



**WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE**

**KRIS WARNER**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION**

**eFILED**

6/24/2025 2:50:02 PM

Office of West Virginia  
Secretary Of State

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

AGENCY: Natural Resources

TITLE-SERIES: 58-14

RULE TYPE: Legislative      Amendment to Existing Rule: No      Repeal of existing rule: Yes

RULE NAME: Rules Governing Small Arms Hunting

CITE STATUTORY AUTHORITY: §20-1-7(31)

COMMENTS LIMITED TO:

Written

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

LOCATION OF PUBLIC HEARING:

DATE WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD ENDS: 07/24/2025 3:00 PM

COMMENTS MAY BE MAILED OR EMAILED TO:

NAME: Wendy Greene

ADDRESS: 112 California Avenue

Charleston, WV 25305

EMAIL: dnrcomments@wv.gov

PLEASE INDICATE IF THIS FILING INCLUDES:

RELEVANT FEDERAL STATUTES OR REGULATIONS: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE CONTENT OF THE RULE:

This rule establishes regulations for hunting with small arms (pistols or revolvers) in West Virginia.

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER CONTENTS OF CHANGES IN THE RULE AND A STATEMENT OF CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING THE RULE:

The proposed changes repeal this rule. Following the passage of HB 2387 which repealed §20-2-42i and a legislative rule change that removed caliber restrictions on nighttime coyote hunting, this rule required a revision which would remove nearly the entire body of the rule. It was then determined it would simplify regulations to repeal this series and incorporate the remaining relevant regulations into 58CSR47-Hunting and Trapping Prohibitions.

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER THE OVERALL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

A. ECONOMIC IMPACT ON REVENUES OF STATE GOVERNMENT:

No economic impact on the revenues of state government anticipated.

B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNTS:

No economic impact on special revenue accounts anticipated.

C. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE RULE ON THE STATE OR ITS RESIDENTS:

No economic impact on the state or its residents anticipated.

D. FISCAL NOTE DETAIL:

Effect of Proposal	Fiscal Year		
	2025 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	2026 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Fiscal Year (Upon Full Implementation)
<b>1. Estimated Total Cost</b>	0	0	0
Personal Services	0	0	0
Current Expenses	0	0	0
Repairs and Alterations	0	0	0
Assets	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
<b>2. Estimated Total Revenues</b>	0	0	0

E. EXPLANATION OF ABOVE ESTIMATES (INCLUDING LONG-RANGE EFFECT):

No economic impacts are anticipated.

**BY CHOOSING 'YES', I ATTEST THAT THE PREVIOUS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT.**

Yes

**Emily Rector -- By my signature, I certify that I am the person authorized to file legislative rules, in accordance with West Virginia Code §29A-3-11 and §39A-3-2.**

**TITLE 58  
LEGISLATIVE RULE  
BUREAU OF COMMERCE  
DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**SERIES 14  
RULES GOVERNING SMALL ARMS HUNTING**

**~~§58-14-1. General.~~**

~~— 1.1. Scope. This rule establishes regulations for hunting with small arms (pistol or revolver) in West Virginia.~~

~~— 1.2. Authority. W. Va. Code §20-1-7(30).~~

~~— 1.3. Filing Date. April 3, 2002.~~

~~— 1.4. Effective Date. April 3, 2002.~~

**~~§58-14-2. General Small Arms Hunting Rules.~~**

~~— 2.1. No person shall hunt deer, bear or wild boar with any pistol or revolver using a straight walled case of less than .357 magnum cartridge, a bottle necked case of less than .24 caliber, or a muzzle-loading pistol of less than .38 caliber.~~

~~— 2.2. It is lawful to hunt woodchuck in the open fields with a pistol or revolver.~~

~~— 2.3. It is unlawful to hunt between one-half (½) hour after sunset and one half (½) hour before sunrise with any pistol or revolver larger than .22 caliber.~~

**~~§58-14-3. Penalties.~~**

~~— 3.1. Any person violating the provisions of this rule is subject to the penalties outlined in W. Va. Code §20-7-9.~~