

**WAC 220-414-020 Unlawful methods for hunting—Firearms.** (1) It is unlawful to hunt any big game with:

(a) A fully automatic firearm.  
(b) A centerfire cartridge less than 22 caliber for cougar.  
(c) A centerfire cartridge less than 24 caliber for any other big game.

(d) A shotgun, provided that it is a 20 gauge, or larger shotgun, using shells loaded with slugs or buckshot size #1 or larger, may be used to hunt deer, bear, and cougar.

(e) A shotgun for any other big game, except that a 12 gauge or 10 gauge shotgun using slugs may be used.

(f) A handgun during a modern firearm season that does not meet the following criteria: Have a minimum barrel length of four inches, per manufacturer's specification, and fire a centerfire cartridge.

(g) Any rimfire cartridge.

(2) It is unlawful to hunt game birds with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells.

(3) It is unlawful to hunt game birds or game animals(~~(, except bullfrogs,)~~) in a manner other than with a firearm, a bow and arrow, a crossbow, or by falconry, with the following exceptions:

(a) Bullfrogs may be hunted only by methods listed in WAC 220-416-120.

(b) Dusky grouse, sooty grouse, spruce grouse, ruffed grouse, snowshoe hare, and cottontail rabbit may be hunted with an air rifle no smaller than .22 caliber and no larger than .25 caliber.

(4) It is unlawful to hunt game animals or game birds with a shotgun larger than 10 gauge.

(5) It is unlawful to hunt game birds with a rifle or handgun, with the exception of ~~((blue))~~:

(a) Dusky grouse, sooty grouse, spruce grouse and ruffed grouse~~((~~

~~(6) It is unlawful to hunt))~~; and

(b) Turkey, which it is unlawful to hunt with a weapon other than ((shotgun shooting #4 or smaller shot, bow and arrow, crossbow,)) the following:

(i) Crossbow or bow and arrow;

(ii) Shotgun shooting #4 or smaller shot, or muzzleloading shotgun shooting #4 or smaller shot;

(iii) Legal modern or muzzleloading handgun designed for hunting, shooting #4 or smaller shot, and not capable of holding more than three shells. Handgun barrel length must be a minimum of ten inches (inclusive of choke tube for modern handguns). Modern handguns must shoot a minimum three inch shotshell of .410 caliber or larger. Muzzleloading handguns must be .45 caliber or larger;

(iv) Rimfire rifle as authorized during the designated fall rifle season. It is unlawful to hunt turkey with a rifle during the spring season.

~~((+7))~~ (6) A violation of this section is punishable under RCW 77.15.400, 77.15.410, or 77.15.430, depending on the species hunted.