

Establish a game shooting programme

Overview

This standard outlines the competencies required by individuals who are responsible for establishing a game-shooting programme. It has been developed so that it can be applied to any game-shooting programme on any area of land used for game shooting.

This standard is aimed at those working in game and wildlife conservation who are responsible for establishing a game-shooting programme and organising the tasks associated with the implementation of this.

Establish a game shooting programme

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. establish realistic objectives for the game-shooting programme based on an analysis of relevant information and data from records and other external sources
2. confirm objectives are in line with wildlife management area objectives
3. establish an outlet for the shot game
4. determine the resources necessary to support the successful implementation of the game-shooting programme
5. complete a risk assessment to establish guidelines to support the safe implementation of the game-shooting programme
6. establish the roles and responsibilities for all those involved in the implementation of the game-shooting programme
7. organise the resources necessary to maintain the hygiene of dead game for its entry into the human food chain
8. confirm that contingency planning is in place to deal with factors that may affect the game-shooting programme including human influences, unexpected game behaviours, weather conditions, deliberate actions to disrupt the programme
9. confirm that the planned game-shooting programme takes account of other activities carried out in the wildlife management area and complies with relevant legislation, national policies, codes of practice, sector guidance and organisational requirements
10. establish management systems to support the implementation of the planned game-shooting activities, including insurance, staff contracts, communication on shoot days, health and safety, shooting records
11. establish a game-shooting programme that makes best use of the area's characteristics to provide shooting objectives including habitat, game populations, other activities, public access and rights of way, land designations
12. communicate, the requirements of the programme to those involved in its implementation

Establish a game shooting programme

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the data analysis techniques used when establishing a game-shooting programme in order to determine the potential return from game populations
2. the options available for the disposal of shot game
3. the process of objective setting in regard to a game-shooting programme for example number of planned shoot days, potential return from available game, required economic return, constraints
4. how to plan and utilise the resources available, for example people, transport, equipment, finance, animals
5. the principles involved in risk assessment and its importance to the health and safety of game-shooting programmes
6. the influence of wildlife management area objectives and characteristics including land designations, habitat, game populations, other activities on the planning of the game-shooting programme
7. contingency planning linked to the factors that can disrupt game shooting, and its value to game-shooting programmes
8. national and local regulations that control game-shooting programmes relating to the use of firearms, access to the countryside and public rights of way, animal welfare, game meat handling, and the use of casual staff and volunteers
9. the role of relevant legislation, national policies, codes of practice, sector guidance and organisational requirements that support the implementation of a game-shooting programme
10. how the wildlife management area objectives and characteristics can be used to optimise sporting potential
11. how game interacts with its environment and how this behaviour can be used to optimise shooting potential
12. public opinion regarding game shooting, how it can be influenced and how it influences game-shooting activities
13. types and sources of insurance cover for game-shooting activities

Glossary

Designations could include:

- National Park
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)
- Special Protection Areas (SPAs),
- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)
- World Heritage Site (WHS)
- Archaeological site
- National Trust
- Nitrogen Vulnerable Zone (NVZ)
- Drinking Water Safeguard Zones
- Scheduled Monuments (SMs)
- Listed Buildings (LBs)
- Registered Parks and Gardens (RPGs)
- Registered Battlefields (RBs)
- Sites identified on the Historic Environment Record (HER).

Game

Legal quarry species, including deer

Game-shooting programme

Planned shoot activities covering a shooting season

Gun

Participant in shooting activities

Sector guidance could include:

The Code of Good Shooting Practice

Deer Initiative Best Practice Guides

Scottish Natural Heritage Best Practice Guides

Wildlife management area

Any area of land used for the provision of game-shooting activities

Establish a game shooting programme

Developed by Lantra

Version Number 2

Date Approved January 2018

Indicative Review Date January 2023

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating Organisation Lantra

Original URN LANGWM1

Relevant Occupations Estate Manager; Game and Wildlife Manager

Suite Game and Wildlife Management

Keywords game; wildlife; shooting; estate
