



**NPWS**

An tSeirbhís Páirceanna  
Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra  
National Parks and Wildlife  
Service

**Guidance Note for Completion of Application Form for a Permit under Section 30 of the Wildlife Acts 1976, as amended (Hunting over Foreshore)**

**Please note:**

**Species of Birds**

Only protected wild birds listed on the Open Seasons Order found on the Foreshore may be hunted. Please see list of birds on the Open Seasons Order at npws.ie - [Open Seasons Order | National Parks & Wildlife Service \(npws.ie\)](#)

**EU regulations (Regulation 2021/57) concerning the use and carrying of lead gunshot**

EU regulations (Regulation 2021/57) concerning the use and carrying of lead gunshot in or around wetlands has come into effect. These Regulations provide for the restriction of the use, or carrying, of lead in gunshot in and within 100 metres of a wetland in Member States as well as the carrying of such gunshot in certain circumstances. A map viewer has now been published and is available online. For the purposes of these regulations the definition of ‘wetlands’ is that used in the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention). All such wetlands are subject to the Regulation. A link to the online map viewer can be found on the NPWS website at <https://www.npws.ie/legislation/eu-regulation-restrictions-use-lead-gunshot-or-around-wetlands>

## **PART 1**

### **Personal Details**

This section must be fully completed. Failure to complete all sections of this part of the form will result in the returning of the application form to the applicant. You must include a valid email address on the application form. Please use legible BLOCK LETTERS when completing the form.

### **Gun Clubs**

If you are applying on behalf of a gun club – please ensure to include names, addresses and gun details for all members covered by the permit. This list of club members can be supplied on a separate page/s to the application form.

### **Method of Hunting**

Please include the method of hunting – e.g. – from a boat, walking the shore or other.

If you are using a decoy to hunt, please tick the relevant boxes – e.g. wooden/plastic floating decoys. **Please note: Use of mechanical decoys is strictly not permissible.**

### **Details of Firearms**

This section must be completed or application forms will be returned. Please include the make and model of the shotgun and please tick the box to indicate if it is manual, semi-automatic or pump action. You must also include your current firearm certificate number and gun serial number. All information in relation to gun details will be for National Parks and Wildlife Service use only.

### **Application Details**

This section is to indicate whether an applicant is a first time hunter or if they have had a previous licence. If this is a renewal application – you will be asked if you have submitted returns. The applicant must indicate if they are wishing to make changes to a previous permit.

## **PART 2 - State Lakes Details**

The location/s of where you propose to hunt should be written into the space provided. Please include the County name and location. A list of State Lakes is provided for your convenience. Do not mark or tick the list of lakes. In the space provided below the list of lakes, please write in the name of the lake(s) that you are applying to hunt over.

## **PART 3 - Foreshore**

Please tick the County that you are applying to hunt in. You must include the specific description of the foreshore area requested. These details should be included in the space provided. Areas listed for Dublin, Kilkenny and Limerick have been pre-filled for your convenience. **Please take note of exclusion zones listed in Appendix I.**

#### **PART 4 - Conditions for Applicants**

The application form lists conditions that must be adhered to in order for the permit to issue to an applicant:

- Each applicant must be aged 16 or over in order to receive a permit.
- Only protected wild birds that are listed on the current Open Seasons Order and found on the foreshore may be hunted.
- All individual permits are valid for a duration of five years.
- All Gun Club permits are valid for a duration of one year.
- All permit holders must submit **annual returns** at the conclusion of each season via email to [wildlifelicence@npws.gov.ie](mailto:wildlifelicence@npws.gov.ie)
- Failure to submit returns could result in the permit being revoked or a new permit not being issued. Returns forms are available on npws.ie and must be sent back to NPWS on an **annual basis**.
- Applicants from outside the State must include a copy of their current European Firearms Pass or Country equivalent if they are travelling into the Country with a gun/s.

#### **PART 5 - Declaration**

All application forms must be signed and dated by the applicant. If an application form is not signed and dated, it will not be processed and will be returned to the applicant.

## **APPENDIX I**

### **Exclusion Zones**

A list of all exclusion zones is available on [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie) and will provide all permit holders with a clear outline of zones where hunting is not permitted. All applicants must make themselves familiar with the exclusion zones. Shooting in an exclusion zone is a breach of the conditions of a permit and this could result in the revoking of your permit, affect future applications and could result in prosecutions under the Wildlife Act 1976.

#### **Exclusion areas for Co. Clare**

Lahinch and Liscannor Marshes, Lough Muree/Finararra, Bell Harbour, Poulnaskerry Bay inside the old railway embankment. The North Clare coast from Bishop's Quarter Beach to New Quay Pier i.e. site of proposed marine Nature Reserve. The River Shannon is not state owned foreshore except for tidal area.

#### **Exclusion area for Co. Dublin**

All State owned foreshore, except Malahide Estuary.

#### **Exclusion areas for Co. Galway**

Galway Bay

(North of a line from Barna Pier through Seaweed Point through Mutton Island to Hare Island from thence along causeway to Ballyloughane Railway Bridge; northwards from Galway Bay to south exit of Lough Corrib, known as Friar's Cut). Exclusion area around Oranmore village runs from Green Island to Rinnatinnaan Point.

#### **Exclusion areas for Co. Louth and Co. Meath**

That part of the foreshore of the River Boyne lying 700 yards directly west of the western extremity of the River Boyne sanctuary area.

#### **Exclusion areas for Co. Sligo**

Sligo Harbour and Cartron Marsh

Description: All tidal lands and foreshore upstream of a straight line drawn between where the embankment starts on shore line on Finisklin Far and bench mark 85 at the crossroads between Ballinvoher and Ballincar.

#### **Exclusions areas for Co. Waterford**

No hunting permitted from the centre point of the River Suir to the high water mark from the county and city boundary at Bilberry Townland, to the highest point where the ordinary tide flows within the Clodiagh River, Portlaw at Ballycahane Townland, all within the baronies of Middle Third and Upper Third.

No hunting permitted from the Dunhill Stream from the highest point, where the ordinary tide flows to the baseline of the foreshore at Woodstown Townland, to the Ballymabin Stream at Stony Cove, Swines Head, and Rathmoylan.

### **Exclusion areas for Co. Waterford, Co. Kilkenny and Co. Cork**

That part of the foreshore of the River Suir lying directly east of the Coolfin Marshes sanctuary area, together with those parts of the foreshore extending for 1,000 yards both north and south of the aforesaid foreshore area.

#### **River Suir**

No hunting permitted from Fiddown Island or its reedbeds. No alighting by boat on to Island is permitted.

No hunting on the Waterford side of the estuary from where the Darrigal River enters the River Suir to Anderson's Quay adjoining Killoteran, including the Darrigal, Dawn and Whelans Bridge Rivers. **Excludes the Blackwater estuary and its tributaries.**

### **Exclusion areas for Wexford**

Raven Area (Raven Nature Reserve) except under the terms of agreements with the Wexford Harbour and District Wildfowlers Association.

Foreshore area between Sluice Gate at Ardcahan to end of slob roadway at Breast buildings to include area 300m seaward from North Slob wall.

Lady's Island Lake and Tacumshin Lake.

All Castlebridge Marsh and tidal reaches of River Sow.

Coastal area between Carnsore Point and Kilmore Quay.

Ballyteige and The Cull (The Ballyteige Nature Reserve).

Cahore Marshes/Kilmuckeridge.

In regard to Bannow Bay, shooting on the foreshore will be permitted on the area lying north of an imaginary line from Ingard Point to Clammers Point but excluding the official (no shooting) areas of the following dates: each Sunday, October Bank Holiday, 26th December and 31st January.

The permit does not restrict shooting by the holder on that part of the foreshore, which lies north of the most northerly of the two sanctuaries (no shooting areas) on Bannow Bay.

### **Exclusion areas for Co. Wicklow.**

Ballyteigh Marsh pNHA

Broad Lough. Ref: Site 55. The area comprising the land for the time being covered by the waters of Broad Lough in the County of Wicklow and the land forming the islands therein together with the lands comprising the townlands of Knockrobin Murragh and Bollarney Murragh and the part of the townland of Corporation Murragh which is north or west of the railway line, the lands comprising the railway line in the townlands of Tinakelly Murragh and Clonmannan and the foreshore adjoining the townlands of Bollarney Murragh, Knockrobin Murragh, Tinakelly Murragh and Clonmannan.