

R657. Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources.

R657-5. Taking Big Game.

R657-5-1. Purpose and Authority.

- (1) Under authority of Sections 23A-2-304 and 23A-2-305, the Wildlife Board has established:
- (a) this rule for taking deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bison, bighorn sheep, and Rocky Mountain goat.
 - (b) appropriate weapons or devices to take big game and restrictions to weapons or devices to take big game.
- (2) Specific dates, areas, methods of take, requirements, and other administrative details which may change annually are published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

R657-5-2. Definitions.

- (1) Terms used in this rule are defined in Section 23A-1-101.
- (2) In addition:
- (a) "Antlerless deer" means a deer without antlers or with antlers five inches or shorter.
 - (b) "Antlerless elk" means an elk without antlers or with antlers five inches or shorter.
 - (c) "Antlerless elk control permit" means a permit allowing an individual to harvest an antlerless elk on an antlerless elk control unit.
 - (d) "Antlerless moose" means a moose with antlers shorter than its ears.
 - (e) "Arrow quiver" means a portable arrow case that completely encases all edges of the broadheads.
 - (f) "Buck deer" means a deer with antlers longer than five inches.
 - (g) "Buck pronghorn" means a pronghorn with horns longer than five inches.
 - (h) "Bull elk" means an elk with antlers longer than five inches.
 - ~~(i)~~
 - (i) "Commercial Antler Buyer" means an individual or entity that buys antlers or horns for the purpose of reselling for financial gain.
 - (j) "Bull moose" means a moose with antlers longer than its ears.
 - ~~(j)~~ (k) "Cow bison" means a female bison.
 - ~~(k)~~ (l) "Doe pronghorn" means a pronghorn without horns or with horns five inches or shorter.
 - ~~(l)~~ (m) "Draw-lock" means a mechanical device used to hold and support the draw weight of a conventional or compound bow at any increment of draw until released by the archer using a trigger mechanism and safety attached to the device.
 - ~~(m)~~ (n) "Drone" means an autonomously controlled, aerial vehicle of any size or configuration that is capable of controlled flight without a human pilot aboard.
 - ~~(n)~~ (o)(i) "Night Vision Device" means any device that enhances visible or non-visible light, including: night vision, thermal imaging, infrared imaging, or electronics that enhance the visible or non-visible light spectrum.
 - (o)(ii) "Night Vision Device" does not include trail cameras as defined in Subsection (x).
 - ~~(o)~~ (p) "Ewe" means a female bighorn sheep or any bighorn sheep younger than one year of age.
 - ~~(p)~~ (q) "Hunter's choice" means either sex may be taken.
 - ~~(q)~~ (r) "Immediate family member" means the landowner's or lessee's spouse, child, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother, sister, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepchild, grandchild, grandfather, and grandmother.
 - ~~(r)~~ (s) "Limited entry hunt" means any hunt published in the hunt tables of the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game, which is identified as limited entry and does not include general or once-in-a-lifetime hunts.
 - ~~(s)~~ (t) "Limited entry permit" means any permit obtained for a limited entry hunt by any means, including conservation permits, wildlife expo permits, sportsman permits, cooperative wildlife management unit permits and limited entry landowner permits.
 - ~~(t)~~ (u) "Once-in-a-lifetime hunt" means any hunt published in the hunt tables of the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game, which is identified as once-in-a-lifetime, and does not include general or limited entry hunts.
 - ~~(u)~~ (v) "Once-in-a-lifetime permit" means any permit obtained for a once-in-a-lifetime hunt by any means, including conservation permits, wildlife expo permits, sportsman permits, cooperative wildlife management unit permits and limited entry landowner permits.
 - ~~(v)~~ (w) "Ram" means a male desert bighorn sheep or Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep older than one year of age.
 - ~~(w)~~
 - (x) "Shed antler" means an antler that:
 - (a) has been dropped naturally from a big game animal as part of the big game animal's annual life cycle; and
 - (b) has a rounded base commonly known as the antler button or burr attached which signifies a natural life cycle process.
 - (y) "Shed horn" means:
 - (a) the sheath from a pronghorn that has been dropped naturally as part of the animal's annual life cycle; or
 - (b) a bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or bison horn naturally detached from the horn core.
 - (z) "Spike bull" means a bull elk which has at least one antler beam with no branching above the ears. Branched means a projection on an antler longer than one inch, measured from its base to its tip.
 - ~~(z)~~ (aa) "Stalking" means when game has been located and the hunter engages in deliberate movements, on foot, in an effort to harvest the located game.

(~~y~~)^{bb} "Trail camera" means a device that is not held or manually operated by a person and is capable of capturing images, video, or location data of wildlife using heat, or motion to trigger the device.

R657-5-7. Prohibited Weapons and Devices.

- (1) A person may not use any weapon or device to take big game other than those expressly permitted in this rule.
- (2) A person may not use the following prohibited weapons or devices to take big game:
 - (a) a firearm capable of being fired fully automatic;
 - (b) any light enhancement device or aiming device that casts a visible beam of light;
 - (c) 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; or
 - (d) a projectile for which the path can be altered or electronically tracked after it is sent in motion.
- (3) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting laser range finding devices or illuminated sight pins for archery equipment.
- (4) The following restrictions are placed on the use of specialized hunting technologies and equipment.
 - (a) A person may not ~~[use]~~^{possess} any night vision device~~[-to locate]~~, or ~~[attempt]~~^{a device capable of night vision, while taking, locating, or attempting} to locate ~~[a]~~^{any} big game animal between July 31 and ~~[January]~~^{December} 31;
 - (b) A person may not:
 - (i) place, maintain, or use a trail camera as prohibited in Section 23A-5-307;
 - (ii) engage in the sale or purchase of trail camera or other non-handheld device media, including images, video, location, time or date data to take, aid in the take or attempted take of big game; or
 - (iii) engage in the storage and sale or purchase of stored media, including images, video, location, time, or date data to take, aid in the take or attempted take of big game.
 - (c) A person may not:
 - (i) use visual enhancement technology, such as nanotechnology, except for basic ~~[devises]~~^{devices} used solely for magnification;
 - (ii) use pattern recognition technology, such as artificial intelligence;
 - (iii) use live feed aerial imagery; or
 - (iv) use electronically amplified calls or sounds.

R657-5-14. Use of Vehicle or Aircraft.

- (1)(a) A person may not use an airplane, drone, or any other airborne vehicle or device, or any motorized terrestrial or aquatic vehicle, including snowmobiles and other recreational vehicles, except a vessel as provided in Subsection (c), to take protected wildlife.
- (b) A person may not take protected wildlife being chased, harmed, harassed, rallied, herded, flushed, pursued or moved by any vehicle, device, or conveyance listed in Subsection (a).
- (c) Big game may be taken from a vessel provided:
 - (i) the motor of a motorboat has been completely shut off;
 - (ii) the sails of a sailboat have been furled; and
 - (iii) the vessel's progress caused by the motor or sail has ceased.
- (2) A person may not use any type of aircraft, drone, or other airborne vehicle or device between July 31 and January 31 to locate, or attempt to observe or locate any protected wildlife.

~~[(3)(a) This section does not apply to the operation of an aircraft, drone, or other airborne vehicle or device used for the purposes of transporting hunters, equipment, or legally harvested wildlife, provided the aircraft takes off and lands only from an improved airstrip, where there is no attempt or intent to locate protected wildlife.]~~

~~[(b)]~~³ Hunters that are transported by aircraft into an area may not hunt protected wildlife until the following day.

~~[(c) For the purposes of this section, "improved airstrip" means a take-off and landing area with a graded or otherwise mechanically improved surface free of barriers or other hazards that is traditionally used by pilots for the purposes of air travel.]~~

R657-5-20. Purchasing or Selling Big Game or its Parts.

- (1) A person may only purchase, sell, offer or possess for sale, barter, exchange or trade any big game or its parts as follows:
 - (a) antlers, heads and horns of legally taken big game may be purchased or sold only on the dates published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game;
 - (b) untanned hides of legally taken big game may be purchased or sold only on the dates published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game;
 - (c) tanned hides of legally taken big game may be purchased or sold at any time; and
 - (d) legally obtained shed antlers and horns may be purchased or sold at any time in a whole or altered state.
 - (e) a Certificate of Registration is required for commercial antler buyers.
- (2)(a) Protected wildlife that is obtained by the division by any means may be sold or donated at any time by the division or its agent.
- (b) A person may purchase or receive protected wildlife from the division, which is sold or donated in accordance with Subsection (2)(a), at any time.

- (3) A person selling or purchasing antlers, heads, horns or untanned hides shall keep transaction records stating:
 - (a) the name and address of the person who harvested the animal;
 - (b) the transaction date; and
 - (c) the permit number of the person who harvested the animal.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not apply to scouting programs or other charitable organizations using untanned hides.

R657-5-21. Possession of Antlers and Horns.

- (1) A person may possess antlers or horns or parts of antlers or horns only from:
 - (a) lawfully harvested big game;
 - (b) antlers or horns lawfully obtained as provided in Section R657-5-20; or
 - (c) shed antlers or shed horns.
- (2)(a) A person may gather shed antlers or shed horns or parts of shed antlers or shed horns ~~[at any time. An authorization is required to gather shed antlers or shed horns or parts of shed antlers or shed horns during the shed antler and shed horn season]~~ only on the dates published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game .
 - (b) A person must complete a wildlife harassment and habitat destruction prevention course annually to obtain the required authorization to gather shed antlers during the antler gathering season.
 - ~~[(3) "Shed antler" means an antler which:~~
 - ~~[(a) has been dropped naturally from a big game animal as part of its annual life cycle; and]~~
 - ~~[(b) has a rounded base commonly known as the antler button or burr attached which signifies a natural life cycle process.]~~
 - ~~[(4) "Shed horn" means the sheath from the horn of a pronghorn that has been dropped naturally as part of its annual life cycle. No other big game species shed their horns naturally.]~~
 - [(c) During winter conditions in which winter deer feeding triggers are met in accordance with the Emergency Big Game Winter Feeding Policy, a statewide emergency shed antler and shed horn gathering closure will be implemented.
 - (d) Shed antlers or shed horns may be collected if interfering with normal agricultural practices on private property.

R657-5-40. Desert Bighorn and Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep Ram Hunts.

- (1) To hunt a ram desert bighorn sheep or a ram Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, a hunter must obtain the respective permit.
 - (2)(a) A person who has obtained a ram desert bighorn sheep permit may not obtain any other desert bighorn sheep permit or hunt during any other desert bighorn sheep.
 - (b) A person who has obtained a ram Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit may not obtain any other Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit or hunt any other Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep.
 - (3) Ram desert bighorn sheep and ram Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permits are considered separate once-in-a-lifetime hunting opportunities.
 - (4)(a) A ram desert bighorn sheep permit allows a person to take one desert bighorn ram within the area, during the seasons, and using the weapon type prescribed by the Wildlife Board.
 - (b) A ram Rocky Mountain sheep permit allows a person to take one Rocky Mountain bighorn ram within the area, during the seasons, and using the weapon type prescribed by the Wildlife Board.
 - ~~[(5) Successful hunters must deliver the horns of the bighorn sheep to a division office within 72 hours of leaving the hunting area. A numbered seal will be permanently affixed to the horn indicating legal harvest.]~~
 - ~~[(6)]~~[(5)](a) A person who has obtained a desert bighorn sheep or Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a desert bighorn sheep or Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep.
 - (b) Desert bighorn sheep or Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's website.
 - (c) A person who fails to comply with the requirement in Subsection (a) shall be ineligible to apply for any once-in-a-lifetime, premium limited entry, limited entry, or cooperative wildlife management unit permit or bonus point in the following year.
 - (d) Late questionnaires may be accepted pursuant to Subsection R657-42-9(2).

R657-5-45. Management Buck Deer Hunt.

- (1) For the purposes of this section "management buck" means any buck deer with three points or less on at least one antler above and including the first fork in the antler. A point means a projection longer than one inch, measured from its base to its tip. The eye guard is not counted as a point.
- (2) Management buck deer permits shall be distributed pursuant to Rule R657-62.
- (3) Management buck deer permit holders may take one management buck deer during the season, in the area and with the weapon type specified on the permit. Management buck deer hunting seasons, areas, and weapon types are published in the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.
- (4)(a) A person who has obtained a management buck deer permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a management buck deer.

(b) Management buck deer permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's website.

~~[(5)(a) Management buck deer permit holders who successfully harvest a management buck deer, as defined in Subsection (1)(a) must have their animal inspected by the division.]~~

~~[(b) Successful hunters must deliver the head and antlers of the deer they harvest to a division office for inspection within 72 hours after the date of kill.]~~

~~[(6)5] Management buck deer permit holders may not retain possession of any harvested buck deer that fails to satisfy the definition requirements in Subsection (1)(a).~~

~~[(7)6] A person who has obtained a management buck deer permit may not hunt during any other deer hunt or obtain any other deer permit, except as provided in Section R657-5-27.~~

R657-5-46. Cactus Buck Deer Hunt.

(1) For the purposes of this section "cactus buck" means a buck deer with velvet covering at least 50% of the antlers during the season dates established by the Wildlife Board for a cactus buck deer hunt.

(2)(a) Cactus buck deer permit holders may take one cactus buck deer during the season, in the area, and with the weapon type specified on the permit.

(b) Cactus buck deer hunting seasons, areas, and weapon types are published in the guidebooks of the Wildlife Board for taking big game.

(3)(a) A person who has obtained a cactus buck deer permit must report hunt information within 30 calendar days after the end of the hunting season, regardless of whether the permit holder was successful or unsuccessful in harvesting a cactus buck deer.

(b) Cactus buck deer permit holders must report hunt information by telephone, or through the division's website.

~~[(4)]~~

~~[(a)4] Cactus buck deer permit holders [who successfully harvest a cactus buck deer, as defined in Subsection (1)(a), must have their animal inspected by the division.]~~

~~[(b) Successful hunters must deliver the head and antlers of the deer they harvest to a division office for inspection within 72 hours after the date of harvest.]~~

~~[(5) Cactus buck deer permit holders.] may not retain possession of any harvested buck deer that fails to satisfy the definition requirements in Subsection (1).~~

~~[(6)5] A person who has obtained a cactus buck deer permit may not hunt during any other deer hunt or obtain any other deer permit, except as provided in Section R657-5-27.~~

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