

SENATE FILE NO. SF0017

Game and fish-authority revisions.

Sponsored by: Joint Travel, Recreation, Wildlife and
Cultural Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; providing for commission
2 authority to establish specifications for weapons and
3 ammunition allowed for hunting; providing for commission
4 authority to allow baiting of big game animals as
5 specified; and providing for an effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 23-2-104(e) and (g), 23-3-110(a) and
10 (c), 23-3-111(a)(intro) and (b) and 23-3-304(d) by creating
11 a new paragraph (iv) are amended to read:

12

13 **23-2-104. Archery licenses; special seasons;**
14 **prohibition against firearms; equipment.**

15

1 (e) ~~When hunting antelope, bighorn sheep, black bear,~~
2 ~~deer, mountain goat or mountain lion the longbow hunter~~
3 ~~must be equipped with a longbow of not less than forty (40)~~
4 ~~pounds draw weight or possessing the ability to cast a~~
5 ~~hunting arrow of four hundred (400) grain weight at least~~
6 ~~one hundred sixty (160) yards. When hunting elk, grizzly~~
7 ~~bear or moose, the longbow hunter must be equipped with a~~
8 ~~longbow of not less than fifty (50) pounds draw weight or~~
9 ~~possessing the ability to cast a hunting arrow of five~~
10 ~~hundred (500) grain weight at least one hundred sixty (160)~~
11 ~~yards. The crossbow hunter must be equipped with a crossbow~~
12 ~~of not less than ninety (90) pounds draw weight which has a~~
13 ~~minimum draw length of fourteen (14) inches (from front of~~
14 ~~bow to back of string in the cocked position) and a~~
15 ~~positive safety mechanism. Crossbow bolts must be at least~~
16 ~~sixteen (16) inches long. The broadhead of arrows or bolts~~
17 ~~shall be of sharp steel with a minimum cutting width of one~~
18 ~~(1) inch~~ The commission shall establish by rule and
19 regulation specifications for crossbows, longbows, recurve
20 bows, compound bows, arrows and broadheads for taking of
21 big or trophy game animals. The rules and regulations
22 promulgated under the provisions of this subsection
23 relating to the hunting of ~~antelope, bighorn sheep, black~~
24 ~~bear, deer, mountain goat and mountain lion~~ big or trophy

1 game animals shall also apply to the hunting of the gray
2 wolf as a trophy game animal from and after the date gray
3 wolves are removed from the list of experimental
4 nonessential population, endangered species or threatened
5 species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108.

6
7 (g) Except as otherwise provided, violation of this
8 section or rules promulgated under subsection (e) of this
9 section constitutes a low misdemeanor punishable as
10 provided in W.S. 23-6-202(a)(v).

11
12 **23-3-110. Firearms; types permitted for hunting game**
13 **birds.**

14
15 (a) ~~Except as otherwise provided, The commission~~
16 shall establish by rule and regulation firearm and
17 ammunition specifications for taking game birds ~~excluding~~
18 ~~ruffed and blue grouse may only be taken with a shotgun not~~
19 ~~larger than ten (10) gauge. Automatic loading, pump, or~~
20 ~~repeating shotguns must be plugged to admit no more than~~
21 ~~one (1) shell in the chamber and two (2) shells in the~~
22 ~~magazine~~ or wild turkeys.

1 (c) Violation of this section or rules promulgated
2 under this section constitutes a low misdemeanor punishable
3 as provided in W.S. 23-6-202(a)(v).

4
5 23-3-111. Firearms; size of guns to be used in
6 hunting big or trophy game animals.

7
8 (a) ~~Except as otherwise provided, The commission~~
9 shall establish by rule and regulation firearm and
10 ammunition specifications for taking big or trophy game
11 animals. ~~may only be taken with the following types of~~
12 ~~firearms.~~

13
14 (b) Violation of this section or rules promulgated
15 under this section constitutes a low misdemeanor punishable
16 as provided in W.S. 23-6-202(a)(v).

17
18 23-3-304. Certain trapping devices unlawful; game for
19 bait prohibited; baiting big game animals prohibited;
20 penalties.

21
22 (d) No person shall place any bait for the purpose of
23 taking a big game animal nor shall any person knowingly
24 take a big game animal by the use of any bait that has been

1 deposited, placed, distributed or scattered in a manner to
2 constitute a lure, attraction or enticement to, on or over
3 the area where any hunter is taking big game animals.

4 Nothing in this subsection shall:

5
6 (iv) Apply to the placement, distribution,
7 depositing or scattering of bait for the taking of big game
8 animals in hunt areas where, in the determination of the
9 commission, harvest goals are not being met to address
10 population management, agricultural damage or disease and
11 human safety issues.

12
13 **Section 2.** W.S. 23-3-110(b) and 23-3-111(a)(i) and
14 (ii) are repealed.

15
16 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2012.

17
18 (END)