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| **Licence application form –** **For the use of more than two dogs for the management of wild mammals for** **Environmental benefit**Legislation: Hunting with Dogs (Scotland) Act 2023 (the ‘Act') |

If you need assistance filling in this form please contact the NatureScot Licensing Team:

Email: licensing@nature.scot Telephone: 01463 725364

Please answer all relevant questions fully.

Who should use this application form

This form is for new applications for anyone who wishes to use more than two dogs to hunt a wild mammal for environmental benefit.

Amendments

If you wish to apply for an amendment to a current Licence please email NatureScot Licensing Team with the Licence number, the details you wish to change and the reasons for the proposed change.

Section A: Licence Holder - Individual delivering the environmental benefit details

Please provide the name and address of the person applying for the licence. If a licence is granted, the Applicant will be designed as ‘Licence Holder’ on the licence and will be legally responsible for ensuring that all licence terms and conditions are met and for submitting a return to NatureScot at Licensing@nature.scot at the end of the Licence Term (as defined in the licence).

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| **Title**  |       |
| **First name**  |       |
| **Surname** |       |
| **Email address** |       |
| **Organisation name**(if applicable) |       |
| **Address** |       |
| **Postcode** |       |
| **Type of address**  | Home       Work       |
| **Contact telephone number(s)** |       |
| **Nature of interest** *(e.g. Land owner/tenant/manager)* | Land owner [ ] Land manager [ ] Organisation [ ] Land Agent/ Factor [ ] Tenant [ ] Other (please state)       |
| **Have you or anyone who it is proposed will work under the licence being applied for been convicted of a wildlife crime** **or disqualified from owning or keeping dogs?**  | [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No** |
| **I have received landowner(s) permission to undertake the activity** | [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No** |

**Section B: Dog Handler Details**

The Dog Handler is the individual who will be in control of the dogs during the course of any Licensable Activities. They will be named on any licence and, subject to them having the prior written authorisation of the Licence Holder, may undertake the Licensable Activities on behalf of Licence Holder.

The Licence Holder shall be responsible for ensuring that any Dog Handler reads, understands and complies with the terms of any licence to follow. Any act or omission on the part of any Dog Handler which is contrary to the terms and conditions of such a licence shall entitle NatureScot to revoke that licence.

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| **Do you intend to carry out/oversee this activity yourself?** |  [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No**  |
| **If ‘no’, please provide details of the dog handler** |
| **Title**  |       |
| **First name**  |       |
| **Surname** |       |
| Organisation/consultancy name (optional) |       |
| **Email address** |       |
| **Contact telephone number(s)** |       |
| **Has the Dog Handler or anyone who may be assisting him in relation to any Licensable Activities been convicted of a wildlife crime** **or disqualification from owning or keeping dogs?** |  [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No**  |
| **If a licence is granted may we email a copy of the licence to the Dog Handler?** |  [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No**  |
| **Do you give permission for the Dog Handler to request amendments to any licence issued pursuant to this application?** |  [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No**  |

Section C: Named Assistants

If the Licence Holder or the Dog Handler are likely to require assistance in carrying out any Licensable Activities, for example, to aid in the control of the dogs, they can make use of “Named Assistants” for that purpose.

The name(s) and contact details of any individual who the Applicant wishes to be a Named Assistant on any licence following upon this application, must be provided where indicated below.

Only persons named as such on a licence will be Named Assistants. It is an offence for any person who is not the Licence Holder, the Dog Handler or a Named Assistant to carry out Licensable Activities pursuant to a licence.

The Licence Holder shall be responsible for ensuring that any Named Assistant(s) read(s), understand(s) and comply(ies) with the terms and conditions of any licence to follow. Any act or omission on the part of any Named Assistant which is contrary to the terms of such a licence shall entitle NatureScot to revoke that licence.

Named Assistants can only work under the personal, direct supervision of the Licence Holder or the Dog Handler.

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| Please provide the following details of any persons you wish to be Named Assistants. Note: this does not include details of named guns. They are not required in an application but in the event of a licence being issued, they must be recorded at the time of the activity and be available for inspection by any Police Officer or official of NatureScot on demand. |
| **Full Name** | **Postal Address** | **E mail Address** | **Contact number**  | **Work Undertaking** e.g. dog handler |
|       |       |       |       |       |
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Section D: Licence details

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| **Licence details required** | **Provide required information below** |
| **Name of works** (this is how your proposed works will be referred to in all future correspondence e.g. The Curlew protection project) |       |
| **Location of works** (include site name, address, postcode and local authority area) |       |
| **Six figure grid reference** (e.g. NX100200) |       |
| **Have you received landowner permission to undertake the Licensable Activities?** | [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No** |
| **Proposed start date(s) and end date(s) of any periods of Licensed Activity** |       |
| **Date you require the licence** *(i.e. date you need confirmation that a licence will be issued to allow preparation for the activity)* |       |
| **Species of wild mammal which you wish to control**  |       |
| **Is the species of wild mammal a protected species?** For more information see our [website](https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/protected-areas-and-species/protected-species/legal-framework#:~:text=In%20many%20cases%2C%20it's%20an,law%20to%20pick%20some%20plants.)  | [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No** |
| **What breeds or types of dogs will be used in the activity?** |       |
| **Does any part of the proposed activity fall in and/ or adjacent to an area covered by a nature conservation designation?** *(e.g. Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Area, Special Area of Conservation etc. –* [*see our website for site locations and information*](http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp)*)* |       |

**Section E: Licence purpose**

Licences for hunting a wild mammal for environmental benefit using dogs can only be issued for one or more of the specific licensing purposes listed below. Please confirm the purpose(s) for which you seek a licence for the proposed works by selecting the relevant significance and answering the corresponding questions. If you choose more than one purpose, please choose which purpose is of primary and which is of secondary significance.

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| **Purpose** | **Please select the primary** **and/ or secondary purpose** | **Sections below to be completed** |
| **For preserving, protecting or restoring a particular species (which may include controlling the number of a species for its welfare).** |  | [Complete purpose 1](#Check1) |
| **For preserving, protecting or restoring the diversity of animal or plant life.** |  | [Complete purpose 2](#Check2) |
| **For eradicating an invasive non-native species of wild mammal from an area.** |  | [Complete purpose 3](#Check3) |

**Please complete the sections below – you only need to complete the sections which apply to the purposes you have selected above.**

**Purpose 1. For preserving, protecting or restoring a particular species (which may include controlling the number of a species for its welfare).** All questions must be answered. Please only complete if you selected ‘preserving, protecting or restoring a particular species (which may include controlling the number of a species for its welfare) in the table above.

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| **What is the species that requires protection, please include if the species is important either locally, regionally or nationally.** |
|       |
| **How does the wild mammal, exert an impact on the named species?** |
|       |
| **How will the activity aid in the preservation, protection or restoration of the named species?** |
|       |

**Purpose 2. For preserving, protecting or restoring the diversity of animal or plant life.** All questions must be answered. Please only complete if you selected ‘preserving, protecting or restoring the diversity of animal or plant life’ in the table above.

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| **What is the animal or plant life that requires protection?** Please include if the species is important either locally, regionally or nationally. |
|       |
| **How does the wild mammal exert an impact on the diversity of animal or plant life?** |
|       |
| **How will the activity aid in the preservation, protection or restoration of the diversity of animal or plant life?** |
|       |

**Purpose 3. For eradicating an invasive non-native species of wild mammal from an area.** All questions must be answered. Please only complete if you selected ‘eradicating an invasive non-native species of wild mammal from an area’ in the table above. For more information on non-native species, please read the [Code of Practice on Non-Native Species](https://www.gov.scot/publications/non-native-species-code-practice/) and [understanding the Law on non-native species in Scotland](https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/protected-areas-and-species/protected-species/invasive-non-native-species/law-non-native-species-scotland)

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| **Is the species on the Scottish list of species of special concern?** For more information please see: [Scottish list of species of special concern](https://www.nonnativespecies.org/legislation/species-of-special-concern/), | [ ]  **Yes** [ ]  **No** |
| **Please only answer this question If the species is not included in the Scottish list of species of special concern.****Is the species non-native to the area and is it having or likely to have a significant adverse impact on biodiversity, the environment, social or economic interests or human or animal health?**Please provide a justification of the adverse impact, stating if the impact is on: biodiversity, the environment, social or economic interests or human or animal health.  |
|       |
| **Describe how the eradication and or “functional eradication” of the invasive non-native species is achievable?**  |
|       |

**Section F: Licensable Activities**

The Applicant must describe all locations where they wish to undertake the Licensable Activities. **Please also enclose a location map, this should be at an appropriate scale, clearly labelled and outlining each such location, any areas of cover within or nearby such locations and the location(s) of species/ animal/ plant requiring protection.** A method statement should be submitted along with the application detailing how any Licensed Activities will be managed- See Annex I at the end of the form.

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| **Name of the area of land within which the Licensed Activities will be undertaken** (this should correlate with the map label) |       |
| **Location 1**(Six figure grid reference from centre of the area) e.g. NX100200 |       |
| The proposed Licenced Activity is for searching for, stalking or flushing from cover a wild mammal. |
| **What is the Licensable Activity intention for the wild mammal?** | [ ] Dispatched [ ] Captured [ ] Observed and allowed to escape  |
| **Description of the area where the Licensable Activity is proposed** (e.g. conifer plantation):      |
| **Justification for why the control of the wild mammal by the use of more than two dogs in this location, at the times proposed, will achieve the licensable purpose** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application):  |
| **Proposed minimum number of guns** (If any) |       |
| **Justification for the number of guns** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application):      |
| **Proposed maximum number of dogs** (this should be the minimum number which would be effective at achieving the licensable purpose) |       |
| **Justification for the number of dogs** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application):      |

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| **Name of the area of land within which the Licensed Activities will be undertaken** (this should correlate with the map label) |       |
| **Location 2**(Six figure grid reference from centre of the area) e.g. NX100200 |       |
| The proposed Licenced Activity is for searching for, stalking or flushing from cover a wild mammal. |
| **What is the Licensable Activity intention for the wild mammal?** | [ ] Dispatched [ ] Captured [ ] Observed and allowed to escape  |
| **Description of the area where the Licensable Activity is proposed** (e.g. conifer plantation):      |
| **Justification for why the control of the wild mammal by the use of more than two dogs in this location, at the times proposed, will achieve the licensable purpose** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application):  |
| **Proposed minimum number of guns (if any)** |       |
| **Justification for the number of guns** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application):      |
| **Proposed maximum number of dogs** (this should be the minimum number which would be effective at achieving the licensable purpose) |       |
| **Justification for the number of dogs** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application):      |

Additional locations can added using the tables provided in Annex II at the end of the application form.

**Section F: Alternatives**

Before granting a licence we need to be satisfied that there is no other solution available to meet the licensable purpose.

There are a number of recognised measures which may achieve the licensable purpose without the need for Licenced Activity.

In order for NatureScot to assess whether or not there is any alternative to licensing, we require evidence as to the efforts the applicant has made to implement non-licensable measures.

For each of those known measures, applicants will require to confirm whether or not they have been attempted.

Where any known measures have not been attempted, the Applicant should say why and should provide evidence which shows why, in the Applicant’s view, those measures would not meet the licensable purpose.

Where those known (and any other) measures have been attempted, the Applicant should provide evidence which shows that those attempts were implemented (including details of the method of implementation, locations, dates of implementation and evidence of outcomes) and evidence which they consider demonstrates that such measures will not meet the licensable purpose occurring.

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| **Please describe all alternatives options you have considered and the reasons why these have not and would not be effective at achieving the licensable purpose.** Stating that there is “dense cover” and there is “no alternative” is not appropriate. |
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**Section G - The activity must be part of a scheme or plan and contribute towards long term or significant environmental benefit**

The application must provide evidence which demonstrates to the satisfaction of NatureScot that the activity is part of a plan or scheme, and that the killing, capturing or observing the wild mammal will contribute towards a significant or long-term environmental benefit.

This should link to any current evidence of impact of the wild mammal species on the species in need of protection and the likely benefits of the activity.

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| **Please name and describe the scheme or plan and describe how the activity will contribute towards significant or long-term environmental benefit?**Please demonstrate how this will be measured against the objectives of the scheme or plan with particular reference to a monitoring plan.  |
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**Section H: Project proposal & Method statement**

This may be submitted as a separate attachment to the application.

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| **Please provide details of how the activity will be undertaken. This should demonstrate a designed and/ or systematic plan of activity aimed at achieving the licensable purpose** (e.g. description of the areas of activity, frequency of the activity, where and when the activity is planned and any control measures that will be employed).  |
|       |

**Section I: Required documents checklist**

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| **Confirm by ticking the box below that all the information we require to assess your licence has been submitted with your application.****[ ]  Location map(s)** clearly showing land on which the Licensable Activities are to take place, the proposed locations of that activity (this should be outlined), any areas of cover on or adjacent to those areas and any areas pertinent to the licensable purpose. **[ ]  Evidence to support justification of licensing purpose,** e.g. baseline survey of the species requiring protection, extent of the wild mammal population etc.**[ ]  *Any other evidence in support of the application*** *(e.g project proposal or species management plan).***[ ]  A monitoring plan** *e.g. providing details of proposed surveys targeted at measuring the environmental benefit aimed at being achieved by the scheme or plan***.**  |

**Section J: Declaration**

* I understand that it is an offence under The Hunting with Dogs (Scotland) Act 2023 to knowingly or recklessly provide false information in order to obtain a licence, and I declare that the particulars given in this application and any accompanying documents are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I apply for a licence in accordance with these particulars.
* I understand that failure to comply with any conditions included on any licence granted in respect of this application may constitute an offence.

**Applicant**

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| --- | --- |
| **Date**: Click here to enter a date. | **Print name:**      **Electronic signature:**  |

**Dog Handler**

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| **Date**: Click here to enter a date. | **Print name:**      **Electronic signature:**  |

**Submitting your application form**

This application **should be submitted by email from the Applicant** as named on this licence application. Please email the completed application form, together with all supporting information, to:**licensing@nature.scot**

Please do not send zip files as these may be blocked by our security system and not received.

Once we have received your application, you will receive an automated email acknowledging this. Please quote the reference number given in the email if you need to contact us in relation to your application.

If you do not have access to email, you can print out and send your application and supporting information to the postal address below. Please note if you apply by post you will not receive confirmation that your application has been received.

**Licensing Section**

**NatureScot**

**Great Glen House**

**Leachkin Road**

**Inverness**

**IV3 8NW**

[How we adhere with the Data Protection Act and the Scottish Regulators' Strategic Code of Practice](https://www.nature.scot/data-protection-how-we-use-your-personal-information-accordance-data-protection-act)

**Annex I – Supplementary areas of proposed activity**

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| **Name of the area of land within which the Licensed Activities will be undertaken** (this should correlate with the map label) |       |
| **Location 3**(Six figure grid reference from centre of the area) e.g. NX100200 |       |
| The proposed Licenced Activity is for searching for, stalking or flushing from cover a wild mammal. |
| **What is the Licensable Activity intention for the wild mammal?** | [ ] Dispatched [ ] Captured [ ] Observed and allowed to escape  |
| **Description of the area where the Licensable Activity is proposed** (e.g. conifer plantation):      |
| **Justification for why the control of the wild mammal by the use of more than two dogs in this location, at the times proposed, will achieve the licensable purpose** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application): |
| **Proposed minimum number of guns (if any)** |       |
| **Justification for the number of guns** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application):      |
| **Proposed maximum number of dogs** (this should be the minimum number which would be effective at achieving the licensable purpose) |       |
| **Justification for the number of dogs** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application):      |

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| **Name of the area of land within which the Licensed Activities will be undertaken** (this should correlate with the map label) |       |
| **Location 4**(Six figure grid reference from centre of the area) e.g. NX100200 |       |
| The proposed Licenced Activity is for searching for, stalking or flushing from cover a wild mammal. |
| **What is the Licensable Activity intention for the wild mammal?** | [ ] Dispatched [ ] Captured [ ] Observed and allowed to escape  |
| **Description of the area where the Licensable Activity is proposed** (e.g. conifer plantation):      |
| **Justification for why the control of the wild mammal by the use of more than two dogs in this location, at the times proposed, will achieve the licensable purpose** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application):  |
| **Proposed minimum number of guns (if any)** |       |
| **Justification for the number of guns** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application):      |
| **Proposed maximum number of dogs** (this should be the minimum number which would be effective at achieving the licensable purpose) |       |
| **Justification for the number of dogs** (this must be supported by evidence which the Applicant can attach to or enclose with their application):      |