

NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UTE INDIAN TRIBE PLACES ON HOLD NONMEMBER HUNTING, FISHING, AND RECREATION PERMITS

Ft. Duchesne, UT, January 24, 2024

The Ute Tribal Business Committee has adopted a Resolution terminating all current Tribal permits for non-Tribal members to hunt, fish, or engage in outdoor recreational activity on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation. This action, which applies to hunting, fishing, camping, swimming, and any other recreational activity on the Reservation, goes into effect immediately. The Resolution also sets an indefinite moratorium on the issuance of any new Tribal hunting, fishing, or recreational activity permits to nonmembers of the Tribe.

This Business Committee action is a response to recent events involving nonmember activities on Tribal land that gave rise to serious concerns over the safety of Tribal employees, officers, and members. The Tribe has taken a hard stand to protect its people from nonmembers who exploit Tribal permits and disregard Tribal rules and regulations in place to protect Tribal communities and natural resources.

“As elected members of the Business Committee, we are duty-bound to take measures necessary to protect the health and safety of our members and our Tribal officers,” said Business Committee Chairman Julius T. Murray, III. “Nonmember hunting and fishing on our lands is a privilege, not a right. As long as there are individuals who disrespect Tribal jurisdiction and sovereignty and treat our homeland as a place of lawlessness, then we have no choice but to draw a hard line on all nonmember permits.”

About the Ute Indian Tribe - The Ute Indian Tribe resides on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation in northeastern Utah. Three bands of Utes comprise the Ute Indian Tribe: the Whiteriver Band, the Uncompahgre Band and the Uintah Band. The Tribe has a membership of more than three thousand individuals, with over half living on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation. The Ute Indian Tribe operates its own tribal government and oversees approximately 1.3 million acres of trust land which contains significant oil and gas deposits. The Tribal Business Committee is the governing council of the Tribe.