

01-01-10

Title: Lesser Weapon Classification

The Problem: Currently there exists hunting seasons defined by weaponry and species (i.e. Gun Deer season and Archery Deer season) There also exists a list of legally defined weapons allowed in any given season for a particular species.

In an effort to increase and expand hunting opportunity to more people and a broader range of weapons for species including: Deer, Bear, Small Game, Predators, etc., a system of weapons classifications would be implemented that would allow the use of any lesser weapon within any season that allows the use of a greater weapon.

Weapons would be classified by order, greater to lesser according to the following classes.

1. Center fire rifles
2. Shotguns
3. Muzzleloader and inline rifles
4. Handguns
5. Crossbows
6. Longbows, Recurves and Compound bows

This system would allow the use of lesser weapons in any hunting season that is defined by weapon.

Example 1: The gun deer season would allow the use of weapons class 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

Example 2: The Muzzleloader deer season would allow the use of weapons class 3, 4, 5 and 6

(Waterfowl and Turkey are limited to birdshot and would exclude handgun use.) This would not alter existing exemptions in place for the handicapped and elderly.

Be it resolved that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in _____ County on April 12, 2010, recommends the Congress work with the DNR and NRB to take action to institute this lesser weapons systems of classifications.

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