



N2000 management

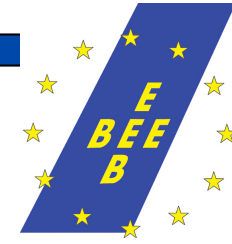
- *an NGO assessment* -

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Photo: Stefan Avramov

Scope



- Objective
critical NGO assessment, looking into details
- Analyzed countries and regions
Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Netherlands, Nord-Rhein-Westphalia, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Greece, Poland, Portugal, Wallonia
- 7 Questions on management



Conservation objectives on site/ national level

- most Member States: no detailed, site-specific objectives
- Generic objectives are the norm
“maintenance of a favourable conservation status of species and habitat of community interest and restoration in case of inappropriate conservation status”

Conservation objectives on site/ national level



- some forerunners: FR, SW (in the framework of MPs), Salzburg and Lower Austria, Nord- Rhein-Westphalia
- on the way: the Netherlands (estimates on the national level), Finland (regional priorities)
- national level conservation objectives: no country (exc:Netherlands)



Implementing institutions

- confusing variety of bodies responsible
environmental, fisheries, forestry authorities, agencies,
Local governments and municipalities, associations,
NGOs, consultancies, individual farmers, land owners
- in many countries it is unclear who is
responsible, or multiple bodies responsible
- low human and financial resources
- many Natura 2000 sites across Europe
are left unmanaged

Implementing institutions



- Austria: 110 of 218 Natura 2000 sites have managing staff
- The number of managed sites depends on the Bundesland: In Carinthia only one of 13 sites has an appropriate site management, whereas in Styria 36 of 41 have a coordinating managing team.

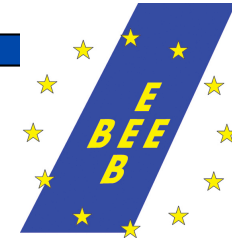
Management measures



- Coverage of sites with management plans: between **0-95%**

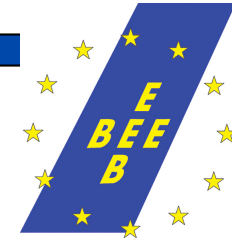
country	2011	2013
SW	100	100
FR	52	100
AUT	60	70
PL	0	50
EE	20	40
IE	10	10
PT	<5	na

Quality of management instruments



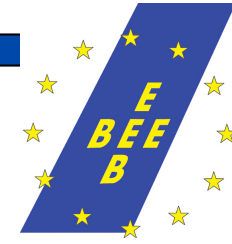
- Austria: minimal standards since 2002, still management plans vary widely in quality and are often vague in the formulation of conservation objectives and measures.
- Cyprus: MPs only contain prohibitions of HD or national legislation. No site-specific objectives or measures
- Poland: forestry N2K measures: in many cases not different from the “normal” forest management measures. +: also applied in forests outside Natura 2000

Management measures



- Approximately two-third of the analyzed countries have a legal obligation to draw up management plans, in the rest this is voluntary.
- Most widely used: MP + contracts
- management measures implemented:
no answer or 0% (except one country)

Overall conclusions



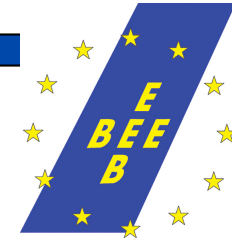
- huge differences between MS
- Some old MS very much behind
- New MS made good progress in short time
- pressure to satisfy EC obligations and show up nicely in reports: some choose to make it “quick and dirty”
- Investing the time and resources pays off better

Some recommendations



- Generic conservation objectives and measures should not be acknowledged for SAC designation
- No management planning without clear site-specific conservation objectives
- Set realistic deadline to complete conservation objectives
- Huge delays in case of old MS should not be tolerated any longer
- Set national level conservation objectives
- Apply common obligatory standards for management planning
- Invest in high quality management plans to avoid difficulties of implementation and verification in the future
- Set up a clear legal framework to define management responsibilities
- Increase significantly the financial and human resources for N2000 site management

To be continued...



- monitoring and control measures,
- funding of management,
- public participation in management planning

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Thank you for your attention !

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