

EUROPEAN UNION



COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

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ENVE-VI/005

AMENDMENTS

DRAFT OPINION

of the

European Committee of the Regions

on the

Contribution to the fitness check on the EU Birds and Habitats Directives

Rapporteur: **Roby Biwer (PES/LU)**

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ORDRE D'EXAMEN DES AMENDEMENTS
ORDER OF EXAMINATION OF AMENDMENTS

Auteur Author	Paragraphe n° Point No	Conséquence sur les autres amendements Impact on other amendments	Position du rapporteur Position of the rapporteur	Résultat Outcome
Am. 1 PES	16 Modifier Amend			
Am. 2 PES	17 Modifier Amend			
Am. 3 ECR	25 Ajouter Add			
Am. 4 PES	30 Modifier Amend			
Am. 5 ECR	32 Modifier Amend			
Am. 6 PES	38 Modifier Amend			
Am. 7 PES	43 Modifier Amend			

AMENDMENT 1

PES

Contribution to the fitness check on the EU Birds and Habitats Directives

ENVE-VI/005

Point 16

Amend text as follows:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
is convinced that <i>any conflicts</i> between <i>land users and the population</i> related to <i>some</i> species <i>currently under debate</i> can be solved through clear instructions in management plans that lay down a series of interventions and are given appropriate support, in terms of finances and staff, to avoid <i>any potential conflicts</i> and compensate for those that are unavoidable	is convinced that <i>debates</i> between <i>different types of stakeholders</i> related to <i>a few</i> species <i>having the potential to cause damage</i> , can be solved through clear instructions in management plans that lay down a series of interventions and are given appropriate support, in terms of finances and staff, <i>to guarantee public health and public safety and</i> to avoid <i>serious damage</i> and compensate for those that are unavoidable;

Reason
It is not just conflicts between land users and the population, but more generally sometimes conflicts between different groups of land users and NGOs representing different interests.

Am. 1

AMENDMENT 2

PES

Contribution to the fitness check on the EU Birds and Habitats Directives

ENVE-VI/005

Point 17

Amend text as follows:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
<p>calls on the European Commission and the Member States to support local and regional authorities in the full implementation of the Nature Directives; notes that this is particularly important with respect to the designation and the legal protection of Natura 2000 sites and the formulation of specific conservation objectives with respect to protecting species and habitats through conservation and restoration measures and with respect to the necessary financial support^[1];</p> <hr/> <p>^[1] See CDR 112/2010 final and CDR 8074/2013.</p>	<p>calls on the European Commission and the Member States to support local and regional authorities in the full implementation of the Nature Directives; notes that this is particularly important with respect to the designation and the legal protection of Natura 2000 sites and the formulation of specific conservation objectives with respect to protecting species and habitats through conservation and restoration measures and with respect to the necessary financial support, <i>not least to address the lack of funding and the need to simplify access to the existing sources of funding</i>^[1];</p> <hr/> <p>^[1] See CDR 112/2010 final and CDR 8074/2013.</p>

Reason
<p>Need to underline the practical need for sufficient and easily accessible funding for local and regional authorities.</p>

Am. 2

AMENDMENT 3

ECR

Contribution to the fitness check on the EU Birds and Habitats Directives

ENVE-VI/005

Point 25

New point:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
	<i>notes the opportunities of nature conservation in terms of generating jobs and income in the tourism and recreation sector. Highlights the special importance of creating new business opportunities in disadvantaged rural areas;</i>

Reason
As highlighted by Milieu et al. (2015) in the "Evaluation Study to support the Fitness Check of the Birds and Habitats Directives – Emerging Findings", commissioned by the European Commission.

Am. 3

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AMENDMENT 4

PES

Contribution to the fitness check on the EU Birds and Habitats Directives

ENVE-VI/005

Point 30

Amend text as follows:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
takes the view that it could be useful, both for reasons of environmental protection and to avoid unnecessary costs, to <i>coordinate</i> the planning processes laid down in the Nature Directives, the Water Framework Directive[1] and, as appropriate, the EIA and SEA Directives[2]; <hr/> ^[1] Directive 2000/60/EC, OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1. ^[2] Directive 2001/42/EC, OJ L 197, 21.7.2001, p. 30.	takes the view that it could be useful, both for reasons of environmental protection and to avoid unnecessary costs, to <i>improve</i> the <i>coordination of</i> planning processes laid down in the Nature Directives, the Water Framework Directive[1] and, as appropriate, the EIA and SEA Directives[2]; <hr/> ^[1] Directive 2000/60/EC, OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1. ^[2] Directive 2001/42/EC, OJ L 197, 21.7.2001, p. 30.

Reason
It has become clear during the debates about the directives that especially for the management plans under the Water Framework Directive and the planning instruments of the Birds and Habitats Directives, coordination still needs to be improved at Member State level.

Am. 4

AMENDMENT 5

ECR

Contribution to the fitness check on the EU Birds and Habitats Directives

ENVE-VI/005

Point 32

Amend text as follows:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
<p>finds it problematic, irrespective of the good integration of the Nature Directives into EU environmental law, and with a view to achieving the objectives of the Nature Directives, that other sectoral policies of the European Union, such as the common agricultural policy, the common fisheries policy or energy and transport policies, still do not contribute sufficiently to the preservation of biodiversity^[1];</p> <hr/> <p>^[1] See CoR 112/2010 final; CoR 22/2009 final; as well as CoR TIA Report 2015 (conflicts with regional policy).</p>	<p>finds it problematic, irrespective of the good integration of the Nature Directives into EU environmental law, and with a view to achieving the objectives of the Nature Directives, that other sectoral policies of the European Union, such as the common agricultural policy, the common fisheries policy or energy and transport policies, still do not contribute sufficiently to the preservation of biodiversity^[1]. <i>Believes at the same time that ensuring high levels of environmental protection should be proportionate, i.e. respect socioeconomic development, cultural context, and development of key infrastructure;</i></p> <hr/> <p>^[1] See CoR 112/2010 final; CoR 22/2009 final; as well as CoR TIA Report 2015 (conflicts with regional policy).</p>

Reason
Natura 2000 recognises the importance of a broader socioeconomic approach and working together with a range of stakeholders to ensure best results.

Am. 5

AMENDMENT 6

PES

Contribution to the fitness check on the EU Birds and Habitats Directives

ENVE-VI/005

Point 38

Amend text as follows:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
recalls that the Nature Directives constitute the key instrument enabling the European Union to respect its international commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other international agreements, such as the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and the Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS);	recalls that the Nature Directives constitute the key instrument enabling the European Union to respect its international commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other international agreements, such as the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and the Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) <i>and thereby also to influence biodiversity and wildlife inside and outside the European Union in a positive way;</i>

Reason
Fulfilling international commitments is not just an end in itself, but has positive effects both within the EU and outside.

Am. 6

AMENDMENT 7

PES

Contribution to the fitness check on the EU Birds and Habitats Directives

ENVE-VI/005

Point 43

Amend text as follows:

<i>Draft opinion</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
believes, further, that it would be better not to revise the Nature Directives, not least because local and regional authorities need more time to implement measures that are possible and recommended under the directives but have not yet been put in place, in order to realise the potential of the directives to the greatest possible extent;	believes, further, that it would be better not to revise the Nature Directives, not least because local and regional authorities need more time to implement measures that are possible and foreseen under the directives but have not yet been put in place, such as management plans still missing so far , in order to realise the potential of the directives to the greatest possible extent;

Reason
In many cases, some crucial elements of the required implementation instruments have not yet been put into place, so it would seem premature to judge on the functioning of the legislation on this basis.

Am. 7

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