. Self-funded agencies making these decisions is not acceptable. Call it what it is; If it's really about the money, I would pay more for a tag if it meant overall general season tag numbers would go down. We as hunters need to also take responsibility and help manage the herd. I see too many people who want it all, a tag every year, do not want to see tags increase in cost, they don't want to feel crowded, and they want mature bucks around every corner. I understand this is not possible. If families truly need the meat they harvest to provide for themselves, then by all means take whatever legal buck you can. I think youth and new, inexperienced hunters should take opportunities to gain experience in the field, they don't need to worry about antler size, but I see too many experienced hunters kill anything just to say they filled their tag. We should be willing and able to make the conscious decision to hold out for mature animals. I want quality heard sizes with higher buck to doe ratios including more mature animals on the landscape. I recognize that we have become more proficient at killing. Technology and advancements in gear have aided in this among other things in today's hunting culture. It's easy to blame it on success rates, but ultimately the agencies that have the job of managing our deer herds are the ones responsible. Tag numbers need to decrease. I know people do not want to hear and or accept that, but that is what it will take in todays hunting climate. Within reason, limitations on equipment need to exist, but they already do. It is a slippery slope to start overregulating all the gear and technology, this is not the answer. You cannot regulate ethics. That comes down to the individual. It is our responsibility. Regardless of weapon, technology and equipment used, there will be bad decisions made and rules will be stretched or ignored. Educating, promoting and leading by example are the best ways to improve ethics in the field. The proposed deer management plan is highly flawed. As a resident hunter I do not support it.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 14, 2024 7:17 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Really like the cooperative wildlife program. Hunted with my father this year and had a great experience. Appreciate how accountability is set up and how rules have changed so nothing slipped through the cracks. Thanks for all you do and thanks to the private land owners who allow us to hunt.

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

First off I want to thank everyone, I commend each and every one of the RAC and Board members for a difficult situation.  
So my thoughts! We all know the western states Deer have been suffering for years due to drought and vehicle mortality.  
A lot of deer are harvested from dirt roads and even off of highways such as north slope. Wyoming rule you have to be at least 30' off of any road. just an idea.  
I was reading an idea on social media. what if we take 10 or 20% of the tags put them in a draw and this would be a 4 point or better tag and if your successful, You will get a guarantee tag for 3 years unless you harvest. If you do harvest you will be on a 3 year waiting period. just an idea.  
  
Thanks everyone for your time and hard work.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I want too thank everyone for all your hard work. This is a tough situation. I think if were doing a study on Antler Point restriction.  
It needs to be done all units. Every unit is different with winter conditions.  
My idea is, lets take 20% of the tags on each unit and make a 4 point or better tag during this study and truly see how popular it truly is and see if this will give more opportunity down the road.  
  
Thanks

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Strongly agree

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Strongly agree

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Strongly agree

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly agree



**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support the restricted weapons seasons strategy.  
Please include traditional archery.

Please advise on where I can find information on the carrying capacity of the land vs. current populations and any studies on mortality/survival factors that have been conducted.

Please consider having hunters provide a completed questionnaire on their hunt (post hunt) to facilitate gathering the information you are looking for. Washington State implements this tactic (at least for salmon fishing).

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 14, 2024 8:51 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please consider "traditional archery only" season(s) as an effective management tool to achieve the objectives.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 14, 2024 9:01 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery.

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

im in my 70s and for the best of me i cannot see a benefit for most of the ideas floating around the point restrictions for bucks has already been tried and failed so why keep bringing it up.  
the youth hunts bother me simply if a youth wants to hunt, they have a unlimited supply of archery tags already the main reason for the back log on any weapons is the youth can hunt all three seasons and thats what they put in for. all my grandsons and daughters have seen this and put in for either archery are muzzle loader permits and have never failed to get a tag. the opportunity is there know if they want to take advantage of it.  
the weapons restrictions for rifle is just wrong i wasnt in favor of the restrictions on the muzzy loaders and know rifles seem extreme especially when looking at the lack of restrictions for archery hunters. i can see down the road were there will be weapons restrictions for rifles state wide if you have heart burn about the advance sc opes than deal with it at that level don't condemn all rifle hunter for the few that use these advance sighting systems. it seems like every year these committees want to tweak the systems and i believe most of the everyday hunters are getting tired of all the changes.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

First off I want to thank everyone for all their hard work and trying to make everything better. It has been a challenging task, not only for biologist, but also hunters.

I have an idea I've been thinking about strongly for a while. Why don't we add 30% more tags to each unit or take 20% of the tags and make it a 4 point only or more tag During this study.

This will accomplish two things.

#1 how many people are really interested in point restriction  
#2 give us a idea if this will create more opportunity for hunters by allowing a point restriction. We all know the harvest success will be extremely low on an antler restriction Especially a four-point restriction.

We all know each unit is entirely different and the unit like pine valley is a good unit for growing deer. Having a four-point restriction on this unit will give us good data on if it grows bigger mature bucks. That said, I feel like we need to do my idea on all the other units to get real good data analysis on my idea that I presented above.

This will only be ran for three years. Why not try it?

I do really appreciate all you do, I want to thank everyone that is involved.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

First off I want to thank everyone for all their hard work and trying to make everything better. It has been a challenging task, not only for biologist, but also hunters.

I have an idea I've been thinking about strongly for a while.

Why don't we add 30% more tags to each unit or take 20% of the tags and make it a 4 point only or more tag During this study.

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#2 give us a idea if this will create more opportunity for hunters by allowing a point restriction. We all know the harvest success will be extremely low on an antler restriction Especially a four-point restriction.

We all know each unit is entirely different and the unit like pine valley is a good unit for growing deer. Having a four-point restriction on this unit will give us good data on if it grows bigger mature bucks.

That said, I feel like we need to do my idea on all the other units to get real good data analysis on my idea that I presented above.

This will only be ran for three years. Why not try it?

I do really appreciate all you do, I want to thank everyone that is involved.

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Strongly agree

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Strongly agree

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Strongly agree

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly agree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 14, 2024 12:57 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I am an avid traditional bowhunter and would love to see a primitive weapons unit. Undoubtedly the herd numbers and composition will improve within just 2-3 years. More tags may be allotted while maintaining or reducing overall take. Easily could become an attraction for non-resident bowhunters looking for challenge and a quality mule deer hunt. Thank you for considering,

Carson

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

i would like to see it resrticted to traditional archery I am 67 years old and have hunted my whole life. I have archery hunted elk in southwest Montana for over the past 15 years and have seen a tremendous influx of archery hunters the last two years. Where I used to see 5 or 6 other bowhunters a day it is now 30 to 50 a day. I believe the advancements in compound bows and covid has had a dramatic effect on hunter numbers. If we do not make restrictions there will be no wildlife left and no hunters to support hunting. Thank you



Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 14, 2024 2:02 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I strongly support the restricted weapons seasons. However, traditional archery should be included in the archery aspect of restricted weapons. If there was a unit that was "fully restricted" the resource could support general season and everyone could go hunting.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

Every iteration of the Wildlife Board since 2015, including this board, has told the DWR to find ways to reduce point creep. And now you're entertaining the idea of deliberately inflating points by several thousand every year. This is not the answer, this will make it harder for everyone, youth included, to draw with zero or one point; what takes one point to draw now, will take two for a youth in the future. This is not going to get more permits in youths hands. If you want more youth to have more permits change the 15% that's reserved for youth to a higher percentage. Point accumulation is not the problem! Permit availability is the problem.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 14, 2024 7:56 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I highly support restricted primitive weapons seasons. This includes traditional archery. Compound bows and crossbows are not primitive weapons.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 14, 2024 9:04 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 14, 2024 9:58 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Great program. Thankful for the access. Jon has been great to work with.

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

My problem with this, is that there's been restrictions passed down each year for the past 3 years.

1. Trail Cameras
2. Baiting
3. Electronics on any weapon

Are we admitting that those restrictions did nothing change harvest rates? If so, when are those items going to be re-introduced and allowed again?

By adding additional restrictions and additional regulations year, after year, after year, it's impossible to know what particular regulation change impacted harvest rates.

If none of them impact harvest rates, then lets peel back the regulations and let freedom ring, and allow hunters choose how they hunt. If these restrictions are doing anything, then resource isn't getting impacted based on any of the targeted items that have been taken away, so give them back.

I believe this regulation is just an additional restriction proposed because there are more hunters out there just generally working harder then the average hunter so the animals aren't as easy to see from the road making it seem like there are no animals on the unit.

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I want to thank all that is involved. I tried to propose something to the mule deer committee but never could get it to them.

My idea that I presented a few years back i think would do everything everyone is asking for.

If there is roughly 150,000 applicants give a tag to 1/3 each year till everyone has drawn. So that would be 50,000 permits each year. This is right at what were offering right now.

So the way this program would start is the first 50,000 permits would go to high point holders. Then the next year another 1/3 and the final year they will all be drawn.

So If you don't fill your tag you automatically will get a tag for next year. But if you fill it you will be on 3 year waiting period. once this program gets rolling I think you will find you will have more bucks and mature bucks on the landscape.

We all know a lot of hunter will fill the first year of doing this, but think about it those hunters will be on a 3 year waiting period and the following year there will be more and the next year This is when the age class starts and we start seeing more mature buck.

This allows everyone to have the opportunity to have a tag year after year if they choose, its only a 3 year waiting period for the hunters that fill their tag.

This ideas covers everything all the hunters concerns. This program once it balances out some years there will be low tag holders and some year it maybe equal and other years could be more but between those year that are low and hunters that have passed will allow buck to age a little.

Thanks for your time I really appreciate all that is involved and hard work.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

Thank for all that you do.

I think if we are going to do a APR study it needs to be in multiple areas not every unit is the same. my home is the Uintah basin and I'm glad they passed it.

I truly think we need two or three more units to get solid data on this.

My idea of fixing everything hunters are asking for, I believe is right here in my proposal.

I tried to propose something to the mule deer committee but never could get it to them.

My idea that I presented a few years back. I think would do everything everyone is asking for.

If there is roughly 150,000 applicants give a tag to 1/3 each year till everyone has drawn. So that would be 50,000 permits each year. This is right at what were offering right now.

So the way this program would start is the first 50,000 permits would go to high point holders. Then the next year another 1/3 and the final year they will all be drawn. you will still have a tag quota on every unit but everyone will have a opportunity to switch because tags will be getting filled on the units each year so that leaves a opening to apply.

So If you don't fill your tag you automatically will get a tag for next year. But if you fill it you will be on 3 year waiting period. once this program gets rolling I think you will find you will have more bucks and mature bucks on the landscape.

We all know a lot of hunters will harvest the first year and that will put them on a 3 year wait (I would like to see 4 years but that might be too much). we would really start saving and getting more mature bucks on the landscape because will be rolling them over.

Now I know a lot of people would be more selective on a deer if they knew they could get a tag every year. You will find out people will hold off till the next year.

This ideas covers everything all the hunters concerns. This program once it balances out some years there will be low tag holders and some year it maybe equal and other years could be more. Just a idea that i thought of I don't think there is any harm in trying it especially if we will be visiting it in 4 years.

Thanks for your time I really appreciate all that is involved and hard work.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 15, 2024 11:31 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapons seasons and please include traditional archery.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 16, 2024 3:13 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

As a repeat hunting license holder, I strongly agree with and support any and all restricted weapons seasons, especially Traditional Archery.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 17, 2024 6:34 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapons seasons and please include TRADITIONAL ARCHERY (longbow, recurve and self bows, NOT compound bows and crossbows).

Thank you!

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 17, 2024 8:21 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** I enjoyed my hunt in 2023 on a CWMU tag. thanks for letting me hunt on private.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 17, 2024 8:30 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** I fully support the CWMU Program and the opportunities it gives us to hunt.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 17, 2024 12:55 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Strongly agree  
**regarding the CWMU and LOA**  
**recommendations?**

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 17, 2024 2:52 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support all of the recommendations except for the antler point restriction proposal. There are numerous studies showing that this type of management does not work in the long term. It feels like the antler point restriction proposal is going down the path of ballot box biology and serving the interests of a vocal minority instead of managing through science and data.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 17, 2024 9:58 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Nice to add clarity to some questions regarding public land. Thanks. Great program.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 18, 2024 7:50 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I love the idea of a point restriction.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 18, 2024 8:29 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** JB Ranch should be given a chance as long as they agree to abide by all rules and regs

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 18, 2024 12:36 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapon seasons. Please include traditional archery (recurve and long bow) as a weapon restriction for archery hunts.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I have serious concerns about these proposed CWD targeted hunts. From what I understand they are any weapon hunts in November and will have "Very limited tags" and be designated as GS units.

If that happens, all 3,500 plus LL holders can hunt those units at their whim. Also, any DH in those units will now have FOUR different hunts in one year they could hunt without drawing out for them. This would be like a premium limited entry draw for those two groups without having to burn any points. How many tags would that leave for the common man?

This needs to be reconsidered or voided altogether.

Perhaps it could be defined as a NON-LL holder GS hunt or some other LE definition. I don't see how this is going to work and be fair for the average guy but I am not privy to the future plans for this issue.

Please respond or clarify to me before the WB meeting on December 12.  
Thank you.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 19, 2024 8:00 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 19, 2024 12:22 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I strongly support the restricted weapons seasons, especially traditional archery. I would define traditional archery as, Self Bows, Longbows and Recurve bows.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 19, 2024 12:38 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

Hello,

Limiting technology in the hunt is a path to offer more opportunity while maintaining management objectives. Offering exclusive limited technology hunts also provides a reward for hard work and skill development for those who chose to hunt the hard way. I am eager to hear the story that the data will tell and hope that Utah's leadership in this space will set a precedent to open more opportunity for those willing to work for it, rather than the continual advancement of technology further limiting hunting opportunity.

Thank you for your thoughtful wildlife management practices.

Sincerely, Cole

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

Please do not accept the 15 to 17 buck to doe ratio, there are hardly any bucks to shoot as it is and all of them are small. I haven't seen over 15 bucks to 100 does post hunt in 30 years.

The Manti is a huge unit. The deer seem to be doing well above faviw but above manti and ephraim they are struggling. The Unit needs to be broken up. How can you manage deer all through the san rafel swell and then above gunnison and through skyline drive to scofield. It doesn't make sense break up the unit and manage it better.

How about we start high fencing, put some of the "Conservation" money into high fencing. It is ridiculous how many deer are killed on road ways. Our hearsds would grow if we looked at root cause of death and actually started to fix those root causes. Preditors was looked at years ago, now we need to look at road ways.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed hunts?**

Please reduce the cow hunts. If there are to many moose transplate them to the south manti or fishlake. THere isn't enough moose in Utah.

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

I like this, and will help in getting youth hunting deer. THe problem with this is you are reducing the buck to doe ratio, I hunted the muzzleloader hunt on Wasastch East and saw about 10 bucks with about 120 does, the biggest one being a 18" small 3x4. Come rifle season where I had my child hunter we saw over 120 does and no bucks, they had already been shot, so many little 2 pts were killed because the buck to doe ratios were short. I don't understand how you can count 20 bucks to 100 does when all we are finding is does. Seeing deer is fun but a kid needs opportunity to kill a deer and reducing the ratio will hurt youth hunters.

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

The CWMU's that include public land with public access need to be reviewed. It is ridiculous to give a CWMU full hunting rights of public land that has public access.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 19, 2024 3:28 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 19, 2024 5:06 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I would like to see the archery hunt restricted to traditional archery only , a single string recurve or longbow. I'm a non-resident but have hunted Utah many times and have points for all species, I would take advantage of the restricted /traditional archery seasons  
Thx , Scott Hargrove

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 19, 2024 8:22 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

Limited weapons ensure more hunter access and at the same time limit harvest success. I strongly support the use of traditional Archery and muzzleloader with no magnified optics.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I generally like this proposal. I would like to see more restricted weapon hunts included on each unit as an additional hunt to add opportunity.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I really like the idea of having restricted weapon hunts. Although I would have liked to see it in addition to and not replacing current hunts. My suggestion would be to shorten the current muzzleloader tag to 6-7 days and add a restricted weapon muzzy hunt for 6-7 days prior to the regular muzzy hunt. Also same with the rifle hunt add the restricted weapon rifle to the early rifle hunt and keep the late rifle hunt as a normal rifle hunt. It would give more option for people and may make it easier to draw for some people willing to choose a restricted weapon hunt. You could also split the archery hunt in half and do the same concept on that hunt as well.

I am generally very oppose to an antler restriction for the reason that this study has been done by many states over the years. Any google scholar search will show many studys that have been done on this issue and they have all come to the same realitive conclusion. They have all hurt quality and improved lesser antler genetics. That being said if youth are able to shoot any buck I may over time limit that effect. I believe tags will have to be increase substantially which will for sure help point creep. So why not lets give it a shot. I would be in favor of doing this study ONE MORE time so long as it is passed as presented by the Division.

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

I generally like this proposal. I would like to see more restricted weapon hunts included on each unit as an additional hunt to add opportunity.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Strongly agree

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?**

---

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

I completely disagree with giving new youth applicants 1 point to start off with. Although it sounds good on the surface statistically speaking it will ultimately make it harder for all youth to draw tags during their youth years. It may increase odds of a youth getting their first tag quicker but after that it will make it so drawing a second time will take longer. Some units currently are taking 2-4 points to draw a rifle tag for a youth. Youth are eligible for youth tags for 6 years. By doing this it very well may make some units harder to draw a second tag before they are no longer considered a youth. I would strongly discourage passing this proposal.

I also am not in favor of changing the way we apply for dedicated and a general season tag. After talking to Lindy I found out that this would not apply to lifetime license holders. So they would still be able to apply for a dedicated tag and if unsuccessful they would still receive their general tag each year. Although it is a small number of people that this applies to I believe it is unfair to restrict the general public if this cannot be applied in the same fashion to lifetime license holders. If there is a way to have lifetime holders check a box voluntarily forfeiting their lifetime tag to apply for dedicated or something to that effect I would probably support everyone only being able to choose one.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 20, 2024 3:42 pm

**Which best describes your position  
regarding the recommended big game  
season dates?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the  
recommended season dates?**

Would like to see an area set aside for traditional archery only, or archery  
season dates changes to include statewide traditional archery season.  
Low impact on harvest and recreational use  
Thank you for allowing comments

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 20, 2024 4:42 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** The JB deserves a chance. Monitor them close but give them a chance.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 20, 2024 10:55 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

---

**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** I got to hunt on CWMU with my son. We had a wonderful time.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2024 6:53 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** My brother drew a CWMU tag recently. We had a blast hunting there. Great people and program.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2024 7:25 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I strongly agree with Utah's effort to explore restricted technology deer hunting. Specifically the use of traditional archery equipment.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2024 7:25 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support restricted weapon seasons and please include traditional archery

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2024 11:20 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I would support restricted weapons seasons in the management of mule deer, as well as elk and other game species. Archery only areas and seasons, including traditional recurve and longbow only restrictions, are welcome. Please consider increasing support to enforcement of these restrictions. it can be hard to make these programs successful if the rules are often ignored.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** I would have like to seen some bigger changes in the plan it seems almost like a copy and paste of the last plan.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** I support the APR on Pine valley. I would like to see the APR research without letting the youth shoot 4pt or less. The youth shooting little bucks that an adult just passed will not give us accurate data. There is plenty of units in the state to let youth shoot 2pts. I would also like to see the research of the APR study without adjusting tag numbers. I would also like to see another unit with APR to compare data ( Manti would be my suggestion). I support the restricted weapon hunts. I would like to see all weapons restricted including the archery no compounds. If we are going to do these studies lets do them right and not just halfway. These studies are only for a few years lets get the data and see what works.

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?** I would like to see some season and weapon date changes. (Separate archery deer hunt into (2) 2 week hunts less crowding and opportunity to spread draw odds and increase tags.) (Muzzleloader deer hunt (7) days) (Early and Late rifle deer hunts (5) days). I would like to see more deer and elk hunt dates aligned together and more breaks in between hunts to give the animals and break similar to what Colorado does with their hunts. I would like to see a limited entry (Youth Only) late muzzleloader deer hunt on the general season units in November.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

We give the youth so many opportunities to draw a deer tag. If a youth can't put a deer tag in their pocket it's the parent's fault not the state. Giving a first-time applicant a point does nothing but increase point creep. I disagree with converting leftover archery and muzzleloader tags into rifle. Why would a youth put in for archery or muzzleloader when they can catch a rifle tag on the 2nd or 3rd draw and get to hunt all 3 archery, muzzy, and rifle seems like we are creating a loop hole to me. Dedicated hunter and general season draws need to be left alone your making a change on a group of people that is so small it will accomplish nothing. If you want to do something eliminate the dedicated hunter program combine points and have a general season deer tag and multi season general deer tag.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2024 4:49 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I strongly disagree with the restricted weapons use on the Cache Unit. Due to it already being at the healthy carrying capacity of 18 bucks per 100 does. This does not biologically seem like a good method. Where we are now required for mandatory reporting of our hunts, I would like to see this survey proposed to the 4100 permit holders as part of the mandatory reporting. The Northern Region RAC only had 44 responses, that is simply not enough input considering the number of hunters who actually hunt the unit.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2024 4:58 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I support restricted weapon seasons, especially traditional archery. Traditional archery allows more time in the field with minimal impact on the resource. Thank you for considering restricted weapons seasons!

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2024 5:00 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Strongly agree  
**regarding the CWMU and LOA**  
**recommendations?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

I strongly disagree with the restricted weapons use on the Cache Unit. As someone who is new into hunting, a new mother, and also working. I don't have the funds or time to go out and buy and learn new equipment every other year, depending on the whims of random groups. I rely on my scope to assist me in making confident and ethical shots. There are restricted weapon hunts already available in the cache unit, and I think that's great for those individuals who are passionate about it, but I think it's unfair to force everyone to switch to it. What is the end goal with this proposal? Is this just the first step towards making this a permanent requirement for the unit? Where we are now required for mandatory reporting of our hunts, I would like to see this survey proposed to the 4100 permit holders as part of the mandatory reporting. The Northern Region RAC only had 44 responses, that is simply not enough input considering the number of hunters who actually hunt the unit.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2024 6:54 pm

**Which best describes your position**      Strongly agree  
**regarding the CWMU and LOA**  
**recommendations?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

We lowered objectives last cycle. To create "better deer heard" now lowering buck-doe ratio for the same reason when premium limited entry units are higher on both and doing better.

30% could mean up to 15,000-20,000 tags. That much should go through the public process.

---

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

If we are really going to try the previous failed point restriction in needs to be across the board same restriction for everybody. One exception that might not cloud the data is allowing first and second year youth to shoot any bucks. But for a true test and accurate data Noone else.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended big game season dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended season dates?**

It's the same story add hunts to help with crowding and point creep then increase tags. Never ending cycle.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?**

Lowering the legal hunting age caused the issue with youth have a hard time drawing a tag. If we really want to help them moving the age back will severely increase the odds. Dedicated hunters pay/work more for 2 deer than even our most expensive once in a lifetime permit. And there are so many that have 7+ point for Dedicated.. Making them choose between the two is like telling people to choose between general season or LE.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2024 7:51 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

Don't get rid and shorten season or get rid of guns with scopes what needs to look at is other states like arizona and colorado. We love hunting we love killing bucks and using our guns with scopes. Or antler restrictions. Look at these states how they manage tags and only 10% to 20% tags go to non residents and the rest go to residents of utah who love to hunt and hunt every year

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

I strongly disagree with this management plan. Mostly the 30% +/- increase in permits. Speaking from experience of hunting in Utah, nothing ruins a hunting/camping experience more than having so many other hunters on the landscape. Continuing to limit weapons and seasons just to lower success so more tags can be given out is a poor excuse. Personal I have not had a positive experience for any general season deer hunt I have ever been on due to other hunters and lack of deer in general. My recommendation to increase opportunity would be to get rid of limited entry and general season and put them all in one. Have A units(current limited/premium units) and have B units(current general units) lifetime tag holders would only be allowed a class B tag. Personally I'm willing to wait 5-7 years to draw a tag if it meant seeing older age class bucks with higher buck radios and not have it screwed up by other hunters. My next proposal to better opportunity would be to higher the age limit to apply for big game to 18 years old and if parents want to get their kid out hunting then they can sacrifice their tag to a child rather than having that opportunity taken from someone else will to let the young bucks live on and willing to go home empty handed. With the pinevalley 4 point or better recommendation, I don't worry about the life time tag holds flocking to that unit but I do see it being flooded with youth apps looking to go get a handout buck since the adults can't shoot anything smaller than a yearling 4pt. I do like the idea of splitting off beaver west and the south west desert unit and would like to see those be moved into a higher 30-40 buck to doe ratio type unit in the near future.



**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?**

Support all but two items in the plan  
Lowering of buck-to-doe ratio to 15-17 on additional general units  
Allowing annual permit adjustments of 30% without public input

Recommend:

Buck-to-doe ratios objectives from 2019-2024 plan be carried forward.  
Utah's average buck-to-doe ratio objectives for all deer units calculates out at 19-22

For comparison Colorado's is 26-31 buck-to-doe ratios objectives for all units averaged

And the lowest western state, Oregon, at 13 has seen mule deer populations decline from 333,000 to 157,000 in the last 30 years. Clearly lower buck-to-doe ratios are not support herd production in Oregon. Correlation between higher buck-to-doe ratios and reduced fawn recruitment is just that. It is NOT the cause of reduced fawn recruitment. What this correlation demonstrates is a mule deer heard at capacity. If better fawn recruitment is desired then population control for both does, bucks and elk may be needed.

Any adjustment of tags greater than 5% should be presented to RAC's and Board for public participation

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any comments about the research project?**

Support the restricted weapon hunts and strongly urge the Board to adopt this proposal. This is a fantastic solution to offering additional opportunity to hunters, and a quality experience. I have advocated for something like this, I'm impressed the committee and the division are recommending it to the board.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2024 10:27 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed mule deer management plan?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any comments about the proposed management plan?** Would like to see the buck to doe ratios stay as is in the southern units 18-20

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed deer hunt strategies research project?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any comments about the research project?** Like the study proposals. The APR has never been done in this form. Let's give it a try.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the recommended changes to youth hunting and deer hunting applications?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any comments about the recommended changes?** Like the idea that the NE RAC proposed on the DH/general issue

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2024 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 21, 2024 11:56 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the recommended changes to**  
**youth hunting and deer hunting**  
**applications?**

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