

GARFIELD COUNTY ORDINANCE 2014-1
AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING SPOTLIGHTING WITH A WEAPON
ENACTED PURSUANT TO UCA 23-13-17

Definitions - As used in this ordinance:

“Spotlighting” - means throwing or casting the rays of any spotlight, headlight, or other artificial light on any highway or in any field, woodland, or forest while having in possession a weapon by which protected wildlife may be killed.

“Motor Vehicle” - the same meaning as defined in Section 41-6a-102.

1. Species that may be taken while spotlighting are limited to coyote, red fox, striped skunk, raccoon, and/or jack rabbit.

2. This ordinance provides that:

- a. Any artificial light used to spotlight coyote, red fox, striped skunk, raccoon, and/or jack rabbit must be carried by the hunter.
- b. A motor vehicle headlight or light attached to a motor vehicle not be used to spotlight the animal.
- c. While hunting with the use of an artificial light, the hunter may not occupy or operate any motor vehicle.

3. Restrictions on Spotlighting within Garfield County

- a. Before being able to spotlight a person must first obtain a spotlighting permit from the Sheriff’s office. There is a \$20.00 cost to the permit; the Sheriff’s office may restrict the number of permits issued. The cost of the permit is for the administration costs of the permit and will be retained by the Garfield County Sheriff’s Office. Permits are valid for 365 days from when they are obtained. Those individuals in the field with a weapon are required to possess a spotlighting permit. Hunters are required to have either a blue card or current small game license in order to purchase a spotlighting permit. Hunters under the age of 16 who may receive a free permit if a legal guardian purchases a permit at full price.
- b. The spotlighting season in Garfield County shall be closed from August 1- November 30.
- c. Any weapon may be used for spotlighting. Firearms may not have a caliber larger than .24 and must not be capable of being fired fully automatic. Expanding bullets must be used. Shotguns and archery tackle are permitted.
- d. Spotlighting is not allowed within 600 feet of a residence, city, or town boundary.
- e. Spotlighting is not allowed on private property without written permission from the property owner.
- f. Hunters are not allowed to trespass on private property while spotlighting.
- g. Spotlighting may not be done by a person under eighteen years of age,

unless accompanied by a person eighteen years of age or more and each person must possess a spotlighting permit.

- h. Persons hunting with a spotlight must contact the Sheriff's Office each day they are hunting and give the following information:
 - i. Permit Number
 - ii. Approximate Location
 - iii. Approximation time they will be hunting
 - iv. If hunting with more than one person, the permit number of each hunter must be reported.
 - i. Hunters will report to the Sheriff's Office within 2 business days after the hunt to report the number of predators taken and the location of each.
4. This ordinance does not apply to:
- a. A person or his agent who is lawfully acting to protect his crops or domestic animals from predation by those animals; or
 - b. An animal damage control agent acting in his official capacity under a memorandum of agreement with the Division of Wildlife Resources.
5. Property Damages:
- a. Hunters who are found to have caused damages will be solely responsible for all damages to any and all property damaged.
 - b. If found to be criminal in nature, the hunters will be charged criminally and will face prosecution according to Utah State Law.
6. Any person violating a provision of this ordinance shall be guilty of a Class B Misdemeanor.
7. Any person found in violation of their permit will lose the privilege of holding a Garfield County spotlight permit for a minimum of 5 years.
- a. Violations will be reported to State Wildlife Offices.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 27th day of January, 2014.

GARFIELD COUNTY

By: CLARE RAMSAY, COMMISSION CHAIR