



QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

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Date: 23 March 2018
To: Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission
From: Kip Adams, Director of Conservation
Re: Primitive Weapons Season

On behalf of the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA) I am writing to state our support for the proposal to change Tennessee's muzzleloader season to a primitive weapons season. The QDMA is a national nonprofit wildlife conservation organization dedicated to ensuring the future of white-tailed deer, wildlife habitat and our hunting heritage. The QDMA has over 60,000 members nationwide and our membership includes hunters, landowners and natural resource professionals.

Under the proposal, the following muzzleloaders would be permitted:

- single shot handguns and rifles, with a falling block, rolling block, or break action, having an exposed hammer, .35 caliber or larger firing a handgun cartridge or Straight-Walled rifle cartridge; and

- single shot shotguns firing a slug, having a falling block, rolling block or break action and an exposed hammer.

Finally, we would also support the use of big-bore air rifles, as defined by .30 caliber or larger utilizing a pre-charged pneumatic power source, for big game hunting, including white-tailed deer. We define air guns as any pistol or shoulder-held device that propels a projectile (slug, shot, or arrow) utilizing unignited compressed air or gas.

The above would keep the arms available to the "primitive 1900's era" action styles, limit the cartridges used to short range cartridges such as 357 magnum, 44 magnum, 45-70 as three examples, and completely eliminate the use of high performance bottleneck cartridges such as the 35 Rem, 358 Winchester and 35 Whelen. Thank you for consideration of this matter and please contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Respectfully,

Kip Adams
Director of Conservation