



SOUTHERN UTE INDIAN TRIBE

June 24, 2009

Re: Tribal Approval of Brunot Area Hunting and Fishing in 2009, Informational Meetings, and Rare Game Permitting Procedure

Dear Tribal Member:

The purpose of this letter is three-fold. First, I would like to inform you of an important Council decision on June 23rd to authorize hunting and fishing activities by Tribal Members in the off-reservation *Brunot Area* beginning in August this year. You may recall receiving a letter from former Chairman Frost late in 2008 indicating the successful completion of an agreement between the Tribe and State of Colorado regarding wildlife management and law enforcement within the Brunot Area. Since the completion of that agreement, the Tribal government has developed seasons, regulations, and permitting procedures that will be implemented in time for the 2009 big game hunting seasons. All of this information is detailed in a Council-approved 2009/2010 Brunot Area Hunting and Fishing Proclamation that will soon be available to Tribal Members through the Tribe's Division of Wildlife office.

Second, on behalf of the Tribal Council, I am inviting all interested Tribal Members to attend *any of three* informational meetings scheduled during the months of July, August, and September in order to learn more about the new Brunot Area hunting and fishing opportunities, and to answer any questions you may have on this subject. Attendance is not required, but it is *strongly encouraged* if you plan to hunt or fish within the Brunot Area this year, or at any point in the future. You do not need to be a hunter or angler to attend. All three meetings will be held from 6:30PM to 9:00PM at the Sky Ute Events Center in Ignacio. The meetings are scheduled for:

✓ **Wednesday, July 15th** ✓ **Tuesday, August 4th** ✓ **Thursday, September 10th**

Finally, I want to inform you of an application and lottery process that has been developed for those Tribal hunters interested in pursuing any of the three rare game species in the Brunot Area: moose, mountain goat, and Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep. As you may be aware, these particular animals are extremely rare within the Brunot Area, and the allowable harvest for each is highly limited for conservation reasons. For 2009, the Tribe is only allowing the harvest of one animal (either sex) from each species. *The three Tribal Member hunters who receive the permits will be selected using an unbiased, random-draw procedure based upon those individuals who submit an application by a July 31st deadline.* As with Brunot Area hunting and fishing in general, only Tribal Members may participate in this drawing, and applications are available free-of-charge through the Tribe's Division of Wildlife Office. The 2009 hunting seasons for these species will generally occur during the months of September and October.

For more information on the approved Brunot Area seasons and regulations, the scheduled orientation meetings, the rare game lottery process, or to request a rare game permit application, please contact the Division of Wildlife Office at (970) 563-0130.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Box, Chairman
Southern Ute Indian Tribal Council