

**Maryland General Assembly
Department of Legislative Services**

**Proposed Regulation
Department of Natural Resources
(DLS Control No. 20-040)**

Overview and Legal and Fiscal Impact

The regulation defines two new terms related to provisions of law governing the authorized use of weapons for deer hunting.

The regulation presents no legal issues of concern.

There is no fiscal impact on State or local agencies.

Regulation of COMAR Affected

Department of Natural Resources:

Wildlife: General: COMAR 08.03.01.01

Legal Analysis

Summary of Regulation

For the purpose of governing the use of weapons for deer hunting, the regulation defines “primitive weapon” to mean (1) a vertical long or recurve bow or other vertical bow that does not use wheels, cams, or other mechanical devices that aid in the drawing of the bow string or the holding of a drawn bow; and (2) a flintlock or percussion cap sidelock muzzle loading firearm. The regulation also defines “straight-walled cartridge” as a bullet casing with straight walls all the way to the projectile that is used as handgun or rifle ammunition.

Legal Issues

The regulation presents no legal issues of concern.

Statutory Authority and Legislative Intent

The department cites § 10-408 of the Natural Resources Article as statutory authority for the regulation. Section 10-408 requires the department to set by regulation the means or weapons used for hunting wildlife, and any restrictions related to these weapons.

This authority is correct and complete. The regulation complies with the legislative intent of the law.

Technical Corrections and Special Notes

As mentioned, the regulation defines the term “primitive weapons” which is cross-referenced in separate proposed regulations that establish a three-day deer hunting season in February during which only “primitive weapons” may be used (see DLS Control No. 20-042).

Fiscal Analysis

There is no fiscal impact on State or local agencies.

Agency Estimate of Projected Fiscal Impact

The department advises that the regulation has no impact on State or local governments. The Department of Legislative Services concurs.

Impact on Budget

There is no impact on the State operating or capital budget.

Agency Estimate of Projected Small Business Impact

The department advises that the regulation has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses in the State. The Department of Legislative Services concurs.

Contact Information

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