



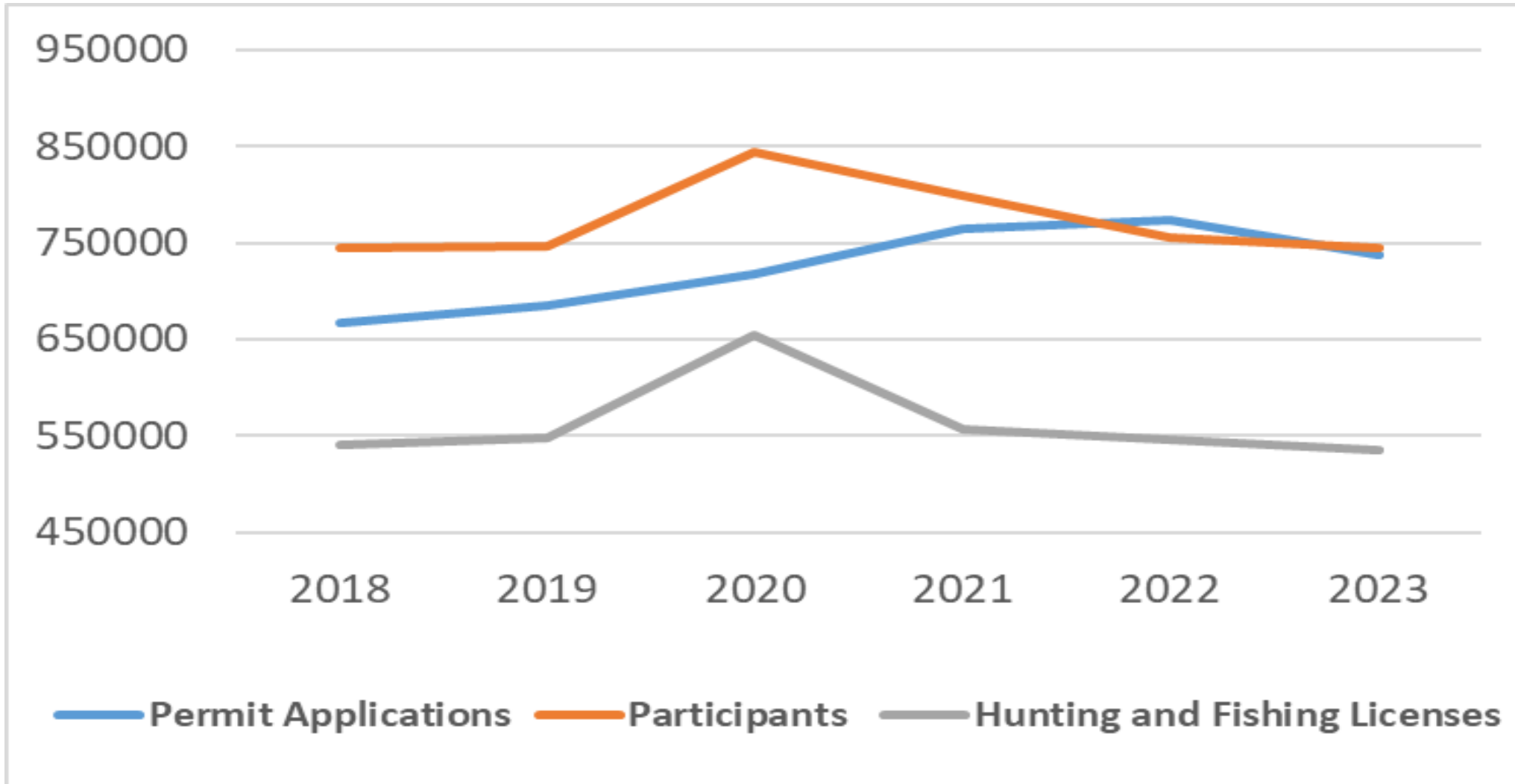
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

DIRECTOR J. SHIRLEY

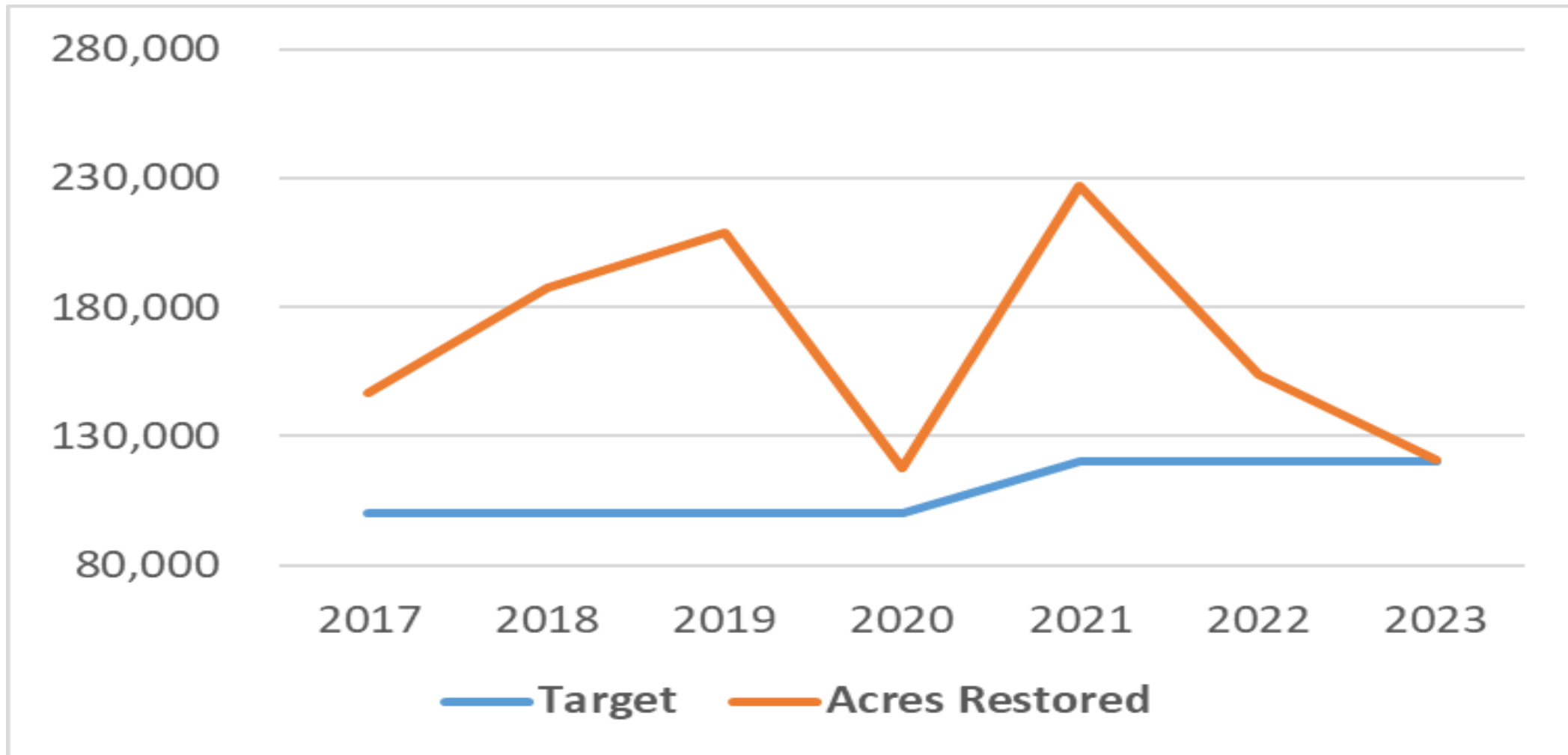


Utah Division of
Wildlife Resources

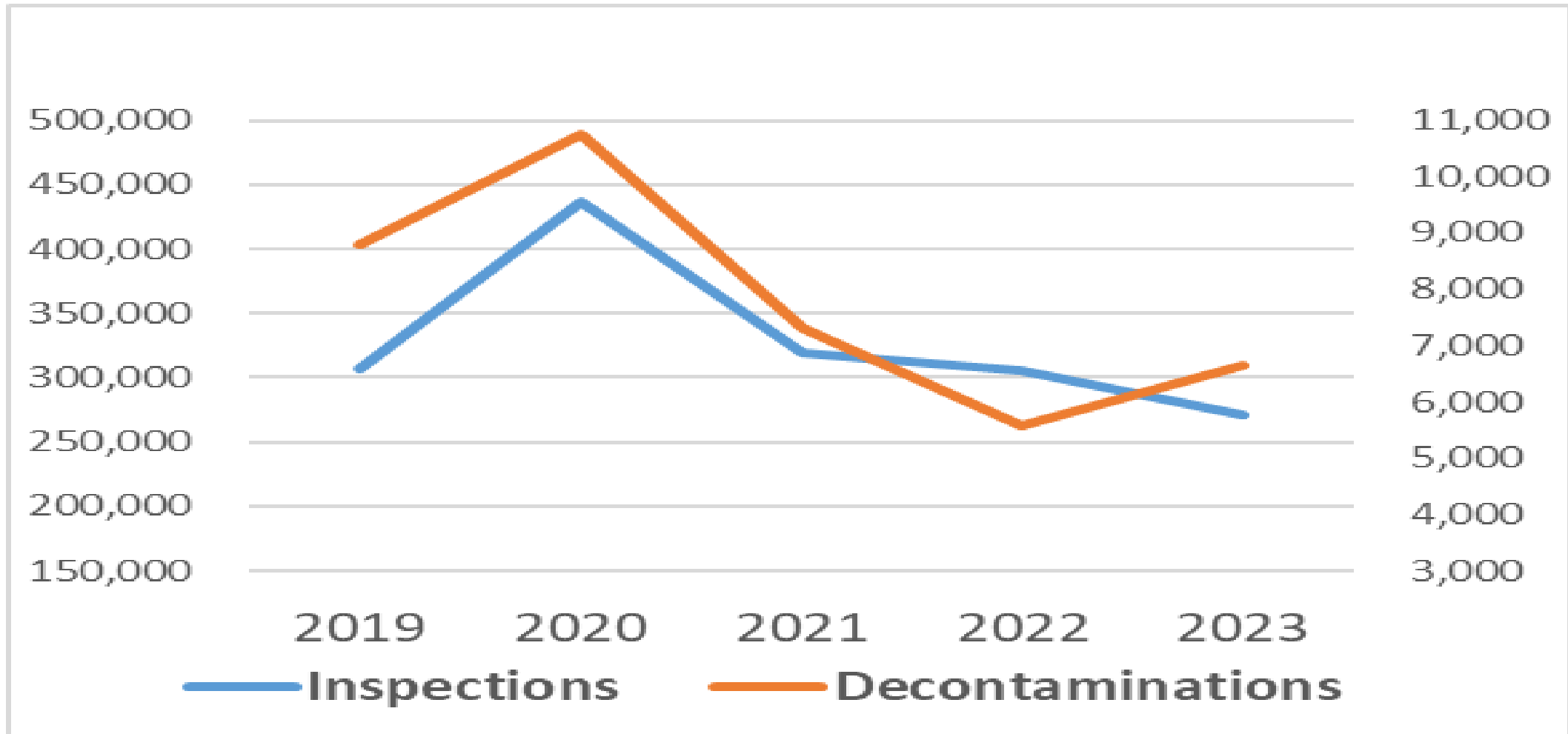
PARTICIPATION TRENDS 2023



MORE HABITAT RESTORED



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES



Lake Powell stats: 63,033 inspections and 1,576 decontaminations in 2023.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

- We manage properties that benefit wildlife species statewide.
- WMAs serve as public access points for fishing, hunting and wildlife-related recreation.
- Waterfowl management area highlights
- Deer project focus



MULE DEER HERDS



MONITORING AND RESEARCH

We work with our partners in the Utah Wildlife Migration Initiative to monitor Utah's deer herds throughout the year.



WINTER CONDITIONS

We had record snow levels last winter. We closed shed antler gathering and some WMAs to reduce disturbance to deer. We also fed approximately 5,800 deer in northern Utah.



HEALTHY HABITAT

We captured and assessed roughly 900 deer in December. Body condition scores were the highest since 2014, indicating the deer fed well last summer.

SPECIES RECOVERY SUCCESS



UTE LADIES'-TRESSES
PROPOSED FOR
DELISTING



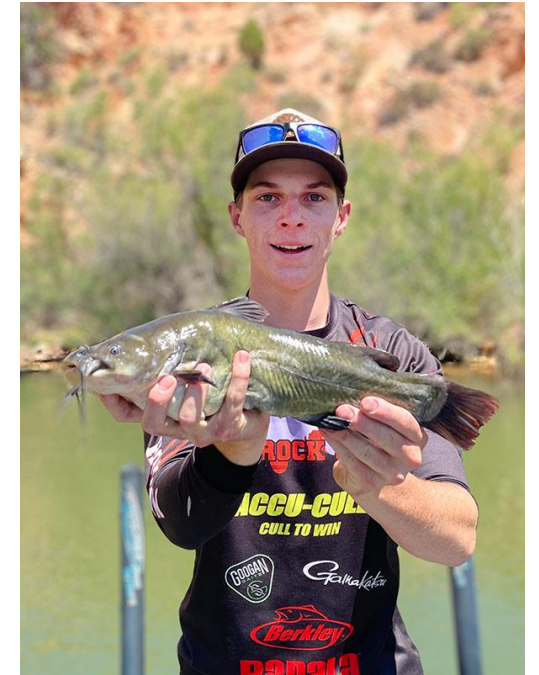
UTAH PRAIRIE DOG
PAVING THE WAY FOR
DELISTING



LEAST CHUB
NOT WARRANTED FOR
LISTING

FISHING IS GREAT!

- Thank you for helping to fund the new Loa Hatchery — work is beginning soon.
- More water in our reservoirs was a welcome sight last summer. Here are some of the anglers who set new fishing records in 2023!



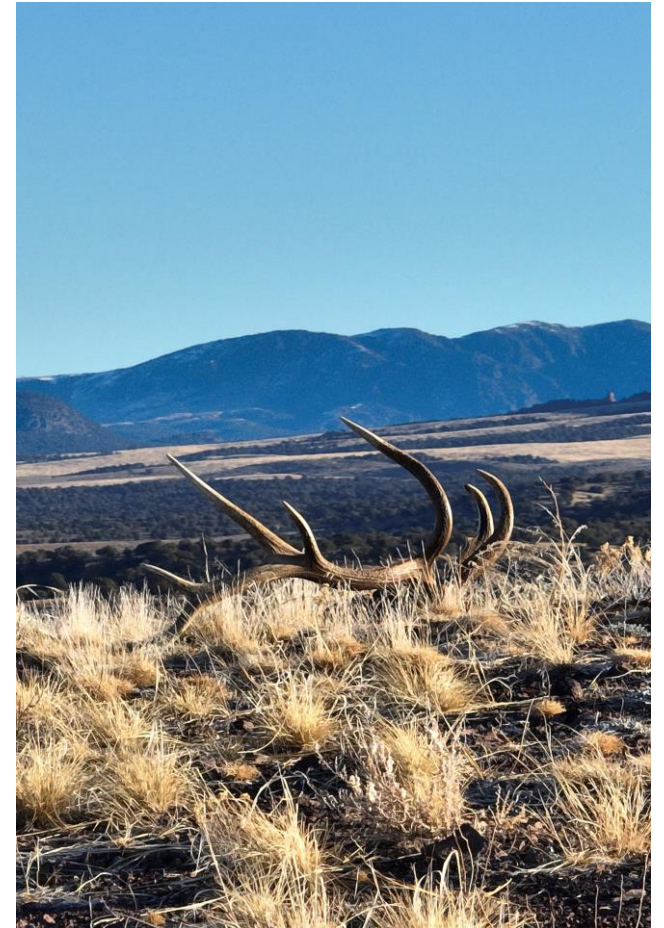
INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES

- New statewide elk management plan has increased youth participation.
- 23% of elk permits went to youth hunters.
- 12,114 youth bought their first elk permit.



MANAGEMENT SUCCESSES

- New desert bighorn sheep nursery facility
- Shed antler committee and recommendations
- Mule deer committee will address issues this spring/summer



ECONOMIC IMPACTS



FISHING



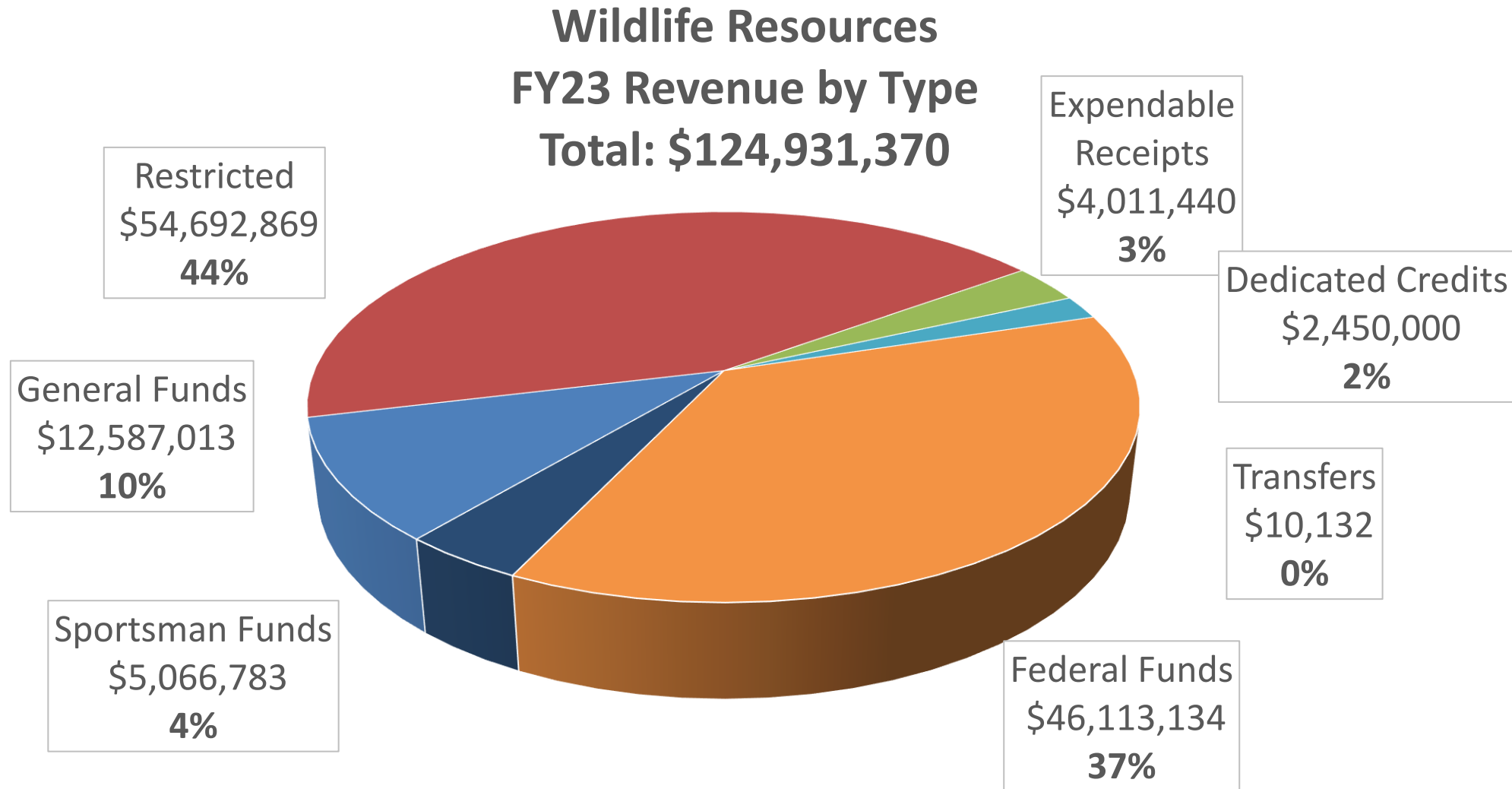
HUNTING



WILDLIFE VIEWING

These activities have more than a **\$3 billion ripple effect** on Utah's economy each year.

FUNDING OVERVIEW



FUNDING REQUESTS

- \$1,700,000 (ongoing) from the Wildlife Restricted Account
 - To cover the increasing costs of staff time, goods, services, fuel, equipment, maintenance, paving, fencing, supplies and technology.
- Porcupine land acquisition funding: Requesting non-lapsing language for the \$550k appropriation in FY24 be carried forward to FY25.



WHAT WE BELIEVE

Wildlife is valuable to everyone.



THANK YOU

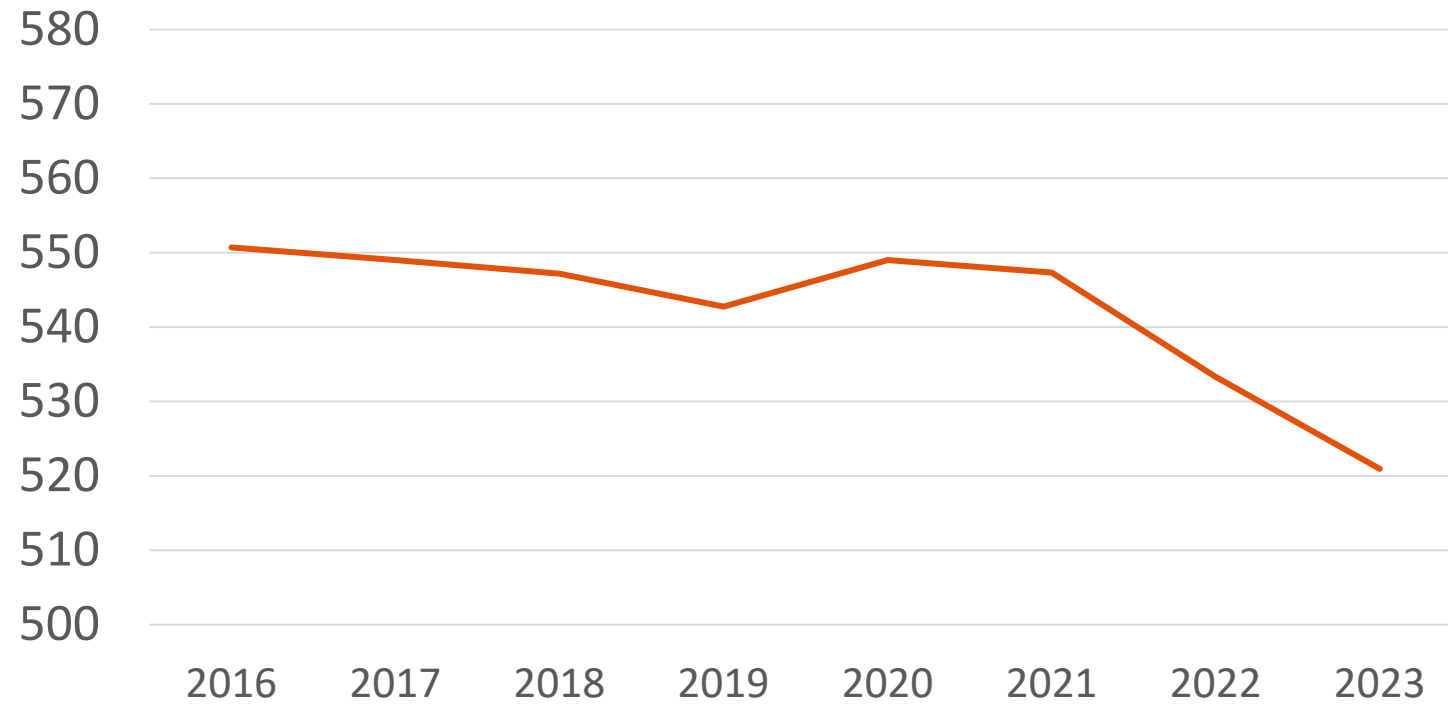


Utah Division of
Wildlife Resources



EMPLOYEES

FTE Trend



LICENSE REIMBURSEMENT

- Free and discounted fishing licenses for seniors, citizens with permanent qualifying disabilities, and children in state custody continue to increase.
- Originally, these were to be reimbursed from the general fund.
- Typically, this goes unfunded.
- The reimbursable license revenue for FY 24 is \$1,328,886.

