

LCB File No. R138-09

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE  
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

**Commission General Regulation 377**

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §1, NRS 501.105, 501.181, 503.150.

A REGULATION relating to wildlife; establishes provisions pertaining to hunting big game mammal with a firearm during muzzle-loading firearm only season.

**Section 1.** Chapter 503 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto section 2, inclusive of this regulation, to read as follows.

**Section 2. NAC 503.142 Hunting big game mammal with firearm.**

The Commission hereby establishes the following exceptions to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 503.150:

1. During a type of hunt that is restricted to muzzle-loading firearms, a person may hunt a big game mammal only with a muzzle-loading rifle or muzzle-loading musket, and may use only a lead ball, a lead bullet, a semijacketed bullet or a metal alloy bullet that expands. The use of smokeless powder is prohibited. Only black powder or a black powder substitute such as Pyrodex or Triple 7 may be used as a propellant. A sabot round may be used. The muzzle-loading rifle or muzzle-loading musket must have the following characteristics:

(a) A wheel lock, matchlock or flintlock ignition system, or a percussion ignition system that uses a primer or percussion cap;

(b) A single barrel of caliber .45 or larger; and

(c) *Except as otherwise provided in this section*, Open sights or peep sights. The use of a sight that is operated or powered by a battery, electronics or a radioactive isotope such as tritium is prohibited;

↪ The muzzle-loading rifle or the muzzle-loading musket is deemed to be not loaded if the priming compound or element, such as the priming powder or the unfired primer or percussion cap, is removed.

*(d) An application for a Disabled Muzzle-loading Rifle Scope Permit may be obtained from the headquarters of the Department; or the regional offices of the Department in Fallon, Elko or Las Vegas. The Department may issue a Disabled Muzzle-loading Rifle Scope Permit to any eligible person with a visual disability, as defined in this section.*

*(e) For the purposes of this section, a visual disability means a person with limited vision which is not correctible by glasses or contact lenses, which substantially limits a major life activity.*

*(f) Applications for a Disabled Muzzle-loading Scope Permit must be submitted to the Department. The application must be on a form provided by the Department and must contain such information as necessary to enable the Department to determine an applicants eligibility, including a certificate issued by a licensed physician certifying the applicant is visually disabled.*

*(g) The Disabled Muzzle-loading Rifle Scope Permit authorizes a visually disabled hunter to use a 1x magnification rifle scope on a muzzle-loading rifle, during a hunt restricted to muzzle-loading firearms. Each person hunting under the authority of a Disabled Muzzle-loading Rifle Scope Permit shall carry in their possession and present said permit upon demand of any officer authorized to enforce fish and game laws of the state.*

*(h) The Disabled Muzzle-loading Rifle Scope Permit is valid for a license year.*

2. During a type of hunt that is restricted to muzzle-loading firearms, it is unlawful for a person hunting under the authority of a tag for such a hunt to carry in the field a firearm or longbow and arrow except for:

(a) A muzzle-loading rifle or a muzzle-loading musket with the characteristics set forth in subsection 1; or

(b) A flintlock or percussion handgun. However, it is unlawful to use such a handgun to hunt a big game mammal.

3. During a type of hunt in which the use of any legal weapon is authorized by a regulation of the Commission, a person may hunt a big game mammal with a muzzle-loading rifle or muzzle-loading musket only if:

(a) The muzzle-loading rifle or muzzle-loading musket has:

(1) A single barrel of caliber .45 or larger; and

(2) Open sights, peep sights or a rifle scope.

(b) The person uses a lead ball, a lead bullet, a semi-jacketed bullet or a metal alloy bullet that expands. A sabot round may be used.

↳ The muzzle-loading rifle or muzzle-loading musket is deemed to be not loaded if the priming compound or element, such as the priming powder or the unfired primer or percussion cap, is removed.

4. A person may hunt big game mammals with a rifle if the rifle uses a centerfire cartridge of caliber .22 or larger.

5. A person may hunt big game mammals with a handgun if the handgun uses a centerfire cartridge, has a barrel length of 4 inches or more and:

(a) Uses a cartridge of caliber .22 or larger with an overall loaded length of 2 inches or more; or

(b) Uses a cartridge of caliber .24 or larger with a case of length no less than the length of the case of a cartridge for a Remington magnum of caliber .44.

6. A person may hunt deer and mountain lion with a shotgun no larger than 10 gauge and no smaller than 20 gauge. Only rifled slugs or shotgun rounds with sabots that contain a single expanding projectile may be used when hunting deer. A shotgun that is used to hunt deer or mountain lion pursuant to this subsection may be equipped with a smoothbore barrel or a barrel that is partially or fully rifled.