

Wildlife Board Work Session
Eccles Wildlife Education Center, Farmington UT
April 8, 2025 9:00 am - 4 p.m.
<https://youtube.com/live/hmK9j1U-9Cw>

1. Legislative Update (30 min) – Justin Shannon, DWR Deputy Director and Legislative Liaison
2. Big Game statewide updates - deer, elk and pronghorn (45 minutes) - Dax Mangus, DWR Big Game Program Coordinator
 - a. Population - status and trends
 - b. Harvest - success rates, sex ratios and age of harvested animals
 - c. Permit trends and availability
3. Statewide deer survival study update (45 minutes) - Dr. Randy Larsen, BYU, Research Partner
 - a. Body condition and survival information for study units
 - b. Yearling buck survival update
4. High priority deer projects - regional presentations (30 minutes)
 - a. Elbow Ranch water system - Gary Bezzant, SRO Habitat Program Manager, DWR
 - b. South Manti Restoration - Robbie Edgel, CRO Habitat Restoration Biologist, DWR
5. Using DWR's Migration Initiative to implement highway mitigation and reduce wildlife vehicle collisions (30 minutes) - Makeda Hanson, DWR Wildlife Migration Initiative Coordinator, and Daniel Olsen, DWR Impact Analysis Coordinator
6. Lunch - Provided by DWR (45 min)
7. LaSal and Tushar Mountain Goat habitat monitoring (45 min) - Loreen Flinders, BYU, Research Partner
8. Disease Update (30 min) - Dr. Virginia Stout, DWR Veterinarian and Stuart Barney, UDAF Domesticated Elk Program Director
 - a. Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in wildlife and domesticated elk
 - b. Other disease issues - Avian Influenza
 - c. Ongoing projects
9. Predator Update (20 min) – Darren DeBloois, DWR Mammals Program Coordinator
 - a. Cougar harvest
 - b. Coyote bounty program
10. Licensing Update (30 min) – Lindy Varney, DWR Licensing Coordinator
 - a. Preview of the upcoming draw application with new contractor
11. Wildlife Action Plan update (30 min) - Paul Thompson, DWR UWAP Coordinator
 - a. Update and status of 2025 Plan revision
 - b. Species Protection Account
12. Division of Law Enforcement Update (20 minutes) – Chad Bettridge, DLE Major