

## Current restrictions on the use of lead ammunition

The REACH restriction on lead shot over wetlands takes effect from February 2023 – [link](#).

EU	Lead gunshot	Scope (e.g. species, areas)	Other (e.g. lead rifle bullets, shooting ranges)
Austria	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl wherever they occur	Incentives to use non-lead bullets in Hohe Tauern National Park
Belgium			
Flanders	Banned in all habitats	General prohibition	
Wallonia	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl at less than 50 metres from wetlands	
Bulgaria	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	Wetlands (Ramsar) with a buffer zone of 200 metres	
Croatia	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	All wetlands (definition n/a)	
Cyprus	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	Open water with a buffer zone of 300 metres	
Czech Republic	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl wherever they occur	
Denmark	Prohibited in all habitats	Total ban on the use, trade, and possession	Target shooting by lead prohibited. A centre-fire rifle bullet restriction for hunting took effect in July 2022.
Estonia	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl wherever they occur	
Finland	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl wherever they occur	
France	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	Open water	Incentives to use non-lead bullets in Cévennes National Park, French Alps in Haute Savoie and French Pyrenees
Germany	Recommendation to use non-lead shot for waterfowl hunting in wetlands	Waterfowl	
Baden-Württemberg	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	Prohibited to use lead bullets for hunting ungulates
Bavaria	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	
Berlin	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	Prohibited to use lead bullets in the state forests
Brandenburg	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	Prohibited to use lead bullets in the state forests
Hesse	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	Prohibited to use lead bullets in the state forests
Lower Saxony	Prohibited for hunting in all habitats		Prohibited to use lead bullets in the state forests
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	
North Rhine-Westphalia	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	Prohibited to use lead bullets and shotgun slugs for hunting
Rhineland-Palatinate	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	Prohibited to use lead bullets in the state forests
Saarland	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	Prohibited to use lead bullets for hunting

Saxony-Anhalt	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	
Schleswig-Holstein	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	Prohibited to use lead bullets and shotgun slugs for hunting
Thuringia	Prohibited for hunting designated species	Waterfowl	
Greece	Without regulation		
Hungary	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	List of 33 wetland areas (including Ramsar sites)	
Ireland	Without regulation		
Italy	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	Open water, special protection areas and special areas of conservation with a buffer zone of 150 metres	Lead bullets prohibited for hunting in Sondrio Provence
Latvia	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	Ramsar sites, special protection areas and nature reserves	
Lithuania	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	Most important wetlands and nature reserves	
Luxembourg	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	Open water with a buffer zone of 30 metres	
Malta	Without regulation (no/few wetlands in Malta)		
Netherlands	Prohibited in all habitats	General prohibition for use and possession	Prohibited to use lead shots in clay shooting
Poland	Without regulation		
Portugal	Partially prohibited for hunting in wetlands	N/a	
Romania	Without regulation		
Slovakia	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	N/a	
Slovenia	Without regulation		
Spain	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	Designated Ramsar sites, Natura 2000, and nature protection sites. Prohibition also covers possession.	Lead bullets prohibited in Maestrazgo mountains (Valencia)
Sweden	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	Vegetation covered areas where water surface is closely under, at the same level or closely over the land surface or with seasonal variations	Prohibited to use lead shots in shooting ranges (derogation for sport shooting at international level and certain shooting at steel targets)
<b>UK</b>			
England	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas and for hunting certain species	Foreshore, selected sites of special interest and for hunting ducks, geese, swans, coot, moorhen wherever they occur	
Wales	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas and for hunting certain species	Foreshore, selected sites of special interest and for hunting ducks, geese, swans, coot, moorhen wherever they occur	
Scotland	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	Wetlands (Ramsar definition). However, peatlands with visible water	
Northern Ireland	Prohibited for hunting in designated areas	Wetlands (Ramsar definition). However, peatlands with visible water	
<b>EEA</b>			
Norway	Prohibited for waterfowl hunting		

Iceland	In and around Reykjavik, lead has been banned on outdoor shooting ranges.		
Liechtenstein	Without regulation		

Sources: FACE information; Mateo & Kanstrup, Regulations on lead ammunition adopted in Europe, Ambio, 2019; Treu, Drost & Stock, An evaluation of the proposal to regulate lead in hunting ammunition through the European Union's REACH regulation, Environmental Science Europe, 2020.