

**Background Report
Draft Rule 68A-12.002
Agenda Item 10A
February 21, 2019**

DRAFT RULE

RULE NO: 68A-12.002 **RULE TITLE:** General Methods of Taking Game and Crows; Prohibitions.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The purpose of the proposed rule amendment is to adjust the minimum caliber restriction for hunting deer with muzzleloading rifles from .40 caliber to .30 caliber, update the regulations for taking crows to conform with federal regulations, and to remove the prohibition on hunting game or crows with a bow equipped with sights or aiming devices with electronic computational capabilities or light projection (laser) features during any archery season. The effect of the proposed rule amendment would be to provide hunters with greater flexibility in methods of taking game and crows with archery equipment and muzzleloading guns.

SUMMARY: The proposed rule amendment would allow the use of muzzleloading rifles .30 caliber or larger for hunting deer and the use of bows equipped with sights or aiming devices with electronic computational capabilities (rangefinder) or light projection (laser) features for hunting game or crows during any archery season. In addition, the proposed rule amendment would update the regulations for taking crows to conform with federal regulations.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

68A-12.002 General Methods of Taking Game and Crows; Prohibitions.

- (1) through (2) No change.
- (3) Resident game birds, crows or game mammals may be taken with any of the following:
 - (a) No change.
 - (b) Rifle, revolver or pistol, except that:
 - 1. through 4. No change.
 - 5. Muzzleloading guns of less than .30 ~~.40~~ caliber firing a single bullet or of less than 20 gauge firing two or more balls, are prohibited for taking deer or bear.
 - 6. No change.
 - (c) Air guns, except that:
 - 1. through 2. No change.
 - 3. Taking crows is prohibited.
 - (d) No change.
 - (e) Bow or crossbow, except that:
 - 1. Any arrow or bolt used to take deer, bear or wild turkey shall be equipped with a broadhead ~~that has a minimum of two sharpened edges~~ with a minimum width of 7/8 inches.
 - 2. through 3. No change.
 - 4. Taking crow with crossbow is prohibited.
 - (f) No change.
- (4) through (7) No change.
- (8) No person shall:
 - (a) No change.
 - ~~(b) Take any game or crows with a bow equipped with sights or aiming devices with electronic computational capabilities or light projection (laser) features during any archery season.~~
 - (c) through (k) renumbered (b) through (j) No change.
- (9) No change.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

Rulemaking Authority Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. Law Implemented Art. IV, Sec. 9, Fla. Const. History—New 8-1-79, Amended 6-4-81, 11-17-81, 6-21-82, 7-1-83, 7-1-84, 7-1-85, Formerly 39-12.02, Amended 6-1-86, 4-11-90, 4-14-92, 4-20-93, 3-1-94, 3-30-95, 4-1-96, 12-28-98, Formerly 39-12.002, Amended 7-1-05, 7-1-06, 7-1-08, 10-23-08, 1-1-11, 7-1-13, 12-23-14, 7-29-15, 7-1-18, 7-1-19.