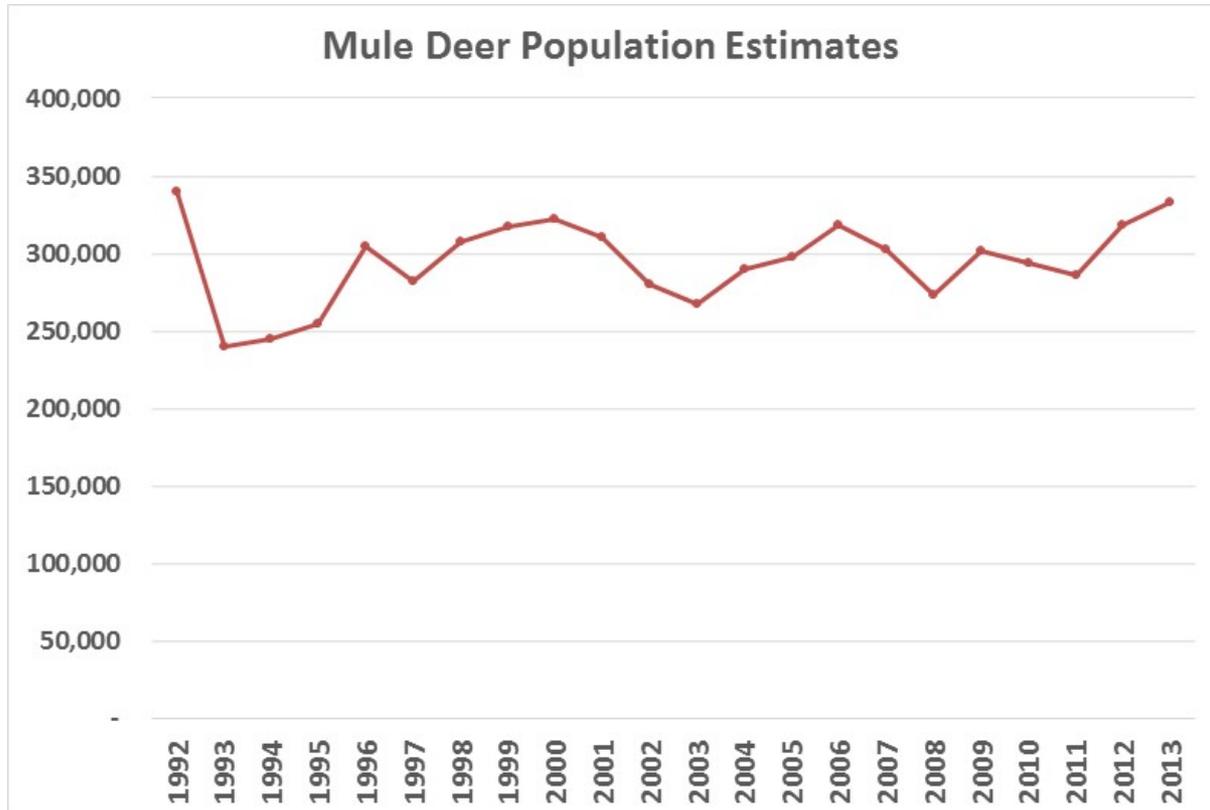


Fiscal Highlights

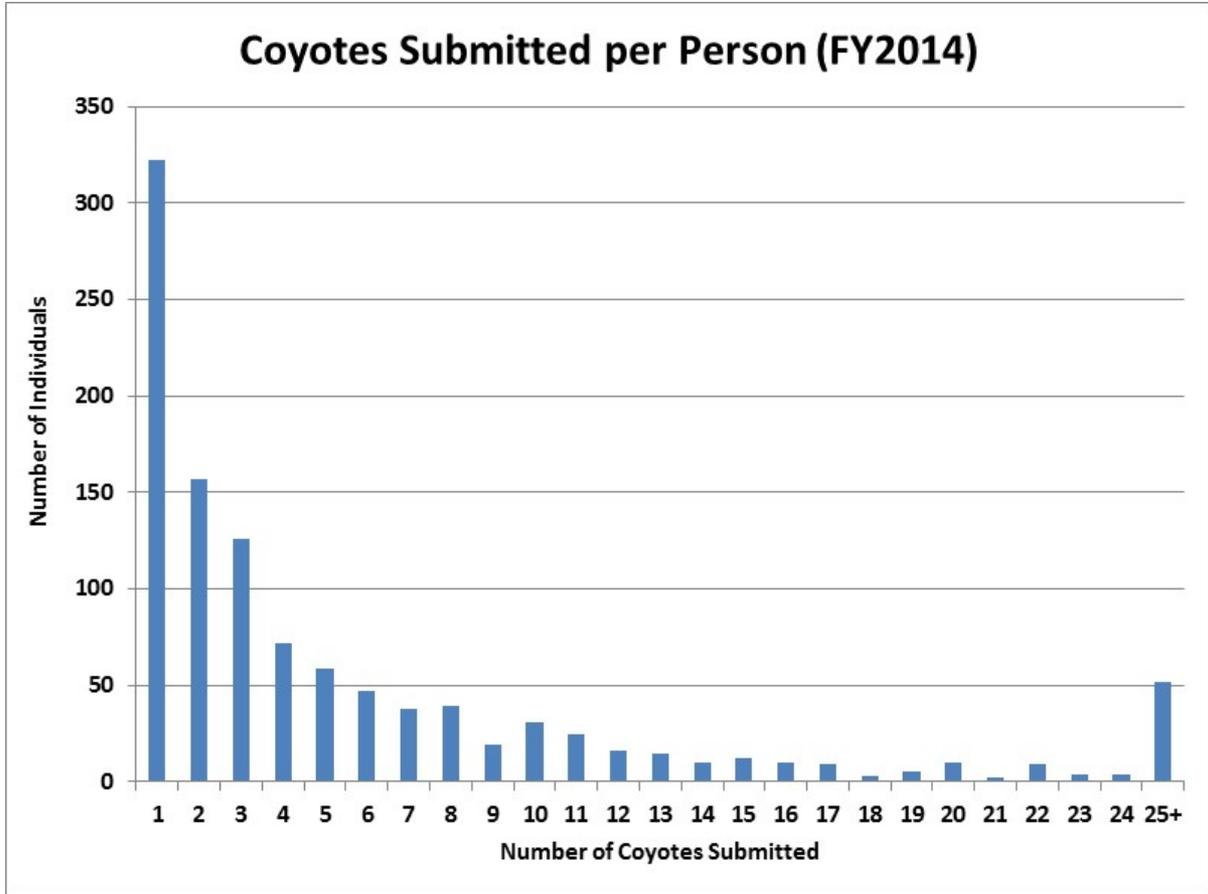
Coyote Removal Program - Ivan D. Djambov

The Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) has been working to improve the mule deer numbers in Utah for several years (see chart below). In addition to DWR's efforts to improve the trend by restoring deer habitat, reducing highway mortality, and limiting spread of disease, in the last two years, the division has increased their efforts in predator control.



[UCA 23-30-104](#) authorizes the division to provide incentives to participants who "remove a predatory animal that is detrimental to mule deer production." Two years ago, DWR implemented a coyote removal program with a \$50 bounty. To receive the reward, each participant must submit the scalp of the coyote with both ears attached, the lower jaw, and a datasheet that documents where it was killed. The division has been using the \$500,000 annual appropriation from the Mule Deer Protection Account for the program.

\$352,100 of the total FY 2014 appropriation was used to pay the \$50 for 7,041 submitted coyotes to 1,096 individuals. The figure below shows the number of coyotes submitted by person. Two-thirds of the participants submitted five animals or less.



\$140,000 of the remaining funding was used for 14 contracts with individuals for coyote removal in specific areas. The contractors removed total of 236 coyotes in FY 2014. The average cost per removed coyote is \$593.

One half of the submitted coyotes in FY 2014 were taken in six deer management units: Box Elder, West Desert, SW Desert, Fillmore, Beaver, and Pine Valley.

Coyotes Harvested by Area		
Hunt Unit/Tribal	Coyotes	Percent
Box Elder	698	10.5%
West Desert	566	8.5%
Southwest Desert	524	7.9%
Fillmore	519	7.8%
Beaver	517	7.8%
Pine Valley	476	7.1%
San Juan	421	6.3%
South Slope	332	5.0%
Cache	307	4.6%
Central Mountains	307	4.6%
Zion	246	3.7%
Oquirrh-Stansbury	235	3.5%
Plateau	200	3.0%
Paunsaugunt	169	2.5%
North Slope	145	2.2%
La Sal	123	1.8%
Wasatch Mountains	110	1.7%
San Rafael	105	1.6%
Nine Mile	89	1.3%
Monroe	79	1.2%
Mt. Dutton	77	1.2%
Morgan South Rich	75	1.1%
Book Cliffs	72	1.1%
Panguitch Lake	69	1.0%
Henry Mountains	52	0.8%
Kaiparowits	48	0.7%
Ogden	46	0.7%
East Canyon	28	0.4%
Navajo Reservation	23	0.3%
Chalk Creek	3	0.0%
Kamas	3	0.0%

Are coyotes killed where there is a need or where it is convenient? The answer from DWR is: yes to both. The figure below provides a map with the location the coyotes were taken (red dots), and an overlaid map of the mule deer range in Utah (shaded dark gray) for the period 2012-2014. Ideally, all of the coyote harvests should occur within the grey areas, which would benefit mule deer.

currently does not restrict or discriminate among those factors. The reward is provided per killed coyote. In the future, as they collect more data on the coyote and deer populations, DWR biologists may want to consider adjusting the rules to include these factors to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the program.