

## RAC AGENDA – April 2026



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|-----|--|----------------------|
| 1.  | Welcome, RAC Introductions and RAC Procedure<br>- RAC Chair  |                      |
| 2.  | Approval of Agenda and Minutes<br>- RAC Chair  |                      |
| 3.  | Wildlife Board Meeting Update<br>- RAC Chair   | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b> |
| 4.  | Big Game Informational Presentation<br>- Mike Wardle, Big Game Program Coordinator                         | <b>INFORMATIONAL</b> |
| 5.  | Deer Permit Recommendations for 2026<br>- Mike Wardle, Big Game Program Coordinator                        | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 6.  | Once-in-a-Lifetime Permit Recommendations for 2026<br>- Rusty Robinson, OIAL Species Coordinator           | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 7.  | Bull Elk Permit Recommendations for 2026<br>- Mike Wardle, Big Game Program Coordinator                    | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 8.  | Pronghorn Permit Recommendations for 2026<br>- Mike Wardle, Big Game Program Coordinator                   | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 9.  | Antlerless Permit Recommendations for 2026<br>- Mike Wardle, Big Game Program Coordinator                  | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 10. | 2026 CWMU Antlerless Permit Recommendations<br>- Darren Deblois, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator | <b>ACTION</b>        |
| 11. | Aquatic Rule Amendments for R657-3c and R657-59a<br>- Randy Oplinger, Assistant Chief of Fisheries         | <b>ACTION</b>        |

### Meeting Locations

**CR RAC** – April 14th 6:00 PM  
Wildlife Resources Conference Room  
1115. N. Main Street, Springville  
<https://youtube.com/live/QGf6KHbGGhU>

**NR RAC** – April 15th 6:00 PM  
Weber County Commission Chambers  
2380 Washington Blvd., Ogden  
<https://youtube.com/live/pTDjNdFVZFI>

**SR RAC** – April 21st 6:00 PM  
Hunter Conf. Center, Charles R Hunter Room  
Southern Utah University  
<https://youtube.com/live/DmmlDmTMNIDE>

**SER RAC** – April 22<sup>nd</sup> 6:00 PM  
John Wesley Powell Museum  
1765 E. Main St., Green River  
<https://youtube.com/live/2Fw74MUynGg>

**NER RAC** – April 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:00 PM  
Wildlife Resources NER Office  
318 North Vernal Ave., Vernal  
[https://youtube.com/live/fo9KWjw\\_mU](https://youtube.com/live/fo9KWjw_mU)

**Board Meeting** – April 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM  
Eccles Wildlife Education Center, Farmington Bay  
<https://youtube.com/live/Ca3c8gXmee4>



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
Lieutenant Governor

## Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

RILEY PECK

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Utah Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Councils

FROM: Mike Wardle, Big Game Coordinator

DATE: March 26, 2026

**SUBJECT: 2026 Buck Deer Permit Recommendations (Informational)**

#### Overview

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources has finalized its 2026 buck deer permit recommendations based on 2025 harvest data, herd composition and winter survival rates. These adjustments align with the **2024 Utah Mule Deer Statewide Management Plan**.

The **20% rule** affects whether changes are automatic or action items:

- **Automatic changes:** Permit adjustments within 20% of last year's levels are implemented automatically (see informational presentation).
- **Action items:** Recommended changes that exceed 20% require Regional Advisory Council input and Utah Wildlife Board approval (see action item presentation).

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#### General-season permits

The 2026 buck deer recommendation totals **86,200 permits**, an increase of 6,425 from 2025.

- **Automatic implementation:** 28 of Utah's 31 units fell within the 20% threshold. These units will see a combined increase from 71,950 to 76,975 permits.
- **Action items:** Three units exceeded the 20% threshold. These are highlighted yellow in the RAC packet and will be presented separately for board action.



## Limited-entry permits

Most limited-entry adjustments are automatic. Specific unit-by-unit breakdowns are available in the attached hunt tables.

Category	2026 status	Notes
<b>Premium limited-entry</b>	Mixed	<b>Henry Mtns:</b> +2 permits (automatic). <b>Paunsaugunt:</b> Premium permits unchanged; Management/cactus buck permits exceed 20% (action item).
<b>Limited-entry</b>	Mixed	7 of 8 units will adjust automatically to maintain 25–30 bucks per 100 does.
<b>HAMSS</b>	No change	24 total permits across four units.
<b>Chronic wasting disease management</b>	No change	25 total permits for the La Sal unit.
<b>Little Rockies</b>	No change	5 total permits for this low-density opportunity hunt.
<b>Late-season muzzleloader</b>	Mixed	29 of 31 units will adjust automatically (capped at 0.5% of the unit's total general permits). Two units exceed 20% (action item).

Please see the buck deer hunt recommendations in the hunt tables for a detailed breakdown of permit numbers, along with the allocations for various weapon types and residents/nonresidents.





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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Utah Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Councils

FROM: Mike Wardle, Big Game Coordinator

DATE: March 26, 2026

**SUBJECT: 2026 Buck Deer Permit Recommendations (Action Required)**

#### Overview

Per the 2024 Utah Mule Deer Statewide Management Plan, permit adjustments that will change **more than 20%** from the previous year require input from the Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) and approval from the Utah Wildlife Board. These recommendations are being made to meet objectives set by the board in the statewide management plan.

#### General-season units (action required)

Of the 31 general-season units, there are three units that require board action due to recommendations exceeding the 20% threshold: Beaver, West; Kamas; and Wasatch Mtns, West. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources recommends an overall increase of **1,300 permits** across these three units to move toward the buck-to-doe ratio objectives for each unit. Please see the buck deer hunt recommendations in the hunt tables. Recommendations that require RAC input and Wildlife Board action are highlighted in yellow.

#### Premium limited-entry hunts (action required)

Two hunt recommendations on the Paunsaugunt unit exceed the 20% threshold and require RAC input and Wildlife Board action. For 2026, we recommend an increase of 10 management buck permits and a decrease of 10 cactus buck permits.

#### Limited-entry units and late-season muzzleloader hunts (action required)

Two limited-entry units and two late-season muzzleloader hunts require RAC input and Wildlife Board action for 2026:

- **Limited-entry units:** Recommendations exceed the 20% threshold for the Book Cliffs and Dolores Triangle units. The recommendations include an increase of 60 permits overall.

- **Late-season muzzleloader hunts:** Recommendations exceed the 20% threshold for the Cache and Wasatch Mtns, West units. These recommendations combine for a total increase of 9 permits overall.

Please see the buck deer hunt recommendations in the hunt tables for a detailed breakdown of permit numbers, along with the allocations for various weapon types and residents/nonresidents.





## 2026 GENERAL SEASON BUCK DEER

General Season Units	Objective	Bucks/100 Does				Permits		
		2023	2024	2025	3-Year Avg	2024	2025	2026
Beaver, East	15-17	21.7	19.5	21.7	21.0	–	1900	2200
<b>Beaver, West *</b>	<b>15-17</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>650</b>
Boulder/Kaiparowits *	15-17	30.8	25.2	25.7	27.2	2000	2300	2400
Box Elder	18-20	22.1	19.8	24.7	22.2	4600	4900	5200
Cache *	15-17	18.8	18.5	25.7	21.0	4100	4900	5800
Cedar/Stansbury	15-17	19.8	16.4	18.7	18.3	–	1150	1250
Chalk Creek	18-20	24.1	32.4	24.1	26.9	2000	2200	2200
East Canyon	18-20	21.9	31.1	30.4	27.8	1700	1900	1900
Fillmore	15-17	23.9	21.7	20.5	22.0	2100	2200	2300
Fishlake	15-17	24.3	22.2	20.7	22.4	1100	1250	1300
<b>Kamas</b>	<b>18-20</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>1250</b>	<b>1250</b>	<b>1000</b>
La Sal Mtns	15-17	17.4	29.8	22.3	23.2	1400	1700	1800
Manti/San Rafael	15-17	18.9	19.0	21.5	19.8	8000	8300	9000
Monroe	15-17	20.8	24.3	22.0	22.4	850	1100	1100
Morgan-South Rich	18-20	21.3	27.7	30.8	26.6	1400	1600	1600
Mt Dutton	15-17	22.3	19.5	18.8	20.2	375	400	400
Nebo	15-17	17.4	19.3	17.5	18.1	4500	4950	5300
Nine Mile	18-20	22.5	20.8	28.2	23.8	1300	1300	1400
North Slope	15-17	19.7	21.4	17.9	19.6	2300	2900	3100
Ogden	18-20	20.0	21.4	25.9	22.5	1900	2300	2700
Oquirrh/Tintic	18-20	27.6	27.0	22.3	25.6	–	2450	2250
Panguitch Lake	15-17	22.6	21.4	20.6	21.5	2100	2300	2500
Pine Valley	18-20	22.6	23.5	23.2	23.1	3400	3000	3000
San Juan, Abajo Mtns	15-17	17.1	23.0	22.9	21.0	2250	2600	2800
Southwest Desert	15-17	21.5	24.6	26.7	24.3	475	450	500
Vernal/Bonanza	15-17	16.1	15.6	22.2	18.0	1000	1200	1400
Wasatch Mtns, East	15-17	25.0	21.4	21.6	22.7	5000	6000	6500
<b>Wasatch Mtns, West</b>	<b>15-17</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>6275</b>	<b>6500</b>	<b>7900</b>
West Desert, Swasey	15-17	–	–	–	–	450	400	400
Yellowstone	18-20	18.6	18.9	18.8	18.8	1100	1300	1400
Zion	18-20	24.1	22.2	22.3	22.9	3300	3000	3375
Extended Archery	–	–	–	–	–	–	2000	2000
General Season ALL Units	–	21.5	22.5	22.6	22.2	71525	80200	86625

\*This unit has weapon restrictions on both the muzzleloader and any legal weapon hunts.

**Recommended - Board Action Required**



**2026 PREMIUM LIMITED ENTRY BUCK DEER**

**Antelope Island Premium**

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	DB1002	1	0	1	1	0	1
	Grand Total	1	0	1	1	0	1

**Antelope Island Management**

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	DB1121	-	-	-	2	0	2
	Grand Total	0	0	0	2	0	2

**Henry Mtns Premium**

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	DB1003	22	3	25	24	3	27
Archery	DB1000	8	1	9	8	1	9
Multiseason	DB1007	1	0	1	1	0	1
Muzzleloader	DB1005	8	1	9	8	1	9
	Grand Total	39	5	44	41	5	46

**Henry Mtns Management**

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	DB1009	10	1	11	10	1	11
	Grand Total	10	1	11	10	1	11

**Paunsaugunt Premium**

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	DB1004	75	8	83	75	8	83
Archery	DB1001	26	3	29	26	3	29
Multiseason	DB1008	3	1	4	3	1	4
Muzzleloader	DB1006	26	3	29	26	3	29
	Grand Total	130	15	145	130	15	145

**Paunsaugunt Management**

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	DB1010	24	3	27	30	3	33
Archery	DB1073	8	1	9	10	1	11
Muzzleloader	DB1074	8	1	9	10	1	11
	Grand Total	40	5	45	50	5	55

**Paunsaugunt Cactus**

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	DB1058	27	3	30	18	2	20
	Grand Total	27	3	30	18	2	20

Recommended - Board Action Required



**2026 LIMITED ENTRY BUCK DEER (1 of 3)**

<b>Book Cliffs</b>			<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Book Cliffs	Archery	DB1011	45	5	50	55	6	61
Book Cliffs	Multiseason	DB1044	6	1	7	8	1	9
Book Cliffs	Muzzleloader	DB1025	45	5	50	55	6	61
Book Cliffs, North	Any Legal Weapon	DB1017	114	13	127	137	15	152
Book Cliffs, South	Any Legal Weapon	DB1018	29	3	32	34	4	38
		Grand Total	239	27	266	289	32	321

<b>Cache, Crawford Mtn</b>			<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Cache, Crawford Mtn	Muzzleloader	DB1026	7	1	8	8	1	9
		Grand Total	7	1	8	8	1	9

<b>Castle Valley</b>			<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Castle Valley	Any Legal Weapon	DB1120	13	2	15	13	2	15
		Grand Total	13	2	15	13	2	15

<b>Diamond Mtn</b>			<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Diamond Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	DB1023	57	6	63	61	7	68
Diamond Mtn	Archery	DB1015	20	2	22	22	2	24
Diamond Mtn	Multiseason	DB1047	3	0	3	4	0	4
Diamond Mtn	Muzzleloader	DB1038	20	2	22	22	2	24
		Grand Total	100	10	110	109	11	120

<b>Dolores Triangle</b>			<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Dolores Triangle	Any Legal Weapon	DB1020	11	1	12	13	2	15
Dolores Triangle	Archery	DB1013	4	0	4	5	0	5
Dolores Triangle	Muzzleloader	DB1031	4	0	4	5	0	5
		Grand Total	19	1	20	23	2	25

**Recommended - Board Action Required**



**2026 LIMITED ENTRY BUCK DEER (2 of 3)**

**Fillmore, Oak Creek  
LE**

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
			Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	Any Legal Weapon	DB1019	31	3	34	33	4	37
Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	Archery	DB1012	11	1	12	12	1	13
Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	Multiseason	DB1045	2	0	2	2	0	2
Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	Muzzleloader	DB1029	11	1	12	12	1	13
Grand Total			55	5	60	59	6	65

**Little Rockies**

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
			Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Little Rockies	Any Legal Weapon	DB1115	4	1	5	4	1	5
Grand Total			4	1	5	4	1	5

**Moab Valley**

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
			Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Moab Valley	Any Legal Weapon	DB1119	9	1	10	9	1	10
Grand Total			9	1	10	9	1	10

**San Juan, Elk Ridge**

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
			Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
San Juan, Elk Ridge	Any Legal Weapon	DB1022	40	4	44	42	5	47
San Juan, Elk Ridge	Archery	DB1014	14	2	16	15	2	17
San Juan, Elk Ridge	Multiseason	DB1046	2	0	2	2	0	2
San Juan, Elk Ridge	Muzzleloader	DB1037	14	2	16	15	2	17
Grand Total			70	8	78	74	9	83

**Thousand Lakes**

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
			Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Thousand Lakes	Any Legal Weapon	DB1108	25	3	28	27	3	30
Thousand Lakes	Archery	DB1106	21	2	23	20	2	22
Thousand Lakes	Multiseason	DB1109	2	0	2	2	0	2
Thousand Lakes	Muzzleloader	DB1107	21	2	23	20	2	22
Grand Total			69	7	76	69	7	76

**Recommended - Board Action Required**



## 2026 LIMITED ENTRY BUCK DEER (3 of 3)

### West Desert, Vernon

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
			Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
West Desert, Vernon	Any Legal Weapon	DB1024	118	13	131	130	14	144
West Desert, Vernon	Archery	DB1016	41	5	46	46	5	51
West Desert, Vernon	Multiseason	DB1048	6	1	7	7	1	8
West Desert, Vernon	Muzzleloader	DB1042	41	5	46	46	5	51
Grand Total			206	24	230	229	25	254

### HAMSS

Hunt Name	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Book Cliffs, Floy Canyon	DB1090	6	1	7	6	1	7
East Canyon	DB1105	6	1	7	6	1	7
Kaiparowits HAMSS	DB1091	4	1	5	4	1	5
San Juan, Mancos Mesa	DB1116	4	1	5	4	1	5
Grand Total		20	4	24	20	4	24

\*This unit has weapon restrictions. See guide book for details.

**Recommended - Board Action Required**



**2026 LIMITED ENTRY ON GENERAL SEASON BUCK DEER**

LE on General Season			2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Beaver, East	Muzzleloader	DB1110	9	1	10	10	1	11
Beaver, West	Muzzleloader	DB1111	4	1	5	4	1	5
Boulder/Kaiparowits	Muzzleloader	DB1084	11	1	12	12	1	13
Box Elder	Muzzleloader	DB1077	22	3	25	23	3	26
Cache	Muzzleloader	DB1078	9	1	10	11	1	12
Cedar/Stansbury	Muzzleloader	DB1114	5	1	6	5	1	6
Chalk Creek	Muzzleloader	DB1100	10	1	11	10	1	11
East Canyon	Muzzleloader	DB1101	9	1	10	9	1	10
Fillmore	Muzzleloader	DB1028	10	1	11	11	1	12
Fishlake	Muzzleloader	DB1055	5	1	6	6	1	7
Kamas	Muzzleloader	DB1030	5	1	6	4	1	5
La Sal Mtns	Muzzleloader	DB1081	8	1	9	8	1	9
Manti/San Rafael	Muzzleloader	DB1079	38	4	42	40	5	45
Monroe	Muzzleloader	DB1032	5	1	6	5	1	6
Morgan-South Rich	Muzzleloader	DB1103	7	1	8	7	1	8
Mt Dutton	Muzzleloader	DB1053	4	1	5	4	1	5
Nebo	Muzzleloader	DB1080	22	3	25	23	3	26
Nine Mile	Muzzleloader	DB1033	6	1	7	6	1	7
North Slope	Muzzleloader	DB1065	13	2	15	14	2	16
Ogden	Muzzleloader	DB1054	11	1	12	13	1	14
Oquirrh/Tintic	Muzzleloader	DB1113	11	1	12	10	1	11
Panguitch Lake	Muzzleloader	DB1083	11	1	12	12	1	13
Pine Valley	Muzzleloader	DB1034	13	2	15	13	2	15
San Juan, Abajo Mtns	Muzzleloader	DB1085	12	1	13	13	1	14
Southwest Desert	Muzzleloader	DB1040	4	1	5	4	1	5
Vernal/Bonanza	Muzzleloader	DB1086	5	1	6	6	1	7
Wasatch Mtns, East	Muzzleloader	DB1041	27	3	30	30	3	33
Wasatch Mtns, West	Muzzleloader	DB1087	30	3	33	36	4	40
West Desert, Swasey	Muzzleloader	DB1112	4	1	5	4	1	5
Yellowstone	Muzzleloader	DB1039	6	1	7	6	1	7
Zion	Muzzleloader	DB1043	13	2	15	15	2	17
Grand Total			349	45	394	374	47	421

\*This unit has weapon restrictions on both the muzzleloader and any legal weapon hunts.

**Recommended - Board Action Required**



## 2026 DEER HERD STATUS

Unit Name	Objective	Population Estimate		
		2023	2024	2025
Beaver	14000	9400	9900	10500
Book Cliffs	9000	5500	5900	6200
Boulder/Kaiparowits	8500	7650	8200	7500
Box Elder	20000	17000	18300	17300
Cache	25000	12500	13550	16000
Cedar/Stansbury	5600	-	-	5100
Chalk Creek	12000	5900	7150	8300
Diamond Mtn/Vernal/Bonanza	13000	9500	9900	12700
Dolores Triangle	3000	1900	1600	1600
East Canyon	13500	2400	2700	4400
Fillmore	7600	8000	8200	8700
Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	2000	1130	950	950
Fishlake	7000	4600	4640	4600
Henry Mtns	2700	955	1280	1170
Kamas	8000	1300	2350	2350
La Sal Mtns	11500	5500	8800	8100
Manti/San Rafael	38000	26500	28400	32400
Monroe	7000	5000	5000	4300
Morgan-South Rich	16000	1900	2450	4900
Mt Dutton	3200	1980	1500	1500
Nebo	14000	13100	14850	16600
Nine Mile	8500	6300	5700	6300
North Slope	10000	5800	6500	7600
Ogden	11000	6500	7300	9200
Oquirrh-Stansbury	-	9500	10400	-
Oquirrh/Tintic	8800	-	-	9500
Panguitch Lake	11000	9000	9500	10500
Paunsaugunt	6500	5400	5900	6000
Pine Valley	19500	16000	13000	12100
San Juan, Abajo Mtns	17000	11900	14900	14400
San Juan, Elk Ridge	2000	950	1100	1100
Southwest Desert	3500	2300	2050	2000
Thousand Lakes	1400	600	610	600
Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin	4000	3600	3600	4500
Wasatch Mtns, Carrant Creek	17000	15500	15500	19000
Wasatch Mtns, West	22600	12700	13200	15400
West Desert	-	7800	8200	-
West Desert, Swasey	6200	-	-	5900
West Desert, Vernon	2200	-	-	2600
Yellowstone	11000	7400	8400	8800
Zion	19000	16800	14650	16900
Grand Total	421800	279765	296130	327570



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## Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
*Executive Director*

Division of Wildlife Resources

RILEY PECK

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Council Members  
FROM: Rusty Robinson, Once-in-a-lifetime Species Coordinator  
DATE: March 27, 2026  
SUBJECT: **2026 Once-in-a-lifetime Permit Recommendations**

Big game permit recommendations are reviewed annually. Recommendations are traditionally presented during the April RAC and Board cycle. The attached tables summarize the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources' recommended permit allocations for the 2026 bighorn, bison, mountain goat, and moose hunts. We've made these recommendations after evaluating 2025 harvest information, census data, and harvest age data.

The 2026 permit recommendations will help us achieve or maintain the objectives detailed in Utah's species specific statewide management plans. For specific information about how different species are managed, please refer to visit <https://wildlife.utah.gov/biggame>, scroll down the page (to "Statewide big game management plans") to find the Utah Statewide Management Plans for each species.

#### Permit Recommendation Overview:

##### 1) Bighorn Sheep

We recommend permits based on the number of rams counted on the most recent aerial census; 12-25% of total counted rams or 30-60% of rams 6 years of age or older. We are recommending a statewide total of 85 desert bighorn sheep permits (3 permit decrease). We are recommending a statewide total of 51 Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permits (1 permit decrease).

##### 2) Bison

We recommend permit numbers based on the herd population objective and bull: cow ratio. We are recommending a statewide total of 135 total bison permits (2 permit increase).

##### 3) Mountain Goat

We recommend permit numbers based on 5-25% of the counted adult population on the most recent aerial census. We are recommending a statewide total of 112 mountain goat permits (9 permit increase).



4) Moose

We recommend permit numbers based on an average age of bulls harvested between 3.75 and 4.25 years old. We are recommending a statewide total of 113 moose permits (7 permit increase).



## 2026 MOOSE AVERAGE AGES AND OBJECTIVES

Unit Name	Objective	2023	2024	2025	3-Year Avg
Box Elder	3.75 - 4.75	4.7	5.5	5.6	5.3
Cache	3.75 - 4.75	5.7	4.9	5.4	5.3
Chalk Creek	3.75 - 4.75	4.8	3.5	3.6	4.0
Diamond Mtn/Vernal	3.75 - 4.75	4.0	3.5	4.0	3.8
East Canyon	3.75 - 4.75	3.6	4.4	3.8	3.9
Kamas	3.75 - 4.75	4.5	5.0	3.7	4.4
Morgan-South Rich	3.75 - 4.75	4.6	4.9	4.5	4.7
North Slope, Summit	3.75 - 4.75	6.2	5.2	5.3	5.6
North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	3.75 - 4.75	4.9	3.0	5.0	4.3
Ogden	3.75 - 4.75	4.2	4.0	3.9	4.0
Wasatch Mtns	3.75 - 4.75	3.5	4.0	3.9	3.8
Yellowstone	3.75 - 4.75	4.7	7.5	6.8	6.3



**2026 ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME BULL MOOSE PERMITS**

**OIAL Bull Moose Hunts**

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
			Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Box Elder	Any Legal Weapon	MB6012	2	0	2	2	0	2
Cache	Any Legal Weapon	MB6000	12	3	15	14	3	17
Chalk Creek	Any Legal Weapon	MB6001	3	0	3	4	0	4
Diamond Mtn/Vernal	Any Legal Weapon	MB6009	2	0	2	2	0	2
East Canyon	Any Legal Weapon	MB6002	5	0	5	5	0	5
East Canyon, Morgan-Summit	Any Legal Weapon	MB6003	4	0	4	5	0	5
Kamas	Any Legal Weapon	MB6004	5	0	5	6	0	6
Morgan-South Rich	Any Legal Weapon	MB6005	6	0	6	6	0	6
North Slope, Summit	Any Legal Weapon	MB6006	19	3	22	20	3	23
North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	Any Legal Weapon	MB6007	6	2	8	6	2	8
Ogden	Any Legal Weapon	MB6008	7	0	7	7	0	7
Wasatch Mtns/Central Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	MB6011	19	3	22	19	3	22
Yellowstone	Any Legal Weapon	MB6010	5	0	5	6	0	6
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>95</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>113</b>



**2026 ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME MOUNTAIN GOAT PERMITS**

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
			Res	Non		Res	Non	
				Res	Total		Res	Total
Beaver	Any Legal Weapon	GO6800	7	2	9	7	2	9
Beaver	Any Legal Weapon	GO6801	9	0	9	9	0	9
Beaver	Archery	GO6822	2	0	2	2	0	2
High Uintas Central	Any Legal Weapon	GO6805	5	0	5	5	0	5
High Uintas East	Any Legal Weapon	GO6806	2	0	2	3	0	3
High Uintas Kamas	Any Legal Weapon	GO6804	1	0	1	1	0	1
High Uintas Leidy Peak	Any Legal Weapon	GO6807	1	0	1	2	0	2
High Uintas West	Any Legal Weapon	GO6808	9	2	11	9	2	11
La Sal Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	GO6817	9	2	11	10	2	12
Mt Dutton	Any Legal Weapon	GO6814	2	0	2	2	0	2
Nebo	Any Legal Weapon	GO6803	16	2	18	21	3	24
Nebo	Archery	GO6821	12	0	12	12	0	12
Ogden, Willard Peak	Any Legal Weapon	GO6810	1	0	1	1	0	1
Wasatch Mtns, Box Elder Peak	Any Legal Weapon	GO6818	3	0	3	3	0	3
Wasatch Mtns, Lone Peak	Any Legal Weapon	GO6819	1	0	1	1	0	1
Wasatch Mtns, Provo Peak	Any Legal Weapon	GO6813	5	0	5	5	0	5
Wasatch Mtns, Timpanogos	Any Legal Weapon	GO6820	8	2	10	8	2	10
		Grand Total	93	10	103	101	11	112



## 2026 ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME BISON PERMITS

### Antelope Island

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	Sex Type	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Antelope Island	Any Legal Weapon	BI6500	Hunter's Choice	2	0	2	2	0	2
Grand Total				2	0	2	2	0	2

### Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	Sex Type	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	Any Legal Weapon	BI6536	Female Only	3	0	3	15	0	15
Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	Any Legal Weapon	BI6534	Hunter's Choice	5	0	5	10	0	10
Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	Any Legal Weapon	BI6535	Hunter's Choice	5	0	5	8	0	8
Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	Archery	BI6532	Hunter's Choice	5	0	5	5	0	5
Grand Total				18	0	18	38	0	38

### Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	Sex Type	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South	Any Legal Weapon	BI6529	Female Only	8	0	8	8	0	8
Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South	Any Legal Weapon	BI6531	Hunter's Choice	8	0	8	10	0	10
Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South	Any Legal Weapon	BI6537	Hunter's Choice	5	5	10	8	7	15
Book Cliffs, Little Creek/South	Archery	BI6528	Hunter's Choice	5	0	5	5	0	5
Grand Total				26	5	31	31	7	38

### Henry Mtns

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	Sex Type	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Henry Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	BI6505	Female Only	25	4	29	8	3	11
Henry Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	BI6506	Female Only	30	0	30	11	0	11
Henry Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	BI6539	Female Only	-	-	-	11	0	11
Henry Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	BI6503	Hunter's Choice	5	2	7	4	2	6
Henry Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	BI6504	Hunter's Choice	5	2	7	5	2	7
Henry Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	BI6516	Hunter's Choice	5	0	5	6	0	6
Henry Mtns	Archery	BI6509	Hunter's Choice	4	0	4	5	0	5
Grand Total				74	8	82	50	7	57

### Nine Mile OTC

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	Sex Type	2025 Permits	2026 Permits
Nine Mile	Any Legal Weapon	BI6527	Hunter's Choice	Unlimited	Unlimited



## 2026 ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP PERMITS

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
			Res	Non		Res	Non	
				Res	Res		Total	Res
Escalante, East	Any Legal Weapon	DS6626	5	2	7	5	2	7
Escalante, West	Any Legal Weapon	DS6627	3	0	3	3	0	3
Henry Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	DS6600	3	0	3	3	0	3
Kaiparowits, East	Any Legal Weapon	DS6601	10	2	12	10	3	13
Kaiparowits, West	Any Legal Weapon	DS6603	4	1	5	3	1	4
La Sal, Potash/South Cisco	Any Legal Weapon	DS6604	6	0	6	8	0	8
Mineral Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	DS6625	3	0	3	4	0	4
Pine Valley, Beaver Dam	Any Legal Weapon	DS6621	5	0	5	2	0	2
Pine Valley, Virgin River	Any Legal Weapon	DS6620	3	0	3	3	0	3
San Juan, Lockhart	Any Legal Weapon	DS6606	2	0	2	2	0	2
San Juan, North	Any Legal Weapon	DS6622	3	0	3	3	0	3
San Juan, San Juan River	Any Legal Weapon	DS6623	2	0	2	2	0	2
San Juan, South	Any Legal Weapon	DS6607	2	0	2	2	0	2
San Rafael, Dirty Devil	Any Legal Weapon	DS6608	5	2	7	3	1	4
San Rafael, Dirty Devil	Archery	DS6624	2	0	2	2	0	2
San Rafael, North	Any Legal Weapon	DS6609	8	0	8	8	0	8
San Rafael, South	Any Legal Weapon	DS6610	10	2	12	10	2	12
Zion	Any Legal Weapon	DS6611	3	0	3	3	0	3
		Grand Total	79	9	88	76	9	85



**2026 ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIGHORN SHEEP PERMITS**

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permis		
			Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Antelope Island	Any Legal Weapon	RS6700	1	0	1	2	0	2
Book Cliffs, South	Any Legal Weapon	RS6701	5	1	6	5	1	6
Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	RS6703	4	0	4	4	0	4
Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	RS6704	3	1	4	3	1	4
Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn	Archery	RS6722	2	0	2	2	0	2
Fillmore, Oak Creek	Any Legal Weapon	RS6720	4	0	4	4	0	4
Fillmore, Oak Creek	Any Legal Weapon	RS6726	4	1	5	3	1	4
Fillmore, Oak Creek	Archery	RS6727	2	0	2	2	0	2
Nebo	Any Legal Weapon	RS6725	2	0	2	2	0	2
Nine Mile, Gray Canyon	Any Legal Weapon	RS6712	4	2	6	4	2	6
Nine Mile, Jack Creek	Any Legal Weapon	RS6713	4	0	4	4	0	4
North Slope, Summit/West Daggett	Any Legal Weapon	RS6709	4	0	4	3	0	3
North Slope, Three Corners	Any Legal Weapon	RS6708	3	0	3	2	0	2
Oquirrh-Stansbury, West	Any Legal Weapon	RS6721	3	0	3	3	0	3
Wasatch Mtns, West	Any Legal Weapon	RS6724	2	0	2	3	0	3
		Grand Total	47	5	52	46	5	51



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
Lieutenant Governor

## Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

RILEY PECK

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Utah Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Councils

FROM: Mike Wardle, Big Game Coordinator

DATE: March 26, 2026

**SUBJECT: Overview of 2026 bull elk permit recommendations**

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources makes the following 2026 bull elk permit recommendations after evaluating 2025 harvest information and conducting post-hunt assessments of herd composition.

The proposed 2026 bull elk permits will help us achieve or maintain the objectives detailed in the Utah Statewide Elk Management Plan. Utah manages to three different age objectives for harvested bulls on traditional limited-entry units. Those age objectives are 5.5-6.0 years, 6.0-6.5 years and 6.5-7.0 years. Utah also has several limited-entry units managed for a month-long September archery season and a later handgun, archery, muzzleloader, shotgun, straight-walled rifle (HAMSS) season. The HAMSS season runs from late October to mid-November.

Below is a summary of the **2026 bull elk permit recommendations**:

1. General-season elk permits (already approved in the statewide plan)
  - a. 15,000 spike bull elk permits, up to 4,500 of which can be issued as multiseason permits
  - b. 15,000 any bull elk permits (early season, any weapon and muzzleloader)
  - c. Unlimited any bull elk permits (late season, any weapon)
  - d. Unlimited general-season youth elk permits
  - e. Unlimited archery elk permits
2. We recommend no change to the draw-only youth any bull/hunter's choice elk permits (750 permits).
3. We recommend increasing the Uinta Basin private-lands-only any bull hunt from 500 to 750 permits. These permits help address conflicts and crop damage from low-elevation, resident elk in agricultural areas in the Uinta Basin.



4. We recommend 3,142 traditional limited-entry permits for 2026. This is a decrease of 73 permits from the 3,215 permits issued in 2025. The most notable change in this category is the proposed reduction of 100 permits on the Wasatch Mtns unit, from 726 permits to 580 permits. We're proposing this reduction in an effort to increase the average age of bulls harvested, so it falls within the age objective for the unit.
5. We recommend 193 December archery limited-entry bull elk permits. This is 35 more permits than the 158 permits issued last year.
6. We recommend 144 September archery and HAMSS permits (72 September archery and 72 HAMSS), an increase of 4 permits from the 140 permits issued last year.
7. We have two opportunities for limited-entry hunts on general-season units to capture unique opportunities and to help reduce bull numbers on two units that are exceeding their population objectives and have high bull-to-cow ratios. These are late December hunts — a HAMSS hunt on the East Canyon unit and an any-legal-weapon hunt on the Morgan-South Rich unit. We recommend maintaining 10 permits on the Morgan-South Rich hunt and decreasing from 10 to 8 permits on East Canyon.
8. The grand total of recommended limited-entry bull elk permits is 3,497 permits. This is 36 permits fewer than the 3,533 permits issued last year, a proposed decrease of ~1%

Please see the bull elk hunt recommendations listed in the hunt tables in this packet for a detailed breakdown of recommended permits for each individual unit. The hunt tables also show how permits are allocated among weapon types and split between residents and nonresidents.



## 2026 GENERAL SEASON BULL ELK PERMITS

Hunt Type	2025 Permits	2026 Permits
Spike Bull	15000	15000
Any Bull Elk (includes muzzleloader)	15000	15000
Any Bull Late	Unlimited	Unlimited
Youth General Season	Unlimited	Unlimited
Uinta Basin Private Lands Only Any Bull	500	750
Draw Only Youth Any Bull/Hunter's Choice (any weapon)	750	750

**Recommended - Board Action Required**



## 2026 LIMITED ENTRY ELK AVERAGE AGES AND OBJECTIVES

Unit	Objective	2023	2024	2025	3-Year Avg
Barney Top/Kaiparowits	3.5-4.5	5.7	9.4	7.8	7.6
Beaver, East	6.5-7.0	9.1	9.6	9.4	9.4
Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	6.0-6.5	6.5	6.3	7.5	6.8
Book Cliffs, Little Creek	6.5-7.0	8.1	8.7	7.3	8.0
Boulder	6.5-7.0	8.4	7.4	9.0	8.3
Box Elder, Grouse Creek	5.5-6.0	5.6	5.3	5.5	5.5
Box Elder, Pilot Mtn	5.5-6.0	6.0	6.5	4.6	5.7
Cache, Meadowville	6.0-6.5	5.6	5.2	4.1	5.0
Cache, North	3.5-4.5	6.4	8.3	4.2	6.3
Cache, South	6.0-6.5	6.4	7.2	7.1	6.9
Diamond Mtn	5.5-6.0	7.0	7.1	6.8	7.0
Dolores Triangle	5.5-6.0	-	9.0	-	9.0
Fillmore, Pahvant	6.5-7.0	7.7	8.0	7.1	7.6
Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	5.5-6.0	7.5	6.6	6.8	7.0
La Sal Mtns	5.5-6.0	5.7	6.3	5.9	6.0
Manti	5.5-6.0	6.3	6.0	5.8	6.0
Monroe	6.0-6.5	9.1	8.3	8.8	8.7
Mt Dutton	6.0-6.5	7.8	8.0	7.6	7.8
Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	5.5-6.0	6.6	7.1	7.0	6.9
North Slope, Three Corners	5.5-6.0	5.7	4.8	6.1	5.5
Panguitch Lake	6.0-6.5	7.8	7.9	7.3	7.7
San Juan Bull Elk	6.5-7.0	7.6	7.9	8.1	7.9
Southwest Desert, North	3.5-4.5	8.1	9.5	7.9	8.5
Southwest Desert, South	6.0-6.5	8.1	8.4	8.0	8.2
Wasatch Mtns	5.5-6.0	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.1
West Desert, Deep Creek	3.5-4.5	7.4	8.2	7.1	7.6



## 2026 LIMITED ENTRY BULL ELK PERMITS (1 of 5)

### Beaver, East

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3000	22	2	24	22	3	25
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3024	9	1	10	9	1	10
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3159	25	3	28	27	3	30
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3025	14	2	16	15	2	17
Multiseason	EB3102	3	0	3	3	0	3
Muzzleloader	EB3077	13	1	14	13	2	15
	Grand Total	86	9	95	89	11	100

### Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3160	20	2	22	22	2	24
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3162	8	1	9	9	1	10
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3164	23	3	26	25	3	28
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3163	13	2	15	14	2	16
Multiseason	EB3165	3	0	3	3	0	3
Muzzleloader	EB3166	12	1	13	13	1	14
	Grand Total	79	9	88	86	9	95

### Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3002	3	0	3	4	0	4
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3028	2	0	2	3	0	3
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3167	3	1	4	4	1	5
Multiseason	EB3104	1	0	1	1	0	1
Muzzleloader	EB3079	2	0	2	2	0	2
	Grand Total	11	1	12	14	1	15

### Boulder

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3145	28	3	31	31	4	35
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3148	12	1	13	13	1	14
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3191	33	4	37	37	4	41
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3151	19	2	21	22	2	24
Multiseason	EB3156	4	0	4	4	0	4
Muzzleloader	EB3154	17	2	19	19	2	21
	Grand Total	113	12	125	126	13	139



2026 LIMITED ENTRY BULL ELK PERMITS (2 of 5)

Box Elder, Grouse Creek

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3147	6	1	7	6	1	7
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3150	12	1	13	12	1	13
Muzzleloader	EB3153	2	1	3	2	1	3
	Grand Total	20	3	23	20	3	23

Box Elder, Pilot Mtn

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3130	3	0	3	2	0	2
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3031	9	1	10	6	1	7
	Grand Total	12	1	13	8	1	9

Cache, Meadowville

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3003	11	1	12	9	1	10
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3032	4	1	5	3	1	4
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3169	13	2	15	11	1	12
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3033	7	1	8	6	1	7
Multiseason	EB3105	1	0	1	1	0	1
Muzzleloader	EB3081	6	1	7	5	1	6
	Grand Total	42	6	48	35	5	40

Cache, South

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3005	9	1	10	10	1	11
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3036	4	0	4	4	0	4
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3171	10	1	11	11	1	12
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3037	5	1	6	6	1	7
Multiseason	EB3107	1	0	1	1	0	1
Muzzleloader	EB3083	5	1	6	5	1	6
	Grand Total	34	4	38	37	4	41

Diamond Mtn

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3020	22	3	25	25	3	28
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3068	9	1	10	10	1	11
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3069	27	3	30	30	3	33
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3196	15	2	17	17	2	19
Multiseason	EB3122	3	0	3	3	0	3
Muzzleloader	EB3098	13	2	15	15	2	17
	Grand Total	89	11	100	100	11	111



2026 LIMITED ENTRY BULL ELK PERMITS (3 of 5)

Fillmore, Pahvant

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3008	19	2	21	19	2	21
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3042	8	1	9	8	1	9
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3181	22	3	25	22	3	25
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3043	13	2	15	13	2	15
Multiseason	EB3110	3	0	3	3	0	3
Muzzleloader	EB3086	12	1	13	12	1	13
	Grand Total	77	9	86	77	9	86

Dolores Triangle

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3044	6	1	7	6	1	7
	Grand Total	6	1	7	6	1	7

Fishlake/Thousand Lakes

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3018	81	9	90	84	9	93
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3063	33	4	37	34	4	38
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3064	96	11	107	99	11	110
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3065	56	6	62	57	6	63
Multiseason	EB3120	10	1	11	10	1	11
Muzzleloader	EB3096	49	5	54	50	6	56
	Grand Total	325	36	361	334	37	371

La Sal Mtns

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3009	36	4	40	36	4	40
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3045	14	2	16	14	2	16
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3183	42	5	47	42	5	47
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3046	24	3	27	24	3	27
Multiseason	EB3111	5	0	5	5	0	5
Muzzleloader	EB3087	22	2	24	22	2	24
	Grand Total	143	16	159	143	16	159

Manti

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3006	157	18	175	148	17	165
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3038	65	7	72	61	7	68
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3126	186	21	207	175	20	195
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3039	108	12	120	102	11	113
Multiseason	EB3108	19	2	21	18	2	20
Muzzleloader	EB3084	94	11	105	89	10	99
	Grand Total	629	71	700	593	67	660



## 2026 LIMITED ENTRY BULL ELK PERMITS (4 of 5)

### Monroe

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3010	19	2	21	21	2	23
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3047	8	1	9	8	1	9
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3185	22	3	25	24	3	27
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3048	13	1	14	13	2	15
Multiseason	EB3112	2	0	2	3	0	3
Muzzleloader	EB3088	11	1	12	13	1	14
	Grand Total	75	8	83	82	9	91

### Morgan-South Rich

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3208	9	1	10	9	1	10
	Grand Total	9	1	10	9	1	10

### Mt Dutton

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3011	18	2	20	19	2	21
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3049	7	1	8	8	1	9
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3187	22	2	24	22	3	25
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3050	13	1	14	13	2	15
Multiseason	EB3113	2	0	2	3	0	3
Muzzleloader	EB3089	11	1	12	12	1	13
	Grand Total	73	7	80	77	9	86

### Nebo/San Pitch Mtns

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3173	22	2	24	29	3	32
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3175	9	1	10	12	1	13
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3177	25	3	28	34	4	38
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3176	14	2	16	20	2	22
Multiseason	EB3178	3	0	3	4	0	4
Muzzleloader	EB3179	13	1	14	17	2	19
	Grand Total	86	9	95	116	12	128

### North Slope, Three Corners

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3013	6	1	7	6	1	7
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3210	5	0	5	5	0	5
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3053	9	1	10	9	1	10
Multiseason	EB3115	1	0	1	1	0	1
Muzzleloader	EB3091	4	0	4	4	0	4
	Grand Total	25	2	27	25	2	27



## 2026 LIMITED ENTRY BULL ELK PERMITS (5 of 5)

### Panguitch Lake

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3015	16	2	18	17	2	19
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3056	6	1	7	7	1	8
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3189	19	2	21	20	2	22
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3057	11	1	12	12	1	13
Multiseason	EB3117	2	0	2	2	0	2
Muzzleloader	EB3093	10	1	11	10	1	11
	Grand Total	64	7	71	68	7	75

### San Juan Bull Elk

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3019	26	3	29	29	3	32
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3066	11	1	12	12	1	13
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3194	31	3	34	33	4	37
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3067	18	2	20	20	2	22
Multiseason	EB3121	3	0	3	4	0	4
Muzzleloader	EB3097	15	2	17	17	2	19
	Grand Total	104	11	115	115	12	127

### Southwest Desert, South

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3146	37	4	41	39	4	43
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3149	15	2	17	16	2	18
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3198	43	5	48	46	5	51
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3152	25	3	28	26	3	29
Multiseason	EB3157	5	0	5	5	0	5
Muzzleloader	EB3155	22	2	24	23	3	26
	Grand Total	147	16	163	155	17	172

### Wasatch Mtns

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Archery	EB3022	164	18	182	130	15	145
Early Any Legal Weapon	EB3072	67	7	74	54	6	60
Mid Any Legal Weapon	EB3127	193	22	215	155	17	172
Late Any Legal Weapon	EB3073	112	12	124	89	10	99
Multiseason	EB3124	20	2	22	15	2	17
Muzzleloader	EB3100	98	11	109	78	9	87
	Grand Total	654	72	726	521	59	580



**2026 LIMITED ENTRY BULL ELK PERMITS**

<b>Limited Entry Late Archery Bull Elk</b>			<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Hunt Name</b>	<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Beaver, East	Late Archery	EB3158	13	2	15	18	2	20
Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/East	Late Archery	EB3161	4	1	5	4	1	5
Boulder	Late Archery	EB3190	4	1	5	4	1	5
Cache, Meadowville	Late Archery	EB3168	4	1	5	4	1	5
Cache, South	Late Archery	EB3170	4	1	5	4	1	5
Diamond Mtn	Late Archery	EB3195	4	1	5	4	1	5
Fillmore, Pahvant	Late Archery	EB3180	13	2	15	18	2	20
Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Late Archery	EB3192	13	2	15	13	2	15
La Sal Mtns	Late Archery	EB3182	9	1	10	9	1	10
Manti	Late Archery	EB3172	9	1	10	9	1	10
Monroe	Late Archery	EB3184	7	1	8	7	1	8
Mt Dutton	Late Archery	EB3186	9	1	10	13	2	15
Nebo/San Pitch Mtns	Late Archery	EB3174	9	1	10	13	2	15
Panguitch Lake	Late Archery	EB3188	9	1	10	13	2	15
San Juan Bull Elk	Late Archery	EB3193	9	1	10	9	1	10
Southwest Desert, South	Late Archery	EB3197	9	1	10	18	2	20
Wasatch Mtns	Late Archery	EB3199	9	1	10	9	1	10
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>95</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>193</b>



## 2026 LIMITED ENTRY BULL ELK PERMITS

### Limited Entry HAMSS Bull Elk

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
			Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Barney Top/Kaiparowits	HAMSS	EB3142	9	1	10	9	1	10
Cache, North	HAMSS	EB3139	25	3	28	22	2	24
East Canyon	HAMSS	EB3205	9	1	10	7	1	8
Southwest Desert, North	HAMSS	EB3143	16	2	18	21	2	23
West Desert, Deep Creek	HAMSS	EB3144	13	1	14	13	2	15
Grand Total			72	8	80	72	8	80

### Limited Entry Bull Elk September Archery

Hunt Name	Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
			Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Barney Top/Kaiparowits	September Archery	EB3135	9	1	10	9	1	10
Cache, North	September Archery	EB3132	25	3	28	22	2	24
Southwest Desert, North	September Archery	EB3136	16	2	18	21	2	23
West Desert, Deep Creek	September Archery	EB3137	13	1	14	13	2	15
Grand Total			63	7	70	65	7	72



## 2026 ELK HERD STATUS

Unit Name	Objective	Population Estimate		
		2023	2024	2025
Beaver	1150-1350	900	1000	1050
Book Cliffs	7500	5300	5300	5800
Boulder/Kaiparowits	1200-1700	1300	1400	1400
Box Elder	1075	1150	1250	1650
Cache	2300	1600	1800	2700
Chalk Creek	3200	4200	4400	3650
Diamond Mtn/Vernal/Bonanza	3000	3000	2700	2700
Dolores Triangle	700	800	700	700
East Canyon	1800	2900	2800	2900
Fillmore	1450-1750	1500	1450	1500
Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	5000-5900	4750	5000	5200
Kamas	850	1300	1500	430
La Sal Mtns	1800	1800	1900	1800
Manti	12000	12000	12200	11800
Monroe	1000-1400	1100	1100	1200
Morgan-South Rich	4200	5800	5700	5300
Mt Dutton	1500-2000	1450	1550	1600
Nebo	2200	2350	2350	2750
Nine Mile, Anthro	700	1100	1200	1300
Nine Mile, Range Creek	1800	2100	2200	2100
North Slope, Summit	300	750	200	250
North Slope, Three Corners	700	700	800	825
North Slope, West Daggett	1300	1300	1250	1200
Ogden	2000	2100	2200	2450
Panguitch Lake	1000-1500	1100	1200	1300
Paunsaugunt	140	150	140	140
Pine Valley	50	50	75	75
San Juan	1300	1300	1300	1300
Southwest Desert	1050-1250	1000	975	975
Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin	1800	2800	3100	3200
Wasatch Mtns, Carrant Creek	3200	4400	4600	4800
Wasatch Mtns, West	3400	3500	3700	3800
West Desert Complex	2150	1450	1450	1450
Yellowstone	3500	3000	3100	3200
Zion	300	600	550	525
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>80115</b>	<b>80600</b>	<b>82140</b>	<b>83020</b>



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
*Governor*

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
*Lieutenant Governor*

## Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
*Executive Director*

Division of Wildlife Resources

RILEY PECK

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Utah Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Councils

FROM: Mike Wardle, Big Game Coordinator

DATE: March 26, 2026

**SUBJECT: Overview of 2026 buck pronghorn permit recommendations**

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources biologists and staff have evaluated aerial counts and ground-classification information to examine population status, sex ratios and reproductive rates in the state's pronghorn populations. The count and classification data — along with harvest data that includes the tooth ages of pronghorn bucks — have informed the DWR's recommendations for 2026 buck pronghorn permits.

The Utah Pronghorn Statewide Management Plan directs the DWR to manage for an average age of 2-3 years old for harvested bucks. After evaluating the collected data in the context of the age objective in the statewide plan, the DWR recommends increasing limited-entry buck pronghorn permits from 1,739 permits to 1,827 permits. This is a proposed increase of 88 permits, or about 5%.

Utah has 28 buck pronghorn units, and all units are meeting or exceeding the 3-year average age objective of 2-3 years for harvested bucks. We are recommending a reduction on three units — the North Slope, Three Corners/West Dagget; San Juan, Hatch Point; and Vernal units — due to a declining trend in average age. We are recommending no change on 13 units and permit increases on 12 units. These recommendations are designed to maintain or move toward compliance with the objectives in the statewide management plan.

Please see the buck pronghorn hunt recommendations listed in the hunt tables in this packet for a detailed breakdown of recommended permits for each unit. The hunt tables also show how permits are allocated among weapon types and split between residents and nonresidents.





## 2026 BUCK PRONGHORN AVERAGE AGES AND OBJECTIVES

Unit Name	Objective	2023	2024	2025	3-Year Avg
Beaver	2.0 - 3.0	4.0	5.1	3.8	4.3
Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek	2.0 - 3.0	4.6	4.0	3.3	4.0
Book Cliffs, South	2.0 - 3.0	3.9	4.2	3.4	3.8
Box Elder, Promontory	2.0 - 3.0	3.6	2.8	2.4	2.9
Box Elder, Puddle Valley	2.0 - 3.0	3.5	2.9	2.4	2.9
Box Elder, Snowville	2.0 - 3.0	3.1	3.2	2.7	3.0
Box Elder, West	2.0 - 3.0	3.6	2.4	3.4	3.1
Cache, Rich	2.0 - 3.0	2.0	4.0	2.4	2.8
Diamond Mtn/Bonanza	2.0 - 3.0	3.9	3.3	3.4	3.5
Fillmore, Oak Creek South	2.0 - 3.0	5.3	4.6	3.7	4.5
Kaiparowits	2.0 - 3.0	5.0	-	-	5.0
La Sal, Potash/South Cisco	2.0 - 3.0	4.1	3.1	2.8	3.3
Morgan-South Rich	2.0 - 3.0	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.1
Mt Dutton/Paunsaugunt	2.0 - 3.0	3.4	3.6	2.3	3.1
Nine Mile, Anthro	2.0 - 3.0	3.5	3.6	3.3	3.5
Nine Mile, Range Creek	2.0 - 3.0	4.3	3.8	5.8	4.6
North Slope, Summit	2.0 - 3.0	5.4	4.9	3.4	4.6
North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett	2.0 - 3.0	3.8	3.6	2.6	3.3
Panguitch Lake/Zion, North	2.0 - 3.0	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.3
Parker Mtn	2.0 - 3.0	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.2
Pine Valley	2.0 - 3.0	3.3	3.4	2.9	3.2
San Juan, Hatch Point	2.0 - 3.0	2.0	4.2	1.7	2.6
San Rafael, Desert	2.0 - 3.0	4.3	4.0	4.0	4.1
San Rafael, North	2.0 - 3.0	4.2	3.7	4.0	4.0
Southwest Desert	2.0 - 3.0	4.3	3.8	3.4	3.8
Vernal	2.0 - 3.0	4.5	3.9	2.9	3.8
West Desert, Riverbed	2.0 - 3.0	4.4	3.3	4.0	3.9
West Desert, Rush Valley	2.0 - 3.0	3.5	3.2	3.0	3.2
West Desert, Snake Valley	2.0 - 3.0	5.4	4.0	3.7	4.4



2026 LIMITED ENTRY BUCK PRONGHORN PERMITS (1 of 4)

<b>Beaver</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5025	40	4	44	43	5	48
Archery	PB5000	10	1	11	11	1	12
	Grand Total	50	5	55	54	6	60

<b>Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5026	50	6	56	50	6	56
Archery	PB5001	13	1	14	13	1	14
	Grand Total	63	7	70	63	7	70

<b>Book Cliffs, South</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5027	31	3	34	34	4	38
Archery	PB5002	7	1	8	8	1	9
	Grand Total	38	4	42	42	5	47

<b>Box Elder, Promontory</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5028	14	2	16	14	2	16
Archery	PB5003	4	0	4	4	0	4
	Grand Total	18	2	20	18	2	20

<b>Box Elder, Puddle Valley</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5029	14	2	16	14	2	16
Archery	PB5004	3	1	4	3	1	4
	Grand Total	17	3	20	17	3	20

<b>Box Elder, Snowville</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5030	27	3	30	28	3	31
Archery	PB5005	9	1	10	9	1	10
Muzzleloader	PB5080	9	1	10	9	1	10
	Grand Total	45	5	50	46	5	51

<b>Box Elder, West</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5031	27	3	30	30	3	33
Archery	PB5006	9	1	10	10	1	11
Muzzleloader	PB5079	9	1	10	10	1	11
	Grand Total	45	5	50	50	5	55



2026 LIMITED ENTRY BUCK PRONGHORN PERMITS (2 of 4)

<b>Cache, Rich</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5073	6	0	6	6	0	6
Archery	PB5074	2	0	2	2	0	2
Muzzleloader	PB5075	2	0	2	2	0	2
	Grand Total	10	0	10	10	0	10

<b>Diamond Mtn/Bonanza</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5047	50	6	56	50	6	56
Archery	PB5016	17	2	19	17	2	19
Muzzleloader	PB5060	17	2	19	17	2	19
	Grand Total	84	10	94	84	10	94

<b>Fillmore, Oak Creek South</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5033	40	5	45	46	5	51
Archery	PB5008	13	2	15	15	2	17
Muzzleloader	PB5065	13	2	15	15	2	17
	Grand Total	66	9	75	76	9	85

<b>Kaiparowits</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5034	2	0	2	2	0	2
	Grand Total	2	0	2	2	0	2

<b>La Sal, Potash/South Cisco</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5035	20	2	22	22	2	24
Archery	PB5009	6	0	6	6	0	6
	Grand Total	26	2	28	28	2	30

<b>Mt Dutton/Paunsaugunt</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5331	14	2	16	13	2	15
Archery	PB5332	3	1	4	4	1	5
	Grand Total	17	3	20	17	3	20

<b>Nine Mile, Anthro-Myton Bench</b>		<b>2025 Permits</b>			<b>2026 Permits</b>		
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Hunt Number</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Res</b>	<b>Non Res</b>	<b>Total</b>
Any Legal Weapon	PB5037	89	10	99	89	10	99
Archery	PB5011	30	3	33	30	3	33
Muzzleloader	PB5059	30	3	33	30	3	33
	Grand Total	149	16	165	149	16	165



2026 LIMITED ENTRY BUCK PRONGHORN PERMITS (3 of 4)

Nine Mile, Range Creek

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5038	11	1	12	13	1	14
Archery	PB5053	3	0	3	4	0	4
	Grand Total	14	1	15	17	1	18

North Slope, Summit

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5039	15	2	17	15	2	17
	Grand Total	15	2	17	15	2	17

North Slope, Three Corners/West Daggett

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5040	34	4	38	29	3	32
Archery	PB5012	12	1	13	10	1	11
Muzzleloader	PB5066	12	1	13	10	1	11
	Grand Total	58	6	64	49	5	54

Panguitch Lake/Zion, North

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5041	21	2	23	21	2	23
Archery	PB5054	7	1	8	7	1	8
Muzzleloader	PB5061	7	1	8	7	1	8
	Grand Total	35	4	39	35	4	39

Parker Mtn

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5076	72	8	80	135	15	150
Archery	PB5077	54	6	60	45	5	50
Muzzleloader	PB5078	54	6	60	45	5	50
	Grand Total	180	20	200	225	25	250

Pine Valley

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5042	21	2	23	21	2	23
Archery	PB5013	7	1	8	7	1	8
Muzzleloader	PB5062	7	1	8	7	1	8
	Grand Total	35	4	39	35	4	39

San Juan, Hatch Point

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5044	4	0	4	3	0	3
	Grand Total	4	0	4	3	0	3



2026 LIMITED ENTRY BUCK PRONGHORN PERMITS (4 of 4)

San Rafael, Desert

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5045	5	1	6	7	1	8
Archery	PB5055	2	0	2	2	0	2
	Grand Total	7	1	8	9	1	10

San Rafael, North

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5046	59	7	66	62	7	69
Archery	PB5015	20	2	22	21	2	23
Muzzleloader	PB5056	20	2	22	21	2	23
	Grand Total	99	11	110	104	11	115

Southwest Desert

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5049	94	11	105	94	11	105
Archery	PB5018	31	4	35	31	4	35
Muzzleloader	PB5024	31	4	35	31	4	35
	Grand Total	156	19	175	156	19	175

Vernal

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5048	59	7	66	54	6	60
Archery	PB5017	20	2	22	18	2	20
Muzzleloader	PB5072	20	2	22	18	2	20
	Grand Total	99	11	110	90	10	100

West Desert, Riverbed

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5050	67	7	74	73	8	81
Archery	PB5019	16	2	18	18	2	20
	Grand Total	83	9	92	91	10	101

West Desert, Rush Valley

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5051	32	4	36	32	4	36
Archery	PB5020	8	1	9	8	1	9
	Grand Total	40	5	45	40	5	45

West Desert, Snake Valley

Weapon	Hunt Number	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
		Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
Any Legal Weapon	PB5052	86	10	96	95	11	106
Archery	PB5021	22	2	24	23	3	26
	Grand Total	108	12	120	118	14	132



**2026 DOE PRONGHORN HUNT**

Hunt Number	Hunt Name	Weapon	2026 Season Dates	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
PD1012	Box Elder, Promontory	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	22	3	25	18	2	20
PD1000	Box Elder, Snowville	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Dec 06 2026	72	8	80	36	4	40
PD1017	Box Elder, West	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	49	6	55	31	4	35
PD1034	Fillmore, Oak Creek South	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Aug 13 2026	27	3	30	27	3	30
PD1035	Fillmore, Oak Creek South	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 31 2026 - Nov 28 2026	27	3	30	27	3	30
PD1043	Nine Mile, Anthro-Pleasant Valley	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Aug 14 2026	9	1	10	9	1	10
PD1039	Panguitch Lake/Zion, North	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Nov 15 2026	-	-	-	36	4	40
PD1054	Parker Mtn	Archery	Aug 29 2026 - Sept 11 2026	27	3	30	27	3	30
PD1055	Parker Mtn	Muzzleloader	Oct 29 2026 - Nov 08 2026	31	4	35	31	4	35
PD1056	Parker Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 12 2026 - Dec 20 2026	36	4	40	36	4	40
PD1057	Parker Mtn, Highlands	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 08 2026 - Oct 16 2026	31	4	35	27	3	30
PD1058	Parker Mtn, Highlands	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Nov 29 2026	36	4	40	36	4	40
PD1059	Parker Mtn, Plains	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 08 2026 - Oct 16 2026	27	3	30	31	4	35
PD1060	Parker Mtn, Plains	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Nov 29 2026	36	4	40	36	4	40
PD1033	San Rafael, Poison Springs Bench	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	13	2	15	13	2	15
PD1044	Vernal-Ouray Valley	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	9	1	10	4	1	5
Grand Total				452	53	505	425	50	475



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

RILEY PECK

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Utah Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Councils

FROM: Mike Wardle, Big Game Coordinator

DATE: March 26, 2026

**SUBJECT: Overview of 2026 antlerless big game permit recommendations**

The attached tables summarize the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources' recommended permit allocations for the 2026 antlerless hunts. We've made these recommendations after evaluating 2025 harvest information and conducting post-hunt assessments of herd composition.

The number of permits we are proposing will help us achieve or maintain the objectives detailed in Utah's big game management plans for population size, conflict reduction and hunting opportunity. For specific information about how individual big game species are managed in Utah, visit [wildlife.utah.gov](http://wildlife.utah.gov) and use the search field (at the top right of the page) to find the statewide management plan for the species of interest.

Below is a summary of the **2026 antlerless hunt recommendations**:

1. We recommend 5 more antlerless deer permits, increasing from 340 permits to 345 permits. The antlerless deer hunts we are recommending are designed to reduce depredation on private lands and to address urban deer issues and public safety.
2. Statewide, elk populations increased slightly last year. Antlerless permits are needed to keep elk populations within their management objectives. The statewide elk-population objective is 80,600 elk, and our current population estimate is 83,020. We recommend 11,795 antlerless elk permits for the public drawing and propose 9,855 antlerless elk permits for private-lands-only hunts — please see the hunt tables for details.
3. We recommend antlerless elk-control permits on the following units:
  - a. Box Elder, Grouse Creek
  - b. Chalk Creek
  - c. East Canyon
  - d. Henry Mtns
  - e. Kamas

- f. Morgan-South Rich
- g. Ogden
- h. Pine Valley
- i. Zion

4. We recommend 475 doe pronghorn permits, decreasing from 505 permits in 2025.
5. We recommend a total of 15 antlerless moose permits, 10 on the Morgan-South Rich unit and 5 on the Wasatch Mtns, Salt Lake-Timpanogos unit.
6. We recommend continuing the Rocky Mountain ewe bighorn sheep hunt on the Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtns unit, with a total of 5 permits.

Please see the antlerless hunt recommendations in the hunt tables for a detailed breakdown of recommended hunts, season dates and permit numbers.



## 2026 ANTLERLESS DEER HUNT

### Antlerless Deer Hunts

### Permits

Hunt Number	Hunt Name	Weapon	2026 Season Dates	Permits	
				2025	2026
DA1051	Beaver City	Archery	Aug 01 2026 - Sept 04 2026	-	10
DA1001	Box Elder, West Bear River	Archery, Muzzleloader, Shotgun	Aug 18 2026 - Aug 30 2026	30	30
DA1002	Box Elder, West Bear River	Archery, Muzzleloader, Shotgun	Nov 24 2026 - Nov 29 2026	30	30
DA1027	East Canyon, Davis-North Salt Lake	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Sept 15 2026	30	30
DA1048	Fillmore City	Archery	Aug 01 2026 - Sept 04 2026	15	15
DA1045	Fillmore, Oak City	Archery	Aug 01 2026 - Sept 04 2026	20	20
DA1003	Monroe/Plateau, Sevier Valley	Archery, Muzzleloader, Shotgun	Sept 01 2026 - Sept 30 2026	15	15
DA1041	Nine Mile, Green River Valley	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	15	15
DA1030	Nine Mile, Price River Valley	Archery	Aug 15 2026 - Sept 11 2026	25	25
DA1046	Nine Mile, Price River Valley	Archery, Muzzleloader, Shotgun	Sept 12 2026 - Oct 09 2026	25	25
DA1031	Oquirrh-Stansbury, Settlement Cyn	Archery	Aug 15 2026 - Sept 11 2026	20	20
DA1009	Pine Valley, Enterprise	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Aug 12 2026	25	20
DA1018	Pine Valley, New Harmony	Archery, Muzzleloader, Shotgun	Aug 01 2026 - Aug 12 2026	20	15
DA1033	San Juan, Monticello	Archery	Aug 01 2026 - Sept 14 2026	5	10
DA1042	San Juan, Monticello	Archery	Nov 24 2026 - Dec 31 2026	5	5
DA1047	Vernal-Ouray Valley	Any Legal Weapon	Sept 26 2026 - Dec 11 2026	25	25
DA1049	Vernal, Ashley Valley	Archery	Aug 15 2026 - Dec 11 2026	35	35
Grand Total				340	345



**2026 ANTLERLESS ELK HUNT (1 OF 4)**

Hunt Number	Hunt Name	Weapon	2026 Season Dates	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
EA1222	Beaver, East	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Dec 11 2026	27	3	30	36	4	40
EA1223	Beaver, East	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 12 2026 - Dec 26 2026	27	3	30	36	4	40
EA1224	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	117	13	130	117	13	130
EA1225	Book Cliffs, Bitter Creek/South	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 16 2026 - Dec 13 2026	147	16	163	147	16	163
EA1077	Boulder-Circle Cliffs	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 07 2026 - Jan 10 2027	27	3	30	27	3	30
EA1075	Boulder East	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Dec 31 2026	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA1076	Boulder West	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Dec 31 2026	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA1287	Box Elder, Grouse Creek	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 06 2026 - Jan 31 2027	-	-	-	27	3	30
EA1266	Box Elder, Hansel Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	18	2	20	27	3	30
EA1203	Box Elder, Pilot Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Aug 15 2026	4	1	5	4	1	5
EA1204	Box Elder, Pilot Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 10 2026 - Oct 31 2026	4	1	5	4	1	5
EA1267	Cache	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	81	9	90	180	20	200
EA1010	Cache, Rich	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	18	2	20	31	4	35
EA1193	Cache, Rich	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Jan 15 2027	18	2	20	31	4	35
EA1011	Cache, Richards Hollow	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Dec 31 2026	9	1	10	18	2	20
EA1026	Chalk Creek	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Jan 30 2027	315	35	350	315	35	350
EA1089	Diamond Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 31 2026 - Nov 08 2026	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA1090	Diamond Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Nov 22 2026	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA1037	Dolores Triangle	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 12 2026 - Jan 31 2027	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA1236	East Canyon	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 01 2026 - Jan 11 2027	135	15	150	135	15	150
EA1272	East Canyon, East	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	135	15	150	135	15	150
EA1209	Fillmore, Oak Creek LE	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Jan 29 2027	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA1030	Fillmore, Pahvant	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Dec 05 2026	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA1031	Fillmore, Pahvant	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 12 2026 - Jan 29 2027	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA1078	Fishlake/Thousand Lakes	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	243	27	270	243	27	270
EA1079	Fishlake/Thousand Lakes East	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Dec 30 2026	58	7	65	58	7	65
EA1080	Fishlake/Thousand Lakes West	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Dec 30 2026	54	6	60	54	6	60
EA1033	Kamas	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Jan 17 2027	112	13	125	90	10	100
EA2033	Kamas	Archery	Aug 15 2026 - Sept 16 2026	225	25	250	180	20	200
EA1035	Kamas, Oakley	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Dec 30 2026	112	13	125	90	10	100



**2026 ANTLERLESS ELK HUNT (2 OF 4)**

Hunt Number	Hunt Name	Weapon	2026 Season Dates	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
EA1038	La Sal Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	180	20	200	180	20	200
EA1039	La Sal Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 19 2026 - Dec 31 2026	135	15	150	135	15	150
EA1237	La Sal Mtns, North	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 19 2026 - Dec 31 2026	157	18	175	157	18	175
EA1013	Manti, Central	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	63	7	70	63	7	70
EA1015	Manti, Ferron Canyon	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	63	7	70	63	7	70
EA1288	Manti, Ferron Lower Escarpment	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 22 2026 - Jan 31 2027	-	-	-	36	4	40
EA1289	Manti, Ferron Lower Escarpment	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Dec 21 2026	-	-	-	36	4	40
EA1290	Manti, Ferron Lower Escarpment	Any Legal Weapon	Sept 16 2026 - Nov 13 2026	-	-	-	36	4	40
EA1017	Manti, Gordon Creek-Price Canyon	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 25 2026 - Jan 31 2027	90	10	100	90	10	100
EA1018	Manti, Horn Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 19 2026 - Dec 31 2026	54	6	60	54	6	60
EA1020	Manti, Mohrland-Stump Flat	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 25 2026 - Jan 31 2027	108	12	120	108	12	120
EA1022	Manti, North	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	270	30	300	270	30	300
EA1023	Manti, South	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	90	10	100	90	10	100
EA1024	Manti, South	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 19 2026 - Jan 31 2027	90	10	100	90	10	100
EA1025	Manti, West	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 19 2026 - Jan 31 2027	108	12	120	108	12	120
EA1286	Monroe	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	27	3	30	36	4	40
EA1228	Morgan-South Rich	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 01 2026 - Dec 21 2026	67	8	75	67	8	75
EA1229	Morgan-South Rich	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 22 2026 - Jan 31 2027	144	16	160	144	16	160
EA1044	Morgan-South Rich, South Rich	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	31	4	35	31	4	35
EA1291	Mt Dutton, North	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 19 2026 - Jan 10 2027	-	-	-	72	8	80
EA1292	Mt Dutton, North	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Dec 06 2026	-	-	-	72	8	80
EA1021	Nebo	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	207	23	230	252	28	280
EA1208	Nebo	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Jan 31 2027	247	28	275	292	33	325
EA1207	Nebo, Moroni Hills	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Aug 19 2026	9	1	10	9	1	10
EA1226	Nebo, Moroni Hills	Any Legal Weapon	Sept 12 2026 - Oct 02 2026	9	1	10	9	1	10
EA2034	Nine Mile, Anthro	Archery	Aug 15 2026 - Sept 16 2026	180	20	200	180	20	200
EA1239	Nine Mile, Range Creek	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA1240	Nine Mile, Range Creek	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 25 2026 - Jan 31 2027	135	15	150	135	15	150
EA1053	Nine Mile, West Anthro	Any Legal Weapon	Jan 16 2027 - Jan 24 2027	-	-	-	45	5	50
EA1054	Nine Mile, West Anthro	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 12 2026 - Dec 31 2026	45	5	50	90	10	100



**2026 ANTLERLESS ELK HUNT (3 OF 4)**

Hunt Number	Hunt Name	Weapon	2026 Season Dates	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
EA1056	North Slope, Greendale	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Nov 29 2026	4	1	5	4	1	5
EA1058	North Slope, Henry's Fork-Burnt Fork	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Jan 30 2027	90	10	100	90	10	100
EA1196	North Slope, Summit	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	67	8	75	67	8	75
EA1268	North Slope, Summit	Archery	Aug 15 2026 - Sept 16 2026	180	20	200	180	20	200
EA1273	North Slope, Three Corners	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 19 2026 - Jan 03 2027	22	3	25	22	3	25
EA1274	North Slope, Three Corners	Archery	Aug 15 2026 - Sept 04 2026	22	3	25	22	3	25
EA1277	North Slope, Three Corners	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Nov 29 2026	22	3	25	22	3	25
EA1293	North Slope, Three Corners	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 16 2026	-	-	-	22	3	25
EA1060	North Slope, West Daggett	Muzzleloader	Oct 28 2026 - Nov 05 2026	18	2	20	18	2	20
EA1061	North Slope, West Daggett	Muzzleloader	Sept 23 2026 - Oct 01 2026	18	2	20	18	2	20
EA1250	North Slope, West Daggett	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	27	3	30	27	3	30
EA1063	Ogden	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	67	8	75	90	10	100
EA1064	Ogden	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Nov 29 2026	67	8	75	67	8	75
EA1269	Ogden (excludes Hyrum)	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 01 2026 - Dec 31 2026	180	20	200	270	30	300
EA2036	Oquirrh-Stansbury, East	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Jan 31 2027	54	6	60	63	7	70
EA1069	Panguitch Lake	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Nov 29 2026	31	4	35	22	3	25
EA1283	Panguitch Lake	Archery	Aug 15 2026 - Aug 30 2026	31	4	35	31	4	35
EA1284	Panguitch Lake	Muzzleloader	Oct 28 2026 - Nov 05 2026	31	4	35	49	6	55
EA1285	Panguitch Lake	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 12 2026 - Dec 20 2026	31	4	35	22	3	25
EA1073	Paunsaugunt	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Dec 31 2026	18	2	20	18	2	20
EA1294	Paunsaugunt, East Creek	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Aug 12 2026	-	-	-	22	3	25
EA1254	Pine Valley	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 11 2026 - Jan 11 2027	27	3	30	27	3	30
EA1081	San Juan	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	112	13	125	112	13	125
EA1082	San Juan	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 19 2026 - Dec 31 2026	112	13	125	112	13	125
EA1084	San Rafael, North	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Jan 31 2027	4	1	5	4	1	5
EA1101	Southwest Desert	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 20 2026 - Jan 10 2027	90	10	100	90	10	100
EA1251	Southwest Desert, Burbank/Garrison	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Aug 13 2026	13	2	15	11	1	12
EA1085	Vernal/Bonanza	Archery	Aug 15 2026 - Sept 16 2026	90	10	100	90	10	100
EA1087	Vernal/Bonanza	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 16 2026	90	10	100	90	10	100
EA1242	Vernal, Buckskin Hills-Jensen	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 01 2026 - Dec 31 2026	90	10	100	90	10	100
EA1243	Vernal, Buckskin Hills-Jensen	Any Legal Weapon	Jan 01 2027 - Jan 31 2027	90	10	100	90	10	100
EA1094	Vernal, Mosby Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Jan 03 2027	90	10	100	90	10	100



**2026 ANTLERLESS ELK HUNT (4 OF 4)**

Hunt Number	Hunt Name	Weapon	2026 Season Dates	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
EA2038	Wasatch Mtns	Archery	Aug 15 2026 - Sept 04 2026	1080	120	1200	1080	120	1200
EA1106	Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin	Any Legal Weapon	Jan 02 2027 - Jan 17 2027	180	20	200	180	20	200
EA1217	Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	135	15	150	135	15	150
EA1295	Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin	Muzzleloader	Oct 28 2026 - Nov 05 2026	-	-	-	90	10	100
EA1276	Wasatch Mtns, Box Elder Peak	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	40	5	45	40	5	45
EA1007	Wasatch Mtns, Currant Creek	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	-	-	-	180	20	200
EA1296	Wasatch Mtns, Currant Creek	Muzzleloader	Oct 28 2026 - Nov 05 2026	-	-	-	90	10	100
EA1264	Wasatch Mtns, Rabbit Gulch	Any Legal Weapon	Jan 16 2027 - Jan 24 2027	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA1297	Wasatch Mtns, Red Creek West	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 12 2026 - Dec 20 2026	-	-	-	90	10	100
EA1110	Wasatch Mtns, Salt Lake	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Jan 31 2027	40	5	45	40	5	45
EA1265	Wasatch Mtns, Tabby Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 19 2026 - Dec 27 2026	90	10	100	90	10	100
EA1111	Wasatch Mtns, Wallsburg	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Dec 13 2026	31	4	35	31	4	35
EA1112	Wasatch Mtns, Wallsburg	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 19 2026 - Jan 31 2027	49	6	55	49	6	55
EA1189	Wasatch Mtns, West-Central	Muzzleloader	Oct 31 2026 - Nov 08 2026	382	43	425	382	43	425
EA1299	Wasatch Mtns, West-Central	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Nov 29 2026	-	-	-	45	5	50
EA1300	Wasatch Mtns, West-Central	Any Legal Weapon	Jan 23 2027 - Jan 31 2027	-	-	-	45	5	50
EA1113	Wasatch Mtns, West Heber	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Jan 31 2027	27	3	30	27	3	30
EA1114	Wasatch Mtns, West Timpanogos	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 14 2026 - Jan 31 2027	22	3	25	22	3	25
EA1298	Wasatch Mtns, Wildcat/Timber Canyon	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 12 2026 - Dec 20 2026	-	-	-	90	10	100
EA1231	West Desert, Tintic Valley	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Jan 31 2027	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA1244	Yellowstone	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 16 2026	90	10	100	90	10	100
EA1245	Yellowstone	Muzzleloader	Oct 28 2026 - Nov 05 2026	45	5	50	45	5	50
EA2037	Yellowstone	Archery	Aug 15 2026 - Sept 16 2026	180	20	200	180	20	200
EA1117	Zion	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 11 2026 - Jan 10 2027	198	22	220	198	22	220



## 2026 PRIVATE-LANDS-ONLY ANTLERLESS ELK

### Antlerless Elk Hunts

Hunt Number	Hunt Name	Weapon	2026 Season Dates	Permits	
				2025	2026
EA2021	Beaver, East	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	30	30
EA2026	Box Elder, Hansel Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	200	200
EA2046	Box Elder, Sawtooth	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	25	50
EA2027	Cache	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	300	250
EA2004	Chalk Creek	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	600	600
EA2030	Diamond Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	200	200
EA2003	East Canyon	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	500	500
EA2039	Fillmore, Pahvant	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	150	150
EA2040	Kamas	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	150	150
EA2009	La Sal Mtns	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	70	70
EA2011	Manti	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	300	300
EA2002	Morgan-South Rich	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	600	600
EA2016	Nebo	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	275	325
EA2008	Nine Mile, Anthro-Myton Bench	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	250	250
EA2029	Nine Mile, Range Creek	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	150	150
EA2005	North Slope, West Daggett	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	100	100
EA2018	Panguitch Lake	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	75	75
EA2015	Paunsaugunt	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	100	75
EA2010	San Juan	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	50	50
EA2028	Vernal/Bonanza	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	450	450
EA2014	Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin- White River	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	400	400
EA2013	Wasatch Mtns, Currant Creek	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	2000	2000
EA2012	Wasatch Mtns, West- Central	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	400	500
EA2019	West Desert, Tintic Valley	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	60	60
EA2006	Yellowstone	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	2000	2000
EA2020	Zion	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Jan 31 2027	320	320
Grand Total				9755	9855



## 2026 ANTLERLESS ELK CONTROL UNIT

**Hunt Name**

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Box Elder, Grouse Creek \*

---

Chalk Creek

---

East Canyon

---

Henry Mtns

---

Kamas

---

Morgan-South Rich

---

Ogden

---

Pine Valley

---

Zion

---

\* New this year



**2026 DOE PRONGHORN HUNT**

Hunt Number	Hunt Name	Weapon	2026 Season Dates	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
PD1012	Box Elder, Promontory	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	22	3	25	18	2	20
PD1000	Box Elder, Snowville	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Dec 06 2026	72	8	80	36	4	40
PD1017	Box Elder, West	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	49	6	55	31	4	35
PD1034	Fillmore, Oak Creek South	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Aug 13 2026	27	3	30	27	3	30
PD1035	Fillmore, Oak Creek South	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 31 2026 - Nov 28 2026	27	3	30	27	3	30
PD1043	Nine Mile, Anthro-Pleasant Valley	Any Legal Weapon	Aug 01 2026 - Aug 14 2026	9	1	10	9	1	10
PD1039	Panguitch Lake/Zion, North	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 07 2026 - Nov 15 2026	-	-	-	36	4	40
PD1054	Parker Mtn	Archery	Aug 29 2026 - Sept 11 2026	27	3	30	27	3	30
PD1055	Parker Mtn	Muzzleloader	Oct 29 2026 - Nov 08 2026	31	4	35	31	4	35
PD1056	Parker Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Dec 12 2026 - Dec 20 2026	36	4	40	36	4	40
PD1057	Parker Mtn, Highlands	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 08 2026 - Oct 16 2026	31	4	35	27	3	30
PD1058	Parker Mtn, Highlands	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Nov 29 2026	36	4	40	36	4	40
PD1059	Parker Mtn, Plains	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 08 2026 - Oct 16 2026	27	3	30	31	4	35
PD1060	Parker Mtn, Plains	Any Legal Weapon	Nov 21 2026 - Nov 29 2026	36	4	40	36	4	40
PD1033	San Rafael, Poison Springs Bench	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 25 2026	13	2	15	13	2	15
PD1044	Vernal-Ouray Valley	Any Legal Weapon	Oct 03 2026 - Oct 15 2026	9	1	10	4	1	5
Grand Total				452	53	505	425	50	475



## 2026 ANTLERLESS MOOSE HUNT

Hunt Number	Hunt Name	Weapon	2026 Season Dates	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
MA1005	Morgan-South Rich	Any Legal Weapon	Sept 19 2026 - Oct 18 2026	6	1	7	6	1	7
MA1007	Morgan-South Rich	Archery	Aug 01 2026 - Sept 18 2026	3	0	3	3	0	3
MA1008	Wasatch Mtns, Salt Lake-Timpanogos	Any Legal Weapon	Sept 19 2026 - Oct 18 2026	4	1	5	4	1	5
Grand Total				13	2	15	13	2	15



## 2026 EWE ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIGHORN SHEEP HUNT

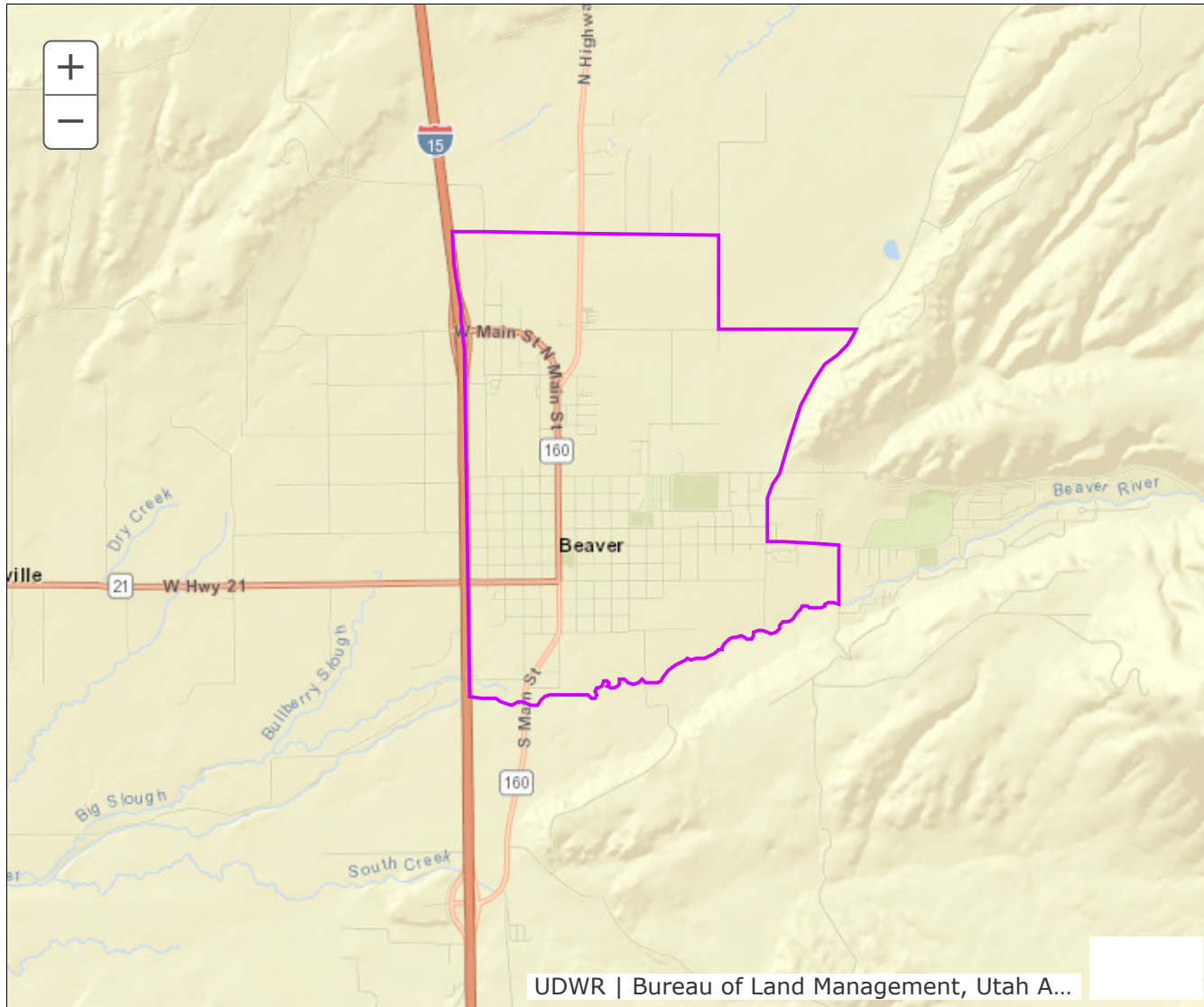
Hunt Number	Hunt Name	Weapon	2026 Season Dates	2025 Permits			2026 Permits		
				Res	Non Res	Total	Res	Non Res	Total
RE1000	Box Elder, Newfoundland Mtn	Any Legal Weapon	Sept 08 2026 - Sept 16 2026	4	1	5	4	1	5
Grand Total				4	1	5	4	1	5



# BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Beaver city

**SPECIES** Deer



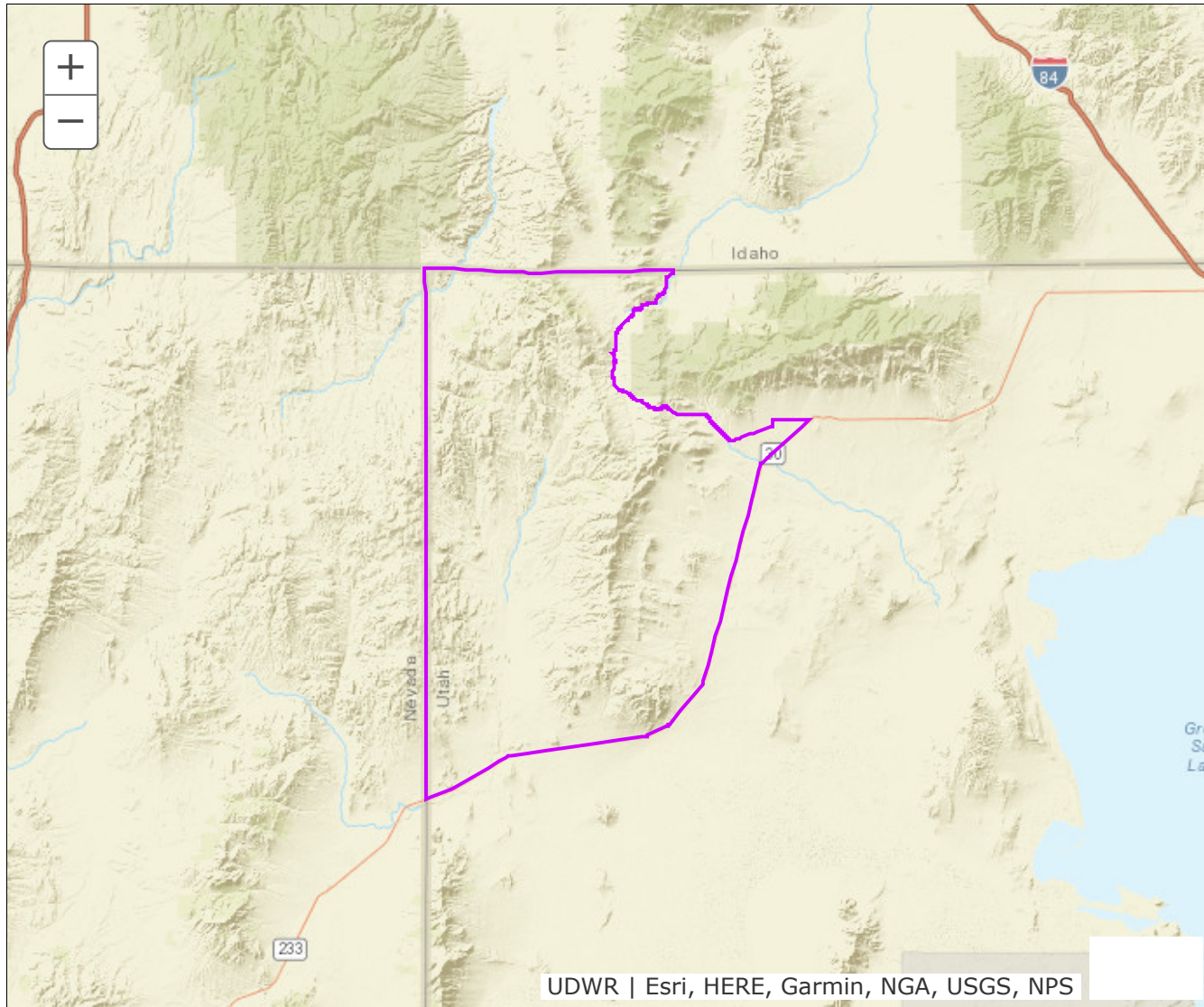
**Updated Boundary:** Beaver County—Boundary begins at the junction of Interstate 15 and the Beaver river, West along the river to Holdaway Lane, North to 200 north, West to North Creek Road, North to 1400 North, West to 650 East, North to 1800 North, West to Interstate 15, South along Interstate 15 to the Beaver river. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LANDS WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Duchesne, Provo. Boundary questions? Call the Cedar City Office, 435-865-6100. A hunting permit does not authorize the permit holder to hunt on Native American trust lands, CWMUs (unless you specifically have a permit for that CWMU) or on National Park lands. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of hunters to learn if hunting is allowed and what specific rules and regulations may apply on National Monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, UDWR Wildlife and Waterfowl Management areas, military installations and within the boundaries of cities, towns and municipalities. Written permission is required to hunt private lands.



## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Box Elder, Grouse Creek

**SPECIES** Elk



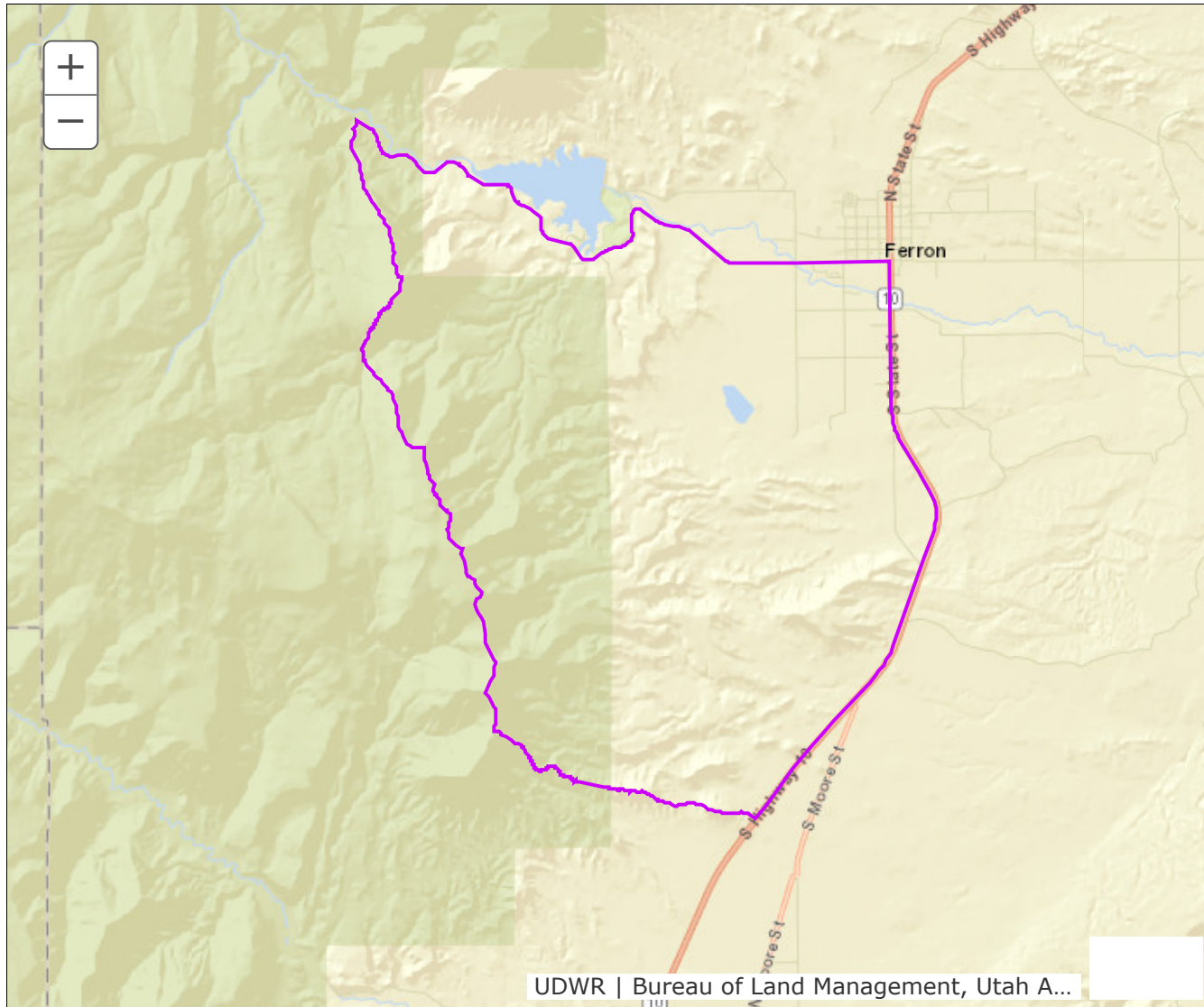
**Updated Boundary:** Box Elder County—Boundary begins on the Utah-Idaho state line at the Lynn/Almo, Idaho road and the Utah-Idaho state line; southwest on this road through the Raft River Narrows to Lynn and the Lynn Valley road; south on this road to the Dove Creek road; southeast on this road over Dove Creek Pass to SR-30 near Rosette; south and west on SR-30 to the Utah-Nevada state line; north on this state line to the Utah-Idaho state line; east on this state line to the Lynn/Almo, Idaho road. This hunt is comprised of all or largely private property. Hunters should acquire written permission from the landowner before applying for this hunt. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Grouse Creek, Jackpot, Newfoundland Mountains, Wells. Boundary Questions? Call Ogden office, 801-476-2740. - A hunting permit does not authorize the permit holder to hunt on Native American trust lands, CWMUs (unless you specifically have a permit for that CWMU) or on National Park lands. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of hunters to learn if hunting is allowed and what specific rules and regulations may apply on National Monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, UDWR Wildlife and

Waterfowl Management areas, military installations and within the boundaries of cities, towns and municipalities. Written permission is required to hunt private lands.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Manti, Ferron Lower Escarpment

**SPECIES** Elk



UDWR | Bureau of Land Management, Utah A...

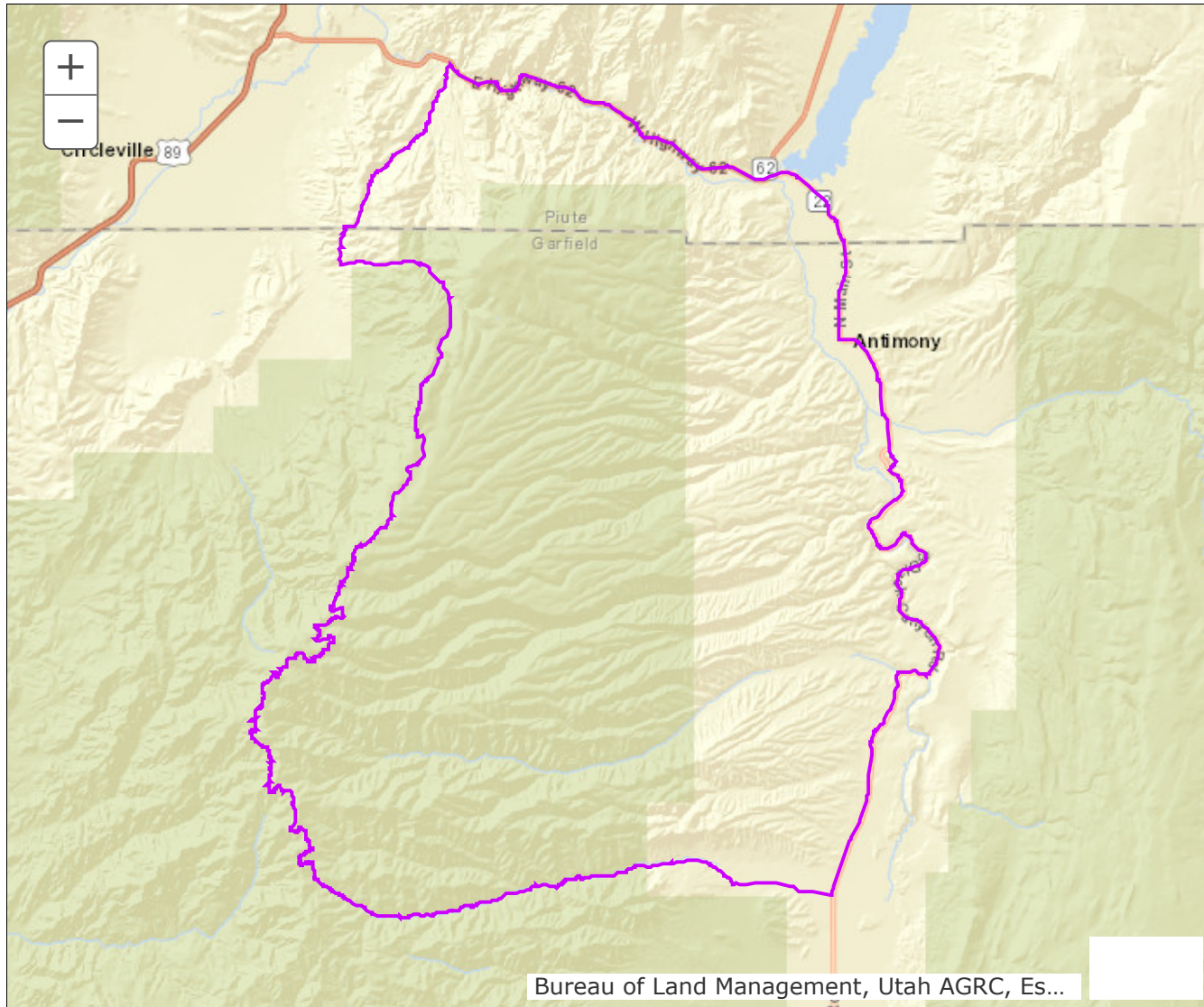
**Updated Boundary:** Emery county—Boundary begins at the junction of SR10 and Canyon Road (100 South) in Ferron; south along SR10 to mile post 20 201; west along the prominent ridgeline to the escarpments upper rim of Nelson Mountain; north along the Nelson Mountain rim past Youngs Peak and along the east face rim of the Nelson Mountain escarpment; northwest and north down the ridgeline to Dry Wash; across Dry Wash along the ridgeline of Little Nelson Mountain and down the ridgeline to Canyon Road; east along Canyon Road to SR10 in Ferron. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LANDS WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Duchesne, Provo. Boundary questions? Call Price office, 435-613-3700. A hunting permit does not authorize the permit holder to hunt on Native American trust lands, CWMUs (unless you specifically have a permit for that CWMU) or on National Park lands. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of hunters to learn if hunting is allowed and what specific rules and regulations may apply on National Monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, UDWR Wildlife and Waterfowl Management areas, military

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# BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Mt Dutton, North

**SPECIES** Elk



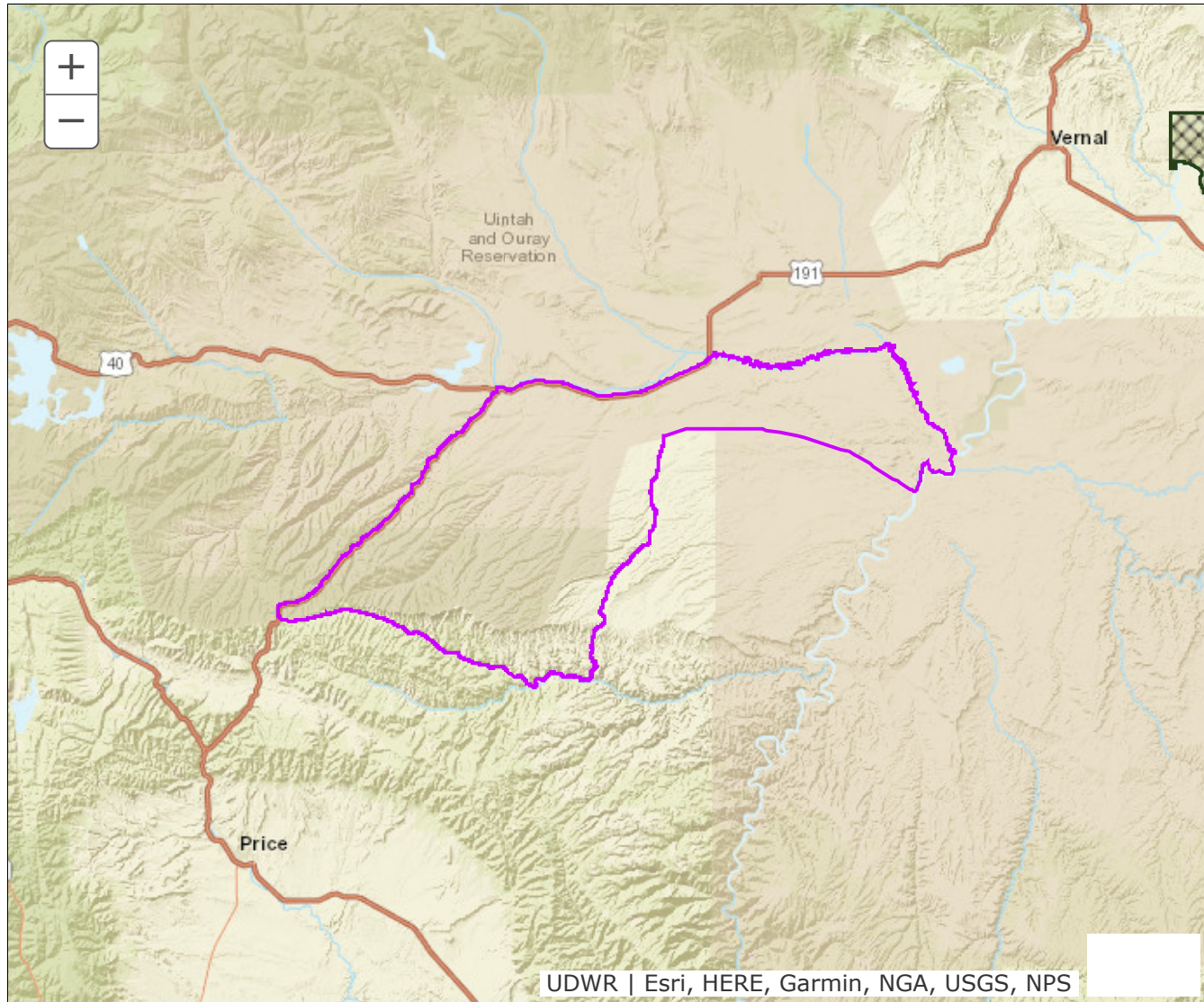
**Updated Boundary:** Garfield County—Boundary begins at SR22 Johns Valley and USFS road 125 Cottonwood Creek road; west on this road looping north on Mt Dutton continuing north to Jones Corral trail 33078; north on Jones Corral trail 33078 to USFS road 31234; north on USFS Road 31234 to Jones Corral trail 33078; north on Jones Corral trail 33078 to USFS road 431; north on USFS road 431 to USFS road 126; north on USFS road 126 to USFS road 1062; north on USFS road 1062 to Jones Corral draw; north in Jones Corral draw to USFS road 33802 Rocky Ford trail; west on USFS road 33802 Rocky Ford trail to BLM road 2655 Rocky Ford trail; north on BLM road 2655 Rocky Ford trail to highway 62 Kingston Canyon; East on highway 62 Kingston Canyon to SR22 Johns Valley; south on SR22 Johns Valley to USFS road 125 Cottonwood Creek road. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LANDS WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Duchesne, Provo. Boundary questions? Call Cedar City office, 435-865-6100. A hunting permit does not authorize the permit holder to hunt on Native American trust lands, CWMUs (unless you specifically have a

permit for that CWMU) or on National Park lands. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of hunters to learn if hunting is allowed and what specific rules and regulations may apply on National Monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, UDWR Wildlife and Waterfowl Management areas, military installations and within the boundaries of cities, towns and municipalities. Written permission is required to hunt private lands.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Nine Mile, West Anthro

**SPECIES** Elk



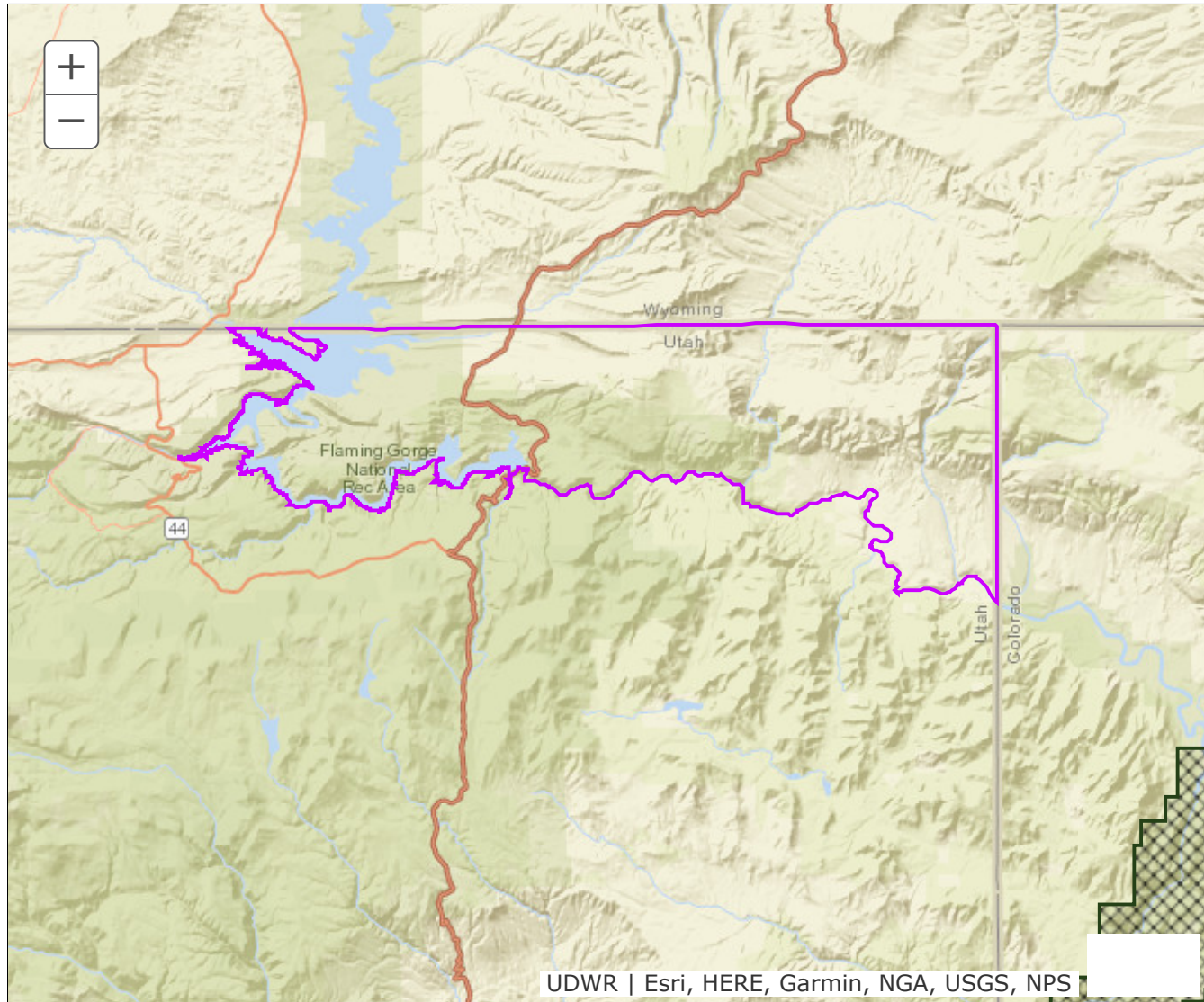
**Updated Boundary:** Duchesne and Uintah counties—Boundary begins at US-40 and US-191 at Duchesne; south on US-191 to Argyle Canyon Road; southeast on this road to Nine Mile Canyon Road; east on this road to Gate Canyon and the Nine Mile Canyon Backcountry Byway; north on this byway to the BLM boundary near Pleasant Valley; east on this boundary to the Green River near Pariette Draw; northeast along this river to the Duchesne River; northwest along this river to US-40 at Myton; west on US-40 to US-191. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LANDS WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Duchesne, Price, Vernal. Boundary Questions? Call Vernal Office, 435-781-9453. - A hunting permit does not authorize the permit holder to hunt on Native American trust lands, CWMUs (unless you specifically have a permit for that CWMU) or on National Park lands. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of hunters to learn if hunting is allowed and what specific rules and regulations may apply on National Monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, UDWR Wildlife and Waterfowl Management areas, military installations and within the

boundaries of cities, towns and municipalities. Written permission is required to hunt private lands.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** North Slope, Three Corners

**SPECIES** Elk

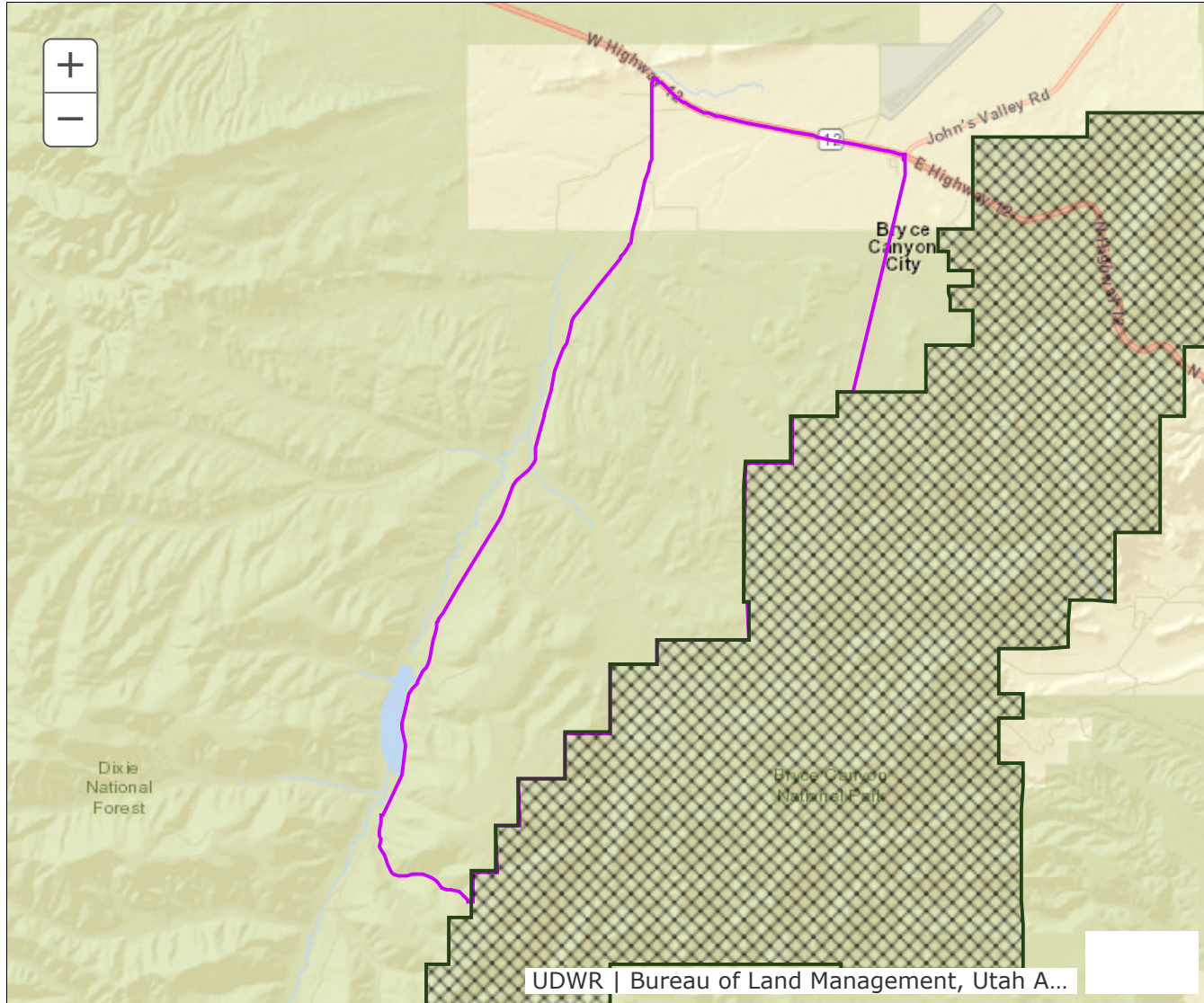


**Updated Boundary:** Daggett County—Boundary begins at the Flaming Gorge Reservoir main channel western shoreline on the east side of Lucerne Point at the Utah-Wyoming state line; east on this state line to the Utah-Colorado state line; south on this state line to the Green River; west along this river to the Flaming Gorge Reservoir west shoreline; west along this shoreline to the Utah-Wyoming state line; east along the state line to Lucerne Point; east around Lucerne Point to the Utah-Wyoming State line. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Dutch John. Boundary questions? Call Vernal office, 435-781-9453. - A hunting permit does not authorize the permit holder to hunt on Native American trust lands, CWMUs (unless you specifically have a permit for that CWMU) or on National Park lands. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of hunters to learn if hunting is allowed and what specific rules and regulations may apply on National Monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, UDWR Wildlife and Waterfowl Management areas, military installations and within the boundaries of cities, towns and municipalities. Written permission is required to hunt private lands.

# BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Paunsaugunt, East Creek

**SPECIES** Elk

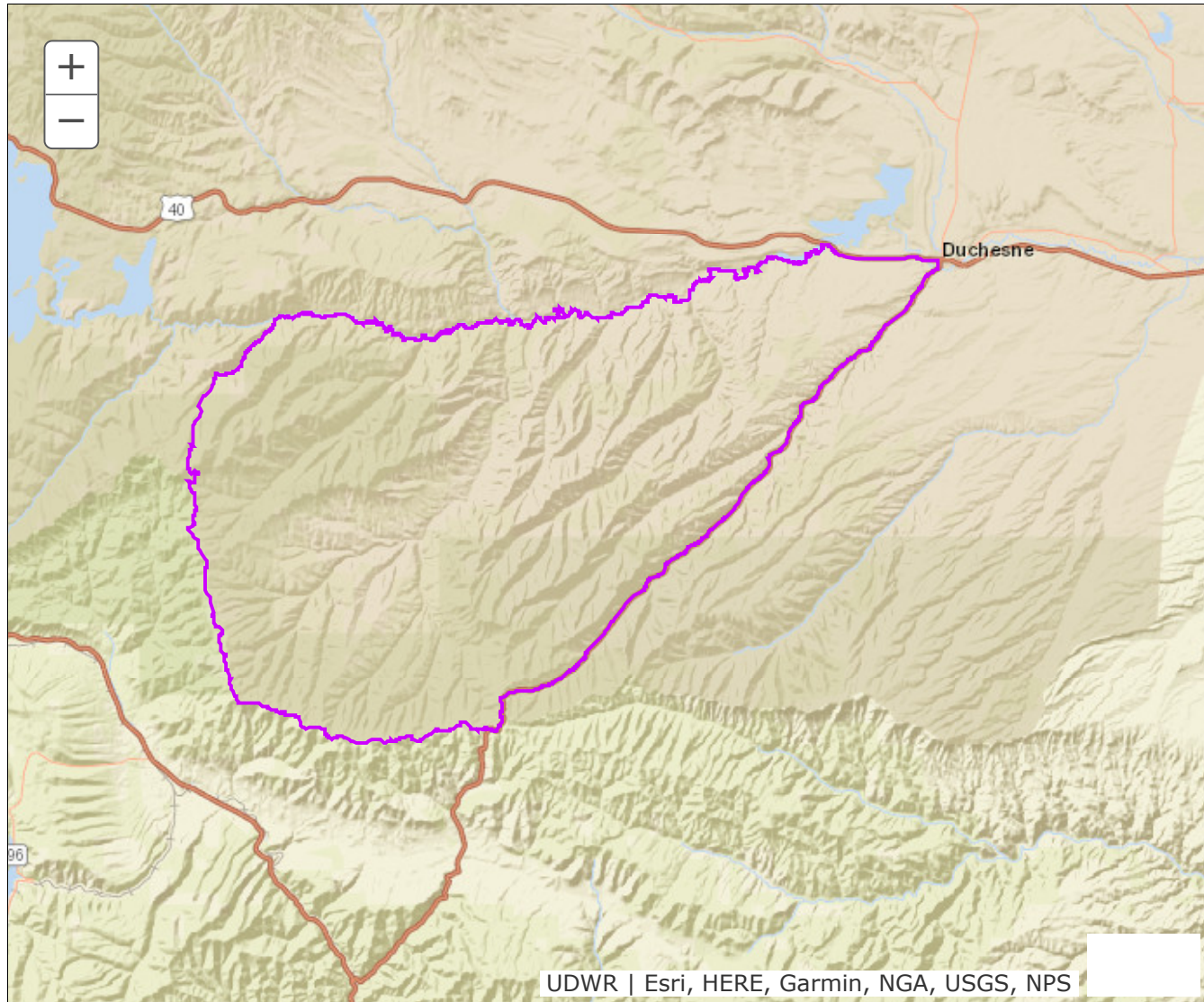


**Updated Boundary:** New Boundary - Description Pending

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Wasatch Mtns, Avintaquin

**SPECIES** Elk



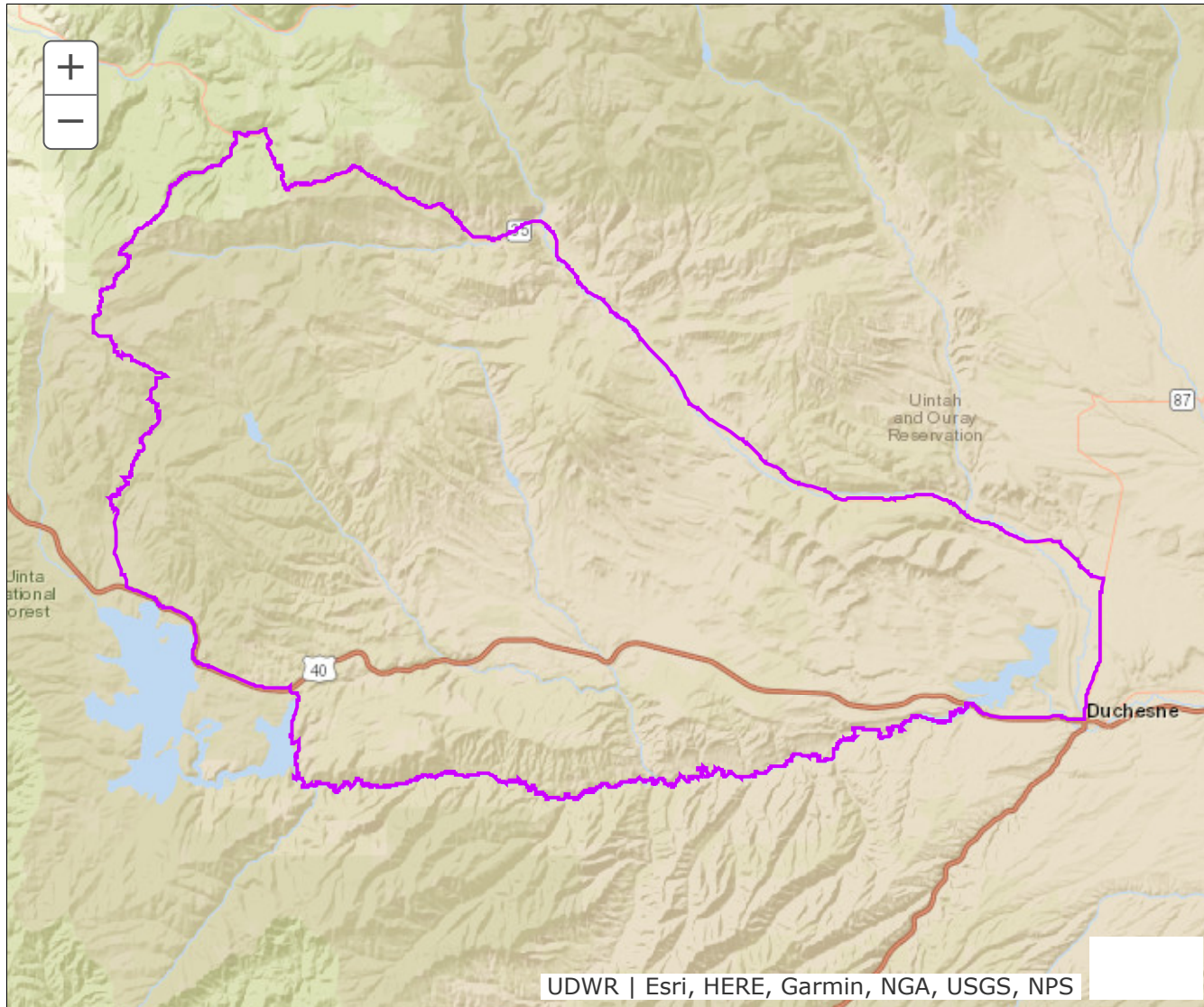
**Updated Boundary:** Carbon, Duchesne, Utah and Wasatch counties—Boundary begins at the Strawberry River and Beaver Creek; southwest along Beaver Creek to Big Beaver Spring and USFS Road 081 (Reservation Ridge Road); east on this road to US-191; north on US-191 to Duchesne and the Strawberry River; west along this river to Beaver Creek. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LANDS WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Duchesne, Nephi, Provo. Boundary questions? Call Vernal office, 435-781-9453. - A hunting permit does not authorize the permit holder to hunt on Native American trust lands, CWMUs (unless you specifically have a permit for that CWMU) or on National Park lands. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of hunters to learn if hunting is allowed and what specific rules and regulations may apply on National Monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, UDWR Wildlife and Waterfowl Management areas, military installations and within the boundaries of cities, towns and municipalities. Written permission is required to hunt private lands.



# BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Wasatch Mtns, Currant Creek

**SPECIES** Elk



**Updated Boundary:** Duchesne and Wasatch counties—Boundary begins at US-40 and SR-87 at Duchesne; north on SR-87 to SR-35; northwest on SR-35 to USFS Road 054 (Mill Hollow Road); southwest on this road to USFS Road 083 (Lake Creek Road); southeast on this road across Roundy Basin to the new Co-op Creek road; south on this road to US-40; east on US-40 to the Soldier Creek Dam road; south on this road to the Strawberry River; east along this river to US-40; east on US-40 to SR-87. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LANDS WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Duchesne, Provo, Salt Lake City. Boundary questions? Call Vernal office, 435-781-9453. - A hunting permit does not authorize the permit holder to hunt on Native American trust lands, CWMUs (unless you specifically have a permit for that CWMU) or on National Park lands. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of hunters to learn if hunting is allowed and what specific rules and regulations may apply on National Monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, UDWR Wildlife and

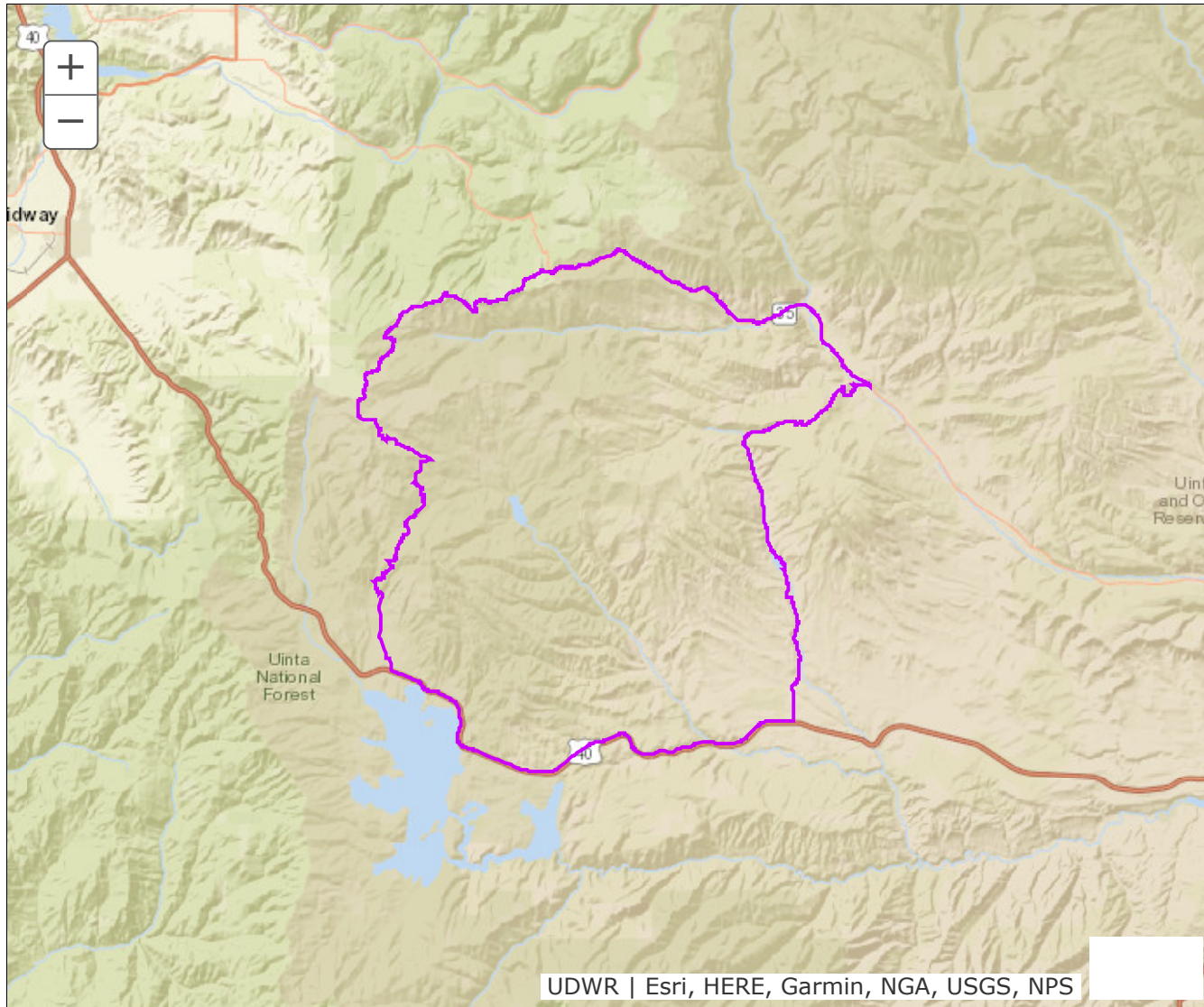
Waterfowl Management areas, military installations and within the boundaries of cities, towns and municipalities. Written permission is required to hunt private lands.



## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Wasatch Mtns, Red Creek West

**SPECIES** Elk



UDWR | Esri, HERE, Garmin, NGA, USGS, NPS

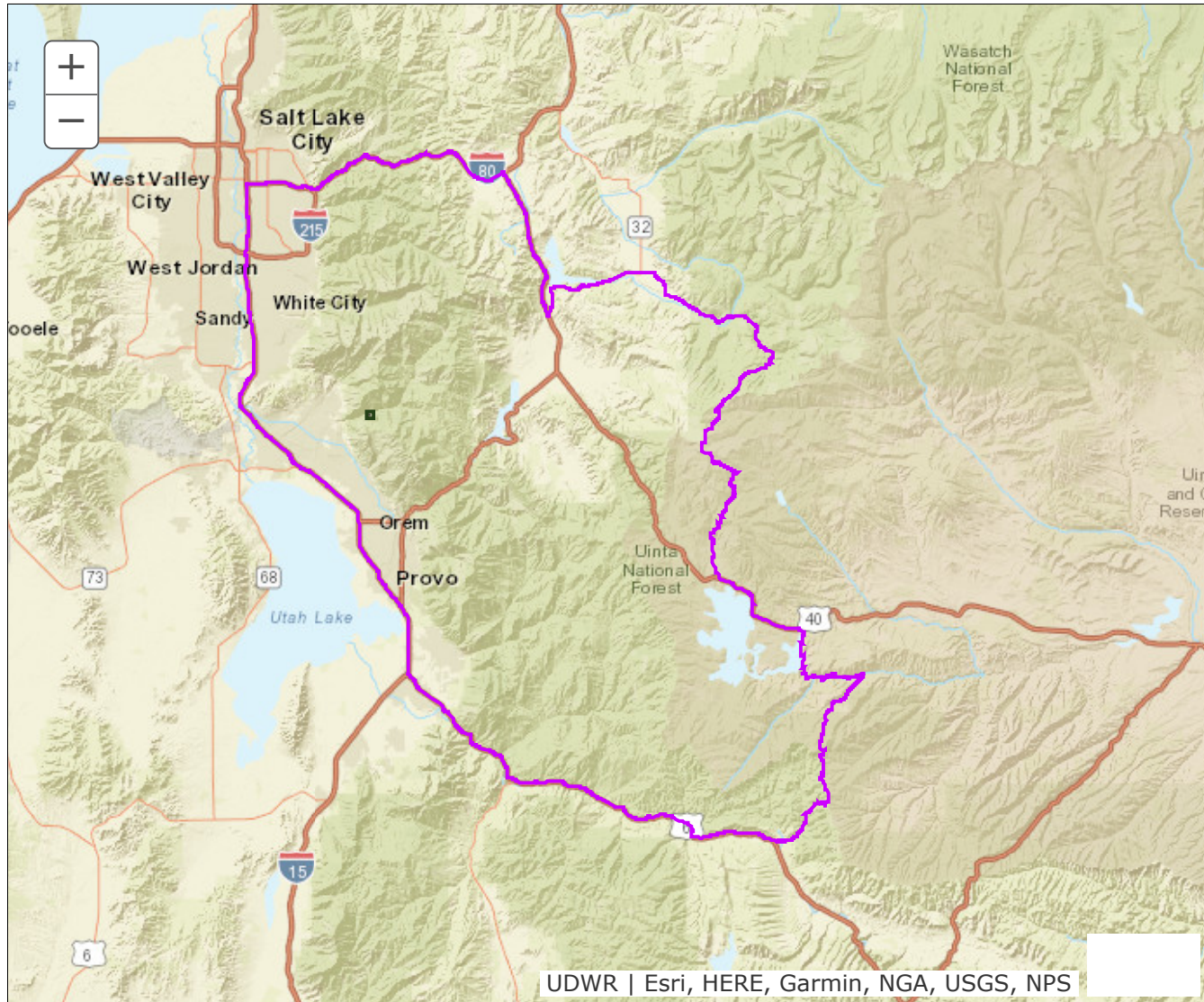
**Updated Boundary:** Duchesne and Wasatch counties—Boundary begins at US-40 and USFS road 082 (CO-OP Creek Road); north on USFS road 082 to USFS road 083; north on USFS road 083 to USFS road 054; northeast on USFS road 054 to USFS road 091; east on USFS road 091 to SR-35 at Wolf Creek Pass; east on SR-35 to county road #1 (Tabby Swale/Red Creek Road) near Hanna; west and south on this road to US-40 at Fruitland; west on US-40 to USFS road 082 (CO-OP Creek Road). EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LANDS WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Duchesne, Provo. Boundary questions? Call Vernal office, 435-781-9453. - A hunting permit does not authorize the permit holder to hunt on Native American trust lands, CWMUs (unless you specifically have a permit for that CWMU) or on National Park lands. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of hunters to learn if hunting is allowed and what specific rules and regulations may apply on National Monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, UDWR Wildlife and Waterfowl

Management areas, military installations and within the boundaries of cities, towns and municipalities. Written permission is required to hunt private lands.

## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Wasatch Mtns, West-Central

**SPECIES** Elk



**Updated Boundary:** Salt Lake, Summit, Utah and Wasatch counties—Boundary begins at I-80 and I-15 in Salt Lake City; east on I-80 to US-40; south on US-40 to SR-32; east on SR-32 to SR-35 at Francis; southeast on SR-35 to the USFS Road 054 (Mill Hollow road); southwest on this road to the USFS Road 083 (Lake Creek road); southeast on USFS Road 83 to USFS Road 82 (new Co-op Creek road); south on USFS Road 82 to US-40; east on US-40 to the USFS Road 090 (Soldier Creek Dam road); south on this road to the Soldier Creek Dam and the Strawberry River; southeast along this river to Beaver Creek; southwest along this creek to Big Beaver Spring and the USFS Road 081 (Reservation Ridge road); southeast on this road to the Right Fork of White River road; southwest on this road to US-6; northwest on US-6 to I-15; north on I-15 to I-80 in Salt Lake City. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Duchesne, Nephi, Provo, Salt Lake City. Boundary questions? Call the Springville office, (801) 491-5678. - A hunting permit does not authorize the permit holder to hunt on Native American trust lands, CWMUs (unless you specifically have a permit for that CWMU) or on National Park lands. Furthermore,

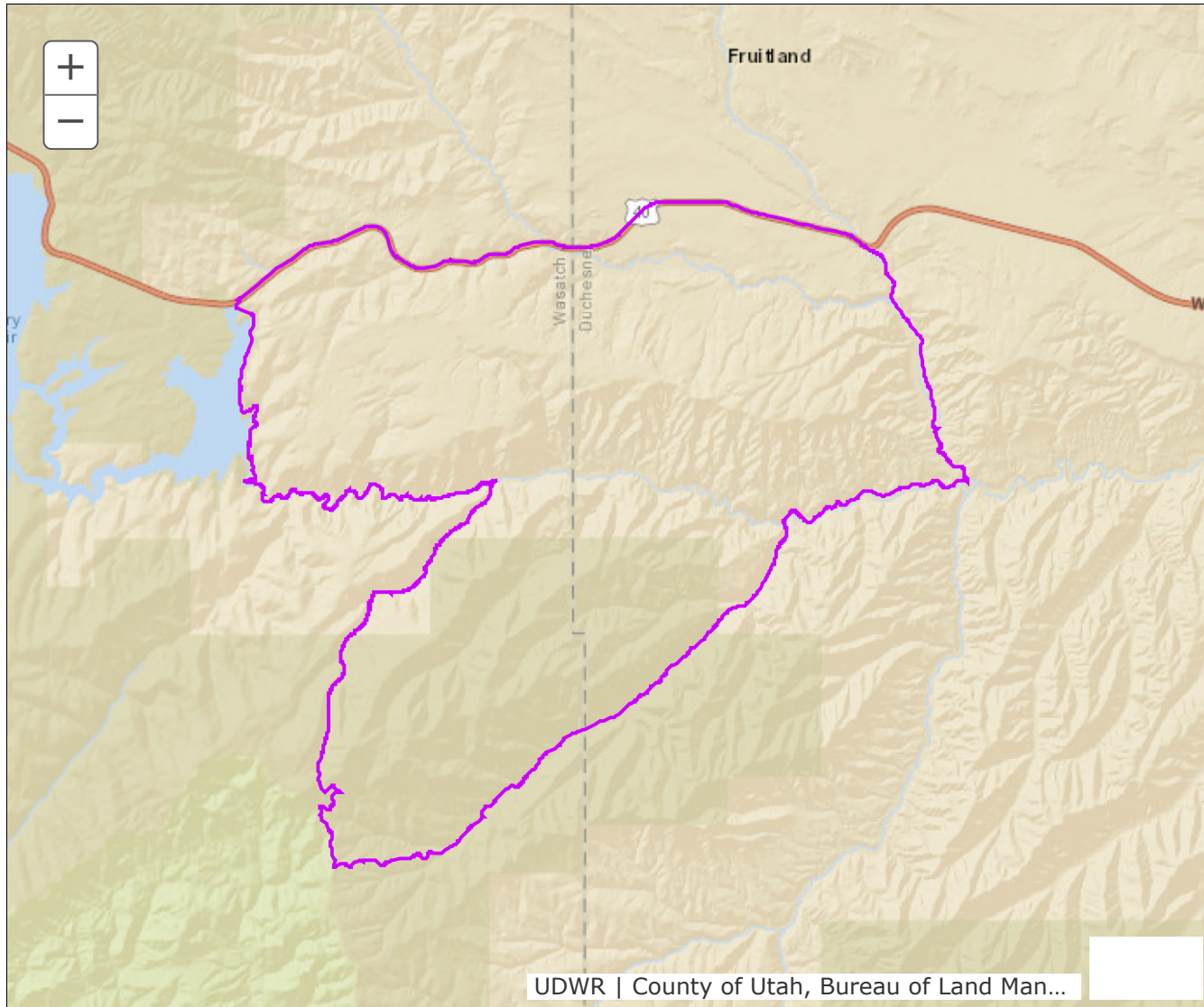
it is the responsibility of hunters to learn if hunting is allowed and what specific rules and regulations may apply on National Monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, UDWR Wildlife and Waterfowl Management areas, military installations and within the boundaries of cities, towns and municipalities. Written permission is required to hunt private lands.



## BOUNDARY RECOMMENDATION

**UNIT** Wasatch Mtns, Wildcat/Timber Canyon

**SPECIES** Elk



**Updated Boundary:** Duchesne and Wasatch counties—Boundary begins at US-40 and USFS road 090 (Soldier Creek Dam road); south on the Soldier Creek Dam road to USFS road 481; south on USFS road 481 to USFS road 644; west then east on USFS road 644 to the Strawberry River; east along this river to Beaver Canyon; southwesterly along the bottom of this canyon to the Reservation Ridge road (USFS 10147); southerly on the Reservation Ridge Road to the Timber Canyon Road (USFS 10149); northeasterly on this road to the Strawberry River road; east on this road to the Red Creek road; north on this road to Hwy US-40; west on this road to the Soldier Creek Dam road. EXCLUDES ALL NATIVE AMERICAN TRUST LANDS WITHIN THIS BOUNDARY. Excludes all CWMUs. USGS 1:100,000 Maps: Duchesne, Provo. Boundary questions? Call Vernal office, 435-781-9453. - A hunting permit does not authorize the permit holder to hunt on Native American trust lands, CWMUs (unless you specifically have a permit for that CWMU) or on National Park lands. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of hunters to learn if hunting is allowed and what specific rules and regulations may apply on

National Monuments, National Wildlife Refuges, State Parks, UDWR Wildlife and Waterfowl Management areas, military installations and within the boundaries of cities, towns and municipalities. Written permission is required to hunt private lands.



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
Executive Director

Division of Wildlife Resources

RILEY PECK

MEMORANDUM

TO: Wildlife Board and Regional Advisory Committee Members  
FROM: Darren DeBloois, Private Lands/Public Wildlife Coordinator  
DATE: March 27, 2026  
SUBJECT: **2026 Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) permit recommendations**

The following is a summary of the 2026 CWMU recommendations for antlerless permits/vouchers. There are three types of applications the DWR receives for CWMUs: new, renewal, and change applications.

- The DWR received antlerless 9 CWMU applications for 2026 and recommends approving all of them.
- The following table summarizes the permits we are recommending be approved by the Wildlife Board for 2026:

Species	Private	Public
Antlerless elk	32	172
Doe pronghorn	28	52
Antlerless deer	0	0
Cow Moose	2	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>228</b>

DD



Region	CWMU	Species	Sex	Rec Private	Rec Public	Rec Hunt Date	Rec Ratio	Acres Private	Acres Public	Unit
NERO	Cottonwood Ridge	Pronghorn	Doe	4	6	08/01 - 10/31	40:60	7916	0	11A
NRO	Beaver Hollow	Moose	Antlerless	0	1	09/01 - 10/31	40:60	15000	0	4
NRO	Deseret	Elk	Antlerless	0	360	08/01 - 01/31	0:100	225228	15359	4
NRO	Deseret	Moose	Antlerless	2	3	09/01 - 10/31	40:60	225228	15359	4
NRO	Deseret	Pronghorn	Doe	20	40	09/01 - 10/31	40:60	225228	15359	4
NRO	Ensign Ranches	Elk	Antlerless	32	48	08/01 - 01/31	40:60	82246	0	6
NRO	Grass Valley/Clark Canyon	Elk	Antlerless	0	50	08/01 - 01/31	0:100	56873	0	6
NRO	Hardscrabble	Elk	Antlerless	0	5	08/01 - 01/31	0:100	17011	0	5
SERO	Indian Head	Elk	Antlerless	0	12	08/01 - 01/31	0:100	22744	1130	17C
SERO	Minnie Maud Ridge	Elk	Antlerless	0	16	09/01 - 10/31	0:100	16890	0	11B
SERO	Redd Ranches	Elk	Antlerless	0	35	08/01 - 01/31	0:100	18912	76	13A
SRO	Pahvant Ensign	Elk	Antlerless	0	6	08/01 - 01/31	0:100	37635	0	21B
SRO	Pahvant Ensign	Pronghorn	Doe	4	6	08/01 - 10/31	40:60	37635	0	21B





## State of Utah

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*Governor*

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
*Lieutenant Governor*

## Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
*Executive Director*

### Division of Wildlife Resources

RILEY PECK

## MEMORANDUM

Date: March 26, 2026

To: Regional Advisory Council Members and Wildlife Board

From: Randy Oplinger, Assistant Chief, Native Aquatics

### **SUBJECT: Proposed Changes to R657-3c and R657-59**

Since its discovery in Utah in the late 1990s, the invasive New Zealand Mud Snail (NZMS) has been classified as prohibited to protect fish and native spring snail populations. However, 25 years of data now show that NZMS have had no detectable impact on Utah's fish populations, though they remain a threat to imperiled native spring snails. There have been several Endangered Species Act listing petitions for native spring snail species. New Zealand mud snails have been identified in several listing petition reviews as a factor that may prompt the classification of native spring snails as either threatened or endangered species. The current prohibited status means that a variance from the Wildlife Board is required to stock privately owned fish ponds from hatcheries that have NZMS. The UDWR proposes amending Administrative Rules R657-3c and R657-59 to reclassify NZMS as controlled. This change will allow private fish ponds to be stocked by private hatcheries with NZMS with a certificate of registration. This expands the availability of fish for stocking onto private property and increases opportunities for private fish growers while maintaining necessary safeguards that will prevent the Federal listing of Utah's native spring snail species.

The UDWR is proposing the following changes to Administrative Rules R657-3c and R657-59

#### Rule R657-3c:

- Reclassify NZMS from prohibited to controlled

#### Rule R657-59a (Private Fish Ponds):

- No changes to stocking procedures if pond owners purchase fish from private aquaculture facilities that do not have New Zealand mud snails
- Establish opportunity for private pond owners to purchase fish from private aquaculture facilities that have New Zealand mud snails through a certificate of registration



- Increase clarity by adding a table (Table 1) that clarifies where COR's for Redear Sunfish will be approved in Utah. In short, they will only be approved in hydrologic units where they are allowed under various federal and multi-state stocking agreements
- Clarify that there is no grace period after a COR expires
- Clarify that a new COR is required when species are added to the COR (COR cannot be amended)
- Clarify that no COR is required to stock grass carp provided the other provisions of R657-59 are followed
- Expand the list of species that can be stocked in the Virgin River drainage to include black crappie, wiper, tiger trout, largemouth bass, triploid grass carp, and fertile rainbow trout (these additional species would require a COR).
- Made several minor administrative/technical updates to improve clarity

R657-59b (Short-Term Fishing Events):

- State that the New Zealand Mud Snail requirements proposed for R657-59a are applicable under R657-59b
- Made several minor administrative/technical updates to improve clarity

R657-59c (Aquaponics):

- State that the New Zealand Mud Snail requirements proposed for R657-59a are applicable under R657-59c
- Add black crappie, wiper, and tiger trout to the list of species that can be stocked to aquaponics facilities in the Virgin River drainage
- Made several minor administrative/technical updates to improve clarity

R657-59d (Institutional Aquaculture):

- State that the New Zealand Mud Snail requirements proposed for R657-59a are applicable under R657-59d
- Made several minor administrative/technical updates to improve clarity

R657-59e (Private Stocking):

- State that the New Zealand Mud Snail requirements proposed for R657-59a are applicable under R657-59e
- Made several minor administrative/technical updates to improve clarity



Table 1: A certificate of registration for redear sunfish may be approved in all hydrologic units within Utah except those identified in the table below.

<b>HUC Number</b>	<b>Name</b>
14010005	Colorado Headwaters-Plateau
14030001	Westwater Canyon
14030004	Lower Dolores
14030005	Upper Colorado-Kane Springs
14040106	Upper Green-Flaming Gorge Reservoir
14040108	Muddy
14040109	Vermilion
14050007	Lower White
14060001	Upper Green-Ashley
14060002	Duchesne
14060003	Strawberry
14060004	Lower Green-Diamond
14060005	Minnie Maud
14060006	White-Gray Canyon
14060007	San Rafael
14060008	Lower Green
14070001	Upper Colorado-Dirty Devil
14070002	Muddy
14070003	Fremont
14070004	Dirty Devil
14070005	Lake Powell
14070006	Escalante
14070007	Paria
14080105	Middle San Juan
14080201	Lower San Juan-Four Corners
14080202	McElmo
14080203	Montezuma
14080204	Lower San Juan
14080205	Chinle
150100080508	Chinatown Wash-Virgin River
160102020703	Nebo Creek-Bear River
160102020705	Newton Creek
160102030103	South Fork Little Bear River
160102030104	Outlet East Fork Little Bear River Canyon
160102030209	Millville Canyon-Blacksmith Fork
160102030302	Hells Kitchen Canyon-Logan River
160102030303	Temple Fork
160102030304	Tony Grove Creek

160102030306	Cottonwood Canyon-Logan River
160102030307	Card Canyon-Logan River
160102040304	Portage Canyon-Malad River
160102040308	Willow Creek-Bear River
160102040402	Blind Spring
160102040503	Box Elder Creek-Black Slough
160201010101	Left Fork Beaver Creek-Beaver Creek
160201010205	Neil Creek-Weber River
160201010206	Whites Creek-Weber River
160201010401	Browns Canyon-Weber River
160201010504	Middle Echo Creek
160201010607	Lower Lost Creek
160201010704	Main Canyon Creek
160201020304	Pineview Reservoir-North Fork Ogden River
160202010103	Hop Creek
160202010104	Pole Creek-Salt Creek
160202010109	Mona Reservoir-Current Creek
160202010302	White Lake-Frontal Utah Lake
160202010401	Threemile Canyon
160202010402	Fremont Canyon
160202010406	Manning Canyon
160202010500	Big Dry Creek
160202010602	Enoch Canyon-Frontal Utah Lake
160202030306	Spring Creek-Provo River
160202030401	Daniels Creek
160202030403	Upper Main Creek
160202030404	Lower Main Creek
160202030501	Provo Deer Creek
160202040301	Headwaters Mill Creek
160202040303	Emigration Creek
160202040304	City Creek
160202040305	Outlet Mill Creek
160202040403	Little Valley Wash-Frontal Great Salt Lake
160202040405	Outlet Jordan River-Frontal Great Salt Lake
160203010105	Salt Cabin Spring Wash-Hamlin Valley Wash
160203010301	Miners Cabin Wash-Hamlin Valley Wash
160203010901	Needle Point Spring
160203010905	South Cedar Wash-Lake Creek
160203011002	Headwaters Old Mans Canyon
160203011103	Knoll Springs
160203011105	Hampton Creek



160203011106	Horse Canyon
160203011202	Headwaters Bishop Springs
160203011204	Warm Creek
160203011301	Indian George Wash
160203011304	Salt Marsh Lake
160203011501	Cookscomb Ridge
160203011502	Outlet Salt Marsh Lake
160203030101	Mile and a Half Canyon
160203030103	Marjum Canyon
160203030211	Sinbad Canyon
160203030304	Willow Spring-Tule Valley Depression
160203040101	East Government Creek
160203040102	Vernon Creek
160203040105	Faust Creek
160203040201	Headwaters Boulter Creek
160203040203	Sabie Creek
160203040303	Clover Creek
160203040308	Soldier Creek-Frontal Rush Lake
160203040310	Rush Lake
160203040401	Settlement Canyon
160203040402	Middle Canyon
160203040405	Adobe Rock-Frontal Great Salt Lake
160203040504	North Willow Creek-Frontal Great Salt Lake
160203040505	Warm Springs Slough
160203040506	Miners Canyon-Frontal Great Salt Lake
160203040507	Tabbys Canyon-Frontal Great Salt Lake
160203050501	Chokecherry Canyon
160203050502	Muskrat Canyon
160203060202	Goshute Canyon
160203060205	Willow Spring Wash
160203060206	Overland Canyon
160203060303	Swasey Knolls Wash
160203060308	Fish Springs Range
160203060402	Goshoot Canyon
160203060403	Lower Fish Springs Wash
160203060405	Fish Springs
160203060407	Wilson Health Springs
160203060803	Spring Creek
160203060805	Fifteenmile Creek-East Creek
160203060807	East Deep Creek
160203060808	West Deep Creek



160203061001	Indian Wash
160203061003	Upper Government Creek
160203061006	Middle Government Creek
160203061205	Cedar Spring
160203061406	Ferguson
160203061507	Ferguson Mountain
160203061508	Blue Lake-Frontal Bonneville Salt Flats
160203080102	Cotton Creek
160203080103	Kimbell Creek-Grouse Creek
160203080106	Straight Fork Creek
160203080107	Warm Creek
160203080109	Etna Creek
160203080302	Miners Canyon
160203080303	Campbell Canyon
160203080304	Willow Canyon
160203080306	Bettridge Creek
160203080401	Keg Springs Canyon
160203080403	Cluster Springs
160203080406	Coal Bank Springs-Grouse Creek
160203080408	Headwaters Miry Wash
160203080703	Sheep Spring-Muddy Creek
160203090406	West Locomotive Slough-Frontal Great Salt Lake
160203090704	Maple Canyon-Frontal Great Salt Lake
160203090705	Miller Canyon-Frontal Great Salt Lake
160203090803	Blue Creek Reservoir-Blue Creek
160203090809	Outlet Blue Creek
160203100100	Antelope Island
160300010501	Threemile Creek
160300010502	East Bench-Sevier River
160300010508	Bear Creek
160300010608	Piute Reservoir
160300020101	Boobe Hole Creek
160300020104	Mill Creek
160300020201	Browns Canyon-Otter Creek
160300030105	Outlet Clear Creek
160300030301	Indian Creek-Sevier River
160300030302	Dry Canyon
160300030309	Maple Creek-Sevier River
160300030311	Black Knoll-Sevier River
160300030404	Water Hollow-Salina Creek
160300030504	Little Lost Creek



160300030506	Outlet Lost Creek
160300030603	May Hollow-Sevier River
160300040102	Serviceberry Hollow
160300040104	Birch Creek-Silver Creek
160300040208	Spring Hollow-San Pitch River
160300040306	Petes Canyon-San Pitch River
160300040503	Gunnison Reservoir-San Pitch River
160300050101	Pharo Creek-Ivie Creek
160300050203	Deep Creek
160300050205	Lampson Canyon-Chicken Creek
160300050206	Outlet Chicken Creek
160300050503	Diamond Gulch-Tanner Creek
160300050505	Copperopolis Creek
160300050604	Erickson Wash
160300050608	Dead Ox Wash-Old River Bed
160300050702	Headwaters Cherry Creek Wash
160300050704	Cherry Creek-Cherry Creek Wash
160300050705	Sand Mountain
160300050903	Big Drum Reservoir
160300051004	North Sugarville Reservoir-Old River Bed
160300051005	Baker Hot Springs-Old River Bed
160300051103	Corral Canyon-Swasey Wash
160300051402	South Fork Chalk Creek
160300051408	Oak Spring
160300051503	Upper Oak Creek
160300051602	Tin Well Wash
160300051603	Lower Soap Hollow
160300051705	North Clay Knoll Reservoir-Old River Bed
160300060106	Kane Spring Wash-Fremont Wash
160300060108	Little Creek
160300060109	Red Creek
160300060203	Outlet Parowan Creek
160300061201	McDonald Wash
160300061205	Negro Liza Wash
160300061304	Calf Springs Creek
160300061305	Holt Canyon
160300061306	Lower Shoal Creek
160300061403	Pinto Creek
160300070705	Big Spring-Beaver River
160300080301	Cat Canyon-Beaver River
160300080406	Mud Springs



<b>160300080501</b>	Jensen Spring
<b>170402100204</b>	Johnson Creek
<b>170402100402</b>	Onemile Creek
<b>170402110111</b>	Meadow Creek



**R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources.**

**R657-3c. Certification of Registration – Fish, Mollusks, and Crustaceans.**

**R657-3c-1. Purpose and Authority.**

(1) Under Title 23, Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, this rule governs the collection, importation, possession, and propagation of aquatic animals in Utah.

**R657-3c-2. Definitions.**

(1) Terms used for purposes of this Rule are defined in Section ~~23-13-223a-1-101~~, Section R657-3a-2, and Subsection (2) through Subsection (10).

(2) "Aquaculture" means the husbandry, production, harvest, and use of aquatic organisms under controlled, artificial conditions.

(3) "Aquaculture facility" means any tank, canal, raceway, pond, off-stream reservoir, or other structure used for aquaculture as defined under Title 4, Chapter 37, the Aquaculture Act and the rules promulgated there under.

(4) "Aquatic animal" means a member of any species of fish, mollusk, or crustacean, including their eggs or sperm.

(5) "Baitfish" means aquatic animal species authorized for use as bait in Section R657-13-12.

(6) "Fee fishing facility" means a body of water used for holding or rearing fish to provide fishing for a fee or for pecuniary consideration or advantage as described in Title 4, Chapter 37, the Aquaculture Act.

(7) "Food fish" means aquatic animal species cultured or harvested from the wild for human consumption.

(8)(a) "Marine aquatic animal" means a member of any species of fish, mollusk, or crustacean, including their eggs and sperm, that spends its entire life cycle in a marine environment.

(b) "Marine aquatic animal" does not include:

(i) anadromous aquatic animal species;

(ii) species that temporarily or permanently reside in brackish water; and

(iii) species classified as invasive or nuisance by state or federal law.

(9)(a) "Ornamental aquatic animal species" means any species of fish, mollusk, or crustacean that is sold for display.

(b) "Ornamental aquatic animal species" does not mean:

(i) Sport fish;

(ii) Baitfish;

(iii) Aquatic animal species that are native to Utah;

(iv) Aquatic animals and marine aquatic animals prohibited for importation or possession under federal law; or

(v) Aquatic animals and marine aquatic animals listed as prohibited or controlled in Subsection R657-3c-5(1).

(10) "Sport fish" means aquatic animal species regulated for angling and harvest for recreation or sport from any state in the United States, excluding Peacock Bass (*Cichla ocellaris*).

**R657-3c-5. Noncontrolled, Controlled, and Prohibited Species.**

(1)(a) The noncontrolled, controlled, and prohibited aquatic animal species classification table entitled Table 3c-1, dated May 1, 2023 is hereby incorporated by reference.

(b) Table 3c-1 can be accessed in person or by contacting the Salt Lake division office located at 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114, and on the division's Certificates of Registration webpage at <https://wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/certificates-of-registration.html>.

(2) A person may collect and possess live aquatic animals of controlled species if:

(a) They possess a valid certificate of registration;

(b) Successfully complete the Fish, Mollusk, and Crustacean education course;

(c) Satisfy the mandatory reporting requirements established in Section R657-3c-6; and

(d) The number of individuals of a species in a person's possession may not exceed the limits established under that person's certificate of registration.

(3) All native species and naturalized sportfish species are classified as controlled except those species that are classified as prohibited.

(4) Some species are classified as noncontrolled when stocked in a private fish pond, short-term fishing event, or aquaponics facility, as allowed in Rule R657-~~5959a~~.

(5) Triploid Grass Carp can be stocked as allowed in Rule R657-~~5959a~~.

(6)(a) Exemptions may be granted to educational, scientific, and commercial organizations.

(b) An individual or entity must acquire a certificate of registration before engaging in an educational, scientific, or commercial use activity involving the collection or possession of a controlled or prohibited species.

(i) A scientific use certificate of registration is valid for the time-period identified in the research proposal and approved by the division.

(ii) Educational use certificates of registration are valid for 3 years and authorize wildlife related instructional activities identified on the certificate of registration.

(iii) Commercial use certificates of registration are valid for 3 years and authorize commercial use activities identified on the certificate of registration.

**R657-3c-9. Collection, Transportation, Possession and Propagation of Aquatic Animal Species.**

(1) A person shall obtain a certificate of registration before collecting, transporting, possessing, or propagating any aquatic animal species or aquatic animal species parts classified as prohibited or controlled, except as otherwise provided in this rule, statute, or rules and orders of the Wildlife Board.

(2) A certificate of registration is not required to collect, transport, possess, or propagate any aquatic animal species classified as noncontrolled.

(3) Possessed live aquatic animals must be housed where:

(a) there is no risk that the aquatics animals can escape into a public waterway or waterbody; and

(b) there is no risk that water and waste discharged from the holding tank can enter a public waterway or waterbody.

(4) Possessed aquatic animal species cannot be released into the wild regardless of whether they are classified as noncontrolled, controlled, or prohibited.

**R657-3c-11. Transportation of Aquatic Animal Species.**

~~(1) A person shall obtain a certificate of registration before transporting any aquatic animal species or aquatic animal species parts classified as prohibited or controlled, except as otherwise provided in this rule, statute, or rules and orders of the Wildlife Board.~~

~~(2) A certificate of registration is not required to transport any aquatic animal species classified as nonecontrolled.~~

**R657-3c-12. Possession of Aquatic Animal Species.**

~~(1) A person shall obtain a certificate of registration before possessing any aquatic animal species or aquatic animal species parts classified as prohibited or controlled, except as otherwise provided in this rule, statute, or rules and orders of the Wildlife Board.~~

~~(2) A certificate of registration is not required to possess any aquatic animal species classified as noncontrolled.~~

**R657-3c-13. Propagation of Aquatic Animal Species.**

~~(1) A person shall obtain a certificate of registration before propagating any aquatic animal species classified as prohibited or controlled, except as otherwise provided in this rule, statute, or rules and orders of the Wildlife Board.~~

~~(2) A certificate of registration is not required to propagate any aquatic animal species classified as noncontrolled.~~

**R657-3c-14. Brine Shrimp and Brine Shrimp Eggs.**

(1) A certificate of registration is not required to collect, transport, or possess brine shrimp and brine shrimp eggs for personal use, provided:

(a) the brine shrimp and brine shrimp eggs are collected, transported, and possessed together with water in a container no larger than one gallon;

(b) no more than a one gallon container of brine shrimp and brine shrimp eggs, including water, is collected during any consecutive seven day period; and

(c) the brine shrimp or brine shrimp eggs following possession are not released live into the Great Salt Lake, Sevier River, or any of their tributary waters.

**Table 3c-1**

Except otherwise listed, all species are presumed prohibited. All species not listed will require an assessment before collection, importation, or possession will be authorized.

Noncontrolled Fishes, Mollusks, and Crustaceans		
Common Name	Scientific Classification	Comments
Any ornamental aquatic animal species except those classified as prohibited		
Any marine aquatic animal species except those classified as prohibited		

<b>Controlled Fishes</b>		
<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Classification</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Bear Lake Sculpin	<i>Cottus extensus</i>	
Bear Lake Whitefish	<i>Prosopium abyssicola</i>	
Black Crappie	<i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i>	
Bluegill	<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>	
Bluehead Sucker	<i>Catostomus discobolus</i>	
Bonneville Cisco	<i>Prosopium gemmifer</i>	
Bonneville Whitefish	<i>Prosopium spilonotus</i>	
Brook Trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>	
Brown Trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>	
Bullhead (all species)	<i>Ameiurus sp</i>	
Channel Catfish	<i>Ictalurus punctatus</i>	
Common Carp	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	
Cutthroat Trout	<i>Oncorhynchus clarkii</i>	
Desert Sucker	<i>Catostomus clarkii</i>	
Fathead Minnow	<i>Pimephales promelas</i>	
Flannelmouth Sucker	<i>Catostomus latipinnis</i>	
Lake Trout	<i>Salvelinus namaycush</i>	
Largemouth Bass	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>	
Least Chub	<i>Lotichthys phlegethontis</i>	
Longnose Dace	<i>Rhinichthys cataractae</i>	
Mottled Sculpin	<i>Cottus bairdii</i>	
Mountain Sucker	<i>Catostomus platyrhynchus</i>	
Mountain Whitefish	<i>Prosopium williamsoni</i>	
Northern Leatherside Chub	<i>Lepidomeda copei</i>	
Northern Pike	<i>Esox lucius</i>	
Paiute Sculpin	<i>Cottus beldingii</i>	
Rainbow Trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	
Redside Shiner	<i>Richardsonius balteatus</i>	
Roundtail Chub	<i>Gila robusta</i>	
Smallmouth Bass	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>	
Southern Leatherside Chub	<i>Lepidomeda aliciae</i>	
Speckled Dace	<i>Rhinichthys osculus</i>	
Splake Trout	<i>Salvelinus namaycush x Salvelinus fontinalis</i>	
Striped Bass	<i>Morone saxatilis</i>	
Tiger Muskellunge	<i>Esox masquinongy x Esox lucius</i>	
Tiger Trout	<i>Salmo trutta x Salvelinus fontinalis</i>	
Utah Chub	<i>Gila atraria</i>	
Virgin Spinedace	<i>Lepidomeda mollispinis</i>	

Walleye	<i>Sander vitreus</i>	
Western Mosquitofish	<i>Gambusia affinis</i>	
White Bass	<i>Morone chrysops</i>	
White Crappie	<i>Pomoxis annularis</i>	
Wiper	<i>Morone saxatilis x Morone chrysops</i>	
Yellow Perch	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	

<b>Prohibited Fishes</b>		
<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Classification</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Alewife	<i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>	
Asian Swamp Eel	<i>Monopterus albus</i>	
Bighead Carp	<i>Hypophthalmichthys nobilis</i>	
Black Carp	<i>Mylopharyngodon piceus</i>	
Bonytail	<i>Gila elegans</i>	
Bowfin	<i>Amia calva</i>	
Brook Stickleback	<i>Culaea inconstans</i>	
Burbot	<i>Lota lota</i>	
Colorado Pikeminnow	<i>Ptychocheilus lucius</i>	
Convict Cichlid	<i>Amatitlania nigrofasciata</i>	
Eurasian Ruffe	<i>Gymnocephalus cernuus</i>	
Flathead Catfish	<i>Pylodictis olivaris</i>	
Gar	Family Lepisosteidae	All species
Grass Carp (diploid)	<i>Ctenopharyngodon idella</i>	Triploid grass carp classified as controlled
Humpback Chub	<i>Gila cypha</i>	
Ide	<i>Leuciscus idus</i>	
June Sucker	<i>Chasmistes liorus</i>	
Piranhas (all species)	Genus <i>Catoprion</i> , Genus <i>Pristobrycon</i> , Genus <i>Pygocentrus</i> , Genus <i>Pygopristis</i> , and Genus <i>Serrasalmus</i>	All species
Nile Perch	<i>Lates niloticus</i>	
Northern Snakehead	<i>Channa argus</i>	
Razorback Sucker	<i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>	
Red Bellied Pacu	<i>Piaractus brachypomus</i>	
Red Shiner	<i>Cyprinella lutrensis</i>	
Round Goby	<i>Neogobius melanostomus</i>	
Rudd	<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>	
Sand Shiner	<i>Notropis stramineus</i>	
Sea Lamprey	<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	

Silver Carp	<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i>	
South American parasitic catfish	Family Cetopsidae and Family Trichomycteridae	All species
Tiger Fish	<i>Hydrocynus vittatus</i>	
Tench	<i>Tinca tinca</i>	
Tilapia	Genus <i>Coelotilapia</i> , Genus <i>Coptodon</i> , Genus <i>Heterotilapia</i> , Genus <i>Oreochromis</i> , and Genus <i>Sarotherodon</i>	All species
Virgin River Chub	<i>Gila seminuda</i>	
Walking Catfish	<i>Clarias batrachus</i>	
Woundfin	<i>Plagopterus argentissimus</i>	
Zander	<i>Sander lucioperca</i>	
All fish species that are not listed as noncontrolled, controlled, or prohibited are presumed prohibited		

<b>Controlled Mollusks</b>		
<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Classification</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Ambersnails	Genus <i>Oxiloma</i> , Genus <i>Catinella</i> and Genus <i>Succinea</i>	All species
Brown hive	<i>Euconulus fulvus</i>	
Collumns and Daggers	Genus <i>Columella</i> , Genus <i>Pupilla</i> and Genus <i>Pupoides</i>	All species
Creeping ancyloid	<i>Ferrissia rivularis</i>	
Desert tryonia	<i>Tryonia porrecta</i>	
Freshwater clams	Genus <i>Musculium</i> , Genus <i>Pisidium</i> , and Genus <i>Sphaerium</i>	All species
Gems	Genus <i>Hawaiiia</i> and Genus <i>Ogaridaiscus</i>	All species
Glass Snails	Genus <i>Glyphyalinia</i> and Genus <i>Nesovitrea</i>	All species
Glosses	Genus <i>Zonitoides</i>	All species
Green river Pebblesnail	<i>Fluminicola coloradensis</i>	
Mexican coil	<i>Helicodiscus eigenmanni</i>	
Mountain snails	Genus <i>Oreohelix</i>	All species
Mud Amnicola	<i>Amnicola limosus</i>	
<u>New Zealand Mud Snail</u>	<u><i>Potamopyrgus antipodarum</i></u>	
Physas	Genus <i>Aplexa</i> , Genus <i>Physa</i> and Genus <i>Physella</i>	All species
Rams-horns and Gyros	Genus <i>Gyraulus</i> , Genus <i>Helisoma</i> , Genus <i>Menetus</i> , Genus <i>Planorbella</i> and Genus <i>Promentus</i>	All species
Rocky mountain duskysnail	<i>Colligyrus greggi</i>	
Small Spot Disks	Genus <i>Disk</i>	All species

Snaggletooths and Vertigo	Genus <i>Gastrocopta</i> and Genus <i>Vertigo</i>	All species
Springsnails	Genus <i>Pyrgulopsis</i>	All species
Valvatas	Genus <i>Valvata</i>	All species
Western Glass-Snail	<i>Vitrina pellucida</i>	
Western pearlshell	<i>Margaritifera falcata</i>	
Floater	Genus <i>Anodonta</i>	All species
Pondsnails and Marshsnails	Genus <i>Galba</i> , Genus <i>Lymnaea</i> sp and Genus <i>Stagnicola</i>	All species
Spruce snail	<i>Microphysula ingersolli</i>	
Vallonias	Genus <i>Vallonia</i>	All species

<b>Prohibited Mollusks</b>		
<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Classification</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Asian Clam	<i>Corbicula fluminea</i>	
Channeled Apple Snail	<i>Pomacea canaliculata</i>	
Brown Garden Snail	<i>Cornu asperum</i>	
Cellar Glass-Snail	<i>Oxychilus cellarius</i>	
Chinese Mystery Snail	<i>Cipangopaludina chinensis</i>	
Decollate Snail	<i>Rumina decollata</i>	
Faucet Snail	<i>Bithynia tentaculata</i>	
Giant Floater	<i>Pyganodon grandis</i>	
Giant Gardenslug	<i>Limax maximus</i>	
Golden Mussel	<i>Limnoperna fortunei</i>	
Gray Fieldslug	<i>Deroceras reticulatum</i>	
<u>New Zealand Mud Snail</u>	<u><i>Potamopyrgus antipodarum</i></u>	
Paper Pondshell	<i>Lymnaea stagnalis</i>	
Quagga Mussel	<i>Dreissena rostriformis</i>	
Red Rim Melania	<i>Melanoides tuberculata</i>	
Southern Flatcoil	<i>Polygyra cereolus</i>	
Veined Rapa Whelk	<i>Rapana venosa</i>	
Zebra Mussel	<i>Dreissena polymorpha</i>	
All mollusk species that are not listed as noncontrolled, controlled, or prohibited are presumed prohibited		

<b>Controlled Crustaceans</b>		
<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Classification</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Brine Shrimp	Genus <i>Artemia</i>	All species
Northern (Virile) Crayfish	<i>Faxonius virilis</i>	
Pilose Crayfish	<i>Pacifastacus gambelii</i>	

<b>Prohibited Crustaceans</b>		
<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Scientific Classification</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Asian Shore Crab	<i>Hemigrapsus sanguineus</i>	
Chinese Mitten Crab	<i>Eriocheir sinensis</i>	
European Green Crab	<i>Carcinus maenas</i>	
Fishhook Water Flea	<i>Cercopagis pengoi</i>	
Killer Shrimp	<i>Dikerogammarus villosus</i>	
Marbled Crayfish	<i>Procambarus virginalis</i>	
Marron Crayfish	<i>Cherax tenuimanus</i>	
Redclaw Crayfish	<i>Cherax quadricarinatus</i>	
Rusty Crayfish	<i>Orconectes rusticus</i>	
Signal Crayfish	<i>Pacifastacus leniusculus</i>	
Spiny Water Flea	<i>Bythotrephes longimanus</i>	
Yabby Crayfish	<i>Cherax destructor</i>	
All crustacean species that are not listed as noncontrolled, controlled, or prohibited are presumed prohibited		

**KEY: wildlife, animal protection, import restrictions, zoological animals**

**Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment:**

**Notice of Continuation: New Rule**

## **R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources**

### **R657-59a. Private Fish Ponds.**

#### **R657-59a-1. Purpose and Authority.**

(1) Under the authority of Sections 23A-9-305 and 23A-9-202, this rule provides the standards and procedures for private fish ponds.

(2) Fee fishing facility and private aquaculture facility licensing is regulated by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food under Title 4, Utah Agricultural Code, Chapter 37, Aquaculture Act, and Rule R58-17.

(3) A person operating a private fish pond must also comply with all requirements established by Title 4, the Utah Agricultural Code and all rules promulgated by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, including:

(a) requirements for the importation of aquaculture products into Utah; and

(b) requirements for fish health approval for aquaculture products.

(4) Any violation of, or failure to comply with Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, this rule, or any specific requirement contained in a certificate of registration issued pursuant to this rule may be grounds for suspension of the certificate of registration or denial of future certificates of registration, as determined by the division.

#### **R657-59a-2. Definitions.**

(1) "Aquaculture" means the husbandry, production, harvest, and use of aquatic organisms undercontrolled, artificial conditions.

(2) "Aquaculture facility" means any facility used for the husbandry, production, harvest, and use of aquatic organisms under controlled, artificial conditions that holds a valid aquaculture facility license from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food.

(3)(a) "Aquaculture product" means privately purchased, domestically produced aquatic organisms, or their gametes.

(b) "Aquaculture product" does not mean aquatic wildlife obtained from the wild, aquatic wildlife produced by the state or federally owned aquaculture facilities, or ornamental aquatic animal species.

(4) "Aquaponics facility" means a facility that combines fish and plant culture for a non-commercial purpose where:

(a) all water flowing into or through the facility is completely isolated from any other water source via a self-contained water transport system;

(b) all water and waste flowing from the facility is discharged into a permitted sewer or septic system or there is no risk that water and waste discharged from the facility can enter a public waterway or waterbody;

(c) the aquatic animals held within the facility are used for non-commercial purposes only;

(d) no aquatic animals or their gametes are transported from the facility alive; and

(e) the primary use of the facility is for food production and not for the general display of fish in aquaria.

(5) "Aquatic wildlife" for the purposes of this chapter means:

(a) fish, mollusk, or crustacean species that are spawned and hatched in public waters, state or federal aquaculture facilities, and;

(b) fish, mollusk, or crustacean species that escape a private fish pond into a public water.

(6) "Certified sterile aquaculture product" means any fish or gamete that originates from a health certified source, as described in Title 4, Utah Agricultural Code, Chapter 37, Aquaculture Act and is incapable of reproduction due to triploidy or hybridization, and is confirmed as sterile using the protocol described in Sections R657-59-7 and Section R657-59a-5.

(7) "Division" means the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

(8) "FEMA" means Federal Emergency Management Administration.

(9) "HUC" or "Hydrologic Unit Code" means a cataloging system developed by the U.S. Geological Survey and the Natural Resource Conservation Service to identify watersheds in the United States.

(10) "Institutional aquaculture" means aquaculture engaged in by a school, college, university, or other educational program, or public agency other than the division.

(11) "Lake" means a naturally formed, perennial or intermittent, non-flowing waterbody that collects and keeps water in quantity for use.

(12) "Lot" means fish of the same species that are subject to a health inspection under the Aquatic Animal Health Inspection Policy in Subsection R58-17-2 (26), which establishes guidelines for lot designation for salmonid and non-salmonid fish.

(13) "Natural stream channel" means a body of water that maintains continuous, seasonal or potential flow, as determined by the division.

(14)(a) "Ornamental aquatic animal species" means any species of fish, mollusk, or crustacean that is cultured for display and then sold in the United States' aquarium industry for display.

(b) "Ornamental aquatic animal species" does not include:

(i) fresh water;

(A) sport fish - aquatic animal species regulated for angling or harvest for recreation or sport;

(B) baitfish - aquatic animal species authorized for use as bait in Section R657-13-12, or any other species used by anglers as bait in sporting fishing;

(C) food fish - aquatic animal species cultured or harvested from the wild for human consumption; or

- (D) native species; or
  - (ii) aquatic animals and marine aquatic animals prohibited for importation or possession by any state, federal, or local law; or
  - (iii) aquatic animals and marine aquatic animals listed as prohibited or controlled in Sections R657-3-22 and R657-3-23.
- (15) "Private fish pond" means a standing body of water or any fish culture system which:
- (a) is not located on a natural lake, natural flowing stream, or reservoir constructed on a natural stream channel;
  - (b) is contained entirely on privately owned land; and
  - (c) is used for holding or rearing fish for a private, non-commercial purpose.
- (16) "Purchase" means to buy, or otherwise acquire or obtain through barter, exchange, or trade for monetary consideration or advantage.
- (17) "Reservoir" means an artificially constructed, non-flowing waterbody that is used to collect and keep water in quantity for use built by damming a natural stream channel.
- (18) "Salmonid" means any fish belonging to the trout or salmon family.
- (19) "Short-term fishing event" means an event where:
- (a) privately acquired fish are held or confined for a period not to exceed ten days in a temporary event tank;
  - (b) for the purposes of providing a recreational opportunity; and
  - (c) no fee is charged as a requirement to fish.
- (20) "Sterile" means the inability to reproduce.

**R657-59a-3. Aquaculture Facility Requirements**

- (1) An aquaculture facility that possesses a valid license from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food may stock aquatic wildlife into private fish ponds in Utah, provided:
- (a)(i) The purchaser of the aquatic wildlife possesses a valid private fish pond certificate of registration as issued by the division; or
  - (ii) the species being stocked meets the criteria where a certificate of registration is not required as described in Section R657-59a-5;
  - (b) Any triploid aquaculture product that are stocked originate from a lot that has been tested and meet the requirements specified in Subsection R657-59a-9-10(3); and
  - (c) The aquaculture facility provides the purchaser of any triploid fish a copy of the letter issued by the division certifying that the stocked fish originate from a lot that meets the requirements specified in Subsection R657-59a-9-10(3).
- (2) The division may collect aquatic wildlife from private fish ponds to verify that the species and ploidy meet the requirements of this rule.
- (3) (i) It is unlawful for an aquaculture facility to release aquatic wildlife that violates the terms of Rule R657-59a or other rules established under Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, and the Wildlife Board.
- (ii) Violation of this rule may result in a violation of Sections 23A-5-305 and 4-37-601.

**R657-59a-4. Certificate of Registration Not Required.**

- (1) A certificate of registration is not required to receive and stock an aquaculture product in a private fish pond, provided:
- (a) the pond is not a natural lake, natural flowing stream, or reservoir constructed on a natural flowing stream;
  - (b) the private fish pond satisfies the screening requirements established in Section R657-59a-79;
  - (c) the species, sub-species, and sterility of the aquaculture product received is authorized for stocking in the area where the private fish pond is located consistent with the requirements in Section R657-59a-910;
  - (d) the aquaculture product is:
    - (i) delivered to the private fish pond by a licensed aquaculture facility as defined in Title 4, Utah Agricultural Code, Chapter 37, Aquaculture Act; or
    - (ii) the owner, lessee, or operator of the private fish pond:
      - (A) possesses documentation from the aquaculture facility verifying the information itemized in Subsection R657-59a-67(4)(b) during transport; and
      - (B) assumes legal responsibility for directly transporting the fish from the aquaculture facility to the private fish pond;
    - (e) the owner, lessee, or operator of the private fish pond obtains from the aquaculture facility providing the aquaculture product a valid health approval number issued by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food pursuant to Title 4, Utah Agricultural Code, Chapter 37, Aquaculture Act; and
    - (f) the owner or operator of the private fish pond provides the aquaculture facility a signed written statement that the pond and aquaculture product received are in compliance with this section.
- (2) A certificate of registration is required to receive and stock an aquaculture product in a private fish pond when the criteria described in Subsection (1) are not met.

**R657-59a-5. Certified Sterile Aquaculture Product.**

- (1) For the purposes of this rule, the following hybrid fish species are considered certified sterile aquaculture product:

- (a) Splake;
- (b) Tiger Muskellunge;
- (c) Tiger Trout; and
- (d) Wiper.

(2) ~~Triloid~~Triploid grass carp ~~isare only~~ considered ~~a-certified~~ sterile aquaculture product if documentation is submitted by an aquaculture facility to the division that demonstrates that each fish is tested individually and meets the standards of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Triploid Grass Carp Inspection and Certification Program. In addition, the same documentation must be provided by the aquaculture facility to customers who purchase triploid grass carp.

(3) All other species not specified in Subsections R657-59a-5 (1) and (2) may be considered certified sterile aquaculture product if they are triploid and the following procedures are followed:

(a) fish samples from each lot of triploid fish at an aquaculture facility are collected, prepared, and submitted to a certified laboratory by an independent veterinarian, certified fish health professional, or other professional approved by the division or Utah Department of Agriculture and Food;

(b) certified laboratories shall be limited to independent, professional laboratories capable of reliably testing fish sterility and approved by the division;

(c) sterility shall be determined by sampling and testing 60 fish from each lot using either flow cytometry, particle analysis, or karyotyping;

(d) at least 95% of the fish test triploid; and

(e) the professional laboratory submitted the testing results directly to the division and the division ~~issued~~will issue the aquaculture facility a letter verifying that the lot meets the criteria established in Subsections R657-59a-5-(3)(a) through (d). A copy of this letter must be provided to all customers who purchase triploid fish.

(4) An aquaculture facility that receives certified sterile aquaculture product from another aquaculture facility is not required to conduct additional sterility testing before stocking the aquaculture product, provided the division is given documentation demonstrating that the fish meet the requirements of Subsection R657-59a-5 (3) and the sterile fish are kept segregated from other fertile fish.

#### **R657-59a-9. Species and Reproductive Capabilities of Aquaculture Product Authorized by Area for Stocking in Private Fish Ponds**

(1) Aquaculture product may be stocked into a private fish pond without a certificate of registration provided the pond stocked with aquaculture product is outside the Virgin River drainage or the 100 year floodplain of the Colorado River and its tributaries; and the aquaculture product stocked belongs to one of the following species:

~~(a) In all drainages except the Virgin River drainage:~~

~~(b) (a) any species defined as certified sterile aquaculture product as established in Subsection R657-59a-5 (1);~~  
and

~~(b) (b) triploid individuals from the following species, provided the stocked aquaculture product is from a lot that meets the requirements specified in ~~Subsection~~Subsections R657-59a-5-(2), R657-59a-5(3) and R657-59a(4):~~

(i) Bluegill;

(ii) Black Crappie;

(iii) Yellow Perch;

(iv) Grass Carp;

~~(v) Brook Trout;~~

~~(vi) Brown Trout;~~

~~(vii) Lake Trout; and~~

~~(viii) Rainbow Trout.~~

(1) In the Virgin River Drainage, only Triploid Rainbow Trout may be stocked without a certificate of registration. Black Crappie, Wiper, Tiger Trout, Largemouth Bass, triploid Grass Carp, and fertile Rainbow Trout may be stocked if a certificate of registration is obtained from the division pursuant to Section R657-59a-12.

(2) Fertile rainbow trout and brown trout may be stocked into all waters without a certificate of registration except those identified in a table entitled Table 59-~~42~~, dated August 14, 2023 is incorporated by reference. Table 59-~~42~~ can be accessed in person or by contacting the Salt Lake division office located at 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114, and on the division's Certificates of Registration webpage at <https://wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/certificates-of-registration.html>, copy currently available at: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/16KMMSp5pZnvZforuCdWwzF9tRdiEObqFW-mvTqAsWE/edit?usp=sharing>

~~(2)(a) (3) Redear sunfish may only be stocked with a certificate of registration into waters within the watersheds identified in a table entitled Table 59-2, dated (insert date) and is incorporated by reference. Table 5-9-2 can be accessed in person or by contacting the Salt Lake division office located at 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 89414, and on the division's Certificates of Registration webpage at: heeps://wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/certificates-of-registration.html, copy currently available at: (insert link once generated).~~

(4) A certificate of registration must be obtained from the division pursuant to Section R657-59a-11 before stocking any private fish pond with any species or sterility of aquaculture product not specifically authorized in this Section.

~~(b)(i)~~

#### **R657-59a-10. Stocking from Hatcheries with New Zealand Mud Snails.**

~~(1) A certificate of registration application to stock triploid grass carp for control of aquatic weeds will be evaluated based upon:~~

~~(1) adequacy of screening must be obtained from the division before stocking any aquaculture product that originates from an aquaculture facility that is known to contain the grass carp; and New Zealand mud snails (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*)~~

~~(2) potential for conflict with division management objectives or detrimental interactions with other species of fish or wildlife.~~

~~(ii) To import, transport, or stock live grass carp, each fish must be verified as being sterile triploid by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.~~

~~(2) Provided all other provisions of this rule are met, an additional certificate of registration is not required to stock aquaculture products from facilities that are free from New Zealand mud snails.~~

**R657-59a-1011. Fishing License and Transportation of Dead Aquaculture Product.**

(1) A fishing license is not required to:

(a) take fish from a legally recognized private fish pond; or

(b) to transport dead aquaculture product from a private fish pond, provided that the person in possession of the dead aquaculture product can provide the name, address, and phone number of the owner of the private fish pond if requested by the division.

**R657-59a-1412. Application for a Fish Stocking Certificate of Registration; Application Criteria; Amendment of Certificate of Registration.**

(1) The following persons may apply for a certificate of registration for a private fish pond:

(a) The owner of the private fish pond;

(b) The president of a homeowners association, if the pond is on homeowners association property; or

(c) An individual who is a full-time employee of the private pond owner, who represents the pond owner or is a property manager.

(2)(a) A person may apply for a certificate of registration for a fish stocking activity by submitting an application with the required handling and inspection fee following the instructions provided at: <https://wildlife.utah.gov/private-ponds.html>

(b) The application may require up to 30 days for processing.

(c) The division may require a site inspection of the stocking location be performed to confirm compliance with the provisions found in this rule.

(d) The division may deny an application when:

(i) the application is incomplete, filled out incorrectly, or submitted without the appropriate fee;

(ii) receiving or stocking the aquaculture product or aquatic wildlife may:

(A) violate any federal, state or local law or any agreement between the state and another party;

(B) negatively impact native wildlife species listed by the division as sensitive or by the federal government as threatened or endangered;

(C) pose an identifiable adverse threat to other wildlife species or their habitat;

(D) pose an identifiable adverse impact to the division's game fish stocking regimes or wildlife management objectives; or

(iii) the applicant has violated Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, Title R657, a guidebook of the Wildlife Board, a certificate of registration, an order of the Wildlife Board, or any other law related to the applicant's ability to responsibly carry out the stocking activity.

(3) A certificate of registration for a private fish pond is effective 5 years from the date of issuance as identified on the certificate of registration. Certificates of registration cannot be renewed after the expiration date identified on the certificate of registration has passed and a new certificate of registration must be granted after the expiration date. During the effective period of the certificate of registration, the certificate of registration holder may stock any of the aquaculture products approved by the certificate of registration at the locality identified on the certificate of registration so long as all stipulations under Rule R657-59a are adhered to, unless the certificate of registration is:

(a) amended by the division at the request of the certificate of registration holder. The division cannot amend certificates of registration to add additional species. The addition of species requires the issuance of a new certificate of registration. Amendments do not change the expiration date of a certificate of registration and the original expiration date will remain after an amendment;

(b) terminated or modified by the division pursuant to Section R657-59-13; or

(c) suspended by the division or a court pursuant to Section 23A-4-1106.

**R657-59a-1213. Expiration and Termination of Certificates of Registration.**

If a certificate of registration expires or the division suspends or terminates the certificate of registration, all live aquaculture products permitted under the certificate of registration shall be disposed of in a manner that complies with all federal, state, and local laws.

**R657-59a-1314. Prohibited Activities.**

(1) Live aquatic wildlife may not be collected from the wild and used in stocking activities unless authorized by the Wildlife Board and Fish Health Policy Board.

(2) A person may not release or transport any live aquaculture product received or held under this rule without prior written authorization of the division and the Fish Health Policy Board.

**R657-59a-1415. Administrative Appeal Procedures.**

(1) An aggrieved party to a final division action under this rule may file a request for agency action with the division under Rule R657-2.

(2) The Director or a designee appointed by the Director shall be the presiding officer for any adjudicative proceedings initiated under this rule.

**KEY: wildlife, aquaculture, fish**

**Date of Last Change:** November 21, 2023

**Notice of Continuation:** New Rule 2023

**Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law:** 23A-9-305 and 23A-9-202

**R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources**

**R657-59b. Short-Term Fishing Events.**

**R657-59b-1. Purpose and Authority.**

(1) Under the authority of Sections 23A-9-305 and 23A-9-203, this rule provides the standards and procedures for short-term fishing events.

(2) This rule does not regulate fee fishing or private aquaculture as provided in Title 4, Utah Agricultural Code, Chapter 37, Aquaculture Act and Rule R58-17.

(3) A person operating a short-term fishing event must also comply with all requirements established by Title 4, the Utah Agricultural Code and all rules promulgated by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, including:

(a) requirements for the importation of aquaculture products into Utah; and

(b) requirements for fish health approval for aquaculture products.

(4) Any violation of, or failure to comply with, Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, this rule, or any specific requirement contained in a certificate of registration issued pursuant to this rule may be grounds for suspension of the certificate or denial of future certificates, as determined by the division.

**R657-59b-2. Definitions.**

(1)(a) "Aquaculture product" means privately purchased, domestically produced aquatic organisms, or their gametes.

(b) "Aquaculture product" does not mean aquatic wildlife obtained from the wild, aquatic wildlife produced by the state or federally owned aquaculture facilities, or ornamental aquatic animal species.

(2) "Aquaponics facility" means a facility that combines fish and plant culture for a non-commercial purpose where:

(a) all water flowing into or through the facility is completely isolated from any other water source via a self-contained water transport system or there is no risk that water and waste discharged from the facility can enter a public waterway or waterbody;

(b) all water and waste flowing from the facility is discharged into a permitted sewer or septic system;

(c) the aquatic animals held within the facility are used for non-commercial purposes only;

(d) no aquatic animals or their gametes are transported from the facility alive; and

(e) the primary use of the facility is for food production and not for the general display of fish in aquaria.

(3)(a) "Event tank" means a tank, container, or vessel used to hold fish during a short-term fishing event.

(b) "Event tank" does not mean a tank, container, or vessel that is mounted to a vehicle and used to transport fish to a destination.

(4) "Institutional aquaculture" means aquaculture engaged in by a school, college, university, or other educational program, or public agency other than the division.

(5) "Lake" means a naturally formed, perennial or intermittent, non-flowing waterbody that collects and keeps water in quantity for use

(6) "Natural stream channel" means a body of water that maintains continuous, seasonal or potential flow, as determined by the division.

(7)(a) "Ornamental aquatic animal species" means any species of fish, mollusk, or crustacean that is cultured for display and then sold in the United States' aquarium industry for display.

(b) "Ornamental aquatic animal species" does not include:

(i) fresh water;

(A) sport fish - aquatic animal species regulated for angling or harvest for recreation or sport;

(B) baitfish - aquatic animal species authorized for use as bait in Section R657-13-12, or any other species used by anglers as bait in sporting fishing;

(C) food fish - aquatic animal species cultured or harvested from the wild for human consumption; or

(D) native species; or

(ii) aquatic animals and marine aquatic animals prohibited for importation or possession by any state, federal, or local law; or

(iii) aquatic animals and marine aquatic animals listed as prohibited or controlled in Sections R657-3-22 and R657-3-23.

(8) "Private fish pond" means a standing body of water or any fish culture system which:

(a) is not located on a natural lake, natural flowing stream, or reservoir constructed on a natural stream channel;

(b) is contained entirely on privately owned land; and

(c) is used for holding or rearing fish for a private, non-commercial purpose.

(9) "Reservoir" means an artificially constructed, non-flowing waterbody that is used to collect and keep water in quantity for use built by damming a natural stream channel.

(10) "Short-term fishing event" means any event where:

(a) privately acquired fish are held or confined for a period not to exceed ten days in a temporary event tank;

(b) for the purposes of providing a recreational opportunity; and

(c) no fee is charged as a requirement to fish.

**R657-59b-3. Aquaculture Facility Requirements**

(1) An aquaculture facility that possesses a valid license from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food may stock aquatic wildlife for short-term fishing events in Utah, provided:

(a)(i) The purchaser of the aquatic wildlife possesses a valid short-term fishing event certificate of registration as issued by the division; or

(ii) the species being stocked meets the criteria where a certificate of registration is not required as described in Section R657-59a-4;

(b) Any triploid aquaculture product that are stocked originate from a lot that has been tested and meet the requirements specified in Subsection R657-59a-5 (3); and

(c) The aquaculture facility provides the purchaser of any triploid fish a copy of the letter issued by the division certifying that the stocked fish originated from a lot that meets the requirements specified in Subsection R657-59a-5(3); and

(d) Any aquaculture product that originates from an aquaculture facility that have New Zealand mud snails must be stocked in accordance to the procedures described in Subsection R657-59a-10.

(2) The division may collect aquatic wildlife at short-term fishing events to verify that the species and ploidy meet the requirements of Rule R657-59a

(3)(i) It is unlawful for an aquaculture facility to stock aquatic wildlife that violates the terms of Rule R657-59b or other rules established under Title 23A, the ~~Wildlife~~Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, and the Utah Wildlife Board.

(ii) Violation of this rule may result in a violation of Sections 23A-5-305 and 4-37-6.

**KEY: wildlife, aquaculture, fish**

**Date of Last Change:** November 21, 2023

**Notice of Continuation:** New Rule 2023

**Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law:** 23A-9-305 and 23A-9-203

## **R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources**

### **R657-59c. Aquaponics.**

#### **R657-59c-1. Purpose and Authority.**

(1) Under the authority of Sections 23A-9-305 and 23A-9-203, this rule subpart provides the standards and procedures for private fish stocking.

(2) This rule does not regulate fee fishing or private aquaculture as provided in Title 4, Utah Agricultural Code, Chapter 37, Aquaculture Act, and Rule R58-17.

(3) A person engaging in private fish stocking must also comply with all requirements established by Title 4, the Utah Agricultural Code and all rules promulgated by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, including:

(a) requirements for the importation of aquaculture products into Utah; and

(b) requirements for fish health approval for aquaculture products.

(4) Any violation of, or failure to comply with, Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, this rule, or any specific requirement contained in a certificate of registration issued pursuant to this rule may be grounds for suspension of the certificate or denial of future certificates, as determined by the division.

#### **R657-59c-2. Definitions.**

(1)(a) "Aquaculture product" means privately purchased, domestically produced aquatic organisms, or their gametes.

(b) "Aquaculture product" does not mean aquatic wildlife obtained from the wild, aquatic wildlife produced by the state or federally owned aquaculture facilities, or ornamental aquatic animal species.

(2) "Aquaponics facility" means a facility that combines fish and plant culture for a non-commercial purpose where:

(a) all water flowing into or through the facility is completely isolated from any other water source via a self-contained water transport system or there is no risk that water and waste discharged from the facility can enter a public waterway or waterbody;

(b) all water and waste flowing from the facility is discharged into a permitted sewer or septic system;

(c) the aquatic animals held within the facility are used for non-commercial purposes only;

(d) no aquatic animals or their gametes are transported from the facility alive; and

(e) the primary use of the facility is for food production and not for the general display of fish in aquaria.

(3) "Institutional aquaculture" means aquaculture engaged in by a school, college, university, or other educational program, or public agency other than the division.

(4) "Lake" means a naturally formed, perennial or intermittent, non-flowing waterbody that collects and keeps water in quantity for use

(5) "Natural stream channel" means a body of water that maintains continuous, seasonal or potential flow, as determined by the division.

(6) "Private fish pond" means a standing body of water or any fish culture system which:

(a) is not located on a natural lake, natural flowing stream, or reservoir constructed on a natural stream channel;

(b) is contained entirely on privately owned land; and

(c) is used for holding or rearing fish for a private, non-commercial purpose.

(7) "Reservoir" means an artificially constructed, non-flowing waterbody that is used to collect and keep water in quantity for use built by damming a natural stream channel.

(8) "Short-term fishing event" means an event where:

(a) privately acquired fish are held or confined for a period not to exceed ten days in a temporary event tank;

(b) for the purposes of providing a recreational opportunity; and

(c) no fee is charged as a requirement to fish.

#### **R657-59c-3. Aquaculture Facility Requirements**

(1) An aquaculture facility that possesses a valid license from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food may stock aquatic wildlife into aquaponics facilities within Utah, provided:

(a)(i) The purchaser of the aquatic wildlife possesses a valid aquaponics facility certificate of registration as issued by the division; or

(ii) the species being stocked meets the criteria where a certificate of registration is not required as described in Section R657-59a-4;

(b) Any triploid aquaculture product that are stocked originate from a lot that has been tested and meet the requirements specified in Subsection R657-59a-5 (3); and

(c) The aquaculture facility provides the purchaser of any triploid fish a copy of the letter issued by the division certifying that the stocked fish originated from a lot that meets the requirements specified in Subsection R657-59a-5 (3); and

(d) Any aquaculture product that originates from an aquaculture facility that have New Zealand mud snails must be stocked in accordance to the procedures described in Subsection R657-59a-10.

(2) The division may collect aquatic wildlife from aquaponics facilities to verify that the species and ploidy meet the requirements of Rule R657-59a.

(3)(i) It is unlawful for an aquaculture facility to release aquatic wildlife that violates the terms of Rule R657-59c or other rules established under Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, and the Utah Wildlife Board.

(ii) Violation of this rule may result in a violation of Sections 23A-5-305 and 4-37-6.

**R657-59c-4. Certificate of Registration Not Required**

(1) A certificate of registration is not required to stock an aquaculture product in an aquaponics facility, provided:  
(a) the aquaculture product stocked are accompanied by a valid health approval number issued by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food under Title 4, Utah Agricultural Code, Chapter 37, Aquaculture Act;

(b) The facility is located outside the 100 year floodplain of the Colorado River and its tributaries;

(c) In the Virgin River drainage, only the following species may be stocked:

(i) Largemouth Bass;

(ii) Bluegill; ~~and~~

(iii) Black Crappie;

(iv) Wiper;

(v) Tiger Trout; and

(vi) Rainbow Trout.

(d) In all other drainages, the following species may be stocked:

(i) bluegill;

(ii) hybrid bluegill (bluegill x green sunfish);

(iii) redear sunfish;

(iv) green sunfish;

(v) striped bass;

(vi) white bass;

(vii) hybrid striped bass or wiper (white bass x striped bass);

(viii) largemouth bass;

(ix) smallmouth bass;

(x) channel catfish;

(xi) yellow perch;

(xii) fathead minnow;

(xiii) black crappie;

(xiv) white crappie;

(xv) rainbow trout;

(xvi) cutthroat trout;

(xvii) brown trout;

(xviii) brook trout;

(xix) tiger trout;

(xx) walleye;

(xxi) white sturgeon; and

(xxii) any aquatic animal species classified as non-controlled for possession and importation under Section R657-3c-5.

(3) A certificate of registration must be obtained from the division under Section R657-59c-7 before stocking in any facility that does not meet the definition of an aquaponics facility in Subsection R657-59c-2 (2), or meet the criteria in Subsection R657-59c-4 (1).

**R657-59c-7. Application for a Aquaponics Certificate of Registration; Application Criteria; Amendment of Certificate of Registration.**

(1) The following persons may apply for a certificate of registration for an aquaponics facility:

(a) The owner of the aquaponics facility; and

(b) An individual who is a full-time employee of the aquaponics facility owner and represents the owner as a facility manager.

(2)(a) A person may apply to receive a certificate of registration for an aquaponics facility by submitting an application with the required handling and inspection fee following the instructions provided at: <https://wildlife.utah.gov/private-ponds.html>

(b) The application may require up to 30 days for processing.

(c) The division may require a site inspection of the stocking location be performed to confirm compliance with the provisions found in this rule.

(d) The division may deny an application where:

(i) the application is incomplete, filled out incorrectly, or submitted without the appropriate fee;

(ii) receiving or stocking the aquaculture product or aquatic wildlife may:

(A) violate any federal, state or local law or any agreement between the state and another party;

(B) negatively impact native wildlife species listed by the division as sensitive or by the federal government as threatened or endangered;

(C) pose an identifiable adverse threat to other wildlife species or their habitat;

(D) pose an identifiable adverse impact to the division's game fish stocking regimes or wildlife management objectives;

(iii) the applicant has violated Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, Title R657, a guidebook of the Wildlife Board, a certificate of registration, an order of the Wildlife Board, or any other law related to the applicant's ability to responsibly carry out the stocking activity.

(3) A certificate of registration for an aquaponics facility may remain effective for up to 5 years from the date of issuance as identified on the certificate of registration. Certificates of registration cannot be renewed after the expiration date identified on the certificate of registration and a new certificate of registration must be granted after the expiration date. During the effective period of the issued certificate of registration, the certificate of registration holder may stock any of the aquaculture products approved on the certificate of registration at the locality identified on the certificate of registration as long as all stipulations under Rule R657-59c are adhered to, unless the certificate of registration is:

(a) amended by the division at the request of the certificate of registration holder. The division cannot amend certificates of registration to add additional species. The addition of species requires the issuance of a new certificate of registration;

(b) terminated or modified by the division pursuant to Section R657-59c-8; or

(c) suspended by the division or a court pursuant to Section 23-19-9.

**KEY: wildlife, aquaculture, fish**

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## **R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources**

### **R657-59d. Institutional Aquaculture.**

#### **R657-59d-1. Purpose and Authority.**

(1) Under the authority of Sections 23A-9-305 and 23A-9-203, this rule provides the standards and procedures for institutional aquaculture.

(2) This rule does not regulate fee fishing or private aquaculture as provided in Title 4, Utah Agricultural Code, Chapter 37, Aquaculture Act and Rule R58-17.

(3) A person engaging in institutional aquaculture must also comply with all requirements established by Title 4, the Utah Agricultural Code and all rules promulgated by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, including:

(a) requirements for the importation of aquaculture products into Utah; and

(b) requirements for fish health approval for aquaculture products.

(4) Any violation of, or failure to comply with, Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, this rule, or any specific requirement contained in a certificate of registration issued pursuant to this rule may be grounds for suspension of the certificate or denial of future certificates, as determined by the division.

#### **R657-59d-2. Definitions.**

(1)(a) "Aquaculture product" means privately purchased, domestically produced aquatic organisms, or their gametes.

(b) "Aquaculture product" does not mean aquatic wildlife obtained from the wild, aquatic wildlife produced by the state or federally owned aquaculture facilities, or ornamental aquatic animal species.

(2) "Aquaponics facility" means a facility that combines fish and plant culture for a non-commercial purpose where:

(a) all water flowing into or through the facility is completely isolated from any other water source via a self-contained water transport system;

(b) all water and waste flowing from the facility is discharged into a permitted sewer or septic system or there is no risk that water and waste discharged from the facility can enter a public waterway or waterbody;

(c) the aquatic animals held within the facility are used for non-commercial purposes only;

(d) no aquatic animals or their gametes are transported from the facility alive; and

(e) the primary use of the facility is for food production and not for the general display of fish in aquaria.

(3) "Institutional aquaculture" means aquaculture engaged in by a school, college, university, or other educational program, or public agency other than the division.

(4) "Lake" means a naturally formed, perennial or intermittent, non-flowing waterbody that collects and keeps water in quantity for use

(5) "Natural stream channel" means a body of water that maintains continuous, seasonal or potential flow, as determined by the division.

(6) "Private fish pond" means a standing body of water or any fish culture system which:

(a) is not located on a natural lake, natural flowing stream, or reservoir constructed on a natural stream channel;

(b) is contained entirely on privately owned land; and

(c) is used for holding or rearing fish for a private, non-commercial purpose.

(7) "Reservoir" means an artificially constructed, non-flowing waterbody that is used to collect and keep water in quantity for use built by damming a natural stream channel.

(8) "Short-term fishing event" means any event where:

(a) privately acquired fish are held or confined for a period not to exceed ten days in a temporary event tank;

(b) for the purposes of providing a recreational opportunity; and

(c) no fee is charged as a requirement to fish.

#### **R657-59d-3. Aquaculture Facility Requirements**

(1) An aquaculture facility that possesses a valid license from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food may stock aquatic wildlife into institutional aquaculture facilities within Utah, provided:

(a)(i) The purchaser of the aquatic wildlife possesses a valid institutional aquaculture facility Certificate of Registration as issued by the division; or

(ii) the species being stocked meets the criteria where a certificate of registration is not required as described in Section R657-59a-4;

(b) Any triploid aquaculture product that are stocked originate from a lot that has been tested and meet the requirements specified in Subsection R657-59a-5 (3); ~~and~~

(c) The aquaculture facility provides the purchaser of any triploid fish a copy of the letter issued by the division certifying that the stocked fish originated from a lot that meets the requirements specified in Subsection R657-59a-5 (3); ~~and~~

(d) Any aquaculture product that originate from an aquaculture facility that have New Zealand mud snails must be stocked in accordance to the procedures described in Subsection R657-59a-10.

(2) The division may collect aquatic wildlife from institutional aquaculture facilities to verify that the species and ploidy meet the requirements of Rule R657-59a.

(3)(i) It is unlawful for an aquaculture facility to release aquatic wildlife that violates the terms of Rule R657-59d or other rules established under Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, and the Utah Wildlife Board.

(ii) Violation of this rule may result in a violation of Sections 23A-5-305 and 4-37-6.

**R657-59d-7. Application for a Fish Stocking Certificate of Registration; Application Criteria; Amendment of Certificate of Registration.**

(1) Only persons who are full-time employees of the institution of higher learning, school, or other educational program, or public agency seeking to engage in institutional aquaculture may apply for a certificate of registration.

(2)(a) A person may apply to receive a certificate of registration for an ~~aquaponies~~institutional aquaculture facility by submitting an application with the required handling and inspection fee following the instructions provided at: <https://wildlife.utah.gov/private-ponds.html>

(b) The application may require up to 30 days for processing.

(c) The division may require a site inspection of the stocking location be performed to confirm compliance with the provisions found in this rule.

(d) The division may deny an application where:

(i) the application is incomplete, filled out incorrectly, or submitted without the appropriate fee;

(ii) receiving or stocking the aquaculture product or aquatic wildlife may:

(A) violate any federal, state or local law or any agreement between the state and another party;

(B) negatively impact native wildlife species listed by the division as sensitive or by the federal government as threatened or endangered;

(C) pose an identifiable adverse threat to other wildlife species or their habitat;

(D) pose an identifiable adverse impact to the division's game fish stocking regimes or wildlife management objectives; or

(iii) the applicant has violated Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, Title R657, a guidebook of the Wildlife Board, a certificate of registration, an order of the Wildlife Board, or any other law related to the applicant's ability to responsibly carry out the stocking activity.

(2) A certificate of registration for an institutional aquaculture facility may remain effective for up to 5 years from the date of issuance as identified on the certificate of registration, ~~unless~~. Certificates of registration cannot be renewed after the expiration date identified on the certificate of registration and a new certificate of registration must be granted after the expiration date. During the effective period of the issued certificate of registration, the certificate of registration holder may stock any of the aquaculture products approved on the certificate of registration at the locality identified on the certificate of registration as long as all stipulations under Rule R657-59d are adhered to, unless the certificate of registration is:

(a) amended by the division at the request of the certificate of registration holder. The division cannot amend certificates of registration to add additional species. The addition of species requires the issuance of a new certificate of registration;

(b) terminated or modified by the division pursuant to Section R657-59d-8; or

(c) suspended by the division or a court pursuant to Section 23-19-9.

**KEY: wildlife, aquaculture, fish**

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**R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources**

**R657-59e. Stocking into Natural Lakes, Natural Flowing Streams, or Reservoirs on Natural Stream Channels.**

**R657-59e-1. Purpose and Authority.**

(1) Under the authority of Sections 23A-9-305 and 23A-9-203, this rule provides the standards and procedures for the stocking of fish into natural lakes, natural flowing streams, and reservoirs built on natural stream channels.

(2) This rule does not regulate fee fishing or private aquaculture as provided in Title 4, Utah Agricultural Code, Chapter 37, Aquaculture Act and Rule R58-17.

(3) A person operating a private fish pond must also comply with all requirements established by Title 4, the Utah Agricultural Code and all rules promulgated by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, including:

(a) requirements for the importation of aquaculture products into Utah; and

(b) requirements for fish health approval for aquaculture products.

(4) Any violation of, or failure to comply with, Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, this rule, or any specific requirement contained in a certificate of registration issued pursuant to this rule may be grounds for suspension of the certificate of registration or denial of future certificates of registration, as determined by the division.

**R657-59e-2. Definitions.**

(1) "Aquaculture" means the husbandry, production, harvest, and use of aquatic organisms under controlled, artificial conditions.

(2) "Aquaculture facility" means any facility used for the husbandry, production, harvest, and use of aquatic organisms under controlled, artificial conditions that holds a valid aquaculture facility license from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food.

(3)(a) "Aquaculture product" means privately purchased, domestically produced aquatic organisms, or their gametes.

(b) "Aquaculture product" does not mean aquatic wildlife obtained from the wild, aquatic wildlife produced by the state or federally owned aquaculture facilities, or ornamental aquatic animal species.

(4) "Aquaponics facility" means a facility that combines fish and plant culture for a non-commercial purpose where:

(a) all water flowing into or through the facility is completely isolated from any other water source via a self-contained water transport system;

(b) all water and waste flowing from the facility is discharged into a permitted sewer or septic system or there is no risk that water and waste discharged from the facility can enter a public waterway or waterbody;

(c) the aquatic animals held within the facility are used for non-commercial purposes only;

(d) no aquatic animals or their gametes are transported from the facility alive; and

(e) the primary use of the facility is for food production and not for the general display of fish in aquaria.

(5) "Aquatic wildlife" for the purposes of this chapter are:

(a) fish, mollusk, or crustacean species that are spawned and hatched in public waters, state or federal aquaculture facilities; and

(b) fish, mollusk, or crustacean species that escape a private fish pond into a public water.

(6) "Certified sterile aquaculture product" means any fish or gamete that originates from a health certified source, as described in Title 4, Utah Agricultural Code, Chapter 37, Aquaculture Act and is incapable of reproduction due to triploidy or hybridization, and is confirmed as sterile using the protocol described in Section R657-59a-5.

(7) "Division" means the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

(8) "Fee fishing facility" means a body of water used for holding or rearing fish for providing fishing for a fee or for pecuniary consideration or advantage.

(9) "FEMA" means Federal Emergency Management Administration.

(10) "HUC" or "Hydrologic Unit Code" means a cataloging system developed by the US Geological Survey and the Natural Resource Conservation Service to identify watersheds in the United States.

(11) "Institutional aquaculture" means aquaculture engaged in by a school, college, university, or other educational program, or public agency other than the division.

(12) "Lake" means an naturally formed, perennial or intermittent, non-flowing waterbody that collects and keeps water in quantity for use

(13) "Lot" means fish of the same species that are subject to a health inspection under the Aquatic Animal Health Inspection Policy in Subsection R58-17-2 (26), which establishes guidelines for lot designation for salmonid and non-salmonid fish.

(14) "Natural stream channel" means a body of water that maintains continuous, seasonal or potential flow, as determined by the division.

(15)(a) "Ornamental aquatic animal species" means any species of fish, mollusk, or crustacean that is cultured for display and then sold in the United States' aquarium industry for display.

(b) "Ornamental aquatic animal species" does not include:

(i) fresh water;

(A) sport fish - aquatic animal species regulated for angling or harvest for recreation or sport;

- (B) baitfish - aquatic animal species authorized for use as bait in Subsection R657-13-12, or any other species used by anglers as bait in sporting fishing;
- (C) food fish - aquatic animal species cultured or harvested from the wild for human consumption; or
- (D) native species; or
- (ii) aquatic animals and marine aquatic animals prohibited for importation or possession by any state, federal, or local law; or
- (iii) aquatic animals and marine aquatic animals listed as prohibited or controlled in Sections R657-3-22 and R657-3-23.
- (16) "Private fish pond" means a standing body of water or any fish culture system which:
  - (a) is not located on a natural lake, natural flowing stream, or reservoir constructed on a natural stream channel;
  - (b) is contained entirely on privately owned land; and
  - (c) is used for holding or rearing fish for a private, non-commercial purpose.
- (17)(a) "Private stocking" means an authorized release of privately owned live fish into waters of the state that are not eligible as a private fish pond, aquaculture facility, or fee fishing facility.
- (18) "Purchase" means to buy, or otherwise acquire or obtain through barter, exchange, or trade for monetary consideration or advantage.
- (19) "Reservoir" means an artificially constructed, non-flowing waterbody that is used to collect and keep water in quantity for use built by damming a natural stream channel.
- (20) "Salmonid" means any fish belonging to the trout or salmon family.
- (21) "Short-term fishing event" means any event where:
  - (a) privately acquired fish are held or confined for a period not to exceed ten days in a temporary event tank;
  - (b) for the purposes of providing a recreational opportunity; and
  - (c) no fee is charged as a requirement to fish.
- (22) "Sterile" means the inability to reproduce.

**R657-59e-3. Aquaculture Facility Requirements**

- (1) An aquaculture facility that possesses a valid license from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food may stock aquatic wildlife into natural lakes, natural flowing streams, or reservoirs on natural stream channels within Utah, provided:
  - (a)(i) The purchaser of the aquatic wildlife possesses a valid certificate or registration to stock in natural lakes, natural flowing streams, or reservoirs on natural stream channels; or
  - (ii) the species being stocked meets the criteria where a certificate of registration is not required as described in Section R657-59a-4;
  - (b) Any triploid aquaculture product that are stocked originate from a lot that has been tested and meet the requirements specified in Subsection R657-59a-5 (3); ~~and~~
  - (c) The aquaculture facility provides the purchaser of any triploid fish a copy of the letter issued by the division certifying that the stocked fish originated from a lot that meets the requirements specified in Subsection R657-59a-5 (3); ~~and~~ and
  - (d) Any aquaculture product that originate from an aquaculture facility that have New Zealand mud snails must be stocked in accordance to the procedures described in Subsection R657-59a-10.
- (2) The division may collect aquatic wildlife from natural lakes, natural flowing streams, or reservoirs on natural stream channels to verify that the species and ploidy stocked meet the requirements of Rule R657-59a.
- (3)(i) It is unlawful for an aquaculture facility to release aquatic wildlife that violates the terms of Rule R657-59e or other rules established under Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, and the Utah Wildlife Board.
- (ii) Violation of this rule may result in a violation of Sections 23A-5-305 and 4-37-6.

**R657-59e-10. Application for a Fish Stocking Certificate of Registration; Application Criteria; Amendment of Certificate of Registration.**

- (1) The following persons may apply for a certificate of registration for a private fish pond:
  - (a) The owner of the private fish pond;
  - (b) The president of a homeowners association, if the pond is on homeowners association property; or
  - (c) An individual who is a full-time employee of the private pond owner, who represents the pond owner as a property manager.
- (2)(a) A person may apply to receive a certificate of registration for a fish stocking activity by submitting an application with the required handling and inspection fee following the instructions provided at: <https://wildlife.utah.gov/private-ponds.html>
- (b) The application may require up to 30 days for processing.
- (c) The division may require a site inspection of the stocking location be performed to confirm compliance with the provisions found in this rule.
- (d) The division may deny an application where:
  - (i) the application is incomplete, filled out incorrectly, or submitted without the appropriate fee;
  - (ii) receiving or stocking the aquaculture product or aquatic wildlife may:
    - (A) violate any federal, state or local law or any agreement between the state and another party;

(B) negatively impact native wildlife species listed by the division as sensitive or by the federal government as threatened or endangered;

(C) pose an identifiable adverse threat to other wildlife species or their habitat;

(D) pose an identifiable adverse impact to the division's game fish stocking regimes or wildlife management objectives; or

(iii) the applicant has violated Title 23A, the Wildlife Resources Code of Utah, Title R657, a guidebook of the Wildlife Board, a certificate of registration, an order of the Wildlife Board, or any other law that relates to the applicant's ability to responsibly carry out the stocking activity.

(3) A certificate of registration for a private stocking event ~~may remain~~ effective ~~for 5 years from the length~~ ~~date of time~~ ~~issuance as~~ identified on the certificate of registration. Certificates of registration cannot be renewed after the expiration date identified on the certificate of registration and a new certificate of registration must be granted after the expiration date. During the effective period of the issued certificate of registration, the certificate of registration holder may stock any of the aquaculture products approved by the certificate of registration at the locality identified on the certificate of registration so long as all stipulations under Rule R657-59e are adhered to, unless the certificate of registration is:

(a) amended by the division at the request of the certificate of registration holder. The division cannot amend certificates of registration to add additional species. The addition of species requires the issuance of a new certificate of registration;

(b) terminated or modified by the division pursuant to Section R657-59-10; or

(c) suspended by the division or a court pursuant to Section 23A-4-1106.

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