

Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust



Legal Field Sports Policy

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DATE: 24 June 2014
REVIEW DATE: 2015

Introduction

Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust's position statement relates only to those activities that are recognised as 'legal field sports'.

This position statement should be read in conjunction with Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust's guidelines on Killing Wild Animals and the Angling Policy Statement.

Position statement

1. In relation to field sports, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust will determine its policies on nature conservation grounds only.
2. Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust recognises that many Trust members hold strong views both for and against field sports, and that field sports have contributed to the conservation of some natural and semi-natural habitats.
3. Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust will remain neutral on whether field sports should be made illegal because they involve moral and ethical issues not central to nature conservation.
4. Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust is strongly opposed to any field sport, or aspect of a field sport, which has a damaging impact on populations of quarry or non-target species, or habitats.
5. Because nature reserves are places for the quiet appreciation of wildlife, there will be a presumption against field sports on Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust's nature reserves over which the Trust has full control.
6. Where a Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust nature reserve is not under full control of the Trust, conditions laid down by the landowners in relation to field sports will be respected, although Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust will always seek to discourage any activity prejudicial to the objective of a nature reserve.

20 June 2014