

HB 23-1036 (Nontoxic Bullet Replacement Hunting Program) Update

March 2024 Commission Meeting



What is HB 23-1036?

Passed in May 2023

- Mandates CPW to work with NGOs to establish a **pilot program that encourages or incentivizes the use of non-lead ammunition** while hunting and report on the results of the program.
- Other tasks include promoting the use of non-lead ammunition through **informational materials** and holding **range demonstrations** to promote the efficacy of non-lead ammunition.
- The NGOs we have been coordinating with include **The National Wildlife Federation, North American Non-lead Partnership, Sporting Lead-Free, and American Bird Conservancy.**

HB23-1036

Nontoxic Bullet Replacement Hunting Program

Concerning measures designed to encourage the use of nontoxic bullets for hunting, and, in connection therewith, making an appropriation.

SESSION: 2023 Regular Session

SUBJECT: Natural Resources & Environment

BILL SUMMARY

The act creates the nontoxic bullet pilot program (pilot program), which allows individuals who meet the qualifications to receive vouchers that offset the cost of purchasing hunting rounds that have nonlead bullets. The pilot program will focus on areas where the exposure of wildlife populations to spent lead bullets is of special or potential concern. The division of parks and wildlife (division) will work with one or more willing nongovernmental entities to determine the scope and collect the results of the pilot program. The division may work with nongovernmental entities to develop educational materials and range demonstrations relating to the pilot program.

Task 1: Information Sharing

- Updated the “Get the Lead Out” language in our sheep/goat/moose and big game brochures by adding:

- detail on **wildlife health impacts** (specifically for nontarget wildlife) from lead ammunition
- **suggestions for how to reduce human and wildlife health related impacts** from hunting
- a link to **Sporting Lead-Free’s website** for additional information on the wildlife impacts of using lead while hunting.

- We also plan to roll out a **webpage** in summer 2024 with links to information, video/photo footage of the range demos, and an overview of the pilot program.

HUNT PLAN
PLANNING YOUR HUNT
 Call 303-297-1192 for more help getting started!

This brochure will help decide which big game species you'd like to hunt, when and where you'd like to hunt, which method of take you'd like to use and the requirements for getting your hunting license. It only takes a few steps to plan your hunt!

- DO YOU HAVE YOUR HUNTER EDUCATION?**
 You'll need to have your hunter education certification and card number before applying for the draw(s) or purchasing a hunting license. If you were born after Jan. 1, 1949, remember that you must carry proof of hunter education in the field when you hunt. See pages 5-6 for additional license requirements and how to obtain an apprentice certificate.
- WHICH SPECIES DO YOU WANT TO HUNT?**
 Colorado offers 16 big game species. This brochure has hunting methods and options for deer, mule and white-tailed elk, pronghorn, moose and bear. Pick the species and/or year you're interested in hunting. Page 11 has information that helps identify different big game animals.
- WHERE DO YOU WANT TO HUNT?**
 Colorado is divided into hunting areas called game management units (i.e. GMUs). It's important that every hunter knows the boundaries of their hunting area, including physical land boundaries. Check out the state map and unit descriptions in the back of this brochure or online: cpw.info/maps
- WHEN DO YOU WANT TO HUNT?**
 In general, deer, elk and bear hunting, antelope season starts in early Sept. and lasts almost a month. Muzzleloader season starts in the middle of archery season, and lasts five seasons. Follow that. The first five seasons is limited to elk and bear hunting only. The second, third and fourth seasons are for elk, bear and deer.
- WHAT DO YOU WANT TO HUNT WITH?**
 Colorado has sections for air method hunting, "firearms" and muzzleloading that are a minimum of 40 caliber (50 caliber for air method), and shotguns and crossbows. Legal requirements for the various methods and transporting them in the field are described in this brochure.
- TYPES OF LICENSES YOU CAN GET**
 Each year a set (limited number) of licenses is allocated to each GMU. You can apply for the big game draw(s) to get one of these limited licenses or after the draw is over, you can purchase a remaining (leftover) limited license when they go on sale. Some licenses for elk, pronghorn and bear are also available without needing to enter the draw, and are not restricted in quantity (unlimited). These can be purchased over the counter either in person on-site, by phone and in person at sales agents around the state.
- READ THIS BROCHURE!**
 Now that you have a plan, be sure to read through this brochure to help get your license and be prepared out in the field. The first 19 pages have all of your basic hunting information: new changes, license information, options and sale dates, general information, hunting laws, application information and directions and how to read the hunt code tables. Pages 20-47 break out each of the six big game species in this brochure into their own sections. Each section has species specific regulation changes, season dates, how to get more than one license and hunt code tables. The last few pages, 68-73, provide a GMU map and detailed descriptions of the GMU boundaries and specific land restrictions.

LETTERS

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY INFORMATION
RANCHING FOR WILDLIFE
 Public Ranching for Wildlife (PRW) licenses are available only to Colorado residents by owner. PRW landowners must provide full access to licensees who share a common interest in wildlife. For more information, go to cpw.info/prw

BIGHORN SHEEP ACCESS PROGRAM
 Bighorn Sheep Access Program (BSAP) licenses are available only to Colorado residents by owner. BSAP landowners must provide full access to licensees who share a common interest in the ranch. See the hunt code table on page 47 and cpw.info/bighorn-sheep-access-program

TURK IN PACKERS (TIP) PROGRAM
 TIP is available to licensed anglers who are eligible persons that report the illegal take, possession or virtual destruction of the quagga or nutcrack that results in a person being charged for the illegal take, possession or virtual destruction of the quagga or nutcrack. Go to cpw.info/tips or call 303-297-1192 for details.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT LICENSES
 CPW has special licenses to prevent the spread of disease and safeguard sensitive species. These licenses allow you to hunt during extended seasons in any state open to hunting a certain species. These licenses are offered by participating wildlife conservation organizations that receive at least 75 percent of the proceeds from CPW for research, management and education. For information on purchasing raffle tickets for licenses or participating in auctions, visit any of the following websites, or visit cpw.info/licenses-and-rafts

AUCTION & RAFFLE LICENSES
WITH THE HUNT OF A LIFETIME!
 Special auction and raffle licenses are available for Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and mountain goat. Auction and raffle licenses allow you to hunt during extended seasons in any state open to hunting a certain species. These licenses are offered by participating wildlife conservation organizations that receive at least 75 percent of the proceeds from CPW for research, management and education. For information on purchasing raffle tickets for licenses or participating in auctions, visit any of the following websites, or visit cpw.info/licenses-and-rafts

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIGHORN SHEEP
 • cpw.info/mountain-bighorn-sheep - Auction and Raffle
 • cpw.info/mountain-bighorn-sheep - Auction
 • cpw.info/mountain-bighorn-sheep - Raffle
 Special auctions and raffles are also available for deer, pronghorn and moose. Auctions, raffles and raffles are by the year you wish to purchase your hunting license brochure.

GET THE LEAD OUT
 Go to CPW.COLOREADS.COM/LEAD-HEALTH and click "For the public" to see the factsheets on Lead in Hunter Shooting and Firing Ranges. From the field to the table, ensuring your purchases is the first step you can take to reduce lead exposure. Lead risks can be reduced by using lead-free ammunition. To help reduce human and wildlife health impacts, you can:

1. Use lead-free ammo when hunting.
2. Avoid eating game meat from animals harvested with lead bullets. If you are pregnant, children younger than 6 should also avoid it.
3. Avoid eating game meat from animals harvested with lead bullets. If you are pregnant, children younger than 6 should also avoid it.
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GENERAL INFORMATION
IDENTIFICATION

BIGHORN SHEEP IDENTIFICATION

- **ONE-HALF-CORN RAKE:** Male bighorn sheep or horns having one or both tips grown at least through 1/20 degree (1/20 CORN). This is measured by first establishing a reference line bisecting the eye and base of the ear. A half corn ear has both horns that have grown at least as far as the reference line as the illustration.
- **5 INCHES:** A female sheep with a horn or horns at least 5 inches long, measured on the outside curve.

MOUNTAIN GOAT IDENTIFICATION

- **BILLY (MALE):** Horns have horns that are close together and larger than the eye. Horns have horns that are close together and larger than the eye. Horns have horns that are close together and larger than the eye. Horns have horns that are close together and larger than the eye.
- **HANNY (FEMALE):** Horns have horns that are smaller or equal to the eye size. Horns are often twisted and straight, with a curve at the ends. Horns are often twisted and straight, with a curve at the ends. Horns are often twisted and straight, with a curve at the ends.

FOR MORE info go to cpw.info/for-sheep-and-goat-resources

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Task 2: Range Demonstrations

CPW will host a series of range demonstrations to showcase the efficacy and ballistics of nonlead ammunition to hunters and the public.

Range Demo 1 - Colorado Clays (Brighton): Friday May 10 - Saturday May 11

Range Demo 2 - Cameo (Grand Junction): Friday June 7 - Saturday June 8

Day 1: Staff and partners will attend classroom session and range demonstration.

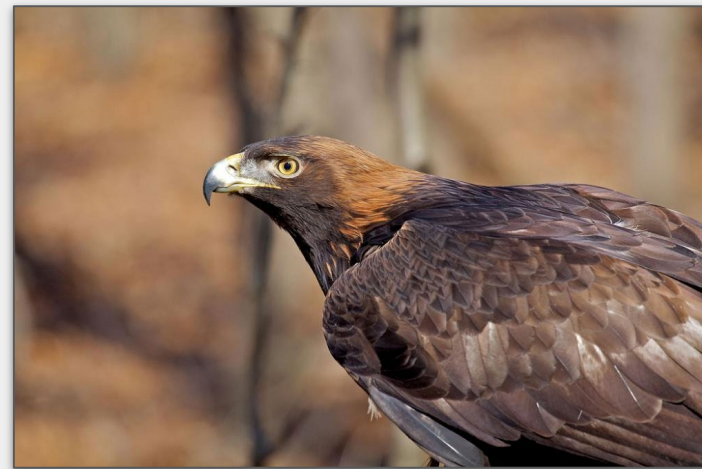
Day 2: Public will be invited to will attend classroom session and range demonstration.



Task 3: Pilot Program

Proposed Approach:

- 1) CPW will target a **subset of hunters who successfully draw deer and elk rifle licenses with educational materials** to inform them of the benefits of using non-lead ammunition while hunting and **provide information and resources** on where to purchase non-lead ammunition.
- 2) Information will also be provided on how hunters who choose to hunt with lead ammunition might still **reduce the risk to non-target wildlife** (i.e., by removing gut piles, etc.).
- 3) After the hunting seasons conclude, CPW will **survey hunters to determine whether they used non-lead ammunition** in the field or took other measures, the rationales for their choice, and their experience.
- 4) CPW will use this information to **prepare a report** for the Parks and Wildlife Commission and the public.



Questions?

