

STAFF SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY 6, 2019

16. ARCHERY EQUIPMENT AND CROSSBOW

Today's Item	Information <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action <input type="checkbox"/>
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Discussion of proposed changes to archery equipment and crossbow regulations.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • WRC vetting | Sep 20, 2018; WRC, Sacramento |
| • Notice hearing | Dec 12-13, 2018; Oceanside |
| • Today's discussion hearing | Feb 6, 2019; Sacramento |
| • Adoption hearing | Apr 17-18, 2019; Santa Monica |

Background

At FGC's Dec 2018 meeting, DFW proposed two changes to archery equipment and crossbow regulations as reflected in the initial statement of reasons (ISOR; Exhibit 1). The first change, revising the standards for bows and crossbows, is a DFW request. The second change, carrying firearms while archery hunting, is in response to FGC granting petition #2017-001 in Apr 2018.

The California Bowmen Hunters provided a report (Exhibit 2) to DFW of all current archery hunting regulations from nine western states for comparison and as a basis for California to adopt similar regulations.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation (N/A)****Exhibits**

1. [Archery equipment and crossbow ISOR](#)
2. [California Bowmen Hunters report on other states' regulations](#)

Motion/Direction (N/A)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR REGULATORY ACTION

Amend Section 354
Title 14, California Code of Regulations
Re: Archery Equipment and Crossbow Regulations

I. Date of Initial Statement of Reasons: November 15, 2018

II. Dates and Locations of Scheduled Hearings

(a) Notice Hearing: Date: December 12-13, 2018
 Location: Oceanside, CA

(b) Discussion Hearing: Date: February 6, 2019
 Location: Sacramento, CA

(c) Adoption Hearing: Date: April 17-18, 2019
 Location: Santa Monica, CA

III. Description of Regulatory Action

(a) Statement of Specific Purpose of Regulation Change and Factual Basis for Determining that Regulation Change is Reasonably Necessary:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) proposes two amendments to Section 354, which are related to law enforcement:

First, the provision in subsection 354(f) requires that a bow “cast a legal hunting arrow ... 130 yards”, however this is unenforceable since it is impossible to demonstrate inside a courtroom. There is a need for clarification of the regulation to require that archery equipment be strong enough to project an arrow at a rate that it will be lethal to the game mammal and also be enforceable. For clarity, the Department proposes requiring a bow draw weight of at least 40 pounds and crossbow draw weight of at least 125 pounds to make it practical to demonstrate in the field and in a courtroom. Draw weight as used in archery sports is the measure of force required to draw the bow to a ready-to-fire position.

Second, the provision in subsection 354(h) states that “archers may not possess a firearm while hunting in the field during any archery season, or while hunting during a general season under the provisions of an archery only tag.” The subsection also provides an exception, by reference to Fish and Game Code (FGC) 4370, which permits peace officers to carry a concealed firearm. The Department proposes an amendment allowing possession of a concealable firearm while hunting big game other than deer under the authority of an archery only tag, provided the hunter does not use that firearm in any way to take the game animal. Regarding deer hunting, Fish and Game Code section 4370(a)

provides that, except for peace officers identified in Fish and Game Code section 4370(b), “a person taking or attempting to take deer during such archery season shall neither carry, nor have under his or her immediate control, any firearm of any kind.” Thus, to comply with Fish and Game Code section 4370, the proposed regulation change to allow possession of a concealed firearm while archery hunting extends to hunting big game other than deer.

Bow Draw Weight

Ethical bow hunting requires that a bow to be strong enough to project an arrow at a rate that it will inflict the maximum damage to the game mammal in the interest of killing it quickly to minimize suffering of that animal. As currently provided in subsection 354(f), a bow that can cast an arrow at least 130 yards is an example of a bow that is ethical to use because it generates enough force to quickly kill the game animal. However, demonstrating that a bow hunter may be using a bow suspected of being less than capable of casting an arrow 130 yards is impractical for both the archer and law enforcement. Testing in the field is difficult, and demonstrating the bow’s strength in a courtroom is impractical.

The regulation change would serve to clarify the regulation for hunters and to simplify law enforcement efforts by Wildlife Officers. Research has been done by other state wildlife management agencies to determine a draw weight that generates enough force to quickly kill the game animal. The proposed amendment identifies a minimum draw weight, similar to what regulations in other western states require (see table, below).

Table: Minimum Draw Weight (lbs.)

<u>State</u>	<u>Bow</u>	<u>Crossbow</u>
Washington	40	125
Idaho	40	150
Nevada	40	125
Arizona	30	125

The recommended minimum draw weight of 40 pounds for bows and 125 pounds for crossbows is sufficient to meet the ethical standard.

The widely accepted method of measuring a bow’s draw weight has been to use a device called a bowscale. A bowscale is very similar to a simple scale commonly used to measure the weight of suitcases. They are inexpensive and widely available for the hunter to use to assure the bow is in compliance with regulation. A wildlife officer can easily use a bowscale in the field for a compliance check or to demonstrate draw weight in a courtroom. In practical application, archers can have their equipment checked in a retail hunting store (usually without cost); bow hunters can acquire equipment that is

preset at a certain bow weight (included in the purchase); or the hunter can acquire a bow scale at a cost of \$10-20.

Concealable Firearms

Subsection 354(h), prohibits archers (bowhunters) from possession of a firearm while hunting under the authority of an archery only tag. An exception is made in Section 4370, Fish and Game Code, which authorizes possession of a concealable firearm by active or honorably retired peace officers. The proposed amendment would expand authorization to possess a concealable firearm to anyone, not just peace officers, and to comply with FGC Section 4370, would apply while hunting big game other than deer. The change would continue to prohibit possession of non-concealable firearms and use of the firearm for purposes of take.

Archery hunters are granted authority to hunt with an archery only tag prior to the general season in most places where hunting is authorized. The early season generally provides them an advantage over firearm hunters with respect to the fact there are fewer hunters, less firearms reports (noise) from areas where hunting is common, and less pressure on the game animal - deer in particular. Because of this advantage, the legislature passed FGC 4370 to authorize archery hunting while preventing illegal take of a deer via a firearm by providing an explicit prohibition for possession of a firearm while engaged in hunting with an archery only tag. Section 354(h) contains similar language prohibiting possession of a firearm with an archery only tag.

Since the original authorization of archery only hunting and the subsequent prohibition on possession of a firearm, the primary argument against the prohibition of possession of a firearm while archery hunting was for personal safety from potentially dangerous animals. The two primary animals described as possibly posing a threat are bears and mountain lions. Going back decades, there are very few examples of incidents where bowhunters have needed to protect themselves from dangerous animals in California's wild. But recently two examples exemplified a change in that pattern.

In the summer of 2018, there were two incidents involving archery hunters who were threatened by dangerous animals. One man shot a bear with an arrow and went to retrieve it. When he found the injured bear it attacked and severely mauled him. Wildlife officers discovered evidence to suggest he managed to get a shot off with another arrow at the attacking bear and it glanced off the bear's face. The bear ultimately died from its injuries and the man spent several days in the hospital recovering from the mauling. Another archery hunter was approached by a mountain lion coming directly at him. The man reported shouting at the mountain lion as scare tactic to no avail. The bowhunter exercised extraordinary poise considering the threat coming at him and managed draw an arrow and shoot it through the lion's eye socket – killing the mountain lion. He appropriately reported the incident to the Department. That extraordinarily accurate shot is not normal. The average bowhunter may have been off by a fraction of an inch and caused a glancing blow, and an unpredictable reaction from the lion.

An additional threat to bowhunters, and all hunters, has emerged over the last twenty years. The Department has seen a significant increase in the presence of members of international drug trafficking organizations who illegally cultivate marijuana on rural public and private lands. Thousands of such sites exist on the landscape. These illicit growers are usually well armed and are treated as potentially violent by law enforcement. Wildlife officers and members of allied agencies who work in the area of illegal marijuana cultivation enforcement have been forced into officer involved shootings at least once every year for many years while conducting illicit marijuana cultivation enforcement activities. Most illicit marijuana cultivation occurs off the trails and is on locations very difficult to reach by normal hikers and outdoor enthusiasts. However, hunters go places where many others do not venture and have an increased probability of contacting these potentially dangerous people.

The Department recommends an amendment to authorize archery hunters who wish to carry a concealable firearm, except while deer hunting.

(b) Goals and Benefits of the Regulation:

Section 354(f), Title 14, CCR is unenforceable and there is no way to apply the section in a courtroom to demonstrate a violation. As a result, the Department has no record of the citation ever being written in a database search of tens of thousands of citations written since September 2013. Amendments to require a minimum draw weight will make the regulation enforceable. It will benefit the hunting public and wildlife officers alike who would have an inexpensive, readily available means to measure draw weights of bows and crossbows to stay in compliance with the regulation. It would continue to ensure bowhunters and crossbow hunters are using equipment to maximize the chance of a humane kill.

Section 354(h), Title 14, CCR prohibits possession of a firearm while hunting with an archery only tag. With recent examples of a wildlife attack on an archery hunter and one narrowly avoided presumed attack, in addition to the ongoing threat posed by members of drug trafficking organizations, it is reasonable to amend the prohibition so that archery hunters may possess a concealable firearm while hunting big game other than deer (consistent with Fish and Game Code section 4370) so long as they do not use that firearm to take their game.

(c) Authority and Reference

Authority: Sections 200, 203, 240, and 265, Fish and Game Code.

Reference: Sections 200, 203, 203.1, 265, 2005, and 4370, Fish and Game Code, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2, and Section 25455, Penal Code.

(d) Specific Technology or Equipment Required by Regulatory Change:

The proposed amendment to subsection 354(f) does not impose any requirement to purchase any specific equipment. For law enforcement purposes, the regulation

change would require the use of an inexpensive weight measuring device called a bowscale. The cost of this handheld device ranges between \$10 and \$20 based upon a survey of costs of spring or electronic scale devices commonly used for measuring suitcase weight and others marketed especially for bowhunters. Archery hunters usually set their bows at well above the minimum of what would be required by the proposed regulation. Usually, when a bowhunter purchases a bow for the first time, he or she has it strung with a bowstring, purchases arrows that are cut and matched with the bow and has the draw weight set. Archery hunters can have the draw weight checked for free at most stores that carry archery equipment or they can share a device.

(e) Identification of Reports or Documents Supporting Regulation Change:

The California Bowmen Hunters provided a report of all current archery hunting regulations from nine western states for comparison and as a basis for California to adopt similar regulations.

A formal regulation change petition was submitted to the Fish and Game Commission which was accepted and assigned the Tracking number 2017-001. The petition was submitted by Sean Brady as a representative of the National Rifle Association and the California Rifle and Pistol Association.

(f) Public Discussions of Proposed Regulations Prior to Notice Publication:

Public discussion at the September 20, 2018, Wildlife Resources Committee of the Fish and Game Commission for the archery draw weight proposal generated no opposition to change the way bow draw weight is measured. Possession of a concealable firearm while archery hunting was not vetted at a public meeting.

IV. Description of Reasonable Alternatives to Regulatory Action

(a) Alternatives to Regulation Change: None considered.

(b) No Change Alternative:

If the amendments are not adopted the regulations will remain the same.

V. Mitigation Measures Required by Regulatory Action

The proposed regulatory action will have no negative impact on the environment; therefore, no mitigation measures are needed.

VI. Impact of Regulatory Action

The potential for significant statewide adverse economic impacts that might result from the proposed regulatory action has been assessed, and the following initial determinations relative to the required statutory categories have been made:

- (a) Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Businesses, Including the Ability of California Businesses to Compete with Businesses in Other States:

The proposed action will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states. The proposed amendment would not directly or indirectly impose any regulation on businesses.

- (b) Impact on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State, the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses, or the Expansion of Businesses in California; Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents, Worker Safety, and the State's Environment:

The Commission anticipates no impacts on the creation or elimination of jobs within the state and no impact on the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses because the proposed amendment would not directly or indirectly impose any regulation on businesses. The Commission anticipates benefits to the health and welfare of California residents because the proposed amendment would enable the carrying of a firearm, while hunting big game other than deer (consistent with Fish and Game Code section 4370), in the event a person is threatened by a dangerous animal or person while archery hunting. The Commission does not anticipate impacts on worker safety. The Commission anticipates benefits to the State's environment by reducing non-lethal injuries to wildlife.

- (c) Cost Impacts on a Representative Private Person or Business:

The vast majority of hunters use bows that are set to a much higher draw weight than the proposed minimum set by the proposed regulation, so it would not affect them. A small percentage of hunters would choose to purchase a scale to measure their bow's draw weight to be sure they are in compliance with the law at a cost of about \$10 - \$20 each.

- (d) Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State:

The proposed regulation would save many hours of investigative costs associated with a wildlife officer's attempt to prove a seized bow had insufficient strength to cast an arrow at least 130 yards. Time would be spent seizing the bow as evidence and documenting its seizure, finding a safe place to test the bow's ability to cast an arrow 130 yards, finding the arrow and measuring its flight distance once it is tested, then possibly returning the bow to the hunter at the direction of the court. Minimal hard costs to the Department would be associated with the proposed regulation change. California's wildlife officers who regularly work archery seasons may have

to purchase bow measuring devices. It is estimated that approximately a quarter of the state's wildlife officers, or about 100 would have to purchase them at a total one-time cost to the state of \$1,000 - \$2,000.

- (e) Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None.
- (f) Programs Mandated on Local Agencies or School Districts: None.
- (g) Costs Imposed on Any Local Agency or School District that is Required to be Reimbursed Under Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4, Government Code: None.
- (h) Effect on Housing Costs: None.

VII. Economic Impact Assessment

- (a) Effects of the Regulation on the Creation or Elimination of Jobs Within the State:

The Commission anticipates no negative impacts on the creation or elimination of jobs within the state because the proposed action would not directly affect businesses or the demand for labor.

- (b) Effects of the Regulation on the Creation of New Businesses or the Elimination of Existing Businesses Within the State:

The Commission does not anticipate any effects of the proposed regulation on the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the state because it would not affect the demand for business products or services.

- (c) Effects of the Regulation on the Expansion of Businesses Currently Doing Business Within the State:

The Commission does not anticipate any effects of the proposed regulation on the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the state because the proposed action would not affect the demand for business products or services.

- (d) Benefits of the Regulation to the Health and Welfare of California Residents:

The Commission anticipates benefits of the regulation to the health and welfare of California residents because the proposed amendment would enable the carrying of a firearm for personal protection while archery hunting while hunting big game other than deer (consistent with Fish and Game Code section 4370).

- (e) Benefits of the Regulation to Worker Safety:

The Commission does not anticipate benefits to worker safety because the proposed amendment would not impact working conditions.

(f) Benefits of the Regulation to the State's Environment:

The Commission anticipates benefits to the State's environment by reducing non-lethal injuries to wildlife.

(g) Other Benefits of the Regulation: None.

Informative Digest/Policy Statement Overview

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) proposes two amendments to Section 354, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, which are related to law enforcement.

First, the provision in subsection 354(f) requires that a bow “cast a legal hunting arrow ... 130 yards”, however this is unenforceable since it is impossible to demonstrate inside a courtroom. There is a need for clarification of the regulation to require that archery equipment be strong enough to project an arrow at a rate that it will be lethal to the game mammal and also be enforceable. For clarity, the Department proposes requiring a draw weight of at least 40 pounds for a bow and 125 pounds for a crossbow to make it practical to demonstrate in the field and in a courtroom. Draw weight as used in archery sports is the measure of force required to draw the bow to a ready to fire position.

Second, the provision in subsection 354(h) states that “archers may not possess a firearm while hunting in the field during any archery season, or while hunting during a general season under the provisions of an archery only tag.” The subsection also provides an exception, by reference to Fish and Game Code 4370, which permits peace officers to carry a concealed firearm. The Department proposes an amendment allowing possession of a concealable firearm while hunting big game other than deer (consistent with Fish and Game Code section 4370) under the authority of an archery only tag, provided the hunter does not use that firearm in any way to take the game animal.

Non-monetary Benefits to the Public

The Commission anticipates benefits to the health and welfare of California residents through the sustainable management of mammal populations. The Commission does not anticipate non-monetary benefits to worker safety, the prevention of discrimination, the promotion of fairness or social equity and the increase in openness and transparency in business and government.

Consistency and Compatibility with Existing Regulations

The Commission has reviewed its regulations in Title 14, CCR, and conducted a search of other regulations on this topic and has concluded that the proposed amendments to Section 354 are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing State regulations. No other State agency has the authority to promulgate hunting regulations.

Proposed Regulatory Language

Section 354, Title 14, California Code of Regulations, is amended to read as follows:

§ 354. Archery Equipment and Crossbow Regulations.

. . . *[No changes to subsections (a) through (e)]*

(f) ~~No bow or crossbow may be used which will not cast a legal hunting arrow, except flu-flu arrows, a horizontal distance of 130 yards. It shall be unlawful to use any bow or crossbow without a draw weight of at least 40 pounds for a bow or 125 pounds for a cross bow.~~

(g) Except as described in subsection 354(j), crossbows may not be used to take game birds and game mammals during archery seasons.

(h) ~~Except as provided in subsection 353(g) of these regulations and in Section 4370 of the Fish and Game Code, archers may not possess a firearm while hunting in the field during any archery season, or while hunting during a general season under the provisions of an archery only tag. Archers may not use or possess a firearm while in the field engaged in archery hunting during an archery season or while hunting during a general season under the provisions of an archery only tag except as provided in subsections (h)(1) or (h)(2).~~

(1) An archer may carry a firearm capable of being concealed on his or her person while engaged in the taking of big game other than deer with a bow and arrow in accordance with subdivision (h), but shall not take or attempt to take big game with the firearm.

(2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the lawful possession of a firearm capable of being concealed on his or her person by an active peace officer listed in Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2 of the Penal Code or a retired peace officer in lawful possession of an identification certificate issued pursuant to Penal Code Section 25455 authorizing the retired officer to carry a concealed firearm.

. . . *[No changes to subsections (i) through (k)]*

Note: Authority cited: Sections 200, ~~202, 203, and 240~~, and 265, Fish and Game Code.
Reference: Sections 200, ~~202, 203, 203.1, 265, and 2005~~, and 4370, Fish and Game Code, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2, and Section 25455, Penal Code.

States Archery Minimum Draw Weight summary

Oregon, 40 lbs. except 50 lbs. for elk, bighorn sheep and mountain goat for bow; no crossbows allowed

Nevada, 40 lbs. for bow; 125 lbs. for crossbow

Idaho, 40 lbs. for bow; 150 lbs. for crossbow

Arizona, 30 lbs. except 40 lbs. for buffalo, for bow; 125 lbs. for crossbow

Colorado, 35 lbs. for bow; 125 for crossbow

Montana, no designated restriction on draw weights for bow or crossbow

Utah, 40 lbs. for bow; 125 for crossbow

Wyoming, 40 lbs. for the taking of antelope, bighorn sheep, black bear, deer, mountain goat, mountain lion, or gray wolf where designated as a trophy game animal, 50 lbs. for the taking of elk, grizzly bear or moose for bow; 90 lbs. for the taking of any big or trophy game animal for crossbow

Washington, 40 lbs. for bow; 125 for crossbow

States Detailed language for archery equipment requirements

Cut and pasted from their regulation pamphlets

Oregon archery regulations;

40lbs except 50lbs for Elk, Bighorn Sheep and Mountain Goat, see document

- Broadhead blades must be fixed, unbarbed and at least 7/8" wide (except for western gray squirrel). It is illegal to hunt with or possess broadheads or arrows with mechanical or moveable blade when hunting game mammals, except western gray squirrel.
- No device secured to or supported by a bow may be used to maintain the bow at full draw.
- No electronic devices may be attached to bow or arrow, except lighted arrow nocks that have no function other than to increase visibility of the arrow.
- No device that supports or guides the arrow from a point rearward of the bow string when the bow is at rest (undrawn) may be secured to or supported by a bow's riser. Overdraws meeting this restriction are legal during archery seasons.

See additional documents for crossbow regulation discussions

Nevada archery regulations;

NAC 503.143 Hunting with crossbow. (NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.150)

1. A crossbow may be used to hunt a big game mammal in a type of hunt that allows the use of any legal weapon if the crossbow has:

- (a) A minimum draw weight of 125 pounds;
- (b) A minimum power stroke of 14 inches from the front of the bow to the nocking point;
- (c) A stock that is at least 18 inches long; and
- (d) A positive mechanical safety mechanism.

2. Crossbow arrows or bolts used in hunting big game mammals must be at least 16 inches long, weigh at least 300 grains and have:

- (a) Fixed broadheads that are at least 7/8 inch wide at the widest point; or

(b) Expandable, mechanical broadheads that are at least 7/8 inch wide at the widest point when the broadhead is in the open position.

3. It is unlawful for any person to:

(a) Hunt a big game mammal with a crossbow during a type of hunt restricted to the use of archery unless the person:

(1) Is the holder of an archery disability permit issued pursuant to NAC 503.1465; and

(2) Ensures that the permit is in his or her possession during any period in which he or she uses the crossbow to hunt a big game mammal.

(b) Hunt a big game mammal with a crossbow during a type of hunt restricted to the use of muzzle-loading firearms.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, carry a cocked crossbow containing an arrow or a bolt while in or on any motorized vehicle while the vehicle is on a public highway or other public right-of-way. The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to a person who is a paraplegic, has had one or both legs amputated or has suffered a paralysis of one or both legs which severely impedes walking, if the motorized vehicle is not in motion.

(d) Hunt any wildlife with an arrow or bolt that has any chemical, explosive or electronic device attached.

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Wildlife Comm. by R152-06, eff. 5-21-2007; A by R107-14, 12-22-2014)

NAC 503.144 Hunting with bow and arrow. (NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.150)

1. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) of subsection 4, the bowstring of a bow used in hunting any game mammal or game bird must be moved or held entirely by the muscle power of the shooter through all points of the draw cycle until release and may only be released by direct and conscious action of the shooter, either by relaxing the tension of the fingers or by triggering the release action of a handheld release aid.

2. **A bow used in hunting a big game mammal must have a peak draw weight of at least 40 pounds** and, if the bow is a compound bow, a let-off of not more than 80 percent. Arrows used in hunting big game mammals must be at least 24 inches long, weigh at least 300 grains and have:

(a) Fixed broadheads that are at least 7/8-inch wide at the widest point; or

(b) Expandable, mechanical broadheads that are at least 7/8-inch wide at the widest point when the broadhead is in the open position.

3. An arrow that is used in hunting any game mammal or game bird may be equipped with a nock that is illuminated electronically or chemically.

4. It is unlawful for any person to:

(a) Carry any rifle or musket or handgun equipped with a telescopic sight or with a barrel length of 8 inches or more in the field while hunting under archery regulations.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, carry a bow with an arrow nocked on the bowstring while in or on any motorized vehicle while the vehicle is on a public highway or other public right-of-way. The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to a person who is a paraplegic, has had one or both legs amputated or has suffered a paralysis of one or both legs which severely impedes his or her walking, if the motorized vehicle is not in motion.

(c) Hunt any game mammal or game bird with a bow that uses any mechanical device that is capable of anchoring a nocked arrow at full draw or partial draw unless the person:

(1) Is the holder of an archery disability permit issued pursuant to NAC 503.1465; and

(2) Ensures that the permit is in his or her possession during any period in which he or she uses the bow to hunt any game mammal or game bird.

(d) Hunt any wildlife with an arrow that has any explosive, electronic tracking device or poison attached. As used in this paragraph, "poison" means any substance that, upon contact with the species of wildlife that is hunted, is capable of causing injury, illness or death.

5. As used in this section, "let-off" means the amount of decrease in the draw weight of a compound bow from the peak draw weight to the holding draw weight after the bow has reached full draw.

[Bd. of Fish & Game Comm., No. 25 § 7 + No. 26 § 7, eff. 12-4-79] — (NAC A by Bd. of Wildlife Comm., 5-9-88; R168-99, 1-19-2000; R176-03, 4-8-2004; R114-09, 4-20-2010; R107-14, 12-22-2014; R007-15, 10-27-2015)

NAC 503.145 Sight attached to firearm, bow or crossbow. (NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.150) The Commission hereby establishes the following exception to paragraph (f) of subsection 1 of NRS 503.150. Except as otherwise provided by paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of NAC 503.142, a sight attached to a firearm or bow that is used to hunt a game mammal or game bird, or a sight attached to a crossbow that is used to hunt a big game mammal, may be illuminated or powered by:

1. A battery contained within the sight;
2. Light-gathering fiber optics;
3. A radioactive isotope such as tritium; or
4. Iridescent or fluorescent paint.

Ê It is unlawful for a person to hunt a big game mammal, a game mammal or a game bird with a weapon that is equipped with a sight that is capable of casting or projecting a beam of light that is visible to the unaided human eye from the sight to the animal.

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Wildlife Comm. by R176-03, eff. 4-8-2004; A by R093-05, 10-31-2005; R152-06, 5-21-2007; R151-12, 12-20-2012; R107-14, 12-22-2014)

NAC 503.146 Scope permit for person with visual disability: Issuance; application; validity. (NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.150)

1. The Department may issue a scope permit to a person with a visual disability. The scope permit authorizes a person with a visual disability to hunt, during a type of hunt that is restricted to bows or muzzle-loading firearms, using a 1x magnification rifle scope that is mounted on a bow or muzzle-loading rifle. A person using such a permit shall present the permit upon the request of a law enforcement officer.
2. An application for a scope permit must:
 - (a) Be submitted to the Department on a form provided by the Department;
 - (b) Include a certificate issued by a licensed physician certifying that the applicant has a visual disability; and
 - (c) Include any other information required by the Department to issue the permit.
3. A scope permit issued pursuant to this section is valid for 1 year after the date it is issued.
4. As used in this section, "visual disability" means a visual impairment which substantially limits a major life activity and is not correctable by glasses or contact lenses.

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Wildlife Comm. by R138-09, eff. 4-20-2010; A by R107-14, 12-22-2014)

NAC 503.1465 Archery disability permit for person with permanent disability: Issuance; application; expiration. (NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.150)

1. The Department may issue an archery disability permit to a person with a permanent disability. The permit authorizes a person with a permanent disability to hunt, during a hunt that is restricted to the

use of archery, using a crossbow or a bow that uses a mechanical device that is capable of anchoring a nocked arrow at full draw or partial full draw and complies with the requirements of subsection 2 of NAC 503.144.

2. A person using an archery disability permit shall present the permit upon the request of a law enforcement officer.

3. An application for an archery disability permit must:

(a) Be submitted to the Department on a form provided by the Department;

(b) Include a certificate issued by a licensed physician certifying that the applicant has a permanent disability; and

(c) Include any other information required by the Department to issue the permit.

4. An archery disability permit issued pursuant to this section does not expire.

5. As used in this section, "permanent disability" means a disability which prohibits a person from manually drawing and holding at full draw a bow that complies with the provisions of subsection 2 of NAC 503.144. (Added to NAC by Bd. of Wildlife Comm. by R107-14, eff. 12-22-2014)

Idaho archery regulations

Archery Equipment

In any hunt, including general any-weapon seasons and short range hunts, it is unlawful to pursue or kill big game animals:

- With arrows or bolts having broadheads measuring less than 7/8 inch in width and having a primary cutting edge less than 0.015 inch thick.
- **With any bow having a peak draw weight of less than 40 pounds up to or at a draw of 28 inches or any crossbow having a peak draw weight of less than 150 pounds.**
- With an arrow or bolt wherein the broadhead does not precede shaft and nock.
- With any chemicals or explosives attached to the arrow or bolt.
- With arrows or bolts having expanding broadheads.
- With arrows or bolts having barbed broadheads, which is a broadhead with any portion of which forms an angle less than 90 degrees with the shaft or ferrule.
- With any electronic or tritium-powered device attached to an arrow, bolt or bow. Except disabled archery permit holders may use a non-magnifying sight with battery powered or tritium lighted reticles.
- With any bow capable of shooting more than one arrow at a time.
- With any compound bow set at more than 85 percent let-off.
- With an arrow or bolt, and broadhead with a combined total weight of less than 300 grains.
- With an arrow less than 24 inches from broadhead to nock inclusive.
- With a bolt (crossbow) less than 12 inches from broadhead to nock inclusive.

Archery Only Season

Any person hunting in an archery only season, including controlled hunts must have in their possession their license with archery permit validation. During an archery-only season, it is illegal for hunters to use any firearm or implement other than a longbow, compound bow or recurve bow in compliance with general archery equipment requirements, or:

- Any bow equipped with magnifying sights.
- Any device that holds a bow at partial or full draw. Except hunters possessing a disabled archery permit may use a device that holds a bow at partial or full draw. Applications for the use of devices holding a bow at partial or full draw by disabled hunters are available at Fish and Game offices.
- Any crossbow. Except disabled hunters possessing a permit may use a crossbow. Applications for the use of crossbows by disabled hunters are available at Fish and Game offices

Arizona archery regulations;

R12-4-304

Lawful Methods for Taking Wild Mammals, Birds, and Reptiles

A. An individual may only use the following methods to take big game when authorized by Commission Order and subject to the restrictions under R12-4-303 and R12-4-318.

1. To take antelope:

- a. Centerfire rifles;
- b. Muzzle loading rifles;
- c. All other rifles using black powder or synthetic black powder;
- d. Centerfire handguns;
- e. Handguns using black powder or synthetic black powder;
- f. Shotguns shooting slugs, only;
- g. Pre-charged pneumatic weapons .35 caliber or larger;
- h. **Bows with a standard pull of 30 or more lbs.**, using arrows with broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges; and
- i. **Crossbows with a minimum draw weight of 125 lbs.**, using bolts with a minimum length of 16 inches and broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges or bows as described in subsection (A)(1)(h) to be drawn and held with an assisting device.

2. To take bear:

- a. Centerfire rifles;
- b. Muzzle loading rifles;
- c. All other rifles using black powder or synthetic black powder;
- d. Centerfire handguns;
- e. Handguns using black powder or synthetic black powder;
- f. Shotguns shooting slugs, only
- g. Pre-charged pneumatic weapons .35 caliber or larger;
- h. **Bows with a standard pull of 30 or more lbs.**, using arrows with broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges;
- i. **Crossbows with a minimum draw weight of 125 lbs.**, using bolts with a minimum length of 16 inches and broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges or bows as described in subsection (A)(2)(h) to be drawn and held with an assisting device; and
- j. Pursuit with dogs only between August 1 and December 31 provided the individual shall immediately kill or release the bear after it is treed, cornered, or held at bay. For the purpose of this subsection, "release" means the individual removes the dogs from the area so the bear can escape on its own after it is treed, cornered, or held at bay.

3. To take bighorn sheep:

- a. Centerfire rifles;
- b. Muzzle loading rifles;
- c. All other rifles using black powder or synthetic black powder;
- d. Centerfire handguns;
- e. Handguns using black powder or synthetic black powder;
- f. Shotguns shooting slugs, only;
- g. Pre-charged pneumatic weapons .35 caliber or larger;
- h. **Bows with a standard pull of 30 or more lbs.**, using arrows with broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges; and

i. **Crossbows with a minimum draw weight of 125 lbs.**, using bolts with a minimum length of 16 inches and broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges or bows as described in subsection (A)(3)(h) to be drawn and held with an assisting device.

4. To take buffalo:

a. State-wide, except for the game management units identified under subsection (A)(4)(b):

i. Centerfire rifles;

ii. Muzzle loading rifles;

iii. All other rifles using black powder or synthetic black powder;

iv. Centerfire handguns no less than .41 Magnum or centerfire handguns with an overall cartridge length of no less than two inches;

v. **Bows with a standard pull of 40 or more lbs.**, using arrows with broadheads of no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges; and

vi. **Crossbows with a minimum draw weight of 125 lbs.**, using bolts with a minimum length of 16 inches and broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges or bows as described in subsection (A)(4)

(a)(v) to be drawn and held with an assisting device.

b. In game management units 5A and 5B:

i. Centerfire rifles,

ii. Muzzle loading rifles, and

iii. All other rifles using black powder or synthetic black powder.

5. To take deer:

a. Centerfire rifles;

b. Muzzle loading rifles;

c. All other rifles using black powder or synthetic black powder;

d. Centerfire handguns;

e. Handguns using black powder or synthetic black powder; f. Shotguns shooting slugs, only;

g. Pre-charged pneumatic weapons .35 caliber or larger;

h. **Bows with a standard pull of 30 or more lbs.**, using arrows with broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges; and

i. **Crossbows with a minimum draw weight of 125 lbs.**, using bolts with a minimum length of 16 inches and broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges or bows as described in subsection (A)(5)(h) to be drawn and held with an assisting device.

6. To take elk:

a. Centerfire rifles;

b. Muzzle loading rifles;

c. All other rifles using black powder or synthetic black powder;

d. Centerfire handguns;

e. Handguns using black powder or synthetic black powder;

f. Shotguns shooting slugs, only;

g. **Bows with a standard pull of 30 or more lbs.**, using arrows with broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges; and

h. **Crossbows with a minimum draw weight of 125 lbs.**, using bolts with a minimum length of 16 inches and broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges or bows as described in subsection (A)(6)(g) to be drawn and held with an assisting device.

7. To take javelina:

a. Centerfire rifles;

b. Muzzle loading rifles;

c. All other rifles using black powder or synthetic black powder;

- d. Centerfire handguns;
- e. Handguns using black powder or synthetic black powder;
- f. Shotguns shooting slugs, only;
- g. Pre-charged pneumatic weapons .35 caliber or larger;
- h. **Bows with a standard pull of 30 or more lbs.**, using arrows with broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges;
- i. **Crossbows with a minimum draw weight of 125 lbs.**, using bolts with a minimum length of 16 inches and broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges or bows as described in subsection (A)(7)(h) to be drawn and held with an assisting device;
- j. .22 rimfire magnum rifles; and
- k. 5 mm rimfire magnum rifles.

8. To take mountain lion:

- a. Centerfire rifles;
- b. Muzzle loading rifles;
- c. All other rifles using black powder or synthetic black powder;
- d. Centerfire handguns;
- e. Handguns using black powder or synthetic black powder;
- f. Shotguns shooting slugs or shot;
- g. Pre-charged pneumatic weapons .35 caliber or larger;
- h. **Bows with a standard pull of 30 or more lbs.**, using arrows with broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges;
- i. **Crossbows with a minimum draw weight of 125 lbs.**, using bolts with a minimum length of 16 inches and broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges or bows as described in subsection (A)(8)(h) to be drawn and held with an assisting device;
- j. Artificial light, during seasons with day-long hours, provided the light is not attached to or operated from a motor vehicle, motorized watercraft, watercraft under sail, or floating object towed by a motorized watercraft or a watercraft under sail; and
- k. Pursuit with dogs, provided the individual shall immediately kill or release the mountain lion after it is treed, cornered, or held at bay. For the purpose of this subsection, "release" means the individual removes the dogs from the area so the mountain lion can escape on its own after it is treed, cornered, or held at bay.

9. To take turkey:

- a. Shotguns shooting shot;
- b. **Bows with a standard pull of 30 or more lbs.**, using arrows with broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges; and
- c. **Crossbows with a minimum draw weight of 125 lbs.**, using bolts with a minimum length of 16 inches and broadheads no less than 7/8 inch in width with metal cutting edges or bows as described in subsection (A)(9)(b) to be drawn and held with an assisting device.

B. An individual may only use the following methods to take small game, when authorized by Commission Order and subject to the restrictions under R12-4-303 and R12-4-318.

1. To take cottontail rabbits and tree squirrels:

- a. Firearms,
- b. **Bow and arrow,**
- c. **Crossbow,**
- d. Pneumatic weapons,
- e. Slingshots,
- f. Hand-held projectiles,
- g. Falconry, and

h. Dogs.
2. To take all upland game birds and Eurasian Collared doves:

- a. Bow and arrow;
- b. Falconry;
- c. Pneumatic weapons;
- d. Shotguns shooting shot, only;
- e. Handguns shooting shot, only;
- f. Crossbow;
- g. Slingshot;
- h. Hand-held projectiles; and
- i. Dogs.

3. To take migratory game birds, except Eurasian Collared-doves:

- a. Bow and arrow;
- b. Crossbow;
- c. Falconry;
- d. Dogs;
- e. Shotguns shooting shot:
 - i. Ten gauge or smaller, except that lead shot shall not be used or possessed while taking ducks, geese, swans, mergansers, common moorhens, or coots; and
 - ii. Incapable of holding more than a total of three shells, as prescribed under 50 CFR 20.21, published October 1, 2009.

The material incorporated by reference in this subsection does not include any later amendments or editions. The material is available at any Department office, online from the Government Printing Office web site www.gpoaccess.gov, or may be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, 732 N. Capitol St. N.W., Stop: IDCC, Washington, D.C. 20401.

C. An individual may take waterfowl from any watercraft, except a sink box, subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The motor is shut off, the sail is furled, as applicable, and any progress from a motor or sail has ceased;
- 2. The watercraft may be:
 - a. Adrift as a result of current or wind action;
 - b. Beached;
 - c. Moored;
 - d. Resting at anchor; or
 - e. Propelled by paddle, oars, or pole; and
- 3. The individual may only use the watercraft under power to retrieve dead or crippled waterfowl; shooting is prohibited while the watercraft is underway.

D. An individual may take predatory and furbearing animals by using the following methods, when authorized by Commission Order and subject to the restrictions under R12-4-303 and R12-4-318:

- 1. Firearms;
- 2. Pre-charged pneumatic weapons .22 caliber or larger;
- 3. Bow and arrow;
- 4. Crossbow;
- 5. Traps not prohibited under R12-4-307;
- 6. Artificial light while taking raccoon provided the light is not attached to or operated from a motor vehicle, motorized watercraft, watercraft under sail, or floating object towed by a motorized watercraft or a watercraft under sail;

7. Artificial light while taking coyote during seasons with day-long hours, provided the light is not attached to or operated from a motor vehicle, motorized watercraft, watercraft under sail, or floating object towed by

a motorized watercraft or a watercraft under sail; and

8. Dogs.

E. An individual may **take nongame mammals and birds by any method authorized by Commission** Order and not prohibited under R12-4-303 or R12-4-318, subject to the following restrictions. An individual:

1. Shall not take nongame mammals and birds using foothold traps;

2. Shall check pitfall traps of any size daily, release no target species, remove pitfalls when no longer in use, and fill any holes;

3. Shall not use firearms at night; and

4. May use artificial light while taking nongame mammals and birds, if the light is not attached to or operated from a motor vehicle, motorized watercraft, watercraft under sail, or floating object towed by a motorized watercraft or a watercraft under sail.

F. An individual may **take reptiles by any method not prohibited** under R12-4-303 or R12-4-318 subject to the following restrictions. An individual:

1. Shall check pitfall traps of any size daily, release non target species, remove pitfalls when no longer in use, and fill any holes;

2. Shall not use firearms at night; and

3. May use artificial light while taking reptiles provided the light is not attached to or operated from a motor vehicle, motorized watercraft, watercraft under sail, or floating object towed by a motorized watercraft or a watercraft under sail.

Colorado archery regulations

5. HAND-HELD BOWS

A long bow, recurve bow or compound bow on which the string is not drawn mechanically or held mechanically under tension. String or mechanical releases are legal if they are hand-drawn or hand-held with no other attachments or connections to bow (except bowstring).

a. Hand-held bows, including compound bows, must use arrows with a broadhead having a minimum of 7/8-inch outside diameter (width) and a minimum of two steel cutting edges. Each cutting edge must be in same plane for entire length of cutting surface.

b. Only legal, hand-held bows are allowed during archery seasons.

c. **A minimum draw weight of 35 pounds and a let-off maximum of 80 percent are required.**

d. No part of a bow's riser (handle) or track, trough, channel, arrow rest or other device (excluding cables and bowstring) that attaches to riser can contact, support and/or guide the arrow from a point rearward of the bow's brace height behind the undrawn string.

e. Bows can propel only a single arrow at a time. No mechanisms for automatically loading arrows allowed.

f. Scopes and electronic or battery-powered devices cannot be incorporated into or attached to bow or arrow, with the exception of lighted nocks on arrows. Recording devices such as cameras or video recorders attached to bows may be used as long as they do not cast light toward the target or aid in range finding, sighting or shooting the bow.

g. Hydraulic or pneumatic technology cannot be used to derive or store energy to propel arrows. Explosive arrows are prohibited.

6. CROSSBOWS

a. **Draw weight must be a minimum of 125 pounds.**

- b. Draw length must be a minimum of 14 inches from front of bow to nocking point of drawstring.
- c. Positive mechanical safety device required.
- d. Bolt must be a minimum of 16 inches long, have a broadhead that is a minimum of 7/8-inch wide and with a minimum of two steel cutting edges. Each cutting edge must be in the same plane for entire length of cutting surface.
- e. Illegal during archery seasons.

Montana Archery regulations

Archery Equipment

- It is unlawful to use any chemical or explosive device attached to an arrow to aid in the taking of wildlife.
- The following criteria define Archery Equipment.

It is illegal to possess, while hunting big game during any Archery Only Season and in archery equipment only areas, archery equipment that does not meet the following criteria:

Hunting Bow:

A hunting bow for big game shall be a longbow, flat bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or any combination of these designs.

--The bow must be a device for launching an arrow, which derives its propulsive energy solely from the bending and recovery of two limbs (includes bows with split limbs).

--The bow must be hand drawn by a single and direct uninterrupted pulling action of the shooter. The bowstring must be moved from brace height to the full draw position by the muscle power of the shooter's body. The energy used to propel the arrow shall not be derived from any other source such as hydraulic, pneumatic, mechanical, or similar devices. These limitations shall not exclude the mechanical leverage advantage provided by eccentric wheels or cams, so long as the available energy stored in the bent limbs of the bow is the sole result of a single, continuous, and direct pulling effort by the shooter.

--The bow must be hand-held. One hand shall hold the bow and the other hand draw the bowstring. The bowstring must be moved and/ or held at all points in the draw cycle entirely by muscle power of the shooter until release. The bowstring must be released as a direct and conscious action of the shooter, either relaxing the tension of the fingers or triggering the release action of a hand-held release aid.

Exception: Physically disabled bowhunters certified by FWP with the Permit to Modify

Archery Equipment (PTMAE) is exempted from the requirement of holding or shooting the bow with their hands.

—A bow is considered legal if it is at least 28 inches in total length.

—The nominal percent of let-off for hunting bows shall be a maximum of 80 percent. It is recognized that variations in draw length and/ or draw weight can affect the percent of let-off on compound bows. For these reasons minor variations in let-off are acceptable.

Arrow: An arrow is a projectile at least 20 inches in overall length. The length of the arrow is measured from the rearward point of the nock to the tip of the broadhead.

—A broadhead is mounted on the fore end.

—The arrow shall weigh no less than 300 grains with the broadhead attached.

—Arrows must have broadheads with at least two cutting edges. Expandable broadheads are legal as long as when expanded they are at least 7/8 inches at the widest point, and weigh no less than 70 grains.

—Arrows equipped with lighted nocks are allowed.

- The following are not considered a hunting bow or legal archery equipment during the Archery Only Season or in an Arch Equip Only area or hunting district:

Crossbow

--Any device with a gun-type stock or incorporating any device or mechanism that holds the bowstring at partial or full draw without the shooter's muscle power.

--Any bow for which a portion of the bow's riser (handle) or any track, trough, channel, or other device that attaches directly to the bow's riser contacts, supports, and/or guides the arrow from a point rearward of the bow's brace height. This is not intended to restrict the use of standard overdraw systems.

--Electronic or battery-powered devices attached to a hunting bow.

--A bow sight which uses artificial light, luminous chemicals such as tritium, or electronics.

Utah archery regulations

Firearms and archery equipment

Prohibited weapons

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin., Rule R657-5-7

You may only use firearms and archery tackle that are expressly permitted in this guidebook.

While hunting big game, you may not use:

- A firearm that's capable of being fired fully automatic
- Any light-enhancement device or aiming device that casts a visible beam of light
- A firearm equipped with a computerized targeting system that marks a target, calculates a firing solution and automatically discharges the firearm at a point calculated most likely to hit the acquired target

These restrictions do not apply to laser range-finding devices.

Crossbows

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin., Rule R657-5-11 You may only use a crossbow to take big game if you have any legal weapon permit. You may not use a crossbow to take big game if you have an archery or muzzleloader permit.

(Please see Utah Admin. Rule R657-12-8 and Utah Admin., Rule R657-5-11 for exceptions to this rule.)

A crossbow used to hunt big game must have:

- **A minimum draw weight of 125 pounds**
- A minimum draw length of 14 inches, measured between the latch (nocking point) and where the bow limbs attach to the stock
- An overall length of at least 24 inches, measured between the butt stock end and where the bow limbs attach to the stock
- A positive mechanical safety mechanism

A crossbow arrow or bolt used to hunt big game must be at least 16 inches long and have at least one of the following:

- Fixed broadheads that are at least 7/8- inch wide at the widest point
- Expandable, mechanical broadheads that are at least 7/8 inch wide at the widest point when the broadhead is in the open position

It is unlawful for any person to:

- Hunt big game with a crossbow during a big game archery hunt, except as provided in R657-12-8 and R657-5-11.
- Carry a cocked crossbow containing an arrow or a bolt while in or on any motorized vehicle on a public highway or other public right-of-way, except as provided in R657-12-4.

- Hunt big game with a crossbow bolt that has any chemical, explosive or electronic device attached.
- Hunt big game during the archery season with a crossbow that has an attached magnifying aiming device. However, you can use a crossbow to hunt big game during any legal weapon hunt

Archery equipment

Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin., Rule R657-5-11

Archery equipment may be used during any big game hunt except the muzzleloader hunt.

To hunt big game with archery equipment, your equipment must meet all of the following requirements:

- **Your bow must have a minimum pull of 40 pounds at the draw or the peak, whichever comes first.**
- Your arrowheads must have two or more sharp-cutting edges that cannot pass through a 7/8 inch ring. If you're using expanding arrowheads, the arrowheads must have two or more sharp-cutting edges that cannot pass through a 7/8 inch ring when expanded.

• Your arrows must be at least 20 inches long, from the tip of the arrowhead to the tip of the nock, and must weigh at least 300 grains.

You may not use any of the following archery equipment to take big game during the archery season:

- A crossbow (Please see Utah Admin. Rule R657-12 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5- 11 for exceptions to this rule.)
- Arrows with chemically treated or explosive arrowheads
- A mechanical device that holds the bow at any increment of draw (Please see Utah Admin. Rule R657-12 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-5-11 for exceptions to this rule.)
- A release aid that is not handheld or that supports the draw weight of the bow
- A bow with a magnifying-aiming device please remember, that your bow may be equipped with a range-finding device. Also, if you carry arrows in or on a vehicle, the arrows must be in an arrow quiver or a closed case. If you obtain an archery permit, you may use only the archery equipment authorized in this section to take the species listed on the permit.

You may not possess or be in control of a rifle, shotgun or muzzleloader while in the field during an archery hunt. For the purposes of this section, "field" means a location where you are likely to find the species listed on your permit. (You are not considered to be in the field if you are in an established camping area or traveling in a fully enclosed automobile or truck.)

This restriction does not apply to the following people:

- Hunters who are licensed to hunt upland game or waterfowl (You must comply with the regulations in the Upland Game & Turkey Guidebook or Waterfowl Guidebook, and you may possess only those firearms and archery equipment that are legal for taking upland game or waterfowl.)
- Hunters who are licensed to hunt big game species during rifle or muzzleloader hunts that coincide with the archery hunt
- Livestock owners who are protecting their livestock
- Individuals who are licensed to carry a concealed weapon (You may not use your concealed firearm to hunt or take protected wildlife.)

Wyoming archery regulations

Section 6, Archery equipment that is legal for the taking of big or trophy game animals;

(a) **For the taking of antelope, bighorn sheep, black bear, deer, mountain goat, mountain lion, or gray wolf where designated as a trophy game animal, a hunter shall use a longbow, recurve bow or compound bow of not less than forty (40) pounds draw weight** and an arrow equipped with a fixed or expanding point broadhead that when fully expanded cannot pass through a seven-eighths (7/8) inch solid ring.

- (b) For the taking of elk, grizzly bear or moose, a hunter shall use a longbow, recurve bow or compound bow of not less than fifty (50) pounds draw weight and an arrow equipped with a fixed or expanding point broadhead that when fully expanded cannot pass through a seven-eighths (7/8) inch solid ring.
- (c) For the taking of any big or trophy game animal with a crossbow, a hunter shall use a crossbow having a peak draw weight of at least ninety (90) pounds and a bolt of at least sixteen (16) inches in length equipped with a fixed or expanding point broadhead that when fully expanded cannot pass through a seven-eighths (7/8) inch solid ring.

Washington Archery Regulations

1. Rules pertaining to all archery hunting seasons:
 - a. Mechanical broadheads are legal to use for all archery hunting.
 - b. It is unlawful for any person to carry or have in his possession any firearm while in the field archery hunting, during an archery season specified for that area, except for modern handguns carried for personal protection. Modern handguns cannot be used to hunt big game or dispatch wounded big game during archery, big game hunting season.
 - c. It is unlawful to have any electrical equipment or electric device(s) except for illuminated nocks, attached to the bow or arrow while hunting.
 - d. It is unlawful to shoot a bow and arrow from a vehicle or from, across or along the maintained portion of a public highway.
 - e. It is unlawful to use any device secured to or supported by the bow for the purpose of maintaining the bow at full draw or in a firing position.
 - f. It is unlawful to hunt big game animals with any arrow or bolt that does not have a sharp broadhead and the broadhead blade or blades are less than seven-eighths inch wide.
 - g. It is unlawful to hunt wildlife with any bow equipped with a scope.
2. Rules pertaining to long bow, recurve bow, and compound bow archery:
 - a. It is unlawful for any person to hunt big game animals with a bow that does not produce a minimum of 40 pounds of pull measured at twenty-eight inches or less draw length.
 - b. It is unlawful to hunt big game animals with any arrow measuring less than 20 inches in length or weighing less than 6 grains per pound of draw weight with a minimum arrow weight of 300 grains.

Crossbows:

1. It is illegal to hunt big game with a crossbow outside of a modern firearm season. Crossbows cannot be used during muzzleloader or archery season.
2. It is unlawful to hunt big game with a crossbow with a draw weight less than 125 pounds and a trigger safety that doesn't work properly.
3. It is illegal to hunt big game with any arrow or bolt weighing less than 350 grains.
4. It is illegal to hunt big game with any arrow or bolt that does not have a sharp broadhead and the broadhead blade or blades are less than seven-eighths inch wide.
5. It is unlawful to discharge a crossbow from a vehicle or from, across, or along the maintained portion of a public highway.
6. Exception, disabled hunters issued a Special Use Permit and in compliance with WAC 220-413-130 and 220-413-140. See page 89