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States' Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Laws: *Utah*



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

Current through November 23, 2022

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:
- (a) “Antlerless deer” means a deer without antlers or with antlers five inches or shorter.
 - (b) “Antlerless elk” means an elk without antlers or with antlers five inches or shorter.
 - (c) “Antlerless elk control permit” means a permit allowing an individual to harvest an antlerless elk on an antlerless elk control unit.
 - (d) “Antlerless moose” means a moose with antlers shorter than its ears.
 - (e) “Arrow quiver” means a portable arrow case that completely encases all edges of the broadheads.
 - (f) “Buck deer” means a deer with antlers longer than five inches.
 - (g) “Buck pronghorn” means a pronghorn with horns longer than five inches.
 - (h) “Bull elk” means an elk with antlers longer than five inches.
 - (i) “Bull moose” means a moose with antlers longer than its ears.
 - (j) “Cow bison” means a female bison.
 - (k) “Doe pronghorn” means a pronghorn without horns or with horns five inches or shorter.
 - (l) “Draw-lock” means a mechanical device used to hold and support the draw weight of a conventional or compound bow at any increment of draw until released by the archer using a trigger mechanism and safety attached to the device.
 - (m) “Drone” means an autonomously controlled, aerial vehicle of any size or configuration that is capable of controlled flight without a human pilot aboard.
 - (n) (i) “Night Vision Device” means any device that enhances visible or non-visible light, including but not limited to: night vision, thermal imaging, infrared imaging, or electronics that enhance the visible or non-visible light spectrum.
(ii) “Night Vision Device” does not include Trail Cameras as defined in Subsection (x).
 - (o) “Ewe” means a female bighorn sheep or any bighorn sheep younger than one year of age.
 - (p) “Hunter's choice” means either sex may be taken.
 - (q) “Immediate family member” means the landowner's or lessee's spouse, child, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother, sister, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepchild, grandchild, grandfather, and grandmother.
 - (r) “Limited entry hunt” means any hunt published in the hunt tables of the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game, which is identified as limited entry and does not include general or once-in-a-lifetime hunts.
 - (s) “Limited entry permit” means any permit obtained for a limited entry hunt by any means, including conservation permits, wildlife expo permits, sportsman permits, cooperative wildlife management unit permits and limited entry landowner permits.
 - (t) “Once-in-a-lifetime hunt” means any hunt published in the hunt tables of the guidebook of the Wildlife Board for taking big game, which



is identified as once-in-a-lifetime, and does not include general or limited entry hunts.

(u) “Once-in-a-lifetime permit” means any permit obtained for a once-in-a-lifetime hunt by any means, including conservation permits, wildlife expo permits, sportsman permits, cooperative wildlife management unit permits and limited entry landowner permits.

(v) “Ram” means a male desert bighorn sheep or Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep older than one year of age.

(w) “Spike bull” means a bull elk which has at least one antler beam with no branching above the ears. Branched means a projection on an antler longer than one inch, measured from its base to its tip.

(x) “Trail camera” means a device that is not held or manually operated by a person and is used to capture images, video, or location data of wildlife using heat, or motion to trigger the device.

