

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 device attached to the bow or arrow, with the exception of lighted pin, dot, holographic sights, or illuminated nocks.

(E) Each arrow used for hunting shall be equipped with a broadhead point incapable of passing through a ring with a diameter of three-quarters of an inch when fully expanded. A big game hunter using archery equipment may possess non-broadhead-tipped arrows while hunting if the arrows are not used to take or attempt to take big game animals.

(F) 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.

(3) For any individual possessing a youth big game permit or any individual 55 years of age or older, crossbows of not less than 125 pounds of draw weight, using arrows not less than 16 inches in length that are equipped with broadhead points incapable of passing through a ring with a diameter of three-quarters of an inch when fully expanded. A big game hunter using crossbow equipment may possess non-broadhead-tipped arrows while hunting if the arrows are not used to take or attempt to take big game animals.

(b) Hunting equipment for the taking of big game during a big game muzzleloader-only season

shall consist of the following:

- (1) Archery and crossbow equipment as authorized in subsection (a);
- (2) 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, except for the hunting of elk, which shall require a bullet of .49 inches in diameter or larger; and
- (3) 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, except for the hunting of elk, which shall require a bullet of .49 inches in diameter or larger. Only hard-cast solid lead, conical lead, or sabot bullets shall be used with muzzleloading pistols.

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

- (1) Archery equipment as authorized in subsection (a);
- (2) muzzleloader-only season equipment as authorized in subsection (b);
- (3) centerfire rifles and handguns that are not fully automatic, that fire a bullet larger than .23 inches in diameter, and that use a cartridge case that is 1.280 inches or more in length, while using only hard-cast solid lead, soft point, hollow point, or other expanding bullets, except for the hunting of elk, which shall require a bullet larger than .25 inches in diameter and a cartridge case that is 1.75 inches or more in length;
- (4) shotguns using only slugs of 20 gauge or larger, except that the hunting of elk shall require a slug of 12 gauge or larger; and
- (5) crossbows of not less than 125 pounds of draw weight, using arrows not less than 16 inches

in length that are equipped with broadhead points incapable of passing through a ring with a diameter of three-quarters of an inch when fully expanded. A big game hunter using ~~archery~~ crossbow equipment may possess non-broadhead-tipped arrows while hunting if the arrows are not used to take or attempt to take big game animals.

(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~~ at least 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~~ at least 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.

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

(5) Any range-finding device, if the device does not project visible light toward the target, may

be used.

(6) Devices capable of dispensing chemicals to take big game animals shall not be used.

(e) ~~Big game permittees shall possess hunting equipment while hunting only as authorized by this regulation and by the most restrictive big game permit 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~~) (f) 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 and implementing K.S.A. 32-807 and K.S.A. 2009 2010 Supp. 32-937; ~~implementing~~ K.S.A. 32-807, K.S.A. 2009 Supp. 32-937, K.S.A. 2009 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 April 13, 2007; amended April 11, 2008; amended May 21, 2010; amended P-_____.)