



Seminar

“Saving Biodiversity: Releasing Natura 2000's potential”

Brussels

27 February 2007

Cenelec, Rue de Stassart 35

Introduction

By publishing the Biodiversity Communication and the 2010 Action Plan, the Commission has put the protection of nature and biodiversity firmly on the political agenda and underlined the urgency of effectively implementing its related policy tools. Two of the most important of these are the Birds and Habitats Directives, which have achieved important conservation successes and often proved to be key drivers for sustainable development. However, implementation is not complete yet and these tools have not always been used to their full potential. Now is therefore the time to putting best practice in the spotlight, thus showing the way for swift, effective and consistent implementation across the EU and releasing the full potential of these tools for biodiversity protection and sustainable development. This is why the EEB, with the support of the European Habitats Forum, is organizing this seminar. It aims to bring together the government and Commission officials, stakeholders and NGOs which are implementing the Nature Directives, for a discussion on best practices.

The case studies presented in the workshop will also feature in an EEB publication on the same topic.

Agenda

Seminar chaired by **Zoltan Waliczky**, RSPB and acting chair of the EHF

09.30 Welcome and introductory statements by **Dr Ursula Vavrik**, EEB Policy Director and **María Artola** - Director Biodiversity Foundation

09.50 Opening address – **Dr Anita Breyer**, German Ministry of Environment

10.15 Commission support for better implementation of Natura 2000 - **Patrick Murphy**, European Commission

10.45 *Coffee break*

11.00 – 13.00 Case study presentations

- Appropriate assessments in Germany – Federal Agency for Nature Protection, **Dirk Bernotat**
- Case studies from Spain, Spanish Ministry of Environment (**tbc**)
- Management planning in France, **Emmanuel Tevenin**, Atelier Technique des Espaces Naturels (ATEN), **Grégoire Gautier**, Office National des Forêts (ONF)
- Port expansion and Natura 2000 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands – **Jan de Jong**, Landscape protection association of South Holland and representative of the Rotterdam Port Authority (**tbc**)
- Species protection through close to nature forest management – **Prof. Jean-Phillipe Schütz**, President, PRO SILVA Europe
- Implementation by land owners – **Thierry de l'Escaille**, European Landowners' Organisation

13.00 *Lunch*

14.00 3 Parallel sessions on management planning, species protection outside Natura 2000 and on infrastructure and Natura 2000.

16.00 *Coffee break*

16.30 Plenary report

17.00 Workshop conclusions by the Chair

17.15 Closing remarks by **Dr Ursula Vavrik**, EEB Policy Director