



# European cooperation for effective management of marine Natura 2000 network

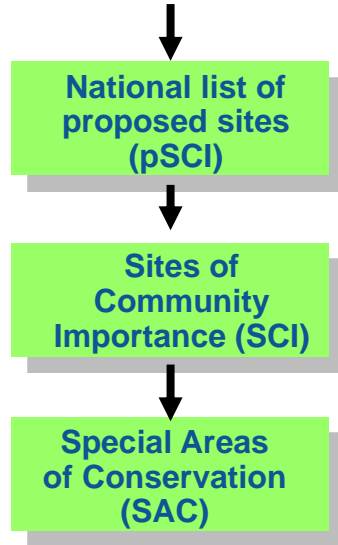
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Nature Protection Unit, DG Environment  
European Commission

Europarc Webinar on  
marine Natura 2000  
5 December 2018

# Natura 2000

## a European network of protected areas based on two EU Directives

### HABITATS DIRECTIVE



### BIRDS DIRECTIVE



Overall objective: species and habitat types are maintained at, or restored to, a '***favourable conservation status***



# SCIs and SPAs have to be designated for

- **Marine Annex I habitats**

<b>1110</b>	Sandbanks
<b>1120*</b>	Posidonia beds
<b>1170</b>	Reefs
<b>1180</b>	Submarine structures made by leaking gases
<b>8330</b>	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves

- **Marine Annex II species**

1349	Tursiops truncatus (+ in Annex IV)
1351	Phocoena phocoena (+ in Annex IV)
1364	Halichoerus grypus (+ in Annex V)
1365	Phoca vitulina (also in Annex V)
1366	Monachus monachus* (+ in Annex IV)
1938	Phoca hispida botnica (+ in Annex V)
1224	Caretta caretta* (+ Annex IV)

1227	Chelonia mydas* (+ Annex IV)
1095	Petromyzon marinus
1099	Lampetra fluviatilis (+ Annex V)
1100	Acipenser naccarii* (+ Annex IV)
1101	Acipenser sturio* (+ Annex IV)
1102	Alosa alosa (+ Annex V)
1103	Alosa fallax (+ Annex V)
4125	Alosa immaculata (+ Annex V)
4127	Alosa tanaica (+ Annex V)
1113	Coregonus oxyrhynchus* (+ Annex IV)
2578	Gibbula nivosa (also Annex IV)

- **+ SEABIRDS**

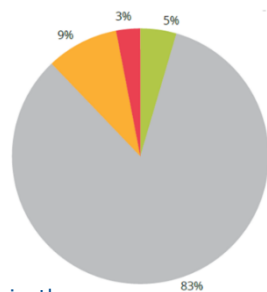
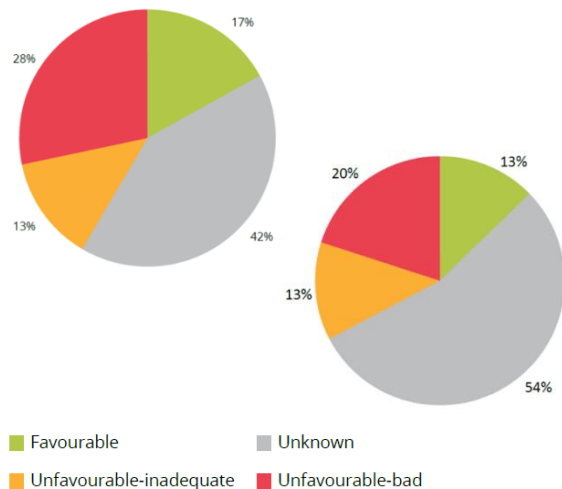


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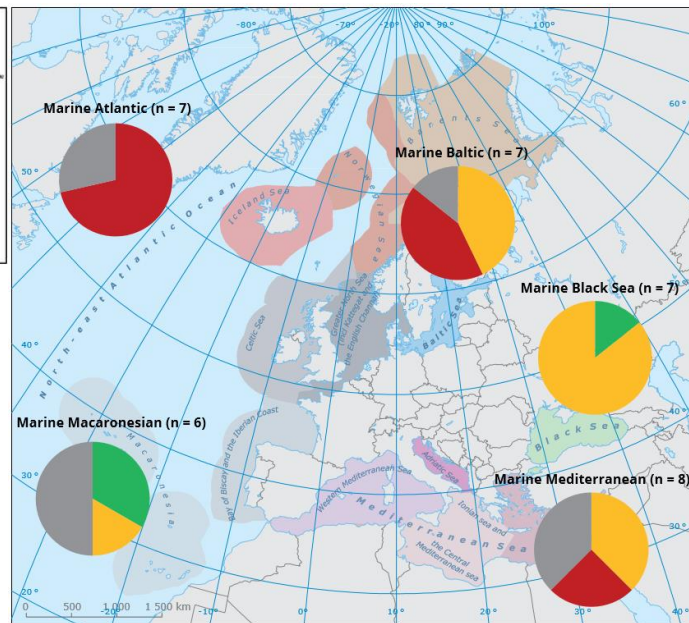
# State of EU marine environment

Results from reporting under Birds and Habitats directives 2007–2012

**About one third** of protected (non-bird) marine species are in **unfavourable conservation status**, while for most of them the status is **unknown**.



**Two thirds** of protected marine habitats are in **unfavourable conservation status** and for many the status is still **unknown**.

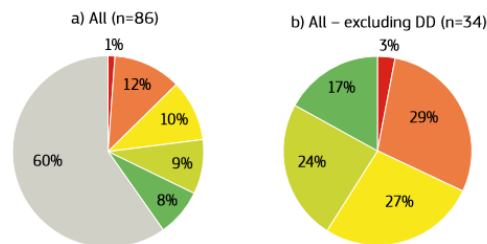


# State of EU marine environment

## European Red List of Marine Habitats (2016)



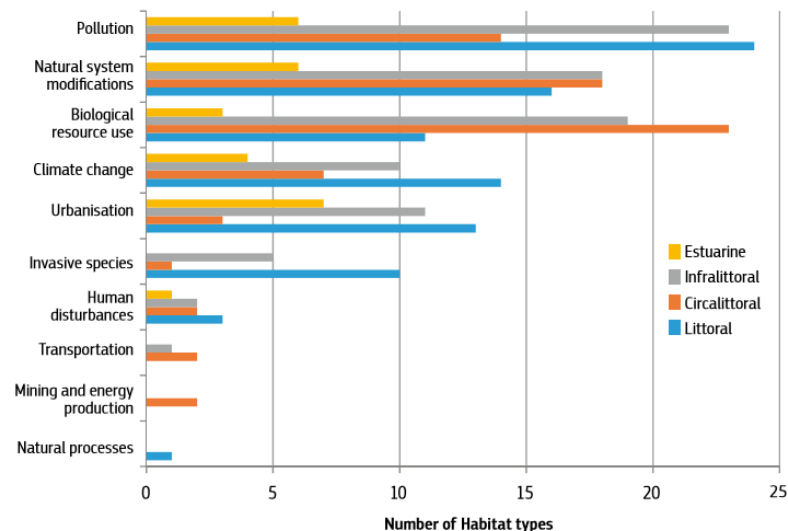
**Figure 3.3.3** Proportion of EUNIS-4 habitats assigned to each Red List category in the North-East Atlantic for both EU28 and EU28+: (a) all habitats (n=86) (b) excluding Data Deficient habitats (n=34). (n=number of habitats)



**Table 3.3.1** Number of North-East Atlantic habitats in each Red List category for both the EU28 and the EU28+ in the North-East Atlantic.

Red List category	EU28	EU28+
CR	1	1
EN	10	10
VU	9	9
NT	8	8
LC	6	6
DD	52	52
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>86</b>

Pollution of marine waters and fishing and harvesting aquatic resources and are top two **pressures/threats** for habitats and species associated with marine ecosystems



# State of EU marine environment

## EEA report: State of Europe's seas

Healthy seas?	Status: ecosystem characteristics	5-10 year outlook	Information availability and quality
Seabed habitats			
Water column habitats			
Marine invertebrates			
Marine fish			
Turtles			
Seabirds and waterbirds			
Marine mammals			
Ecosystem processes and functions			
Clean and undisturbed seas?	Status: pressure	5-10 year outlook	Information availability and quality
Physical disturbance of seafloor			
Extraction of fish and shellfish			
Non-indigenous species			
Eutrophication			
Contamination			
Marine litter			
Underwater noise and other forms of energy input			
Climate change			
Productive seas?	Direct dependency on healthy seas	Activity 5-10 year outlook	Information availability and quality
Land-based activities	X	-	
Extraction of living resources	✓	↗	
Production of living resources	✓	↗	
Extraction of non-living resources and disposal of waste	X	↗	
Transport and shipbuilding	X	↗	
Tourism and recreation	✓	↗	
Man-made structures	X	↗	
Energy production	X	↗	
Research and survey	X	↗	
Military	X	↘	

- Europe's seas cannot be considered healthy, clean and undisturbed today and are unlikely to become so in the future given the current trends
- The EU has responded to marine ecosystem change and broader marine environmental problems with a wide range of policies and initiatives.

# International and EU policy goals



## CBD Aichi target 11

*By 2020, at least... 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures...*

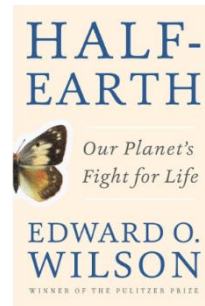
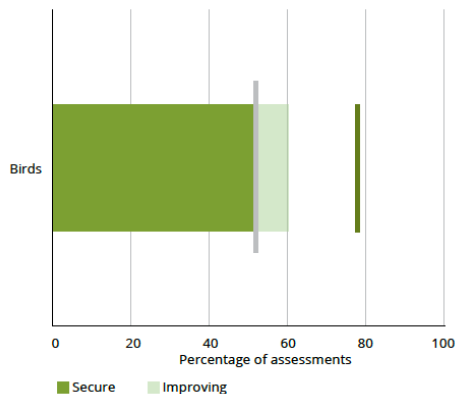
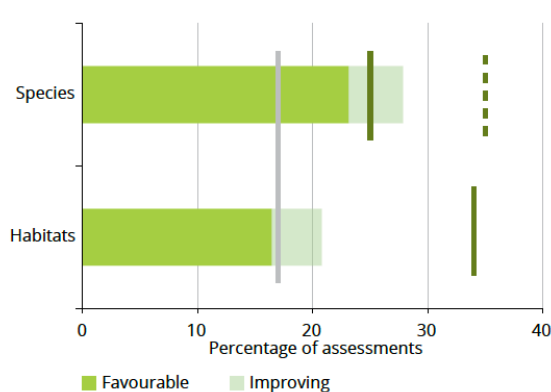
## Sustainable development goal - SDG 14

*Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development*

## EU Biodiversity Strategy

*Target 1: 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 by 2020*

*Action 1: Complete the establishment of the Natura 2000 network and ensure good management*



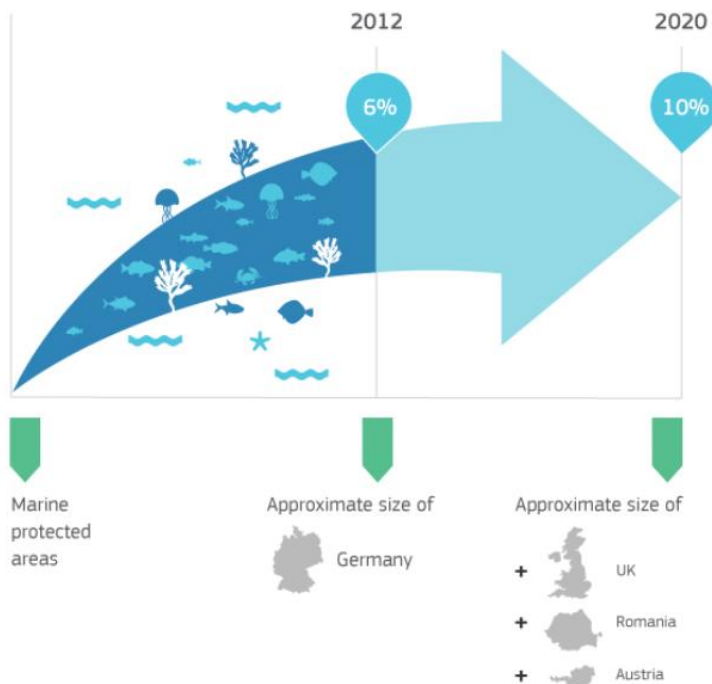
Make half of world more nature-friendly by 2050, urges UN biodiversity chief:



Make half of world more nature-friendly by 2050, urges UN biodiversity chief  
Call by Cristiana Paşca Palmer comes ahead of a major biodiversity conference in Beijing in 2020

# EU reached 10% of MPA coverage thanks to Natura 2000

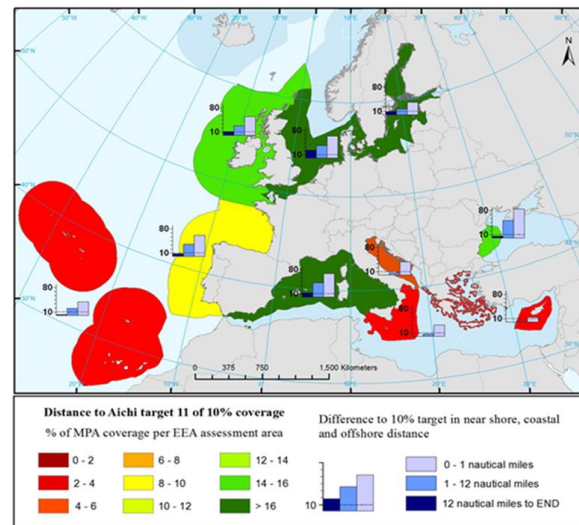
In 2012, the **MPAs covered 5.9%** of Europe's seas.



At the end of 2016, the MPAs covered **10.8%** of Europe's seas and **marine Natura 2000 network is the main driving force behind this success.**



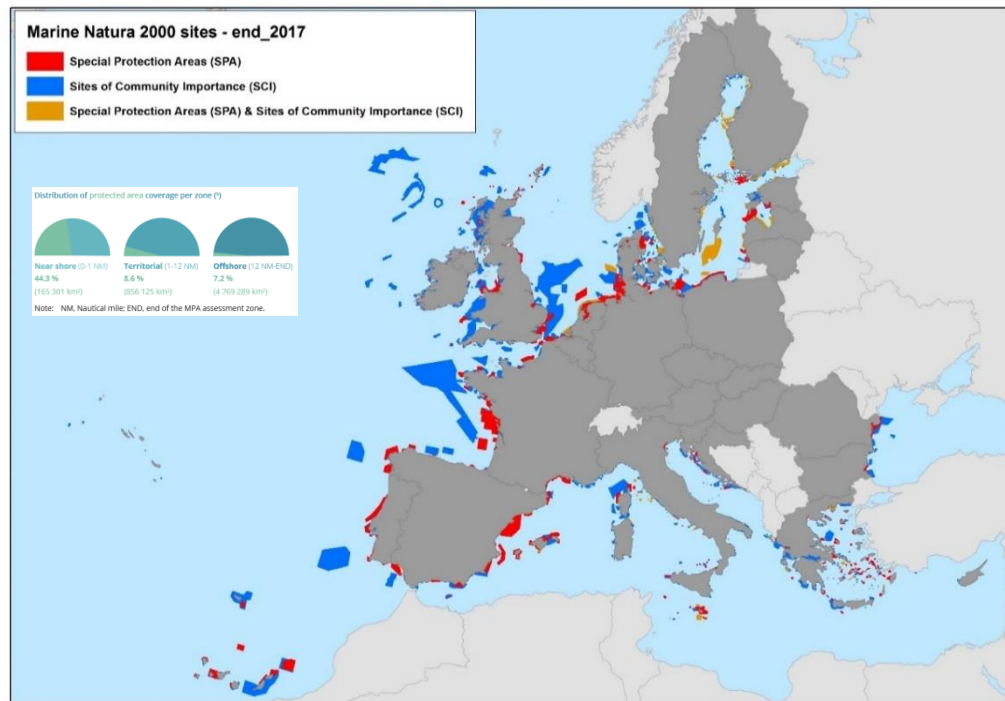
covers **9.2%** of EU seas or **532.417 km<sup>2</sup>**.





# Marine Natura 2000 – state of play

- More than **3150** marine sites (out of **>27000**)
- Covers **>9% of EU seas** (>**532.417** km<sup>2</sup>)
- Network is not complete in the **offshore** area and big differences across **regional seas**
- **Collective EU effort: the area under marine Natura 2000 doubled in the last 5 years!**
- Marine Natura 2000 is the main driver of MPA designation in the EU and makes **the main contribution to reaching international targets** ('Aichi Target 11' and SDG 14)
- Total EU MPAs: **>10%** - Natura 2000 plays a major role



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# Natura 2000 management framework



## HABITATS DIRECTIVE

Special Areas  
of Conservation  
(SAC)

## BIRDS DIRECTIVE

Special  
Protection  
Areas (SPA)

### Conservation measures

- Conservation measures which correspond to the ecological requirements of habitats and species

### Avoid deterioration

- Avoid the deterioration of habitats and the habitats of species as well as disturbance of the species

### Appropriate assessment of plans and projects

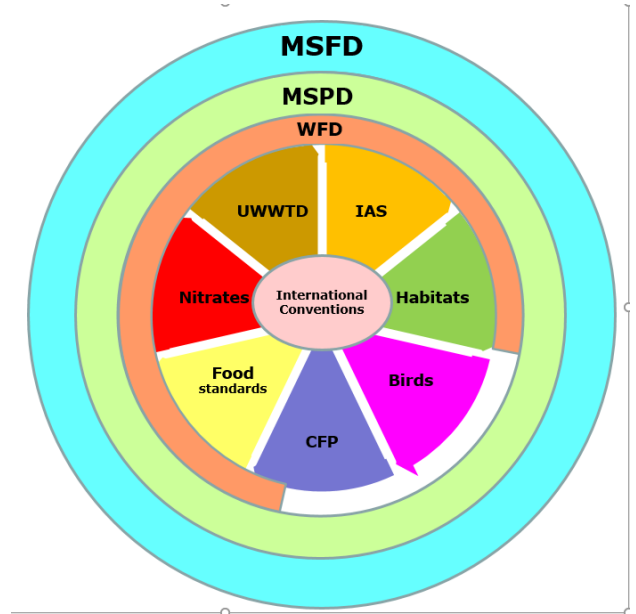
- Plan or projects approved only after having ascertained that they will not adversely affect the integrity of the site



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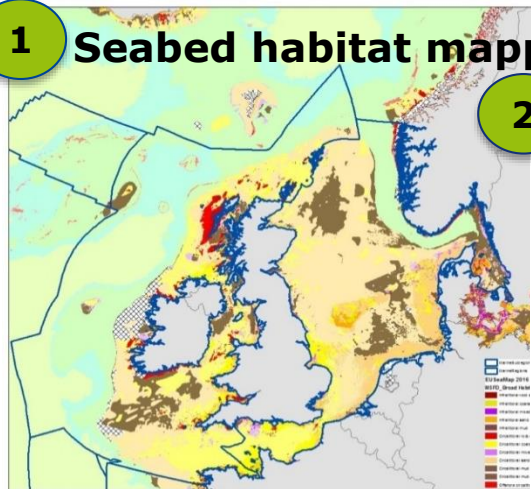
# Addressing the main pressures

- [The Common Fisheries Policy](#)
  - Fisheries measures for Natura 2000 sites
  - Incidental catch of protected species
  - Data collection and technical measures
- [The Marine Strategy Framework Directive](#)
  - Programme of measures including [spatial protection measures](#)
- [The Maritime Spatial Planning Directive](#)
  - Maritime spatial plans



# Strategic approaches through risk assessments

## 1 Seabed habitat mapping



EUNIS marine habitats, aggregated to MSFD broad habitat types (*EMODnet seabed habitats 2017*)

### Distribution of protected area coverage per zone (%)



**Near shore (0-1 NM)**

**44.3 %**

(165 301 km<sup>2</sup>)



**Territorial (1-12 NM)**

**8.6 %**

(856 125 km<sup>2</sup>)



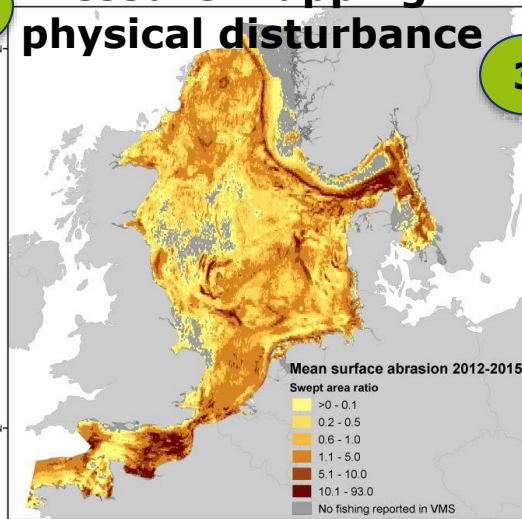
**Offshore (12 NM-END)**

**7.2 %**

(4 769 289 km<sup>2</sup>)

Note: NM, Nautical mile; END, end of the MPA assessment zone.

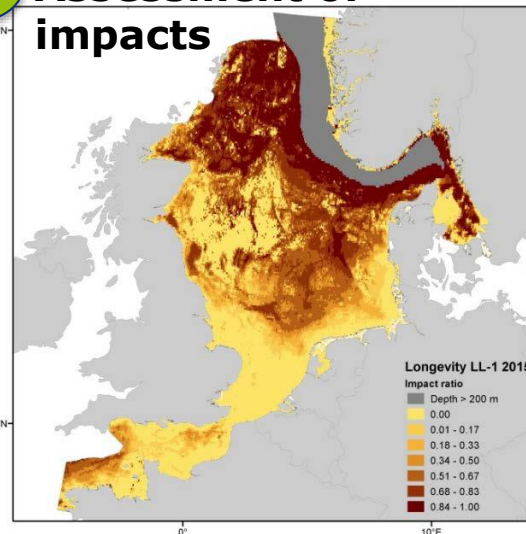
## 2 Pressure mapping: physical disturbance



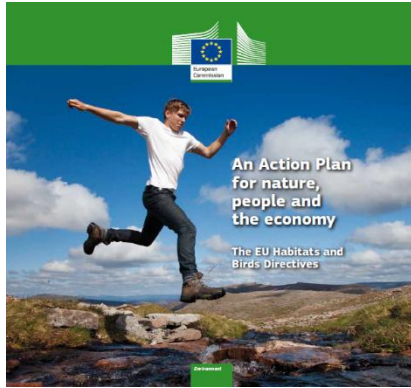
Fishing intensity by mobile bottom-contacting gear in the period 2012–2015 for surface abrasion. Surface abrasion is defined as the damage to seabed surface features.

(*ICES Special Request Advice, 6 July 2017*)

## 3 Assessment of impacts



Average annual Impact of all mobile bottom-contacting gears by c-square in 2015 according to the LL1 method. Maps show only impacts in depths between 0 and 200 m. The colour scale is at equal-sized intervals between 0 and 1. (*ICES Special Request Advice, 6 July 2017*)



# Action plan for nature, people and the economy

## Actions and measures include:

- **aims to rapidly improve practical implementation of the Birds and Habitats Directives**
- **covers 4 priority areas and includes 15 concrete actions with 100+ measures**
- **Completion of marine Natura 2000 network** including the establishment of conservation measures
- Methodologies to assess **coherence of MPA networks**
- Increase **synergies with MSFD**
- Develop new **guidance on Natura 2000 and fisheries** under the CFP
- **Facilitate the implementation of fisheries management measures** under the CFP for marine Natura 2000
- **Cooperation** with RSCs and RFMOs
- **Biogeographical process** in marine regions
- Synergies with CFP and IMP
- Full use of financial resources under **EMFF**

## Completion of the marine Natura 2000 network

- Priority of the Action Plan: complete the **designation** and establish - **conservation objectives and measures for all sites**
- Bilateral dialogues with Member States
- Legal action

### Favourable reference values for habitats and species

Appropriate to reach the aims of the directives

Defined on a regional scale, especially for wide ranging species

### Conservation objectives

S.M.A.R.T. objectives

Regional coherence

Different scales (from site to regional)

Taking into account FRVs

### Conservation measures

Management plans

SAC designation: Legal, statutory or contractual arrangements

Full stakeholder involvement

Implementation on the ground



# Supporting the management of Natura 2000

- **Commission guidance on establishment of marine Natura 2000, on setting conservation objectives and measures and on SAC designation**
- Supporting activities under the **Marine Expert Group**:
  - **Common methodology to assess impact of fisheries on marine Natura 2000 (2012)**
  - **Overview of the potential interactions and impacts of commercial fishing methods on marine habitats and species protected under the EU Habitats directive - sensitivity analysis matrices (2014)**
  - **Review of fishery measures**
  - **Exchange of best practices**

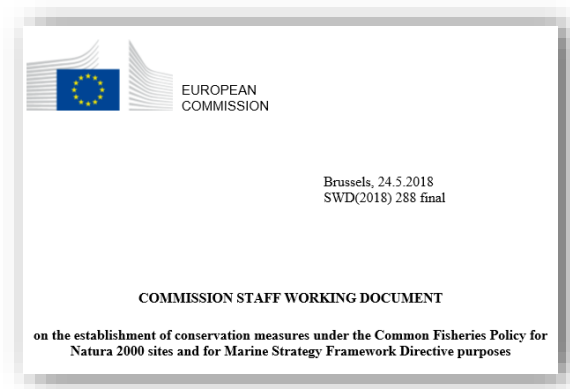
# The new CFP “basic” regulation - Reg 1380/2013

## CFP - coherence with nature directives

- The CFP “basic regulation” introduced the framework for adoption of conservation measures in Natura 2000 sites (and MSFD-relevant measures) through its **Article 11**, which was a very important step forward compared to the previous CFP
- The framework for protection of species or habitats is being complemented by new regulations (data collection, MAPs, control, technical measures...)

### **Under Action plan for nature, people and the economy - Action 4 (facilitate the development of fisheries measures under the CFP):**

*Commission staff working document on the establishment of conservation measures under the common fisheries policy for Natura 2000 sites and MSFD-relevant measures*





# Supporting the management of Natura 2000

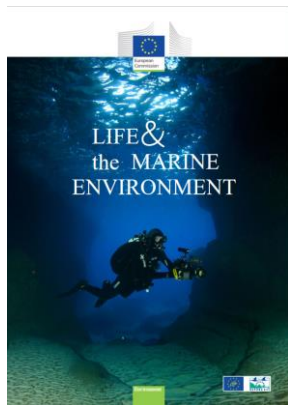
- Socio-economic benefits of the EU marine protected areas (study, EC 2016)
- Financing opportunities under EMFF (monitoring, restoration, management of N2000, reducing by-catch), LIFE+, INTERREG....
- Recognition and communication
- Biogeographical seminars and events on Natura 2000, including on management – forum for discussions, networking and cross-border cooperation
- ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> **marine seminar**: Palma de Mallorca, Spain, **13-15 November** 2018
  - ✓ Themes: setting conservation objectives, favourable reference values, conservation measures – for particular species/habitats



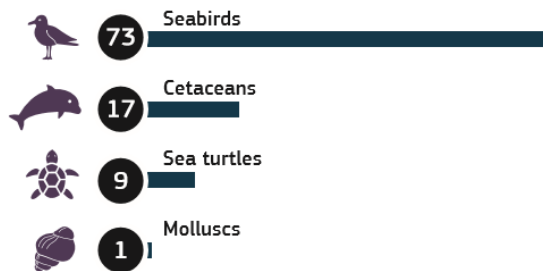
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# Natura 2000 sites - Financing

- ✓ COM proposal for the **new multiannual financing framework** for the period 2020-2027 - EMFF
- ✓ **Increased budget for the LIFE** programme (5.45 billion), new “**strategic nature projects**”
- ✓ Update of the strategic planning tools for financing Natura 2000 - **prioritised action frameworks (PAFs)**, stakeholder input through workshops

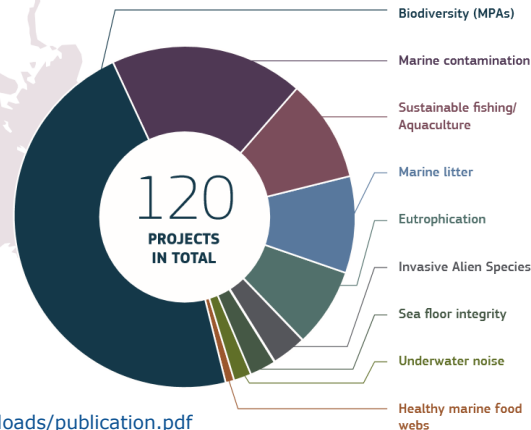


*Number of projects per species group*



€ 170 M  
EU CONTRIBUTION

€ 320 M  
TOTAL BUDGET



More information on our marine page:

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/marine/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/marine/index_en.htm)

and on our biogeographical process pages

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/seminars\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/seminars_en.htm)

Contact: [Sophie.ouzet@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Sophie.ouzet@ec.europa.eu)

**Thank you!**

