



Convention on the Conservation
of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats

Standing Committee

**Recommendation No. 172 (2014) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 5 December 2014,
interpreting certain provisions of Resolution No. 6 (1998) of the Standing Committee to the
Bern Convention**

The Standing Committee to the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, acting under the terms of Article 14 of the Convention,

Considering Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention;

Having regard to its Resolution No. 1 (1989) on the provisions relating to the conservation of habitats;

Having regard to its Recommendation No. 16 (1989) on Areas of Special Conservation Interest (ASCI);

Having regard to its Resolution No. 3 (1996) on the setting-up of a pan-European Ecological Network;

Recalling its Resolution No. 5 (1998) concerning the rules for the Network of areas of special conservation interest (Emerald Network);

Recalling its Resolution No. 6 (1998) listing the species requiring specific habitat conservation measures;

Recalling that forty-five species from Resolution No. 6 (1998) are marked with the sign (#) described as follows: *Conscious that some species listed may be abundant in parts of Europe and may not require specific habitat conservation measures everywhere, and marking those species with the sign (#);*

Recognising the need for clarifying the provision of Resolution No. 6 (1998) linked to the sign (#) and its possible use by Contracting Parties and Observer States working on the establishment of the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest and its practical implementation;

Reminding that the *Criteria for assessing the national lists of proposed Areas of Special Conservation Interest (ASCIs) at biogeographical level and procedure for examining and approving Emerald candidate sites* (T-PVS/PA (2013)13) describes the biogeographic process of sufficiency evaluation of national lists of proposed Emerald sites for the species and habitats listed in Resolutions No. 6 (1998) and No. 4 (1996);

Reminding that one of the purposes of the biogeographic evaluation is to establish a national reference list of species and habitats from Resolutions No. 6 (1998) and No. 4 (1996) present in a given country and for which that country holds a responsibility;

Recalling that during the biogeographic process, organised through a series of seminars, a consensus is sought between the main actors involved when debating the sufficiency of the proposed Emerald sites, on a species by species and habitat by habitat basis,

Recommends Contracting Parties to the Convention and invites Observer States to:

1. Inform in written the Secretariat of the Bern Convention when they consider that achieving a satisfactory conservation status of certain species marked with the sign (#) in Resolution No. 6 (1998) does not require the designation of ASCIs on their national territory;
2. Justify their considerations, using the information form provided in Annex 1 to this Recommendation, duly filled in with all required information (one form is to be submitted for each species concerned);
3. Agree that the question of the designation of ASCIs on their territory for the species concerned is evaluated during the biogeographical process organised for their country;
4. Submit, at each reporting exercise for the Emerald Network as foreseen by Resolution No. 8 (2012) of the Standing Committee, an updated information form for the species for which the biogeographical process officially concluded that a designation of ASCIs is not required.

Appendix 1

INFORMATION FORM FOR CONTRACTING PARTIES AND OBSERVER STATES REQUESTING EXCEPTIONS TO THEIR NATIONAL REFERENCE LISTS (EMERALD NETWORK OF ASCIS)

Please provide information on (at all appropriate levels, national, regional and local)¹:

- 1) Contracting party submitting the request (including contact person for additional questions concerning this species)

- 2) Species name (from the list available in Annex 2 below)

- 3) Official national (and where relevant, regional and local) protection status, with reference to relevant laws

- 4) Detailed information on population size and distribution, including trends

- 5) Distribution (including distribution maps)

- 6) Information on (typical) habitats for the species and possible threats

¹ Please add as many additional sheets as necessary.

7) Information on hunting/fishing/collecting/harvesting regulations (including information on quantity/quotas, etc.)

8) Conservation status (national, European and global levels)

9) Information on population management (including eventual Action Plan(s) targeting the species)

10) Information on international aspects, i.e. trans-boundary issues

11) Justification of sustainable management, without a specific designation of Emerald sites

12) Important references/literature/publications/webpages, relevant for the taxonomy, conservation status and geographical distribution

Appendix 2

LIST OF SPECIES MARKED WITH THE SIGN “#” IN ANNEX I OF RESOLUTION NO. 6 (1998)

SPECIES NUMBER	TAXONOMIC GROUP	SPECIES NAME
1188	A	<i>Bombina bombina</i>
1193	A	<i>Bombina variegata</i>
1166	A	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>
1171	A	<i>Triturus karelinii</i>
A037	B	<i>Cygnus bewickii</i>
A038	B	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>
A098	B	<i>Falco columbarius</i>
A014	B	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>
A390	B	<i>Oceanodroma castro</i>
A140	B	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>
1102	F	<i>Alosa alosa</i>
1989	F	<i>Alosa caspia vistonica</i>
1103	F	<i>Alosa fallax</i>
2490	F	<i>Alosa macedonica</i>
2491	F	<i>Alosa pontica</i>
1130	F	<i>Aspius aspius</i>
1149	F	<i>Cobitis taenia</i>
1113	F	<i>Coregonus oxyrhynchus</i>
1163	F	<i>Cottus gobio</i>
1099	F	<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>
1096	F	<i>Lampetra planeri</i>
1095	F	<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>
1134	F	<i>Rhodeus sericeus amarus</i>
1106	F	<i>Salmo salar</i>
1078	I	<i>Callimorpha quadripunctaria</i>
1911	M	<i>Alopex lagopus</i>
1352	M	<i>Canis lupus</i>
1337	M	<i>Castor fiber</i>
1912	M	<i>Gulo gulo</i>
1364	M	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>
1355	M	<i>Lutra lutra</i>
1361	M	<i>Lynx lynx</i>
1340	M	<i>Microtus oeconomus arenicola</i>
1365	M	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>
1351	M	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>
1910	M	<i>Pteromys volans</i>
1335	M	<i>Spermophilus citellus</i>
2608	M	<i>Spermophilus suslicus</i>
1349	M	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>
1354	M	<i>Ursus arctos</i>
1961	P	<i>Luzula arctica</i>
1969	P	<i>Primula scandinavica</i>
1528	P	<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>
1279	R	<i>Elaphe quatuorlineata</i>
1293	R	<i>Elaphe situla</i>