

APA-1  
6/93

**TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR  
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

Control No. 220 Department or Agency Conservation and Natural Resources  
**Rule No.: 220-2-.03 Legal Specifications for Bow and Arrow**

New  Amend  Repeal (of Existing Rule)  Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? YES

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? YES

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public? NO

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved and, if so, to what degree? NO

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the rule? N/A

Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public? YES

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Does the proposed rule have any economic impact? NO

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

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Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975 and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Alabama Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Reference Service.

Signature of Certifying Officer [Signature]

Secretary of Administrative Procedure

Date April 20, 2011

**Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries**

**NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

**AGENCY NAME:** Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

**RULE NO. & TITLE:** (1) 220-2-.85 Hunter Orange Requirement for Hunting and Definition of Open Permit-Public Land; (2) 220-2-.03 Legal Specifications for Bow and Arrow

**INTENDED ACTION:** (1) – (2) Amendments.

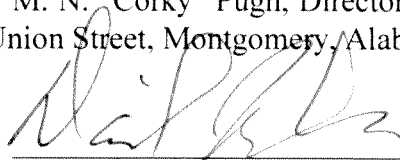
**SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION:** (1) 220-2-.85- to further provide for a hunter orange requirement for certain hunting; and to further clarify and provide for the gun deer seasons to which the requirement applies; (2) 220-2-.03 - to further provide for certain legal specifications for bow and arrow; and to further specify and provide for certain types of sighting and aiming devices.

**TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS:** Interested persons may present their views in writing to the Director of the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries at any time during the period stated below, or orally if requested in advance by personally appearing at Room 469, Folsom Administrative Building, 64 North Union Street, Montgomery, Alabama, at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, June 7, 2011.

**FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE:**

Tuesday, June 7, 2011.

**CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY:** M. N. "Corky" Pugh, Director, Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, 5th Floor, 64 N. Union Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36130.



DAVID J. DEAN

Secretary of Administrative Procedure

**N. Gunter Guy, Jr.**

**220-2-.03      Legal Specifications for Bow and Arrow**

(1) A legal bow for hunting is defined as either a long bow, a recurve bow, or a compound bow designed to be held, drawn, and fired in the upright (vertical) position, or a crossbow. Except for crossbows or as provided in paragraph (3) for disabled persons, there shall be no attachment or extensions on the bow upon which the shooter may rest the string, drawing hand, fingers, release aid or arm to assist in holding or to hold the bow at full draw. Except for crossbows or as provided in paragraph (3) for disabled persons, the bow must be supported only by the shooter's hand, and the string and arrow must be drawn and held using only the shooter's strength while the bow is being shot. This does not prohibit the use of cable guards on compound bows or the use of string releases or mechanical releases which are hand-held and hand-drawn with no other attachments, connection or contact with the bow other than to the bow string. It shall be unlawful to hunt with any bow which does not conform to the requirements of this regulation.

~~(2) Sighting and aiming devices on all bows shall be void of any electronics with computational capabilities. The use of electrically assisted aiming devices shall be limited to illuminated sight pins/beads/markings which are attached to the bow. There shall be no electronic or electrically assisted devices attached to the bow, except (a) illuminated sight pins/beads/markings, (b) sights with magnification on crossbows, or (c) laser type range finders with computational capabilities with no visible beam or light projection. Except for use on crossbows, sights with magnification are prohibited. Light projection (laser type) features are prohibited on all bows.~~

(3)(a) Except for crossbows, it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt wildlife with any mechanical device that holds a bow at full or partial draw, except a person holding a valid disabled permit issued by the Department is allowed to use a device that holds a bow at full draw provided the device has a full working safety to prevent accidental firings.

(b) Permits for permanently disabled persons shall be issued to persons meeting at least one of the following qualifications:

(1) Any person previously licensed under Section 9-11-45.1, Code of Alabama, to use a crossbow.

(2) Any person unable to ambulate without the aid of a wheelchair, two crutches, two leg braces or two leg prostheses at all times.

(3) Any person who, by reason of permanent physical impairment, is incapable of holding, drawing, or releasing a compound bow, recurve bow, or long bow, with a minimum peak tension (within the user's normal draw length) of 35 pounds.

Persons applying for a permit pursuant to (b)(2) or (b)(3) above shall present to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources a letter from a licensed physician stating the

applicant's name, address, description of the permanent physical impairment, the medical reason for such impairment, and a specific statement certifying how the applicant meets the criteria of (b)(2) or (b)(3). Upon review and approval of such letter by an authorized employee of the Department, the letter shall be returned to the applicant and said letter shall be in the applicant's possession and serve as a permit at any time he/she is utilizing the permit for hunting.

(4) It shall be unlawful, except as otherwise provided by law or regulation, for any person to hunt deer and turkey with bow and arrows that are not in conformance with the following specifications:

(a) Bows must have a minimum peak tension (within the user's normal draw length) of 35 pounds. Compound bows shall not have draw reduction (let-off) greater than 90 percent at full draw. Crossbows must have a minimum peak tension of 100 pounds at normal draw length.

(b) Arrows shall be a minimum of 20 inches in length (nock slot to end of shaft) and equipped with a broadhead which has a minimum of 2 sharpened edges. Crossbow bolts or arrows shall be a minimum of 14 inches in length from nock slot to end of shaft.

(c) Broadheads shall have a minimum weight of 100 grains. The minimum cutting diameter for any broadhead shall be 7/8 inch. The minimum thickness for fixed blade broadheads shall be .015 inch, and the minimum thickness for expanded broadheads shall be .025 inch.

(5) Crossbows must be equipped with a working safety.

**Statutory Authority:** §§ 9-2-7, 9-2-8, and 9-2-12  
Code of Alabama 1975

**PENALTY:** As provided by law.

9/30/82; 12/3/88; 11/16/90; 10/23/91; 1/18/92; 6/16/93; 12/17/94; 9/16/97; 8/26/98; 11/17/99;  
9/15/2000; 11/30/2001; 8/21/2002; 9/15/2004; 9/2/2010;