

Summary of National Hunting Regulations: Georgia



Updated in July 2016

HUNTING AND TRAPPING LEGISLATION/ RESOURCES

Name of main legislation: N 95 Order (Ministry of Environment and Nature Resources of Georgia)

Year of publication: 27 December 2013

Supporting legislation: N/A

Legislation updates: In process / expected for mid-2017

Hunting legislation (web link): <https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/2166315>

Authority in charge of controlling hunting (web link): <http://www.moe.gov.ge/en/home>

Major inconsistencies or loopholes detected (if yes please describe):

The law is restrictive to what species may be hunted, seasonal periods and methods and appears to be consistent with the international conventions and agreements signed by the Georgian government. The following issues have been observed:

- Hunting regulations, random methodology and necessary advance steps are described, however no specific penalties or fines for breaking the regulations are specified. This issue is mainly monitored by the Inspectorate of Nature Protection/rangers team; however quality of control and monitoring is very low due to the absence of technical and human resources;
- Falconry is specifically permitted by the law but it does not establish quotas, regulate the number of birds of prey that may be owned or any other aspect of the activity. Main thing which doesn't exist at this level is allowed methodology and approach;
- Quotas and hunting periods are fixed and are not reviewed on a yearly basis based on surveys or natural or meteorological circumstances;
- Number of allowed birds to be hunted per hunting season doesn't base on pre-monitoring and survey of number of migratory birds that must be analysed and only then established quotes for hunting.

Derogations (on EU Birds Directive and/or Bern Convention): None

HUNTING AND TRAPPING: METHODS AND RESTRICTIONS

	Legal methods/restrictions	Notes
Hunting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Besides migratory birds, hunting is allowed only in hunting farms. There are 22 hunting farms in Georgia by 2009. Outside hunting farms hunting is allowed only on 15 (19 by 2014) species of birds but the daily quota is limited according to the species;	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Under the new regulation, each species is labelled with a price tag, allowing any individual who has paid a fixed price, to hunt for them anywhere, excluding protected areas and national reserves; ▪ The use of electronic lures is forbidden; ▪ Burning of vegetation is forbidden; ▪ Hunting from vehicles is forbidden; ▪ Hunting in unfavourable and exceptional weather conditions is forbidden 	
Trapping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trapping is specifically forbidden by Georgian law and can only be authorised for research or scientific breeding purposes. 	

HUNTING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Hunting Season	Legally huntable species	Notes
Mid-September- November	Quail	Falconry
1.11 – 01.03 (In the districts of Akhalkalaki, Ninotsminda, Tsalka and Dmanisi the hunting season is: 10.09 – 10.11)	Species, general daily limit (daily limit in the previously specified districts): Greylag Goose 5 (3), Gadwall 3 (2), Common Teal 5 (3), Mallard 6 (5), Garganey 3 (2), Northern Shoveler 3 (2), Common coot 6 (5), Northern Pintail 3 (2), Eurasian Wigeon 6 (3), Greater White-fronted Goose 5 (3), Common Pochard 3 (2), Tufted Duck 5 (3)	Migratory waterfowl are huntable outside farms.
15.10 – 01.03 for Eurasian Woodcock The third Saturday of August to the 15th of February all other species.	Species and daily limit: Eurasian Woodcock 3, Common Snipe 5, Common Quail 20, Common Woodpigeon 10, Rock Dove 10, Stock Dove 10, European Turtle-dove 10	Non-migratory waterfowl species

TRAPPING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Trapping Season	Legally trapped species	Notes
No legally sanctioned trapping season.		

TRADE AND PEST SPECIES

Legal trade	Notes

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<p>There are no any wild bird species mentioned in any relevant legislation(s), which are legal for trading, however:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most common wide spread bird species which can be easily found in local markets/bazars during migration season is: Common Quail - One of the most problematic cases is illegal trading of wild birds and animals via local digital market – www.mymarket.ge through the section Birds and Animals. Currently, after loads of requests and strikes initiated by green NGOs in Georgia, Ministry of Environment is negotiating with its owner for closing the current page on this web-site. - Illegal trade to abroad. This case is obviously visible during migration and breeding seasons. Usually birds of prey, such as falcons’ and sparrowhawks’ trade to Turkey from Batumi during migration season and large eagles (mainly nestlings) trade to Iran through the border cross with Azerbaijan during breeding season.
Legislation on “pest species”	Notes
<p>Officially:</p> <p>None of Bird Species are not specified officially in any legislative documents</p> <p>Non officially:</p> <p>European bee-eater and large eagles</p>	<p>This is an issue mainly conflict of human/farmers between the wild nature, which is under consideration during elaboration of the new legislation</p>

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