



Jegerprøven  
Landbruksdirektoratet

# Welcome to session 6

Laws and regulations

# Topics for session 6

Laws and regulation

Background of the legislation

Run-through of the most important laws and regulations

Brief introduction to other relevant rules

Levels of government responsible for hunting and trapping in Norway

# Laws and regulations

## **Laws**

General rules

## **Regulation**

More detailed rules

# Important websites

[www.lovdata.no](http://www.lovdata.no)

[www.landbruksdirektoratet.no](http://www.landbruksdirektoratet.no)

[www.nacl.no](http://www.nacl.no)

# Nature Diversity Act (Naturmangfoldloven)

- Takes precedence over more specific laws (e.g. Wildlife Resources Act)
- Knowledge base
- Precautionary principle
- Management principle
- Harvesting game
- Protected areas

# Wildlife Resources Act, chapter 2: Wildlife agencies

| Agency                                                        | Description                                                                                                      | Responsibilities and tasks                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ministry of Agriculture and Food                              | Political leadership                                                                                             | Proposes legislation to the Norwegian Parliament and acts as an appeal body in a number of matters related to wildlife legislation. Issues regulations (including hunting seasons, firearms and ammunition, etc.) |
| Norwegian Agricultural Agency<br>Norwegian Environment Agency | Technical directorate reporting to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food/the Ministry of Climate and Environment  | Technical responsibility for implementation of the Wildlife Resources Act And the Hunting Proficiency Test                                                                                                        |
| County Governor                                               | Central government regional administrative agency                                                                | Management of large predators, wild reindeer and threatened/vulnerable species                                                                                                                                    |
| County                                                        | Regional administrative agency                                                                                   | Management of all other game species                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Municipality                                                  | Local administrative agency<br>Lowest level of public agency, but most important level in the management pyramid | Hunting areas, quotas, minimum area for deer, general public's right to small game, tracking game injured in road traffic accidents.                                                                              |
| Landowners                                                    | Sole right to hunt and trap<br>Key partner to the municipalities                                                 | Responsibility for management plans<br>Sale of game licenses                                                                                                                                                      |

# Wildlife Resources act, chapter 3 – Access to hunting and trapping

Access to hunting and trapping

Days on which hunting and trapping is allowed

# Wildlife Resources Act, chapter 4 – Hunting Proficiency Test, etc.

Obligatory Hunting Proficiency Test

Hunting Licence Fee

Shooting proficiency test



# Wildlife Resources Act, chapter 5 – The practice of hunting and trapping

§21 Responsible hunting and trapping

§22 Duty to examine the shot site and perform blood tracking

§23 Right of pursuit

§24 Firearms and ammunition for hunting

§25 Trapping

§26 Visible light and special scopes

# Wildlife Resources Act, chapter 5 – The practice of hunting and trapping

§27 Training hunting dogs and hunting with dogs

§28 Specific prohibitions on firing a shot

§29 Aircraft, motor vehicles and motor-powered vessels

§30 Using bait

§31 Prohibition of chemicals and poison

§32 Prohibition of certain hunting and trapping methods

# Wildlife Resources Act, chapter 6 – The right to hunting and trapping

The landowner holds the right to hunting and trapping, but pay attention to:

- Rivers and lakes
- Ocean and fjords
- Roads, railways, pipelines, power line corridors and similar infrastructure

Carrying firearms or traps where you do not hold the right to hunting or trapping

Prohibition against chasing game away from others' hunting grounds

# Wildlife Resources Act, chapter 7 – Deer and beaver

Moose, red deer and roe deer: The municipality has to provide a local regulation that allows hunting, and issue hunting permits. These are issued based on a minimum hunting area.

Wild reindeer: Hunting requires a hunting permit that is issued from the wild reindeer board, based on a harvest quota.

It is prohibited to chase or kill swimming deer, unless it is pursued as wounded or unless other concerns for wildlife welfare applies

Separate regulation on the management of deer species



# Wildlife Resources Act, chapter 7 – Deer and beaver

Beaver: The municipality has to provide a regulation that allows hunting and trapping in the entire or parts of the municipality. The municipality may set a maximum harvest quota

Separate regulation on the management of beavers

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## **Chapter 1, general provisions**

§3 Big game, licenced killing of predatory wildlife and quota regulated hunting

§4 Papers needed when hunting and trapping

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## Chapter 2, age limits

### *§5 General age limits*

16 years old for small game and 18 years old for big game

### *§6 Hunting practice*

From the year you turn 14 until you turn 16 you may partake in hunting practice for small game; Hunting Proficiency Test is not required.

From the year you turn 16 until you turn 18 you may partake in hunting practice for big game. You must pass both the shooting proficiency test for big game hunters, and the Hunting Proficiency Test.

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## **Chapter 3, Hunting Proficiency Test etc.**

Compulsory Hunting Proficiency Test

Compulsory Course

Exam

Authorised instructor



# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## **Chapter 4, licenced killing of large predators**

### §13 Registration to hunt large predators

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## **Chapter 5, requirements relating to firearms and ammunition**

§15 Firearms for hunting

.22LR allowed for game up to, but not including, the size of a hare

Magazine limits for shotguns and semi-automatic rifles

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## **Chapter 5, requirements relating to firearms and ammunition**

### **§16 Requirements for rifle ammunition**

When hunting moose, red deer, fallow deer, wild reindeer, wild boar or mouflon, and when partaking in licenced killing of large predators like wolves and bears, ammunition with an expanding projectile shall be used. In addition, the following requirements shall be fulfilled:

- a. Minimum calibre is 6,5 (.264 inches/6,71 mm.)
- b. Minimum bullet weight is 9 grams (138,9 grains) for jacketed bullets with a lead core and 7,8 grams (120 grains) for lead-free bullets
- c. Minimum impact energy at 100 metres ( $E_{100}$ ) is 2200 joules.

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## Chapter 5, requirements relating to firearms and ammunition

### *§16 Requirements for rifle ammunition*

When using a rifle to hunt roe deer, beaver or lynx, and when partaking in licenced killing of wolverine or lynx, ammunition with an expanding projectile and impact energy of at least 980 joules (100 kgm) measured at a range of 100 metres ( $E_{100}$ ) shall be used.

When hunting big game, it is illegal to use bullets and ammunition designed for practice and shooting competitions

### *§17 Shotgun shell requirements*

Slugs are allowed for wild boar and roe deer

Lead pellets are not permitted for hunting near wetlands

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## **Chapter 6, shooting proficiency test for big game**

30 obligatory practice shots and 5 shots at a wild reindeer target

Or the Norwegian Association of Hunters and Anglers (NJFF) silver badge for moose target shooting

Or the bear hunting proficiency test

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## Chapter 7, use of dogs

### *§22 Scenthounds*

Permitted when hunting moose, red deer, roe deer, hare, red fox and lynx

Maximum shoulder height of 41 cm. when used for hunting moose, red deer and roe deer

Not permitted during the season when dogs must be leashed

A scenthound is a hunting dog that pursues and drives game ahead of it while barking for a prolonged period

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## Chapter 7, use of dogs

### *§22a Using multiple off-leash dogs*

It is prohibited to allow several off-leash dogs to chase the same game. The prohibition does not apply to bird dogs when bird hunting

### *§22b Prohibition on the use of dogs with specific working functions*

It is prohibited to use dogs during hunting, hunting dog training, licenced killing of large predators or killing nuisance animals that hold, injure or kill game by biting. This prohibition does not apply to dogs used to retrieve shot small game.

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## **Chapter 8, hunting and killing big game**

*§26a Requirement to have a hunting permit*

*§§28/29 Killing injured game*



# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## Chapter 8, hunting and killing big game

### *§29a Legal use of visible light and light-amplifying and thermal scopes*

A fixed light is allowed to illuminate the bait whilst doing licenced killing of wolverine

Visible light is allowed when killing game trapped in a live-catch trap

Visible light and light-amplifying and thermal scopes are allowed when hunting wild boar and red fox when hunting in open terrain or by a bait station

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## Chapter 8, hunting and killing big game

### *§29a Legal use of visible light and light-amplifying and thermal scopes*

The municipality may, by regulation, permit the use of light-amplifying and thermal scopes for hunting red deer in open terrain, in order to prevent serious damage to natural or societal interests resulting from high population density.

Visible light may be used for examining a shot site. This does not apply to quota hunting of lynx, or when killing lynx as a nuisance animal, or when doing licenced killing of wolverine, bear or wolf

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## Chapter 8, hunting and killing big game

### *§29a Legal use of visible light and light-amplifying and thermal scopes*

Visible light, light-amplifying scopes and thermal scopes may be used for blood tracking deer species, wild boar and red fox.

The hunter bears the burden of proof that the shot was legally taken

There is a duty to notify the landowner, police and municipality prior to use. However, notification after the tracking is permitted if prior notification would significantly delay the tracking.

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## **Chapter 9, trapping**

§30 Species

§31 Permitted traps

§32 Labelling

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## **Chapter 9, trapping**

### *§33 Monitoring*

#### Live-catch traps

- Every morning and evening
- Electronic monitoring as described in appendix 3 can be used as a substitute to physical monitoring

Kill traps – at least once a week

Grouse snares – at least every two days

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## Chapter 9, trapping

§34 Killing trapped game

# Regulation on hunting and trapping

## Chapter 10, reporting, supervision and control

### *§35a Duty to report*

Anyone who has paid the hunting licensing fee must submit a hunting and trapping report to Statistics Norway

# Regulation on hunting and trapping seasons, as well as harvesting eggs and down feathers

Hunting seasons are established for six years at a time by a specific regulation

National regulation establishing general seasons

Local variations in when seasons both start and end for various species

Check with landowner/lessor or municipality



# Regulation on the management of deer species (Forskrift om forvaltning av hjortevilt)

The purpose is to secure local, sustainable management

Productivity of populations and habitats

Commercial activity and recreation

Managing populations in accordance with the interests of society (transport and agriculture)

Promote joint management of populations across municipal boundaries

# Regulation on the management of deer species

Allowing hunting and area requirements

Minimum area, approval of hunting areas

Quotas

The 50% rule

Wild reindeer are managed by boards appointed by the Norwegian Agricultural Agency

The wild reindeer boards fulfill «the same» role in wild reindeer areas as the municipality does for other deer species

# Regulation on the management of beavers (Forskrift om forvaltning av bever)

The purpose is to ensure good management practices

Productivity of populations and habitats

Long-term management

Commercial activity and recreation

Managing populations in accordance with the interests of society

# Regulation on the management of beavers

Allowing hunting through municipal regulation

The municipality may set quotas in the areas where hunting is allowed

The municipality may at any time alter or end the hunting arrangements

# Regulation on killing nuisance animals, dead game, and the use of wildlife in farmin, research and zoos (Viltforskriften)

## **Chapter 3, on killing nuisance animals**

*Requirements relating to the amount of harm*

Species that may be killed if they are causing harm

Species that may be killed with the permission of the municipality

Species that may be killed with the permission of the County Governor

Species that may be killed with the permission of the Norwegian Agricultural

# Regulation on killing nuisance animals, dead game, and the use of wildlife in farmin, research and zoos (Viltforskriften)

The right to ownership by the Wildlife Fund (Viltfondet)

Guidelines on killing nuisance animals

General terms and conditions for killing nuisance animals

# Regulation on baiting and feeding wildlife (Åteforskriften)

The aim is to prevent unnecessary harm/nuisance to animals, humans and biodiversity

The person who baits or feeds is responsible for avoiding harm

Prohibition against feeding wild boar – bait allowed when hunting and trapping

Prohibition against feeding large predators and golden eagles

Bait allowed in box traps for lynx and during licenced hunting for wolverines

# Regulation on seal hunting

The Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries is the responsible authority

Annual quotas

Application to the county council

Compulsory shooting proficiency test

Impact energy requirements:

- Bullet weight 9-10 grams: 2700 joules at a range of 100 metres
- Bullet weight over 10 grams: 2200 joules at a range of 100 metres

Required to use ammunition with an expanding projectile



# Mountain Act (Fjellev)en)

Establishes rights in state commons

Right to hunt small game and catch fish

Mountain boards

# Animal Welfare Act (Dyrevelferdsloven)

Shall promote animal welfare and respect for animals

Covers all animals

Refers to the intrinsic value of animals

Governs how hunting should be conducted (cf. §21 of the Wildlife Resources Act)

# Dog Act (Hundeloven)

Shall promote dog ownership

Requires dogs to be properly accompanied

Dogs must be kept on the leash from April 1<sup>st</sup> to August 20<sup>th</sup>

# Dog Act

## **Leashing bylaws**

Do not apply to hunting dogs when they are hunting or being trained

## **Special leashing requirements**

Apply to all dogs

On seizing off-leash dogs



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