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Hunting moratorium in Albania as a way to promote sustainable hunting tourism

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History

- Data on wild fauna species and their populations in constant decline, especially after 1990s
- Major factors include habitat loss and degradation and the uncontrolled hunting of huntable but also non huntable species
- During the civil unrest of 1997 in the country more than 100,000 weapons ended in the hands of population
- The pressure on migratory water birds as the populations of other fauna species were significantly reduced

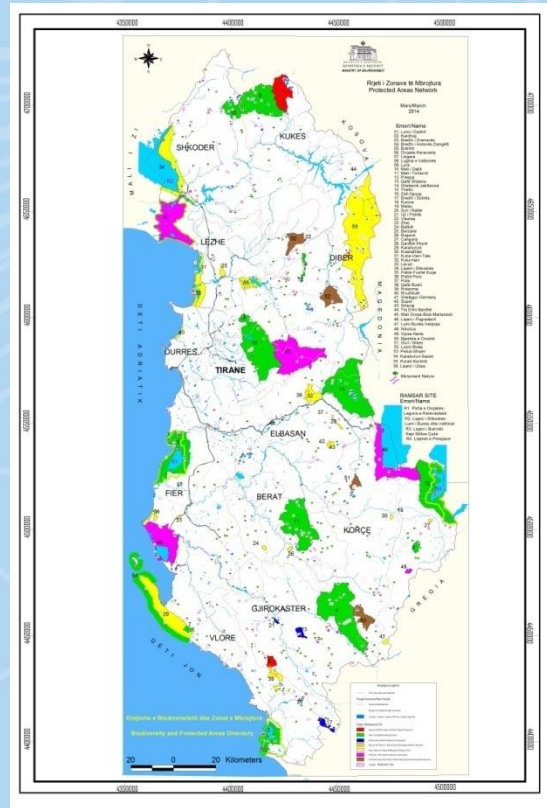


National legal framework

- Law On biodiversity protection of 2006
- Law On wild fauna protection of 2008
- Law On protected areas 2002, amended in 2008
- The new Law On hunting in 2010
- DCM On the hunting season
- DCM On the list of huntable species
- DCM On the hunting tariffs
- Concept of hunting areas managers introduced for the first time



Network of Protected Areas in Albania





Law On hunting ban

- Proposed in mid 2013
- Extended consultations with stakeholders: scientists, environmental NGOs including hunters associations
- Approved in January 2014
- Entered into force on the 16 March 2014 and expired on 15 March 2016







Reform on Protected Areas administration

- Establishment of the National Agency of Protected Areas in February 2015 and its 12 Regional branches (RAPAs)
- Training of RAPAs staff the implementation of wild fauna inventory methodology in cooperation with IPA Natura 2000 project
- Continuous monitoring of illegal hunting
- Periodic reporting on water birds



Results so far....

- Impact of the hunting ban is more obvious in wetland areas of the country where an increase of the bird numbers is recorded compared to the multi annual average 1993-2014
- In the wetland complex Divjakë-Karavasta there is an increase of about 5000 wintering water birds
- In Patok dhe Kune-Vain, 2 adjacent and similar Pas, the increase is lower, but still with around 2500 individuals



- Inventory of January 2015 by Bino at the NP Divjake - Karavasta, as the most important area for water birds, shows that the Park is hosting **45 species of wintering water birds shpendësh with around 42400 individuals or twice more compared to January 2014**
- The Park is home of around 45 predator species
- Bird watching as a new form of eco-tourism promoted



Inspections

- 650 inspections on potential illegal hunting
- 44 fines on illegal killing cases with the value of 3,2 milion ALL
- 600 hunting guns confiscated





Thank you very much for
your attention