

# Mission

The European Habitats Forum,  
founded in 1991, exists to:

Represent the interest  
of civil society in  
conserving Europe's  
natural heritage, in  
the implementation of  
the EU Habitats and  
Birds Directives;

Positively influence  
biodiversity policy  
and legislation  
through discussion  
and partnership with  
relevant stakeholders.

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# EUROPEAN HABITATS FORUM

14 international NGO networks  
committed to the conservation,  
restoration and sustainable use  
of habitats and species in Europe



# Aims

## To advise and influence:

- The development and implementation of nature conservation legislation;
- The practical management and sustainable use of natural resources;
- Biodiversity monitoring, including the development of indicators
- The promotion of information, education and public awareness of biodiversity in Europe.

## To support the implementation of:

- The EU Habitats and Birds Directives and Natura 2000;
- The EU Biodiversity Action Plan.

## To promote nature conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources in Europe, through:

- The Convention on Biological Diversity;
- The Bern Convention.

## To promote communication:

- Between European nature conservation NGOs in order to enhance the effectiveness of their programmes.

# How the Forum works

## The Forum has developed:

- Constructive communication between the EU and Nature Conservation NGOs working internationally in Europe.



## The Forum works by:

- **Networking** of information via the EHF Secretariat;
- **Joint work on** priority activities;
- **Exchange** of information on potential funding sources;
- Regular **exchange** of publications and newsletters;
- **Meetings** of the members every six months;
- **Representing its membership** at key European fora, for example, the Habitats Scientific Working Group, the European Commission Biodiversity Expert Group, the Bern Convention Standing Committee and advising on the implementation of the EC Habitats Directive and the establishment of the Natura 2000 network.

# Tasks

## Main tasks:

- To coordinate the common interests of the members activities to enhance the effectiveness of their programmes;
- To choose a "portfolio" of activities by discussion between the members of the forum at its regular meetings;
- To identify new activities on which the 14 NGO networks can work jointly, as over 400 protected areas are represented in the forum in more than 30 European countries.



Bob Gibbons/Natural Image