

Advantages of Non-lead Bullets

All-copper bullets were initially developed in the 1980s as a premium, high-performance alternative. Further improvements have resulted in extremely effective and versatile bullets for hunters. In an Arizona survey, 93% of hunters who used non-lead bullets to harvest deer said the bullets performed as well or better than comparable lead bullets on game.

Non-lead bullets for big game offer:

- Little to no fragmentation
- Great penetration and a long, wide wound channel
- Much lower toxicity for humans and wildlife
- Equal or greater accuracy



This photo shows a non-lead rifle bullet (left), and a premium bonded lead-core bullet (right). The non-lead bullet mushroomed out and retained 98% of its weight. The lead bullet lost a substantial portion of its original weight to fragmentation. Non-premium lead bullets fragment even more, with only 70% weight retention, as seen below.



.270 Win Remington Core-Lokt lead bullet, 130 grain

For more information and a list of available calibers, visit these sites:

dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/condor



Alternatives to Lead Bullets



Lead poisoning is a serious problem for both wildlife and humans, but it is easily preventable. Bullet and ammo manufacturers now offer numerous premium non-lead options for pistols and rifles. Hunters are continuing their proud tradition of wildlife conservation by using these non-lead alternatives.

