



Certification Page Regular and Emergency Rules

<u>1. General Information</u>		
a. Agency/Board Name <i>See attached list for references</i> Wyoming Game and Fish Department		
b. Agency/Board Address 3030 Energy Lane	c. Agency/Board City Casper	d. Agency/Board Zip Code 82604
e. Name of Contact Person Mike Choma	f. Contact Telephone Number 307-473-3400	
g. Contact Email Address mike.choma@wyo.gov	h. Adoption Date: November 15, 2012	
i. Program(s) <i>See attached list for references</i> Game and Fish Commission - Hunt		
<u>2. Rule Type and Information</u>		
a. These rules are: <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Rules (<i>After completing all of Section 2, proceed to Section 5 below</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular Rules		
b. Choose all that apply: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Rules* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amended Rules <input type="checkbox"/> Repealed Rules		
<i>* "New" rules means the first set of regular rules to be promulgated by the Agency after the Legislature adopted a new statutory provision or significantly amended an existing statute.</i>		
If "New," provide the Enrolled Act number and year enacted: SEA 0021-2012		
c. Provide the Chapter Number, and Short Title of Each Chapter being Created/Amended/Repealed (<i>if more than 5 chapters are being created/amended/repealed, please use the Additional Rule Information form and attach it to this certification</i>)		
Chapter Number: 32	Short Title: Regulation Governing Firearm Cartridges and Archery Equipment	
Chapter Number:	Short Title:	
d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Statement of Reasons is attached to this certification.		
e. If applicable, describe the emergency which requires promulgation of these rules without providing notice or an opportunity for a public hearing:		
<u>3. State Government Notice of Intended Rulemaking</u>		
a. Date on which the Notice of Intent containing all of the information required by W.S. 16-3-103(a) was filed with the Secretary of State : September 4, 2012		
b. Date on which the Notice of Intent and proposed rules in strike and underscore format were provided to the Legislative Service Office : September 4, 2012		
c. Date on which the Notice of Intent and proposed rules in strike and underscore format were provided to the Attorney General : September 4, 2012		

4. Public Notice of Intended Rulemaking

a. Notice was mailed 45 days in advance to all persons who made a timely request for advance notice. Yes No N/A

b. A public hearing was held on the proposed rules. Yes No

If "Yes:"	Date:	Time:	City:	Location:
	September 10, 2012	6:00 PM	Laramie	Laramie Regional Office
	September 17, 2012	6:00 PM	Cody	Cody Regional Office
	September 17, 2012	5:00 PM	Sheridan	Sheridan Regional Office
	September 18, 2012	6:00 PM	Lander	Lander Regional Office
	September 18, 2012	7:00 PM	Pinedale	Pinedale Regional Office
	September 20, 2012	7:00 PM	Casper	Casper Regional Office
	September 25, 2012	7:00 PM	Green River	Green River Regional Office
	October 4, 2012	6:30 PM	Jackson	Jackson Regional Office

5. Final Filing of Rules

a. Date on which the Certification Page with original signatures and final rules were sent to the Attorney General's Office for the Governor's signature: November 16, 2012

b. Date on which final rules were sent to the Legislative Service Office: November 16, 2012

c. Date on which a PDF of the final rules was electronically sent to the Secretary of State: November 16, 2012

6. Agency/Board Certification

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing information is correct.

Signature of Authorized Individual	
Printed Name of Signatory	Aaron Clark
Signatory Title	President, Wyoming Game and Fish Commission
Date of Signature	November 15, 2012

7. Governor's Certification

I have reviewed these rules and determined that they:

1. Are within the scope of the statutory authority delegated to the adopting agency;
2. Appear to be within the scope of the legislative purpose of the statutory authority; and, if emergency rules,
3. Are necessary and that I concur in the finding that they are an emergency.

Therefore, I approve the same.

Governor's Signature	
Date of Signature	

Distribution List:

Attorney General

1. Statement of Reasons;
2. Original Certification Page;
3. Summary of Comments (regular rules);
4. Hard copy of rules: clean and strike/underscore; and
5. Memo to Governor documenting emergency (emergency rules).

LSO

1. Statement of Reasons;
2. Copy of Certification Page;
3. Summary of Comments (regular rules);
4. Hard copy of rules: clean and strike/underscore;
5. Electronic copy of rules: clean and strike/underscore; and
6. Memo to Governor documenting emergency (emergency rules).

SOS

1. PDF of clean copy of rules; and
2. Hard copy of Certification Page as delivered by the AG.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

CHAPTER 32

REGULATION GOVERNING FIREARM CARTRIDGES AND ARCHERY EQUIPMENT

W.S. §23-1-302 directs and empowers the Commission to promulgate such orders as the Commission deems necessary to carry out the intent of this regulation.

W.S. §23-2-104 empowers the Commission to establish rules and regulation specifications for archery equipment used for taking big or trophy game animals.

W.S. §23-3-110 empowers the Commission to establish rules and regulations governing firearms and ammunition specifications for taking game birds and wild turkeys.

W.S. §23-3-111 empowers the Commission to establish rules and regulations governing firearms and ammunition specifications for taking big or trophy game animals.

The Sixty-First Legislature of the State of Wyoming 2012 Budget Session made substantial changes to W.S. §23-2-104, W.S. §23-3-110 and W.S. §23-3-111. All of these changes were included in Senate File No. 0017/Senate Enrolled Act No. 21.

An Emergency Rule for Chapter 32 was approved in July, 2012. Chapter 32, Regulation Governing Firearm Cartridges and Archery Equipment will be presented to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission at their November 14-15, 2012, meeting to finalize the current emergency rule.

In Section 4, major edits have been incorporated to designate legal firearm calibers for the taking of big or trophy game animals. Bighorn sheep, elk, moose, mountain goat, black bear and grizzly bear will have different firearm caliber restrictions from antelope, deer, mountain lion or gray wolf where designated as a trophy game animal.

In Section 5, edits have been incorporated to designate legal firearm calibers for the taking of game birds, including wild turkey. A .17 HMR rimfire firearm is proposed to be legal for the taking of wild turkey.

In Section 6, modifications have been made to address the legal archery equipment requirements for the taking of big or trophy game animals.

Other grammatical and formatting edits have been incorporated to provide additional clarity but do not change the intent of the regulation.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

CHAPTER 32

REGULATION GOVERNING FIREARM CARTRIDGES AND ARCHERY EQUIPMENT

Section 1. Authority. This regulation is promulgated by authority of W.S. §23-1-302, W.S. §23-2-104, W.S. §23-3-110 and W.S. §23-3-111.

Section 2. Regulation. The Commission hereby adopts the following regulation governing firearm cartridges and archery equipment for the taking of big or trophy game animals and game birds. This regulation shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

Section 3. Definition. For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, and the Commission also adopts the following definition:

(a) "Archery Equipment" means crossbows, longbows, recurve bows, compound bows and arrows.

Section 4. Firearms, muzzle-loaders and cartridges that are legal for the taking of big or trophy game animals.

(a) For the taking of bighorn sheep, elk, moose, mountain goat, black bear or grizzly bear by the use of a firearm, a hunter shall use:

(i) Any center-fire firearm of at least .24 caliber and firing a cartridge of at least two (2) inches in overall length, or any other cartridge of at least .35 caliber and at least one and one-half (1.5) inches in overall length, or a cartridge that generally delivers at least five hundred (500) foot pounds of impact at one hundred (100) yards; and using a lead or expanding point bullet; or,

(ii) Any muzzle-loading rifle or any muzzle-loading handgun of at least .40 caliber and firing a lead or expanding point bullet using a charge of at least fifty (50) grains of black powder or its equivalent; or,

(iii) Any shotgun firing "00" or larger buckshot, or a slug.

(b) For the taking of antelope, deer, mountain lion, or gray wolf where designated as a trophy game animal, a hunter shall use:

(i) Any center-fire firearm of at least .22 caliber and having a bullet weight of at least sixty (60) grains and firing a cartridge at least two (2) inches in overall length, or any other cartridge of at least .35 caliber and at least one and one-half (1.5) inches in overall length, or a cartridge that generally delivers at least five hundred (500) foot pounds of impact at one hundred (100) yards; and using a lead or expanding point bullet; or,

(ii) Any muzzle-loading rifle or any muzzle-loading handgun of at least .40 caliber and firing a lead or expanding point bullet using a charge of at least fifty (50) grains of black powder or its equivalent; or,

(iii) Any shotgun firing "00" or larger buckshot, or a slug.

Section 5. Firearms, cartridges and archery equipment that are legal for the taking of game birds.

(a) For the taking of game birds, excluding wild turkey, blue grouse and ruffed grouse, a hunter shall use:

(i) Any center-fire or muzzle loading shotgun not larger than a ten (10) gauge plugged to admit no more than one (1) shell in the chamber and two (2) shells in the magazine; or,

(ii) Any archery equipment.

(b) For the taking of wild turkey, a hunter shall use any shotgun, center-fire firearm, .22 WMR or .17 HMR rimfire firearm, any muzzle-loader, or any archery equipment.

(c) Blue grouse and ruffed grouse may be taken with a projectile fired by any weapon.

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

(a) For the taking of antelope, big horn 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 broadhead or expanding point designed to have a minimum cutting width of one (1) inch after impact.

(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 broadhead or expanding point designed to have a minimum cutting width of one (1) inch after impact.

(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 broadhead or expanding point designed to have a minimum cutting width of one (1) inch after impact.

Section 7. Violation of Commission Regulations. Failure to abide by the provisions of this regulation shall be punishable as provided by Wyoming statutes for violation of Commission regulations.

Section 8. Savings Clause. If any provision of this regulation shall be held to be illegal or unconstitutional, such a ruling shall not affect other provisions of this regulation which can be given effect without the illegal or unconstitutional provision; and, to this end, the provisions of this regulation shall be severable.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

By: 
Aaron Clark, President

Dated: November 15, 2012

DRAFT 11-7-12.9

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

CHAPTER 32

REGULATION GOVERNING FIREARM CARTRIDGES AND ARCHERY EQUIPMENT

EMERGENCY RULE

~~(Emergency rules are no longer in effect 120 days after filing with Secretary of State.)~~

Section 1. Authority. This regulation is promulgated by authority of W.S. §23-1-302, W.S. §23-2-104, W.S. §23-3-110 and W.S. §23-3-111.

Section 2. Regulation, and Effective Date. The Commission hereby adopts the following regulation governing firearm cartridges and archery equipment for the taking of big or trophy game animals and game birds. This regulation shall remain in effect until modified or repealed by the Commission.

Section 3. Definition. For the purpose of this regulation, definitions shall be as set forth in Title 23, Wyoming Statutes, and the Commission also adopts the following definition:

(a) "Archery Equipment" means crossbows, longbows, recurve bows, compound bows and arrows.

Section 4. Firearms, muzzle-loaders and cartridges that are legal for the taking of big or trophy game animals.

~~(a) Big or trophy game animals shall only be taken by the use of a firearm which has a barrel bore diameter of at least twenty three hundredths (23/100) of an inch and is chambered to fire a center fire cartridge not less than two (2) inches in overall length, including a soft or expanding point bullet seated to a normal depth, or a muzzle loading rifle which has a barrel bore diameter of at least forty hundredths (40/100) of an inch and a charge of at least fifty (50) grains of black powder or equivalent, or a muzzle loading specialty single shot handgun which has a barrel length of not less than ten (10) inches, a bore diameter of at least forty five hundredths (45/100) of an inch and which propels a projectile of two hundred forty (240) grains at not less than five hundred (500) foot pounds at one hundred (100) yards.~~

~~(b) In addition, the Commission authorizes any other cartridge fired from a firearm that has a barrel bore diameter of at least thirty five hundredths (35/100) of an inch and the cartridge generally delivers at least five hundred (500) foot pounds of impact at one hundred (100) yards and cartridges used are loaded with a soft, or expanding point bullet.~~

(a) For the taking of bighorn sheep, elk, moose, mountain goat, black bear or grizzly bear by the use of a firearm, a hunter shall use:

(i) Any center-fire firearm of at least .24 caliber and firing a cartridge of at least two (2) inches in overall length, or any other cartridge of at least .35 caliber and at least one and one-half (1.5) inches in overall length, or a cartridge that generally delivers at least five hundred (500) foot pounds of impact at one hundred (100) yards; and using a lead or expanding point bullet; or,

(ii) Any muzzle-loading rifle or any muzzle-loading handgun of at least .40 caliber and firing a lead or expanding point bullet using a charge of at least fifty (50) grains of black powder or its

equivalent; or,

(iii) Any shotgun firing “00” or larger buckshot, or a slug.

(b) For the taking of antelope, deer, mountain lion, or gray wolf where designated as a trophy game animal, a hunter shall use:

(i) Any center-fire firearm of at least .22 caliber and having a bullet weight of at least sixty (60) grains and firing a cartridge at least two (2) inches in overall length, or any other cartridge of at least .35 caliber and at least one and one-half (1.5) inches in overall length, or a cartridge that generally delivers at least five hundred (500) foot pounds of impact at one hundred (100) yards; and using a lead or expanding point bullet; or,

(ii) Any muzzle-loading rifle or any muzzle-loading handgun of at least .40 caliber and firing a lead or expanding point bullet using a charge of at least fifty (50) grains of black powder or its equivalent; or,

(iii) Any shotgun firing “00” or larger buckshot, or a slug.

Section 5. Firearms, ~~and~~ cartridges and archery equipment that are legal for the taking of game birds.

~~(a) Game birds, excluding blue and ruffed grouse, may only be taken with a shotgun not larger than ten (10) gauge. Automatic loading, pump or repeating shotguns must be plugged to admit no more than one (1) shell in the chamber and two (2) shells in the magazine.~~

~~(b) Firearms using center fire cartridges, muzzle loading arms or firearms of twenty two (.22) magnum caliber may be used to take wild turkeys.~~

(a) For the taking of game birds, excluding wild turkey, blue grouse and ruffed grouse, a hunter shall use:

(i) Any center-fire or muzzle loading shotgun not larger than a ten (10) gauge plugged to admit no more than one (1) shell in the chamber and two (2) shells in the magazine; or,

(ii) Any archery equipment.

(b) For the taking of wild turkey, a hunter shall use any shotgun, center-fire firearm, .22 WMR or .17 HMR rimfire firearm, any muzzle-loader, or any archery equipment.

(c) Blue grouse and ruffed grouse may be taken with a projectile fired by any weapon.

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 or mountain lion, the longbow hunter shall be equipped with a longbow of not less than forty (40) pounds draw weight or possessing the ability to cast an arrow of four hundred (400) grain weight at least one hundred sixty (160) yards.~~

~~(b) For the taking of elk, grizzly bear or moose, the longbow hunter shall be equipped with a longbow of not less than fifty (50) pounds draw weight or possessing the ability to cast a hunting arrow of five hundred (500) grain weight at least one hundred sixty (160) yards.~~

~~(c) For the taking of any big or trophy game animal with the use of a crossbow, the crossbow hunter~~

shall be equipped with a crossbow of not less than ninety (90) pounds draw weight which has a minimum draw length of fourteen (14) inches (from front of bow to back of string in the cocked position) and a positive safety mechanism. Crossbow bolts shall be at least sixteen (16) inches long.

_____ (d) The broadhead of arrows or crossbow bolts used to take any big or trophy game animals shall be made of sharp steel and have a minimum cutting width of one (1) inch.

(a) For the taking of antelope, big horn 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 broadhead or expanding point designed to have a minimum cutting width of one (1) inch after impact.

(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 broadhead or expanding point designed to have a minimum cutting width of one (1) inch after impact.

(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 broadhead or expanding point designed to have a minimum cutting width of one (1) inch after impact.

Section 7. Violation of Commission Regulations. Failure to abide by the provisions of this regulation shall be punishable as provided by Wyoming statutes for violation of Commission regulations.

Section 8. Savings Clause. If any provision of this regulation shall be held to be illegal or unconstitutional, such a ruling shall not affect other provisions of this regulation which can be given effect without the illegal or unconstitutional provision; and, to this end, the provisions of this regulation shall be severable.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

By: _____
Aaron Clark, President

Dated: ~~June 26, 2012~~ **November 15, 2012**