



LIFE III

focus



# Integrated management of Natura 2000 sites

*The contribution of LIFE-nature projects*



European Commission

## European Commission Environment Directorate-General

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# summary

## Preface

### **PART ONE**

General introduction / 3

The Birds and Habitats directive and the Natura 2000 network / 4

General Principles of Natura 2000 site management adopted by Member States / 7

Management guidelines by Member States: the approach in France and Italy / 10

### **PART TWO**

Case studies / 15

Natura 2000 and water / 16

Natura 2000 and coastal and marine areas / 20

Natura 2000 and forestry / 24

Natura 2000 and agriculture / 29

### **PART THREE**

List of LIFE Nature projects which have included management plan actions / 33

Freshwater habitats / 34

Coastal and marine habitats / 36

Forest habitats / 37

Agricultural and grassland habitats / 39

Other habitats / 41

Fauna species / 42

Bird species / 44

Flora species / 46

Generics / 47

The aim of this brochure is to illustrate the contribution that the LIFE-nature programme has made to the integrated management of Natura 2000 sites. The term integrated management is used to indicate the care of a site coincidental with the management of another activity or resource, such as agriculture or water, as opposed to the sole activity of nature conservation.

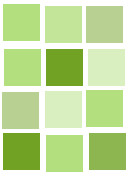
The brochure is in three parts.

Part One provides a summary description of the key issues of the Birds and Habitats directives linked to the Natura 2000 network, an overview of the main guidelines and recommendations by Member States and an illustration of national guidelines and manuals prepared in France and Italy with LIFE-nature projects.

Part two contains examples of management plans which were produced during LIFE-nature projects. They take into consideration both issues linked to the conservation of habitats and species of EU importance and other sectors, such as forestry or river and water management, agriculture and tourism, which have impacts on the management of Natura 2000 sites.

Part three consists of a list of all LIFE-nature projects which have included management plans. They total 428, of which a considerable part deals with habitats and animal species, the latter including large carnivores, birds, amphibians, cetaceans and fish.

The management plans, and the data collected for their preparation, may be useful to site managers dealing with the same habitats and species in similar conditions throughout the EU. They represent an extraordinary contribution to the development of the Natura 2000 network.



# Preface

*For well over ten years the European Union has been financing projects to reduce biodiversity loss. The main financial instrument for the actions has been LIFE, created in 1992 to support pilot actions in the implementation and development of EU environmental policy. One of the three branches of LIFE, LIFE-nature, has been dedicated specifically to the implementation of the Birds and Habitats directives, fundamental EU legislation for the conservation of nature in Europe. The main objective of the Habitats directive is the protection of endangered or otherwise valuable natural habitats and plant and animal species. This is achieved through the creation of a European ecological network of Special Areas of Conservation, known simply as the Natura 2000 network.*

*Many of the projects financed by LIFE-nature have included management plans. These serve to anticipate the obligation, under article 6 of the Habitats directive, to establish measures to protect endangered habitats and species listed in the annexes of that directive.*

*During recent years, as the selection of Natura 2000 sites neared completion, administrations and organizations responsible for the Network started to exchange views on the best criteria for managing the sites. This exchange, based in great part on experience gained with projects co-financed by LIFE-nature, has started a process of integration of different national measures used to reduce biodiversity loss.*

*This is a natural development. Administrations responsible for the management of Natura 2000 sites throughout the EU are confronted with similar, and in some cases identical, problems.*

*In many Member States, for instance, the adoption of conservation plans for national parks and other protected areas is a long and complicated exercise, often involving parliamentary approval. Do we need the same cumbersome procedure to be used for management plans for Natura 2000 sites? And which administration should be responsible for managing Special Areas of Conservation outside already protected areas?*

*Another issue common to all Member States is how to involve landowners and land users, such as farmers, in nature conservation activities. The Habitats directive covers also semi-natural habitats, created and maintained by human activity, and in order to conserve biodiversity it is essential, for example, to conserve certain farming practices. What are the most efficient means to combat land abandonment or maintain "traditional" farming? Can they be applied on a large scale or only in limited cases?*

*Yet another problem common to Member States has arisen with the adoption, in October 2000, of the Water Framework Directive. Member States are obliged to designate water basins and their management plans, taking into consideration the conservation of habitats and species on Natura 2000 sites. In practice, many Member States have merged the responsibilities for Natura 2000 and river basin management plans into a single body. Is this the best approach to managing Natura 2000 sites, considering the long time it will take to approve river basin plans? Will river basin plans favour an engineer's over a nature conservationist's approach?*

*Furthermore, how will managers of coastal Natura 2000 sites take into consideration the Recommendation by the European Parliament regarding the Integrated Coastal Zone Management, adopted in 2002, in which Member States are requested to take an integrated approach to the management of coastal areas?*

*As you will see in the following pages, several LIFE-nature projects have included preparation of management plans which combine actions aimed at the conservation of habitats and species on Natura 2000 sites with agri-environmental measures and other measures aimed at improving water quality and the forest environment.*

*This brochure provides examples of integrated management plans for Natura 2000 sites co-financed by LIFE Nature. It includes also a brief illustration of the process of integration of measures adopted by EU Member States themselves to guarantee the conservation of endangered habitats and species on these sites. This information should be of particular use to all concerned with the sustainable management and administration of nature conservation areas in EU countries and beyond.*



## **PART ONE**

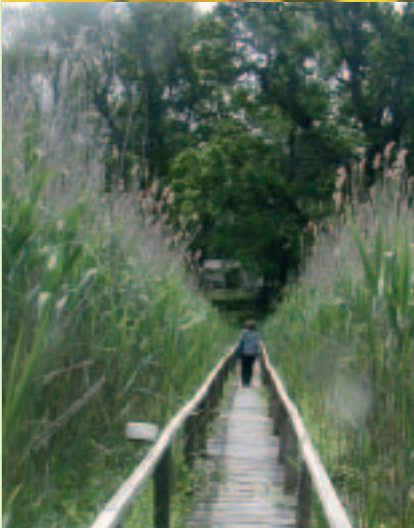
# GENERAL INTRODUCTION

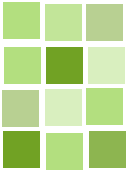
The Birds and Habitats directive  
and the Natura 2000 network / 4



General Principles of Natura 2000 site  
management adopted by Member States / 7

Management guidelines by Member States:  
the approach in France and Italy / 10





# The Birds and Habitats directives and the Natura 2000 Network

Natura 2000 is a network of areas selected and protected for their high nature conservation value. Any human activity there should be carried out according to the principles of sustainable development. The network represents the cornerstone of European Union policy for the conservation of biodiversity.



In its conception the Network introduced a series of innovative elements in nature conservation:

- inclusion of semi-natural habitats which are the result of centuries of agricultural activity;
- protection of each area as part of a coherent network, rather than as isolated sites;
- the freedom for Member States to guarantee the conservation of sites either with specific management plans or through conservation measures included in broader development plans, rather than the establishment of one set of strict rules and regulations for general application.

The creation of the network was established by two European directives.

## 1. The Birds Directive

The directive on the conservation of wild birds was established in 1979<sup>1</sup>. It requires Member States to preserve, maintain or restore biotopes and habitats important for bird species through the creation of protected areas. It includes the conservation and management of habitats inside and outside the protected zones. Member States are required to classify the most important sites as Special Protection Areas (SPA). These sites should cover species specified in the directive<sup>2</sup> and also regular migratory species not specifically identified in the directive.

## 2. The Habitats Directive

The “Habitats Directive” on the conservation of natural habitats and wild fauna and flora, established in 1992<sup>3</sup>, is aimed at ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora. Measures are to be taken to maintain or restore habitats to “favourable conservation status”.

<sup>1</sup> Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds.

<sup>2</sup> Listed in Annex I of directive 79/409/EEC.

<sup>3</sup> Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.

Article 3 of the directive requires the creation of Natura 2000, an ecological network of protected areas, known as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC). These sites host habitat types and habitats of plant and animal (excluding birds) species specified in the directive<sup>4</sup>.

The Natura 2000 network includes also the Special Protection Areas established by the Birds Directive. Areas designated under the 2 directives may cover the same territory.

The Habitats directive lays down the following stages for the designation of SACs:

- each Member State proposes a list of sites to the European Commission. This is based on an assessment of habitats and species present on proposed sites using common ecological criteria;
- the European Commission, in agreement with Member States, adopts a final list of SCIs (Sites of Community Interest). These sites are then to be officially designated by the Member States as Special Areas of Conservation within 6 years.

Selection of Natura 2000 sites is made for each of the seven biogeographical regions<sup>5</sup>.

Up to now, final lists of pSCIs have been drawn up for the Alpine, Atlantic, Boreal, Continental and Macaronesian<sup>6</sup>, regions. In March 2005, the 19.516 proposed Sites of Community Importance were either in the final lists or had been selected for inclusion, covering a total area of 52,3 million hectares. There were also 4.169 SPAs covering 38,2 million hectares.

### 3. Development projects proposed within Natura 2000 sites

An important instrument in the protection of Natura 2000 sites is the requirement, under Article 6<sup>7</sup> of the Habitats Directive, to evaluate plans and projects which could have a significant impact on the site's habitats and species. The authorities responsible may only agree to such a project if they have ascertained that there will be no significant adverse effects on a site.

In the case that a plan or project unfavourable to a site must nevertheless be carried out for reasons of overriding public interest and due to lack of alternatives, paragraph 4 of Article 6 requires that the Member State take compensatory measures to maintain the coherence of the Natura 2000 network in that Member State. In practise this is often resolved by selection of a new site or sites which can take over the ecological value of the site that is being

<sup>4</sup> Pre-defined habitats are listed in Annex I and animal and plant species in Annex II.

<sup>5</sup> The seven regions are named Alpine, Atlantic, Boreal, Continental, Macaronesian, Mediterranean and Pannonian.

<sup>6</sup> The Macaronesian region comprises the Portuguese and Spanish territories in the Atlantic (the Azores, Madeira and the Canary Islands).

## Main acts and events related to the creation and integrated management of the Natura 2000 Network

### 1971

- Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Ramsar, Iran. The first international treaty on the conservation of natural resources. The contracting Parties are committed to:
  - draw up a list of all wetlands in the country and to designate at least one site that meets the Ramsar criteria for inclusion in a list of wetlands of international importance;
  - protect the ecological character of listed sites;
  - include wetland conservation within national land-use planning;
  - establish nature reserves on wetlands and promote education concerning wetlands.

The Convention currently includes 138 contracting parties and 1.200 sites.

### 1973

- First Environmental Action Program of the European Community.
- Convention on International Trade in

Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). An agreement to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

### 1976

- Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, signed by 16 Mediterranean states and the European Community, to protect coastal and marine environments, control pollution and preserve biodiversity.

### 1979

- Bonn Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), which currently has 80 contracting parties, aimed at the conservation of terrestrial and marine migratory birds throughout their migratory routes. The Contracting Parties agree to provide strict protection for endangered migratory species, to conclude multilateral agreements for the conservation and management of

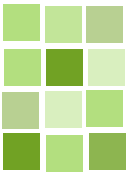
migratory species, and to undertake joint research.

- Birds directive. The European Union's first legal act concerning nature conservation.
- Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) covering conservation of wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats and promotion of European co-operation.

### 1987

- Publication of the Brundtland Report "Our Common Future", by the United Nations Commission on Environment and Development\*. The report introduces at international level the concept of sustainable development, defined as "development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

\* The Commission was chaired by the then Prime Minister of Norway, Mrs. Gro Harlem Brundtland.



**1988**

- Publication of “BioDiversity” edited by E.O. Wilson, using a term first introduced by Walter G. Rosen in 1985.

**1992**

- Convention on biological diversity (CBD) signed at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. The Convention establishes three main goals: the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources. Article 8 of the CBD states that “Each Contracting Party shall, as far as possible and as appropriate:

A. Establish a system of protected areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity;

B. Develop, where necessary, guidelines for the selection, establishment and management of protected areas or areas where special measures need to be taken to conserve biological diversity;

C. Regulate or manage biological resources important for the conservation of biological diversity within or outside protected areas, with a view to ensuring their conservation and sustainable use;

D. Promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and the maintenance of viable populations of species in natural surroundings;

E. Promote environmentally sound and sustainable development in areas adjacent to protected areas with a view to furthering protection of these areas.”

- Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR). The sixteen contracting parties aim to protect marine environments through monitoring and control of a wide range of activities. In particular the convention aims to prevent and eliminate pollution from land-based sources, from off-shore oil and gas installations and from dumping of waste at sea.

- Adoption of the Habitats Directive.
- Adoption of the 5th Environmental program which marks the start of a horizontal European Community approach, which takes into account the causes of pollution in industry, energy, tourism, transport and agriculture.

**1993**

- The Maastrich Treaty sets out that the environmental dimension should be integrated in other sectoral policies.

**1997**

- The Amsterdam Treaty introduces the principle of sustainable development as one of the European Community’s objectives.

**2001**

- Göteborg-EU heads of state and government agree on the EU Sustainable Development Strategy, declaring that decline of biodiversity must be halted by 2010.

**2002**

- Adoption of the Sixth Community Environment Action Program (6th EAP), which sets the environmental agenda until 2012 and indicates nature and biodiversity as a priority target.

**2003**

- The midterm reform of the Common Agricultural Policy requires farmers to observe certain environmental standards and sets out a system of cross compliance. In order to achieve cross compliance and to avoid any reduction in the total level of direct aid received the farmer must concur with 19 Statutory Management Requirements (SMRs) and a number of standards aiming to ensure the “good agricultural and environmental condition” (GAEC) of agricultural land. The SMRs are based on pre-existing EU Directives and Regulations. GAEC is a new requirement and consists of a total of eleven standards relating to the protection of soils and the maintenance of habitats.

destroyed. Moreover, in the case of a site hosting a priority habitat type or species, a project may only be accepted on grounds of human health or public safety, or because it will confer benefits of primary importance for the environment, or further to an opinion from the European Commission, for other reasons of overriding public interest.

When applied correctly, the assessment procedure works well in finding a balance between conservation of habitats and species of EU importance and the development of economic activities. The procedure helps to ensure consideration and appraisal of all feasible measures for avoiding, reducing or even eliminating negative impacts on a site.

Assessment also helps raising awareness of public administrations and stakeholders on the importance of the precautionary principle<sup>8</sup>, a keystone of EU environmental policy.

In recent years various national, regional and local administrations have drawn up laws or guidelines for the assessment of proposed projects which could have an effect on Natura 2000 sites.

<sup>7</sup> The wording of Article 6, paragraph 3 is “Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, shall be submitted to

appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site conservation objectives (...) the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.”

<sup>8</sup> The precautionary principle as defined in Principle 15 of the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, states that “where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation”.

# Principles of Natura 2000 site management adopted by Member States

**Member States have started to provide guidelines and indications on managing Natura 2000, often based on surveys and actions carried out within LIFE Nature projects.**

Article 6 of the Habitats directive requires that “for Special Areas of Conservation, Member States shall establish the necessary conservation measures involving, if need be, appropriate management plans specifically designed for the sites or integrated into other development plans”. In accordance with the principle of subsidiarity<sup>1</sup>, it is left entirely up to Member States to decide which option to follow.

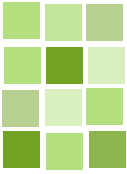
This chapter offers an idea of the current status of Natura 2000 site management principles implemented by Member States. It is based on information provided by the Habitats Committee, in which Member States are represented to assist the Commission in the implementation of the Habitats Directive. The examples given below are not meant to give a complete overview of measures adopted in all Member States, but only a general indication of trends and direction within the EU.

All EU Member States have taken concrete action towards the management of the Natura 2000 network. Different approaches are adopted by different countries depending on the size of the country, national legislation, administrative organization and natural environment.

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<sup>1</sup> According to the principle of subsidiarity (European Council, Edinburgh, UK, December 1992), measures should only be taken at EU level if it is more effective at treating a problem than measures at national, regional or local level.





In Denmark, Estonia, the Netherlands, the Slovak Republic and Sweden, for instance, management plans for Natura 2000 sites are obligatory. In Belgium they are obligatory in two of the three administrative regions. In Finland, Natura 2000 management plans are obligatory only for sites in national parks and wilderness areas. In Hungary there is no obligation to adopt a management plan for a Natura 2000 site, except for those already protected by national legislation. In the Czech Republic management plans are mandatory for proposed Special Areas of Conservation, but not for Special Protection Areas. Specific management plans are obligatory also in some of the German regions.

The decision on whether to integrate adequate nature conservation measures within other planning instruments, such as territorial plans, river basin plans or forestry plans, are often delegated to regional bodies of Member States.

This is the case, for instance, in Italy, where a ministerial decree provides a logical procedure to help local administrators decide whether to adopt a specific plan or to integrate measures in other existing plans. In Portugal, measures to protect species and habitats listed in the Birds and Habitats directives are to be included in other territorial plans.

In Latvia, all Natura 2000 sites are designated as Specially Protected Nature Territories, for which the national government has issued general rules for their management, including a list of activities that are allowed and not allowed.

## How to decide when a specific Natura 2000 site management plan is needed

(example from the Italian Ministry of the Environment)

On 24 September 2002, the Italian Official Journal published guidelines for the management of Natura 2000 sites. They include indications for public administrators at local level on how to decide whether a specific Natura 2000 management plan is needed. The decision procedure to establish the need for a specific plan is summarised in six logical phases.

### Phase 1

- 1.1. Collect all legislative and planning restrictions relevant to the area.
- 1.2. Does the site fall within a protected area?

#### A. Yes

If the site is within a protected area, are the measures within the protected area sufficient to guarantee the conservation of the habitats/species within it?

A1. If yes, then specific conservation measures are not needed.

A2. If no, pass to **Phase 2**.

#### B) No. If the site is not within a protected area, then pass to phase 2.

### Phase 2. *Verification of existing management measures*

2.1 According to existing obligatory conservation measures a management plan is required.

A. Existing obligatory conservation measures are sufficient to guarantee the conservation of habitats/species. No need to proceed further.

Or

B. Existing obligatory conservation measures are not sufficient to guarantee the conservation of habitats/species. Continue.

2.2 Is the management plan needed over and beyond any of the existing planning instruments?

- Urban territorial plans
- River basin plans
- Specific plans (water, coast, forest, fauna, etc)
- Other plans

A. No, existing plans are sufficient. No need to proceed further, on condition that the site and plans are monitored to guarantee that the plans continue to be sufficient to protect the habitats/species.

B. Yes, existing plans are not sufficient. Continue.

### Phase 3. *Integration of existing protection measures*

If existing measures and/or plans are not sufficient, new measures should be added and the decision three reapplied as from Phase 2.

### Phase 4. *A management plan is needed*

It can take the form of either:

A. New measures inserted into other existing plans, e.g. a national or regional park plan, a territorial coordination plan, a forestry plan etc.

B. A specific plan.

### Phase 5. *Technical preparation of the plan*

Describe the different phases of a specific study of conservation measures to be inserted in other plans and/or a specific Natura 2000 plan.

### Phase 6

Having established obligatory conservation measures, verify whether additional measures are required to prevent deterioration of habitats/species.

### Guidelines for specific Natura 2000 management plans

Galway, an ancient city in western Ireland, is a name well known to Natura 2000 managers. It was there, in October 1996, that representatives of conservation agencies, non-governmental organizations, Member States, and the European Commission met to exchange views on the content and structure of an ideal management plan. The Galway seminar guidelines have consistently been used by the Commission as an indication of the basic elements that a Natura 2000 management plan should include. At the same time it has always been made clear by the Commission that Member States themselves must decide if, when and how management plans for Natura 2000 sites should be drawn up. Gradually Member States themselves started to take up this process, encouraged by mounting pressure from local administrations and other stakeholders.

In 1999 the Italian Ministry of the Environment obtained LIFE-nature co-financing for a project<sup>2</sup> aimed at providing local administrators with a useful model for managing Natura 2000 sites. The outcome of the project – carried out in cooperation with scientific and non-governmental organizations – was the publication<sup>3</sup> of guidelines by the Ministry of the Environment, in September 2002. The 12 page document was approved by governmental decree and published in the Italian Official Journal, and is intended to assist local administrators decide if a specific management plan is needed. As a supplement to guidelines the Ministry also produced a manual with basic management indications for the habitats and species listed in the Habitats directive.

<sup>2</sup> Project number LIFE99 NAT/IT/006279, The Natura 2000 Network in Italy: management models.

<sup>3</sup> Also available on the website: <http://www.minambiente.it>



Also in 2002, the Finnish Ministry of the Environment produced a guideline paper to help Regional Environmental Centres decide where to start intervening in site management. Each Centre was required to group Natura 2000 sites into four categories according to the need for a management plan:

- required urgently,
- plan required relatively urgently,
- plan required,
- plan not needed.

The task was completed in mid-2005 and is to be followed by the drafting of specific plans.

In Sweden, the preparation of a conservation plan is obligatory for all Natura 2000 sites. According to their Environment Ministry, all plans should have been completed by August 2005. The plans drafted by the 21 county administrations, include a description of threats to sites and conservation targets corresponding to “favourable conservation status”. The plans are based on the Natura 2000 handbook prepared by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and are available for public consultation.

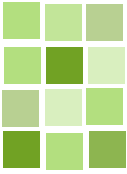
In Estonia the 2004 Nature Conservation Act designates all Natura 2000 sites as protected areas, for which management plans are foreseen. The plans should include a description of the main environmental conditions, the purpose of protection and details

of actions to be undertaken together with a timetable and budget. The government has already drawn up guidelines for species action plans.

Denmark has taken an innovative approach, linking the Habitats and Water Framework Directives. Considering that the implementation of both EU directives would require plans with territorial overlap, the Danish authorities decided to set up new regional environmental agencies responsible for all water and nature planning in each water basin. The “Environmental Objectives Act” which covers water basins and conservation areas of international status, establishes an integrated monitoring program for water and the natural environment. A management plan must include:

- A. an initial analysis including assessment of the conservation status of species and habitats within the area and identification of threats and needs for action;
- B. specific conservation objectives for species and habitats;
- C. a management action programme for the following 6 years.

The first generation of plans will be launched in 2009, coincidentally with those for water agencies under the Water Framework Directive.



# Management guidelines by Member States.

## The approach in France and Italy

Over half of the projects financed by LIFE-Nature have included management plans. One project in France and another in Italy have been entirely devoted to management plan strategy and guidelines for Natura 2000 management plans.

There have been three phases to the LIFE instrument<sup>1</sup>. The first phase ran from 1992 to 1995, the second from 1996 to 1999 and the third, which began in 2000, will end in 2006. In the period up to 2004 more than half of LIFE-nature projects (428 out of a total of 853) have included management plans, or data collection and other actions connected with planning activities concerning management of EU-listed habitats and species<sup>2</sup>.

|          |                                     |    |
|----------|-------------------------------------|----|
| Habitats | Forest                              | 56 |
|          | Freshwater                          | 76 |
|          | Natural and semi-natural grasslands | 41 |
|          | Coastal                             | 34 |
|          | Other                               | 20 |
| Species  | Fauna (other than birds)            | 63 |
|          | Birds                               | 58 |
|          | Flora                               | 15 |

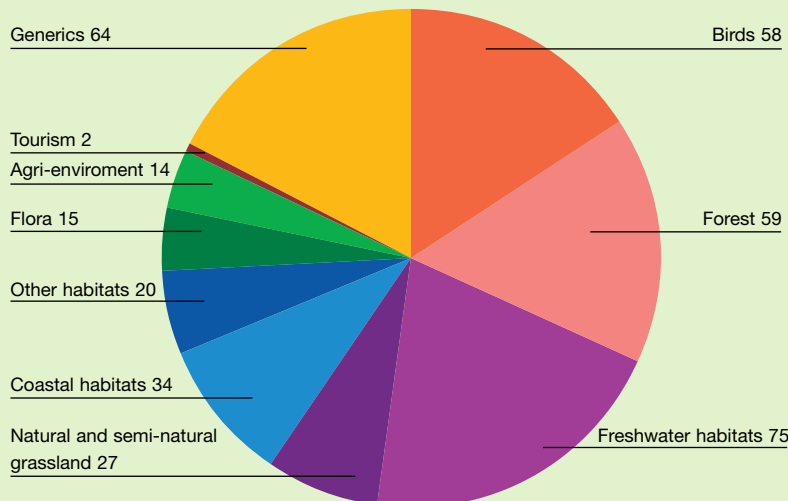
The remaining 65 projects were directed either at managing Natura 2000 sites or at managing specific sectors, as for instance, managing only purchased land, or restored areas (see table in Part 3). The breakdown of projects by topic is as follows.

The structure, content and aims of Natura 2000 management plans financed by LIFE-nature vary according to the size of the site, the habitats and species targeted, national and regional legislation and the requirements and the actors involved.

In one case in Slovenia<sup>3</sup>, for instance, a two page document was sufficient to give indications for landowners on actions to be taken to conserve semi-natural grasslands and karstic ponds.

The difference in management documents produced with LIFE financial support is linked in part to the development of information technology (IT). The capacity and speed of exchange of information on the internet has improved immensely since 1992, when the first Natura 2000 planning documents were started. Software used for planning protected areas has become more accessible and user friendly.

### Breakdown of LIFE Nature projects which have included management plans



<sup>1</sup> The Financial Instrument for the Environment. The legislation covering the current programme (extension of LIFE III, the third phase) is Regulation (EC) 1682/2004 of 15 September 2004.

<sup>2</sup> Those listed in the annexes of the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive, and migratory species targeted by it.

<sup>3</sup> Conservation of endangered habitats/species in the future Karst Park (LIFE02Nat/SLO/008587).

These developments have also enabled public administrations responsible for Natura 2000 to combine management plans for different sectors such as nature conservation, forestry, water basins and rural development.

Developments in IT have also facilitated consultation at local and international level. For instance, new EU Member States can rapidly profit from experience gained in other Member States when setting guidelines for managing Natura 2000 sites.

France and Italy are among the EU Member States that have already produced guidelines for managing Natura 2000 sites. They were the result of two strategic LIFE Nature projects<sup>5</sup>.

Both projects, which provided indications on the structure, content and aims of Natura 2000 site management plans, took into consideration the main conclusions of the 1996 Galway seminar.

Another set of guidelines taken into consideration are those produced by Eurosite, which are widely used by site managers in the EU Member States.

There are, however, differences in approach. The French guidelines give more emphasis to public consultation and inclusion of socio-economic groups. They also propose a “facilitator”, a person in charge of drafting the plan in consultation with all local interest groups. The Italian manual gives guidelines according to pre-defined cate-

<sup>5</sup> In France “Experimental drawing up of management plans for future French Natura 2000 sites (LIFE95 NAT/F/00533)” and in Italy “The Natura 2000 Network in Italy: management models (LIFE99 NAT/IT/006279)”.

gories of habitat type, thus encouraging local administrations of the same group, but from different geographical areas, to share knowledge and experience.

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**Galway seminar: suggested structure of a Natura 2000 management plan**

An ideal management plan should contain the following elements :

- policy statement with reference to Article 6 of the Habitats Directive;
  - site description, including a historical land use analysis;
  - statement of objectives, including long term and short term goals
  - statement of the constraints, including identification of the actors involved;
  - realistic list of actions to implement, with time schedules and financial planning;
  - a detailed consultation process;
  - monitoring and evaluation.
- 

## Eurosite and Management Planning

Eurosite, a network of organisations devoted to nature conservation management over 22 countries of Europe, has produced since its creation in 1989, different guidelines for Management Planning in protected areas.

The Eurosite Management Planning Toolkit published in a binder format in 1997 is now completed by a new guidance document “Management Planning for Protected Areas”, June 2005, written by E T Idle and T J H Bines. Contributions came from many individuals and much of the content of the Guidance is derived from the experience of participants from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Russia, involved in a three-year Darwin Initiative project led by Eurosite.

The Guidance clarifies the recent trends “management planners” should take into account to produce a good Management Plan. It provides necessary tools and tries to answer the question, “What makes a successful Management Plan?” The Guidance does not set down rules or a blue-print, but recommends important principles about what should be done and how to do it, providing a clear rationale for the management of Protected Areas. The Guidance is designed for flexible use and application by site managers; appropriate sections may be adapted to the particular circumstances of the Protected Area for which a plan is being prepared (large or small, State-managed or NGO-managed, designated formally or informally, actively managed and/or unmanaged).

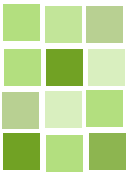
The Guidance addresses the need to involve stakeholders and incorporates requirements arising from the European “Habitats

Directive” and the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats. The Guidance will help to:

- Identify the essential elements of a management plan;
- Identify objectives for management of Protected Areas;
- Clarify the barriers to good management planning;
- Gain reassurance and credibility for management planning;
- Learn about management planning as a process;
- Identify the advantages and disadvantages of a participatory approach to management planning;
- Learn how to involve and activate local landowners and to establish long-terms communication links with partners in the management of Protected Areas;
- Learn how to get positive results for site managers;
- Understand how to define and implement monitoring and evaluation requirements of Protected Areas;
- Learn to manage expectations – and be realistic!

The Guidance has been developed with users firmly in mind: summary boxes and diagrams are used frequently with the intention that they may be copied and used freely by Protected Area managers to help with the production of their management plans. It will be an invaluable tool for site managers. Its publication in other languages (French, Hungarian, Polish, Czech, Croatian, Romanian and Baltic languages) is under way.

The Toolkit (1997) and the new Guidance (2005) are available on Eurosite’s website: <http://www.eurosite.org>. Hard copies of the Guidance can be obtained from Eurosite – email a request to: [info@eurosite.org](mailto:info@eurosite.org). Also, further copies may be obtained from English Nature Enquiry Service – email enquiries to: [enquiries@english-nature.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@english-nature.org.uk).



## National guidelines for Natura 2000 management plans in Italy

The guidelines for Italy, together with manual of interpretation, can be found on the Ministry of Environment web-site (<http://www.minambiente.it>). They were approved by government decree on 24 September 2002.

### General guidelines

The 12 page document, which includes an introduction to the Natura 2000 network and references to articles 6 and 8 of the Habitats Directive, consists of 4 sections:

- A. Introduction. Main indications to be considered for the preparation of a plan.
- B. Administrations responsible for the implementation of the Habitats Directive.
- C. Logical framework to assess the need to prepare a management plan.
- D. Structure of the management plan.

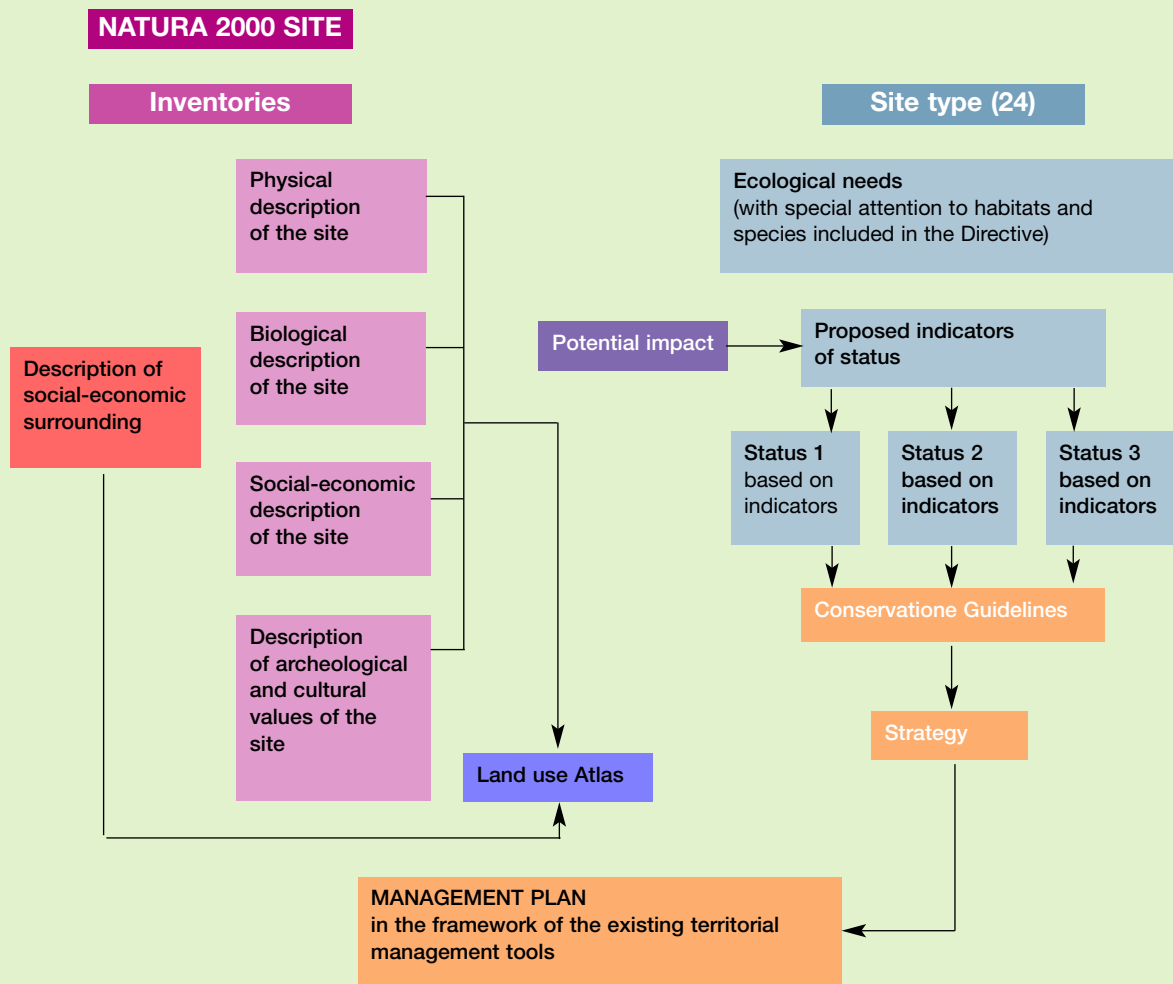
### Manual for management of the Natura 2000 sites

All Natura 2000 sites in Italy are classed into 25 different categories. Half of the categories are identified using statistical analysis of the presence or absence of EU-listed habitat types. The other half of the categories cover sites to which statistical analysis cannot be applied.

The manual, which explains the main steps in the preparation of a plan, includes the following chapters:

- Guidelines for the management of the NATURA 2000 sites.
- Assessment of implication for the site (re. article 6.3 of the Habitats Directive).

### Plan structure



- Legal basis for the management of the NATURA 2000 sites: conservation measures.
- Indications for the management of the NATURA 2000 sites: general criteria, proposed system of biological indices and their use, flora, forestry, fauna, hydrology and geology, threats and changes in environmental conditions, social and economical aspects.
- Description of the 25 categories of sites identified. Each one includes a list of habitats which characterize the category; description of the natural environment and ecological needs, topography, biological indices applicable, potential threats and management indications.
- Bibliography.
- References.
- Relevant web sites.

The document includes the following annexes:

1. Description of the methodology applied to identify the categories of Natura 2000 sites, including the habitat coverage algorithm, and the site code and category number schemes.
2. Table of statistical relationships between the site categories:
  - and soil parameters (forestry area and percentage cover); impact of grazing (scale 0-3);
  - fire risk (scale 0-5);
  - built up area (% cover).

The annex includes a map of the distribution of sites within each category, together with indication of the bio-geographical regions.

3. Matrix of average percentage cover of each habitat type within each of the derived categories.
4. Legend applicable to the land use maps.
5. Categories of the IUCN Red List (for species of fauna).
6. List of the species of fauna for each site category.
7. List of the species of flora for each site category.



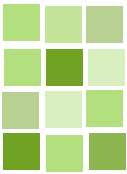
#### Management plan structure

Natura 2000 plans should include

- Physical description, including description of the site limits, the local and regional climate, geology, geomorphology, soil and hydrology.
- Biological description, including verification of the Natura 2000 form, bibliographical research, detailed studies for preparation of the site map (including data on land use, and actual and potential distribution of habitats and species of EU interest), phyto-sociological description of the site, and a check list of species with special attention to EU-listed habitats and species and the Italian Red List.
- Description of the socio-economic aspects which could affect the conservation status of the habitats and species (i.e. information on rural and urban land use, description of existing planning instruments,

population data, and human activity data).

- Description of the archaeological, architectural and cultural aspects.
- Evaluation of the ecological needs of the habitats/species of EU interest.
- Definition of general and specific objectives.
- Conservation strategy.
- Schemas for technical forms covering each conservation actions. These include the following information: title of action, type of action (physical action intervention, regulation, incentive, monitoring programme, educational programme), maps of sites where actions will take place, aims, biological indicators, description of the action, description of results to be achieved, person responsible, timetable and budget.



## National guidelines for Natura 2000 management plans in France

The main recommendation from the Natura 2000 project was the adoption of an approach through negotiation and contract, involving all actors from the very start of the planning process. The management plans which are the result of this procedure are known as “documents d’objectifs”, or as the acronym “DOCOB”.

The rules for the implementation of Natura 2000, partly based on the experience acquired with the LIFE-nature project, were included in the law of 11 April 2001. It was recently modified on 23 February 2005.

The Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development (“Ministère de l’écologie et du développement durable”)<sup>10</sup> has regularly published guidelines on Natura 2000 management plans. The most recent dates from 21 December 2004.

The first step of a “DOCOB” is the setting up a steering committee (“comité de pilotage”) by the county administrator. The committee includes representatives of all sectors concerned: representatives of local communities and landowners (mandatory), professionals with experience in biodiversity

management, socio-economic specialists, representatives of rural agencies, farming, forestry and non-governmental organizations, and of the outdoor sports sector and tourism.

The steering committee, whose chairman is nominated by local administrations, is responsible for negotiating and approving the management plan. The plan must then be endorsed by the county administrator.

The document itself is prepared by a “facilitator”, appointed by the chairman or by the county administrator, in consultation with the members of the steering committee.

The management plan has to include:

- technical studies, including a description and map of the species and habitats present within the Natura 2000 site, their conservation status and its main socio-economic characteristics;
- the main objectives proposed to maintain or restore the conservation status of habitats and species on the site and a sustainable development strategy;
- a list of measures proposed to reach the objectives, and, if necessary,

proposals for new regulations;

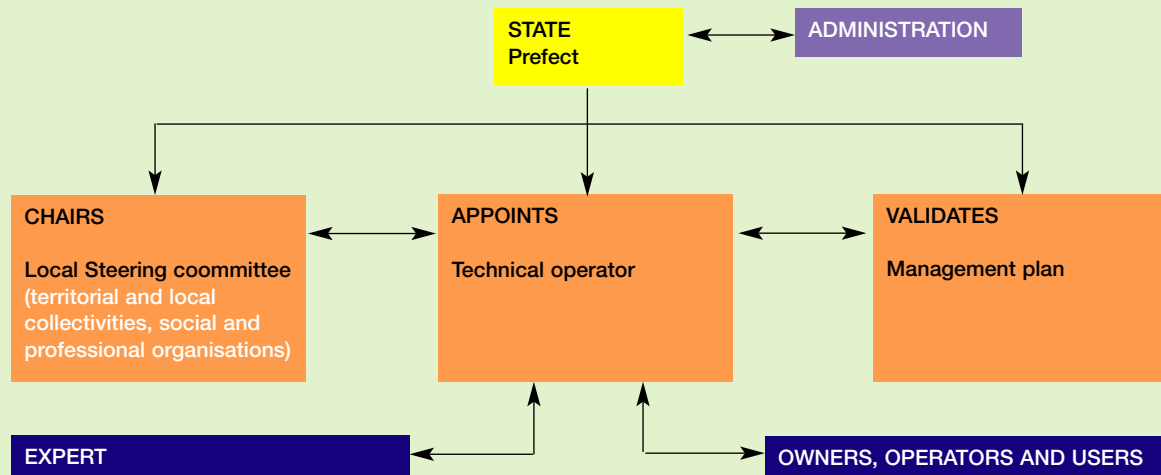
- specific agreements to be proposed to landowners (or their representatives) for the management of the area, including technical specifications and source of finance. Landowners may be reimbursed for commitments they take on. These agreements are co-financed by the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF);
- proposed financial measures;
- a programme for monitoring and evaluating the proposals and the conservation status of habitats and species;
- a list of specific activities which, although not subject to evaluation of plans and projects (re. articles 6.3 and 6.4 of the Habitats Directive), should comply with their requirements.

Steering committees and facilitators have support at their disposal in the form of training courses and national documentation. The latter includes management plan guidelines and models for description of habitats and species, conservation requirements and detailed proposals for agreements.

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<http://natura2000.environnement.gouv.fr>

### Defining the management plan *The Players*





## **PART TWO**

# CASE STUDIES

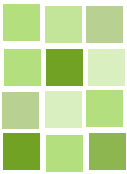
Managing Natura 2000 and water / 16

Natura 2000 and coastal  
and other marine areas / 20

Managing Natura 2000 and forestry / 24

Managing Natura 2000 and agriculture / 29





# Natura 2000 and water

A number of Member States have created sole agencies to prepare joint management plans for river basins and their Natura 2000 sites



The WFD proposes river basin districts as the administrative areas for management of all water matters. Member States have to designate river basin districts and for each prepare a river basin management plan.

The directive also foresees that Member States establish a list of all areas requiring special protection, including aquatic zones designated for the conservation of habitats and species. The potential overlapping of Natura 2000 and river basin management plans prompted the creation, in many Member States, of new agencies in charge of combining measures for the implementation of the two European directives, such as surveys and monitoring, so as to reduce possible conflict between different services and reduce implementation costs.

Article 13(5) of the WFD states that “River basin management plans may be supplemented by the production of more detailed programmes and management plans for sub-basin, sector, issue, or water type, to deal with particular aspects of water management”. On the basis of this article a number of local administrators responsible for protected areas started to draft Natura 2000 management plans for inclusion in the relevant river basin management plan, in collaboration with local water authorities.

Many Natura 2000 site management plans co-financed by LIFE-nature included recommendations on conservation measures for freshwater habitats.

Nineteen freshwater habitat types, the conservation of which requires designation of Special Areas of Conservation, are specified in the Habitats directive<sup>1</sup>. They are grouped into two categories, “standing water” and “running water” habitats<sup>2</sup>.

In some cases, however, management measures were drawn up by site managers without full consultation with the river basin authorities responsible for rivers and lakes management in many Member States. This approach has created problems and shown the

importance of coordination with river basin authorities in the preparation of plans directed at freshwater habitats. The need for integrated management measures for aquatic sites became even more evident with the adoption of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) in December 2000. This directive set up a framework for comprehensive management of water resources throughout the European Union, laying down common approaches, objectives, principles and basic measures. Covering rivers, lakes, estuaries, coastal waters and groundwater, it aims at preventing any deterioration in the existing status of aquatic zones, their ecosystems and water quality. Its aim is to achieve at least “good surface water status” for all zones concerned by 2015.

<sup>1</sup> Listed in Annex 1 of Directive 92/43/EEC.

<sup>2</sup> The full designation is “running water, sections of water courses with natural and semi-natural dynamics (minor, average and major beds) where the water quality shows no significant deterioration”.

LIFE99NAT/UK/006088

## LIFE in UK Rivers

*Beneficiary.* English Nature  
*Location.* United Kingdom

### Project Objective

The project was run by a partnership of government agencies responsible for water quality and the protection of fresh-water habitats. The primary objective was to produce river conservation strategies for seven rivers in Scotland, Wales and England, designated as pSCI, with a total length of 872 km.

### Results

Each river had different features and priorities. Project officers were employed to produce River Conservation Strategies (considered equivalent to management plans under the terms of the Habitats Directive). The plans target Natura 2000 aspects and develop partnerships between statutory authorities, fisheries interests and land owners to identify the threats to the sites and species and to set out an action programme. The River Conservation Strategy process was supported by detailed studies on the ecological requirements of EU-listed habitats and species (including numerous publications). Guidance and practical tools for monitoring and reporting on these species and habitats were also developed.

One of the main products of the project was the publication “Developing River Conservation Strategies: Model Guidance for Special Areas of Conservation”. The document includes indications on how to determine management measures, engage stakeholders and organise an appropriate consultation process.

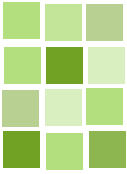
The project also included publication of reports on the ecological requirements of a number of habitats and species, including information on what can be considered as “favourable condition” for attributes such as water quality, nutrient levels, flow conditions, river channel riparian habitat, sub-

strate, access for migratory fish and level of disturbance.

Monitoring protocols were also produced to allow assessment of the conservation status of species and habitats targeted by the project, addressing both monitoring techniques and sampling strategies to be used.

*Website:*  
<http://www.english-nature.org>





LIFE99NAT/F/006321

## Bourget Lake (“Lac du Bourget”)

**Beneficiary.** Rhône-Alpes Regional Nature Conservation Agency (“Conservatoire Rhône-Alpes des Espaces Naturels”).

**Location.** Rhône-Alpes region, France

### Project Objective

The alpine lake Bourget is the largest natural lake in France. It is home to several EU-listed habitats .

The LIFE Nature project, part of a larger programme already started in 1998, aimed at testing and implementing techniques for the restoration of the lake’s eco-systems and extending the areas of aquatic vegetation, marsh and meadows.



### Results

The project produced very detailed maps of the aquatic vegetation of the lake, representing the first general inventory of the lake’s macrophytes. On the basis of the new data acquired, site managers identified areas of greatest conservation values, where techniques for restoration of the lake’s ecosystem were tested. A breakwater system of artificial islets and deflectors using plants was set up to protect the shore and the remaining aquatic vegetation, which were fortified with new plants. Monitoring carried out after completion showed beneficial effects on the vegetation and dependent fish and birds.

The results of the pilot actions were used as the basis for the management plan for seven areas of the lake. The measures, which included actions for the conservation of aquatic vegetation and reed beds for a total budget of 1,5 million euro, were approved by the project steering committee and incorporated in a new contractual program for the Bourget lake basin (“Contrat de Bassin du lac du Bourget”).

The project also tested reintroduction of the box tortoise (*Emys orbicularis*). Thirty seven radio-tagged individuals were released in the southern part of the lake. The first year of monitoring yielded encouraging results and led to the preparation of a reintroduction strategy for application to other similar sites in the EU.

**Website:**

<http://www.le-grand-lac.com/vous.htm>

LIFE00NAT/E/007330

## SCI Parga-Ladra-Támoga: recovery of bog woodland and dystrophic lake

*Beneficiary.* Institute for the Economic and Social Development of Lugo (Instituto Lucense de Desarrollo Económico y Social).

*Location.* Galicia region, Spain

### Project Objective

The upper catchment area of the river Miño (Lugo) is a very valuable wetland in the Iberian Peninsula. It contains one Natura 2000 site with no less than 15 habitats of Community interest (four of them priority).

The LIFE project had as main objective to ensure the management of the area for its conservation benefit. In that framework, a number of actions (drafting of a management plan, habitat restoration and improvement in 55 ha of land containing habitats and species of Community interest to be purchased) were undertaken to reduce the effects of the different threats.

### Results

The management plan of the Natura 2000 site, Parga-Ladra-Támoga was drafted following the formula used for the protected areas designated under the regional law: the Natural Resources Regulation Plan (Plan de Ordenación de los Recursos Naturales, PORN).

The area covered in the PORN was much larger than that of the Natura 2000 site, which is of 4.900 ha, while the total area of the plan is of 20,600 ha. This was due to the “river basin” approach adopted by the team who drafted the plan.

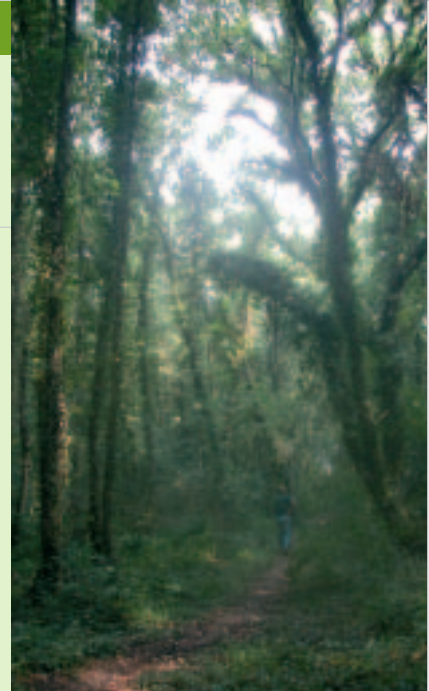
It is an approach consistent with both the WFD and the Habitats Directive, defining the management objectives and establishing the criteria for the monitoring of the environmental quality.

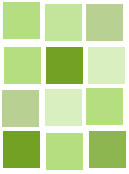
The final document submitted to public consultation includes sections on inventory (natural and socio-economic features), zoning, diagnosis, and objectives and guidelines for management.

The document, 475 pages, including photos and maps, is subdivided into six sections: introduction and spatial framework, inventory (natural features and socio-economic information), planning and management tools, including definition of environmental units and their evaluation using different criteria, proposed zoning (reserve, priority for conservation, restricted use and general use), and objectives and guidelines. This last section defines management objectives, guidelines, relevant legislation, human activities compatible with conservation, restoration needs of each environmental unit within each zone and each thematic area (air, land, continental water, landscape, natural and semi-natural habitats, flora and fauna, cultural, archaeological and paleontological resources).

Habitat improvement measures were developed (restoration of streams and canals, recovery of natural vegetation, elimination of exotic species, installation of ecological filters) which in turn helped to recover the three priority species of plants and molluscs present in the area. In addition, an environmental monitoring system was set up and a public awareness campaign launched.

*Website:*  
<http://www.terrasdomino.org>





# Natura 2000 and coastal and other marine areas

**Natural areas are important buffers against coastal erosion. Nineteen LIFE-nature projects have produced management documents for this type of areas.**

In May 2004, the European Commission published “Living with Coastal Erosion in Europe: Sand and Space for Sustainability”. This report evaluated the social, economic and ecological impact of coastal erosion on European coasts and assessed the needs for action.

According to the report one fifth of the EU’s coastline is subject to erosion by the sea. Coastlines are retreating by between 0.5 and 2 meters per year, and in a few dramatic cases, by 15 meters per year. Every year, 100 million tonnes of sand that previously naturally replenished coastal habitats in Europe are extracted for construction, trapped behind river dams or

blocked by engineering works. Natural areas, which are also important buffers against erosion by the sea, are steadily disappearing.

The report is one of the initiatives being taken by the European Commission as part of the implementation of “Recommendation 2002/413/EC of the European Parliament and Council of the European Union, concerning the implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Europe (ICZM)”.

The act recommends that Member States take a strategic, pro-active, anticipatory and preventive approach to the management of the coastal zones in order to reduce the increas-

ing risks and losses linked to erosion. These include risks to human life from flooding, and destruction of property and possible economic and ecological damage from loss of land. According to the report 36% out of the 132,300 km subject to coastal erosion in the EU, are areas of nature conservation value and most are included in the Natura 2000 network .

The Natura 2000 network is therefore considered by the European Commission as one of the instruments – together with the Water Framework Directive and the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) – for ensuring sustainable coast management.



LIFE99NAT/UK/006081

## Living with the Sea

*Beneficiary.* English Nature  
*Location.* United Kingdom

### Project Objective

Development of a strategic approach to problems affecting Natura 2000 sites in ecologically dynamic coastal areas.

### Results

Seven Coastal Habitat Management Plans (CHaMPs) were produced. The CHaMP process is an assessment of predicted geomorphologic change over the following 30 to 100 years on designated habitats within the CHaMP area.

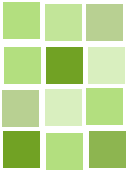
The CHaMPs procedure identifies broad habitat changes and develops proposals for reducing losses of habitats or for their relocation. The actual proposals included options such as “no action”, maintaining existing management practices and managed reduction of loss of habitats. Initially project managers estimated gains and losses to habitats. Results of studies revealed the need for a broader spatial and temporal approach to address conservation measures against net loss to habitats.

The final CHaMPs examined processes in estuaries and along coasts and related these to more specific sub-units. This allowed them to provide a much more robust and strategic view. The repeated experience of CHaMPs has shown that a wide view is required

and that indeed “super-CHaMPs” may be necessary for a whole region, (for example the whole of southeast England). One of the key issues for CHaMPs was to take the decision to maintain a designated habitat in situ. The CHaMPs approach has shown that flood and coastal defence and preservation of coastal habitats can be carried out hand in hand, provided that a long-term view and anticipatory actions are taken.

*Website:*  
<http://www.english-nature.org>





LIFE98NAT/P/005275

## MARÉ: Integrated management of coastal and marine areas in the Azores

*Beneficiary.* Universidade dos Açores  
*Location.* Azores islands, Portugal

### Project objective

Preparation and partial implementation of management plans for coastal and marine habitats on Natura 2000 sites in the Azores archipelago. The plans targeted the sustainability of fishing activities and tourism activities, including whale watching.



### Results

Management plans for twelve Natura 2000 sites were completed.

The first phase of the project was dedicated to the collection of biological information, on underwater habitats and species. On the basis of the newly collected information management plans were produced in collaboration with local environment and fisheries authorities. They were adopted following public consultation.

Management measures were also drawn up for whale watching, and resulted in the adoption of a new regulation. Significant results were also obtained in defining measures to be adopted by fishermen to reduce numbers of sea turtles bycatches.

This was accomplished in cooperation with the representatives of the UK Joint Conservation Committee and other organizations in Europe and the USA working on the impact of fishing on dolphins and sea turtles.

One important achievement of the project was the establishment of good cooperation between the scientific community and the fishing and tourism sectors.

A second, resulting from awareness raising activities within the project, was the interest shown by schools, both in the Azores and mainland Portugal, as evidenced by the consequent demand for educational material.

*Website:*  
<http://www.horta.uac.pt>

LIFE96NAT/UK/003055

## UK Marine SACs project

*Beneficiary.* English Nature  
*Location.* United Kingdom

### Project objectives

The establishment of management plans for 12 marine Natura 2000 sites and adoption of an integrated approach to their conservation. This implied the identification of the best practical approaches and procedures, laying down standards for and organising surveys, monitoring and reporting.

### Results

Conservation objectives and operational advice was provided for each of the twelve sites. Guidelines, covering legislation, practical development and supporting information were published.

Production of each management plan followed a common procedure – establishment of a management group, surveys and mapping, definition of conservation objectives, evaluation of current and possible actions, identification of a monitoring programme and production of a management scheme.

The project favoured a participatory approach so that all stakeholders were informed and encouraged to take part. Appointment of a specific and locally based project officer was a major factor in the success of the process.

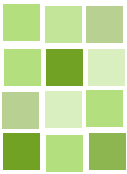
Conservation objectives and evaluation of current and proposed actions were prepared by the relevant conservation authorities in accordance with the Habitats Directive and subjected to formal consultation. This procedure ensured that for each plan sufficient measures were agreed to avoid deterioration of habitats and disturbance to species.

The documentation produced included a series of studies on the impact of human activities covering recreation, ports and harbours, water quality (including that of saline lagoons), collecting fishing bait, fisheries practice, and extraction of sand and gravel.

*Website:*

<http://www.ukmarinesac.org.uk>





# Natura 2000 and forests

**Forests are a fundamental natural environment: they serve as habitats for innumerable species, they protect water quality and act as buffers to erosion and as carbon sinks.**



Almost one third of the territory of the European Union is covered with forest, ranging from boreal to Mediterranean scrub. Even though Europe's forest area has been increasing in the last decades – with the result that each year more carbon is stored in forests<sup>1</sup> – it is still insufficiently protected<sup>2</sup>.

EU policy directed at protecting forests dates back to 1986, with the adoption of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3528/86, which established a scheme to protect forests against atmospheric pollution. In 1990, the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPEF), which includes all Member States of the European Union and a further 15 European countries, was set up to promote sustainable management of European forests.

A further significant step was taken in 1992, with Council Regulation (EEC) No 2158/92, which established a Community scheme to protect forests

against fire. It requires Member States to classify their forest land according to fire risk and established a Community inventory of forest damage and a monitoring network.

Regulation (EC) No 2152/2003, approved in 2003, provided financial assistance for a more comprehensive long-term monitoring scheme of atmospheric pollution and fires known as “Forest Focus”. The scheme includes harmonised collection, handling and assessment of data and the development of forest monitoring activities, indicators and risk assessment methodology<sup>3</sup>.

Managing forest land means reconciling different, and at times conflicting, ecological, social and economic functions. Forests have a significant economic value: EU Member States are among the leading producers and traders of timber and wood-based products, which account for 38 per cent of world exports (by value). The economic value of forests has also

increased through tourism and outdoor recreation. However development of recreational activities is often accompanied by requests for new roads, skiing facilities and other infrastructures. The consequent fragmentation of forest habitats reduces the nature conservation value of such areas.

The Habitats Directive represents a fundamental step towards conserving forests and tree species in Europe. Annex I of the directive lists seventy-two forest habitat types of community interest – of which 24 are considered as priority<sup>4</sup> – the conservation of which requires designation of Special Areas of Conservation.

<sup>1</sup> See “Europe’s forests in the spotlight” with the results of the MCPFE 4th conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (<http://www.mcpfe.org>)

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.panda.org>.

<sup>3</sup> It also replaced the earlier regulations (EEC) 3528/86 and 2158/92, which were due to expire.

<sup>4</sup> The habitat types, under the heading “(Sub)natural woodland vegetation comprising native species forming forests of tall trees, with typical undergrowth, and meeting the following criteria: rare or residual, and/or hosting species of Community interest” are subdivided into six categories: Forests of Boreal Europe, Forests of Temperate Europe, Mediterranean deciduous forests, Mediterranean sclerophyllous forests, Temperate mountainous coniferous forests, Mediterranean and Macaronesian mountainous coniferous forests.

LIFE99NAT/FIN/006251

## Protection of Taiga and Freshwater Ecosystems in Central Finland

*Beneficiary.* Central Finland Environment Centre (regional public authority)  
*Location.* Jyväskylä district, Central Finland

### Project Objective

The Taiga boreal forest habitat type consists of forests dominated by either pine or deciduous trees as well as mixed forests. The project included measures to maintain and improve the nature conservation status of boreal forest areas. It included the preparation of inventories of flora and fauna and drawing up of management plans. The latter was to be done with the help of landowners and to provide a model for carrying out economic activities in harmony with Natura 2000 objectives.

### Results

The flora and fauna inventories resulted in the discovery of a new species of beetle – the *Oxyporus mannerheimii* – which survives on decayed wood. The presence of several beetle species and the white-backed woodpecker (*Dendrocopos leucotos*) were indications of the good state of these boreal forest habitats.

The beneficiary of the project, the Regional Environment Centre, purchased around 380 hectares of land.

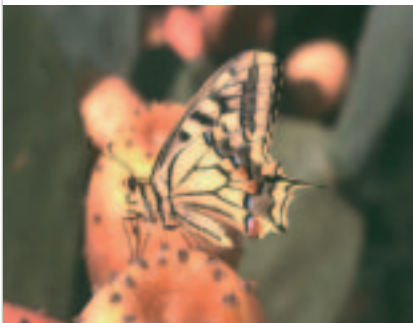
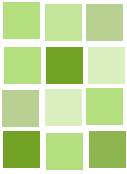
Ten-year forest management plans - in which nature conservation management was given priority - were drawn up for a total of 450 hectares. Landowners were asked to help draw up the plans and those who committed themselves to implementation of actions included in a plan received

financial compensation from LIFE-nature during the duration of the project and from other sources after the project ended. Economic exploitation of the forests will continue in the project areas, but only in accordance with Natura 2000 objectives.

A number of the measures foreseen by the plans were implemented during the LIFE project. Spruce was removed to increase the proportion of deciduous trees, the proportion of dead wood was increased and controlled burning was carried out to increase habitats for species dependent on burnt wood.

*Contact:* Finland Environment Ministry  
<http://www.environment.fi>





LIFE98 NAT/IT/005093

## Urgent actions to safeguard pSCIs in the proposed Gennargentu national park

*Beneficiary.* Nuoro Province  
*Location.* Sardinia, Italy

### Project Objective

The project, carried out by the Nuoro provincial administration and WWF Italy, aimed at starting a series of actions to stimulate regeneration of forests around Gennargentu. Sites where the indigenous Sardinian yew (*Taxus baccata*), the shrub *Ribes sardum* and nesting sites of the raptor *Accipiter gentilis arrigonii* were to be fenced off. Human disturbance of yew woods and steppes was to be reduced through programmes to combat wildfires and poaching

The project also included locating and monitoring of reproductive colonies of two priority bird species, *Falco eleonora* and *Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii*, in the Gulf of Orsei (as a prelude to the designation of the area as a SPA) and the preparation of a management plan for the Monte Albo pSCI.

### Results

The project was reduced due to postponement of the setting up of the Gennargentu national park. Important achievements were the surveying of areas with bird species of EU importance, surveillance against poaching and wildfires and the fencing off of areas of *Taxus baccata* (yew) woods.

The management plan for one of the Natura 2000 sites was completed, the first in Sardinia to be prepared with direct participation of the local community. As well as a description of the physical, biological and human environment and the main factors influencing habitats and species of EU interest, the plan includes a list of objectives and proposed actions, with definitions of the "limits of acceptable modifications" and "limits of desirable modifications".

The document describes 3 management scenarios, corresponding to three different levels of implementation of the plan. The description focuses on the environmental, economic and social effects of the management on the site relative to the main threats identified (grazing, woodcutting, hunting and tourism). Local administrations were requested to implement the first level scenario.

### Website:

<http://www.wwf.it/lavoro> (in Italian only)

LIFE00 NAT/B/007156

## Action Plan for conservation and restoration of three woods in the Flemish Ardennes

*Beneficiary.* World Wide Fund for Nature Belgium

*Location.* Flemish Ardennes-Belgium

### Project Objective

Production of a management plan for 3 areas of forest in the Flemish Ardennes, a stretch of low lying hills between Brussels and Lille. The areas consist of botanically rich ash and alder and beech and oak woodland.

### Results

The management plan includes scientific monitoring of Natura 2000 areas by various research institutes and local volunteers.

After studying historical land use and other data, interviewing local inhabitants and using information from local naturalists, site managers re-introduced cattle and horses into forest management. Local farmers provided cattle of a local breed which now graze the mixed forest/grassland habitats all year round. This has resulted in a spectacular decline in brambles, rejuvenation of the herbaceous layer and reappearance of small clearings which provide open, sunny areas for butterflies and other insects. No negative effect on tree regeneration was observed.

In cooperation with regional nature conservation and agricultural authorities, the beneficiary launched a large-scale land purchase programme and developed a strategic plan to integrate nature conservation needs with agricultural activity in order to create ecological corridors and reduce forest fragmentation. As well as increasing the forest area, the beneficiary also restored the forest borders, in particular through purchase of surrounding land from farmers. Sharp limits between forest and agricultural land were

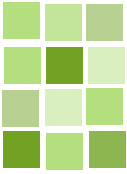
converted to more diffuse forest margins, allowing typical shrubs and associated fauna and flora to thrive. Municipalities agreed to the expansion of the forest area and to construct wildlife corridors under existing roads. In addition, the beneficiary succeeded in persuading the local planning authority to integrate this project into a wider agricultural area.

Site managers have demonstrated how forest management solely focused on timber production can be included in an integrated management scheme, in which nature conservation, recreation and preservation of the landscape are combined. The beneficiary spent considerable effort promoting this new approach and was rewarded with a Flemish regional cultural heritage award.

*Website:*

<http://users.pandora.be/life-natuur-be-7156> (in Dutch, with summaries in English and French).





LIFE99 NAT/FIN/006268

## Combining protection with other forms of land use in the natural boreal forests of the Syöte area

*Beneficiary.* Forest and Park Service, Ostrobothnia area

*Location.* Finland

### Project Objective

To plan land use of seven sites-four within the National park of Syöte and three within Natura 2000 sites outside the park – and to prepare one specific plan integrating the objectives of nature conservation and the development of tourism activities. The project area, which covers 30,740 ha, consists in great part of priority habitat types: boreal forests, aapa mires and bog woodlands. The project included also implementation of some of the measures foreseen by the management plans-realization of artificial nests for the golden eagle and for the flying squirrel, restoration of an area with bog woodland and of a gravel pit and purchase of land by the Forest and Park service.

### Results

All seven management plans were completed, after surveys of the project area, which led to the discovery of the presence of new species and habitats.

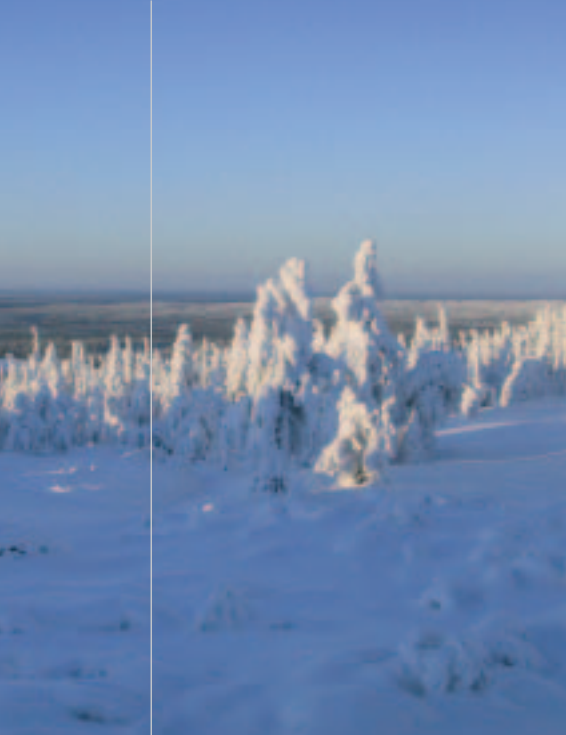
The tourism plan was prepared involving stakeholders from the very start of the process, taking into consideration the various documents and charters produced on sustainable tourism and analysing different elements through the SWOT analysis<sup>1</sup>.

The plan (49 pages) targets various nature-based activities including hiking, horse riding, fishing, hunting, mountain biking, dog and reindeer safaris etc. The plan includes an illustration of the methods used: terminology, description of the biological, historical and cultural values of Syöte, current status of nature tourism, objective of nature tourism and principles. Additionally it includes monitoring of environment impact of nature tourism and an action programme, partly implemented by the LIFE-Nature project.

The project has also produced a guide book “Matkailuyrittäjien luonto-opas” (Tourism entrepreneurs nature guide), 82 pages, which gives information on nature conservation areas in general, nature of Syöte, history of Syöte, “rules” of sustainable nature tourism and detailed biological/cultural/geological information about different sites within Syöte.

*Contact:* Finland Environment Ministry  
<http://www.environment.fi>

<sup>1</sup> SWOT, an acronym for strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats, is a system of analysis resulting from researches first conducted at the Stanford Research Institute from 1960-1970.



# Natura 2000 and agriculture

## The new EU regulation on rural development will strengthen measures aimed at the environment and the conservation of biodiversity

Farming has a direct impact on a wide variety of habitats and species which are threatened or in danger of extinction. Annex I of the Habitats Directive lists 23 habitat types, 12 of which are considered priority, under the heading “natural and semi-natural grassland formations”<sup>1</sup>. These include arable grasslands, steppes and lowland and mountain meadows, on which many species of fauna, in particular birds are dependent. The profound transformations that have occurred in agricultural practice in Europe in the last fifty years – mechanization and intensification, increased use of fertilizers and pesticides, urbanization and abandonment of agricultural land – have had a negative impact on numerous habitats and are considered responsible for the decline in numbers of many species.

The growing awareness of the effects of agriculture on nature has brought a new aspect to the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), which has a determining role in the organisation of most agricultural markets and production in the EU.

Since 1992, the Agri-Environmental Regulation of the CAP has been providing financial support to farmers who adopt practices that benefit the environment through management agreements, the detailed implementation of which is decided by Member States.

In 1999 agri-environment, agri-forestry and rural development measures were bought together in a single Rural Development Regulation (1257/1999), aimed at supporting a viable, multi-purpose and environment-friendly agriculture.

The 6th Environmental Action Program, adopted in 2002, aims at even greater integration between environmental, agricultural, landscape, forestry and marine policies.

In 2003, following a mid-term review of the 1999 reforms, the EU adopted a fundamental reform of the CAP. Subsidies to farmers have become more “decoupled”<sup>2</sup> from the volume of production and are also linked to the respect of environmental, food safety and animal welfare standards (a measure known as “cross compliance”).

<sup>1</sup> The habitat types are subdivided into five subcategories: natural grasslands, semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies, Sclerophyllous grazed forests (dehesas), semi-natural tall-herb humid meadows, mesophile grasslands.

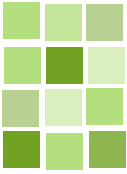
<sup>2</sup> That is to say that support is linked more to agricultural means of production (area of crops or number of head of livestock) rather than paid directly according to quantities produced.

The regulation on rural development for the next financial period (2007-2013) will give even greater emphasis to the environment and the Natura 2000 network. The new act, which establishes the European Agricultural Rural Development Fund (EARDF), lays down four basic aims or “axes”:

1. improving the competitiveness of farming and forestry;
2. providing support for the environment and the countryside;
3. promoting the diversification of the rural economy and its quality of life;
4. further development strategies based on local initiatives.

The resources made available for axis 2 will be used to integrate environmental issues - maintaining biodiversity and agri-environment, forestry, water and climate change measures - into other sectors and to assure continued implementation of the Natura 2000 network.





LIFE99 NAT/DK/006456

## Wadden Sea-improvement of the Varde estuary and its natural environment

*Beneficiary.* Danish National Forest and Nature Agency

*Location.* Denmark

### Project Objective

Restoration of the Varde river valley, at the most northerly part of the Wadden Sea, through raising water levels and reducing levels of use of pesticides and fertilisers by local farmers.

The project – in which also the Varde Farmers Union, the Department of Agriculture and Ribe County cooperated – took place in an area of fresh-water and salt marshes of great importance for EU-listed species, in particular for birds. Since the 1970's intensive agriculture had been practiced, with a consequent reduction in the variety and number of wild flora and fauna.

### Results

The project area was divided in 13 sections. First hydrological conditions were studied and then an extended network of locks and dams created to raise the water levels and general humidity of the areas. On completion, negotiations began with farmers who were willing to graze and mow meadows, to abandon ploughing and who would accept limited use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. The outcome was that more than 250 farmers entered into 20-year management agreements with regional authorities. This would ensure extensive agricultural activity which would maintain the favourable conservation status of the habitats and species present in the area.

Over 2,488 hectares of land were restored to original hydrological conditions through closure of 600 ditches and simple “low technology” solutions to control water levels (e.g. sluice gates), which require a minimum of maintenance.

An increase in biodiversity in the area was shown by monitoring carried out during the project. Of particular note was the return of the corncrake (*Crex crex*) after twenty years absence.

*Contact:* (Danish Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency): [sns@sns.dk](mailto:sns@sns.dk)



LIFE00 NAT/SLO/7223

## Management plan and urgent actions for Veternik and Oslica high dry meadows

*Beneficiary.* Kozjanski Regional Park  
*Location.* Slovenia

### Project Objectives

- Involvement of local farmers in the sustainable management of 500 hectares of dry grasslands and meadows on a Natura 2000 site within the regional park;
- pilot restoration actions;
- measures to safeguard the last remaining population of corncrake (*Crex crex*) in the area;
- preparation of a management plan to ensure the long-term management of the area.

### Results

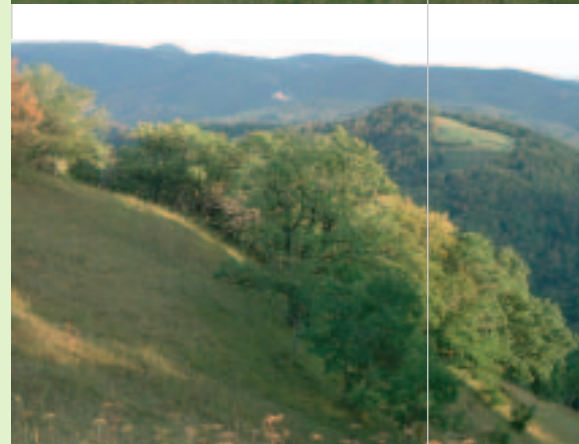
The site management plan was prepared, the first in Slovenia. It was produced in close collaboration with the park council – on which three national ministries are represented - and other stakeholders.

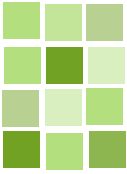
The plan includes a description of the legal basis, description of the site (physical environment, ecology, human and economic factors, legal restrictions and threats to habitats and species), objectives of dry meadows management, actions recommended for each type of grassland, recreation management, timetable, implementation strategy and sources of finance. The maps, scale 1:20.000, cover geology, vegetation, agricultural land use, landscape zones, proposed management regimes, and monitoring, including corncrake monitoring.

During the first phase of the project a geographical database was created from the official land register for all plots of land included in the project and agreements made with landowners for the elimination of the use of chemical fertilizers and guarantee of regular mowing of meadows in ex-

change for financial compensation. Altogether seventy-seven agreements were drawn up, covering a period of 4 years. Following this agri-environmental funds were to be used to ensure maintenance of a favourable level of conservation status of the site. Some actions foreseen in the management plan, such as restoration of twenty hectares of dry meadows and mowing of a further 270 hectares, were carried out during the project in cooperation with local farmers.

*Website:*  
<http://www.gov.si/kp>





LIFE02 NAT/SLO/008587

## Conservation of endangered habitat/species in the future Karst Park

*Beneficiary.* University of Primorska, Koper Science and Research Centre  
*Location.* Slovenia

### Project Objectives

1. Restore semi-natural dry grasslands and karstic ponds in an area known as Karst Edge, a mosaic of dry and rocky meadows, and resting and feeding places for migrating birds.
2. Conclude agreements with farmers and landowners to continue conservation actions after the end of the project.



### Results

A 2-page document of recommendations for mowing and grazing (e.g. grazing to a maximum of 6-7 sheep per hectare) was produced for landowners.

Indications were given to landowners on the use of the Slovenian agri-environment program for conservation actions on Natura 2000 sites.

A total of 150 hectares of dry grasslands were restored through the removal of bushes and plants. The landowners and farmers involved made commitments through stewardship agreements to continue cleaning the area for a period of five years after the end of the project.

Four karstic ponds were restored and the local municipalities agreed to continue maintenance after the end of the project and to use conservation guidelines also for ponds not covered by the LIFE project.

Following intensive field surveys on 7,000 hectares of habitat, fifty management guidelines specific to Natura 2000 sites with karstic ponds and calcareous dry grassland were determined.

*Website:*

<http://www.zrs-kp.si/projekti/life>



## **PART THREE**

### **LIST OF LIFE NATURE PROJECTS WHICH HAVE INCLUDED MANAGEMENT PLAN ACTIONS**

Freshwater habitats / 34

Coastal and marine habitats / 36

Forest habitats / 37

Agricultural and grassland habitats / 39

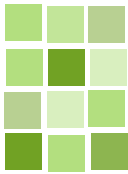
Other habitats / 41

Fauna species / 42

Bird species / 44

Flora species / 46

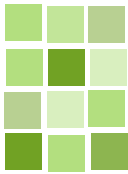
Generic / 47



## Freshwater habitats

|                                       | PROJECT NUMBER         | TPOLOGY OF PLAN  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| <b>Wetlands</b>                       |                        |  |
| Delta Po 1                            | LIFE92NAT/IT/1973/03-6 | Po Delta (regional park) management plan.  |
| Bbg Elbtalaue                         | LIFE94NAT/D/730        | Conception of management plan for flood plain restoration area, including Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and hydrological survey.         |
| Siena                                 | LIFE95NAT/IT/0657      | Preparation of management plan for the three wetlands.   |
| Lorraine belge                        | LIFE95NAT/B/6285       | Management plans for land purchased areas within wetland.  |
| Ravenna                               | LIFE95 NAT/IT/0616     | Preparation and approval of Natura 2000 sites management plan for the Po delta.  |
| Cabras                                | LIFE95NAT/IT/0753      | Management plan for one site with lagoon.  |
| Gillia                                | LIFE96NAT/IT/3106      | Management plan for a Natura 2000 site with lagoon.  |
| Vallée de l'Oise                      | LIFE96NAT/F/3215       | Management plans for 6 sites.  |
| Grensmaas                             | LIFE96NAT/B/3035       | Development of small-scale management plans for purchased areas.   |
| Playa Matorral                        | LIFE97NAT/E/4157       | Management plan.   |
| Viikki                                | LIFE97NAT/FIN/4105     | Updating of the existing management plan of the project area (wetlands in Helsinki).   |
| N.EC.TO.N                             | LIFE97NAT/IT/4089      | Preparation of Natura 2000 site management plan.   |
| S'Ena Arrubia                         | LIFE97NAT/IT/4177      | Preparation and approval of management plan.   |
| SIC Meridionali                       | LIFE98NAT/IT/5094      | Preparation of a pilot management plan for Natura 2000 sites.  |
| Pays de Gavot                         | LIFE98NAT/F/5192       | Management plan of wetlands.   |
| Porto Viro                            | LIFE98NAT/IT/5130      | Management plan of 2 Natura 2000 sites within the Po Delta.  |
| ESTANYS DE SILS                       | LIFE98NAT/E/5348       | A strategic management model for the core project area.  |
| Untere Inn                            | LIFE98NAT/D/0480       | Zoning plan for pleasure boats in the wetlands and plan for angling and hunting on both sides of the German/Austrian border in the wetland.      |
| Stella                                | LIFE98 NAT/IT/005066   | Management plan of wetland habitats within the Natura 2000 site "Risorgive dello Stella".  |
| Donauauen                             | LIFE98NAT/A/5422       | Management plans for different aspects including hydrological plan.  |
| TXINGUDI                              | LIFE98NAT/E/5346       | Management guidelines for the project site.  |
| CUENCA DEL ASÓN                       | LIFE99NAT/E/6333       | Management plans for three Natura 2000 sites.  |
| Sude Schaale                          | LIFE99NAT/D/5938       | Management plan for a 500 ha site.   |
| Trichonida                            | LIFE99NAT/GR/6499      | Hydrological study and management plan.  |
| Essonne et Juine                      | LIFE99NAT/F/6313       | Management plan.   |
| Birds lapland                         | LIFE99NAT/FIN/5276     | Management plans for a Natura 2000 site of 544 ha and 1005 ha and 5 plans for recreational use of 5 sites.                                       |
| Wetlands SW Finland                   | LIFE99NAT/FIN/6278     | Management plans prepared for 5 Natura 2000 sites.   |
| Transboundary wet ecosystems (NL - B) | LIFE99NAT/B/6296       | Management plans for approx 160 ha land purchased during the project.  |
| Alerio                                | LIFE99NAT/IT/6235      | Management plan of the wetland habitats of the "Natura 2000 site" Lago di Alerio.  |
| Mares temporaires                     | LIFE99NAT/F/6304       | Management plans for 2 Natura 2000 sites (Valliguière: 15 ha and Agenouillade: 4 ha) and management guidelines for the site (Padulu in Corsica). |
| Palata                                | LIFE99NAT/IT/6253      | Management plans for the project habitats.   |
| Capo Feto                             | LIFE99NAT/IT/6270      | Management plan for the site Capo Feto.  |
| Ostiglia                              | LIFE00NAT/IT/7161      | Wetland habitats management plan.  |
| Genuario                              | LIFE00NAT/IT/7209      | Management plan of the Natura 2000 site.   |
| Nemos                                 | LIFE00NAT/IT/7281      | 2 Natura 2000 sites management plans.  |
| Theiss                                | LIFE00NAT/A/7051       | Floodplain area management plan on 310 ha; project outcomes will be used for Natura 2000 site management plan.                                   |
| Stechlin                              | LIFE00NAT/D/7057       | Management plans for forest habitats and lake fisheries.   |
| Drana lagoon                          | LIFE00NAT/GR/7198      | Tourism management plan.   |
| DOPPS                                 | LIFE00NAT/SLO/7226     | Management plan for salt water and fresh water lagoons.  |
| Keski-Suomi                           | LIFE02NAT/FIN/8471     | Management plans for 2 "Special Protection Area" and restoration plans for 6 "Special Protection Area" wetlands.                                 |
| Comana                                | LIFE02NAT/R/8571       | Management plan.   |
| Fiume Toce                            | LIFE02/NAT/IT/8572     | Management plans for various habitats.   |
| Blanket bog                           | LIFE02NAT/UK/7075      | Overall strategy for a large Natura 2000 site  |
| Karst Park                            | LIFE02NAT/SLO/8587     | 30 management plans for karstic ponds.   |
| Tarquinia                             | LIFE02NAT/IT/8523      | Management plan of the Natura 2000 site.   |
| Equilibri ecologici                   | LIFE02NAT/IT/8526      | Management plan of the Natura 2000 site.   |
| Düsterdieker N                        | LIFE02NAT/D/7042       | Hydrological restoration plan for updating Management plan.  |
| Blitzenreuter                         | LIFE02NAT/D/8462       | Management plans (includes hydrological) for 3 sites on 420 ha.  |

|                         |                    |   |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Zuiderkempen            | LIFE02NAT/B/8595   | Management plan for project areas Langdonken and Goor (total approx 50 ha).   |
| Mittelgebirgsbäche      | LIFE03NAT/D/003    | Management plan for 3 sites (620 ha).   |
| Secovlje                | LIFE03NAT/SLO/0076 | Management plan for former salt pan now a Natura 2000 site.   |
| Binnensalzstellen       | LIFE03NAT/D/005    | Management plan for inland salt marshes including site hydrology measures (total 110 ha).   |
| Gulf of Finland         | LIFE03NAT/FIN/0039 | Management plans for 10 sites and restoration for a further 4 sites.  |
| Murrough wetlands       | LIFE03NAT/IRL/0107 | Management plan.  |
| Räpina                  | LIFE03NAT/EE/0180  | Management plan to be prepared for the project site.  |
| Medponds                | LIFE04NAT/GR/0105  | Habitat management plan.  |
| Meadows                 | LIFE04NAT/LV/0198  | Management plans will be prepared for 13 sites and updated for 2 floodplain sites, covering 14.085 hectares                           |
| <b>Rivers</b>           |                    |   |
| PFlusstalmoore-Tebel    | LIFE94NAT/D/731    | Inventories and management framework of large scale river and fen restoration measures including assessment of impact on agriculture. |
| Pearl mussel            | LIFE97NAT/FIN/4086 | Restoration plans and management plan for 3 rivers.   |
| Dijle Vallei            | LIFE98NAT/B/5171   | Management plan of project area of 500 hectares.  |
| Bassin aval de la Seine | LIFE99NAT/F/6332   | 2 management plans.   |
| Obere Drau              | LIFE99NAT/A/6055   | Comprehensive river and floodplain management plan for large Natura 2000 site (976 ha), serving also as a model for the region.       |
| Rivers in the UK        | LIFE99NAT/UK/6088  | River Conservation Strategies for 7 rivers.   |
| Skjern River            | LIFE00NAT/DK/7116  | Management plans.   |
| Pearl mussels           | LIFE02NAT/B/8590   | Management plans for small-river ecosystems: including water quality assessment, protection and maintenance of river banks.           |
| “Odense”/Regain         | LIFE04NAT/DK/0022  | 5 year management plans to be prepared, for “Odense River” and “Odense Fjord”.  |
| <b>Lakes</b>            |                    |   |
| Federsee                | LIFE96NAT/D/0489   | Management plan made for a Natura 2000 area including hydrological restoration plan.  |
| Massaciuccoli           | LIFE97NAT/IT/4127  | Management plan for the Massaciuccoli lake.   |
| Kempen                  | LIFE98NAT/B/5168   | Integral management plan for oligotrophic lakes.  |
| Lac du Bourget          | LIFE99NAT/F/6321   | Management plan for the Lac du Bourget.   |
| Lake Pape               | LIFE00NAT/LV/0081  | Data inventory, management plan for the whole project area, essential habitats protection and management activities.                  |
| Lake Fure               | LIFE02NAT/DK/8589  | Management plan guidelines developed using results of monitoring.   |
| Nestos                  | LIFE02NAT/GR/8489  | Tourism management plan.  |
| Ain                     | LIFE02NAT/F/8482   | Management plan for habitats of the lower Ain river.  |
| Lago Bañolas            | LIFE03NAT/E/067    | Management Plan for the Bañolas Lake.   |
| PHS in NPR              | LIFE04NAT/LV/0199  | Management plan for the project area (53.000 ha including 148 lakes).   |

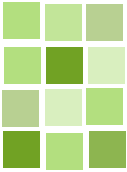


## Coastal and marine habitats

|  | PROJECT NUMBER       | TYPOLGY OF PLAN  |
|--|----------------------|--|
| <b>Coastal areas</b>                       |                      |  |
| Sefton Coast                               | LIFE95 NAT/UK/000818 | 11 site management plan for a 2000 ha Natura 2000 site.  |
| Integrated Coastal Conservation Initiative | LIFE96NAT/B/3032     | Management plans for the sites "Ter Yde" and "Hannecartbos".   |
| Hulsig Hede                                | LIFE96NAT/DK/0300    | Revision of management plan.   |
| Porvoo                                     | LIFE97NAT/FIN/4102   | General management plan for the area (large estuary with some forest).   |
| Piscinas                                   | LIFE97NAT/IT/4140    | Management plan.   |
| Vest Stadil Fjord                          | LIFE97NAT/DK/4119    | Management plan.   |
| Pannonische Sanddünen                      | LIFE98NAT/A/5418     | Management plan.   |
| Wattenmeer                                 | LIFE98NAT/D/0441     | Management plan for tourism use of the coastal area.   |
| SIC Tirreno                                | LIFE99NAT/IT/6275    | Two management plans plus supplement to the Cilento National park management plan.   |
| Living with the Sea                        | LIFE99NAT/UK/6081    | Preparation of seven coastal habitat management plans.   |
| Coastal salty grasslands                   | LIFE99NAT/B/6295     | Management plan for the protected area "Uitkerkse Polder".   |
| Monte Russu                                | LIFE99NAT/IT/6189    | Site management plan.  |
| BAIX TER                                   | LIFE99NAT/E/6386     | Site management plan.  |
| ANCARES DE LEÓN                            | LIFE99NAT/E/6352     | Site management plan.  |
| Coastal meadows                            | LIFE00NAT/EE/7083    | 7 year regional and national management plans for <i>Bufo calamita</i> , for Lääne, Pärnu, Saare and Hiiu counties.  |
| Dune habitats                              | LIFE02NAT/DK/8584    | Management guidelines to be prepared from monitoring results.  |
| LV Coastal habitats                        | LIFE02NAT/LV/8498    | Management plan produced for 4 coastal sites (dunes, boreal forests and aquatic area).   |
| Strofyliia-Kotychi                         | LIFE02NAT/GR/8491    | Management plans for two lagoons for dunes with <i>Pinus pinea</i> tourism and species management plan.  |
| Uitkerkse Polder                           | LIFE03NAT/B/0023     | Preparation of a tourism plan for 1.200 hectares Natura 2000 site at the Belgian coast.  |
| Costas Cádiz                               | LIFE03NAT/E/054      | A coastal habitats management plan.  |
| Silma                                      | LIFE03NAT/EE/0181    | 3 management plans prepared for coastal areas (for sites Vormsi, Ormusaar and Silma).  |
| IBA marinha                                | LIFE04NAT/P/0213     | Management proposals to be defined and approved with national authorities.   |
| Tiengemeten                                | LIFE04NAT/NL/0202    | Tourism management plan for an island reserve in densely populated area).  |
| <b>Islands</b>                             |                      |  |
| Liminganlahti                              | LIFE95NAT/FIN/0156   | Management plan for southern Hailuoto island.  |
| Rahja                                      | LIFE96NAT/FIN/3023   | General plan for land use and maintenance and biotope management plan.   |
| Isla de Buda                               | LIFE96NAT/E/3180     | Revision of existing management Plan .   |
| Quark Archipelago                          | LIFE97NAT/FIN/4110   | Framework plan.  |
| Capraia                                    | LIFE97 NAT/IT/004153 | Management plan for 3 sites.   |
| Ventotene                                  | LIFE97 NAT/IT/004125 | Management plan for site of Ventotene island.  |
| Azores                                     | LIFE98NAT/P/5275     | Management plans for 7 marine "Special Protection Areas" and 5 pSCIs, including proposals of decree and regulation.  |
| Island of Braila                           | LIFE99NAT/R/6400     | Preparation and approval of a management plan.   |
| Famara (Lanzarote)                         | LIFE99NAT/E/6392     | Natura 2000 site management plan.  |
| Posidonia Baleares                         | LIFE00NAT/E/7303     | Management Plans for 14 marine sites in the balearic Islands, to serve as models for other marine sites. Preparation of plans for recuperation of <i>Larus audouinii</i> and <i>Phalacrocorax</i> populations. |
| Cetaceos Gomera                            | LIFE03NAT/E/062      | Natura 2000 site management plan.  |

## Forest habitats

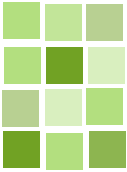
|                                | PROJECT NUMBER     | TYPOLGY OF PLAN  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| <b>Forest</b>                  |                    |  |
| WBreckland                     | LIFE92NAT/UK/13200 | Preparation of action plans for 20 rare species. Management plans for 13 sites and general plan for Tetford Forest.                      |
| White-backed woodpecker        | LIFE95NAT/FIN/0102 | Preparation of several nature conservation and forest management plans and publication of "Nature management planning".                  |
| Hainich                        | LIFE95NAT/D/840    | Management plan for one Natura 2000 site, including socio-economic study on sustainable tourism and forest management.                   |
| Yyteri                         | LIFE96NAT/FIN/3028 | Forest management plans, including (1) plan of city of Pori, (2) for the Yyteri area and (3) biotope inventory.                          |
| Chiotteri 1                    | LIFE96NAT/IT/3075  | Forestry management plan and dry meadows management plan.  |
| Chiotteri 1                    | LIFE96NAT/IT/3075  | Forestry and dry meadows management plan.  |
| Abetine 1                      | LIFE96NAT/IT/3169  | Management plan of 4 forest sites with <i>Abies alba</i> (silver fir).   |
| Monte Lattias                  | LIFE96NAT/IT/3171  | Management plan of a site in southern Sardinia.  |
| Western Taiga                  | LIFE96NAT/S/3182   | Management plans for 12 sites.   |
| Gagnef                         | LIFE96NAT/S/3189   | Management plans for 12 forest sites (total 514 ha), primarily western taiga.  |
| New Forest                     | LIFE97NAT/UK/4242  | Management plan for the Natura 2000 site.  |
| Wildnisgebiet Dürrenstein      | LIFE97NAT/A/4117   | Management plan for project area (2,387 ha of alpine primeval forest).   |
| Forêt de Haguenau              | LIFE98NAT/F/5243   | Management guide for the Haguenau forest site.   |
| Jämtland                       | LIFE99NAT/S/6348   | 6 management plans for western taiga sites.  |
| WT Svealand/Götaland           | LIFE98NAT/S/5369   | 6 management plans with western taiga.   |
| WT Norrland                    | LIFE98NAT/S/5367   | 2 management plans in areas with western taiga.  |
| Gennargentu                    | LIFE98NAT/IT/5093  | Management plan for a Natura 2000 site with forest habitats.   |
| WT Bergslagen                  | LIFE98NAT/S/5366   | 4 management plans for western taiga sites.  |
| Deciduous forests              | LIFE98NAT/S/5370   | Action on forest sites and plan of future passive management.  |
| Mont Mainalo                   | LIFE99NAT/GR/6481  | Master plan for black pine forest.   |
| Syöte                          | LIFE99NAT/FIN/6268 | 7 management plans and eco-tourims plans targeting mainly western taiga and aapa mire.   |
| Bosco Fontana                  | LIFE99NAT/IT/6245  | Management plan for forest Natura 2000 site in the Po plains.  |
| Ylläs-Aakenus western taiga    | LIFE99NAT/FIN/6267 | Management plan for 37,000 ha approved by the forestry administration.   |
| Sélestat                       | LIFE99NAT/F/6315   | Management plan for alluvial forests site.   |
| Pohjois Savo                   | LIFE99NAT/FIN/6247 | 8 management plans for restoration actions in areas with western taiga.  |
| Hardt Nord                     | LIFE99NAT/F/6318   | Management plan for oak-hornbeam forests sites.  |
| Forêts Bourgogne               | LIFE99NAT/F/6314   | Several management plans for Natura 2000 sites.  |
| Taiga & freshwater             | LIFE99NAT/FIN/6251 | 2 ten year forest management plans for 446 ha and a special management working plans for deciduous forests with white-backed woodpecker. |
| Boreal groves                  | LIFE99NAT/FIN/6272 | 15 ten year management plans prepared for Fennoscandain herb rich forests.   |
| Orso Bruno                     | LIFE99NAT/IT/6244  | Management plan for 28 sites in 11 State Forests.  |
| Funduras                       | LIFE99NAT/P/6436   | Management plan for part of the project site, approx. 200 ha of publicly owned-forest.   |
| Tavrosos                       | LIFE99NAT/GR/6480  | Specific management plans for 3 priority habitats. Preparation of a monitoring plan.   |
| Gramos and Rodopi              | LIFE99NAT/GR/6498  | Management plan for black pine forests.  |
| Nationalpark Kalkalpen         | LIFE99NAT/A/5915   | Management plan for forest habitats within a Natura 2000 sites in a national park.   |
| Pin laricio                    | LIFE00NAT/F/7273   | Management plan for habitat with <i>Pinus laricio</i> .  |
| Lady's slipper                 | LIFE00NAT/FIN/7059 | 34 restoration plans targeting aapa mire and forest sites.   |
| Pohjois-Karjala                | LIFE00NAT/FIN/7062 | Restoration plans prepared for 9 forest/mire areas and action plans for forest habitat of white-backed woodpecker.                       |
| Tiroler Lech                   | LIFE00NAT/A/7053   | Forestry management plan fish and amphibian inventory and river and visitors management Natura 2000 site = 4,138 ha site.                |
| Forest of the Flemish Ardennes | LIFE00NAT/B/7156   | Management plans.  |
| Priority forests               | LIFE02NAT/EE/8555  | Management plans for 19 project sites.   |
| Evo                            | LIFE02NAT/FIN/8466 | Management plan for 7,800 hectares forests and mires.  |
| N2000 areas SW Finland         | LIFE02NAT/FIN/8468 | Preparation of restoration action plans (covering meadow habitats, forests, visitor flows and nature awareness).                         |
| Grindenschwarzwald             | LIFE02NAT/D/7039   | Management plan through extensive consultation force and guidelines for forest management.   |
| Woodland habitats              | LIFE02NAT/UK/7074  | Woodland management plans in combination with forestry activity.   |



|                           |                    |   |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Koli                      | LIFE03NAT/FIN/0035 | Preparation of plan for forestry management through slash-and-burn technique, and of maintenance plan for meadows and a forest management plan. |
| Szénás Hills              | LIFE03NAT/H/167    | Conservation management plan and annual forest management plans.  |
| Danube Floodplain forests | LIFE03NAT/SK/0097  | Forest management strategy.   |
| Pindos                    | LIFE03NAT/GR/0089  | Pilot management plan for priority habitat Mediterranean pine forests with endemic black pine.  |
| Sur Fen                   | LIFE03NAT/SK/0096  | Recovery and management plan, for site with natural alder swamp forest.   |
| Boreal forests            | LIFE03NAT/FIN/0034 | Restoration plan for 30 sites of western taiga and bog woodlands.   |
| Reticnet                  | LIFE03NAT/IT/0139  | Management plans for five Natura 2000 sites managed by the Forest Service.  |
| Habitat N-E Murcia        | LIFE03NAT/E/059    | Management Plans for 10 Natura 2000 sites 300 hectares of forest habitats.  |
| CFS                       | LIFE04NAT/IT/0190  | Preparation of three management plans for two Natura 2000 sites managed by the Italian Forest Service.  |
| Tucap                     | LIFE04NAT/IT/0191  | Management plan for conservation of a Natura 2000 site with Apennine beech forests with <i>Abies alba</i> .                                     |
| Green Belt                | LIFE04NAT/FIN/0788 | Restoration plans for 13 sites with western taiga and aapa mires.   |
| Alta Tuscia               | LIFE04NAT/IT/0153  | Implementation of a forest Natura 2000 site management plan.  |

## Agricultural and grassland habitats

|                             | PROJECT NUMBER         | TYPOLGY OF PLAN   |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---|
| <b>Grassland</b>            |                        |   |
| Rhön I                      | LIFE93NAT/D/010200     | Management plan for 2 subsites and grazing management plans.  |
| Upland habitats             | LIFE95 NAT/UK/0826     | Grazing management plans prepared for four Natura 2000 sites targeting problems with deer and sheep.  |
| Castro Verde                | LIFE95NAT/P/0178       | Management plan for part of the project site.   |
| Atlantic heaths             | LIFE95 NAT/UK/000832   | Experimental grazing management measures for dry coastal heaths sites in south-west England and Brittany.   |
| Grasslands                  | LIFE96NAT/FIN/3027     | Management plan for grassland in the Archipelago National Park.   |
| Nardus grassland in Belgium | LIFE96NAT/B/3034       | Preparation of small-scale management plans for areas of purchased land.  |
| Stelvio                     | LIFE96NAT/IT/3074      | Management plans for mountain grasslands sites, including control of grazing.   |
| Steppe                      | LIFE96NAT/IT/3165      | Management plan for steppe habitats site.   |
| Stora Alvaret               | LIFE96NAT/S/3185       | Management plans for 4 project sites.   |
| Pian della faggeta          | LIFE97NAT/IT/4145      | Livestock management plan.  |
| Concrake-humid grasslands   | LIFE97NAT/B/4206       | Management plan for two sites in Flanders.  |
| Tarvisiano                  | LIFE98 NAT/IT/5112     | Agro-forestry management plan, hunting management plan and livestock management plan.   |
| Pelouses sèches en France   | LIFE98NAT/F/5237       | Management plan for 25 sites.   |
| Gerola                      | LIFE98NAT/IT/5044      | Management plan for the Natura 2000 site of "Bitto di Gerola" (controlled grazing in Alpine meadows).   |
| Gargano                     | LIFE98NAT/IT/5121      | Preparation of a management plan for two Natura 2000 sites with grassland and steppes.  |
| Monte Guffone               | LIFE99NAT/IT/6237      | Preparation of the management plan for the pasturelands (approx 150 ha).  |
| Wadden Sea                  | LIFE99NAT/DK/6456      | 20 year management plans for 10 sites.  |
| Humedales De Villacanas     | LIFE99NAT/E/6339       | Agri-environmental programme for wetland areas.   |
| Labbro                      | LIFE99NAT/IT/6229      | Site management plan including actions financed through Rural Development funds to protect grasslands.  |
| LV Teici                    | LIFE00NAT/LV/7127      | Agri-environmental plans prepared for 85 grasslands sites covering 578 ha to be covered by agri-environmental schemes.  |
| N Gauja                     | LIFE00NAT/LV/0082      | Management measures for forestry, agriculture, and recreation. Grassland management plans produced for 3 pilot farms will be incorporated in general management plan. |
| WWF-Finland                 | LIFE00NAT/FIN/7057     | Management and restoration plans for several Natura 2000 sites in Finland, Estonia and Sweden targeting seminatural grasslands.                                       |
| Chiotteri II                | LIFE00NAT/IT/7139-7140 | 3 management plan for semi-natural grasslands sites, to be included in territorial plans.   |
| Toscana                     | LIFE00NAT/IT/7239      | Pilot management plans for Nardus grasslands.   |
| Dry meadows                 | LIFE00NAT/SLO/7223     | Management plan for 500 ha of dry meadows.  |
| Limestone Country           | LIFE02NAT/UK/8529      | Nature conservation plans for 10 farms.   |
| Trockenrasen-RPf            | LIFE02NAT/D/8461       | Grazing management plans for 3 sites (approx. 355 ha).  |
| Kinnekulle                  | LIFE02NAT/S/8484       | Management plans prepared or revised for 15 sites.  |
| Karula                      | LIFE02NAT/EE/8559      | Management strategy for the conservation of meadows for <i>Crex crex</i> and <i>Aquila pomarina</i> .   |
| Dolomiti bellunesi          | LIFE03NAT/IT/0131      | Management plan for pasturages and restoration plan for the <i>Pinus mugo</i> shrubs.   |
| Agras                       | LIFE03NAT/GR/0092      | Grazing plan for humid meadows and wetland restoration plan.  |
| Colli Euganei               | LIFE03NAT/IT/0119      | Management plan for the grassland habitats in the Regional Park.  |
| Military areas in Flanders  | LIFE03NAT/B/0024       | Management plans for 12 project subsites, including areas with semi-natural grasslands.   |
| Medebach                    | LIFE03NAT/D/001        | Grassland management measures.  |
| Wachau                      | LIFE03NAT/A/0009       | Dry meadow and forest management plan.  |
| Iperveld                    | LIFE03NAT/NL/8486      | Analysis and management of measures to combat acidification of peaty grassland.   |
| Vipera ursinii              | LIFE04NAT/HU/116       | Management plan of the Natura 2000 site including grassland restoration.  |
| Egyek-Pusztakócs            | LIFE04NAT/HU/119       | Management plan for 85 ha of steppe grassland, 585 ha salt steppe and 70 ha woodland.   |
| Burren farmong              | LIFE04NAT/IRL/0125     | Preparation of farm management plans.   |
| Steppen                     | LIFE04NAT/AT/0002      | Management measures for "Pannonic steppes and dry grasslands" in eastern Austria.   |
| "Dry grasslands"/Rodgid     | LIFE04NAT/DK/0020      | Site-specific actions plans for the 11 project sites.   |

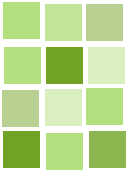


## Other habitats

|   | PROJECT NUMBER     | TYPOLGY OF PLAN  |
|---|--------------------|--|
| <b>Lands</b>                                |                    |  |
| Scottish raised bogs                        | LIFE92NAT/UK/13400 | Management plans for sites managed by the Scottish Wildlife Trust.   |
| Blanket bogs in Scotland & Northern Ireland | LIFE94NAT/UK/0802  | Management plan for approx. 8000 ha land purchased within the project.   |
| Mire Protection Plan                        | LIFE95NAT/S/0507   | Management plans for 15 project sites.   |
| Mire restoration                            | LIFE96NAT/FIN/3025 | Restoration plans for 17 sites and general restoration plan.   |
| Forest & mires                              | LIFE97NAT/S/4201   | 5 management plans.  |
| Aapamires Lapland                           | LIFE97NAT/FIN/4095 | Management plan for one project site (1.100 ha) and 18 mire restoration plans covering 2.066 ha bogland.   |
| Aapa mires Norrbotten                       | LIFE98NAT/S/6359   | 5 management plans.  |
| Calcareous mires                            | LIFE99NAT/B/6285   | Production of conservation strategy and management plans for the minerotrophic mires (fens) in southern Belgium (focused on the grazing versus mowing management). |
| The Bogs of Satchinez                       | LIFE99NAT/R/6394   | A management plan prepared and approved by the Ministry of the Environment.  |
| Das Wenger Moor                             | LIFE99NAT/A/5916   | Management plan for Natura 2000 site, 298 ha.  |
| Lubana Wetlands                             | LIFE00NAT/LV/0083  | Hydrology and management plan for restoration of natural bogs (9.812 ha) and hydrology and management plan for restoration of natural meadows (969 ha).            |
| Triglav                                     | LIFE00NAT/SLO/7231 | Bog management plan, including tourist management.   |
| Parga-Ladra-Támoga                          | LIFE00NAT/E/7330   | Management plan for the Natura 2000 site (bog woodland and dystrophic lakes).  |
| Olvassuo                                    | LIFE02NAT/FIN/8469 | Preparation of restoration and management plans for 3 Natura 2000 site of 60.900 ha.   |
| Simojoki                                    | LIFE02NAT/FIN/8465 | Implementation of current restoration plan for river Simojoki. Restoration and management and plans for 3 sites on former peat extrction sites.                    |
| Alpe Veglia                                 | LIFE02NAT/IT/8574  | Management plans for 4 habitats and an action plan for <i>Erebia christi</i> .   |
| Karelian mires                              | LIFE03NAT/FIN/0036 | Management plans for 9 Natura 2000 sites (some include restoration plans).   |
| Danta 2004                                  | LIFE04NAT/IT/0177  | Management plan for the peat bogs.   |
| Mires                                       | LIFE04NAT/LV/0196  | Management plans for 4 sites, 3 with high raised bogs and one transition mire and quaking bog 9.947 ha.  |
| Baltic bogs                                 | LIFE04NAT/PL/208   | 14 site management plans and regional habitat action plan for conservation of Baltic raised bogs in Pomerania.   |

## Fauna species

|                                 | PROJECT NUMBER      | TYPOLGY OF PLAN   |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| <b>Brown bear</b>               |                     |   |
| Pirineos Aragon                 | LIFE93NAT/E/11801   | Brown bear recovery plan for the region and managemen plan for the Natura 2000 site.  |
| Pirineos Navarra                | LIFE93NAT/E/11803   | Brown bear recovery plan.   |
| Bärenschutzprogramm             | LIFE95NAT/A/0399    | Bear management plan for Austria.   |
| Ursus arctos                    | LIFE96NAT/GR/3222   | Management plans (Specific Environmental Studies) in areas were the bear is present.  |
| Braunbaeren                     | LIFE02NAT/A/8519    | Revision of existing bear management plan for Austria (see A/95/000399).  |
| Ursus Slovenia                  | LIFE02 NAT/SLO/8585 | Brown bear management plan for Slovenia.  |
| <b>Wolf</b>                     |                     |   |
| Gigante                         | LIFE96NAT/IT/3115   | Wolf management plan.   |
| Lupo e Orso                     | LIFE97NAT/IT/4141   | Management plan.  |
| Le loup dans les Alpes          | LIFE99NAT/F/6299    | Action plan for the wolf.   |
| Lupo Romagna                    | LIFE00NAT/IT/7214   | Management plan for wolf on 10 Natura 2000 sites.   |
| <b>Lynx</b>                     |                     |   |
| Lince Andalucia                 | LIFE94NAT/E/4811    | Draft recovery plan for the Lynx.   |
| Lince Castilla La Mancha        | LIFE94NAT/E/4813    | Draft recovery plan for the Lynx.   |
| Lince Extremadura               | LIFE98NAT/E/5343    | Management plans for the Natura 2000 sites where the lynx is found.   |
| Lince Toledo                    | LIFE02NAT/E/8617    | Management plans for the Lynx on 11 estates.  |
| <b>Fox</b>                      |                     |   |
| Arctic Fox I                    | LIFE98NAT/S/5371    | A general management plan for Sweden and an action plan for Finland.  |
| Arctic Fox II                   | LIFE03NAT/S/0073    | Local and regional actions plan for 4 counties (3 in Sweden and 1 in Finland).  |
| <b>Various large carnivores</b> |                     |   |
| Piatra Craiului                 | LIFE99NAT/R/6435    | Management guidelines for large carnivores.   |
| Large Carnivores                | LIFE00NAT/H/7162    | National species conservation plans.  |
| Vrancea                         | LIFE02NAT/R/8576    | Management plan for large carnivores.   |
| <b>Beaver</b>                   |                     |   |
| March-Thaya-Auen                | LIFE95NAT/A/0768    | Inventories and management plan for thr beaver covering 13.000 ha.  |
| Wasserwelt March-Thaya          | LIFE98NAT/A/5413    | Site inventories and beaver management plan.  |
| <b>European mink</b>            |                     |   |
| Vison Castilla y Leon           | LIFE00NAT/E/7299    | Species' recovery plan.   |
| Vison La Rioja                  | LIFE00NAT/E/7331    | Species' recovery plan.   |
| Vison Álava                     | LIFE00NAT/E/7335    | Species' recovery plan.   |
| Lutreola                        | LIFE00NAT/EE/7081   | Species' management plan.   |
| Mustela lutreola                | LIFE02 NAT/E/008604 | Management measures for the species in Spain.   |
| <b>Giant Lizard</b>             |                     |   |
| Lagarto gigante II              | LIFE97NAT/E/4190    | Giant Lizard management plan.   |
| Lagarto Gomera                  | LIFE02NAT/E/8614    | Adoption of giant Lizard recovery and Natura 2000 site management plans.  |
| <b>Molluscs</b>                 |                     |   |
| Molluscs                        | LIFE98NAT/P/5239    | Species management guidelines covering the project site.  |
| Margarita sanabria              | LIFE03NAT/E/051     | A management for the plan Freshwater Pearl Mussel and its habitats.   |
| Margaritifera                   | LIFE04NAT/S/0231    | Manual for the management of Natura 2000 sites with Freshwater Pearl Mussel.  |
| <b>Arthropods</b>               |                     |   |
| Libellen                        | LIFE96NAT/D/0492    | Management plan for EU-listed dragonflies covering 10 subsites.   |
| Osmoderma                       | LIFE97NAT/S/4204    | 24 management plans for the hermit beetle.  |
| Marsh fritillary                | LIFE03NAT/UK/0042   | Management plans for 2 Natura 2000 sites and 7 other sites as part of overall monitoring strategy.  |
| Arthropods Extremadura          | FE03NAT/E/057       | Management plans for insect species <i>Macromia splendens</i> , <i>Oxygastra cutisii</i> , <i>Gohus graslini</i> and <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i> . |



#### Amphibians

|                              |                   |  |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Bombina                      | LIFE99NAT/DK/6454 | Detailed plans for 10 sites and an overall plan.   |
| Bombina                      | LIFE04NAT/D/0028  | Management plan for 10 sites in Latvia and Germany.  |
| Triturus cristatus / BALTRIT | LIFE04NAT/EE/0070 | National action plans to be prepared for <i>Triturus cristatus</i> in Estonia and Finland. |

#### Cetaceans

|                        |                  |   |
|------------------------|------------------|---|
| Cetaceans              | LIFE99NAT/P/6432 | Development of conservation measures and regulation for whale watching-dolphin watching.              |
| Dolphins               | LIFE00NAT/R/7194 | National action plan for dolphins conservation and a management plan for one marine reserve.          |
| Cetaceos mediterraneos | LIFE02NAT/E/8610 | Management plans for the 3 target species and for their habitats within the marine Natura 2000 sites. |
| Linda                  | LIFE03NAT/F/0104 | Dolphin action plan.  |

#### Fishes

|                   |                   |   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| Saramugo          | LIFE97NAT/P/4075  | Management plan for the saramugo, covering the two project sites.   |
| Apron             | LIFE98NAT/F/5208  | Guidelines for the management of the asper ( <i>Zingel asper</i> ).   |
| Lebensraum Huchen | LIFE99NAT/A/6054  | Management plan for the Danube salmon ( <i>Hucho hucho</i> ) covering 2,800 ha.   |
| Obere Mur         | LIFE03NAT/A/0011  | Forest ecology/fish/amphibian management plan for an area of 878 ha.  |
| Truite            | LIFE03NAT/F/0101  | Management guidelines Macrostigma trout.  |
| Margarita Aragon  | LIFE04NAT/E/033   | Recovery plan for the fish <i>Salaria fluviatilis</i> .   |
| Fartet Murcia     | LIFE04NAT/E/035   | Recovery plan for <i>Aphanius iberus</i> in the Murcia region. Management Plans for the 2 Natura 2000 sites designated for the species. |
| Apron II          | LIFE04NAT/FR/0083 | Technical guide for the reintroduction of the Zingel asper and for ecological corridors for the species.                                |

#### Bats

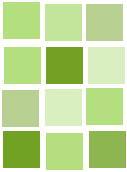
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|-------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Bats                    | LIFE95NAT/D/842   | Management plans for 143 bat wintering sites in 4 Member States.   |
| Bats Brussels           | LIFE98NAT/B/7156  | General guidelines on the management of forest, parks and lanes in urban area for the protection of bats.  |
| Quirópteros Valencia    | LIFE00NAT/E/7337  | Recovery Plan for <i>Rhinolophus mehelyi</i> and conservation plan for <i>Myotis capaccini</i> .           |
| Bats                    | LIFE00NAT/R/7187  | 8 management plans for caves targeted by the project.  |
| Quirópteros Extremadura | LIFE04NAT/E/043   | Recovery plans for <i>Rhinolophus mehelyi</i> , <i>Rhinolophus euryale</i> and <i>Myotis bechsteinii</i> . |
| Bats                    | LIFE04NAT/FR/0080 | Management measures to improve foraging habitats.  |

#### Various

|                          |                        |   |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Habitat                  | LIFE92NAT/IT/1973/03-3 | Action plans for various species.   |
| Caretta caretta          | LIFE96NAT/P/3019       | Management guidelines for pelagic stage sea turtles.  |
| Tortugas Delfines        | LIFE97NAT/E/4151       | Management plans for 3 Natura 2000 sites for <i>Caretta caretta</i> and <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> .             |
| Especies prioritaria-CBD | LIFE99NAT/E/6336       | Management plans for ten sites on private land, including measures to improve the feeding and breeding grounds. |
| Vipera ursinii           | LIFE99NAT/R/6404       | A management plan for the species in the Danube delta.  |
| Mouflon                  | LIFE03NAT/F/ 099       | Species action plan.  |
| Emys Ter                 | LIFE04NAT/E/059        | Management plan for amphibian species in the project's site.  |

## Bird species

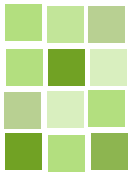
|                                  | PROJECT NUMBER      | TYPOLGY OF PLAN   |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| <b>Black Vulture</b>             |                     |   |
| BUITRE NEGRO-HOLANDA             | LLIFE97NAT/E/4210   | Recovery plan for the species in Andalucía, management plan for a Natura 2000 site.   |
| BUITRE NEGRO MADRID              | LIFE98NAT/E/5351    | Management plan for the species.  |
| QUEBRANTA ARAGON                 | LIFE98NAT/E/5296    | Revision of the recovery plan for the Bearded Vulture in Aragón.  |
| Buitre Mallorca                  | LIFE00NAT/E/7340    | 3 management plans for private estates of Majorca and a conservation plan for the Black Vulture in Majorca.                         |
| Dadia                            | LIFE02NAT/GR/8497   | Management plan for Black Vulture.  |
| <b>Sea birds</b>                 |                     |   |
| Iles de Marseilles               | LIFE03NAT/F/0102    | Guidelines for the management of sea birds.   |
| Iles d'Hières                    | LIFE03NAT/F/0105    | Guidelines for the management of sea birds.   |
| <b>Eagles</b>                    |                     |   |
| Aguila Imperial Andalucía        | LIFE92NAT/E/14300   | Recovery plan for the species.  |
| Aguila Imperial Cast. Mancha     | LIFE92NAT/E/14301   | Recovery plan for the species.  |
| Aguila Imperial Cast. Leon       | LIFE92NAT/E/14302   | Recovery plan for the species.  |
| Aguila Imperial Extremadura      | LIFE92NAT/E/14303   | Recovery plan for the species.  |
| Aguila Imperial Madrid           | LIFE92NAT/E/14304   | Action plan for the species.  |
| Perdicera Guara                  | LIFE97NAT/E/4180    | Conservation plan for Bonelli's eagle in Sierra y Cañones de Guara Natural Park.  |
| Alto Tajo                        | LIFE98NAT/E/5308    | Management plan for the Bonelli's eagle in the SPA Alto Tajo.   |
| Golden Eagle                     | LIFE00NAT/IRL/7145  | National species conservation strategy.   |
| Aguila perdicera – Burgos        | LIFE02NAT/E/8598    | Conservation plan for Bonelli's eagle.  |
| Aguila perdicera – Murcia        | LIFE02NAT/E/8602    | Management plan for a Natura 2000 site.   |
| Aguila heliaca HU                | LIFE02NAT/H/8627    | Habitat management guidelines.  |
| Aguila heliaca                   | LIFE03NAT/SK/0098   | Status survey and management guidelines.  |
| Eagles & black stork / Eaglelife | LIFE04NAT/EE/0072   | Preparation and revision of national management plans for <i>Aquila pomarin</i> , a <i>Aquila clanga</i> and <i>Ciconia nigra</i> . |
| <b>Bittern</b>                   |                     |   |
| Doberschützer Wasser             | LIFE94NAT/D/732     | Management plan for the bittern on 2.400 ha of a Natura 2000 site following an inventory and study.                                 |
| Humedales Mediterraneos          | LIFE96NAT/E/3118    | Recovery plan for 4 species (bittern, Audouin's gull, fartet and samaruc).  |
| Botaurus Bayern                  | LIFE97NAT/D/0239    | Management plan for 2 sites (fishponds with bittern).   |
| Schorfheide-Chorin               | LIFE99NAT/D/5943    | Management plan for bittern on 10 sites, to be included in municipal and regional land use plans.                                   |
| Butor étoilé                     | LIFE00NAT/F/7269    | Guidelines for the management of the species.   |
| Bittern                          | LIFE02NAT/UK/8527   | Revised site management plans.  |
| <b>Gypaetus</b>                  |                     |   |
| Gypaète Alpes                    | LIFE98NAT/F/5194    | Action plan.  |
| Gypaète Corse                    | LIFE98NAT/F/5197    | Action plan.  |
| Gypaetus Crete II                | LIFE02NAT/GR/8492   | 2 management plans for extensive livestock grazing.   |
| Gypaete international            | LIFE03NAT/F/0100    | International action plan.  |
| <b>Various</b>                   |                     |   |
| Globally threatened birds        | LIFE93NAT/UK/11700  | 20 action plans.  |
| Fiener Bruch                     | LIFE94NAT/D/734     | Management plan for the great bustard covering 2.400 hectares.  |
| White-backed Woodpecker          | LIFE95NAT/S/0517    | Management plans for 10 project sites.  |
| Outardes                         | LIFE96NAT/F/3207    | Action plan for the little bustard.   |
| Pico Picapinos.                  | LIFE96NAT/E/3090    | Management plan and guidelines for habitat management for the great spotted woodpecker in Tenerife.                                 |
| Esteparias Extremadura           | LIFE96 NAT/E/003102 | Actions plans for the little bustard, great Bustard and lesser kestrel in Extremadura.  |
| Puffinus Puffinus                | LIFE97NAT/E/4147    | Species recovery and management plans for the Natura 2000 site "Salinas de Ibiza-Formentera".                                       |
| Faucon crécerellette             | LIFE97NAT/F/4119    | Action plan for the lesser kestrel in Mediterranean France.   |



|                           |                    |   |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Vautour moine             | LIFE97NAT/F/4120   | Species action plan.  |
| Gorges de la Jonte        |                    |   |
| Oiseaux d'eau             | LIFE97NAT/F/4229   | 4 management plans.   |
| Rauhfußhühner             | LIFE98NAT/D/0439   | Forest management plan (including recreation) for the protection of grouse.   |
| Amvrakikos                | LIFE99NAT/GR/6475  | Inventory of lagoons and other aquatic habitats and management plan for the Cormorant ( <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> ).   |
| F. cornuda C. Valenciana  | LIFE99NAT/E/6393   | Long and medium-term recovery plan for <i>Fulica cristata</i> .   |
| AVUTARDA                  | LIFE99NAT/E/6350   | Management guidelines for great bustard.  |
| EN VILLAFÁFILA- II        |                    |   |
| Haine                     | LIFE00NAT/B/7148   | Management plans for 3 sites and development of monitoring strategy to for bird populations in reedbeds.  |
| Malvasia Valencia         | LIFE00NAT/E/7311   | Conservation plan for the white-headed duck.  |
| La Serena-Sierra De Tiros | LIFE00NAT/E/7327   | Development of a management model of management for protection of birds in La Serena.   |
| Aapa avifauna             | LIFE00NAT/FIN/7060 | Management plans for bird species in 5 sites covering 48.200 hectares.  |
| LV 2 IBAS                 | LIFE00NAT/LV/7124  | Preparation of management plan and regulations for 2 sites (covering 16.000 hectares) for protection of the lesser spotted eagle, black stork and several woodpecker species. The plans include zoning, proposed agro-environmental management plans and eco-tourism. |
| Larus Audouii Valencia    | LIFE02NAT/E/8608   | Management plan for Audouin's gull.   |
| Percnoptère               | LIFE03NAT/F/0103   | Action plan for Egyptian vulture  |
| Crex                      | LIFE03NAT/SI/0077  | Management plan for corncrake.  |
| Hubara canarias           | LIFE03NAT/E/046    | Recovery plan for <i>Chlamydotis undulata</i> .   |
| Pirkanmaa birds           | LIFE04NAT/FIN/0076 | Management plans for 4 Natura 2000 sites.   |
| Alimoche                  | LIFE04NAT/E/067    | Recovery plan for <i>Neophron percnopterus</i> .  |
| Tilos                     | LIFE04NAT/GR/0101  | Management plan for three priority bird species.  |
| Otis tarda HU             | LIFE04NAT/HU/109   | 9 management plans for areas with great bustard.  |
| Branta ruficolis          | LIFE04NAT/R/0220   | National action plan for long-term conservation of <i>Branta ruficola</i> in over wintering areas.  |

## Flora

|                      | PROJECT NUMBER    | TPOLOGY OF PLAN   |
|----------------------|-------------------|---|
| <b>Flora</b>         |                   |   |
| Microrreservas flora | LIFE93NAT/E/11100 | Management plans for all sites and recovery plans for all plant species.  |
| Habitats and Flora   | LIFE94NAT/P/1043  | Management plan for part of the project site.   |
| Flora Andalusia      | LIFE94NAT/E/1203  | Recovery plans for 4 flora species.   |
| Flora Aragon         | LIFE96NAT/E/3096  | Management plans for 10 flora species.  |
| Flora Sierra Nevada  | LIFE98NAT/E/5358  | Management plans for 6 sites.   |
| Asphodelus           | LIFE98NAT/P/5229  | Management guidelines for the target species.   |
| Quercus robur        | LIFE99NAT/R/6391  | A management plan for the site.   |
| Eolie                | LIFE99NAT/IT/6217 | Management plans for 4 plant species.   |
| Abetine 2            | LIFE99NAT/IT/6260 | <i>Abies alba</i> action plan.  |
| Myosotis Bregenz     | LIFE00NAT/A/7069  | Management plans for specific aspects on the project site (29 ha), to be included in the general management plan. |
| Angelica palustris   | LIFE02NAT/HU/8630 | Management plans 11 project sites.  |
| Flora                | LIFE02NAT/P/8480  | Management plan for one project site.   |
| Macalife             | LIFE04NAT/IT/0182 | Management plan of the site "Macalube di Aragona".  |
| Cretaplant           | LIFE04NAT/GR/0104 | Management plan for each micro-reserve.   |
| Pinus nigra          | LIFE04NAT/R/0225  | Management plan for the site.   |



## Generics

|                      | PROJECT NUMBER       | TYPOLGY OF PLAN  |
|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| Unteres Odertal      | LIFE92NAT/D/14530    | Management plan for the Natura 2000 site and buffer zone (total 17.000 ha).  |
| Murcia-Criptomedales | LIFE93NAT/E/11200    | Preparation of natural resources development plan for the sites "Ajauque-Rambla Salada" and "Saladares del Guadalentín".                                 |
| Nossentiner Heide    | LIFE95NAT/D/841      | Management plan for 6 sites.   |
| Elbe Niedersachsen   | LIFE95NAT/D/843      | Management plan for the project area (2.200 ha).   |
| Nuukio               | LIFE95NAT/FIN/0097   | Land use plan for the Nuukio National Park and other sites. Covers outdoor recreation, zoning, location of visitor services and environmental education. |
| Pennine Moors        | LIFE95 NAT/UK/000824 | Development of integrated strategy and action plan for the south Pennine moors.  |
| Oberes Waldviertel   | LIFE96NAT/A/3226     | Management plans for several sites covering 1.000 hectares.  |
| Isar                 | LIFE96NAT/D/0487     | Restoration plan and management plan for recurring measures.   |
| Rieselfelder Münster | LIFE97NAT/D/0238     | Preparation of general management plan, detailed management plans for particular zones and recreation guide.   |
| Sado/Setúbal         | LIFE98NAT/P/5235     | Management plans for the 5 project sites.  |
| Alzette              | LIFE99NAT/LUX/6284   | Management plan for the entire area to be prepared.  |
| Cabeção              | LIFE99NAT/P/6441     | Management plan prepared for the project site.   |
| Lesse et Lomme       | LIFE00NAT/B/7168     | Management plans of newly acquired land in the project area and revision of management plans for already existing protected areas.                       |
| Termoncarragh        | LIFE00NAT/IRL/7128   | Management plan for small site.  |
| Freira               | LIFE00NAT/P/7097     | Management plan of project site.   |
| Öland                | LIFE00NAT/S/7117     | 24 plans to be prepared or revised.  |
| Trockenrasen Saar    | LIFE02NAT/D/7058     | Management plans for 5 project sites covering 290 ha.  |
| Salisbury Plain      | LIFE02NAT/UK/7071    | Preparation of comprehensive land management plans in conjunction with the army administration.  |
| Haute Meuse          | LIFE02NAT/B/8593     | Management plans of newly acquired land in the project area and revision of management plans for already existing protected areas.                       |
| Damvallei            | LIFE03NAT/B/0020     | Development of a management plan for a 275 hectare site.   |
| CBD 2003             | LIFE03NAT/E/050      | Preparation of 17 management plans and best practice manual for management of Mediterranean estates.   |
| Priolo               | LIFE03NAT/P/0013     | Preparation of legally binding management plan for the project site.   |
| GAPS                 | LIFE03NAT/P/0018     | Preparation of legally binding management plan for the project site.   |
| Jämt/Härjedalen      | LIFE03NAT/S/0070     | Management plans prepared or revised for 19 of the 31 project sites.   |
| Rheinaue             | LIFE04NAT/D/0025     | Management plan for 3 sites.   |
| Marais Poitevin      | LIFE04NAT/FR/0087    | 19 local management plans.   |
| NORTENATUR           | LIFE04NAT/P/0214     | Legally binding management plan to be prepared for 2 project sites.  |
| <b>SPAs</b>          |                      |  |
| Perdicera Navarra    | LIFE96NAT/E/3114     | Revision of management plans for two SPAs and revision of 3 hunting management p.  |
| SPAs                 | LIFE96NAT/IRL/3240   | Management plans for Special Protected Areas and aquaculture zoning plans.   |
| Wild Ness            | LIFE97NAT/UK/004245  | Revised site management plan for a Natura 2000 site.   |
| Zepas en Extremadura | LIFE97NAT/E/004161   | 4 management plans for SPAs and 2 Species Management Plans.  |
| 7 Greek SPAs         | LIFE97NAT/GR/4243    | 7 management plans.  |
| ZEPAS VALENCIA       | LIFE98NAT/E/5300     | Preparation of natural resource management plans for the SPAs "Benidorm" and "Columbretes".  |
| REFUGIO DE MONTEJO   | LIFE98NAT/E/5361     | Management plan for the SPA "Montejo de la Vega "Special Protected Area".  |
| Nieuwkoopse Plassen  | LIFE98NAT/NL/5159    | Development of a strategic plan for the area surrounding the site.   |
| Zepa La Serena       | LIFE00NAT/E/7348     | Management plan.   |
| Albuera              | LIFE03NAT/E/052      | Management plan and hunting management plan for the SPA "Albuera".   |
| Gaviota Murcia       | LIFE03NAT/E/061      | Preparation and adoption of the SPA management plan.   |
| Weidmoos             | LIFE03NAT/A/0010     | Management plan for the SPA (120 ha).  |
| <b>SCIs</b>          |                      |  |
| Guadiana             | LIFE94NAT/P/1043     | Management guidelines for all Natura 2000 sites.   |
| Natural Heritage     | LIFE94NAT/P/1973     | Management guidelines for all Natura 2000 sites.   |
| Management plans     | LIFE95NAT/IRL/0822   | 157 management plans produced.   |

|                             |                      |   |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Hainich                     | LIFE95NAT/D/840      | Management plan in preparation of designation of site as Natura 2000 area (15.000 ha).  |
| Chênaie verte               | LIFE96NAT/F/3200     | 2 Management plans.   |
| ENEA                        | LIFE97NAT/IT/4159    | Preparation of three management plans.  |
| Grossjöberget, Bollnäs      | LIFE97NAT/S/4200     | Management plan.  |
| Nationalpark Thayatal       | LIFE98NAT/A/5417     | Management plan for the 1.330 hectare Natura 2000 site.   |
| Wildflußgebiet Lafnitztal   | LIFE98NAT/A/5420     | Management plan for selected sites and recommendations for the entire Natura 2000 site.   |
| Pellegrino                  | LIFE98 NAT/IT/005133 | Management plan and action plan for the sites “Gessi bolognesi” and “Monte Sole”.   |
| Natura 2000                 | LIFE99NAT/IT6279     | Preparation of pilot management plans for 8 Italian Natura 2000 sites within the Alpine, Mediterranean and Continental biogeographical areas.             |
| Stora Karlsö                | LIFE00NAT/S/7118     | Revision of existing management plan.   |
| Häädemeste                  | LIFE00NAT/EE/7082    | Ten year management plan.   |
| Bande rhénane               | LIFE00NAT/F/7277     | 3 management plans.   |
| Iron Gates                  | LIFE00NAT/R/7171     | Management plan for the site.   |
| Tryggelev Nor/Image         | LIFE02NAT/DK/8588    | Revision of the management plan.  |
| North Savo                  | LIFE02NAT/FIN/8470   | Management plan for 2 sites.  |
| Macin Mountains             | LIFE03NAT/R/0026     | Management plan.  |
| Piara Craiului II           | LIFE03NAT/R/0032     | Preparation of management plans for five selected sites in a national park.   |
| Comanacy                    | LIFE04 NAT/CY/000013 | 4 management plans.   |
| Biarmicus                   | LIFE04/NAT/IT/173    | Revision of the management plan for the site “Monte Labbro”.  |
| Ullals Albufera             | LIFE04NAT/E/048      | Management plan for the restored area within the site “Albufera de Valencia”.   |
| KopuNatura                  | LIFE04NAT/EE/0073    | Management plan.  |
| Slovensky Rai National Park | LIFE04NAT/SK/244     | Management plan to be developed for the entire site (approx. 15.000 hectares).  |
| De Liereman                 | LIFE04NAT/B/0010     | Management plan for the site, covering in particular of tourism and other recreational use.   |
| Natslompis                  | LIFE04NAT/SLO/240    | Guidelines for the preparation of management plans in Slovenia and their inclusion in existing national legislation; preparation of six management plans. |



**Name** LIFE (“L’Instrument Financier pour l’Environnement” / The financial instrument for the environment)

**Type of intervention** co-financing of actions in favour of the environment in the twenty-five Member States of the European Union, in the candidate countries who are associated to LIFE and in certain third countries bordering the Mediterranean and the Baltic Sea.

LIFE is made up of three branches: “**LIFE-Nature**”, “**LIFE-Environment**” and “**LIFE-Third countries**”.

### Objectives

- > with a view to sustainable development in the European Union, contribute to the drawing up, implementation and updating of Community policy and legislation in the area of the environment;
- > explore new solutions to environmental problems on a Community scale.

**Beneficiaries** any natural or legal person, provided that the projects financed meet the following general criteria:

- > they are of Community interest and make a significant contribution to the general objectives;
- > they are carried out by technically and financially sound participants;
- > they are feasible in terms of technical proposals, timetable, budget and value for money.

### Types of project

- > Eligible for LIFE-Environment are innovative pilot and demonstration projects which bring environment-related and sustainable development considerations together in land management, which promote sustainable water and waste management or which minimise the environmental impact of economic activities, products and services. LIFE-Environment also finances preparatory projects aiming at the development or updating of Community environmental actions, instruments, legislation or policies.
- > Eligible for LIFE-Nature are nature conservation projects which contribute to maintaining or restoring natural habitats and/or populations of species in a favourable state of conservation within the meaning of the “Birds” (79/409/EEC) and “Habitats” (92/43/EEC) Community Directives and which contribute to the establishment of the European network of protected areas – NATURA 2000. LIFE-Nature also finances “co-op” projects aiming to develop the exchange of experiences between projects.
- > Eligible for LIFE-Third countries are projects which contribute to the establishment of capacities and administrative structures needed in the environmental sector and in the development of environmental policy and action programmes in some countries bordering the Mediterranean and the Baltic Sea.

**Implementation** National authorities in the Member States or third countries send the Commission the proposals of projects to be co-financed (for LIFE-Environment preparatory projects, the applicants send their proposals directly to the Commission). The Commission sets the date for sending the proposals annually. It monitors the projects financed and supports the dissemination of their results. Accompanying measures enable the projects to be monitored on the ground.

**Period covered (LIFE III)** 2000 to 2006.

**Funds** approximately 638 million for 2000-2004 and 317 million for 2005-2006.

### Contact

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