University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

An Agricultural Law Research Project

States’ Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Laws

Hunting, Fishing, and Wildlife

Utah

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STATE OF UTAH

UAC R657-5-2
UAC R657-5-14

Current through April 5, 2020

UAC R657-5-14 Use of Vehicle or Aircraft

(1)(a) A person may not use an airplane, drone, or any other airborne vehicle or device, or any motorized terrestrial or aquatic vehicle, including snowmobiles and other recreational vehicles, except a vessel as provided in Subsection (c), to take protected wildlife.

(b) A person may not take protected wildlife being chased, harmed, harassed, rallied, herded, flushed, pursued or moved by any vehicle, device, or conveyance listed in Subsection (a).

(c) Big game may be taken from a vessel provided:
   (i) the motor of a motorboat has been completely shut off;
   (ii) the sails of a sailboat have been furled; and
   (iii) the vessel's progress caused by the motor or sail has ceased.

(2) A person may not use any type of aircraft, drone, or other airborne vehicle or device from 48 hours before any big game hunt begins in the area where they are flying through 48 hours after any big game hunting season ends in the area where they are flying to locate, or attempt to observe or locate any protected wildlife.

(3)(a) The provisions of this section do not apply to the operation of an aircraft, drone, or other airborne vehicle or device used for the purposes of transporting hunters, equipment, or legally harvested wildlife, provided the aircraft takes off and lands only from an improved airstrip, where there is no attempt or intent to locate protected wildlife.

(b) Hunters that are transported by aircraft into an area may not hunt protected wildlife until the following day.

(c) For the purposes of this section, “improved airstrip” means a take-off and landing area with a graded or otherwise mechanically improved surface free of barriers or other hazards that is traditionally used by pilots for the purposes of air travel.
UAC R657-5-2 Definitions

(1) Terms used in this rule are defined in Section 23-13-2.
(2) In addition:

... 

(I) “Drone” means an autonomously controlled, aerial vehicle of any size or configuration that is capable of controlled flight without a human pilot aboard.