



Date: December 8, 2023

Re: Proposed amendments to Section 800:25-7-52 and 800:25-7-54: Legal methods of take during Oklahoma's primitive firearm deer hunting season

Position: Support

Honorable Members of the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission:

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF), I write to express support for the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation's proposed regulatory changes regarding the use of arrow-shooting airguns during the state's primitive firearm season. Through this expansion, hunters interested in using this novel technology will enjoy expanded opportunities throughout the Sooner State.

Founded in 1989, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) is the informed authority across outdoor issues and serves as the primary conduit for influencing public policy. Working with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), CSF gives a voice to hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and trappers on Capitol Hill and throughout state capitols advocating on vital outdoor issues that are the backbone of our nation's conservation legacy.

CSF has long championed opportunities to expand the use of arrow-shooting airguns during firearms and muzzleloader deer hunting seasons across the country. This includes support for Oklahoma's Senate Bill 1571, as passed during the 2022 legislative session, which first authorized the use of arrow-shooting airguns during Oklahoma's firearm season following the purchase of a conservation airbow stamp that allowed the method of take to contribute to conservation funding in a manner similar to other methods currently subject to excise taxes created through the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration (Pittman-Robertson) Act. By expanding opportunities for the use of arrow-shooting airguns into the primitive firearm season, hunters in possession of arrow-shooting airguns and the associated stamp will be able to enjoy additional time outdoors with this style of weapon.

In conclusion, CSF supports the opportunity to expand the use of arrow-shooting airguns into Oklahoma's primitive firearm deer hunting seasons. As novel technologies continue to be developed, we applaud ODWC's efforts to evaluate their use with respect to the fair chase ethic

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that guides our outdoor traditions while maximizing opportunities for hunters. If you have questions or would like any additional information, please feel free to contact me using the information below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kent Keene". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kent Keene
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