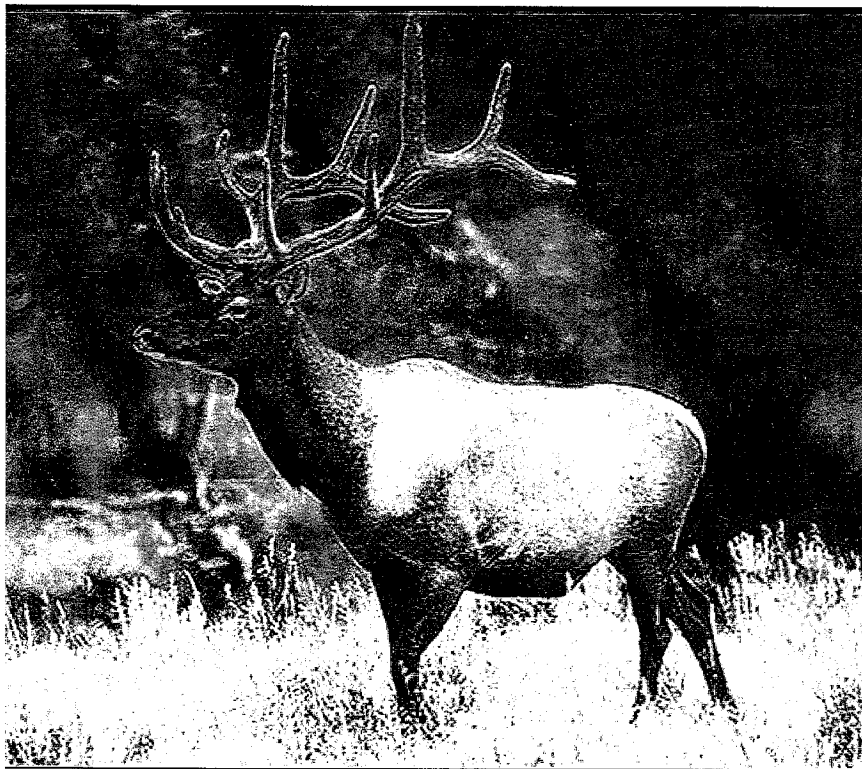


Utah's Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit Program: A Survey of Hunters



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Utah's CWMU Program: A Survey of Hunters

FINAL REPORT

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Utah's CWMU Program: A Survey of Hunters

Introduction

Utah's Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) program began as a pilot program in 1990 and was codified by the Utah Legislature in 1994. The CWMU program was established with the intent of satisfying several objectives: (1) provide income for landowners, (2) create satisfying hunting opportunities, (3) increase wildlife habitat, (4) provide adequate trespass protection for landowners who open their lands for hunting, and (5) increase access to private lands for big game hunting (Messmer et al. 1998). The program has been functioning for over a decade and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) and the Jack H. Berryman Institute sought to assess the status of the program in terms of how it is satisfying the second objective, hunter satisfaction. The goal of this research was to identify who is hunting on CWMU lands, to compare the experiences of CWMU public draw and privately permitted hunters, and to assess the differences between resident and non-resident hunters.

Methods

We surveyed hunters who obtained permits to hunt on a CWMU during the 2001-2002 hunting season. As CWMU hunters are likely different from each other in terms of their preferences and behavior, we stratified the population into four groups: privately permitted non-residents, privately permitted residents, public draw buck/bull, and public draw antlerless. A random sample of hunter names and addresses drawn from this permit database was provided by the UDWR. As one individual may draw or purchase more than one permit, duplicate names were deleted from our sample. A 95% confidence interval for all groups in our survey required we sample 299 private non-residents, 271 private residents, 189 public buck/bull, and 301 public antlerless hunters. While we culled the raw sample for undeliverable addresses and duplicate names, we recognized the likelihood that some addresses left in our sample would be incorrect. To maintain the integrity of our desired confidence interval surveys were mailed to 325 private non-residents, 300 private residents, 210 public buck/bull and 325 public antlerless hunters. All surveys were mailed in March 2002. Two weeks after the surveys were mailed, reminder postcards were sent to non-respondents. A second survey was mailed to all non-respondents in April 2002. A total of 474 surveys were received, representing 94 private non-residents (29%), 96 private residents (32%), 117 public buck/bull (56%), and 162 public antlerless hunters (50%).

Results

The CWMU Hunter

Consistent with the general hunting population, CWMU hunters are overwhelmingly male, representing 92.2% of respondents. The average age was 57 and ranged between 16 and 87. Nearly half of respondents (44.9%) have completed high school and another half (48.8%) have

earned a bachelor's degree or greater.

A total of 4,396 CWMU permits were available in 2001. On average, respondents held 1.19 permits during the 2001-2002 season. Respondents were asked how they obtained their permit(s): 58.9% drew public permits, 33.4% purchased their permit from a CWMU, 6.4% reported their permit was a gift from the CWMU, and 3.4% stated their permit was a payment in lieu of goods or services. A large majority of respondents were from Utah, with 77.9% of respondents reporting they are residents of the state. However, 72% of surveys mailed were sent to Utah residents. Most respondents (82.9%) held only one CWMU permit for the 2001-2002 season. If respondents participated in more than one CWMU hunt during the 2001-2002 season, they were asked to refer to only their most recent hunt to answer the survey. Almost two-thirds (63%) of respondents stated their most recent hunt was unguided, the remaining 37% participated in a guided hunt. Of those who purchased their permit, the average price paid for all species was \$3,477. Nearly three-quarters, 71.8%, reported they harvested an animal on their most recent hunt. Respondents who failed to harvest an animal most often stated the animals they saw were not trophy size (30.5%), they didn't see any animals (22.7%), or they missed their shot (19.5%).

Respondents were asked to indicate potential motivations for hunting on a CWMU in 2001. Less hunting pressure was cited most often (69.7%), with a greater chance of harvesting an animal following at 60%. A higher quality hunt was also a primary motivator; 57% of respondents listed this as an influence. Familiarity and word-of-mouth most often influenced respondents to select a particular CWMU; 42.5% of respondents stated they chose their CWMU because they were familiar with the area and 37.2% had past experience with that CWMU. Additionally, the recommendation of a friend was a strong influence, with 30.1% of responses. Advertising did not play a large role, as it was cited only 2% of the time. Nearly three-quarters of respondents (74.1%) were not aware that the CWMU Association maintains a centralized website directory for locating information regarding Utah's CWMUs. The voluntary CWMU Association exists to foster cooperation between private and public agency land managers to the benefit of both wildlife and Utah citizens. Over half, 52.9%, engaged in discussions with friends or family to learn about the CWMU program, 46.7% used materials published by UDWR, and 32.9% relied on information provided by an outfitter or guide. During their hunting trip, 49.5% of respondents engaged in scenic driving, 40.2% participated in photography, 39.9% rode ATVs for pleasure (not as part of a hunt), and 39.5% hiked for pleasure.

Public and Private Hunters

Demographics. Overall, 62% of CWMU permits for 2001 were private and 38% were obtained through the public draw¹. Of private hunters who responded to this survey, 49.5% were Utah residents. Unsurprisingly, 98.1% of public hunters were Utah residents. Public hunters tend to have lower incomes than private hunters, with mean incomes falling between \$40,000 and \$59,999 for public hunters and a mean income between \$80,000 and \$99,999 for private hunters.

¹Data provided by UDWR

Motivations. Hunters may have many reasons for seeking a CWMU permit (Table 1). Both private and public hunters agreed that a greater chance of harvesting an animal was a primary motivator, at 56.8% and 62.1%, respectively.

Table 1. Reasons for Hunting a CWMU¹

Reasons for hunting	Public (<i>n=277</i>)	Private (<i>n=192</i>)	Both (<i>n=469</i>)
Less hunting pressure	66.4%	74.5%	69.7%
Less hunter crowding	58.5%	64.6%	61.0%
Greater chance of harvesting	62.1%	56.8%	59.9%
Higher quality hunt	51.3%	65.6%	57.1%
Greater trophy potential	32.5%	63.0%	45.0%
Wanted to hunt a new area	23.1%	12.5%	18.8%
Uncertainty about general hunt	7.6%	7.3%	7.5%
Curiosity about program	7.9%	3.1%	6.0%

¹Percent of respondents that indicated the reason that they hunted on CWMUs. Respondents could indicate more than one reason. The number of respondents are shown italicized in parenthesis (*n*).

Trophy potential, a higher quality hunt, and less hunting pressure were important to both groups of hunters; however, these benefits were most important to private hunters. When selecting the CWMU for their hunt, private hunters most often cited contact with a CWMU operator (40.7%) and previous experience, also (40.7%). Public hunters most often cited previous experience (34.9%) and recommendation from a friend (31.3%). While there was some difference between the benefits public and private hunters gain from hunting a CWMU, there was generally not a difference between antlered and antlerless hunters within these groups. Table 2 illustrates the mean importance of various benefits for public and private hunters, with 1 representing not important and 5 being very important.

Table 2. Potential Hunting Benefits¹

	Public	Private
Quality of game animals	3.3	3.5
Less competition with other hunters	3.5	3.5
Being with friends and/or family	3.2	3.3
Escaping from pressures of ordinary life	3.0	3.2
Testing my hunting skills	2.7	2.9
Finding solitude	2.8	2.9
Bringing home a trophy animal	2.3	2.8
Getting to know local landowner and/or operator	2.2	2.5
Learning about wildlife management on private land	2.2	2.5
Seeing a place I've never seen before	2.5	2.5
Exercise	2.1	2.4
Testing my back-country skills	2.0	2.2

¹Mean scores calculated on a scale where 1= Not important, 2= Somewhat important, 3= Important, and 4= Most important.

Less competition with other hunters was a significant benefit for both groups, with 55.3% of private hunters and 55.5% of public hunters agreeing that this was "most important." The quality of game animals was also frequently listed as "most important" for both groups, although more so for private (58.5%) than public (46.9%) hunters. The only other benefit that the greatest proportion of respondents listed as "most important" was bringing home a trophy animal, with 35% of private hunters (antlered only) responding. Thirty-five percent of public antlered hunters rated this benefit as "important." Finding solitude was listed as "important" for 35.4% and 43.7% of private and public hunters, respectively.

The Hunting Trip. A majority of private hunters (52.8%) stated their most recent CWMU hunt was guided. This percentage decreased to 27.9% for public hunters. Of those who held antlered permits, 27.2% of public hunters stated their hunt was guided, compared to 47.7% of private hunters. Interestingly, a slightly higher percentage (30.9%) of public antlerless permits were guided than public antlered permits.

Table 3 shows the average price hunters reported paying to the CWMU for their hunt. If the hunt was a package that included services such as meals and lodging, hunters were asked to report the package price.

Table 3. Mean Prices Paid for a Private Hunt

		Guided		Unguided	
		single permit ¹	all permits ²	single permit ¹	all permits ²
Elk	antlered	\$5,534 (n=19)	\$5,044 (n=15)	\$4,761 (n=13)	\$3,957 (n=7)
	antlerless	\$3,318 (n=6)	\$1,978 (n=4)	\$1,546 (n=8)	\$2,543 (n=7)
Deer	antlered	\$4,323 (n=40)	\$4,080 (n=36)	\$1,913 (n=44)	\$1,737 (n=37)
	antlerless	- ³	-	-	-
Pronghorn	antlered	\$5,500 (n=1)	-	-	-
	antlerless	\$500 (n=1)	-	-	-
Moose	antlered	\$4,263 (n=4)	\$3,516 (n=3)	\$2,356 (n=1)	-
	antlerless	-	-	-	-

¹ Single permit hunts are those for which a hunter reported holding only one permit.

² All permit hunt is a hunt for which a hunter reported holding at least one permit.

³ No data available.

Generally, guided hunts were more expensive than unguided, and antlered hunts were more costly than antlerless. The price of CWMU hunting varies significantly between CWMUs. Antlered guided elk hunts ranged in price from \$180 to \$9,500 while antlered guided deer hunts ranged from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Table 4 illustrates UDWR data from 2001-2002 regarding the percentage of antlered permits allocated between public and private hunters. The smallest allocation of permits to the public for all species was antlered deer, at 12.3%. Of the private hunters who held rifle deer permits, 99.2% were antlered. Of the public hunters who possessed rifle deer permits, 65.2% were antlered. For those who possessed rifle elk permits, 66.2% of private and 19.3% of public hunters held antlered permits.

Table 4. Percentage and Ratio of Permits Allocated to Public and Private Hunters

Permit type	Public ¹	Private ²	Overall	Ratio public to private
Antlered	41.9%	89.2%	61.4%	1 : 2.1
Antlerless	58.1%	10.8%	38.6%	5.4 : 1

¹Public permits are those CWMU permits reserved for the public draw.

²Private permits are those that are allocated to and distributed by the CWMU.

The mean number of days private and public hunters were allowed to hunt did not differ significantly, with a mean of 12.1 and 12.7 days for private and public hunters, respectively. Antlerless hunters were allowed more days than antlered hunters, but the number of days allowed for antlered and antlerless hunts did not differ greatly between the public and private groups. Table 5 illustrates the mean days private and public hunters were allowed to hunt and the mean number of days they did hunt for antlered and antlerless hunts. The mean total number of days actually hunted differed between private and public hunters, at 5.4 for private and 3.4 for public.

Table 5. Average Number of Hunting Days

	Public	Private	Combined
Number of days allowed to hunt ¹	12.6	12.1	12.4
Number of days hunted ²	3.3	5.4	4.2

¹Mean number of days respondents indicated that CWMUs allowed them to hunt.

²Mean number of days respondents indicated they hunted on a CWMU.

During their hunting trip, 96.6% of private hunters and 90.9% of public hunters reported seeing legal animals. When asked if they had an opportunity to harvest an animal, 93.7% and 86.4% of private and public hunters stated "yes." However, only 64.9% of private hunters and 76.6% of public hunters harvested an animal. Respondents were asked why they did not harvest; the reason most often given by private hunters was that the animal was not trophy size (53.7%). A reason cited by both private (13.4%) and public hunters (25.8%) was a missed shot. Public hunters who did not harvest an animal most often stated that they did not see an animal (38.7%).

The mean number of over-nights spent in a CWMU bunkhouse or other CWMU facility by private and public hunters was 2.48 and .31, respectively. The mean number of nights respondents spent camped on a CWMU was 1.51 and .645 for private and public hunters. Many of these differences can be attributed to the difference between residents and non-residents, as illustrated in a following section.

Crowding was not a significant problem for hunters; however, public hunters felt slightly

more crowded by hunters outside their party than did private hunters. Table 6 shows the mean crowding scores for guided and unguided public and private hunters. For both public and private hunters, unguided hunters felt more crowded than did their guided counterparts. However, the highest crowding mean, 2.24, was less than the slightly crowded designation (3.5).

Table 6. Opinions Regarding Crowding Pressure¹

	Public		Private	
	Guided	Unguided	Guided	Unguided
Crowding felt from outside hunting party	2.0	2.2	1.6	2.0
Crowding felt from own hunting party	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.3

¹Means scores calculated on a scale from 1 to 9 where 1 is "Not at all crowded," 3 is "Slightly crowded," 6 is "Moderately crowded," and 9 is "Extremely crowded."

Table 7 shows some of the services CWMUs make available to private and public hunters. Overall, many of the services offered by CWMUs differed between private and public hunters. For several services, a difference was noted between antlered and antlerless hunts. For example, camping areas were provided to 63.8% of private antlered and to 67% of public antlered hunters. However, for antlerless hunters, camping areas were not provided to 64.3% of private and 72.9% of public hunters. Meals also differed: 54.2% of private antlered permit-holders stated they were included as part of the hunt, but only 40% of private antlerless hunters stated the same. A similar difference was noted with public hunters, 16.1% of antlered hunters and 8.9% of antlerless hunters were provided meals as part of their hunt. Lodging was provided as part of the hunt for 59.1% of private and for 18.75% of public antlered hunters, but for antlerless hunters, lodging was part of the hunt for only 46.7% of private and 10.9% of public hunters.

Table 7. Services Provided by CWMUs¹

Services provided by CWMU	Public			Private		
	Not provided	Part of hunt	Additional Fee	Not provided	Part of hunt	Additional Fee
Guide	59.3% (n=128)	33.8% (n=73)	6.9% (n=15)	37.6% (n=56)	59.1% (n=88)	3.4% (n=5)
Maps	43.6% (n=95)	56.0% (n=122)	0.5% (n=1)	48.9% (n=66)	51.1% (n=69)	0.0% (n=0)
Weapon	100% (n=185)	0.0% (n=0)	0.0% (n=0)	98.2% (n=111)	1.8% (n=2)	0.0% (0)
Camping area	53.9% (n=110)	45.6% (n=93)	0.5% (n=1)	39.2% (n=51)	60.8% (n=79)	0.0% (n=0)
Camping equipment	93.4% (n=171)	6.0% (n=11)	0.5% (n=1)	73.6% (n=81)	26.4% (n=29)	0.0% (n=0)
Meals	83.0% (n=161)	12.4% (n=24)	4.6% (n=9)	41.8% (n=61)	52.7% (n=77)	5.5% (n=8)
Lodging	80.2% (n=154)	14.6% (n=28)	5.2% (n=10)	36.1% (n=53)	57.8% (n=85)	6.1% (n=9)
Transportation	79.7% (n=157)	18.8% (n=37)	1.5% (n=3)	58.3% (n=77)	41.7% (n=55)	0.0% (n=0)
Animal retrieval	66.5% (n=133)	27.5% (n=55)	6.0% (n=12)	38.8% (n=57)	54.4% (n=80)	6.8% (n=10)
Taxidermy	94.6% (n=176)	5.4% (n=10)	0.0% (n=0)	86.3% (n=101)	2.6% (n=3)	11.1% (n=13)
Meat processing	95.1% (n=175)	1.1% (n=2)	3.8% (n=7)	76.0% (n=92)	9.1% (n=11)	14.9% (n=18)
Meat shipping	96.7% (n=177)	0.5% (n=1)	2.7% (n=5)	81.7% (n=94)	5.2% (n=6)	13.0% (n=15)

¹Percentages indicate public and private responses to the question "Which of the following were provided by the CWMU?"

Table 8 illustrates mean satisfaction for guided and unguided public and private hunters in 12 categories for respondents' most recent hunt. Respondents were asked to rate their experience on a scale of 1 through 5, with 5 being very satisfied and 1 representing very unsatisfied. The mean score for every category was greater than 3 (neutral), indicating that respondents were satisfied with their experiences. In general, a lower satisfaction was noted by

unguided hunters, both public and private. However, in most categories public hunters tended to be less satisfied than private hunters. Unguided public and private hunters were least satisfied with the number of trophy animals seen, scoring 3.06 and 3.31, respectively. Public unguided hunters were also less satisfied with the number of legal animals seen (3.48) than the other three hunter categories. Unguided public hunters also had concerns regarding information about the CWMU (3.49) and information about where to hunt (3.55).

If respondents rated any category as either moderately or highly dissatisfied, they were asked to explain the reason for their dissatisfaction. Fifty-four private hunters and ninety-one public hunters commented. Private hunters were most dissatisfied with the number of trophy animals (23 comments), a distant second was the cost of the hunt (5 comments). Public hunters most often stated there was a lack of animals (17 comments), poor or misleading information from the landowner or operator (13 comments), and too few trophy animals (10 comments). Other issues frequently listed include not enough time allowed to hunt, not being given desirable hunt dates, and the perception that private hunters received better scheduling or service. Private hunters frequently commented that record heat early in the season may have decreased animal availability while many public hunters said that heavy snows late in the season may have done the same. A complete list of comments is available in the appendices.

Table 8. Satisfaction with Hunt Characteristics by Public and Private Hunters¹

Hunt characteristics	Public		Private	
	Guided	Unguided	Guided	Unguided
Hospitality shown by CWMU	4.7	3.9	4.7	4.5
Overall quality	4.6	3.8	4.5	4.3
Time of year hunt was conducted	4.6	3.8	4.5	4.2
Effort required to harvest an animal	4.5	3.7	4.5	4.0
Information about where to hunt	4.5	3.6	4.4	4.3
Number of other hunters encountered	4.4	4.0	4.4	4.2
Number of legal animals seen	4.4	3.5	4.4	3.9
Amount of time allowed to hunt	4.3	3.7	4.4	4.2
Local goods and services	4.2	3.8	4.4	4.3
Value for the price	4.6	3.9	4.1	4.2
Information about the CWMU	4.2	3.5	4.1	4.2
Number of trophy animals seen	4.0	3.1	3.8	3.3

¹Mean scores calculated using a Likert scale where 1 is "Highly dissatisfied," 2 is "Moderately dissatisfied," 3 is "Neutral," 4 is "Moderately satisfied," and 5 is "Highly satisfied." Reverse coded from survey.

Residents and Non-Residents

Demographics. Residents comprised 49.5% of private CWMU permit-holders and 98.1% of public permit-holders. While residents and non-residents were nearly all male, 9.4% of resident hunters were female, compared to 1% of non-resident hunters. When the results were further divided into antlered and antlerless hunts, the proportion of female hunters was 6.2% and 9.3%, respectively. Household size differed between the groups, with a mean number of people in the household at 3.84 for residents, and 2.79 for non-residents. Income also differed significantly between residents and non-residents. Non-residents reported mean household incomes between \$100,000 and \$119,999 while the average household incomes for residents was between \$60,000 and \$80,000. Non-residents reported completing more years of formal education; 59.8% had earned a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 46.1% of residents. The percentage of graduate or professional degrees earned was 22.3% and 28.9% of residents and non-residents, respectively.

Non-resident respondents originated from 28 different states. With two significant exceptions, no one state represented more than 5% of non-resident hunters. However, over one-third of respondents, 37.8%, reside in California, and 10% live in Texas. Our randomized sample of non-resident hunters consisted of 11.7% and 2.7% California and Texas residents, respectively. Interestingly, only seven respondents were from any of Utah's bordering states (Colorado (1), Arizona (3) and Nevada (4)). This is fairly consistent with their representation in our sample where four surveys were sent to Colorado and Idaho, two were mailed to Wyoming, eight were sent to Arizona, and 10 were mailed to Nevada. Resident respondents represented 25 of Utah's 29 counties. The most resident respondents originated from Salt Lake (79), Davis (44), Weber (64), and Utah (34) counties.

Nearly all residents (94.7%) had hunted in Utah before 2001-2002, and 74.3% of non-residents had hunted the state in a prior year. Utah residents have been hunting the state for a number of years; 42.4% stated they had been hunting in Utah for greater than 25 years. Over two-thirds of non-residents (69.3%) reported they had been hunting in the state for 10 years or fewer. A majority of non-residents (88.1%) made their trip solely to hunt on the CWMU, while 10% stated that their hunting trip was part of a larger Utah visit.

Respondents were asked to list other states in which they had hunted. Forty-five states were listed by either private or public hunters. Among private resident hunters, the four states listed most frequently were Wyoming (22.5%), Colorado (15.5%), Idaho (13.2%), and Alaska (10.1%). Private non-residents most often listed Colorado (12.7%), Wyoming (10.4%), Montana (9.8%), and New Mexico (8.1%).

Hunting in Utah. Respondents rated their 2001 CWMU hunting experience compared to previous hunting experiences in other states. Generally, non-residents reported more favorably on their Utah CWMU hunting experience than did residents. Seventy-five percent of non-resident antlerless hunters stated their experience was either better than average or exceptional, compared to 46.1% of resident antlerless hunters. For non-resident antlered hunters, 80.7% reported their experience was better than average or exceptional, compared to 61.4% of resident antlered hunters.

Table 9 shows the mean satisfaction of residents and non-residents for several elements of their CWMU hunt, with 5 representing highly satisfied and 1 being highly dissatisfied. With the exception of value for the price, mean non-resident scores were higher than resident ratings.

Table 9. Satisfaction with Hunt Characteristics by Residents and Non-residents.¹

Hunt characteristics	Resident	Non-resident
Hospitality shown by CWMU	4.3	4.6
Number of other hunters encountered	4.2	4.3
Value for the price	4.2	4.0
Overall quality	4.1	4.5
Time of year the hunt was conducted	4.1	4.3
Local goods and services	4.0	4.4
Information about where to hunt	4.0	4.3
Effort required to harvest an animal	4.0	4.3
Amount of time allowed to hunt	3.9	4.4
Information about the CWMU	3.8	4.0
Number of legal animals seen	3.8	4.2
Number of trophy animals seen	3.4	3.5

¹Mean scores calculated on a scale where 1 = "Highly dissatisfied," 2 = "Moderately dissatisfied," 3 = "Neutral," 4 = "Moderately satisfied," and 5 = "Highly satisfied." Reverse coded from survey.

Hunters may spend a significant amount of money in the state during their CWMU hunt, a potential benefit to local economies. Respondents were asked to report expenditures they made during their Utah trip that were paid to an entity other than the CWMU owner or operator (e.g. restaurants or hotels). Table 10 illustrates mean spending by both residents and non-residents during their Utah CWMU hunt. Unsurprisingly, when hunters spent money in various categories, non-residents tended to spend more than resident hunters. Non-resident expenditures are of particular interest to the state, as these are dollars that would likely be spent outside of Utah in the absence of the CWMU program.

Table 10. Average Dollars Spent on Hunt in Different Sectors by Non-residents.¹

Sectors	Paid in Utah but not to CWMU	
	Zero excluded	Zero included
Motel, hotel, bed and breakfast	\$200.62	\$114.33
Campground fees	\$15.00	\$0.16
Restaurants and bars	\$153.70	\$114.03
Grocery and convenience store	\$140.68	\$66.56
Gas and oil	\$120.22	\$87.90
Other auto expenses (repairs, tolls, etc.)	\$225.83	\$14.57
Air, auto rental, taxi	\$466.00	\$75.16
Sporting goods (hunting and camping supplies)	\$137.05	\$58.95
Clothing	\$87.63	\$17.90
Entertainment	\$65.00	\$5.59
Other goods (film, sundries, etc.)	\$74.81	\$20.91
Other services (haircut, taxidermy, etc.)	\$414.74	\$84.73
Anything not listed above	\$149.00	\$19.23

¹Average expenditures for "zero excluded" categories calculated for respondents who indicated they had spent \$1 or more. "Zero included" average includes respondent who indicated no amount spent.

Discussion

The long-term success of Utah's CWMU program is dependant upon the experience of both hunters and landowner/operators. This study investigated hunter perceptions to determine whether the program is meeting its stated goal of creating satisfying hunting opportunities.

Messmer et al. (1998) surveyed hunters participating in Utah's CWMU program to determine hunter satisfaction. We compared the results of this study (conducted in 1994) with our results and learned that the 2002 respondents were more likely to cite less hunting pressure, less crowding, greater chances of harvesting, higher quality hunts, and greater trophy potential than the 1994 respondents. The greatest percentage changes occurred with private hunters, where respondents reporting the motivation of a greater chance of harvesting an animal increased 17.6%, less hunting pressure increased 16.9%, and greater trophy potential increased 16.1% from 1994. The largest change for public hunters was a 12.7% increase in hunters stating they sought a greater trophy potential. While in 1994 65.7% reported one reason they hunted a CWMU was a greater chance of harvesting an animal, this percentage dropped slightly to 62.1% in 2002.

Both public and private hunters, residents and non-residents, are satisfied with the program. When compared to results from Messmer et al. (1998), hunter satisfaction appears to be increasing for private hunters but has decreased in some categories for public hunters (Table 11). For private hunters, hunt satisfaction increased in all categories. Public hunters in 2002 reported slightly lower satisfaction in several categories, including the time of year the hunt was conducted, the number of legal animals seen, and the amount of time allowed to hunt.

Table 11. Comparative Satisfaction with Hunt Characteristics from 1994 to 2002¹

Hunt characteristics	Public		Private	
	1994	2002	1994	2002
Overall quality	4.1	4.1	3.7	4.4
Time of year hunt was conducted	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.3
Effort required to harvest an animal	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.2
Information about where to hunt	3.6	3.8	3.6	4.4
Number of other hunters encountered	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.3
Number of legal animals seen	3.9	3.8	2.6	3.5
Amount of time allowed to hunt	3.9	3.8	4.2	4.3
Number of trophy animals seen	3.2	3.3	2.6	3.5

¹Mean scores calculated using a Likert scale where 1 = "Highly dissatisfied," 2 = "Moderately dissatisfied," 3 = "Neutral," 4 = "Moderately satisfied," and 5 = "Highly satisfied." Reverse coded from survey.

Some of the change in satisfaction could be attributed to less communication between CWMUs and their public hunters and more communication with their private hunters. In 1994, CWMU operators offered advice to 73% of public hunters and 67% of private hunters. These percentages switched in 2002, where 66.3% of public hunters reported receiving advice, as opposed to 77% of private hunters.

While generally satisfied with their hunt, unguided public hunters tended to be less pleased than other groups. The motivation most often cited by public hunters for hunting a CWMU was a greater chance of harvesting an animal. Those public hunters who were dissatisfied with their hunt most often stated they did not see trophy or legal animals. If hunters'

primary motivation for hunting a CWMU is not satisfied, public support for the program may wane. Many of these dissatisfied hunters stated they did not receive enough information about the CWMU. Landowners and operators could improve the public hunting experience by better informing their public hunters about the CWMU itself and areas where animals might be found.

Further, it was evident from the comments that some public hunters believe that certain CWMUs did not treat them equally as well as private hunters. CWMUs are charged with offering their public and private hunters comparable opportunities, not an identical experience. However, as the CWMU program is subject to public opinion (as reflected by decisions in the Utah legislature), it would benefit the program for public hunters to view themselves on equal footing with private clientele. A couple of public hunters did comment that their experience was outstanding and that they were treated extremely well. These hunters indicated significant support for the program's continuation.

As both public and private hunters had concerns about the number of trophy animals seen, the UDWR and CWMU landowners and operators might investigate how to improve the quality of game animals on CWMUs. While weather events such as the record high early season temperatures and heavy snows later on are not the responsibility of either the CWMUs or UDWR, they do significantly affect hunter satisfaction. As such, it might be valuable to introduce some additional flexibility into hunt dates to accommodate extreme weather events.

The total number of non-resident hunters participating in the CWMU program may impact Utah's local economies. These hunters spent on average \$680.02 (zeros included) on their most recent CWMU hunt outside of what was paid to CWMU landowners and operators. Multiplying this sum by the total number of non-resident CWMU permits in 2001 (1,354) yields over \$900,000 in non-resident hunter spending. While these expenditures could benefit local communities, several hunters commented on the lack of services in certain areas.

Utah's non-resident respondents most often listed Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and New Mexico as other states in which they have hunted. Both the UDWR and CWMUs might consider these states as significant competitors for out-of-state clientele and investigate how Utah's CWMU program and the hunting experience could be improved to attract more non-residents. As nearly 73% of CWMU business is return clientele (McCoy et al. 2003), a quality hunt is critical to the program's success.

References

Messmer, T.A., C.E. Dixon, W. Shields, S.C. Barras, and S.A. Schroeder. 1998. Cooperative Wildlife Management Units: achieving hunter, landowner, and wildlife management agency objectives. *Wildlife Society Bulletin* 26 (2):325-332.

McCoy, N.L. 2003. A Survey of Utah CWMU Landowners, Operators, and Landowner/Operators. Report prepared for the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

Appendix A

Survey of Utah CWMU Hunters

This survey pertains to CWMU hunts in the 2001 season (through 1/31/02). A hunt is defined as either the time you spent on one CWMU to fill one permit, or the length of time you spent on one CWMU to fill a package of permits. (e.g. if you held both deer and elk permits on one CWMU, you may have hunted both species during one hunt, or you may have hunted deer one month and elk the next, resulting in two hunts.)

1. In 2001, how many CWMU permits did you hold? _____

If you held more than one CWMU permit, how many separate hunts did you participate in? _____ # of hunts

** If you had more than one hunt, for the remainder of this survey, please answer questions referring only to your most recent CWMU hunt (where appropriate).*

2. How did you obtain your 2001 Utah CWMU permit(s)? (Check those that apply.)

___ Purchased from CWMU ___ Gift from CWMU
___ Public draw permit ___ Payment in lieu of services from CWMU

3. What dates were offered to you by the CWMU landowner/operator for this hunt?
(If several dates were available, please state all dates offered.)

_____ to _____ OR _____ to _____ OR _____ to _____

4. Why did you apply for a permit to hunt a CWMU in 2001? (Check all that apply.)

- ___ Uncertainty about the general season hunt
- ___ Curiosity about the program
- ___ Greater chance of harvesting an animal
- ___ Greater trophy potential
- ___ Higher quality hunt
- ___ Less hunting pressure
- ___ Less hunter crowding
- ___ Wanted to hunt a new area
- ___ Other _____

5. What influenced you to apply for the hunt in which you participated?
(Check all that apply.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Familiar with area | <input type="checkbox"/> Information from Big Game Proclamation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CWMU landowner | <input type="checkbox"/> Information from hunting guide |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CWMU operator | <input type="checkbox"/> Curiosity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation of friend | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Past experience | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

6. Were you aware that a website directory for the CWMUs was available in 2001 separate from the Utah Big Game Proclamation? (www.cwm Utahwildlife.org)

___ Yes ___ No

7. Which of the following information sources have you used to learn about the CWMU program? (Check all that apply.)

- Printed materials (e.g., pamphlets) published by the DWR or other agencies
- Newspaper or magazine articles
- CWMU Association Website
- Private CWMU Website
- Information provided by an outfitter or guide
- Radio or television
- Discussions with family or friends
- Other (what was it? _____)

8. How were you notified about your hunt? (Check all that apply.)

- Letter from UDWR
- Letter from CWMU operator
- Telephone call or e-mail from CWMU operator
- You contacted CWMU operator
- Other _____

9. If your permit was purchased from a CWMU operator, what was the price of your hunt? (Please state total price paid even if it was part of a package that included food, lodging, etc.) \$ _____

10. Was this hunt guided _____ or unguided _____? (Check only one.)

11. People can gain many benefits from hunting on a CWMU. Please tell us how important each of the following potential benefits is to you personally.
(Circle the number of the best answer.)

	<u>Not</u> <u>Important</u>	<u>Somewhat</u> <u>Important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Most</u> <u>Important</u>
Exercise	1	2	3	4
Escape from pressures of ordinary life	1	2	3	4
Being with friends and/or family	1	2	3	4
Finding solitude	1	2	3	4
Seeing a place I've never seen before	1	2	3	4
Testing my back-country skills	1	2	3	4
Testing my hunting skills	1	2	3	4
Bringing home a trophy animal	1	2	3	4
Getting to know local landowner/operator	1	2	3	4
Learning about wildlife mgt on private land	1	2	3	4
Less competition with other hunters	1	2	3	4
Quality of game animals	1	2	3	4
Other _____	1	2	3	4

12. Did you hunt Big Game on a Utah CWMU during the 2001 season? ___ Yes ___ No
(If yes, please continue. If no, please stop and return the survey.)

13. What CWMU did you hunt? (Refer to the list of CWMUs on the back page of this survey.)

14. Was the CWMU you hunted your first choice? ___ Yes ___ No
If not, why? (Check all that apply.)

- First choice sold out
- Didn't draw first choice
- Couldn't hunt on available dates
- Couldn't afford first choice
- Companions preferred another choice
- Other _____

15. How many total days were you allowed to hunt the CWMU for this hunt? _____ days

16. What dates did you hunt? _____ to _____

17. Within these dates, how many total days did you hunt? _____ days

18. How many people did you bring with you (not including yourself) on your CWMU hunt? (Write a number in the corresponding blank.)

- ___ Friends
- ___ Spouse/Significant other
- ___ Other family

19. How many of the above were non-permit holding guests? ___ Guests

20. What kind of hunting did you participate in during this 2001 CWMU hunt? (Circle all that apply.)

	<u>Deer</u>	<u>Elk</u>	<u>Pronghorn</u>	<u>Moose</u>
Rifle	<i>Buck Antlerless</i>	<i>Bull Antlerless</i>	<i>Buck Doe</i>	<i>Bull Antlerless</i>
Muzzleloader	<i>Buck Antlerless</i>	<i>Bull Antlerless</i>	<i>Buck Doe</i>	<i>Bull Antlerless</i>
Archery	<i>Buck Antlerless</i>	<i>Bull Antlerless</i>	<i>Buck Doe</i>	<i>Bull Antlerless</i>

21. Did you make your trip

- solely to hunt in the CWMU
- primarily to hunt on the CWMU, but also part of a larger Utah visit
- other _____

22. How many nights did you spend? (Indicate number of nights on all that apply.)

- In a CWMU bunkhouse or other CWMU facility? _____
- Camped on CWMU? _____
- Camped in campground near CWMU? _____
- At a hotel, motel, or bed-and-breakfast in a nearby community? _____
- In a private home (your own, a friend's, or family member's)? _____

23. Which of the following were provided by the CWMU? (Check all that apply.)
 (If additional fees were charged for any of the following, please indicate in the last column the total amount paid to the CWMU landowner/operator over the course of your hunt.)

	<i>Not provided At all</i>	<i>Provided as Part of hunt</i>	<i>Provided for an additional fee</i>	<i>Total paid</i>
<u>Guide(s)</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Map(s)</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Weapon(s)</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Camping Area</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Camping Equipment</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Meals</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Lodging</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Transportation</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Animal Retrieval</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Taxidermy</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Meat Processing</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Meat Shipping</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____
<u>Other</u>	___	___	___	\$ _____

24. At this point, we would like to gather some information from you regarding your trip expenditures. This information will be used to help us determine the economic impact the CWMU program has on communities. If you were part of a group, you should list only your proportion of the entire group's expenditures. Do not include any costs that were included in the price of your hunt (costs included in #10) but do include additional costs paid to the CWMU. The last three columns are for costs you may have paid for goods and services that you did not pay to the CWMU (hotels, grocery, etc).

	Paid to CWMU landowner or operator	In Utah within 30 miles of CWMU	In Utah, but more than 30 miles from CWMU	Outside of Utah
<u>Lodging</u>				
Motel, hotel, bed and breakfast,	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Campground fees	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<u>Food and Beverages</u>				
Restaurants and bars	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Grocery and convenience stores	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<u>Transportation</u>				
Gas and oil	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other auto expenses (repair, tolls, etc.)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Air., auto rental, taxi	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<u>Other</u>				
Sporting goods (hunting and camping supplies, etc.)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Clothing	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Entertainment	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other goods (film, sundries, etc.)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other services (haircut, taxidermy, etc.)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Anything not listed above	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Were there any goods or services not available during your trip that you wish would have been available? Yes No If yes, please explain. _____

25. Did you see legal animals? Yes No

26. Did you have the opportunity to harvest an animal? Yes No

27. Did you harvest an animal? Yes No

If you didn't harvest an animal what was the reason for not doing so?

Didn't see any
 Not of legal size
 Not trophy size

Missed shot(s)
 Taken by other hunter
 Other _____

28. If you harvested a buck or bull, please complete the following. If you harvested an antlerless animal or a doe, skip to question 29.

	Buck Deer	Bull Elk	Bull Moose	Pronghorn
Length of main beam (inches)				
Maximum outside antler spread (inches)				
Antler basal circumference (inches)				
Total number of points (inches)				

29. Did you hunt in a group comprised of people that you did not bring with you (other CWMU permit holders)? Yes No

30. Did personnel involved in the operation of the CWMU offer advice on areas to hunt?

Yes No

If so, was this advice helpful? Yes No

31. Please circle the number that best describes overall how crowded you felt by hunters outside your hunting party while hunting in the CWMU.

1 ----- 2 ----- 3 ----- 4 ----- 5 ----- 6 ----- 7 ----- 8 ----- 9
 not at all slightly moderately extremely
 crowded crowded crowded crowded

32. Please circle the number that best describes overall how crowded you felt by members of your own hunting party while hunting in the CWMU.

1 ----- 2 ----- 3 ----- 4 ----- 5 ----- 6 ----- 7 ----- 8 ----- 9
 not at all slightly moderately extremely
 crowded crowded crowded crowded

33. If other hunters' actions ever detracted from your enjoyment, please explain. _____

34. Now we want to gather some information on your overall satisfaction with your CWMU experience. On a scale of 1 to 5, please rate your satisfaction with the following elements of your hunt by circling the appropriate number.

1=Highly Satisfied 3=Neutral 5=Highly Dissatisfied
2=Moderately Satisfied 4=Moderately Dissatisfied NA=Not Applicable

Overall quality	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Number of legal animals seen	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Number of trophy animals seen	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Effort required to harvest an animal	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Amount of time allowed to hunt	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Time of year the hunt was conducted	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Information about the CWMU	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Information about where to hunt	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Number of other hunters encountered	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Hospitality shown by CWMU	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Local goods and services	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Value for the price	1	2	3	4	5	NA

If you are moderately (4) or highly (5) dissatisfied with any element of your hunt, please explain why. _____

35. Which of the following leisure activities did you take part in during your visit to the area that were not part of a hunting outing? (e.g. check if you rode horses for pleasure, but don't check if you rode horses as part of a hunt.) Check all that apply; check twice if activity occurred on this CWMU.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input type="checkbox"/> ATV riding | <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting historic sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input type="checkbox"/> Horseback riding | <input type="checkbox"/> Bird/wildlife viewing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scenic driving | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain biking | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock climbing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please list. _____) | | |

36. Are you a resident of Utah? Yes No (If no, skip to question 39.)

37. How long have you lived in Utah? (years)

38. What Utah county do you consider to be your primary residence? _____

39. Have you hunted big game in Utah prior to 2001? Yes No
(If no, skip to question 43.)

40. If so, what species have you hunted in previous years? (Check all that apply.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buck Deer | <input type="checkbox"/> Antlerless Deer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bull Elk | <input type="checkbox"/> Antlerless Elk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buck Pronghorn | <input type="checkbox"/> Doe Pronghorn |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bull Moose | <input type="checkbox"/> Antlerless Moose |

41. How many years have you hunted big game in Utah? (Check one.)

- Less than 5 years 16-20 years
- 5-10 years 21-25 years
- 11-15 years More than 25 years

42. Have you previously obtained
(Check all that apply.)

- Utah Limited Entry Permit(s)
- General Season Permit(s)
- CWMU Public Draw Permit(s)
- CWMU Landowner Permit(s)

43. Have you hunted big game in states other than Utah? Yes No
(If no, skip to question 45.)

If so, which states? _____

44. How did the quality of the 2001 CWMU hunting experience in Utah compare, on average, to previous hunting experiences in other states/countries? (Check one.)

- Poor
- Below average
- Average
- Better than average
- Exceptional

Finally, we'd like to know a little more about you. These questions will be used to prepare a general profile of CWMU hunters. All responses will remain confidential.

45. What is your gender? Male Female
46. In what year were you born? 19 __
47. What is your marital status? Married Unmarried
48. How many people, including yourself, live in your household? _____
49. What is the highest level of education you have completed?
 Have not finished high school Bachelor's degree
 High school diploma Graduate or professional degree
50. What is your household income?
 Less than \$20,000 \$60,000-\$79,000 \$120,000-\$159,999
 \$20,000-\$39,999 \$80,000-\$99,999 \$160,000-\$199,999
 \$40,000-\$59,999 \$100,000-\$119,999 greater than \$200,000

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. PLEASE RETURN YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE IN THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE. If you would like a summary of this study's results, just write "copy of results requested" and your address on the back of the return envelope. If there are any pressing concerns that need the attention of scientists, extension, or policy-makers, please **tell us about them** in the space below.

UTAH CWMUs
ALTON CWMU
ANTELOPE CREEK CWMU
BAR J RANCH CWMU
BEAR MOUNTAIN RANCH CWMU
BIG MOUNTAIN CWMU
BLUE SPRING HILLS CWMU
BOOBE HOLE CWMU
BROADMOUTH CANYON CWMU
CEDAR CANYON CWMU
COLDWATER RANCH CWMU
COTTON THOMAS CWMU
COTTONWOOD CWMU
COYOTE LITTLE POLE CWMU
CRAB CREEK CWMU
DESERET CWMU
DODGE POINT CWMU
DOUBLE CONE CWMU
DOVE CREEK CWMU
DRY BREAD CWMU
DURST MOUNTAIN CWMU
EAST FORK CHALK CREEK CWMU
EMMA PARK CWMU
ENGINEER SPRINGS CWMU
ENSIGN RANCHES CWMU
FOLLEY RIDGE CWMU
GOLDEN SPIKE CWMU
GRAZING PASTURE CWMU
GROUSE CREEK CWMU
GUILDER SLEEVE CWMU
HARDSCRABBLE CWMU
HEASTON EAST CWMU
HELL CANYON CWMU
HIAWATHA CWMU
HORSEHEAD CWMU
INGHAM PEAK CWMU
J B RANCH CWMU
JOHNSON MTN RANCH CWMU
LELAND BENCH CWMU
LITTLE RED CREEK CWMU
LONETREE TAYLOR HOLLOW CWMU
LYNN VALLEY CWMU
MAGNIFICENT SEVEN CWMU

MIDDLE RIDGE DEER CWMU
MIDDLE RIDGE MOOSE CWMU
MISSOURI FLAT CWMU
MOONS RANCH CWMU
MT CARMEL CWMU
MT PISGAH CWMU
NORTH PROMONTORY CWMU
NUTTER RANCH CWMU
OAK RANCH CWMU
OLD WOMEN PLATEAU CWMU
PAGANO CONOVER CWMU
PAGANO RANCH CWMU
PARK VALLEY HEREFORD CWMU
POCATELLO VALLEY CWMU
PORCUPINE CACHE CWMU
PROMONTORY POINT CWMU
RATTLESNAKE PASS CWMU
RAWHIDE RESERVE CWMU
REDD RANCHES CWMU
ROSE RANCH CWMU
SAND CREEK CWMU
SANDA ROSA CWMU
SANDWASH/SINK DRAW CWMU
SCOFIELD CANYONS CWMU
SCOFIELD EAST CWMU
SCOFIELD WEST LC CWMU
SJ RANCH CWMU
SKULL CRACK CWMU
SOLDIER SUMMIT CWMU
SOUTH CANYON
SPRING CREEK TORB CWMU
STATE CORNER CWMU
SUMMIT POINT CWMU
SUMMIT MOUNTAIN CWMU
THREE C CWMU
TWIN PEAKS CWMU
TWO BEAR CWMU
WALLSBURG
WASHAKIE CWMU
WEBER FLORENCE CREEK CWMU
WHITES VALLEY CWMU
WOODRUFF CREEK CWMU

Appendix B

Comments from Privately-Permitted Hunters¹

3 DAYS LIMITS UNDERSTANDING OF AREA & WILDLIFE HABITS.

4 DAYS IS A SHORT TIME I HAD SUCCESS BUT COULD SEE MORE DAYS MIGHT BE NEEDED. IT WOULD BE NICE.

AREA DID NOT HOLD TROPHY BULLS THAT WE WERE TOLD WERE THERE.

COST FOR HUNTS.

CWMU DO NOT LIKE TO HARVEST DOE.

DID NOT SEE MANY TROPHY SIZE ANIMALS BECAUSE IT WAS TOO WARM. NO WHERE IN THE PAMPHLET DOES IT SAY WHAT A CWMU IS!

DIDN'T SEE ANY TROPHY BULLS OR BUCKS.

DIDN'T SEE ENOUGH TROPHIES OR REALLY NOT ENOUGH BUCKS ALL TOGETHER.

DIDNT ENOUGH BUCKS. NOTHING BIGGER THAN A SPIKE. MAKE THE SEASON DURING THE RUT.

DIDNT SEE MANY BUCKS AND DIDNT SEE ANY TROPHY ANIMALS.

EARLIER & LONGER WOULD BE BETTER.

HAVE HAD MUCH MORE & BETTER FOR LESS \$.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU EVEN ALLOW DEER HUNTING IN THIS UNIT. I HUNTED VERY HARD AND ONLY SAW 2 BUCKS THE WHOLE HUNT AND 30 DOES. WE TALKED TO HUNTERS OFF THE PROPERTY WHO REPORTED THE SAME TO US AND SAID THAT 20 YEARS AGO THE HILLS WERE FULL OF DEER. I SAW A LOT OF COUGAR TRACKS AND A COUGAR 300 YARDS AWAY. YOU REALLY NEED TO CUT THE PERMITS BACK OR STOP THE HUNTING FOR DEER HERE. THIS IS BY FAR THE WORST HUNTING EXPERIENCE I'VE EVER HAD. THERE IS NO REASONS THERE IS NOT A RESIDENT HERD HERE.

I FELT THAT THERE IS SOME MISREPRESENTATION ABOUT REALITY WITH RESPECT TO ACTUAL NUMBERS OF TROPHY GAME ANIMALS.

¹ All comments recorded verbatim

I HAVE HUNTED THE AREA MY ENTIRE LIFE MANAGEMENT OF THE LAND IS POOR AT BEST. HUNTS ARE POORLY MANAGED AND THE ELK POPULATION SEEMS TO BE SHRINKING IN THE AREA.

I WAS EXTREMELY HAPPY, HOWEVER THE WEATHER WAS HOT (80 DEGREES AT 9000 FEET JUST FYI).

I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THESE UTAH BUCK HUNTS IN CWMU GO TO DECEMBER 1ST LIKE NEVADA DOES IN MORE AREAS.

JUST DIDNT SEE MANY LARGE HORNED DEER BUT THERE WERE PLENTY OF DEER.

LACK OF TROPHY ANIMALS WAS DUE TO OUT OF STATE COW TAG PRESSURE JUST PRIOR TO THE RUT. COWS WERE SCARCE AND SO WERE TROPHY BULLS.

LOT OF ANIMALS.

MISREPRESENTATION ABOUT ACTUAL # OF TROPHY ANIMALS.

NEEDS TO BE MORE AFFORDABLE.

NO ANIMALS, SHORT TIME.

NO BRANCH ANTLERED BUCKS SEEN. WHAT IS CWMU?

NO ELK IN THE AREA.

NO GAME. HUNT TOO LATE.

NO TROPHY ANIMALS IN AREA. NEVER BY ADMISSION OF GUIDE.

NO TROPHY SEEN.

NOT MANY TROPHY BUCKS.

NOT VERY MANY TROPHY BUCKS.

ONE OF THE BEST HUNTS I HAVE EVER BEEN ON. WELL RUN CWMU.

ONLY 1 TROPHY TAKEN. SEEMS TO BE DROPPING ACCORDING TO YEARLY PARTICIPANTS.

ONLY SAW ONE LEGAL BULL. WAS JUST A RAGHORN BUT WAS TOLD THAT IT WAS A GOOD BULL FOR THAT AREA. I KNOW THIS AREA CAN SUPPORT BETTER BULLS.

OPERATOR SHORTENED HUNT DATES AT LAST MINUTE TO ALLOW PAID HUNTERS MORE OPPORTUNITY. REVISED PLANS FOR ALL THE PUBLIC DRAW HUNTERS, PREVENTED BETTER SUCCESS. POOR YEAR FOR TROPHY ANIMALS. USUALLY SEE A FEW BUT NOT IN 2001. TOO MANY COUGARS?

OUR GUIDE WAS NOT WHAT WE EXPECTED. WE HUNTED BY TRUCK AND HE SPENT MORE TIME WITH OTHER DUTIES AND OVERALL NOT ACCEPTABLE.

PRICE A LITTLE HIGH FOR QUALITY OF TROPHY BUCKS.

QUALITY OF BUCKS SEEN.

RATHER HUNT OCT 1 NOV 30.

RECORD SETTING HEAT ALL 5 DAYS OF HUNT RESULTED IN MINIMAL ANIMAL MOVEMENT AND LIMITED OPPORTUNITY. ONLY SAW 1 TROPHY QUALITY BUCK DEER DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS.

SAW FEW LARGE BUCKS MOSTLY 2X2 2X3 OR 3X3 BUCKS.

SEE ABOVE -SELF EXPLANATORY. MANY AREAS SMALL EVEN GUIDE WAS POOR.

SHOULD NOT HAVE TO PAY TO HUNT GAME THAT BELONGS TO EVERYONE SO LAND OWNER CAN MAKE MONEY ON OUR ANIMALS.

SMALL BUCKS, NO HORN MASS.

THE TAG WAS TOO EXPENSIVE.

THERE ARE ALOT OF GUIDED AND NONGUIDED HUNTERS ON THIS RANCH AND THE GAME IS HUNTED FOR A LONG TIME, PUSHING THE DEER NOCTURNAL AND VERY DIFFICULT TO FIND THE QUALITY WE WANT.

THIS UNIT IS NOT A TROPHY AREA SO MY DISSATIFICATION ISNT MEANT TOWARDS THE CWMU. I KNEW THAT WHEN I PURCHASED THE VOUCHER AND HAVE PUCHASED SEVERAL VOUCHERS FROM THE OPERATOR. I LIKE THE SOLITUDE AND HOSPITALITY OF THE JOHNSON FAMILY.

TIME ISSUE.

TOO EXPENSIVE.

TRESPASSERS DURING GENERAL DEER HUNT.

TROPHY CLASS SOMEWHAT LESS THEN DESCRIBED.

TROPHY MULE DEER ARE TOUGH TO FIND. AMOUNT OF TIME IT TAKES TIME!

VERY FEW SERVICES.

VERY GOOD PROGRAM.

WEATHER TOO DRY TO PROVIDE FEED FOR ANTLER GROWTH & NUMBERS. WOULDVE LIKED TO HUNT RUT RIFEL DEER HUNT WHILE I ARCHERY ELK HUNTED.

Comments from Public Draw Hunters

WINTER MODE ACCESSABILITY. DON'T LIKE BEING SHOT OVER AND COMPETETIVENESS.

2 DAYS MAXIMUM - TOO MANY OTHER GROUPS STILL LEFT TO HUNT. LESS GAME SEEN.

25 TO 30 HUNTERS ON 1 ROAD WITHOUT ANY ELK AND THE OPERATOR (TERRY THATCHER) MADE IT CLEAR UP FRONT HE DIDN'T WANT ANY ELK HARVESTED.

COULD NOT HUNT CERTAIN AREAS.

CWMU OPERATER DID NOT WANT TO WORK WITH DATES FOR HUNT, WAS MORE CONCERNED WITH HUNTERS THAT PAID THE FULL PRICE FOR HUNT. CHANGED DATES OF OUR HUNT TWICE. VERY HOSTILE TO US.

DID NOT SEE ANY TROPHY BUCKS.

DIDNT FIND OUT WHEN THE HUNT WAS UNTIL A WEEK BEFORE THE SEASON. I CALLED AND THEY WOULDN'T TELL. ALSO, THE MAPS WERE POORLY WRITTEN. NO SCOUTING AVAILABLE. I FELT IN THE DARK.

DIDNT SEE ANIMALS DESIRED TO HARVEST.

DIDNT SEE ANY GAME.

DISSATISFIED WITH NOT BEING ALLOWED TO TAKE MY ATV ON THE PROPERTY. RIDING AN ATV WOULD HAVE MADE THE HUNT MORE ENJOYABLE.

DISTANCE TO REDD RANCHES.

FEW ANIMALS LOTS OF HUNTERS SEEN ALL AROUND.

GOODS AND SERVICES TOO FAR AWAY FOR CONVIENENCE.

HARD TO GET AT HEAVY SNOW MAYBE A FLUKE.

HAVE HUNTED OTHER CWMUS IN THE PAST. NONE ALLOWED ADEQUATE TIME TO SCOUT AREA PRIOR TO HUNT. NO ANTLERLESS HUNTERS WERE ALLOWED ON PROPERTIES UNTIL AFTER BULL HUNTS.

HEAVY SNOWS LIMITED ACCESS. WOULD HAVE LIKED TO START EARLIER IN SEASON. GATES WERE OFTEN LOCKED.

HUNT COULD HAVE HAPPENED A WEEK OR TWO LATER FOR COOLER WEATHER TIMIMG. MAY HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY OTHER HUNTS.

HUNT WAS LATE ENOUGH ANIMALS WERE NO LONGER THERE.

I DREW OUT & HAD TO WALK ON EGGSHELLS AROUND HUNTERS WHO PURCHASED A GUIDED HUNT FROM THE CWMU. THEY TOOK PRIORITY ON DAYS AND AREAS. I FELT LIKE A SECOND CLASS CITIZEN TO THE GUIDE SERVICE (NO THE CWMU OWNERS).

I ENJOYED THE HUNT.

I FEEL THE TIME AND WEATHER WERE WRONG. THE ANIMALS WERE NOT AVAILABLE TO SEE OR HUNT AT THAT TIME.

I HAD A GREAT TIME.

I HAD TO GET AHOLD OF CWMU OPERATOR MYSELF AND HAD A HARD TIME DOING SO.

I SAW ONE BIGGER BULL EARLY IN THE HUNT FIRST HOUR OF FIRST DAY BUT COULD NOT FIND HIM AGAIN. HARVESTED BULL LAST HOUR OF LAST DAY. I WANTED MORE TIME. EARLY SEPTEMBER WAS VERY HOT. I SHOULD HAVE WENT IN OCTOBER.

I WAS EXPECTING TO SEE AT LEAST A GOOD 4X4. THE BEST ANIMAL I SAW WAS A 26" 3 X 3. ALSO GETTING A HOLD OF THE OPERATOR WAS DIFFICULT.

I WAS MOST DISAPPOINTED WITH THE SIZE OF THE BUCKS & THE AMOUNT OF SO CALLED SHOOTERS.

I WAS NEVER NOTIFIED BY CWMU OPERATOR THROUGH MAIL OR PHONE. HUNTING BUDDIES WERE ALL NOTIFIED BY SOME WAY.

I WAS VERY UNHAPPY WITH DATES AVAILABLE. CWMU OPERATOR WAS MORE CONCERNED WITH HUNTERS THAT PAID THE NON-PUBLIC PRICE. HAD TO WORK AROUND DATES I DIDN'T WANT. CWMU OPERATER NOT FLEXIBLE WITH DATES TO HUNT.

IN EIGHT HOURS OF HUNTING WE SAW ONLY ONE BUCK AND SHOT IT.

INFO GIVEN BY OPERATOR ON ANIMAL LOCATION WAS VERY INACURATE. OPERATOR DIDN'T SHOW DURING THE HUNT DATES.

IS A POOR WAY TO CONTROL THE SIZE OF THE DEER POPULATION.

IT WAS A JOKE! TOO MANY GUYS ON ONE ROAD WITH NO OTHER ACCESS. OPERATOR DIDN'T HELP AT ALL.

IT WAS CRAZY TO HAVE TO TRAVEL TO SALT LAKE TO SHOOT TO SEE IF YOU CAN HUNT ON THE GROUND. THEY SHOULD ALLOW YOU TO SHOOT AT OTHER UDWR RANGES TO GET YOUR SCORE. WHAT A WASTE OF TIME AND MONEY.

IT WAS MORE AKIN TO HERDING THAN HUNTING.

IT WAS TOO EASY TO KILL AN ANIMAL. IT WAS LIKE SHOPPING FOR A DEER IN A CATALOG FROM INSIDE A TRUCK.

JUST VERY FEW AMIMALS-ANTLERLESS ELK.

LANDOWNER NOT HELPFUL BY ANY MEANING.

LATE HUNT SNOW PUSHED ANIMALS OUT. SOME CWMU HUNTERS ALLOWED IN EARLIER, MOVED HERD OUT OF CWMU BOUNDARIES.

LIED TO AND LED ASTRAY.

MANY LOCKED GATES MADE ACCESS TO SOME AREAS NOT PRACTICAL.

NEED MORE TIME. NOT MANY ANIMALS.

NEVER SAW A TROPHY ANIMAL EVER & VERY FEW ANIMALS IN GENERAL.

NO ANIMALS IN 3 DAYS OF HUNTING ALSO TALKED TO OTHER HUNTERS ALL WITH THE SAME RESULTS. DIDN'T EXPECT SHEEP TO HAVE EATEN EVERYTHING AND STILL BE IN THE AREA.

NO ANIMALS SEEN AT ALL.

NO ANIMALS SEEN IN TWO DAYS. THEY HAD TOO MUCH PRESSURE BEFORE.

NO ANIMALS SEEN SAME I THINK & SHOULD BE LONGER BUT LOT OF MONEY FOR NO ANIMALS.

NO GAME.

NO HELP OR ANIMALS.

NO HUNTING PRESSURE. LARGE AMOUNT OF ANIMALS. PLEASANT CWMU PERSONNEL

NO SUPPORT PROVIDED BY CWMU OPERATOR DESPITE MY GOING OUT OF THE WAY FOR INFORMATION AND TRYING TO SET UP A GUIDE (FELL THROUGH ON 3 OCCASIONS BECAUSE THE GUIDE NEVER SHOWED UP). WE NEVER SAW ANY ANIMALS PROBABLY DUE TO INCREASED HUNTING PRESSURE AND UNFAMILIARITY WITH THE LAND.

NO TROPHIES WERE SEEN.

NOT ALLOWED TO HUNT THE AREAS WE WANTED I FEEL THIS RESULTED IN NOT SEEING THE NUMBER OR QUALITY OF GAME THAT I KNOW ARE AVAILABLE ON THIS PROPERTY.

NOT ENOUGH AREA OPEN TO HUNT. TOO MUCH PRIVATE GROUND.

NOT ENOUGH DEER.

NOT ENOUGH TIME TO SCOUT BEFORE HUNT.

NOT MANY BULL MOOSE DIDNT GET TO HUNT DURING ARCHERY ONLY SEEN ONE BULL ON THE PROPERTY.

NOT MANY DEER AS OTHER YEARS! THIS CWMU IS OVER HUNTED FOR DOES.

NOT ONE ELK ON THE UNIT-COW CALF OR BULL.

NOT TOO MANY TROPHY ANIMALS.

ONE WEEK IS NOT ENOUGH TIME FOR AN AREA SOMEWHAT NEW TO ME.

ONLY SAW 1 ELK.

OPERATOR ALLOWS PUBLIC DRAW HUNTERS 10 DAYS AND THOSE THAT BUY PERMITS THREE MONTHS.

OPERATOR GAVE BOGUS INFO. WOULD NOT MEET ME TO SHOW AREA. OUT-RIGHT TOLD ME HE DIDN'T WANT ANY COWS TAKEN OFF UNIT. WASTE OF TIME AND MONEY.

OTHER THAN MAPS OF UNIT PROVIDED, NO ONE WAS REALLY TALKATIVE ABOUT THE UNIT OR WHAT THEY HAD SEEN AS FAR AS DEER WAS CONCERNED. I WAS SOMEWHAT SURPRISED TO SEE AS MANY HUNTERS AS I DID. LOCAL GOODS AND SERVICES WAS NOT AVAILABLE IN WOODRUFF.

PUBLIC HUNTERS SEEM SOMETIMES TO GET THE LEFTOVERS AFTER THE RUT AND THE HIGH DOLLAR HUNTERS HAVE HAD THEIR PICK. ALTHOUGH I UNDERSTAND THE OPERATORS MOTIVES FOR SUCH, IT CAN BE SOMEWHAT FRUSTRATING.

SHORT SEASON FOR WINTERING ELK AREA. ACCESS NOT FOR WHOLE RANCH, FEW ELK IN AREA, ALL HUNTERS TOGETHER. PUBLIC HUNTERS LAST TO HUNT.

SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO HUNT SAME AMOUNT OF TIME AS REGULAR HUNT.

SHOULD HAVE BEEN GIVEN MORE THAN 3 DAYS TO HARVEST.

SMALL TOWN & DIDNT HAVE ALL ITEMS DESIRED.

THE BUCKS THAT WERE FINALLY SEEN WERE SMALL TO AVERAGE AND FEW IN NUMBER.

THE LANDOWNER WAS NOT HELPFUL ON WHEN OR WHERE TO HUNT I HAD TO CALL HIM. I FINALLY GOT TO GO, DID NOT SEE ANYTHING. HE SAID HE WOULD CALL ME WHEN THEY CAME DOWN. HE NEVER DID. I HAD TO CALL AGAIN HE SAID I ONLY HAD ONE DAY LEFT BECAUSE STATE WAS CLOSING IT. NEVER GOT TO GO AGAIN. I WAS DISSATISFIED.

THE SNOW KILLED MY HUNT. THERE WERE ALSO SOME SNOWMOBILERS THAT WERE ON OTHER PROPERTY THAT WEREN'T HELPING EITHER!

THERE WERE WAY TO MANY HUNTERS ON THE RANCH

THIS OPERATOR WAS RUDE GATES WERE LOCKED & NO WAY TO GET THROUGH THEM. DEER POPULATION WAS LOW. SAW SEVERAL PEOPLE IN THE CWMU THAT DID NOT HAVE PERMITS. IT WAS A JOKE!

TIME OF HUNT - ANIMALS NOT IN CWMU AREA.

TOO SMALL OF AN HUNTING SPOT.

TOO EARLY, WATHER TOO WARM. RATHER THAN ONE WEEK, SEVERAL SHOULD BE ALLOWED.

TOO MUCH SNOW LATE IN THE HUNT.

TOO WARM - WAIT A FEW WEEKS UNTIL WEATHER COOLS.

TWO FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS IS NOT ENOUGH TIME FOR THE MONEY PAID FOR THE TAG.

UTAH'S VERY DRY IN THE AREA AND BELIEVED SOME DRY CONDITIONS PLAYED ROLE IN THE LITTLE AMOUNT OF TROPHY QUALITY BUCKS.

WAS NOT ALLOWED ENOUGH TIME.

WASNT LET ONTO THE RANCH UNTIL SNOW WAS MUCH TOO DEEP.

WAY TOO MANY PEOPLE IN ONE SMALL SPACE & NOT ONE LEGAL ANIMAL ON THE ENTIRE PROPERTY. THE OPERATOR WAS UNFRIENDLY, NON-HELPFUL, AND HE DIDN'T CARE THAT THE HUNT WAS A TOTAL FARSE.

WE HAD A GROUP OF 5 PERMITS BUT WERE UNABLE TO ALL HUNT TOGETHER. I DIDN'T GET TO FILL TAGS.

WE WANTED TO HUNT LATE. WE WERE TOLD NO.

WE WERE ONLY ALLOWDED TO DRIVE ONTO PROPERTY SO MY DAUGHTER & I COULD SLAUGHTER DOES. WE WENT LATER BUT SNOWS WERE TOO DEEP.

WERE NOT GIVEN MANY OPTIONS ON WHAT DAYS I COULD HUNT.

WHEN I QUALIFIED BY SHOOTING MY RIFLE I WAS TOLD I HAD PICK OF DAY FOR SHOOTING A 1 INCH GROUP WITH RIFLE BUT THAT DID NOT WORK OUT THAT WAY. I WAS PLACED AT THE SOONEST DATE WHICH WAS OCTOBER 22, RIGHT WHEN DESERET HAD SO MANY DEER HUNTERS IN THERE NO ELK WERE TO BE FOUND (WASTE OF TIME AND MONEY). THEY SHOULD NOT TELL PEOPLE THEY HAVE FIRST PICK OF DAYS WHEN THEY CANNOT OFFER PRIME TIME TO HUNT COW ELK.

WOULD LIKE TO HAVE HUNTED EARLIER. HEAVY SNOWS LIMITED ACCESS-AND ABILITY TO RETRIEVE ANIMAL WAS QUITE DIFFICULT.