Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora

and

Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds

DRAFT FORMAT FOR A PRIORITISED ACTION FRAMEWORK (PAF) FOR NATURA 2000

Draft version 1

Finland

(Päiväys 24.06.2013)

A. Introductory overview of Natura 2000 network for territory

A.1 Short introduction to the habitat types of Annex I and species of Annex II of the Habitats Directive and Annex I and migratory bird species for which Natura 2000 sites are designated

Finland hosts 69 habitat types of Annex I and 82 species of Annex II under the Habitats Directive. Among those habitats and species, Finland has 22 priority habitat type and 6 priority species under the terms of the Habitats Directive. (See Annex I and II for more detailed information). Finland has exception for 10 species in Annex II.

There are 62 bird species of Annex 1 of the Birds Directive.
(See Annex III for more detailed information).

A.2 Number and area of Natura 2000 sites

Member States should provide an explanation of the data in the table bellow.

The Finnish Natura 2000 -network covers 5 million hectares. Land areas cover 75 % and water areas 25 % of the total network. All together there are 1857, out of which 87 are located in the Åland Islands. The most northern part of Lapland includes to the alpine biogeographical region and the rest of Finland to the boreal biogeographical region.

There are 1713 SCI -sites, established by the Habitats Directive. They cover 4,8 million hectares, about 12,3 % of the Finland's total land area. There are 468 SPA -sites, established by the Birds Directive. They cover 3,1 million hectares, about 8 % of the Finland's total land area. SCI- and SPA-sites partly overlap.

Total number of Finnish Natura 2000-sites by FI-code is 1857. The number of separate geographical Natura 2000-sites are 1826, which cover 4,9 million hectares (SPA-sites inside SCI-sites or vice versa, intersection of two overlapping sites are not included).

78 % of Natura 2000 -sites is state owned and 22 % is private owned.

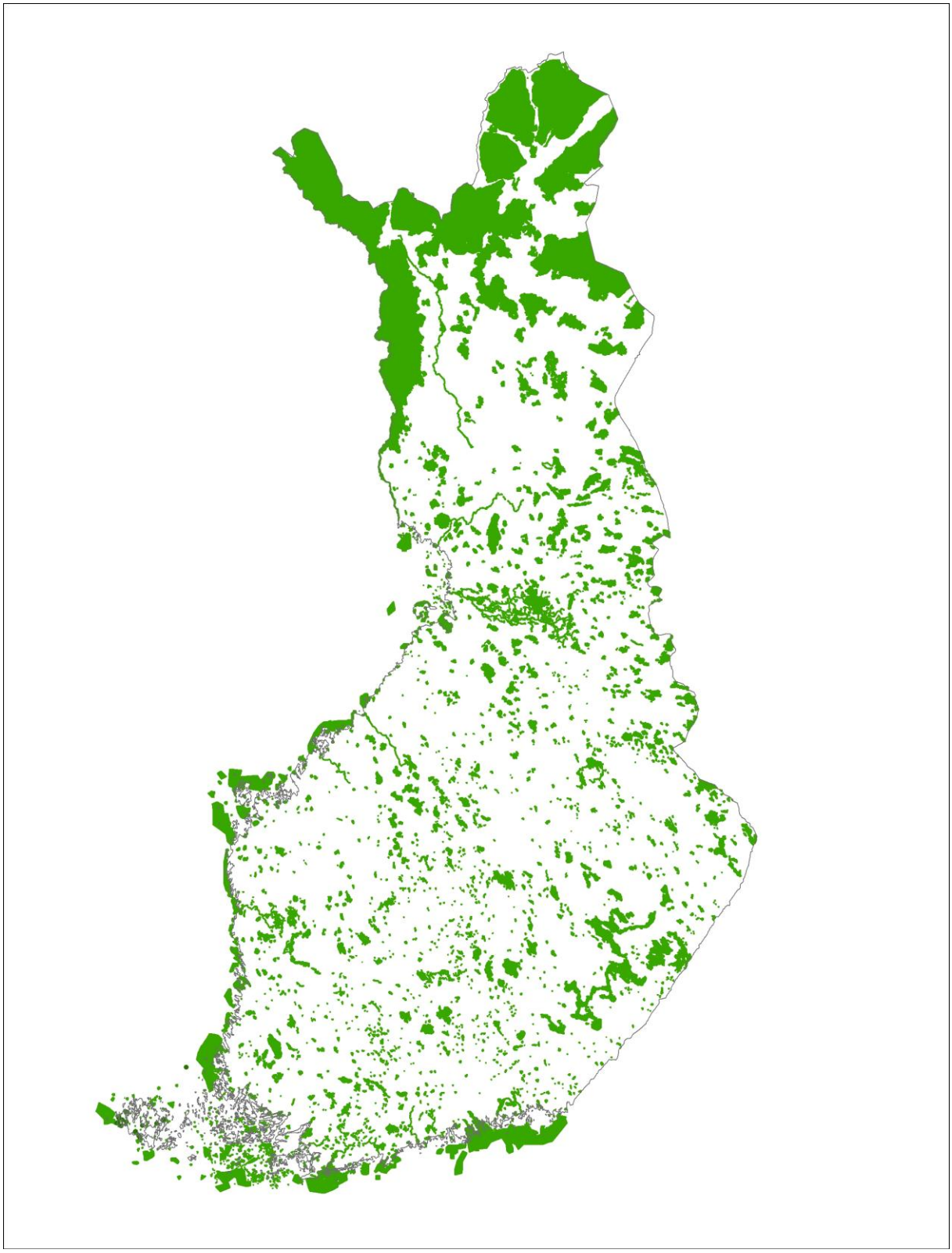
Sites of Community Importance (SCIs)	Total SCI sites: 1.713 Total SCI Area (km²): 48.542 Terrestrial SCI Area (km²): 43.092 % of National Area: 12,7% Marine SCI area (km²): 5.460 *(from Natura 2000 barometer)*
Reference to Commission Decisions on SCIs	Alpine Region Commission Decision: 2011/62/EU of 10 January 2011 adopting, pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC, a fourth updated list of sites of Community importance for the **Alpine biogeographical region** (notified under

	document number C(2010) 9663) 2010/42/EU of 22 December 2009 adopting, pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC, a third updated list of sites of Community importance for the **Alpine biogeographical region** (notified under document number C(2009) 10415) 2009/91/EC of 12 December 2008 adopting, pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC, a second updated list of sites of Community importance for the **Alpine biogeographical region** (notified under document number C(2008) 7973 2008/218/EC of 25 January 2008 adopting, pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC, a first updated list of sites of Community importance for the **Alpine biogeographical region** (notified under document number C(2008) 271) 2004/69/EC: Commission Decision of 22 December 2003 adopting, pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC, the list of sites of Community importance for the **Alpine biogeographical region** (notified under document number C(2003) 4957) Boreal: 2011/84/EU of 10 January 2011 adopting, pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC, a fourth updated list of sites of Community importance for the **Boreal biogeographical region** (notified under document number C(2010) 9667) 2010/46/EU of 22 December 2009 adopting, pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC, a third updated list of sites of Community importance for the **Boreal biogeographical region** (notified under document number C(2009) 10424) 2009/94/EC of 12 December 2008 adopting, pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC, a second updated list of sites of Community importance for the **Boreal biogeographical region** (notified under document number C(2008) 2008/24/EC of 12 November 2007 adopting, pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC, a first updated list of sites of Community importance for the **Boreal biogeographical region** (notified under document number C(2007) 5402) 2005/101/EC of 13 January 2005 adopting, pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC, the list of sites of Community importance for the **Boreal biogeographical region** (notified under document

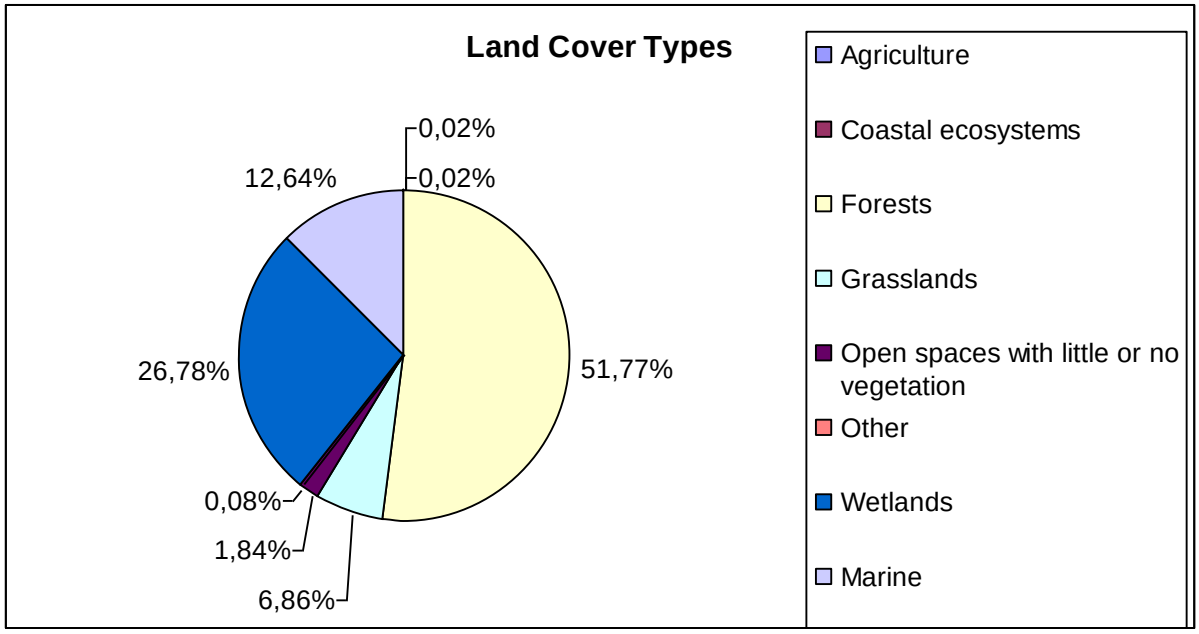
<table>
<tr><td></td><td>number C(2004) 5462)

Link to Decisions at
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/sites_hab/biogeog_regions/index_en.htm</td></tr>
<tr><td>Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)</td><td>According to the Finnish Nature Conservation Act (1096/1996), the Natura 2000 network consists of: 1) sites designated as bird sanctuaries according to the provisions of the Birds Directive; and 2) sites deemed by the Commission or Council to hold Community interest according to the provisions of the Habitats Directive. Finland is in the process of preparing a proposition for the necessary amendments to the legislation and after the amendments have passed by Parliament, the formal SAC designations will be made.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Special Protection Areas (SPAs)</td><td><table><tr><th>Total SPA sites</th><th>Total SPA Area (km²)</th><th>Terrestrial SPA Area (km²)</th><th>% of National Area</th><th>Marine SPA area (km²)</th></tr><tr><td>468</td><td>30.838</td><td>25.271</td><td>7,5%</td><td>5.567</td></tr></table>(from Natura 2000 barometer)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Total Natura 2000</td><td><table><tr><th>Total Natura 2000 sites</th><th>Total Natura 2000 Area (km²)</th><th>Terrestrial Natura 2000 Area (km²)</th><th>% of National Area</th><th>Marine Natura 2000 area (km²)</th></tr><tr><td>1.857*</td><td>50.388</td><td>48.758</td><td>14,4%</td><td>6.914</td></tr></table>(* Number of Finnish Natura 2000 sites by FI-codes)</td></tr>
</table>

One or more overview maps should also be provided. These can be extracted from the Natura 2000 map viewer (http://natura2000.eea.europa.eu/#), which also provides a link to the standard data form for each Natura 2000 site. Other national GIS data systems may be used as well.



A.4 Main land use covers categories for Natura 2000 sites

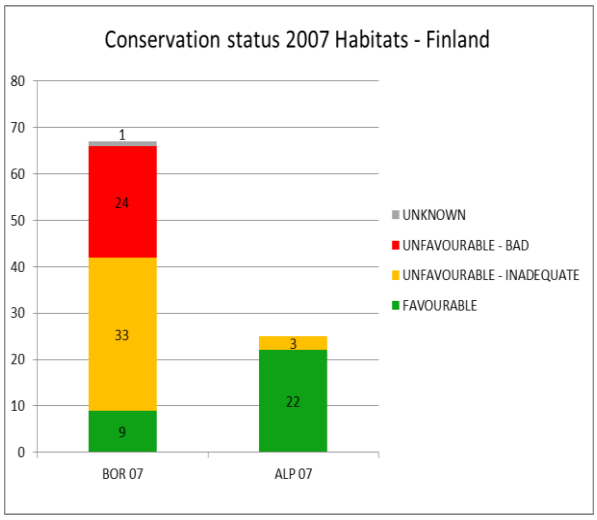


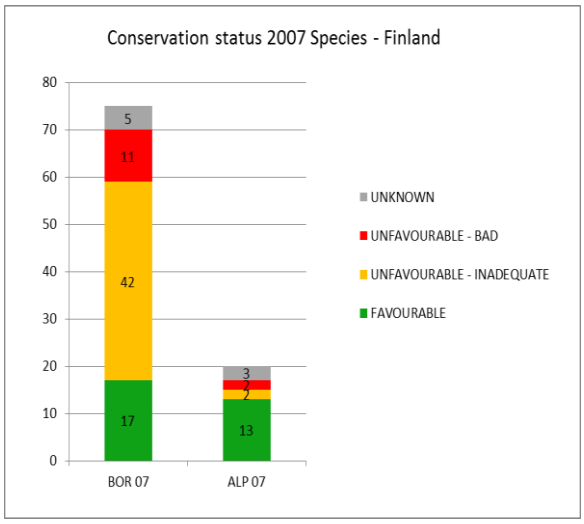
Source of Information: National Natura 2000 data base
Other possible sources of Information: Biodiversity Data Centre of the EEA

B. Status of the Habitats and Species

B.1 Latest assessment of conservation status of species and habitat types for territory

B.1.a Habitat and species of Habitats Directive





	HABITATS		SPECIES (Annex II)	
	BOR 07	ALP 07	BOR 07	ALP 07
FAVOURABLE	9	22	17	13
UNFAVOURABLE - INADEQUATE	33	3	42	2
UNFAVOURABLE - BAD	24	0	11	2
UNKNOWN	1	0	5	3

Source of Information: Reporting under article 17 of the Habitats directive 2001-2006

Only 14% of all Boreal habitat types have been assessed in favourable category, 50% Unfavourable – Inadequate and 36% Unfavourable – Bad. In Alpine region 88% of all habitat types are found in favourable category and 12% in Unfavourable – Bad. In Alpine region the conservation status of habitats is markedly better than in Boreal region.

About 70 % of 75 Annex II species (excl. exceptions) in Boreal region was assessed as Unfavourable. Most of them were in Unfavourable-inadequate category. Only about 22 % were favourable. Situation was better in Alpine region. Conservation status was assessed as favourable for 65 % of the 20 Annex II species.

Conservation status for each parameter (%)

			FAVOURABLE	UNFAVOURABLE - INADEQUATE	UNFAVOURABLE - BAD	UNKNOWN
HABITAT	BOR	RANGE	54	7	4	2
		AREA	26	23	15	3
		STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION	9	35	22	1
		FUTURE	11	43	12	1
	ALP	RANGE	25	0	0	0
		AREA	23	1	0	1
		STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION	22	3	0	0
		FUTURE	22	3	0	0
SPECIES	BOR	RANGE	56	13	2	4
		POPULATION	25	31	9	10
		HABITAT	25	39	6	5
		FUTURE	22	39	6	8
	ALP	RANGE	18	0	0	2
		POPULATION	13	1	2	4
		HABITAT	17	1	0	2
		FUTURE	13	3	1	3

Source of Information: Reporting under article 17 of the Habitats directive 2001-2006

In most cases range of the habitat types has been assessed to be in a favourable conservation status. Those with unfavourable range (except one habitat type) are assessed to be overall in 'unfavourable – bad' status.

Habitat types with favourable area are mostly permanent habitat types such as rocks, inland waters, coastal habitat types and marine habitat types. Many of which are determined by geomorphological traits. Furthermore, many fjell habitat types and great share of Alpine habitat types have a favourable area. Those with unfavourable area are typically semi-natural habitat types and coastal habitats threatened by overgrowth. Notably, area of some per se vast habitat types, such as boreal forests, is considered Unfavourable – inadequate.

Structure and function has been assessed favourable only for minority of all boreal habitat types. Those with favourable structure and function are permanent habitat types linked to geomorphological formations. Structure and function has been assessed unfavourable for all semi-natural habitat types and open habitat types threatened by overgrowth.

In the Alpine region structure and function of habitat types is generally assessed as favourable.

Most of the species in Boreal region assessed in Unfavourable categories have either population or habitat in Unfavourable status. Range is in most cases in favourable category. Population and future prospect have been the most difficult parameters to assess. In the Alpine region most of the parameters have been assessed in Favourable category.

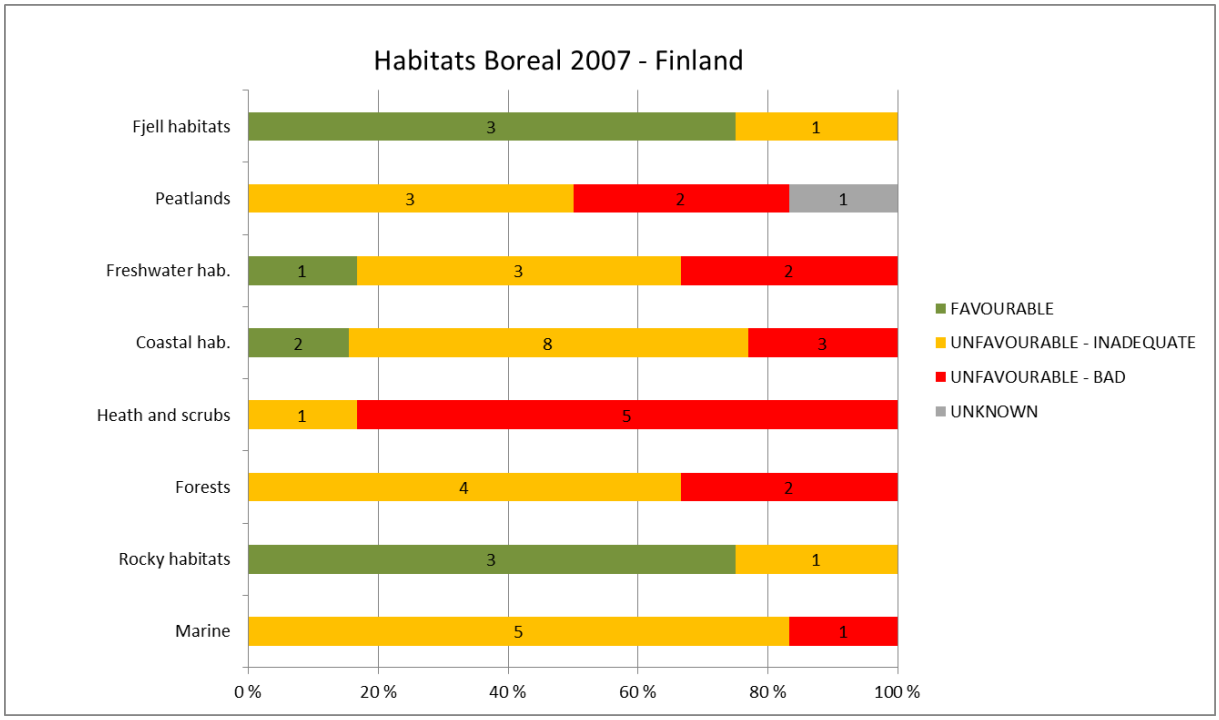
B.1.b Bird species of Birds Directive

Red List Category	RE	CR	EN	VU	NT	LC	NA	NE	DD
% of species	0	4,6	5	14,9	12,4	63,1	3,2	1,6	0

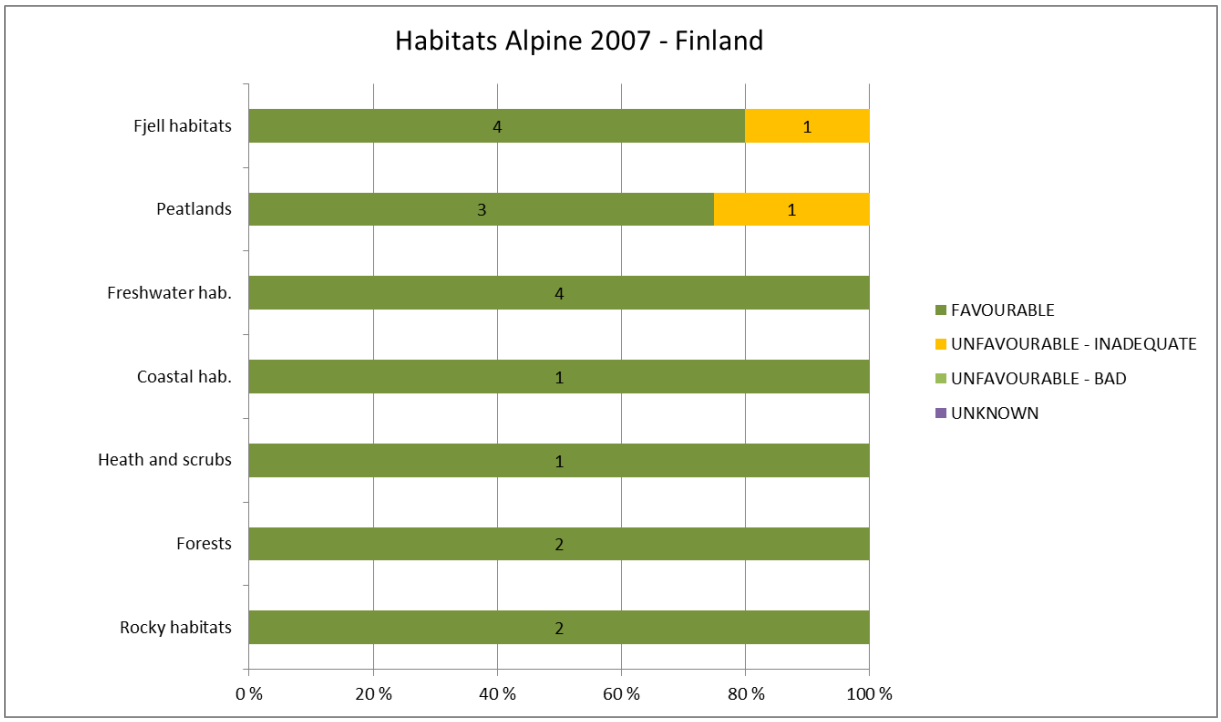
There are 89 red listed (CR, EN, VU, NT) bird species in Finland, including 59 threatened bird species (CR, EN, VU) according to the latest national assessment based on IUCN standards and criteria. The number of assessed bird species was 241.

Data source: Mikkola-Roos, M., Tiainen, J., Below, A., Hario, M., Lehikoinen, A., Lehikoinen, E., Lehtiniemi, T., Rajasärkkä, A., Valkama, J. & Väisänen, R. A. 2010: Linnut. Birds. Aves – Teoksessa: Rassi, P., Hyvärinen, E., Juslén, A. & Mannerkoski, I. (toim.) 2010: Suomen lajien uhanalaisuus – Punainen kirja 2010. – Ympäristöministeriö & Suomen ympäristökeskus. ss. 320-331.

B.2 Overall assessment of conservation status by Habitat category / species group

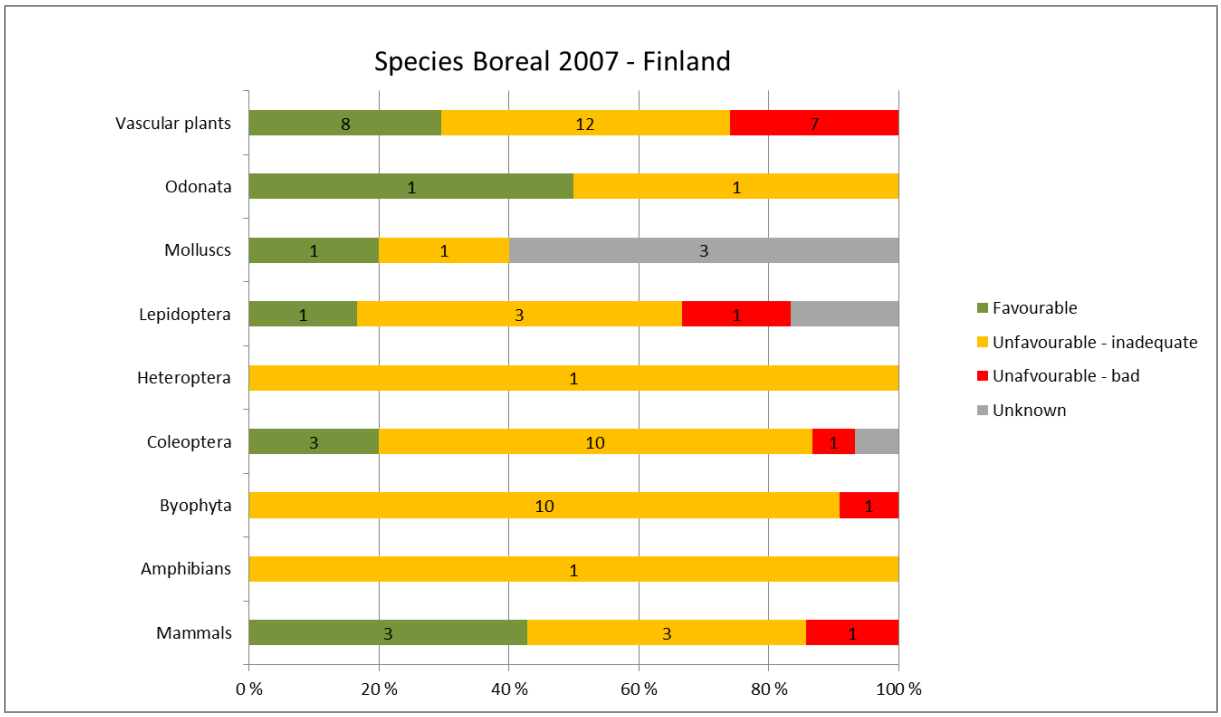


Source of Information: Reporting under article 17 of the Habitats directive 2001-2006

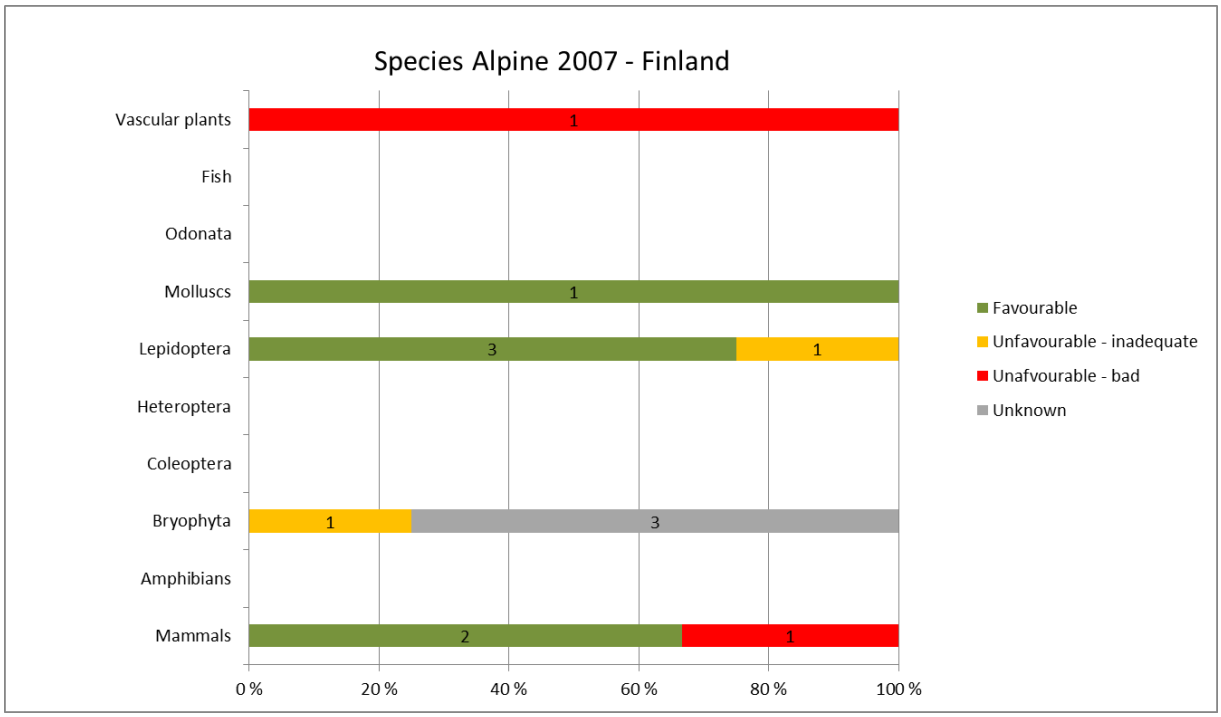


Source of Information: Reporting under article 17 of the Habitats directive 2001-2006

Rocky habitats are assessed to be mostly in favourable conservation status while the majority of grassland habitat types are found in the unfavourable categories. Other open habitat types such as habitat types threatened by overgrowth (e.g. open coastal habitats) and eutrophication (e.g. dunes) are found in unfavourable categories too.

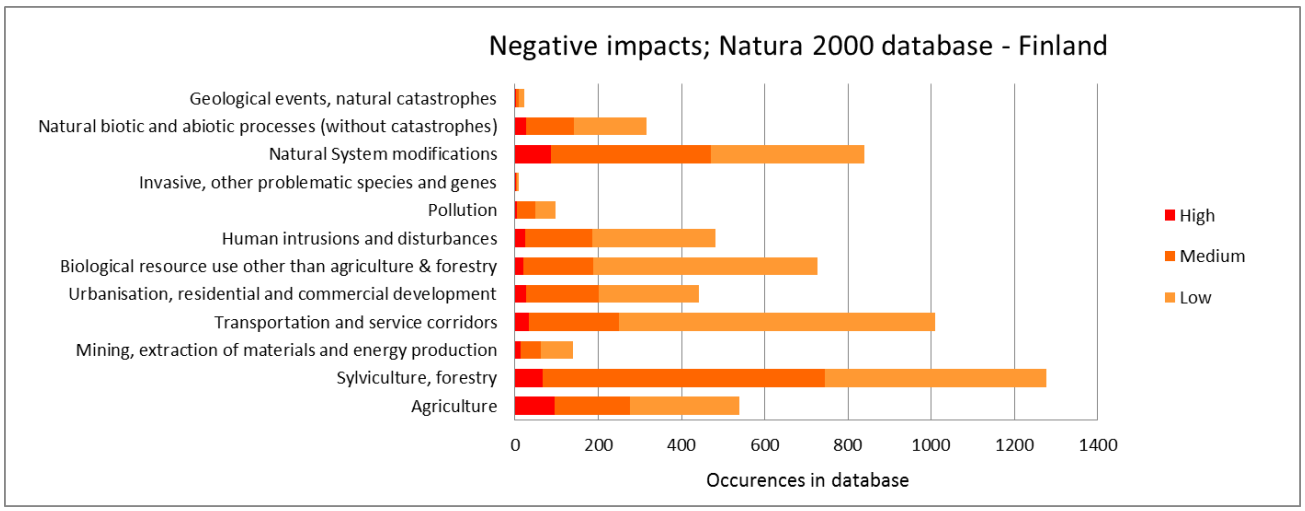


The proportion of species (Annex II) assessed as unfavourable is at least 50 % in every species group except Molluscs in Boreal region. Odonata, vascular plants and mammals have highest proportions of species assessed as favourable species.



There are Annex II species only in five species groups in Alpine region. Most of the species are in favourable category.

B.3 Overview of pressures and threats to species and habitats



Source of Information: Finnish Natura 2000 database (September 2012).

Category of pressure / threat	HABITATS		SPECIES	
	Actual pressures	Future threats	Actual pressures	Future threats
Agriculture, Forestry	54	43	42	33
Fishing, hunting and collecting	1		19	6
Mining and extraction of materials	16	15	6	4
Urbanisation, industrialisation and similar activities	48	38	18	16
Transportation and communication	12	11	8	6
Leisure and tourism (other than above)	12	14	3	3
Pollution and other human impacts/activities	43	47	28	32
Human induced changes in wetlands and marine environments	32	30	31	21
Natural processes (biotic and abiotic)	16	26	30	34

The most common impacts on Natura 2000 sites are related to forestry, agriculture, urbanisation and human induced changes. The most important impacts are mainly caused by past activities that still affect the site characteristics or activities outside Natura 2000 sites.

Activities taking place outside Natura 2000 network may threaten conservation values of the sites. Area and structure and function of some habitat types, most importantly open semi-natural habitat types, are negatively impacted by natural processes within and outside Natura 2000 network.

Forestry activities outside Natura 2000 sites may threaten the microclimate of the edges of the Natura 2000 sites. Furthermore, natural system modifications such as changes in the catchment area are an important factor affecting Natura 2000 sites. Pollution and changes in the natural disturbance regime (e.g. forest fires) are examples of other impacts threatening the sites.

Also past activities, such as past forestry activities may continue to have a negative impact on the sites. The end of traditional agricultural and forestry practices threatens some values as well.

The species are threatened by various reasons of which the most important ones are related to historical and ongoing changes in land use and use of natural resources. In many areas, for example, lack of natural dynamics, such as insufficient deadwood dynamics, or lack of large-scale natural disturbances, such as forest fires or flooding, weaken the quality of habitats. Species in semi-natural grasslands suffer from overgrowing.

C. Legal and administrative provisions for the protection and management of the Natura 2000 sites

C.1 Relevant legal provisions

The administrative and procedural provisions are mainly included in the chapter 10 in the Nature Conservation Act (NCA).

The general rules of the protection provisions of different kind of protected areas are included in the chapter 3 of the NCA. In addition there are several site specific acts and regulations. http://www.finlex.fi/en/laki/kaannokset/1996/en19961096

In some of the sites also the Wilderness Act, Land Use and Building Act, Water Act, Forest Act, Land Extraction Act, Outdoor Recreation Act, Off-Road Traffic Act, Water Traffic Act and Act on the Protection of Rapids have relevance.

C.2 Progress and perspectives in management planning for the sites

Progress in establishing conservation objectives	According to the Finnish Nature Conservation Act (1096/1996), the Natura 2000 network consists of: 1) sites designated as bird sanctuaries according to the provisions of the Birds Directive; and 2) sites deemed by the Commission or Council to hold Community interest according to the provisions of the Habitats Directive. Finland is in the process of preparing a proposition for the necessary amendments to the legislation and after the amendments have passed by Parliament, the formal SAC designations will be made. More precise conservation objectives are established in the management plans.
% of sites with plans completed	Management plans for 3, 9 million hectares, which cover about 80 % and 4 million hectares of the total area of the Natura 2000 - network. There are more than 330 management plans covering the total Natura 2000 -sites. There are also partial management plan and more specific ecological management plans.
% of sites with plans in preparation	All sites are covered by the master plans and national SASS/NATA assessments.
% of sites with no plans	All sites are covered by the master plans and national SASS/NATA assessments.
Link to web sites with plans & any guidelines	Management and use of Natura 2000 sites; Working group for the management and use of Natura 2000 sites. Ministry of the Environment. Helsinki 2002. Guidelines for management of protected areas (in Finnish, in the process of updating): Suojelualueiden hoidon ja käytön periaatteet. Metsähallitus, Vantaa, 2010. Julkaisusarja: Metsähallituksen luonnonsuojelujulkaisuja. Sarja B 127, s 93. ISSN-L: 1235-8983, ISBN: 978-952-446-755-1 (pdf): http://julkaisut.metsa.fi/julkaisut/show/886 Regional Master plans for Natura 2000 management planning compiled by all Regional Environment Centres during (2002-2009). http://www.ely-keskus.fi/en/web/ely-en/environment
More background information on plans and comment on other instruments/approaches for management planning, information on and plans for particular sectors (e.g. forestry etc.)	Ecological restoration and management in boreal forests - best practices from Finland: http://julkaisut.metsa.fi/julkaisut/show/1111 Saimaa ringed seal (*Pusa hispida saimensis*) conservation strategy and action plan: http://www.ymparisto.fi/download.asp?contentid=132093&lan=fi **Examples of the results of the Finnish Life funded projects:** • Fennoscandian Lesser White-fronted Goose LIFE 2011–2016 *(*Anser erythropus) Project www-pages: http://wwf.fi/en/our-earth/lwfg/

	International action plan: http://www.piskulka.net/ap.php • Saving the Endangered Fennoscandian arctic fox *Alopex lagopus* Life project 2003-2008 http://www.zoologi.su.se/research/alopex/homesefalo.html **LIFE Nature Projects of Metsähallitus:** www-pages of the all Life Nature projects: http://www.metsa.fi/sivustot/metsa/en/Projects/LifeNatureProjects/Sivut/LifeNatureProjectsofMetsahallitus.aspx • Conservation of Cypripedium calceolus and Saxifraga hirculus in Northern Finland Life project 2000-2005 • Species-rich LIFE - -– Improving the conservation status of species-rich habitats, 2011–2016 **LIFE Nature Projects of Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment:** • Restoration of fluvial ecosystems containing pearl mussels http://www.ymparisto.fi/default.asp?contentid=31494& **LIFE Nature projects of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry** • Rangifer tarandus fennicus Lönnb. - management plan: http://www.mmm.fi/fi/index/etusivu/kalastus_riista_porot/riistatalous/hoitosuunnitelmat/metsapeurakannan_hoitosuunnitelma.html

Potential sources of information: National web sites; 2010 BAP country profiles (see section A.1.1.1); "Fact Sheet on Member State Natura 2000 Management Plans" in framework of Management Group on Natura 2000.

C.3 Relevant government and non-governmental plans

I. State of Environment

The First Assessment of Threatened Habitat Types in Finland (2008)
http://www.ymparisto.fi/default.asp?contentid=301807&lan=fi&clan=en
The 2010 Red List of Finnish species (2010)
http://www.ymparisto.fi/default.asp?contentid=432581&lan=fi&clan=en

II. Governmental Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity

Government Resolution on the Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland for the years 2012–2020, 'Saving Nature for People'
http://www.ymparisto.fi/download.asp?contentid=143575&lan=en

III. Other Governmental Strategies

National Climate and Energy Strategy
http://www.tem.fi/en/energy/energy_and_climate_strategy/strategy_2013
Finland's National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change
http://www.mmm.fi/attachments/mmm/julkaisut/julkaisusarja/5entWjJIi/MMMjulkaisu2005_1.pdf

Forest Biodiversity Action Programme for Southern Finland - METSO
http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/forests2/metso.html

Government Resolution for the Sustainable use and Conservation on Mires and Peatlands (in Finnish):
http://www.mmm.fi/fi/index/etusivu/luonnonvarat_luonnon_monimuotoisuus_ymparisto/suojaturvemaat.html

To implement EU Marine Strategy Framework directive Finland has complied it national strategy that is called "Finland's marine resources management plan". In 2012, the Government issued a resolution on the first stage of the marine management plan " Valtioneuvoston päätös (2012) meren nykytilan ja hyvän tilan arvioimisesta sekä ympäristötavoitteiden ja indikaattoreiden asettamisesta; Suomen merenhoitosuunnitelman ensimmäinen osa (pdf)" http://www.ym.fi/fi-FI/Luonto/Itameri_ja_merensuojelu/Suomen_merenhoitosuunnitelma

The marine management plan also includes a monitoring programme which will be completed in 2014. An action plan will also be drawn up, describing measures for various sectors, for the purpose of attaining good condition in marine waters. The action plan will be completed in 2015. Implementation of marine management will be assessed in 2018, when the marine management plan will be submitted for review.

Government Resolution Water Protection Policy Outlines to 2015 on 23.11.2006 (in Finnish):
http://www.ym.fi/fi-FI/Luonto/Pinta_ja_pohjavedet/Ohjelmat_ja_strategiat

River Basin Management Plans 2010-2015 (in Finnish)
http://www.ymparisto.fi/vesienhoito

A National Strategy to Combat Invasive Alien Species:
http://www.mmm.fi/en/index/frontpage/natural_resources/invasive_alien_species.html
Government Resolution on Finland´s National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species:
http://www.mmm.fi/attachments/ymparisto/vieraslajiseminaari9.12.2009/6AEAlGzXp/Government_resolution.pdf
National Finnish Fish Passage Strategy (in Finnish):
http://www.mmm.fi/fi/index/etusivu/kalastus_riista_porot/vapaa_ajankalastus/julkaisut.html

Finland Tourism Strategy to 2020 (in Finnish):
http://www.tem.fi/files/27053/Matkailustrategia_020610.pdf

D Current experience with use of EU financial instruments

D1 European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

Provide a summary of allocations under Axis 2 of Rural Development Programmes, as well as other national financing. Where estimates are available they should be provided

Fund	Provision	(m€)	Level of Use*
EAFRD	Direct payments (213 Natura 2000 payments + 224 Forest Natura 2000 payments)		
	214 agri-environment	2,6	
	225 forest-environment payment		
Other (national) payment schemes for Territory			

Summary of key Natura 2000 related measures being undertaken under fund:

Three projects with total EU and public funding of 3 million euros: management of the Natura 2000 area and water basin with lots of stakeholders. The biggest of the three projects, VELHO, is described below.

Regional and local implementation of river basin and nature management in water bodies in Southwest Finland (VELHO, 2011 - 2013): http://www.ymparisto.fi/default.asp?node=26333&lan=en
The objective of the VELHO project is to develop cooperation on river basin and nature management in Satakunta and Southwest Finland. The cost estimate for the project is EUR 2,6 million and it is funded from the Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland. The objectives of the VELHO project are to further develop the activities of the Satavesi and Pro Archipelago Sea Cooperation Programmes for improving the status and use of waters, to draw up management plans for the wetland areas and waters belonging to the Natura 2000 network and to implement a new type of overall planning for managing reed beds in sea bays. Another objective is to promote cross-sector cooperation to reconcile the aims and activities of river basin and nature management. A special objective of the project is to improve the quality and attractiveness of the rural living environment and the opportunities it offers by taking care of the environment and promoting natural values. This objective is a common one shared by the Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland and the EU's targets for water and nature conservation, which are laid down in the Habitats and Birds Directives and the EU Water Framework Directive

Key lessons learnt and obstacles encountered:

The special subsidies granted for the management of semi-natural habitats as part of the national rural development programme's agri-environmental support have been the most important form of financing supporting the preservation of such habitats during the funding period due to end in 2013. The significance of such subsidies for the preservation of many semi-natural habitats such as dry meadows, rocky meadows and moorland has, however, been limited, since such habitats occur in small patches, they are unproductive in terms of fodder yields, there is a shortage of livestock to graze them, and they are hard to mow mechanically. The time-consuming application process for these special subsidies in relation to the total sums that are granted for such small areas of land reduces the attractiveness of the subsidy scheme. The quality of the land management practices has also been deficient with regard to conservation goals. An exception where agri-environment support has been most successful is the management of coastal meadows (1630). The area has increased in the last 6 years and the large meadows are easy and reasonably profitable to manage as pastures for large herds.

Also, the majority of semi-natural grasslands nowadays belong to other land owners that

farmers and this brings a challenge to get managers to the sites. During the financing period ending in 2013 only farmers and registered associations can have subsidies for the management of these areas.

Lack of knowledge of the total amount and up to date GIS data, in addition to lack of coordination and advising slows down the possibilities to improve the management and conservation status of semi-natural habitats.

Lessons learnt
Advising at individual farms brings good results for understanding and improving the diversity values on a local scale. There have been good examples in some project were a regional coordinator of semi-natural habitats (including knowledge of areas, their values and current management and conservation status, potential managers and animal farms, etc.) has been an efficient tool to improve the status of habitats in regional level. A good shared-use data system is needed. Networking with other boreal countries with semi-natural grassland habitat and management issues is important. The amount of subsidy does not cover the cost for managing semi-natural grasslands. In addition, the areas not managed by a farmer do not get in most cases any financing. There are big problems to get more managed semi-natural grasslands; abandonment and overgrowing are more and more common. LUMO -general plans for agricultural areas (for example at village scale) are good tools to map the potential areas for the EAFRD funding. However, these need permanent advising afterwards to put actions into the field and into the farm scale motivation. Agricultural environments holds large amount of ecosystem services. Added value for the farmers for managing Natura-areas is important.

Obstacles encountered:
Application process bureaucracy and slowness, lack of resources for coordination and advising, managers and unmanaged areas do not meet, lack of data updating, resources for the management, problems at management quality and small patches of valuable grasslands and how to get managers.

Recommendations:
Reducing the application bureaucracy, permanent regional coordinators for semi-natural habitats to ELY -centres, more attention to biodiversity advising at local level and at individual farms, motivation of new potential managers, GIS data base for semi-natural grasslands, updating of data, general plans for mapping potential areas for EAFRD funding, regular co-operation between boreal countries in grasslands issues, more efficient communication with the media, new financing systems for valuable agricultural environments outside working farms and strengthening added value for the management of semi-natural habitats.

D.2 European Fisheries Fund (EFF)

Provide a summary of allocations under Axis 1-4 of EFF used for Natura 2000 management, (as well as other relevant national financing)

Fund	Provision	(m€)	Level of Use*
EFF	Axis 1		Not in use
	Axis 2		Not in use

	Axis 3	Not in use
	Axis 4	Not in use
Other (national) payment schemes for Territory		Not in use

Summary of key Natura 2000 related measures being undertaken under fund:
No Natura 2000 related measures funded by EFF, because of the exceptions of fish species to Finland.

Key lessons learnt and obstacles encountered:

D.3 Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund

Provide a summary of allocations under Axis 1-4 of EFF used for Natura 2000 management, (as well as other relevant national financing)

Fund	**Provision**	**(m€)**	**Level of Use***
ERDF	Total	18	
	Category 51+55+56		
	Category 51		
European Social Fund (ESF)		0,5	Minor use

Summary of key Natura 2000 related measures being undertaken under fund:
Natura 2000 management activities under ERDF funding in projects headed by Metsähallitus are number 6, 7, 10, 20, 21, 22, 25 in larger scale and 3, 4, 5, 12, 24 in smaller scale.

Key lessons learnt and obstacles encountered
Key lessons learnt:
Investments in tourism and recreation infrastructure have mainly been based on ERDF funding especially in eastern and northern Finland. It has been useful tool for management of cultural sites and habitats in areas of larger public interest for nature tourism, if connected to investment in recreational infrastructure. Development and dissemination of interpretation material has been successfully implemented in several projects.
Obstacles encountered:
Nature conservation measures alone have not been interesting topic in ERDF applications.
Best practice success and simple cost-effective solutions applied:
Development of re-introduction methods of pearl mussel, development of internet services of NP:s.

D.4 LIFE+

Provide a summary of allocations under LIFE+ for Natura 2000 management,

Fund	Provision	(m€)	Level of Use*
LIFE+	Nature and Biodiversity:		
	EU -funding 2007-2013	9,3	
	Total funding of the LIFE + projects (2007-2013)	18,8	

Summary of key Natura 2000 related measures being undertaken under fund:
Natura 2000 management activities under Life + funding are number 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25.
LIFE Nature funding has been used for a large variety of actions e.g. management and restoration planning (hundreds of plans), restoration and management measures (e.g. app. 15 000 ha restored boreal forests and peatlands and thousands of hectares of semi-natural grasslands, broad-leaved forests and wetlands), purchase of lands (thousands of hectares) and dissemination actions (hundreds of kilometres of nature trails, tens of bird watching towers, several exhibitions) etc. Furthermore LIFE funding has been used to establish unique monitoring schemes for forest and peat restoration sites, which now maintained with national funding. In addition to nearly over 50 LIFE Nature funds targeting habitat restoration LIFE funding has played substantial role in the protection of species such e.g. arctic fox, lesser White-fronted Goose, White backed woodpecker, forest reindeer and Lady's Slipper.

Key lessons learnt and obstacles encountered:
Lessons learnt:
We have learned to combine the use of several different (EU) funds (e.g. ERDF, Rural development and national funds such as employment funds and METSO -funds) in the Natura 2000 -areas (double funding avoided).
Close co-operation with the beneficiaries is needed throughout the LIFE -process from project idea to final report and beyond. In order to have good quality projects national coordination has been improved with the establishing of the LIFE Nature and Biodiversity task group with members from all key beneficiaries.
Life instrument is not suitable for recurrent activities.
Obstacles:
LIFE Nature projects can be efficiently used for improving of the quality of the Natura 2000 -network as best practices are allowed. However, the requirements of demonstration and innovation for LIFE Biodiversity projects are difficult to comply and this has decreased the willingness for drafting LIFE Biodiversity proposals.
During last few years the collection of national funding for LIFE Nature has been challenging due to the budget cuts and reorganisation of the public sector nature conservation.
Best practice success and simple cost-effective solutions applied:
The current cost efficient and ecologically sounds restoration practices for especially peatlands and boreal forests have been developed in LIFE projects. This knowledge is also being actively disseminated to other member states.
LIFE projects have had a key role in development of nature education in Finland from theory to practice as nature education has been involved in several projects.

D.5 Other funding sources

Fund	(m€)	Level of Use*
7th Framework Programme for Research (FP7)	0,2	
Public Private financing schemes:	146	
Nature Conservation Programmes		
Use of innovative financing:		
METSO The Forest Biodiversity Programme (2007-2013)	138	
Other:		
VELMU Inventory Programme (2011-)	3,9	

Summary of key Natura 2000 related measures being undertaken under fund:

7th Framework Programme for Research (FP7)
Interaction in coastal waters: A roadmap to sustainable integration of aquaculture and fisheries http://www.coexistproject.eu/ Finnish partners costs cover 0,2 million euros (EU funding) out of 2,9 million euros total cost.

Nature Conservation Programmes
The Finnish Government has approved seven nature conservation programmes, covering the following areas: national parks and strict nature reserves, mires, bird wetlands, eskers, herb-rich woodland shores, old-growth forests. Each programme has its own specific aims, which are used as criteria for the selection of protected areas. Most of the Natura 2000 -sites are included to the nature conservation programmes.

The Forest Biodiversity Programme METSO
The METSO programme is based on voluntary forest conservation and management. The programme started in 2008, and it aims to secure threatened forest habitats and species in Finland by 2020. Landowners are encouraged to protect their valuable forest habitats by offering a full compensation for conservation. In addition to different conservation schemes, funding is provided for the development of biodiversity-friendly forest practices in commercial forests, including restoration of degraded sites. The aim of the programme is to achieve altogether 96 000 hectares of permanent protection and 82 000 hectares of temporary conservation agreements and nature management by 2020. Funding is also directed to research, training and communication, restoration and management of Natura 2000 sites and the connectivity of the network.

Research programme of deficiently known and threatened forest species 2009-2016 (PUTTE), as a part of the METSO programme (3,2 million euros)
The research programme PUTTE II (2009-2016) aims to fill in the knowledge gaps that have come increasingly apparent in the assessments of threatened species during the last few decades in Finland.
Although Finland has one of the best known flora and fauna in the world, yet two thirds of our species are not included in the evaluation processes of threatened species due to lack of information. Also, nature conservation management plans are solely made on the basis on well-known species and their environmental requirements. The aim of PUTTE programme is to increase scientifically high quality taxonomic research to support forest conservation and assessments of threatened species. Another significant aim is to transfer taxonomic knowledge to young researchers as many of the top specialists of various species groups are retiring or have retired already. The PUTTE I was during the 2003-2007 and financed projects with over 1 million euro per year.

The Finnish Inventory Programme for the Underwater Marine Environment (VELMU)

VELMU's objective is to survey the marine habitats in Finnish waters, generate an overview of species occurrence, and develop a management system for data collected on the benthic marine environment. The information is needed, for instance, in assessing the status of threatened species and natural habitats, and in support of marine spatial planning. Marine biodiversity is affected by a number of activities, from wind power production to fishing.

VELMU expands on the current information on Finland's benthic marine environment and develops marine habitat mapping methods suitable for Baltic Sea conditions and provides the basis for an inventory of marine biodiversity in Finnish waters. VELMU promotes the exchange of information between institutions engaged in marine biodiversity research and making biological, geological and physical data more easily available and aims to establish a web-based resource for marine environment information, including a map service.

VELMU is a co-operational programme between eight ministries (Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Employment and the Economy and Ministry of the Environment). Ministry of the Environment is leading the project.

www.environment.fi/velmu

Key lessons learnt and obstacles encountered:

National funding has played the key role in funding the Natura 2000 network. There is a need for other Biodiversity Programmes like METSO targeted to the different habitats. There is a need to expand the VELMU project to the inland waters.

**** Where estimates are available they should be provided. Otherwise indicate as VS Very significant; MU Moderate Use; MI Minor use; NU No use. To be completed by Member States.***

E Current estimate of financial needs for management of Natura 2000 for the territory

EU has estimated in 2010, that the financial investment for managing the Natura 2000 network are 5,8 billion euros/year for EU-27 and for 26 000 sites and more than 850 000 km^2, representing roughly 18 % of the total EU terrestrial area. 70% of the costs are related to ongoing management activities and 30% of the costs being linked with one-off investments.

The Finnish estimate for management of Natura 2000 network for 2014-2020 is based on the annual report 2012 of the Natural Heritage Services unit of Metsähallitus, estimates of the costs of METSO programme until 2020 and the administrations costs of state (Ministry of Environment, 13 Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment and costs of the Finnish Environment Institute. The rough figures will be clearer after e.g. different habitat and species planning processes will be finalized.

Estimate of costs	**Type of cost**	**m€**
Establishment of sites	One-off	1
Recreational services	All (one-off, recurrent)	176
Management planning	All (one-off, recurrent)	25
Habitat and species management and monitoring	Recurrent	130
Inventories and monitoring (habitats, species)		20
Administration costs, databases etc.	Recurrent	20
	TOTAL	372

F STRATEGIC CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES FOR NATURA 2000 FOR THE TERRITORY FOR PERIOD 2014-2020

F.0 Summary of strategy and priorities for period based on the Government Resolution on the Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland for the years 2012–2020

The Finnish Government has made (20th December 2012) the resolution approving a new Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland for the years 2012–2020. In line with the programme of the current Finnish Government, led by Prime Minster Jyrki Katainen, Finland's National Strategy and Action Plan for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity are being updated to correspond to objectives defined under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and within the European Union. The European Commission Communication of 3.5.2011, Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 (COM (2011) 244 final) formed the basis for related European Council Conclusions agreed in June 2011 and December 2011. The strategy will be implemented so as to safeguard the ways that Finland's indigenous Sámi People traditionally utilise nature.

Vision
By 2020 biodiversity loss in Finland will have been halted. The favourable status of biodiversity and ecosystem services will be ensured by 2050.

Finland will protect and sustainably utilise biodiversity for its own intrinsic value and as a source of human wellbeing, while also taking active responsibility for issues related to biodiversity in international contexts.

Mission
Finland will urgently undertake effective actions designed to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2020 and ensure that by 2050 the state of the natural environment in Finland is stable and capable of ensuring people's future well-being.

To achieve this:
* Issues and values related to biodiversity must become fundamental elements in decision-making.
* The pressures facing biodiversity must be reduced.
* Collaboration between the authorities, citizens, businesses and stakeholders and related participation procedures must be enhanced. New forms of cooperation designed to prevent and minimise any harmful impacts on biodiversity must be realised at a timely stage of the preparation of decisions on projects and plans.
* Degraded ecosystems must be restored cost-effectively or left to revert to their natural state through natural processes.
* Natural resources must be utilised sustainably. Renewable natural resources must be used in economic activities and to increase well-being in ways that ensure they are not depleted, but are renewed for the benefit of future generations. Non-renewable resources must be used as eco-efficiently as possible. In this way the present generation will not endanger the prospects for future generations to enjoy a good life in a sustainable society.

* Actions related to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity must be realised effectively with due regard to citizens' constitutional property rights and Finland's traditional everyman's right of access to the land, while also ensuring that all citizens meet their responsibility to preserve biodiversity. The indigenous Sámi community's traditional knowledge related to biodiversity will be respected.
* Decisions related to biodiversity must be based on the best available scientific information, and also apply the precautionary approach.
* Finland will take responsibility for ensuring access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilisation.

Forests

Efforts to safeguard the biodiversity of Finland's forests have recently been intensified by increasing the areas of forest under protection, by improving the quality of protected forest habitats through ecological restoration, and by enhancing the nature management methods used in commercially utilised forests. Forest biodiversity is no longer declining as rapidly as previously, but the overall declining trend has not yet been halted.

Measures applied in commercially managed forests are especially crucial in terms of safeguarding biodiversity, since about 90 per cent of Finland's forests are used for commercial forestry. More actions are particularly needed to safeguard the biodiversity of forests in Southern Finland.

A key result is the achievement of targets for specific areas of forest to be covered by actions within the METSO Forest Biodiversity Programme for Southern Finland.
The Government will continue to implement measures designed to conserve nature in forests and ensure that forests are managed sustainably, while monitoring their impacts and considering ways to apply such measures more effectively.
New forest legislation currently under preparation will safeguard favourable conditions for the preservation of forest habitats of importance for biodiversity.
New, cost-effective measures will be devised with regard to ecological, economic, social and cultural considerations, and duly applied, building, for instance, on good experiences obtained through the METSO forest biodiversity programme.

Mires

Out of Finland's original mire habitat area of about 10.6 million hectares, some 1.3 million hectares have been lost due to land use changes. More than half of this area (about 5.6 million hectares), has been drained to facilitate commercial forestry. This leaves areas of natural mire habitat with no artificial drainage ditches totalling about 4.1 million hectares. Some 1.7 million hectares of this total are in Southern Finland, where mire biotopes are most threatened. The declining trend is the consequence of the various ways in which mires have been used in the longer term.

About 1.1 million hectares of mire habitat have been protected across Finland, but protection coverage varies greatly between different regions. Threats hindering the natural ecological functioning of protected mires particularly have to be recognised in the surroundings of spruce mires and fens in Southern Finland whenever forest improvement drainage schemes are planned in such areas.

The Government believes that the state of Finland's mires, the threat factors facing them, and their sustainable use should be examined broadly. For this purpose the Government passed a separate resolution on 30 August 2012 defining a strategy for the sustainable and responsible use and conservation of mires and peatlands. The Ministry of the Environment is compiling a new supplementary conservation programme for mires, especially in Southern Finland, in 2012-2014.

Agricultural environments

Traditional livestock farming enriched agricultural ecosystems by creating various open and semi-open habitats today described as semi-natural habitats.

Agriculture is practised for the purposes of food production, and thriving agricultural environments are the basis for Finland's national food production. Without viable cattle and sheep farming and the grazing of animals in outdoor pastures it is not possible to preserve the biodiversity of agricultural environments. Since there is a great need to enhance the conservation and management of farmland biodiversity, it is also worth safeguarding the capacities of agricultural environments to produce ecosystem services in addition to their other productivity goals.

The Finnish Government aims to increasingly prioritise the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity during the EU multiannual financial framework period beginning in 2014. Agri-environmental support will be channelled to enhance environmental protection and nature management regionally and at the farm level, while the conditions for such subsidies will be changed to make them provide more real incentives for farmers to make improvements.

New means will be devised for the restoration and management of traditional agricultural biotopes that are threatened by overgrowth, but which cannot be managed through agricultural policies since they are located outside working farms.

Inland waters and shores

It is important to reduce nutrient loads to conserve the biodiversity of inland waters. The harmful impacts of diffuse loads only decline slowly. Most rivers flowing directly into the sea are only in a satisfactory ecological state or worse, mainly due to pollution from diffuse sources. In many localities artificial obstructions in rivers and streams and excessive loads of nutrients and solids are the most significant problems facing the habitats of threatened and vulnerable migratory fish populations.

Measures to restore rivers and streams and preserve them in their natural state are vital for the conservation of their characteristic species diversity. Very few small water bodies remain in their natural state. Too little attention has particularly been given to the conservation and management of ecosystems in streams. Streams are important for removing nutrients and suspended loads from catchment basins, for evening out flow rates, and for safeguarding biodiversity. It is expected that climate change will affect the hydrological balances of river systems, flood cycles and water levels, as well as their natural loads, due to such factors as increases in natural leaching and water temperatures. These changes and more frequent

extreme situations such as floods and prolonged droughts may have harmful impacts on biodiversity.

In water protection it is important to find solutions at the level of entire catchment areas. In 2009 the Government approved seven river basin management plans which together cover the whole of mainland Finland, in the most extensive single development project ever implemented for Finland¡¦s inland waters. The plans helped to define the measures needed to restore degraded surface waters and groundwater reserves to a good ecological state and to prevent the deterioration of waters that are still in a good state. On 17 February 2011 the Government approved a resolution on a programme for the implementation of river basin management plans for the years 2010-2015. This programme sets out in detail what should be done in different sectors to achieve a good state for inland waters, and also allocates responsibility for implementation.

In addition to monitoring trends in species and biotopes of inland waters and shores, trends in their water quality and ecological state are monitored, particularly with regard to the nutrients that cause eutrophication. Suitable indicators are additionally needed to facilitate the monitoring of the natural state and coherence of rivers, streams, springs and ponds.

The Government will ensure that the approved river basin management plans are duly implemented, while creating more inland water restoration projects and promoting efforts to restore the natural state of small water bodies.

The Baltic Sea and its shores

Our knowledge of underwater biotopes in the Baltic Sea and assessments of their state are much less comprehensive than for terrestrial biotopes, even though the ongoing Finnish Inventory Programme for the Underwater Marine Environment (VELMU) has already greatly expanded our knowledge base. Finland’s Baltic coastline is long and intricate with great variations in geology, landscape structure, water salinity levels and climatic factors. Finland’s Natura 2000 network of protected areas encompasses significant areas for marine and coastal biotopes and species. Certain areas of open sea are currently being added to this network.

Sufficient indicators already exist for monitoring trends in the state of the Baltic marine environment, but there is still a need to enhance monitoring of the areas and quality of underwater and coastal habitats.

The Government will intensify measures designed to protect and improve the state of the Baltic Sea and conserve marine biodiversity both at national level and in collaboration with other coastal countries around the Baltic by implementing marine environment management planning in line with the EU Marine Strategy Directive, HELCOM’s Baltic Sea Action Plan, the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, and approved river basin management plans. Work on surveying the biodiversity of the marine environment will continue through the Finnish Inventory Programme for the Underwater Marine Environment (VELMU). Goals related to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity must be duly considered in marine spatial planning and during the drafting of Finland’s national marine environment management strategy and action plan.

Species protection

The Government will intensify species protection in Finland by drafting and implementing a species protection action plan in collaboration with key actors in this field. The plan should improve the cost effectiveness, comprehensiveness and impact of species protection measures, while also ensuring that monitoring and research can continue in the long term, ensure that data on species is well managed, and guarantee that related voluntary work is well organised and supported.

F.1 Summary of strategy and priorities for period (and expected outcomes), with particular focus on priority habitat types and species but also in relation to measurable progress on nature sub-target under EU 2020 biodiversity strategy (Habitats and Birds Directives) and ensuring good functioning of Natura 2000 network (SACs + SPAs)

The Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland for the years 2012–2020 and the action plan based on the strategy lays down the priorities for the period.

The prioritized actions for 2013-2015 are:

General priority measures
* Improving nature biodiversity conservation and sustainable use to meet national and EU biodiversity targets and better implement the EU Nature and Bird directives by enhancing legislation (action 11).
* Preparing and implementing the action plan for Finnish species. Implementing the urgent actions needed (action 24).
* Implementing the strategy of the Convention of Biodiversity, prepare resource mobilization strategy (action 97).

Priority Measures for Natura 2000 agricultural and forest habitats and species
* Updating the knowledge of valuable traditional biotopes and their management needs, including inventories of semi-natural grasslands and their species (action 56).

Priority Measures for Natura 2000 marine and coastal habitats and species
* Assessing the biodiversity of the shores of the Baltic Sea by finalizing the inventory project of underwater wildlife called VELMU. Assessing the need for enhancing the conservation network at the Baltic Sea (action 69).

Priority Measures for Natura 2000 wetlands habitats and species (including peatlands)
* Targeting inland waters and biodiversity with the reform of EAFRD at national and EU - level. Targeting the support to the most effective actions and to the most burdensome areas (action 64).

F.2 Strategic objectives and priorities in relation to investments in Natura 2000 linked to green tourism and jobs, to support climate change mitigation and adaptation or other ecosystem benefits, for research, education, training, awareness and promotion of co-operation (including cross-border) linked to Natura 2000 management

Climate change

The impacts of anthropogenic climate change are already visible in natural environments. The Red List evaluation of Finland's biotopes mentions climate change as the direct cause of the increasing threat facing several biotopes in Northern Finland. It is also mentioned as a future threat factor for more than 70 biotopes. Assessments of the threats facing species indicate that climate change is the primary threat factor for nine species, as well as one of the threats facing a further 24 species.

Climate change is expected to be most dramatic in northern regions. The first signs of declining biodiversity in a rapidly changing climate have also become evident in northern regions of Finland. The best solution for the conservation of biodiversity is to prevent climate change in the first place. The most crucial predicted and proven impact of climate change on species is the tendency for their distributions to shift northwards. This phenomenon affects almost all kinds of habitat.

While northern species and biotopes become endangered, new species will spread into Finland from the south. Some of these may require protective measures, for instance, if they are protected under EU legislation. These species may correspondingly decline in the more southerly parts of their distributions, in Central or Southern Europe, leading to an overall northward shift in their ranges as a whole.

Geographical changes in the distributions and abundance of species are already under way, as reflected in the arrival of new species and changes in the species assemblages present in areas. To enable threatened species to spread northwards, their habitats must be interconnected at the wider landscape level. Because of climate change, conservation planning must be dynamic and predictive the traditional conception of a network of protected areas must be re-evaluated on the basis of research findings. Further development work based on ecological research is nevertheless still needed, particularly to enable measures facilitating adaptation to climate change to be favourably targeted and scheduled.

The Government will assess the impacts of climate change on the state of biodiversity and the implementation of the Convention on Biological Biodiversity in Finland in greater detail, reinforce the related knowledge base, improve the connectivity of the whole network of protected areas, and establish a basis for policy actions to facilitate adaptation to changing conditions. Although reducing the emissions that cause climate change remains the primary goal, adaptation measures are also inevitably needed. The impacts on biodiversity of measures designed to combat climate change, including measures based on the regulation of natural systems, must be sufficiently assessed before they are adopted on a large scale.

Cross-cutting measures

The conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity entails sustained and broadly based actions that by nature must take effect across society. Legislative and administrative measures have traditionally played a key role. The conservation of biodiversity is promoted by specific legislation, but it is also vital to integrate considerations related to biodiversity into all kinds of legislation and decision-making affecting the environment. Economic incentives encouraging voluntary conservation actions, advisory services, other forms of guidance, and the development and application of favourable land use planning principles in different sectors are also becoming more important policy instruments alongside legislative measures. There is a clear need to enhance and expand economic incentives, as has also been seen internationally, for instance, in development work within the OECD. Partnerships between different actors in the private sector should also be developed.

Broad expertise and collaboration will be needed to ensure that the concept of ecosystem services is widely adopted and utilised in economic evaluations and development, that macroeconomic indicators are devised to give due consideration to biodiversity, and that economic incentives with harmful impacts on nature are removed.

Education, training and awareness raising play a key role in increasing citizens' understanding of issues related to biodiversity, the environment, and sustainable lifestyles. It is important to draw attention to biodiversity within teaching and training on sustainable development at all educational levels. Children and young people must be encouraged to experience nature and natural environments in their surroundings as part of efforts to get them to think ecologically. Recognising, valuing and conserving biodiversity and awareness of ecosystem services all feature in the national curriculum for basic education; and promoting sustainable development and safeguarding biodiversity are among the goals defined for professional education.

With the help of communications work citizens will be encouraged to take an interest in biodiversity more widely, and support decisions made to safeguard biodiversity.

Decision-making related to biodiversity is greatly dependent on scientific research, data storage and management, and monitoring, since many issues involve complex cause and effect relationships. Finland's active involvement in the work of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is an important way to ensure that a suitable knowledge base is available to support policy decisions on biodiversity at the national and international levels.

The Finnish Government will base policy actions promoting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity on cross-cutting practices in society, while also ensuring the availability of a knowledge base for such actions and reinforcing the dissemination of information among citizens and decision-makers, for instance, by bringing the concepts of ecosystem services and the ecosystem approach into wider functional use.

The prioritized actions for 2013-2015 are:

* Compiling information (research) for the decision making and the management of the conservation network of habitats and species of their sensitivity to the effects of climate change (action 30).
* Clarifying the role of conservation network in carbon balance and assessing the need of restoration (action 32).
* Assessing the state of Finnish ecosystems and ecosystem services (actions 39).
* Starting the assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services for estimating the economic value part of the Green Economy research programme (action 41).

G Description of key measures to achieve priorities

(* actions from Finnish Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland for the years 2012–2020)

G.1.a. General Priority Measures

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
1-25	Securing funding for biodiversity under the new multiannual financial framework at the national and EU -level (* action 8).	All habitats and species	*EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE*
5-11, 12-21	Renewing the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development to enhance the status of water and biodiversity in agricultural environments (action 9).	Habitat and species dependent on and associated with agricultural environments, for example Parnassius mnemosyne	EAFRD, National funding
1-25	Improving nature biodiversity conservation and sustainable use to meet national and EU biodiversity targets and better implement the EU Nature and Bird directives by enhancing legislation (action 11).	All habitats and species	EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources
2, 17, 5-8	Research of green and blue infrastructure (ecological network) in Finland. Including ecological network planning part of land use planning objectives to prevent fragmentation of larger nature areas (action 14).	All habitats and species threatened by the effects of habitat fragmentation	EAFRD (European Innovation Partnership, EIP), National and international research funding, Horizon 2020
5-8, 2, 17, 19, 21	Enhancing nature biodiversity conservation in planning and environmental impact assessments with land and sea areas. Increasing the knowledge of the nature of sea areas (action 15).	All habitats and species	ERDF, EFF, ESF, LIFE
5, 7, 20-22	Implementing action plan for Finnish threatened habitat types to improve their status. Enhance the knowledge of habitat conservation, management, restoration, research and monitoring for prioritizing.	All habitat types and species dependent on and associated with the threatened habitat types	LIFE, ESF

	Enhance awareness of the meaning of habitat types as a part of larger nature biodiversity. Enhance the awareness of the threatened forest habitat types (action 22).		
5, 12-13	Preparing and implementing the action plan for Finnish species. Implementing the urgent actions needed (action 24).	All species and their habitats	LIFE, National public, Private sources
15	Implementing the action model for the threatened species in the forestry (2011) (action 25).	Species dependent on and associated with forest habitats	EAFRD
14	Implementing the national strategy and other international commitments (IMO, HELCOM, and EU) for alien invasive species (AIS). Increasing the research of the alien invasive species and studying the major propagation routes and action to prevent the alien invasive species (action 34).	Invasive alien species, benefiting conservation of native species	EAFRD, ERDF, EFF, LIFE, Cohesion Fund, National public, Private sources
20, 25	Continuing the research programme of deficiently known and threatened forest species (PUTTE) 2009-2016 and co-operation with “Svenska artprojektet” (action 44).	Species dependent on and associated with forest habitats	National public (METSO-programme), ESF, ERDF
14	Preventing with game management the adverse impact of AIS (action 76).	Invasive alien species, benefiting conservation of native species	EAFRD, ERDF, EFF, LIFE, Cohesion Fund, National public, Private sources
5-8, 12-15, 20-21	Slow up the degradation of biodiversity within urban and sub-urban areas [green and blue infrastructure] by increasing the knowledge and enhancing the planning (action 80).	Species inhabiting various habitats within urban and sub-urban habitats	ERDF, EAFRD
5-11, 12-19, 24	Implementing the global restoration 15 % target and maintain and enhancing the ecosystem services (planning the criteria, enhancing the methods of restoration, monitoring). Expand the restoration model to the open habitats. Combine the restoration target to the threatened habitats and species and	All habitats	EAFRD, ERDF, LIFE, Cohesion Fund, National public, Private sources

	enhance the connectivity of the conservation area network in the light of climate change. Unravel the legal restrictions to restoration (action 82).		
1-25	Implementing the strategy of the Convention of Biodiversity, prepare resource mobilization strategy (action 97).	All habitats, all species, all sites	EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources
1-25	Enhancing the co-operation of Fennoscandia Green Belt with Russia and Norway (action 102).	All habitats, all species along the Green Belt of Fennoscandia	EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, Cohesion Fund, National public, Private sources
1-25	Continuing and enhancing the co-operation with boreal nature conservation with European, Scandinavian and Baltic countries (action 104).	All habitats and species	ESF, LIFE, National public funding
5, 7, 23	Implementing conservation programmes in state owned areas for about 700 000 hectares (action 17).	All habitats	ESF, National public funding
1-25	Implementing the Natura 2000 -network targets and assessing the state regularly. Preparing and updating the management plans (part of the action 18).	All habitats, species and sites	EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources
2, 17,19	Assessing efficiency and effectiveness of the management conservation network (part of the action 18).	All habitats, species and sites	EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources, Horizon 2020
2, 17, 19 5	Improving the ecological functionality and connectivity of the Natura 2000 -network part of the larger green and blue infrastructure with the tools of legislation, regional planning, natural resource planning and targeting the EAFRD funding to effectively enhance biodiversity (action 19).	All habitats, species and sites	EAFRD

*Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources

G.1.b Priority Measures for Natura 2000 agricultural and forest habitats and species

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
12, 13, 15, 16	Recurrent management of semi-natural habitats - Agri-environmental measures; contracts on management ,e.g. moving, grazing including compensation for loss of income - Moving and grazing in areas not eligible for agri-environmental funding	Habitats; Grasslands, Heaths and Scrubs, Coastal Habitats; all species dependent on and associated with these habitats	EAFRD, ERDF National public
12, 13, 15, 24	Restoration of semi-natural habitats - Agri-environmental measures; subsidies on restoration of semi-natural habitats e.g. removal of bushes, acquisition of electric fences - Restoration in areas not eligible for agri-environmental funding	Habitats; Grasslands, Heaths and Scrubs, Coastal Habitats; all species dependent on and associated with these habitats	EAFRD, ERDF, LIFE National public
12, 13, 15, 16	Forest-environmental measures; conservation management of forest habitats e.g. removal of spruce from under storey in 'Herb rich forest' (9050).	Forest habitat types; (e.g. 9020, 9030, 9040, 9050, 9060, 9070, 9080, 9180, 9190); all species dependent on and associated with these habitats	LIFE, ERDF, National public (KEMERA, Metsähallitus)
12, 13	Restoration of forest habitats; e.g. creating dead and decaying wood, blocking ditches, creating canopy gaps to diversify forests, controlled burning and other emulations of natural processes. Ecological management of herb-rich forests and sunlit habitats of eskers etc.	Forest habitat types; (e.g. 9010, 9020, 9030, 9040, 9050, 9060, 9070, 9080, 9180, 9190, 91D0); all species dependent on and associated with these habitats	LIFE, ERDF, National public (Metsähallitus), Private sources
16, 23	Establishing Nature conservation areas;	All agricultural, coastal	LIFE, ERDF, National public

	- Compensating for restrictions and loss of rights - Land purchase	and forest habitat types and species dependent on and associated with these habitats	(Metso programme), Private sources
5-8, 12-13, 15-16, 2, 17, 19	Implementing the Forest Biodiversity Programme METSO and secure the funding (action 45).	All forest habitat types and other wooded habitats (pastures, wetlands and species dependent on and associated with forests and other wooded habitats	National funding (METSO Programme), EAFRD
2, 17,19, 25	Updating the knowledge of valuable traditional biotopes and their management needs (action 56), including inventories of semi-natural grasslands and their species. Data is put into the GIS-database and enhancing the use of shared GIS databases.	Semi-natural grasslands, species dependent on and associated with traditional biotopes	EAFRD, EFRD
5-7, 12-13, 15	Securing habitats and passages of the species depended on rural biotopes with agri-environmental measures (action 58).	All agricultural habitats and species dependent on rural biotopes	EAFRD
1-25	Enhancing the EAFRD to secure the continuity of the management of the valuable traditional biotopes. Increasing the number of traditional biotopes which are managed. Elaborating new measures to secure and enhance the management of traditional biotopes, both on protected and other areas (action 59).	All agricultural habitats and species dependent on and associated with traditional biotopes	EAFRD, National public, Private sources
5-8, 13	Preparing and implementing the management plans for threatened game species (action 74).	Nationally threatened game species	EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources

**Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*

G.1.c Priority Measures for Natura 2000 marine and coastal habitats and species

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
5	Costal habitat multipurpose planning	Coastal meadows, lagoons, large shallow inlets and bays, Boreal Baltic narrow inlets, estuaries	EAFRD, EFF, LIFE, National public
12, 13, 15, 16	Recurrent management of coastal habitat types: - Agri-environmental measures; contracts on management e.g. moving, grazing (including compensation for loss of income) - Management in areas not eligible for agri-environmental funding	Boreal Baltic coastal meadows (1630) dependent on and associated with the habitat type (e.g. Calidris alpina ssp. schinzii)	EAFRD National public ERDF
12, 13, 15, 24	Restoration of coastal habitat types: - Agri-environmental measures; restoration of coastal habitats and dunes (e.g. compensation for work related to restoration and acquisition of fence material) - Restoration in areas not eligible for agri-environmental funding	Boreal Baltic coastal meadows (1630) and species dependent on and associated with the habitat type (e.g. Calidris alpina schinzii). Dune habitat types (2110, 2120, 2130, 2140, 2180, 2190, 2320) and species dependent on and associated with these habitats.	EAFRD, ERDF, EFF, LIFE, National public
15	Agri-environmental measures; control on eutrophication//run-off waters	Marine and coastal habitat types (1110, 1130, 1150,1160, 1170, 1210, 1220, 1230, 1610, 1620, 1630, 1640, 1650)	EAFRD

		and species dependent on and associated with these habitats (e.g. Waterfowl)	
2, 17, 24	Inventories of marine habitats and species - establishment of Natura 2000 sites	Marine habitat types (e.g. 1110, 1130, 1150, 1160, 1170, 1610, 1620, 1650) and species dependent on and associated with these habitats	LIFE, ERDF, National public (VELMU)
2, 17, 19	Research on conflicts of seals and fishery, including bycatch and sealproof nets	Halichoerus grypus, Pusa hispida	LIFE, ERDF, ESF, Horizon 2020
2, 17, 19	Study on anthropogenic pressures on seabirds and waterfowl (wind parks, dredging and dumping, bycatch)	All bird species	LIFE, ERDF, Horizon 2020, National public
16, 23	Establishing Nature conservation areas; - compensating for restrictions - loss of rights - land purchase	All marine and coastal habitat types and species	LIFE, National public, Private sources
5-11, 12-16, 2, 17, 19	Restoration of bird wetlands and connected habitats	Lake habitats (3110, 3130, 3140, 3150, 3160) and connected running water, coastal, agricultural, peatland, and forest habitats (1130, 1150, 1160, 1630, 3210, 3260, 6430, 6450, 7140, 9080, 91D0, 91E0), and species dependent on and associated with these habitats (e.g. Najas spp., Odonata spp.).	EAFRD, LIFE, National public, Private sources
1-25	Implementing the Government Resolution on the Baltic Sea Conservation Programme and reducing the emissions	All marine and coastal habitats and species	EAFRD, EFRD, EFF, LIFE, National public, Private source

	to the Baltic Sea by international cooperation. Implementing the Baltic Sea Action Plan (BSAP) and the recommendations of the HELCOM (action 68).	dependent on and associated with these habitats	
2, 17, 19	Assessing the biodiversity of the shores of the Baltic Sea by finalizing the inventory project of underwater wildlife called VELMU. Assessing the need for enhancing the conservation network at the Baltic Sea (action 69).	Species dependent on and associated with Baltic Sea habitats	LIFE, Horizon 2020, National public
13, 20-22, 25	Implementing the Finnish Fishway Strategy (action 71).	Fennoscandian natural rivers (3210), Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Raunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation (3260), Estuaries (1130), *Margaritifera margaritifera, Unio crassus*	EFF, LIFE, ESF, National public, Private sources
13, 20-22, 25	Implementing the EU Baltic Salmon management plan (action 72).	Fennoscandian natural rivers (3210), *Salmo salar*	EFF, ESF

**Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*

G.1.d Priority Measures for Natura 2000 wetlands habitats and species (including peatlands)

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
12, 13	Restoration of peatlands hydrology and vegetation	Peatland habitats (7110, 7120, 7140, 7160, 7210, 7220, 7230, 7240, 7310, 7320, 9080, 91D0) and species dependent on and associated with these habitats	ERDF, LIFE, Cohesion Fund, National public
12, 13	Restoration of river habitats	River habitat types (3210, 3220, 3260) and species dependent on and associated with these habitats	LIFE, EFF, National public
12, 13	Restoration of fish migratory routes	River habitat types (3210, 3220, 3260) and fish species	EFF, LIFE, National public
13	Reintroduction of species	e.g. Margaritifera margaritifera	EFF, LIFE, National public
12, 13	Restoration of water regime	Peatland habitat types (7110, 7120, 7140, 7160, 7210, 7220, 7230, 7240, 7310, 7320), inland water habitat types (3110, 3130, 3140, 3150, 3160, 3210, 3220, 3230, 3260) and habitats dependent on flood regime (91E0, 6450); species dependent	EFF, ERDF, LIFE, Cohesion Fund, National public, Private sources

		on and associated with these habitats.	
5	Integration of management of water habitats to river basin management plans/flood risk plans	Peatland habitat types (7110, 7120, 7140, 7160, 7210, 7220, 7230, 7240, 7310, 7320), inland water habitat types (3110, 3130, 3140, 3150, 3160, 3210, 3220, 3230, 3260) and habitats dependent on flood regime (91E0, 6450); species dependent on and associated with these habitats.	EFF, ERDF, Cohesion Fund, LIFE National public
15	Agri-environmental measures; control on eutrophication/run-off waters	Inland water habitat types (3110, 3130, 3140, 3150, 3160, 3210, 3220, 3230, 3260); species dependent on and associated with these habitats.	EAFRD
16, 23	Establishing nature conservation areas; - compensating for restrictions - loss of rights - land purchase	All wetland habitats and species	LIFE, National public, Private sources
5-13	Enhancing the ecological boundaries of the protected peatland ecosystems to secure natural water balance (action 51).	(e.g. 7110, 7120,7140, 7160, 7220, 7230, 7310, 9080, 91D0); species dependent on and associated with peatland habitats.	EAFRD National public (METSO Programme)
5-11,	Establishing and implementing the Finnish Wetlands	Wetland habitats and	EAFRD; ERDF, ESF, LIFE,

12-16, 2, 17, 19 20-22, 25	Action Plan. Restoration and maintenance the areas of the Conservation Programme of Bird Wetlands. Enhancing the cooperation of the conservation of bird wetlands and sustainable use with landowners (action 53).	species dependent on and associated with wetlands	Cohesion Fund, National public, Private sources
5-11, 12-16, 20-22	Targeting inland waters and biodiversity with the reform of EAFRD at national and EU -level. Targeting the support the most effective actions and the most burdensome areas (action 64).	Habitats and species dependent on and associated with inland waters	EAFRD
12-16	Implementing the national and regional water management plans on inland waters and the shores of the Baltic Sea. Starting the restoration projects which enhance the biodiversity of waters (and small scale waters). Assessing the biodiversity of inland waters. Enhancing the cooperation of biodiversity and water sectors and emphasizing the perspective of drainage basin (action 66).	Habitats and species dependent on and associated with inland waters and Baltic Sea shores	EAFRD, EFF

**Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*

G.2 Other priority measures for securing ecosystem benefits of Natura 2000, especially in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation, for promoting sustainable tourism and employment in relation to Natura 2000 and to promote innovative approaches in relation to Natura 2000

Type of activity	Description of measure	Target species/habitats/sites	Potential Financing sources*
10, 11, 20, 21, 22, 25	Planning, investing in and maintaining facilities and information materials to encourage visitor use and appreciation of Natura 2000 sites and network	All	*ERDF, ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*
10, 11, 20, 21, 22, 25	Investing in and maintaining visitor centers and other interpretation venues, information materials and exhibitions	All	*ERDF, ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*
10, 11, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22	Monitoring the impact of visitor pressure and evaluating the benefits of visits to local economy and visitors' health	All	*ERDF, ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*
10, 11, 20, 21, 22	Investing in maintaining of IT systems and other advanced communication and information materials and systems	All	*ERDF, ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*
11, 20, 21, 22, 25	Co-operation with tourism sector	All	*ERDF, ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*
11, 20, 21, 22	Co-operation with health sector	All	*ERDF, ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*
11, 20, 21, 22	Co-operation with NGOs, locals and other willing to voluntarily participate in management	All	*ERDF, ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*
11, 20, 21, 22	Transboundary co-operation with other EU and non-EU countries	All	*EAFRD (Leader), ERDF, ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*
2, 17, 19 5	Preparing together with relevant sectors a long term development plan for national conservation sites and climate change (including connectivity of the network, ecological representativeness and coverage) (action 18).	All habitats and species	*EAFRD (EIP), ERDF, National public*
2, 17, 19 5-11 12-16	Taking into consideration biodiversity when updating the Finland's National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change. Implementing the CBD and UNFCCC conventions' resolutions concerning climate change. (Action 29)	All habitats and species	*EARD, Cohesion Fund, National public*

2, 17, 19	Compiling information (research) for decision making and management of the conservation network of habitats and species of their sensitivity to the effects of climate change (action 30).	All habitats and species	*EARD, Cohesion Fund, Horizon 2020, National public*
2, 17, 19, 5-11, 12-16	Preparing for conserving species ex situ that are most threatened by climate change and exploring needs and possibilities for assisted transfers (action 31).	All habitats and species	*ERDF, Cohesion Fund, LIFE*
2, 17, 19	Clarifying the role of conservation network in carbon balance and assessing the need of restoration (action 32).	All habitats and species	*ERDF, Cohesion Fund, LIFE, Horizon 2020*
2, 17, 19	Enhancing the understanding of the carbon balance of the habitat types, binding ability of the carbon and methane emissions of e.g. peatlands to the atmosphere (action 83).	All habitats and species	*ERDF, Cohesion Fund, LIFE, Horizon 2020*
22, 25	Enhancing sustainable tourism and recreation taking into consideration Sami culture and traditional livelihoods and according the government resolution (VILMAT) and Finland's Tourism Strategy to 2020 (action 35).	All habitats and species	*ESF, ERDF, Cohesion Fund, National public, Private sources*
20-22, 25	Studying how to maintain and transit to the further generations the active relationship with nature. Strengthening the positive health impacts of the recreation. (Action 38)	All habitats and species	*ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*
2	Assessing the state of Finnish ecosystems and ecosystem services (actions 39).	All habitats and species	*EAFRD, LIFE, ESF, National public*
2, 15	Establishing the virtual database system to combine the information of species from different institutions (Finnish art data center). Updating the LUMONET -portal for larger user groups (action 40).	All habitats and species	*ERDF, ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*
2	Starting the assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services for estimating the economic value part of the Green Economy research programme (action 41).	All habitats and species	*EAFRD, ERD, National public*
2	Starting the assessment of the role of substitute habitats (eg, road verges, railway areas, power line areas and wasteland) in the terms of biodiversity value (including the	All habitats and species	*ERDF, LIFE, Private sources*

	management and funding) (action 60).		
5-11, 12-15	Creating new replacement habitats from the former soil extraction sites (action 61).	All habitats and species	*ERDF, LIFE, Private sources*
2, 6	Starting the innovation projects to test new planning and funding tools for EU funding 2021- programme (wetlands, species and habitats conservation, enhancing the green economy).	All habitats and species	EAFRD (EIP)

**Funding sources: EAFRD; ERDF, EFF; ESF, LIFE, National public, Private sources*

Section H: Monitoring, evaluation and updating of PAFs

Monitoring
The realization of the EU funding for Natura 2000 network will be followed.

Updating of the PAF
Updating the first version of the Finnish PAF will be done after adoption of Operational Programmes (financing possibilities and prioritized measures).
Udating of the Finnish PAF will be done after the Art. 17 of Habitats Directive and Art 12 of Birds Directive reporting results and conclusions for the needs of new actions are ready to be used.
In 2015, the evaluation of the Finnish Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland for the years 2012–2020 will be done.

Evaluation
Evaluation of the Finnish PAF will be done by the 2020. The new national red lists of habitats and species will be updated by 2020 also.

DRAFT FORMAT FOR A PRIORITISED ACTION FRAMEWORK (PAF) FOR NATURA 2000

EXPLANATORY NOTES

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H Monitoring, evaluation and updating

Introduction

The establishment of Natura 2000 is now at an advanced stage and the upcoming period will be critical to making the network fully operational through the effective management and restoration of the sites. While the main responsibility for financing Natura 2000 lies with the Member States Article 8 of the Habitats Directive explicitly recognises the need for EU support for management of the sites, through co-financing by Community financial instruments. Article 8 does not specify the types of EU funding which could be used for co-financing. The current approach, set out in a 2004 Commission Communication on financing Natura 2000 for the 2007-2013 financing period[1], is to integrate the financing of Natura 2000 into the funding streams of different EU policy sectors. The opportunity to finance Natura 2000 has been specified in the financial regulations of the main policy sectors. The Commission has provided guidance, an IT-tool, and training for each Member State to support the use of this integration approach[2]. Despite important progress it appears that the EU co-financing opportunities for Natura 2000 are not been fully utilised[3].

The Commission's Communication on 'A budget for Europe 2020'[4] has set out the framework for future EU financing under the new financial multiannual financial framework, firmly focusing on the delivery of the EU 2020 strategy. In the environment policy fiche attached to the budget communication[5] it is recognised that the effective management and restoration of Natura 2000 sites is central to attainment of the EU 2020 biodiversity target and that a strengthened integrated approach using the various EU sectoral funds, ensuring their consistency with the priorities of Natura 2000 action frameworks, together with an enhanced LIFE Biodiversity strand, will provide a strong basis for the new Natura 2000 financing strategy.

Article 8 of the Habitats Directive already foresees the need to develop "a prioritized action framework", to be taken when sites are designated as SACs. This would only be possible on

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1 COM(2004) 431 final.

2 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/financing/index_en.htm

3 A summary of the current integration approach is given in the Commission brochure on 'Investing in Natura 2000 for nature and people' http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/info/pubs/docs/brochures/investing%20in%20N2000%20brochure.pdf

4 COM (2011) 867 final

5 COM(2011) 500 final, page 40

the basis of Member States establishing National and/or regional Natura 2000 prioritised action frameworks (PAFs) for the next financing period**.** Such an approach will provide a clearer framework to set out objectives and priorities, describe the Natura 2000 measures to be financed, identify the potential contribution of each EU fund to the national/regional Natura 2000 network for the next Financial Perspective and set out the prioritised actions to be taken, as well as monitoring and evaluation of the measures supported.

PAFs are intended as planning tools aimed at identifying key priorities and providing an integrated overview of how to achieve them having regard to different financing instruments. There will be a need to ensure the consistency of the programmes giving effect to the main integration funds with the priorities of the Natura 2000 prioritised action framework. To maximise their influence and the prospect of the uptake under the integration approach such action frameworks will need to be established in advance of the finalisation of the agreement of key programmes for agriculture, fisheries and regional development for the next funding period.

A. INTRODUCTORY OVERVIEW OF NATURA 2000 NETWORK FOR THE TERRITORY

The aim is to set the context in relation to the species and habitats that are the focus of action, the number and area of Natura 2000 sites for the territory and details of main ecosystem types involved.

A.1 Short introduction to the habitat types of Annex I and species of Annex II of the Habitats Directive and Annex I and migratory bird species for which Natura 2000 sites are designated

The aim is to provide a summary overview of the species and habitat types, indicating in particular the situation regarding priority habitat types and species, and if possible providing an assessment of the importance of the territory for particular species and habitat types.

Potential Sources of information: Article 17 HD summary reports; 2010 BAP national summary reports; National web sites; Important Bird Areas 2000 publication or national IBAs

A.2 Number and area of Natura 2000 sites

The aim is to provide summary statistics for the Natura 2000 network for both the terrestrial and marine environments. This should be complemented in an Annex to the document (or a link to a web site) with the most up to date list of SCIs (indicating sites hosting priority habitat types/species), those SCIs already designated SACs, as well as an up to date list of SPAs.

One or more overview maps should also be provided. These can be extracted from the Natura 2000 map viewer (http://natura2000.eea.europa.eu/#), which also provides a link to the standard data form for each Natura 2000 site. Other national GIS data systems may be used as well.

Potential Sources of information: Statistics on the number and area of SCIs and SPAs are available from the Natura barometer. Member States will need to indicate to what extent the SCIs have formally been designated as

SACs. The overall area for Natura 2000 terrestrial and marine sites can be derived from spatial data in the Natura 2000 database.

A.3 Main land use cover and ecosystem categories for Natura 2000 sites

The aim is to provide an overview for the territory concerned of the main CORINE land cover categories for the Natura 2000 sites (based on spatial boundaries of the sites). This will give an indication of the relative importance of major ecosystem types (e.g. forests, grasslands, marine, wetlands etc) within the Natura 2000 network.

Potential Sources of information: Biodiversity Data Centre of the EEA

B STATUS OF THE HABITATS AND SPECIES

The aim is to summarise the most up to date information on the conservation status of species and habitat types covered by Natura 2000 under both the Habitats and Birds Directive and to present summary information on the main pressures and threats they are facing

B.1 Latest assessment of conservation status of species and habitat types for territory

B.1.a Habitat types and species of Habitats Directive

The objective is to provide the most up to date knowledge on the conservation status of the Annex I habitats and Annex II species. This should be presented for each biogeographical region covered by the Region concerned. This should also be complemented by the summary assessment of the parameters for favourable conservation status

Sources of information: This will largely be based on data extracted from the Habitats Directive Article 17 assessment[6].

B.1.b Annex I and migratory Bird Species

For bird species there is as yet no equivalent EU assessment for Annex I and migratory bird species (for which SPAs are classified). Notwithstanding, it is necessary to have data for birds as a basis for priority setting in relation to management and restoration of Natura 2000 sites.

Potential sources of information: the summary of the 2004 Birds in Europe assessment for the country; national red lists results or other national assessments; the 2010 BAP country profile

B.2 Overall assessment of conservation status by Habitat category / species group

The situation in relation to ecosystem types (e.g. forests, peatlands, grasslands etc.) should be presented and interpreted.

Potential sources of information: The main source of information will be the summary results of the Article 17 assessment. This is also summarised in the 2010 BAP country profile (sections A1.1 & A1.3). More detailed summaries are available for agriculture and forest related habitats (2010 BAP profiles Objective 2) and for marine related habitats (2010 BAP profiles Section 3.1). Any relevant information and studies by Member States for habitats of birds should also be summarised

B.3 Overview of pressures and threats to species and habitats

Available information on key pressures and threats to be addressed should be presented, especially relevant to the management and restoration of the Natura 2000 sites.

Potential source of information: Article 17 summary reports for species and habitats of Habitats Directive. Information on bird habitats should also be presented where relevant

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[6] The Article 17 Habitats Directive conservation status assessment has been carried out for EU 25 and does not cover Bulgaria and Romania, for which other relevant sources of information will need to be used. The summary data is also provided at national level and for regional PAFs there will be a need for further analysis

C. Legal and administrative provisions for the protection and management of the Natura 2000 sites

C.1 Relevant legal provisions

Present a short summary of the regulatory, administrative and contractual approach for the management of the Natura 2000 sites. Indicate the competent authorities for the management of the sites and indicate any procedural provisions and co-operation between the public authorities as well as between them and private bodies, technical and scientific institutions, and if applicable with other regions and trans-border co-operation for implementation of management measures (max. 1-2 page).

Potential source of information: National/regional web sites and relevant policy documents

C.2 Progress and perspectives for management planning for the sites

The aim is to provide an update on progress and perspectives in relation to the establishment of conservation objectives and measures for species and habitats and especially in putting in place management plans and/or equivalent instruments for Natura 2000. Where information is available on the management systems applying to different categories of sites, this should be given.

Potential sources of information: National/regional web sites; 2010 BAP country profiles (see section A.1.1.1); "Fact Sheet on Member State Natura 2000 Management Plans" in framework of Management Group on Natura 2000.

C.3 Relevant government and non-governmental plans

Any particular initiatives for the conservation and recovery of individual habitat types or species or groups of them or for strengthening the coherence of the Natura 2000 network should be noted (e.g. a national plan for recovery of peatlands or forests). This may also relate to relevant measures under other plans in fulfilment of other EU legislation (e.g. Nitrates Directive, Water Framework Directive, Marine Strategy Directive etc.)

Potential sources of information: National/regional web sites of competent authorities

D CURRENT EXPERIENCE WITH USE OF EU FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The aim is to get an overview of the significance / relative importance of different EU financial instruments for investments in Natura 2000, the kind of uses being made of them as well as any problems encountered in using these funds. Background information on each of the relevant sectoral funds and the opportunities they provide for EU co-financing of Natura 2000 is available in the 'Financing Natura 2000 guidance handbook'.[7] Presentations on the relevance of each of the key sectoral funds were also made at the conference on financing Natura 2000, held in Brussels in July 2010[8]

D1 European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

Provide a summary of allocations under Axis 2 of Rural Development Programmes, as well as other national financing. The aim is to provide an indication of the current approach to use of the funds for the territory, including the main categories being applied (e.g. whether category 213 Natura 2000 type payments or category 214 agri-environment payments etc apply). There is an opportunity to indicate other relevant categories. Where estimates are available they should be provided. Otherwise, indicate as VS (Very significant); MU (Moderate Use); MI (Minor use); NU (No use).

Please also provide an additional narrative summary of relevant details, including an indication of the key Natura 2000 conservation measures being pursued. Also indicate important lessons learnt in relation to the use of these funds, obstacles encountered that may need to be overcome to improve uptake of funding of future as well as best practice success and simple cost-effective solutions that have been applied.

Potential source of information: Section A.2.1 of 2010 BAP country profile provides details on the allocation of funds to main categories of RDP. Information has also been compiled as part of the Commission study on Financing of Natura 2000. Member States may also have access to national/regional databases. In relation to the conservation measures being used the key source should be the rural development plans for the territory concerned.

D.2 European Fisheries Fund (EFF)

Provide a summary of allocations under Axis 1-4 of EFF used for Natura 2000 management. Due to fact that coding system for EFF funds does not provide breakdown for Natura 2000 the information is likely to be limited. In this context please indicate in narrative text any projects where EFF funds have been allocated/used please. If EFF funds are available and not utilised, where possible, please indicated an obstacles encountered as well as best practice success and simple cost-effective solutions that have been applied.

Potential source of information: Section 3.2.1 of 2010 BAP country profile. Information compiled as part of the Commission study on Financing of Natura 2000.

D.3 Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund

[7] Available in 22 languages at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/financing/index_en.htm

[8] http://www.ecologic-events.de/natura2000/downloads.htm

Provide a summary of allocations under the relevant categories of structural funding (51, 55 and 56) as well as the use of INTERREG for Natura 2000 management. Also indicate to what extent the European Social Fund may have been applied.

Potential source of information: Section B.1.1.4 of 2010 BAP country profile. Information has also been compiled as part of the Commission study on Financing of Natura 2000. Member States may also have access to national/regional databases. In relation to the conservation measures being used the key source should be the regional development plans for the territory concerned.

D.4 LIFE+

Provide a summary of allocations under LIFE+ for Natura 2000 management and indicate the main type of conservation measures being undertaken by the fund as well as key lessons learnt as well as best practice success and simple cost-effective solutions that have been applied.

Potential sources of information: Section B.1.1 of 2010 BAP country profile. LIFE+ database.[9] Information has also been compiled as part of the Commission study on Financing of Natura 2000

D.5 Other funding sources

Indicate any other important sources of funding relevant to the management of Natura 2000, particularly EU related funding, such as the 7th Framework Programme for Research. Also indicate any significant public/private partnership schemes or innovative financing initiatives. Summarise the key conservation measures being undertaken and lessons learnt as well as best practice success and simple cost-effective solutions that have been applied.

Also indicate in this section whether there has been any 'programmatic' approach towards the national/regional funding of Natura 2000.

Potential source of information: National reports and web sites. Examples of innovative financing relevant to Natura 2000 are available in the Commission contracts[10].

[9] The Life project database summarises all relevant projects http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm Reviews of LIFE funded projects for several key ecosystems are available at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/themes/nature.htm

[10] For examples see study on "Innovative use of EU funds to finance managment measures and activities in Natura 2000 sites" at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/financing/docs/innovative_use_eu_funds.pdf

E CURRENT ESTIMATE OF FINANCIAL NEEDS FOR MANAGEMENT OF NATURA 2000 FOR THE TERRITORY

The aim is to summarise the results of the 2008 questionnaire, which was designed to obtain an estimate of the financial resources required to complete and effectively manage Natura 2000 at land and sea. The aim is to have estimates consistent with managing all sites so as to ensure they make their contribution to the overall favourable conservation status of the network as defined in Articles 1e and 1i of the Habitats Directive[11]. This relates to the implementation of the management measures foreseen in the Directives, in particular in relation to Article 6 of the Habitats and Article 4 of the Birds Directive.

Individual Member States' cost estimates should relate to all sites[12] for which they have responsibility. Estimates should relate to what is still required and not to what is currently spent, or what has already been spent. The aim is to present an estimate of future costs. However, the Commission has also encouraged those countries who have annual estimates of actual expenditure to provide them as additional information.

Financing needs are based on activities relating to the management requirements at Natura 2000 sites or to network costs. To establish consistency and compatibility across Natura 2000 sites, some form of uniform system of reporting on costs has been clearly required. The key reference used in this questionnaire is Annex III of the Commission Communication on Financing Natura 2000 (2004), which established a preliminary list of necessary measures and activities for the establishment and management of the Natura 2000 network. This classification has subsequently been articulated in the Financing Natura 2000 Guidance Handbook[13]. This is generally consistent with the earlier classifications. It was not based on the nature of the costs incurred, like labour, fuel or utility charges but on the type of the activities to be financed. The main categories of costs for the 2008 questionnaire are

EC 2008	Type of cost
Finalisation of sites	One-off
Investment costs	One-off
Management planning	One-off
Management planning	Recurrent
Habitat management and monitoring	Recurrent

Potential sources of information: National responses to 2008 questionnaire

11 Favourable conservation status does not appear in the Birds Directive but it can be seen as a tool for determining the ecological requirements of the various bird species under Article 2 and the EC has argued that the obligation extends to the Birds Directive in its own guidance on hunting under the Birds Directive.

12 Note that site specific cost estimates are not needed; only the national aggregates across sites should be reported – see further below and the questionnaire.

13 http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/env/financing_natura/library?l=/contract_management/handbook_update&vm=detailed&sb=Title (table 3 page 10).

F STRATEGIC CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES FOR NATURA 2000 FOR THE TERRITORY FOR PERIOD 2014-2020

Outline the strategic priorities for the next period and how this is expected to improve conservation status of Natura 2000 habitat types and species over the next financing period (2014 to 2020). Particular attention needs to be paid to strategy for improving the conservation status for priority habitat types and species. However, the strategy should not be limited to this and should also consider more widely how to secure improvements in conservation of other Natura 2000 habitats and species under both Birds and Habitats Directive (linked to nature sub-target). It can also take an ecosystem perspective (e.g. agricultural, forest, wetland, marine, etc). There will be a need to incorporate into strategy and priorities a clear link to benefits from financial investments in Natura 2000 and ecosystem services, especially in relation to climate change and mitigation, and also to socio-economic benefits. The information may be organised under two main headings, the first focusing in particular on the conservation priorities to be achieved, the second on links to wider policy objectives and the benefits of investments in Natura 2000. It is for the Member States to set out their priorities in light of the above considerations, and having full regard to their state of development in establishing and implementing Natura 2000. As the focus of the PAFs is in relation to EU co-financing the fact that a species or habitat type may not be indicated as a priority does not imply that there is no duty to take action for their conservation over the next financing period.

F.1 Summary of strategy and priorities for period (and expected outcomes), with particular focus on priority habitat types and species but also in relation to measurable progress on nature sub-target under EU 2020 biodiversity strategy (Habitats and Birds Directives) and ensuring good functioning of Natura 2000 network (SACs + SPAs)

In line with Article 8 of the Habitats Directive the PAF should recognise the particular importance of priority habitats and species' listed under this Directive. However, full consideration needs to be given to other species and habitats, especially those for which the Member States/Regions has a particular responsibility for their conservation within the EU. It is for the Member State to identify the habitat types and species most in need and for which Natura 2000 investments are required.

In establishing priorities the results of the Article 17 assessments under the Habitats Directive need to be fully considered. Together with information on the status of birds this forms the baseline for assessing progress towards attainment of the nature target of the EU 2020 biodiversity strategy. The priorities should reflect the objective of achieving a significant and measurable improvement in the status of species and habitats by 2020.

Target 1 of EU Biodiversity Strategy[14]

To halt the deterioration in the status of all species and habitats covered by EU nature legislation and achieve a significant and measurable improvement in their status so that, by 2020, compared to current assessments: (i) 100% more habitat assessments and 50% more species assessments under the Habitats Directive show an improved conservation status; and

[14] COM (2011) 540 final

(ii) 50% more species assessments under the Birds Directive show a secure or improved status.

Priority setting should also have regard to the functioning and coherence of the network, including ecological connectivity of Natura 2000 or wider measures supporting the sites as part of green infrastructure.

F.2 Strategic objectives and priorities in relation to investments in Natura 2000 linked to green tourism and jobs, to support climate change mitigation and adaptation or other ecosystem benefits, for research, education, training, awareness and promotion of co-operation (including cross-border) linked to Natura 2000 management

In order to secure adequate financing for Natura 2000 there needs to be increased focus on its contribution to the attainment of Europe 2020 objectives. Optimising the benefits provided by investing in Natura 2000 needs to be more clearly reflected in the priority setting.

In addition to protecting nature's intrinsic value investing in Natura 2000 provides multiple benefits to society and the economy, at the local, regional, national and EU level. The most relevant socio-economic benefits include the role of Natura 2000 in regulating climate (e.g. mitigating climate change - including services directly relevant to climate change mitigation and adaptation such as flood conveyance of wetlands, natural coastal protection of dune systems, carbon sequestration of peatlands and the ability of forested mountain areas to prevent erosion and landslides), maintaining water flow and quality, safeguarding natural pollinators, preserving landscape and amenity values, and supporting tourism and recreation.

Several studies have already been undertaken for the Commission to evaluate the benefits of Natura 2000[15]. Three further studies evaluating overall benefits of Natura 2000, the benefits linked directly to delivery of conservation measures at the sites and the tourism, recreational and employment benefits of investing in Natura 2000, will be finalised before the end of 2011.

Therefore in establishing priorities for financial investments in Natura 2000 full consideration needs to be given to

- Multiple ecosystem benefits that can be derived from such investments
- the potential link between financial investments in Natura 2000 and climate change[16] It is for Member States to identify particular Natura 2000 habitat types (e.g. peatlands, river floodplains, forests, coastal habitats) for which investments can also provide climate change benefits.
- the link between Natura 2000 investments, tourism and jobs and opportunities for research, education, training, awareness and promotion of co-operation (including cross-border) linked to Natura 2000 management

[15] http://www.ecologic-events.de/natura2000/documents/1_ten_Brink_presentation.pdf

[16] Commission guidelines on Natura 2000 and climate change are in preparation

G DESCRIPTION OF KEY MEASURES TO ACHIEVE PRIORITIES

The essential measures to give effect to priorities need to be identified by the Member State. A typology of 25 Natura 2000 management activities that may be eligible for EU co-financing has been developed (see Annex). This may be broadly defined as one-off investment costs and recurring management costs. Eligibility of different activities will vary under different EU funds.

It is proposed that this is best approached on an ecosystem perspective. Where possible, measures should be linked to each habitat type and species prioritised in the strategy. This can be further strengthened if linked to different Natura 2000 sites. The measures should also have full regard to ongoing work on setting conservation objectives and on the development of management plans or equivalent instruments for the sites (section C.2). They should also have full regard to the obstacles and lessons learnt from use of EU funds under the current financing period (section D).

The Natura 2000 Financing Natura 2000 guidance handbook and IT-tool already provide an indication of the type of conservation measures that may be applicable under current different sectoral funds, including potential examples and it is recommended that these are availed of, while noting that the future regulations may not contain each of the same provisions.

For each major heading and using the attached Annex provide for each major category the following breakdown

- An outline of the type of activity
- Description of the measures to be undertaken
- An indication of the target species/habitats/sites
- An indication of potential financing sources

Where estimated costs exist for different priority measures (in accordance with information provided under section E) they can be indicated, although this may not be possible in relation to certain measures.

The following sections are indicative and can be adapted in relation to the priorities identified and indicated in Section F for the territory concerned. There may also be an overlap between measures indicated for one section and another (e.g. measures for restoration of peatlands can be indicated under wetlands and climate change mitigation/adaptation).

G.1 General Priority Measures for Natura 2000

Indicate the general priority measures that are not linked to particular ecosystem or land category types. This can also include measures linked to good functioning of the network. This should relate to one off investments as well as recurring costs.

G.1.a Priority Measures for Natura 2000 agricultural and forest habitats and species

Indicate the main agriculture and forestry related measures to give effect to priorities. This should relate to one off investments as well as recurring costs. Of particular interest here are

measures linked to Rural Development Policy under the CAP. However, other financial instruments may also be relevant.

G.1.b Priority Measures for Natura 2000 marine and coastal habitats and species

This should include consideration of marine management measures that are linked to fisheries. This should relate to one off investments as well as recurring costs. If possible also have regard to the potential for complementarity with measures taken under the Marine Strategy Directive

G.1.c Priority Measures for Natura 2000 wetlands habitats and species, including peatlands.

This may include measures linked to aquaculture in freshwaters. This should relate to one off investments as well as recurring costs. Also have regard to actions being taken under EU water legislation, especially the Water Framework Directive

G.2 Other priority measures

As some EU co-financing opportunities for Natura 2000 may be linked to the attainment of other EU objectives (e.g. in relation to socio-economic development, climate change adaptation and mitigation, employment) it will be necessary to identify measures that provide such multiple benefits. The following sections are indicative and can be adapted in relation to the situation pertaining to the territory concerned.

G.2.a Priority Measures for securing ecosystem benefits of Natura 2000, especially in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation

G.2.b Priority Measures for promoting sustainable tourism and employment in relation to Natura 2000

G.2.c Priority Measures to promote innovative approaches in relation to Natura 2000

Indicate priority measures that provide multiple ecosystem benefits[17] and that contribute to 'Green Infrastructure'. These may be one off investments or recurring management.

They may be climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, including in relation to carbon sequestration and water quality and quantity management measures.

Measures that contribute to the sustainable development of the territory and for which Natura 2000 sites provide benefits to the local population should be considered. This includes measures for tourism and promotion of local businesses. Measures may include investments in visitor infrastructure and nature interpretation, measures that promote Natura 2000 related entrepreneurial opportunities.[18]

[17] information from the 3 Commission studies on benefits of Natura 2000 will be made available in 2011.

[18] An example of the types of investment considered for the Slovenian Natura 2000 programme for the period 2007-2013 is given in Annex 4.6 to the 'Natura 2000 site management programme: 2007-2013 operational programme'

There will also be a need to consider and trial innovative financing measures for Natura 2000, especially in relation to private financing. This may include tourism and entrepreneurial activities directly linked to and benefitting from the Natura 2000 areas but also in relation to the multiple benefits provided by investments in management and restoration of Natura 2000 sites (e.g. in relation to water quality management objectives).

Section H: Monitoring, evaluation and updating of PAFs

Different elements for evaluation of the priorities and measures to be undertaken in accordance with the prioritised action framework already exist.

As regards the main expected outcome of improved conservation status of species and habitats the Article 17 evaluation and reporting system of the Habitats Directive is the key mechanism, and reporting will be foreseen for 2013/2014 and 2020/2021. A system for reporting on the population status of birds under the Birds Directive is under development with the aim of being in place by 2014. These reporting systems will also provide the principal basis for evaluating progress in meeting the 2020 nature target of the EU biodiversity strategy.

Member States should also be in a position to evaluate progress through review of the implementation of management plans and equivalent instruments. Progress in the establishment of these management tools will also be an important indicator.

Each of the EU sectoral funds (EARDF, ERDF etc) has their own monitoring and evaluation systems and it is not proposed to duplicate these. However, in designing projects under these funds and under any future LIFE instrument the indicators of success should be defined in relation to the objectives of these projects. There should also be full regard to determining the allocation and uptake of funds for Natura 2000 under the different sectoral funds.

There should be a provision for updating of the PAFs in light of improved knowledge on the measures to be taken (e.g. as result of LIFE projects including work on the development of 'integrated projects', or the outcome of biogeographical seminars on management of Natura 200) and also having regard to developments in programming under key EU policy sectors (e.g. CAP, CFP).

Progress in implementation of the PAFs shall also be considered in the context of future reviews of implementation of the EU Biodiversity strategy.

Annex I
Habitats included in the Annex I of the Habitat Directive

habitat code	descriptionen	habitat priority
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	
1130	Estuaries	
1150	Coastal lagoons	*
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	
1170	Reefs	
1210	Annual vegetation of drift lines	
1220	Perennial vegetation of stony banks	
1230	Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts	
1610	Baltic esker islands with sandy, rocky and shingle beach vegetation and sublittoral vegetation	
1620	Boreal Baltic islets and small islands	
1630	Boreal Baltic coastal meadows	*
1640	Boreal Baltic sandy beaches with perennial vegetation	
1650	Boreal Baltic narrow inlets	
2110	Embryonic shifting dunes	
2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria ("white dunes")	
2130	Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")	*
2140	Decalcified fixed dunes with Empetrum nigrum	*
2180	Wooded dunes of the Atlantic, Continental and Boreal region	
2190	Humid dune slacks	
2320	Dry sand heaths with Calluna and Empetrum nigrum	
3110	Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)	
3130	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea	
3140	Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.	
3150	Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation	
3160	Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	
3210	Fennoscandian natural rivers	
3220	Alpine rivers and the herbaceous vegetation along their banks	
3230	Alpine rivers and their ligneous vegetation with Myricaria germanica	
3260	Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	
4030	European dry heaths	
4060	Alpine and Boreal heaths	
4080	Sub-Arctic Salix spp. scrub	

6150	Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands	
6210	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites)	
6230	Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe)	*
6270	Fennoscandian lowland species-rich dry to mesic grasslands	*
6280	Nordic alvar and precambrian calcareous flatrocks	*
6410	Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	
6430	Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	
6450	Northern boreal alluvial meadows	
6510	Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)	
6520	Mountain hay meadows	
6530	Fennoscandian wooded meadows	*
7110	Active raised bogs	*
7120	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	
7140	Transition mires and quaking bogs	
7160	Fennoscandian mineral-rich springs and springfens	
7210	Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	*
7220	Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)	*
7230	Alkaline fens	
7240	Alpine pioneer formations of the Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae	*
7310	Aapa mires	*
7320	Palsa mires	*
8110	Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)	
8210	Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	
8220	Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	
8230	Siliceous rock with pioneer vegetation of the Sedo-Scleranthion or of the Sedo albi-Veronicion dillenii	
9010	Western Taïga	*
9020	Fennoscandian hemiboreal natural old broad-leaved deciduous forests (Quercus, Tilia, Acer, Fraxinus or Ulmus) rich in epiphytes	*
9030	Natural forests of primary succession stages of landupheaval coast	*
9040	Nordic subalpine/subarctic forests with Betula pubescens ssp. czerepanovii	
9050	Fennoscandian herb-rich forests with Picea abies	
9060	Coniferous forests on, or connected to, glaciofluvial eskers	

9070	Fennoscandian wooded pastures	
9080	Fennoscandian deciduous swamp woods	*
9180	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines	*
9190	Old acidophilous oak woods with Quercus robur on sandy plains	
91D0	Bog woodland	*
91E0	Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)	*

(* the priority habitat types)

Species included in the Annex II of the Habitats Directive

speciesname	speciescode	spgroup	annex_ii	prior
Agathidium pulchellum	1919	Invertebrate	-1	
Agriades glandon aquilo	1930	Invertebrate	-1	
Agrimonia pilosa	1939	Plant	-1	
Alisma wahlenbergii	1940	Plant	-1	*
Alopex lagopus	1911	Mammal	-1	*
Aradus angularis	1929	Invertebrate	-1	
Arctagrostis latifolia	1941	Plant	-1	
Arctophila fulva	1942	Plant	-1	
Arenaria ciliata ssp. pseudofrigida	1943	Plant	-1	
Artemisia campestris ssp. bottnica	1945	Plant	-1	
Boros schneideri	1920	Invertebrate	-1	
Botrychium simplex	1419	Plant	-1	
Buxbaumia viridis	1386	Plant	-1	
Calypso bulbosa	1949	Plant	-1	
Carex holostoma	1950	Plant	-1	
Cephalozia macounii	1980	Plant	-1	
Cinna latifolia	1951	Plant	-1	
Clossiana improba	1931	Invertebrate	-1	
Corticaria planula	1921	Invertebrate	-1	
Crepis tectorum ssp. nigrescens	1953	Plant	-1	
Cucujus cinnaberinus	1086	Invertebrate	-1	
Cynodontium suecicum	1981	Plant	-1	
Cypripedium calceolus	1902	Plant	-1	
Dichelyma capillaceum	1383	Plant	-1	
Dicranum viride	1381	Plant	-1	
Diplazium sibiricum	1955	Plant	-1	
Draba cinerea	1957	Plant	-1	
Drepanocladus vernicosus	1393	Plant	-1	
Dryopteris fragans	1958	Plant	-1	
Dytiscus latissimus	1081	Invertebrate	-1	
Encalypta mutica	1982	Plant	-1	
Erebia medusa polaris	1932	Invertebrate	-1	
Euphydryas aurinia	1065	Invertebrate	-1	
Euphydryas maturna	1052	Invertebrate	-1	
Graphoderus bilineatus	1082	Invertebrate	-1	
Gulo gulo	1912	Mammal	-1	*
Halichoerus grypus	1364	Mammal	-1	
Hamatocaulis lapponicus	1983	Plant	-1	
Herzogiella turfacea	1984	Plant	-1	
Hesperia comma catena	1933	Invertebrate	-1	
Hippuris tetraphylla	1960	Plant	-1	
Leucorrhinia pectoralis	1042	Invertebrate	-1	

Liparis loeselii	1903	Plant	-1	
Lutra lutra	1355	Mammal	-1	
Lycaena dispar	1060	Invertebrate	-1	
Macroplea pubipennis	1922	Invertebrate	-1	
Margaritifera margaritifera	1029	Invertebrate	-1	
Meesia longiseta	1389	Plant	-1	
Mesosa myops	1923	Invertebrate	-1	
Moehringia lateriflora	1962	Plant	-1	
Najas flexilis	1833	Plant	-1	
Najas tenuissima	1963	Plant	-1	
Ophiogomphus cecilia	1037	Invertebrate	-1	
Orthothecium lapponicum	1986	Plant	-1	
Osmoderma eremita	1084	Invertebrate	-1	*
Oxyporus mannerheimii	1924	Invertebrate	-1	
Persicaria foliosa	1966	Plant	-1	
Phoca hispida botnica	1938	Mammal	-1	
Phoca hispida saimensis	1913	Mammal	-1	*
Plagiomnium drummondii	1987	Plant	-1	
Primula nutans	1968	Plant	-1	
Pteromys volans	1910	Mammal	-1	*
Puccinellia phryganodes	1971	Plant	-1	
Pulsatilla patens	1477	Plant	-1	
Pytho kolwensis	1925	Invertebrate	-1	
Rangifer tarandus fennicus	1937	Mammal	-1	
Ranunculus lapponicus	1972	Plant	-1	
Saxifraga hirculus	1528	Plant	-1	
Silene furcata ssp. angustiflora	1975	Plant	-1	
Sorbus teodorii	1976	Plant	-1	
Stephanopachys linearis	1926	Invertebrate	-1	
Stephanopachys substriatus	1927	Invertebrate	-1	
Trisetum subalpestre	1977	Plant	-1	
Triturus cristatus	1166	Amphibian	-1	
Unio crassus	1032	Invertebrate	-1	
Vertigo angustior	1014	Invertebrate	-1	
Vertigo genesii	1015	Invertebrate	-1	
Vertigo geyeri	1013	Invertebrate	-1	
Viola rupestris ssp. relicta	1978	Plant	-1	
Xestia borealis	1934	Invertebrate	-1	
Xestia brunneopicta	1935	Invertebrate	-1	
Xyletinus tremulicola	1928	Invertebrate	-1	

Annex II
Birds Directive

Species name	Species code	Annex 1
Accipiter gentilis	A085	
Accipiter nisus	A086	
Acrocephalus arundinaceus	A298	
Acrocephalus palustris	A296	
Acrocephalus schoenobaenus	A295	
Acrocephalus scirpaceus	A289	
Actitis hypoleucos	A168	
Aegolius funereus	A223	+
Alauda arvensis	A247	
Alca torda	A200	
Alcedo atthis	A229	+
Anas acuta	A054	
Anas clypeata	A056	
Anas crecca	A051	
Anas penelope	A050	
Anas platyrhynchos	A053	
Anas querquedula	A055	
Anas strepera	A051	
Anser albifrons	A041	
Anser anser	A043	
Anser brachyrhynchus	A040	
Anser erythropus	A042	+
Anser fabalis	A039	
Anthus cervinus	A258	
Anthus pratensis	A257	
Anthus trivialis	A256	
Apus apus	A226	
Aquila chrysaetos	A091	+
Aquila clanga	A090	+
Ardea cinerea	A028	
Arenaria interpres	A169	
Asio flammeus	A222	+
Asio otus	A221	
Aythya ferina	A059	
Aythya fuligula	A061	
Aythya marila	A062	
Bombycilla garrulus	A263	
Bonasa bonasia	A104	+
Botaurus stellaris	A021	+
Branta bernicla	A046	
Branta canadensis	A044	
Branta leucopsis	A045	+
Bubo bubo	A215	+
Bucephala clangula	A057	
Buteo buteo	A087	

Buteo lagopus	A088	
Calcarius lapponicus	A374	
Calidris alba	A144	
Calidris alpina	A149	
Calidris alpina schinzii	A466	+
Calidris canutus	A143	
Calidris ferruginea	A147	
Calidris maritima	A148	
Calidris minuta	A145	
Calidris temminckii	A146	
Caprimulgus europaeus	A224	+
Carduelis cannabina	A366	
Carduelis carduelis	A364	
Carduelis chloris	A363	
Carduelis flammea	A368	
Carduelis flavirostris	A367	
Carduelis spinus	A365	
Carpodacus erythrinus	A371	
Cepphus grylle	A202	
Certhia familiaris	A334	
Charadrius dubius	A136	
Charadrius hiaticula	A137	
Charadrius morinellus	A139	+
Chlidonias niger	A197	+
Cinclus cinclus	A264	
Circus aeruginosus	A081	+
Circus cyaneus	A082	+
Circus pygargus	A084	+
Clangula hyemalis	A064	
Coccothraustes coccothraustes	A373	
Columba oenas	A207	
Columba palumbus	A208	
Corvus corax	A350	
Corvus frugilegus	A348	
Corvus monedula	A347	
Crex crex	A122	+
Cuculus canorus	A212	
Cygnus columbianus bewickii	A037	+
Cygnus cygnus	A038	+
Cygnus olor	A036	
Delichon urbica	A036	
Dendrocopos leucotos	A239	+
Dendrocopos major	A237	
Dendrocopos minor	A240	
Dryocopus martius	A236	+
Emberiza aureola	A540	
Emberiza citrinella	A376	
Emberiza hortulana	A379	+
Emberiza pusilla	A380	
Emberiza schoeniclus	A297	

Eremophila alpestris	A248	
Erithacus rubecula	A269	
Falco columbarius	A098	+
Falco peregrinus	A103	+
Falco rusticolus	A102	+
Falco subbuteo	A099	
Falco tinnunculus	A096	
Ficedula hypoleuca	A322	
Ficedula parva	A320	+
Fringilla coelebs	A359	
Fringilla montifringilla	A360	
Fulica atra	A125	
Gallinago gallinago	A153	
Gallinago media	A154	+
Gallinula chloropus	A123	
Garrulus glandarius	A342	
Gavia arctica	A002	+
Gavia stellata	A001	+
Glaucidium passerinum	A217	+
Grus grus	A127	+
Haematopus ostralegus	A130	
Haliaeetus albicilla	A075	+
Hippolais icterina	A299	
Hirundo rustica	A251	
Jynx torquilla	A233	
Lagopus lagopus	A105	
Lanius collurio	A338	+
Lanius excubitor	A340	
Larus argentatus	A184	
Larus canus	A182	
Larus fuscus	A183	
Larus marinus	A187	
Larus minutus	A177	+
Larus ridibundus	A179	
Limicola falcinellus	A150	
Limosa lapponica	A157	+
Limosa limosa	A156	
Locustella fluviatilis	A290	
Locustella naevia	A290	
Loxia curvirostra	A369	
Loxia pytyopsittacus	A370	
Lullula arborea	A246	+
Luscinia luscinia	A270	
Luscinia svecica	A272	+
Luscinia svecica svecica	A272	
Lymnocryptes minimus	A152	
Melanitta fusca	A066	
Melanitta nigra	A065	
Mergus albellus	A068	+
Mergus merganser	A070	

Mergus serrator	A069	
Milvus migrans	A073	+
Motacilla alba	A262	
Motacilla cinerea	A261	
Motacilla flava	A260	
Muscicapa striata	A297	
Nucifraga caryocatactes	A344	
Numenius arquata	A160	
Numenius phaeopus	A158	
Nyctea scandiaca	A216	+
Oenanthe oenanthe	A227	
Pandion haliaetus	A094	+
Panurus biarmicus	A323	
Parus ater	A328	
Parus caeruleus	A329	
Parus cristatus	A327	
Parus major	A330	
Parus montanus	A326	
Passer domesticus	A354	
Perisoreus infaustus	A548	
Pernis apivorus	A072	+
Phalacrocorax carbo	A214	
Phalaropus lobatus	A170	+
Phasianus colchicus	A115	
Philomachus pugnax	A151	+
Phoenicurus phoenicurus	A274	
Phylloscopus borealis	BBBB	
Phylloscopus collybita	A315	
Phylloscopus sibilatrix	A314	
Phylloscopus trochiloides	A312	
Phylloscopus trochilus	A316	
Pica pica	A343	
Picoides tridactylus	A241	+
Picus canus	A234	+
Plectrophenax nivalis	A375	
Pluvialis apricaria	A140	+
Pluvialis squatarola	A141	
Podiceps auritus	A007	+
Podiceps cristatus	A005	
Podiceps grisegena	A006	
Polysticta stelleri	A506	+
Porzana porzana	A119	+
Prunella modularis	A266	
Pyrrhula pyrrhula	A372	
Rallus aquaticus	A118	
Regulus regulus	A317	
Riparia riparia	A249	
Saxicola rubetra	A276	
Scolopax rusticola	A276	
Sitta europaea	A332	

Somateria mollissima	A063	
Stercorarius longicaudus	A174	
Sterna albifrons	A195	+
Sterna caspia	A190	+
Sterna hirundo	A193	+
Sterna paradisaea	A194	+
Strix aluco	A219	
Strix nebulosa	A457	+
Strix uralensis	A220	+
Sturnus vulgaris	A283	
Surnia ulula	A456	+
Sylvia atricapilla	A311	
Sylvia borin	A310	
Sylvia communis	A309	
Sylvia curruca	A308	
Sylvia nisoria	A307	+
Tadorna tadorna	A048	
Tarsiger cyanurus	A534	
Tetrao tetrix tetrix	A409	+
Tetrao urogallus	A108	+
Tringa erythropus	A161	
Tringa glareola	A166	+
Tringa nebularia	A164	
Tringa ochropus	A165	
Tringa stagnatilis	A163	
Tringa totanus	A162	
Troglodytes troglodytes	A265	
Turdus iliacus	A286	
Turdus merula	A285	
Turdus philomelos	A283	
Turdus pilaris	A284	
Turdus torquatus	A282	
Turdus viscivorus	A287	
Uria aalge	A199	
Vanellus vanellus	A142	
Xenus cinereus	A167	+

ANNEX III

Natura 2000 management Activities which may be eligible for EU co-financing[19]

Categorisation	No.	Types of Activities	Further description
Establishment of Natura 2000 sites	**1**	Administration of the site selection process	Funding for authorities carrying out the selection process.
	2	Scientific studies/inventories for the identification of sites – surveys, inventories, mapping, condition assessment	Scientific studies, research personnel, workshops and meetings, creation of databases etc.
	3	Preparation of initial information and publicity material	Including handbooks, seminars, workshops, communication materials for training and capacity building.
	4	Pilot projects	Initial 'trial' projects at sites.
Management planning	**5**	Preparation of management plans, strategies and schemes (including scientific studies and investigations needed for planning and implementation based on solid knowledge)	Elaboration and/or update of management and action plans, land use plans etc.
	6	Establishment of management bodies	Start-up funding, feasibility studies, management plans etc.
	7	Consultation – public meetings, liaison with landowners	Including costs incurred for the organization of meetings and workshops, publication of consultation outcomes, financial support of stakeholders, etc. Can include networking activities (travel, meetings and workshops).
	8	Review of management plans, strategies and schemes	Review and updating of management plans and strategies.
	9	Running costs of management bodies (maintenance of buildings and equipment)	Including: running costs incurred to meet depreciation of infrastructure, consumables, travel expenses, rents and leases etc.
	10	Maintenance of facilities for public access and use of the sites, interpretation, observatories and kiosks etc.	Including costs related to guides, maps, related personnel.
	11	Staff (conservation/project officers, wardens/rangers, workers)	Ongoing staff costs.
Ongoing habitat management and monitoring	**12**	Conservation management measures – maintenance and improvement of habitats' favourable conservation status	Including restoration work, provision of wildlife passages, management of specific habitats, and preparation of management plans.
	13	Conservation management measures – maintenance and improvement of species' favourable conservation status	Including restoration work, provision of wildlife passages, management of specific species (flora and fauna) and plans.
	14	Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)	Including restoration work, infrastructure, management of specific species, and preparation of management plans.

[19] P 33, Financing Natura 2000, Guidance Handbook, revised version May 2007, http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/financing/index_en.htm

Categorisation	No.	Types of Activities	Further description
Ongoing habitat management and monitoring	**15**	Implementation of management schemes and agreements with owners and managers of land or water to follow particular prescriptions.	Includes: • *Agri-environmental measures*, e.g. wildlife-friendly production methods, habitat restoration on agricultural land, extensive livestock breeding, conservation of meadows, etc • *Forest-environmental measures*, e.g. creation of exploitation-free zones, retention of dead wood, control or eradication of invasive alien species, afforestation or reforestation activities, management of specific vegetation, etc. • *Aqua-environmental measures*, e.g. habitat maintenance in aquaculture zones etc. (relates to aquaculture rather than fishing).
	16	Provision of services: compensation for rights foregone and loss of income and developing acceptability 'liaison' with neighbors	Costs of compensation, e.g. to farmers, foresters or other land owners or users for income forgone as a result of management prescriptions needed for Natura 2000.
	17	Monitoring and surveying	Refers mainly to one-off costs related to monitoring and surveying activities, e.g. development of monitoring plans, methods and equipment and training of personnel.
	18	Risk management (fire prevention and control, flooding etc)	Includes the preparation of wardening and fire-control plans, development of relevant infrastructure, and equipment purchase.
	19	Site surveillance	Includes on-going surveillance, wardening and patrolling activities. Can include personnel costs, consumables, travel, etc in order to implement surveillance and guarding activities, including surveillance to control harmful recreational or economic activities and protect against wildfires.
	20	Provision of information and publicity material	Includes establishing communication networks, producing newsletters and awareness-raising and information materials, setting-up and maintaining internet pages, etc.
	21	Training and education	Including production of handbooks, seminars, workshops and communication materials.
	22	Facilities to encourage visitor use and appreciation of Natura 2000 sites	
Investment costs	**23**	Land purchase, including compensation for development rights	Land purchase to achieve environmental protection and management schemes.

Categorisation	No.	Types of Activities	Further description
Investment costs	**24**	Infrastructure needed for habitat or species restoration	Includes an array of measures for the creation of specific infrastructure for the management of the environment, e.g. for water management in peat bogs and mines. Can include equipment acquisition (for equipment relevant to the running of protection and management institutions such as office and IT equipment, monitoring materials, boats, diving equipment, cameras, etc.)
	25	Infrastructure for public access, interpretation, observatories and kiosks, etc	Infrastructure for public use that is conducive to environmental protection and management (e.g. infrastructure to increase the amenity value of sites such as signage, trails, observation platforms and visitor centres). Can include equipment acquisition (for equipment relevant to the running of protection and management institutions such as office and IT equipment, monitoring materials, boats, diving equipment, cameras, etc.)