

**The Idaho Department of Fish and Game considers the following document to be an agency guidance document for purposes of Idaho Executive Order 2020-002. The guidance document is not new law; it is the Department's interpretation or implementation of existing law.**

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**IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

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C.L. "Butch" Otter / Governor  
Cal Groen / Director

February 14, 2008

Mr. Dan Hall  
c/o PowerBelt Bullets  
2316 E. Railroad Street  
Nampa, Idaho 83687

Dear Dan,

I am responding to your request for an official determination whether the pure lead series of PowerBelt bullets (<http://www.powerbeltbullets.com/pure.html>) are legal for use in Idaho muzzleloader-only big game hunts.

The current Idaho muzzleloader equipment rules are:

**"IDAPA 13.01.08.410.03. Muzzleloaders.**

- a. With a muzzleloading rifle or musket which is less than forty-five (.45) caliber for deer, pronghorn, or mountain lion, or which is less than fifty (.50) caliber for elk, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, or black bear.
- b. With any electronic device attached to, or incorporated in, the muzzleloader.
- c. During a *Muzzleloader Only* season, with any firearm, muzzleloading pistol or other implement other than a muzzleloading rifle or musket which:
  - i. Is at least forty-five (.45) caliber for deer, pronghorn or mountain lion or at least fifty (.50) caliber for elk, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goat or black bear.
  - ii. Is capable of being loaded only from the muzzle.
  - iii. Is equipped only with open or peep sights.
  - iv. Is loaded only with loose black powder or, loose Pyrodex or other loose synthetic black powder. Pelletized powders are prohibited.
  - v. Is equipped with no more than two (2) barrels.
  - vi. Is loaded only with a projectile with a diameter within one hundredth (.01) of an inch of the bore diameter. Sabots are prohibited.
  - vii. Is equipped only with flint, musket cap, or percussion cap. 209 primers are prohibited.
  - viii. Is equipped with an exposed ignition system.
  - ix. Is loaded only with a patched round ball or conical non-jacketed projectile comprised wholly of lead or lead alloy. Sabots are not allowed."

Technical specifications provided by PowerBelt combined with information available on your website (accessed January 14, 2008) indicate the pure lead series bullets meet the minimum diameter, lead or lead alloy, and non-jacketed requirements. Additionally, the Department and Commission have confirmed the plastic gas check on PowerBelt bullets

does not meet the definition of sabot ("support for projectile in weapon: a sleeve placed around a projectile so that it can be fired from a weapon with a larger bore").

Therefore, the pure lead series of PowerBelt bullets are legal for use in Idaho muzzleloader-only big game hunts.

Sincerely,



Bradley B. Compton  
State Big Game Manager

Cc: Dallas Burkhalter, Jon Heggen, Regions