



Convention on the Conservation of  
European Wildlife and Natural Habitats

Standing Committee

**Resolution No. 5 (1998) concerning the rules for the Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest (Emerald Network)**

*(Adopted by the Standing Committee on 4 December 1998)*

The Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, acting under the terms of Article 14 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. 14 (1989) on species habitat conservation and on the conservation of endangered natural habitats;

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

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

Having regard to its Resolution No. 4 (1996) listing endangered natural habitats requiring specific habitat conservation measures;

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

Considering that for Contracting Parties which are Member States of the European Union Emerald Network sites are those of the Natura 2000 Network. Thus the procedures established by European Council Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC will be the only rules to apply;

Noting that, following points 3 and 4 of Resolution No 3 (1996), the use of the term "governments" in this resolution means the governments of the States Contracting Parties to the Convention, of other Council of Europe States and of other States which are observer States in the Standing Committee of the Convention,

Resolves to adopt hereby the Rules for the Emerald Network of Areas of Special Conservation Interest:

*Article 1*

Any area, whether land or sea, where that area fits one or several of the conditions established in Recommendation No. 16 (1989), point 1, may form part of the Emerald Network.

## *Article 2*

2.1. Areas of Special Conservation Interest (ASCIs) to be included in the Emerald Network shall be designated by the governments.

2.2. The Standing Committee may advise the government concerned on the advisability of designating one or more ASCIs that are of a particular interest to the Emerald Network.

## *Article 3*

3.1. Any government designating an ASCI shall deposit a standard Data Form with the Secretariat. A model for this Standard Data Form, derived from and compatible with the Natura 2000 Standard Data Form, is found as appendix to this resolution. Governments are encouraged to provide the information for the Standard Data Form on electronic support.

3.2. Where the designations conform with the provisions of Article 1 of this resolution, the Secretariat shall notify the government of the fact and shall register them.

3.3. If not, the Standing Committee shall advise the government concerned to withdraw the designation. If the government nevertheless maintains the designation, the Standing Committee may decide not to accept it.

3.4. The information on ASCIs shall be public and stored in a database, except for information communicated as confidential. Governments are requested not to send any confidential information in electronic form, but to do it separately, mentioning its confidentiality. Confidential information shall not be included in the database and shall not become public.

## *Article 4*

4.1 The governments shall undertake surveillance of the conservation status of species and natural habitats in designated ASCIs

4.2. The governments shall inform the Secretariat of any important changes likely to affect negatively in a substantial way the ecological character of the designated ASCIs or the conditions having justified their designation.

4.3. Where any such changes come to light, the Standing Committee may advise the government concerned on steps to be taken to ensure conformity with the provisions of Recommendation No. 16 (1989).

4.4. Exceptions to the provisions of Articles 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the Convention in designated ASCIs shall be regulated by Article 9 of the Convention.

## *Article 5*

5.1. The Group of Experts on the Setting-up of the Emerald Network shall follow the progress of the Emerald Network under the aegis of the Standing Committee. It will endeavour, under the aegis of the Standing Committee, to publish regularly lists of designated ASCIs and their character and to make that information available in electronic form.

5.2. The Standing Committee shall periodically review the contribution of the Emerald Network towards the achievement of the objectives of the Convention. In this context a designated ASCI may be considered for declassification where this is warranted by natural developments noted as a result of the surveillance provided for in Article 4.1.

#### *Article 6*

The Standing Committee shall encourage governments to implement Recommendation No. 16 (1989) on designated ASCIs and shall use its best endeavours to solve any difficulty that may arise in the implementation or interpretation of this resolution.

REVISED APPENDIX TO RESOLUTION No. 5  
EMERALD NETWORK STANDARD DATA-ENTRY FORM

*(Adopted by the Standing Committee on 6 December 2013)*

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**Implementation of Recommendation 16  
of the Bern Convention**

**EMERALD NETWORK**

**STANDARD DATA-ENTRY FORM**

**FOR AREAS OF SPECIAL CONSERVATION INTEREST (ASCI's)**

As amended from the NATURA 2000 standard data-entry form (version 11 July 2011)

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**1. SITE IDENTIFICATION**

**1.1. TYPE**

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**1.2. SITE CODE**

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**1.3. SITE NAME:**

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**1.4. FIRST COMPILATION DATE**

Y	Y	Y	Y	M	M

**1.5. UPDATE DATE**

Y	Y	Y	Y	M	M

**1.6. RESPONDENT:**

Name/Organisation:.....
Address:.....
E-mail:.....

**1.7. SITE INDICATION AND DESIGNATION/CLASSIFICATION DATES:**

DATE SITE PROPOSED AS ASCI (Emerald):

Y	Y	Y	Y	M	M

DATE SITE ACCEPTED AS CANDIDATE ASCI (Emerald):

Y	Y	Y	Y	M	M

DATE SITE ACCEPTED AS ASCI (Emerald):

Y	Y	Y	Y	M	M

DATE SITE DESIGNATED AS ASCI (Emerald):

Y	Y	Y	Y	M	M

National legal reference of ASCI designation:

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**2. SITE LOCATION**

**2.1. SITE CENTRE LOCATION (Decimal degrees):**

LONGITUDE

LATITUDE

**2.2. AREA (ha):****2.3. Marine area (%)****2.4. SITE LENGTH (km):****2.5. ADMINISTRATIVE REGION:**

Administrative Region Code \*


REGION NAME


**2.6. BIOGEOGRAPHICAL REGION(S):**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Anatolian (... % <sup>†</sup> )
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alpine (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arctic (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Atlantic (... %)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Boreal (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Black Sea (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continental (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Macaronesia (... %)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Mediterranean (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pannonian (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Steppic (... %)

**Additional information on Marine Regions <sup>‡</sup>**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Marine Arctic (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marine Atlantic (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marine Baltic (... %)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Marine Black Sea (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marine Caspian (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marine Mediterranean (... %)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Marine Macaronesian (... %)
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	

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\* The standard is the level 2 NUTS code. In case, for a particular country no official NUTS codes exist, an agreed similar coding system will be used

<sup>†</sup> In case that a site is located in more than one region, the percentage coverage in the region should be entered (optional)

<sup>‡</sup> This field will be activated in case a Marine Regions Map is adopted by the Standing Committee

### 3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

3.1. Habitat types present on the site and site evaluation for them:

Resolution 4 Habitat type					Site assessment			
Code	NP	Cover (ha)	Caves (number)	Data quality	A/B/C/D	A/B/C		
					Representativity	Relative Surface	Conservation	Global

NP: in case that a habitat type no longer exists in the site enter: x (optional)

Cover: decimal values can be entered

Caves included in habitat types A1.44, A3, A4 and H1: enter the number of caves if estimated surface is not available

Data quality: G = "Good" (e.g. based on surveys); M = "Moderate" (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = Poor (e.g. rough estimation)

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3.2. Species listed in Resolution 6 and site evaluation for them

Species					Population in the site					Site assessment				
Group	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	Type	Size		Unit	Cat.	Data quality	A/B/C/D	A/B/C		
						Min.	Max.		C/R/V/P		Pop.	Cons.	Isol.	Global

Group: A =Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, I = Invertebrates, M = Mammals, P =Plants, R = Reptiles

S: in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes

NP: in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)

Type: p=permanent, r=reproducing, c=concentration, w=wintering (for plant and non-migratory species use permanent)

Unit: i = Individuals, p=pairs or other units according to the standardised list of population units and codes, in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting under the Birds and Habitats Directives

Abundance categories (Cat.): C=common, R= rare, V=very rare, P=present – to fill if data quality are deficient (DD) or in addition to population size information

Data quality: G = ‘Good’ (e.g. based on surveys); M = ‘Moderate’ (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = ‘Poor’ (e.g. rough estimation); DD = Data deficient (use this category only, if not even a rough estimation of the population size can be made, in this case the fields for population size can remain empty, but the field "Abundance categories" has to be filled in)

### 3.3. Other Important Species of Flora and Fauna

Species					Population on the site				Motivation							
Group	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	Size		Unit	Cat.	Species appendix			Other Categories				
					Min.	Max.		C/R/V/P	I	II	III	A	B	C	D	

Group: A =Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, Fu = Fungi, I = Invertebrates, L = Lichens, M = Mammals, P =Plants, R = Reptiles

CODE: for Appendix I, II and III species the code provided in the Emerald reference portal should be used, in addition to the scientific name

S: in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes

NP: in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)

Unit: i = Individuals, p=pairs or other units according to the standardised list of population units and codes, in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting under the Birds and Habitats Directives

Cat.: Abundance categories: C=common, R= rare, V=very rare, P=present

Motivation categories: I, II, III: Appendix Species (Bern Convention), A: National Red List data; B: Endemics; C: International Conventions; D: other reasons

#### 4. SITE DESCRIPTION

##### 4.1. GENERAL SITE CHARACTER:

Code	Habitat class	% cover
<b>TOTAL HABITAT COVER</b>		<b>100 %</b>

Other site characteristics:

##### 4.2. QUALITY AND IMPORTANCE:

##### 4.3. Threats, pressures and activities with impacts on the site

The most important impacts and activities with high effect on the site

Negative impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures (code)	Pollution (optional) (code)	Inside/outside (i / o / b)

Positive impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures (code)	Pollution (optional) (code)	Inside/outside (i / o / b)

Further important impacts and activities with medium/low effect on the site

Negative impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures (code)	Pollution (optional) (code)	Inside/outside (i / o / b)

Positive impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures (code)	Pollution (optional) (code)	Inside/outside (i / o / b)

Rank: H = high, M = medium, L = low

Pollution: N = Nitrogen input, P = Phosphor/Phosphate input, A = Acid input acidification, T = toxic inorganic chemicals, O = toxic organic chemicals, X = Mixed pollutions.

i = inside, o = outside, b = both

**4.4. OWNERSHIP:**

Type		(%)
Public	National/Federal	
	State/Province	
	Local/Municipal	
	Any public	
Joint or Co-Ownership		
Private		
Unknown		
Sum		100 %

**4.5. DOCUMENTATION:**

**Link(s):**

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**5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS:**

**5.1. DESIGNATION TYPES at national and regional level:**

CODE	COVER (%)	CODE	COVER (%)	CODE	COVER(%)																																																																								
<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 40px; height: 40px;"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table>													<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 40px; height: 40px;"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table>													<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 40px; height: 40px;"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table>													<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 40px; height: 40px;"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table>													<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 40px; height: 40px;"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table>													<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 40px; height: 40px;"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table>												

**5.2. RELATION OF THE DESCRIBED SITE WITH OTHER SITES:**

**Designated at National or regional level:**

TYPE CODE	SITE NAME	TYPE	COVER (%)																														
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100%;"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table>													<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100%;"><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr></table>				<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100%;"><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr></table>				<table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100%;"><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></table>												

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**Designated at the International level:**

TYPE	NAME of the Site	TYPE	COVER (%)																																																																
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2																																																																			
3																																																																			
4																																																																			
BIOGENETIC RESERVE:	1																																																																		
	2																																																																		
	3																																																																		
EURODIPLOMA SITE:	-																																																																		
BIOSPHERE RESERVE:	-																																																																		
BARCELONA CONVEN. site:	-																																																																		
HELSINKI CONVEN. site:	-																																																																		
WORLD HERITAGE SITE:	-																																																																		
HELCOM site	-																																																																		
OSPAR site	-																																																																		
Protected Marine Area	-																																																																		
OTHER:	-																																																																		

**5.3. SITE DESIGNATION:**

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**6. SITE MANAGEMENT**

**6.1. BODY(IES) RESPONSABLE FOR THE SITE MANAGEMENT :**

Organisation: ..... Address: ..... E-mail: .....
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**6.2. MANAGEMENT PLAN(S):**

An actual management plan does exist:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
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Name:.....

Link: .....

Name: .....

Link: .....

<input type="checkbox"/>	No, but in preparation
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**6.3. CONSERVATION MEASURES**

**7. MAP OF THE SITE**

ID or link to digitally available spatial data (in case spatial data are available through INSPIRE, the INSPIRE-ID should be given):

Map delivered as PDF in electronic format:

yes

no

Reference(s) to the original map used for the designation of the electronic boundaries: