

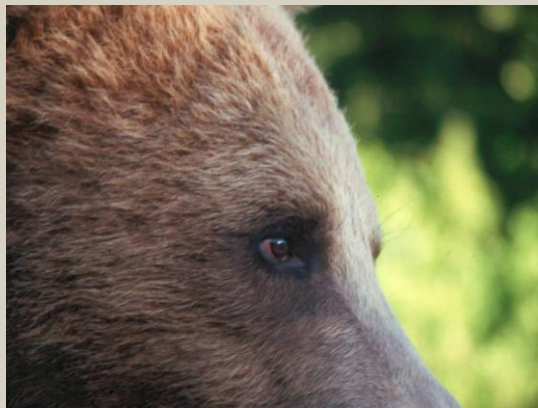
Large carnivores in Sweden



Svenska Jägareförbundet

Large carnivores in Sweden 2024

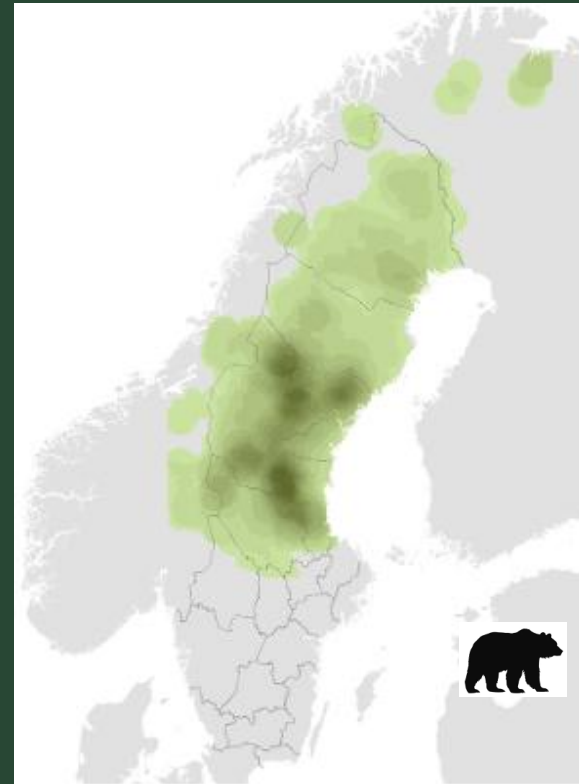
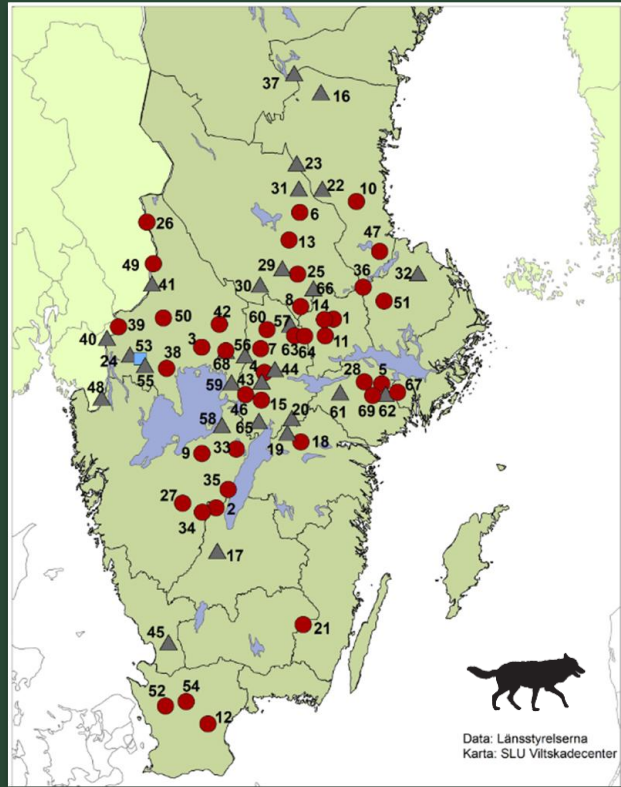
Species	Population size	Hunting quota 2024 under article 16 .1.e.
Wolf	~375	36
Bear	~2500	486
Lynx	~1300	143
Wolverine	~670	25

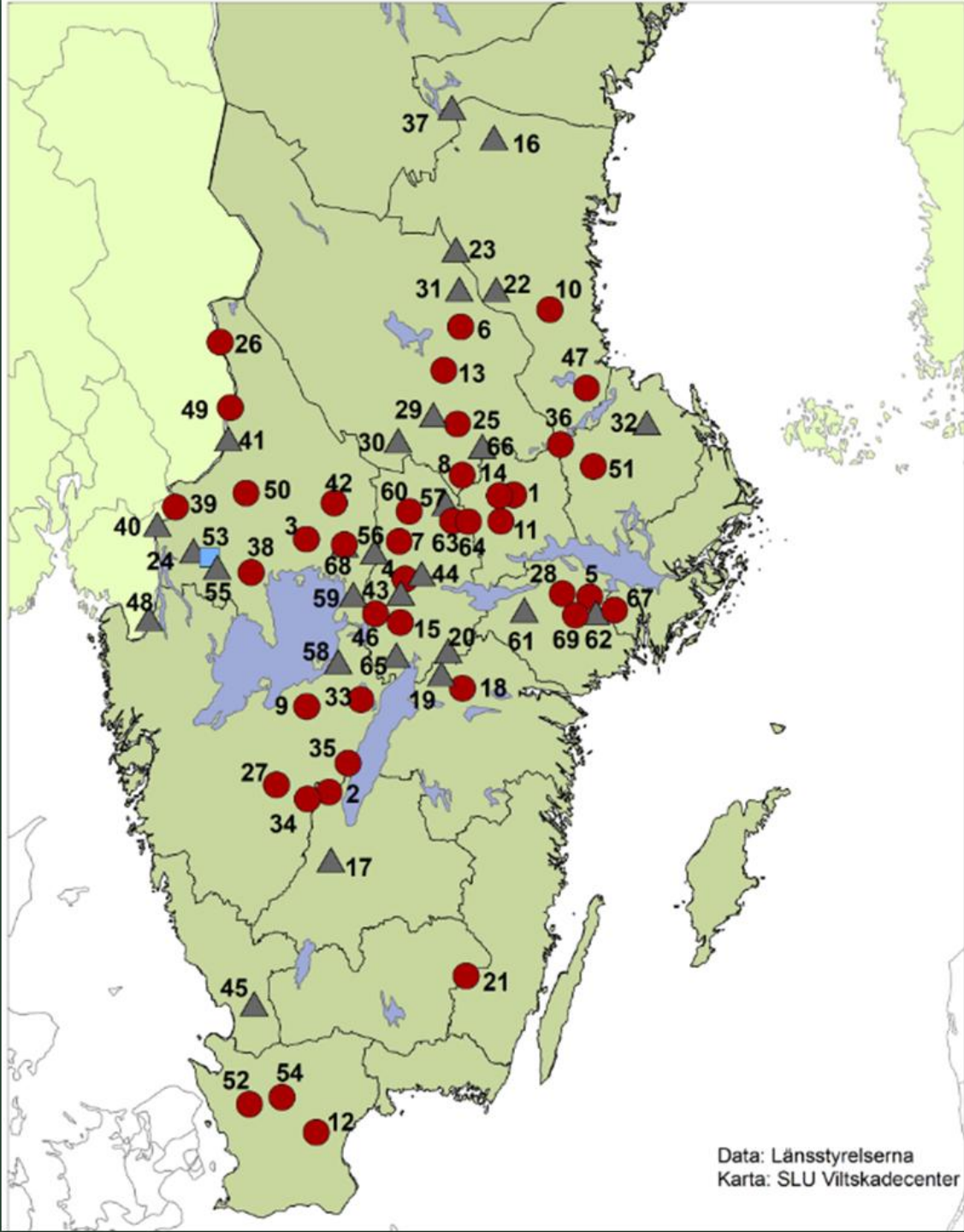


Photos: Gunnar Glöersen



Carnivore distribution





Wolf population 2023-2024

● = 39,5 Packs (37,5 with reproduction)

▲ = 27,5 Pairs

375 wolves

Data: Länsstyrelserna
Karta: SLU Viltskadecenter



Monitoring



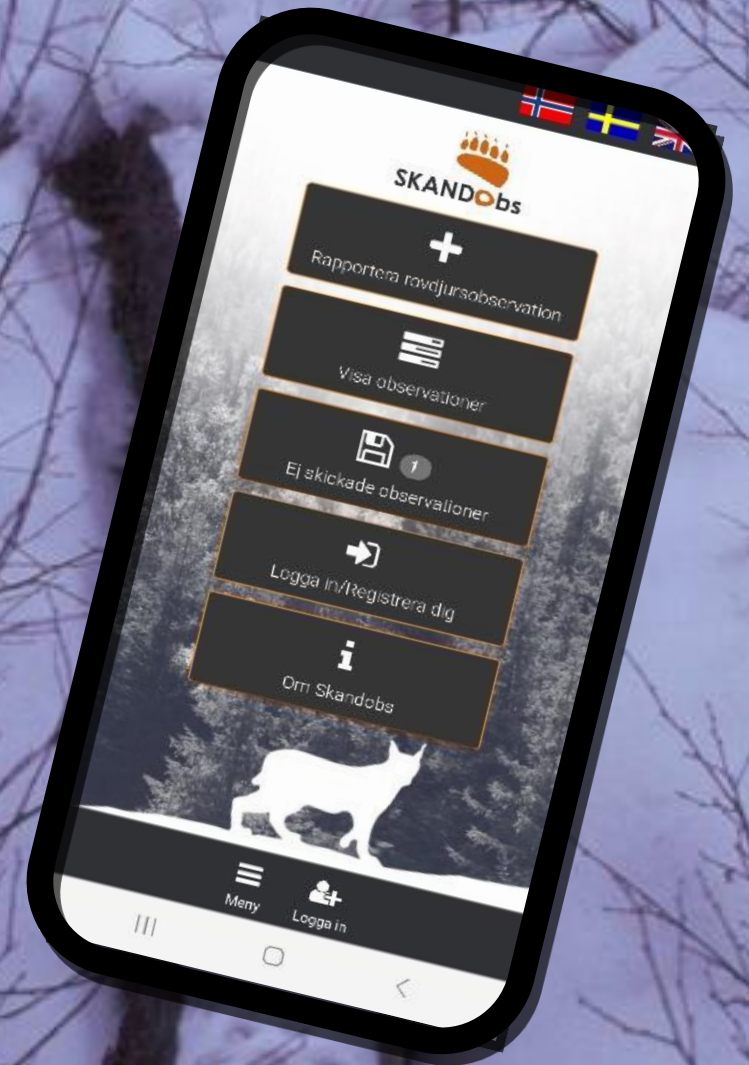
Large carnivore monitoring

The hunters and the public are involved in the monitoring of wolf, lynx, wolverine and bear.



Hunters in monitoring

- In 2017 and 2019, the wolf population was monitored on a large scale in order to obtain a conversion factor (10) for the wolf (dna sampling).
- The hunters report tracks and observation to the county administrations via Skandobs touch.
- Trail camera photos of large carnivores are also reported.
- Hunters collect bear scats for dna sampling.



Almost all observations are public

Rovbase

UI405717 G55-16

Meny

< Tillbaka till sök

Visar 136 träff på varghane UI405717 G55-16, född i Sandsjön 3-reviret

Dela
Kopiera länk Skicka som e-post

- Observation, varg - Finndalsvägen
2024.12.03
Filipstad (S)
- DNA, varg
2024.12.03
Filipstad (S)
- Observation, varg - Dammtjärn
2024.02.12
Filipstad (S)
- DNA, varg
2024.02.12
Filipstad (S)
- Observation, varg - Nolångsmossen
2023.12.08
Kristinehamn (S)
- Observation, varg - Boviksmossen
2023.12.08
Kristinehamn (S)
- DNA, varg - Boviksmossen
2023.12.08
Kristinehamn (S)
- DNA, varg - Nolångsmossen
2023.12.08
Kristinehamn (S)

Föregående sida 1 - 20 av 136 Nästa sida

© Statens Kartverk, Lantmäteriet

Licensed hunting



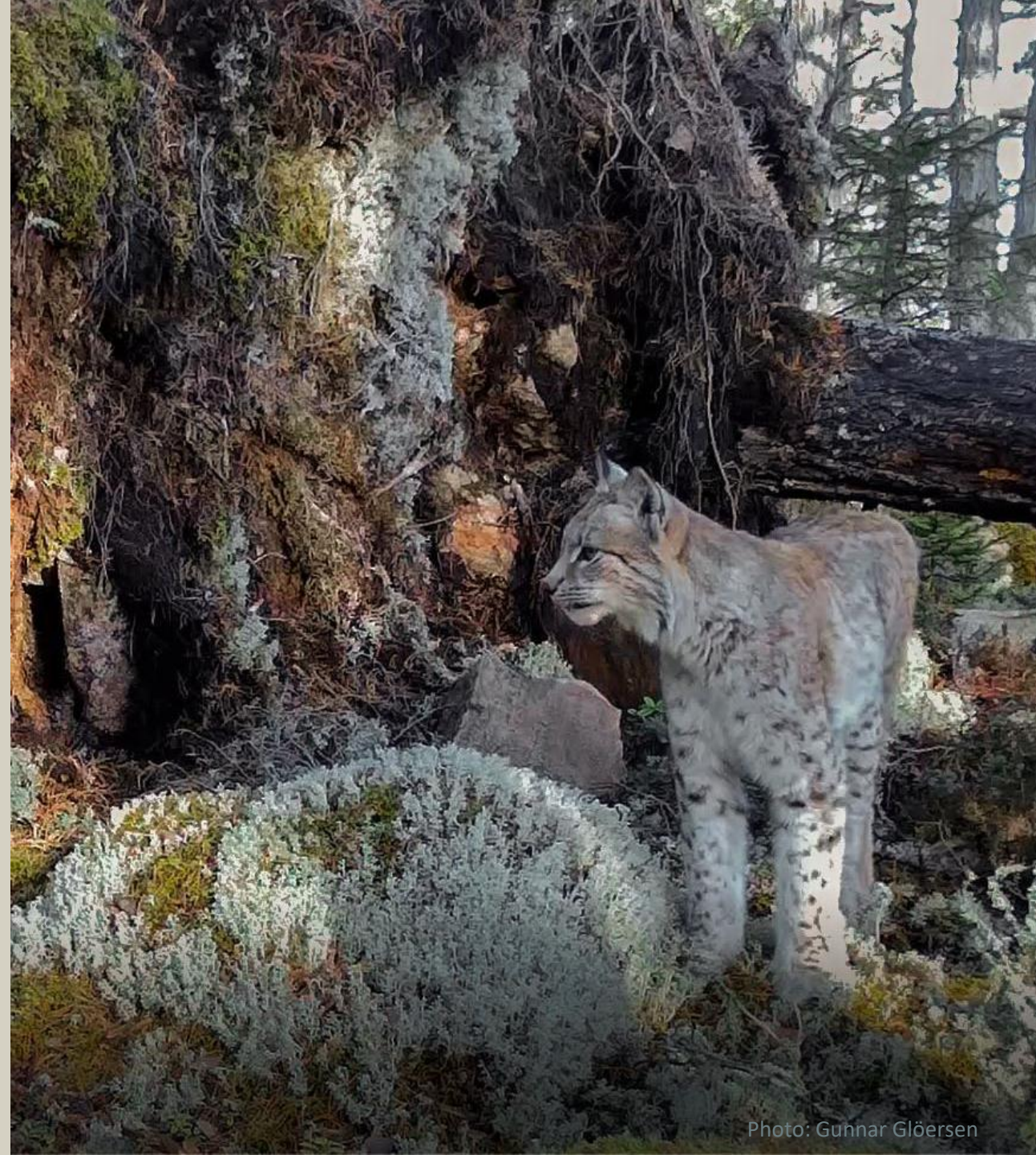
A photograph of a person in winter clothing, including a white jacket and a blue and orange hat, holding a large wolf's head. The person is standing in a snowy forest with snow-covered evergreen trees in the background. The text "Derogations under article 16" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Derogations under article 16

- Article 16.1.b "Protective hunting"
Attacks on domestic animals, dogs or carnivores that are considered to pose a danger to humans.
- Article 16.1.e "Licensed hunt"
Aims, among other things, to reduce local concentrations of wolves and to reduce socio-economic consequences as well as increasing the acceptance of wolves.
- The Commission opened an infringement case against Sweden in 2010. Sweden has had a dialogue with the Commission since then.
- The Commission has not brought the case to the EU Court of Justice

Infringement case regarding lynx hunting

- Reasoned opinion regarding lynx hunting 2000
- Sweden made minor changes that involved registration of hunters who hunt lynx. The case was then dropped.



Appeal process - licensed wolf hunt



- License decisions must be made before 1 October
- Appeals must be made within 3 weeks
- Appeal cases for wolf hunting shall be processed “urgently” (Hunting Law)
- One Administrative Court specialised in large carnivore cases handles all appeals from across the country (in Luleå)
- Licensed wolf hunt typically takes place from 2 January to 15 February



LICENSED WOLF HUNT, ARTICLE 16.1.e.

- The license hunt for wolves is only permitted in designated wolf territories.
- The permit gives the right to shoot 6 wolves per territory during the period January 2 - February 15.
- The hunters must check every hour that there are wolves left to shoot.
- The County Administrative Board also regularly sends out an SMS to everyone who has registered with information on how many wolves have been shot.





Legislation licensed hunt

- 23 c § The prerequisite for license hunting for bear, wolf, wolverine and lynx to be allowed is that there is no other suitable solution and that the hunt does not hinder the maintenance of a favorable conservation status of the species' population in its natural distribution area. The hunt must also be suitable with regard to the size and composition of the population and be selective and under strictly controlled conditions.
- If there are conditions according to § 23 c and something else does not follow from § 24 a, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency may decide on license hunting for bears, wolves, wolverines and lynx.
- A decision on hunting according to the first paragraph may be drawn up and combined with conditions that are appropriate with regard to the inconvenience caused by the presence of dense populations of predators.



Legislation licensed hunt

§ 24 a The Environmental Protection Agency may hand over to the county administrative board to decide on protective hunting for bears, wolves, wolverines, lynx and golden eagles with the support of § 23 b.

The Environmental Protection Agency may hand over to the county administrations in such a large carnivore management area as referred to in section 2 of the regulation (2009:1263) on the management of bears, wolves, wolverines, lynx and golden eagles to decide on license hunting for bears, wolves, wolverines and lynx with the support of section 23 d, on the condition that the number of individuals of the species in the large carnivore management area exceeds the established minimum levels according to 5 § the same regulation.



Important
with well-
written
decisions



Länstyrelsen
Värmland

Licensjakt efter varg i Värmlands län 2025

Information om dokumentet

Detta är en digitalt tillgänglighetsanpassad webbversion av beslutet Licensjakt efter varg i Värmlands län 2025 som är daterat den 7 november 2024. Det godkända originaldokumentet finns arkiverat i vårt digitala ärendesystem och har diarienummer 218-8931-2024.

Avsändare är Länstyrelsen Värmland.

Beslut

Länstyrelsen i Värmlands län beslutar att tillåta licensjakt på totalt sex (6) vargar inom det jaktområde som framgår av bilaga 2.

Jakttid

Jakt får bedrivas från och med den 2 januari 2025 till och med den 15 februari 2025 eller till dess Länstyrelsen avlyser jakten.

Tilldelning och jaktområde

Jaktområde: Område som omfattar reviret Salungen (bilaga 2).
Tilldelning: Högst sex (6) vargar får fällas i området oavsett kön och ålder.

Jakt får endast ske inom angivet område, se karta (bilaga 2) och i enlighet med villkoren i detta beslut. Jaktområdet kan komma att revideras innan jaktstart om ny information om vargar i reviren inkommit.

Avlysning av jakten

Länstyrelsen avlyser jakten då det totala antalet tilldelade djur fällts eller påskjuts och avräknats inom det område som omfattas av detta beslut eller om jakttiden löpt ut. Länstyrelsen kan också avlysa jakten om förutsättningarna förändras i övrigt. Länstyrelsen informerar om avlysningen via telefonsvararen samt via SMS-tjänst.



Overall goal of licensed hunting

- The overall goal for wolf management is that the wolf population should have a favorable conservation status, while at the same time not making it significantly more difficult to keep domestic animals and taking into account the people who live and work in areas with high levels of large carnivores.
- In practice, this means that all management measures taken, including licensed hunting, aim at coexistence between humans and wolves. The purpose of this licensed hunting decision is to limit the negative socio-economic and psychosocial impact that dense wolf populations can have on people living in areas with a high wolf population (NV-02945-15, von Essen 2016). This is to create the conditions for sustainable wolf management and improve the possibility of coexistence, thereby preserving the favourable conservation status of the wolf population.

Motives for licensed hunting

- High density of wolf territories
- Socio-economic consequences
- Reduce illegal hunting
- Enable domestic animal husbandry
- Moose management and moose hunting are both a societal issue and an important tradition to be preserved
- Trust in the administration

Photo: Gunnar Glöersen



Court rulings

- Licensed hunting of large carnivores has been approved by the Swedish Supreme Administrative Court which states that licensed hunting is in accordance with the derogations in the habitat directives 16.1.e
- Some authority decisions are stopped in court, both protective and licensed hunting





Individual right to protect domestic animals

§ 28 in hunting law

- § 28 JF – gives the right to shoot a large carnivore during ongoing attack on domestic animals and dogs, but first an attempt must be made to repel the attack.

No prior decision from the authority is required.

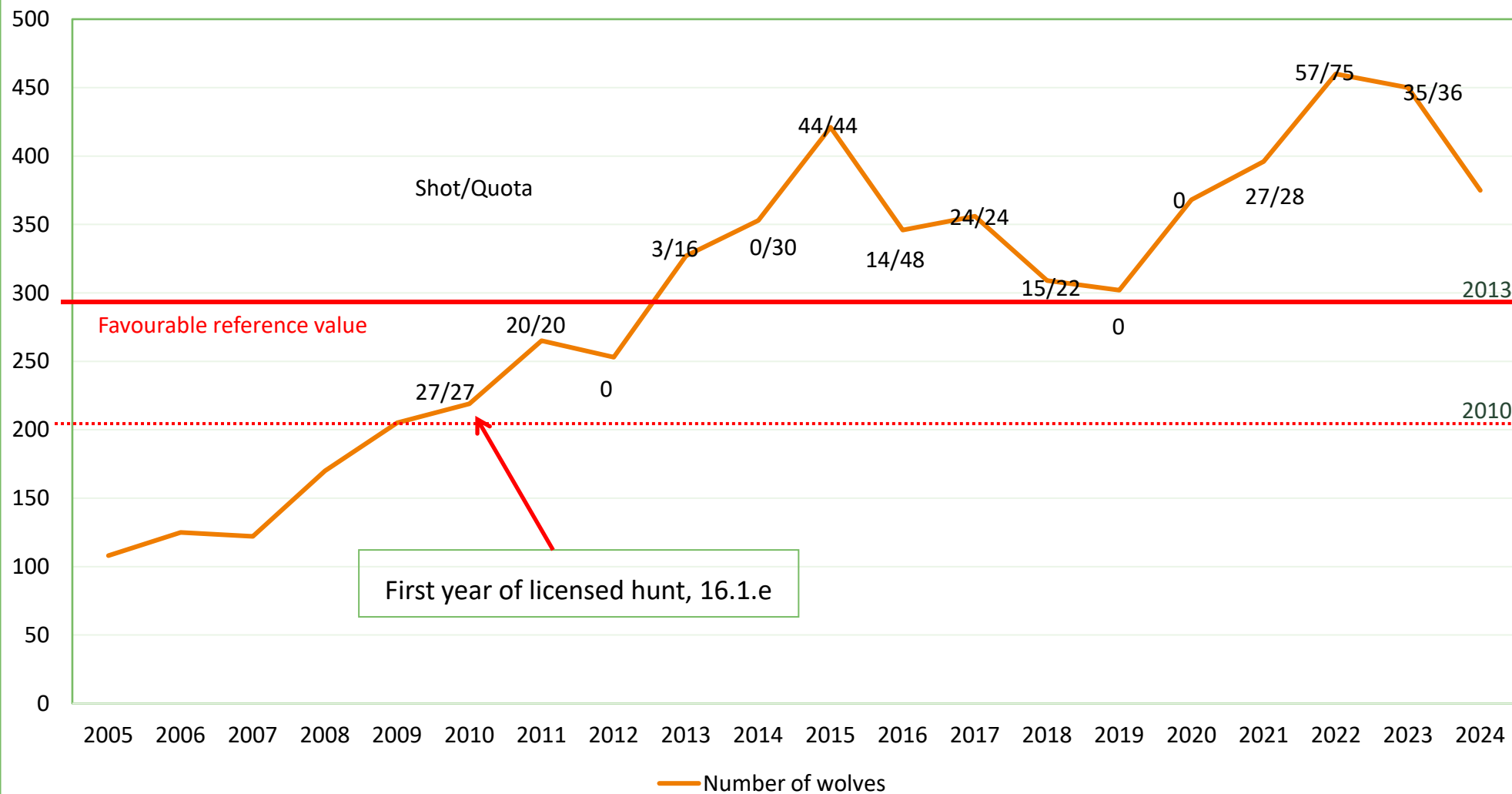
- Whoever kills such a carnivore contacts the county administrative

Articel 17 reporting 2025



Svenska Jägareförbundet

Wolf population in Sweden



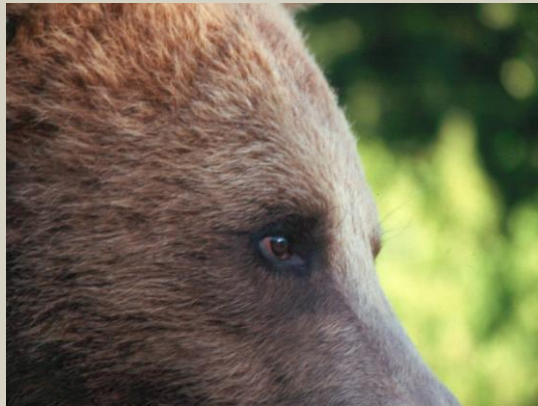


New reference values in June 2025

- The Swedish government has decided that the reference value should be lowered from the current 300 wolves to 170
- In a first step, the wolf population must be reduced to 270 wolves, then as certain management measures are taken, the population must be reduced to 170

Large carnivores reference values

Spieses	Reference value 2019	Population size
Wolf	300 (170)	~375
Bear	1400	~2500
Lynx	870	~1300
Wolverine	600	~670



Photos: Gunnar Glöersen

What have we
learned?



Key questions

- Clear national and regional goals for the administration
- Scientific basis for decisions
- Decisions must aim to solve a local problem
- Sweden produces a scientific basis that indicates the consequences of different hunting quotas. The authorities have this as support for their decisions.
- No national decisions on the yearly quota.
- The county administrative boards' decisions are often more than 30 pages long.

Barnacle Geese



Barnacle Geese – Derogations

HUNTING ON OWN INITIATIVE (Scenario 1)

Swedish Hunting Ordinance (Jaktförordningen 1987:905), § 26 & Annex 4, point 12:

- Derogation shooting allowed all-year-round (1 July – 30 June) for hunting rights holders on their own initiative.
- Barnacle Geese that appear in a flock of at least five individuals at a field of unharvested crop or that may cause nuisance to public health.
- No special license needed.

HUNTING BY AUTHORITY'S DECISION (Scenario 2)

Swedish Hunting Ordinance, § 23a & § 29:

- The County Administrative Boards may apply derogations for protection hunting.

There are no EU infringement proceedings against Sweden for these regimes!



Barnacle Geese – Derogations

REPORTING

- Reporting to County Administrative Board or Viltdata.se after hunting.
- County Administrative Boards and Viltdata.se report to the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Agency reports to the European Commission.
- 2023/2024: 4,441 Barnacle Geese reported as shot.

GAME MEAT

- There are no restrictions on using the meat from the hunted goose in Sweden.
- Banning the use of products from the hunted birds would be in contravention with the sustainable use principles in the Convention on Biological Diversity.



Cormorants



Cormorants – Derogations

HUNTING ON OWN INITIATIVE

Swedish Hunting Ordinance (Jaktförordningen 1987:905), § 26 & Annex 4, point 19:

- Great cormorants may be hunted to prevent damage, but no closer than 300 meters from the nesting sites of cormorants, sea eagles or ospreys:
 - at fixed and mobile fishing gear (not hand gear) and within a distance of 300 meters from such gear (*1 Aug - 28[29] Feb*),
 - at fish farms and release sites (within 7 days before and 7 days after release) and within a distance of 300 meters from such areas (*1 Jul - 30 June*),
 - in protected areas for fish (*1 Aug - 28[29] Feb*).
- No special license required.



Cormorants – Derogations

HUNTING BY AUTHORITY'S DECISION

- County Administrative Boards may apply derogations for additional protection needs and decide on licensed hunting and quota.

REPORTING

- Reporting to County Administrative Board or Viltdata.se after hunting.
- County Administrative Boards and Viltdata.se report to the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Agency reports to the European Commission.
- 2023/2024: 3,278 Cormorants reported as shot.



There are no EU infringement proceedings against Sweden for these regimes!



Cormorants – Government's assignments

The Swedish Government has tasked, inter alia:

- The **Environmental Protection Agency to facilitate hunting of cormorants and seals** to protect vulnerable fish stocks and submit proposals for measures to be able to implement restrictions on seal and cormorant populations.
- The **University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)** to investigate how the reduction or absence of cormorants and seals in an area affects the recovery of fish stocks.
- **Formas** (a government research council) to compile experiences from experiments and studies on whether, and if so how, limited cormorant and seal populations contribute to reducing damage to sensitive fish stocks and report on how strengthened ecosystem-based management promotes the recovery of fish stocks.

The assignment to the Environmental Protection Agency must be reported on 15 November 2025. The assignments to SLU and Formas must be reported on 31 March 2028.



Regeringskansliet

Sök på regeringen.se

es regering ▼ Regeringens politik i Sverige & EU ▼ Dokument & publikationer ▼

Pressmeddelande från [Landsbygds- och infrastrukturdepartementet](#)

Regeringen vill stärka fiskbestånden - nya uppdrag om jakt på säl och skarv

Publicerad 12 februari 2025

På flera håll i landet återhämtar sig inte fiskbestånden trots långvariga fiskeförbud. Samtidigt har populationerna av säl och skarv ökat kraftigt under 2000-talet och de påverkar i stor utsträckning fiskbestånden. Regeringen har därför beslutat om uppdrag om jakt på säl och skarv.



EU Commission's Position

“Provided that the conservation status of the species is not at risk and there are no other satisfactory solutions, derogations make it possible to **remove large numbers of Cormorants** from an area where this is justified in order to prevent serious damage to fisheries and aquaculture.”

“Several Member States, such as **Sweden**, Poland or Hungary **make use of such derogations for culling Cormorants**. As the necessary legal flexibility to control Cormorant numbers exists, the Commission does not see any need to enlist the species in Annex II of the Birds Directive.”

Environment Commissioner Mr Sinkevičius (2020)





Thank you!