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Special Weapons Hunting			

### This Policy Replaces:

4-7-13.05.1 Special Weapons Hunting (July 28, 1993)

### Staff and Organizations Affected:

- Director
- Regional Managers
- Wildlife Management Staff
- First Nations
- Resident Hunters
- Guide Outfitters

### POLICY STATEMENT

#### It is the policy of the Ministry:

1. To provide for a broad range of hunting opportunities, including the use of special weapons, which are consistent with meeting conservation objectives for wildlife and maintaining public safety;
2. That hunting with special weapons and hunting with long guns are generally compatible hunting activities that can occur concurrently;
3. To provide opportunities for the use of special weapons by allowing for the hunting of all game species with special weapons during all general open and limited entry hunting seasons, provided that the special weapons can effect a humane death as intended in the *Wildlife Act* and its regulations, and
4. To provide bow-only hunting seasons where such seasons meet the criteria described in the Special Weapons Hunting Procedure


#### Reason for this Policy:

The Ministry has established this policy to provide province-wide direction for developing special weapons hunting opportunities.

#### Definitions:

**archery** – the use of a crossbow or longbow.

**bow** – a longbow or crossbow.

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**crossbow** – a bow fixed across a stock with a groove for the arrow or bolt and a mechanism for holding and releasing the string.

**firearm** – includes a rifle, shotgun, handgun or spring gun and any device that propels a projectile by means of an explosion, compressed gas or spring, but does not include a bow;

**long gun** – a rifle or a shotgun.

**longbow** – a longbow, recurve bow or compound bow.

**muzzle-loading firearm** – a firearm which propels a projectile which is loaded with powder separately through the muzzle of the firearm.

**special weapon** – a longbow, crossbow or muzzle-loading firearm.

#### Policy Manual Cross-References:

Ministry Policy Manual, Volume 4, Section 7

Subsection:

- 01.01 Allowable Harvest
- 01.02 Open Seasons
- 01.06 Limited Entry Hunting
- 01.07 Game Harvest Management
- 13.01 Goal of Wildlife Management

#### Procedure Manual Cross-References:

Ministry Procedure Manual, Volume 4, Section 7

Subsection:

- 01.01.1 Allowable Harvest
- 01.02.1 Open Seasons
- 01.06.1 Limited Entry Hunting
- 01.07.1 Big Game Harvest Management
- 13.05.1 Special Weapons Hunting

#### Other Cross-References:

None.