

115-4-4. Big game; legal equipment and taking methods. (a) Hunting equipment for the taking of big game during a big game archery season shall consist of the following:

(1) Archery equipment.

(A) Each bow shall be hand-drawn.

(B) No bow shall have a mechanical device that locks the bow at full or partial draw.

(C) Each bow shall be designed to shoot only one arrow at a time.

(D) No bow shall have any electronic or chemical device attached to the bow or arrow, with the exception of lighted pin, dot, ~~or~~ holographic sights, or illuminated nocks.

(E) Each arrow used for hunting shall be equipped with a nonbarbed broadhead point with all-metal cutting edges.

(F) Each arrow used for hunting shall be at least 20 inches in length.

(G) Optical scopes or sights that project no visible light toward the target and do not electronically amplify visible or infrared light may be used.

(H) Range-finding devices may be used or attached to the bow if the system does not project visible light toward the target.

(I) No bow with less than 50 pounds of draw weight shall be used to archery hunt for elk.

(2) Crossbows and locking draws as authorized under K.A.R. 115-18-7.

(b) Hunting equipment for the taking of big game during a big game firearm season shall consist of the following:

(1) Firearms season equipment authorized for all big game species:

(A) Archery equipment as authorized in subsection (a);

(B) optical scopes or sights that project no visible light toward the target and do not electronically amplify visible or infrared light; and

(C) range-finding devices, if the system does not project visible light toward the target.

(2) Firearms season equipment authorized for deer and antelope:

(A) Centerfire rifles that are not fully automatic and that fire a bullet larger than .23 inches in diameter, while using only soft point, hollow point, or other expanding bullets;

(B) muzzleloading rifles and muskets that can be loaded only through the front of the firing chamber with separate components and that fire a bullet of .39 inches in diameter or larger;

(C) centerfire handguns that are not fully automatic, fire a bullet larger than .23 inches in diameter, and use a cartridge case that is 1.280 inches or more in length, while using only soft point, hollow point, or other expanding bullets;

(D) single barrel muzzleloading pistols .45 caliber or larger that have a barrel length of 10 inches or greater and can be loaded only through the front of the barrel with separate components. Only conical lead or sabot bullets weighing 210 grains or greater shall be used with muzzleloading pistols; and

(E) shotguns using only slugs of 20 gauge or larger.

(3) Firearms season equipment authorized for elk:

(A) Centerfire rifles as authorized in paragraph (b)(2)(A), but only if firing a bullet larger than .25 inches in diameter and using a cartridge greater than 2.5 inches in length;

(B) muzzleloading rifles and muskets as authorized in paragraph (b)(2)(B), but only if firing a bullet of .49 inches in diameter or larger; and

(C) shotguns using only slugs of 12 gauge or larger.

(c) Hunting equipment for the taking of big game during a big game muzzleloader-only firearm season shall consist of the following:

(1) Muzzleloader-only season equipment authorized for deer and antelope:

(A) Muzzleloading rifles and muskets as authorized in paragraph (b)(2)(B), but only if using only open or peep sights that do not magnify the target, project visible light, or electronically amplify visible or infrared light; and

(B) muzzleloading pistols as authorized in paragraph (b)(2)(D), but only if using only open or peep sights that do not magnify the target, project visible light, or electronically amplify visible or infrared light.

(2) Muzzleloader-only season equipment authorized for elk:

(A) Muzzleloading rifles and muskets as authorized in paragraph (b)(3)(B), but only if using only open or peep sights that do not magnify the target, project visible light, or electronically amplify visible or infrared light; and

(B) archery equipment as authorized in subsection (a).

(d) Accessory equipment.

(1) Each individual hunting deer or elk during a firearms deer or elk season and each individual assisting an individual hunting deer or elk as authorized by K.A.R. 115-4-2 or K.A.R. 115-18-15 during a firearms deer or elk season shall wear clothing of a bright orange color

having a predominant light wavelength of 595-605 nanometers, commonly referred to as daylight fluorescent orange, hunter orange, blaze orange, or safety orange. This bright orange color shall be worn as follows:

(A) A hat with the exterior of not less than 50 percent of the bright orange color, an equal portion of which is visible from all directions; and

(B) a minimum of 100 square inches of the bright orange color that is on the front of the torso and is visible from the front, and a minimum of 100 square inches that is on the rear of the torso and is visible from the rear.

(2) Nonelectric calls, lures, and decoys, except live decoys, shall be legal while hunting big game.

(3) Any individual may use blinds and stands while hunting big game.

(e) Big game permittees shall possess hunting equipment while hunting only as authorized by this regulation and by the most restrictive big game permit or game tag in possession while hunting.

(f) Shooting hours for deer, antelope, and elk during each day of any deer, antelope, or elk hunting season shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

(g) Horses and mules may be used while hunting big game, except that horses and mules shall not be used for herding or driving elk. (Authorized by K.S.A. 32-807 and K.S.A. 2005 Supp. 32-937; implementing K.S.A. 32-807, K.S.A. 2005 Supp. 32-937, K.S.A. 2005 Supp. 32-

1002, and K.S.A. 32-1015; effective June 1, 2001; amended April 19, 2002; amended April 22, 2005; amended June 2, 2006; amended P-_____.)