



## EU Biodiversity and Nature Directors Meeting

Rome, 26th November 2014



**Agenda item**

# Update on Target 1 & Fitness Check

# Action 1: Completion of Natura 2000 Network & ensure good management

- Update of **Union Lists of SCIs** for 6 Biogeographic Regions ongoing
  - Update adds 2.2 million hectares (EU wide + 2.9 %)
  - total number of SCIs: 23 642
  - Most significant increased results from accession of **CROATIA**
- **SAC** designation: still insufficient progress
- **SCI** and **SPA** for marine still insufficient
- **Biogeographical process**: good progress and perspective for 2015 in FR (Marine) May and in LU June



# Action 3 Stakeholder awareness and involvement, enforcement

- **Natura 2000 award**
  - **20 finalists, 5 winners at Award ceremony on 21 May 2014 & Local events**
  - **New call for applications to be launched today**
- **Large Carnivore Initiative**
  - **EU Platform on Co-existence between people and Large Carnivores launched in June**

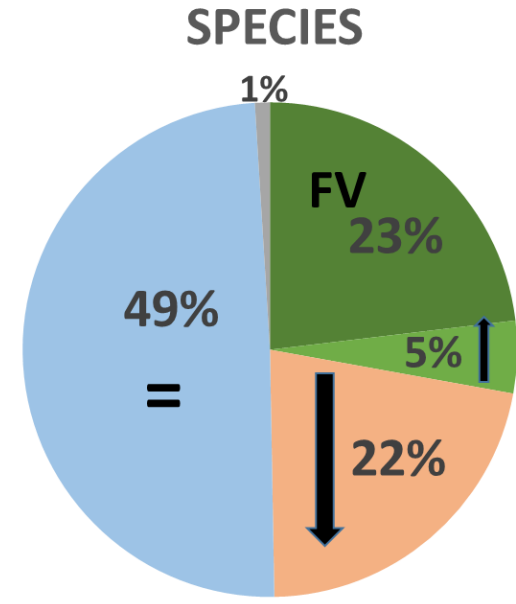
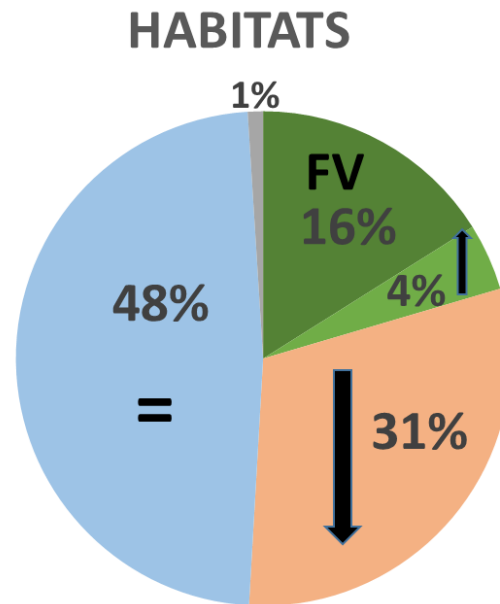


# Action 4: Reporting under the Habitats and Birds Directives

## Article 17 & 12 reports

- EU analysis underway
- « State on Nature in the EU » report in April 2015
- Reflection on future reporting needed

### Favourable status and changes in 2007-2012



■ Favourable ■ Improving ■ No change ■ No data ■ Deteriorating

# The Fitness Check

- *Part of Commission REFIT programme*
- *A comprehensive policy evaluation to assess whether EU nature legislation is “fit for purpose”*
- *Focus on Birds & Habitats Directive*
- *25 Key questions to be addressed*
  - Effectiveness (Have the objectives been met?)
  - Efficiency (Were the costs involved reasonable?)
  - Coherence (Does the policy complement other actions or are there contradictions?)
  - Relevance (Is EU action still necessary?)
  - EU added value (Can or could similar changes have been achieved at national/regional level, or did EU action provide clear added value?)
- **Mandate published on web site of Commission**  
[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/fitness\\_check/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/fitness_check/index_en.htm)

# EXAMPLE – questions on Efficiency

- *Costs & benefits (monetary / non-monetary) of compliance in MS/EU?*
- *Are availability and access to funding a constraint or support?*
- *Are there significant cost differences between MS and if so why?*
  - **Are Costs proportionate to benefits?**
  - **Good practices, cost-effective implementation in MS?**
- *Likely costs of non-implementation?*
- *unnecessary administrative burden (account of objectives & benefits) ?*
- *Is knowledge base sufficient to allow for efficient implementation?*



# Fitness Check timeframe and next steps

- Study contract to assist COM in place – (MILIEU, IEEP, ICF, ECOSYSTEMS)
- Already review of information underway
- Consultation with all MS & key stakeholders from Jan 2015
- Examine 10 representative MS in greater detail
- Public internet consultation end March/ April 2015
- “State of Nature in EU” report April 2015
- Green Week events on relevant topics June 2015
- Fitness Check conference Brussels 29 September 2015
- COM report end 2015/early 2016.

