

New regulations for small-game hunting

This spring a new Act is coming into force regarding priority in small-game hunting. The County Administrative Boards in Norrbotten, Västerbotten and Jämtland have agreed with the Swedish Board of Agriculture on how to apply the new Act.

The small-game hunting season in 2017/2018

According to a government decision, the Reindeer Husbandry Act is being amended so that hunters who are resident in Sweden are given priority to go hunting on state-owned land. This decision comes into force on 1 April 2017.

The three County Administrative Boards in Norrbotten, Västerbotten and Jämtland have consulted and reached agreement with the Swedish Board of Agriculture on the direction to take. This new Act will be applied during 2017/2018 as follows:

- Small-game hunting on state-owned land above the cultivation limit and on mountain pasture for reindeer will be made available for hunting purposes to those with permanent residence in Sweden (and Swedish citizens) and to hunters who have close ties with Sweden – that is to say, own property in Sweden, have employment in Sweden or run a business in Sweden.
- Small-game hunting on state-owned land above the cultivation limit and on mountain pasture for reindeer will be made available to everyone else after 15 September.

What does this mean?

- For hunters who have permanent residence in Sweden this will mean no change. Swedish citizens who are resident overseas must apply for the right to hunt.
- Hunters who do not have permanent residence in Sweden but have close ties with Sweden may apply for the chance to buy a hunting permit as of 25 August. You will find the form entitled “Application for the chance to go small-game hunting” on the right.
- This scheme means that after 15 September the regulations applying to hunting will be the same as those today.



This is what to do if you are considering applying for the chance to go hunting between 25 August and 15 September:

- Foreign hunters wishing to take part in the lottery (quotas) in the designated Sami villages must apply for “closer ties with Sweden” no later than 30 April 2017. The decision on the right for foreign hunters to go small-game hunting shall be taken no later than 1 June, when the application period for taking part in the lottery is estimated to start.
- An application to take part in the lottery (quotas) in the designated Sami villages must be made after 1 June 2017 at [NatureIT](#).
- Application forms shall be submitted in Swedish, Norwegian, Danish or English. The documents shall be translated into Swedish or English.
- In order to ensure efficient processing of the application forms, it is important that these are complete. Documents that are not complete will be returned to the applicant for completion. Application forms that have not been completed within the statutory period will be rejected.
- Processing of the application forms will start on 1 April. Since the Act comes into force on 1 April, processing of the application forms cannot start before this date.
- The County Administrative Boards cannot guarantee that application forms received after 1 June will be processed in time before the start of the hunting season.
- Applications must be made online and submitted to jamtland@lansstyrelsen.se

The implementation of the new regulations will be evaluated after the 2017/2018 season. Should the goals set by the government not be achieved, the conditions may be amended before the next hunting year.