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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

41st meeting
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Other complaints: 2019/06

Border fence construction between Denmark and Germany

- REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT -

Document prepared by the
Ministry of the Environment, Denmark

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Miljøministeriet
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Species and Nature Protection
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Report by the Danish Environmental Protection Agency (Danish EPA) to the Secretariat of the Bern Convention about the wild boar fence along the Danish-German border, including about monitoring and the effects of the wild boar fence

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Introduction

In September 2019, WWF Denmark and WWF Germany submitted a joint complaint regarding the wild boar fence along the Danish-German border to the Secretariat of the Bern Convention. The wild boar fence is one of several Danish initiatives to prevent wild boar with African swine fever from entering Denmark.

The joint complaint stated that the wild boar fence does not meet the requirements of the Bern Convention on the conservation of natural habitats and species, and in this context the complaint mentions a number of specific species protected under Appendix II and Appendix III to the Convention. The Secretariat of the Bern Convention forwarded the complaint to the Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark, which responded to the complaint in March 2020.

Following the Ministry's response from March 2020, the Secretariat of the Bern Convention thanked the Ministry for its response in a letter dated 11 May 2020. Among other things, the Secretariat wrote that:

"while noting that linear barriers such as this fence can have negative effects on the migration of species, the Bureau considered that the short-term purpose of the fence to prevent the spread of African swine plague, the adherence to national and international policies before development, mitigation measures taken during construction, and the assurance to monitor and evaluate the success and effects of the fence were all justifiable. Furthermore, the Bureau accepted the assessment of the authorities that negative effects to each species concerned would be minimal, especially the Annex II species".

In the same letter of 11 May 2020, the Secretariat of the Bern Convention asked the relevant Danish authorities to monitor the wild boar fence and evaluate the effects of the fence in terms of the relevant species and natural habitats. The Secretariat also asked for an account of the effects of the fence in terms of reducing African swine fever and for information on whether the wild boar fence is a temporary measure.

In the following, the Danish authorities involved describe:

1. the effects of the fence in terms of reducing African swine fever
2. monitoring and the effects of the wild boar fence in terms of relevant species and natural habitats
3. the temporary nature of the wild boar fence

1. The effects of the fence in terms of reducing African swine fever

1.1. Background

African swine fever (ASF) is a serious, contagious disease with high mortality. In Italy (Sardinia), African swine fever has been endemic since 1979. Since 2014, the disease has spread from Belarus to several EU countries, including Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, easternmost Germany, Hungary, Romania and Italy. The Czech Republic was the first country to eradicate ASF, using measures including establishing a fence around the area with infected wild boar.

If African swine fever comes to Denmark, there will be serious economic consequences for agriculture, Danish pig farmers, Danish exports and for Danish society. The estimated costs of an outbreak of African swine fever are between DKK 2 bn. and 10 bn. (corresponding to EUR 270 mill. and 1.35 bn.).

In order to counter the risk of African swine fever coming to Denmark, in 2018 a political agreement was concluded and implemented in an action plan. This action plan consists of a number of initiatives, including the establishment of a wild boar fence along the Danish-German border, and together these initiatives will reduce the risk of African swine fever spreading to Denmark. The initiatives have been divided into veterinary initiatives and initiatives to eradicate wild boar from Denmark, as infection via wild boar is assessed to represent a specific risk.

Veterinary initiatives to combat African swine fever

- *Legislative amendment* to increase the level of fines for violations of the law that exacerbate the risk of transmission of African swine fever and other serious livestock diseases.
- *Stronger veterinary services*: There are already detailed plans and procedures for how to manage any outbreak of African swine fever. In order to prevent, or in the worst case, manage an ASF outbreak, veterinary services will be strengthened and focused on African swine fever. In 2019, a large-scale exercise was held involving relevant authorities and the industry to test the emergency plan. International collaboration with Schleswig-Holstein was also established, both with regard to communication and stronger efforts in relation to other EU Member States and the European Commission.
- *Signs at lay-bys*: Signs have been put up at lay-bys along Danish motorways and major roads with information on African swine fever and that kitchen and food waste must be disposed of in waste bins. Foreign lorry drivers usually take their breaks in such lay-bys.
- *Intensification of information campaigns on prevention of infection and food waste*: The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration has launched an information campaign in collaboration with the Danish Agriculture & Food Council on a ban on feeding livestock and animals with food waste. It is possible to intensify the level of information by continuing information activities after the end of the campaign, and by extending the campaign to other target groups.
- *Advice to free-range farms on the risk of transmission from food waste*: There are already requirements to fence off free-range farms to prevent wild boar from coming into direct contact with domestic pigs. There are existing requirements to put up signs stating that feeding animals is illegal. In 2019, a campaign was launched to control compliance with fencing regulations etc. As part of this campaign, an information campaign on food waste was launched, which also covered information to free-range farms about the risk of feeding livestock with food waste. In connection with the campaign, the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration advised free-range farmers that free-range livestock could be kept away from public roads, or sufficiently distant from such roads to prevent food waste from being thrown to the livestock.

Efforts to eradicate wild boar from the Danish countryside

- Establishment of wild boar fencing along the Danish-German border.
- Amendment to the Statutory Order on damage caused by game in order to strengthen regulation (killing or elimination) of wild boar.
- Increased monitoring of the wild boar population and free veterinary examination for livestock diseases of wild boar shot in Denmark.
- Stronger initiatives against wild boar on state-owned and private land in the southern part of Jutland.
- Technical upgrade of the Schweiss register of dog handlers who track down and cull game in distress that has been run over or injured by hunters. Experience will be gathered from dog handlers, and courses will be held to qualify Schweiss handlers to ensure that they can search for wild boar in the same way as they are qualified to search for deer. Dog handlers in the southern part of Jutland have received knowledge in Germany from an experienced German dog handler and have tested trained Schweiss dogs in a wild boar fence. The Danish Hunters' Association has prepared a best practice searching for wild boar.
- The Danish Nature Agency has entered into an agreement with the Danish Hunters' Association on raising the awareness of local hunters in the southern part of Jutland of the African swine fever issue as well as on hunting and regulation of wild boar. Courses have been held on diseases in wild boar and information has been provided on the biology of wild boar and hunting them.
- The Danish Nature Agency has prepared a paradigm for standard hunting leases in areas under the Danish Nature Agency. In future, hunters will be obligated to shoot any wild boar they find in the areas they lease from the Danish Nature Agency for hunting. If hunting leaseholders do not cull wild boar in the areas they lease from the Danish Nature Agency, the Danish Nature Agency can and will take the necessary measures to regulate the wild boar.

1.2. Effects for African swine fever

African swine fever is a disease affecting both domestic pigs and wild boar. The presence and size of any wild boar population in an area plays an important role in spreading and maintaining African swine fever.[1] The presence of wild boar thus poses a significant risk of introducing African swine fever to Denmark. In addition to posing a risk of spreading African swine fever to domestic pigs, the presence of wild boar also makes it much more difficult and lengthy to combat the disease. An effective tool in the prevention of introducing African swine fever is therefore to reduce the wild boar population to a minimum.

The 2018 political agreement was concluded to prevent the risk of introducing African swine fever to Denmark. The disease has never been detected in Denmark, and even though it is too early to assess the effects of Danish initiatives to prevent the disease from coming, Denmark is still free of African swine fever, despite the serious spread of the disease in several other EU Member States.

2. Monitoring and the effects of the wild boar fence in terms of relevant species and habitats

2.1. Wildlife camera surveillance of openings in the fence

Method
As part of the Danish Nature Agency's responsibility for operating the fence, the Danish Nature Agency initiated monitoring of the functionality of the fence. The purpose of monitoring is to register

[1] https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/ad_control-measures_asf_wrk-doc-sante-2015-7113.pdf

wild boar trying to cross the border, to identify parts of the fence requiring repair and to identify potential problems, such as animals in distress.

Surveillance of any passages through the fence is carried out using 25 cameras placed along the fence, focusing especially on the eastern part from Frøslev Mose to Flensburg Fjord. The cameras are moved as necessary, and the locations are therefore dynamic. Surveillance focuses on different elements of the fence such as cattle grids, game openings and the problematic stretch identified in Frøslev Mose. Surveillance images are sent regularly and automatically from the cameras to the Danish Nature Agency.

Results
Surveillance has resulted in several thousand images documenting and providing an insight into the behaviour of different species near the fence. Among other things, the wildlife cameras have shot images of:
Badger, otter, beech marten and pine marten, raccoon dog, fox, hare, polecat, squirrel, hedgehog, rat, mouse, mole, domestic cat, pheasant, common crane, (chick) and small birds, all of which have been recorded passing through the fence via the openings.
Deer (red deer, fallow deer, roe deer) have been recorded forcing the fence, although they have mainly been recorded searching for an opening along the fence.
There have been no observations of deer crossing the cattle grids.
Deer have been observed to a very limited extent at openings in the fence close to infrastructure (roads and railways).
No wild boar have been recorded by the fence or passing through the openings.

The entire fence line is physically checked every month for functionality and intactness. In addition, problematic stretches are inspected regularly for vandalism. The following have been observed during inspections:
Game has made tracks along the fence.
Even though game openings look overgrown from a distance, the tracks in the growth show that they are used regularly.
Because of the growth along the fence, the cameras can primarily only observe large mammals in the summer season.
No dead animals have been observed in the cattle grids.

2.2. Distressed deer caught in the fence

The Danish Nature Agency knows of four roe deer and two red deer that have been caught in the fence and subsequently died in the period from 28 January 2019, when the Danish Nature Agency started erecting the wild boar fence, until 17 December 2020. In addition, two dead red deer with injuries have been found. These were not found in the fence, but it is likely that they died from injuries caused by the fence. In order to minimise the risk of this happening again, in March 2020 the Danish Nature Agency as well as Danish and German hunters and landowners identified a problematic stretch of approx. 500 m of the approx. 68-km-long fence. The Danish Nature Agency has subsequently modified the fence along this stretch and in the places with often frequented game tracks in Frøslev Mose by reducing the mesh size of the top 60 cm of the fence. The extra fine-meshed fence prevents passing deer from being caught in the fence and from being injured/dying. Since this modification, there have been no observations of deer being caught in the fence.

2.3. Wild boar population – regulation

Method
In 2018, stronger monitoring and regulation initiatives against wild boar were launched on private land as well as state-owned land, including in connection with the use of traps, and with focus on shootings at

feeding sites. The primary focus area is the area from Aabenraa Fjord to the border and east of the E45 motorway in the southern part of Jutland.

Results
A total of 150 wild boar have been killed from the start of the initiatives in early 2018. In addition, two boar have been found drowned at Flensburg Fjord. All wild boar shot have been examined for the following diseases: African Swine Fever (ASP), classical swine fever, Aujeszky's disease and Trichinella. All samples collected from the wild boar tested negative.

From a presence of wild boar in the border region of approx. 100-150 in 2018, the number of wild boar is estimated to be less than 10 at 17 December 2020. Currently, there is knowledge of two adult females, one young wild boar and at least one stray boar.

2.4. Assessment

Due to the stronger monitoring and regulation initiatives on state-owned land and private land, it was possible to prevent the establishment of a wild boar population on the Danish side of the border.

If the current stronger monitoring and regulation initiatives on state-owned land and private land are maintained, it is most likely that the wild boar will not be able to establish an actual population on the Danish side of the border.

The wild boar fence was completed in December 2019, and this has restricted possibilities for wild boar to cross the border. The years to come will show the extent to which the fence can prevent the spread of new individuals. In addition to the road crossings along the border, several watercourses cross the fence line, and here migration is possible. Moreover, it is not possible to prevent wild boar from crossing Flensburg Fjord, but it must be assumed that the extend of migration through this route will be limited. Migration via access routes through the fence (approx. 20) cannot be excluded.

Access routes for watercourses and road crossings along the eastern part of the fence in particular are likely to be used by the growing population of wild boar south of the border, and therefore it is still important to keep the emergency response intact in order to adapt regulation initiatives to expected fluctuations in the number of wild boar.

2.5. NOVANA monitoring near the wild boar fence

The National Monitoring and Assessment Programme for the Aquatic and Terrestrial Environments (NOVANA) monitors the state of the aquatic environment and nature within the areas prioritised through the politically set economic framework. NOVANA is particularly relevant with regard to helping Denmark meet its obligations in relation to national legislation, EU directives and international conventions on monitoring the aquatic environment, nature and air quality.

Data on the aquatic environment and nature collected under NOVANA meets the need for knowledge about the state of nature to be used to prepare Danish management plans for aquatic areas and for Natura 2000 sites.

A number of Natura 2000 sites are located close to the Danish-German border. The areas closest to the border are the *Wadden Sea* (N89) and the *Frøslev Mose* (N97) Natura 2000 sites

The *Frøslev Mose* Natura 2000 site consists of a habitat site (H87) and a bird protection area (F70).

The *Wadden Sea* Natura 2000 site consists of a number of habitat sites (H78, H86, H90 and H239) and bird protection areas (F49, F51, F52, F53, F55, F57, F60, F63, F65 and F67). The *Wadden Sea* Natura

2000 site has a large geographical spread. This report therefore focuses on the part of the *Wadden Sea* Natura 2000 site closest to the Danish-German border. Focus is thus on the habitat site *Vidå med tilløb, Rudbøl Sø og Magisterkogen* (H90) and the bird protection areas *Vidåen, Tøndermarsken og Saltvandssøen* (F60) and *Sønder Ådal* (F63).

WWF Denmark and WWF Germany highlight in their joint complaint to the Bern Convention 13 species that are protected under Appendix II and Appendix III to the Convention. In addition to the 13 species, WWF Denmark and WWF Germany have raised concerns in a previous letter regarding three additional species.

Table 1 below shows the species referred to in the complaint to the Bern Convention and the species referred to in the previous letter. The table states whether the species characterised as designated species under the EU Nature Directives (the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive) are on the Danish reference list, and which of the nearby Natura 2000 sites have a given species that the relevant site has been designated to protect.

The species the Natura 2000 sites are designated to protect are included in the national monitoring programme.

Table 1. Species mentioned by WWF Denmark and WWF Germany in their complaint and letter to the Bern Convention. The table states whether the individual species are designated species, and in which of the Natura 2000 sites they are.

Danish name	Latin name	English name	Mentioned in complaint of 23 September 2019 by WWF Denmark and WWF Germany	Appears in Annex II to the Habitats Directive or Annex I to the Birds Directive - in a Danish context	Natura 2000 designated species (habitat species on the Danish reference list from 2018[2] or species of birds covered by the Birds Directive and which have a significant occurrence)	Appears in nearby Natura 2000 site's basis of designation
Europæisk odder	Lutra lutra	European otter	X	X	X	N89 (H90)
Grå ulv	Canis lupus	Grey wolf	X	-	-	
Grævling	Meles meles	Eurasian badger	X	-	-	
Rådyr	Capreolus capreolus	Roe deer	X	-	-	
Dådyr	Dama dama	Fallow deer	X	-	-	
Kronhjort	Cervus elaphus	Red deer	X	-	-	
Europæisk los	Lynx Lynx	Eurasian lynx	X	X	X	
Rørdrum	Botaurus	Eurasian	X	X	X	N89 (F60)

[2] https://www.eionet.europa.eu/etcs/etc-bd/activities/building-the-natura-2000-network#autotoc-item-autotoc-3

	stellaris	bittern				
Trane	Grus grus	Common crane	X	X	X	N97 (F70)
Husmår	Martes foina	Beech marten	X	-	-	
Skovmår	Martes martes	Pine marten	X	-	-	
Lækat	Mustela erminea	Stoat	X	-	-	
Ilder	Mustela putorius	Western polecat	X	-	-	
Guldsjakal	Canis aureus	Golden jackal	Letter of 7 May 2018	-	-	
Rød ræv	Vulpes vulpes	Red fox	Letter of 7 May 2018	-	-	
Europæisk hare	Lepus europeaus	European hare	Letter of 7 May 2018	-	-	

Of the 13 species highlighted by WWF Denmark and WWF Germany in their joint complaint of 23 September 2019 and the three species mentioned in their letter of 7 May 2018, four species (European otter, Eurasian lynx, Eurasian bittern and common crane) are characterised as species for which Natura 2000 sites have been designated. Three of the species appear in one of the nearby Natura 2000 site's designation bases. Natura 2000 sites will not be designated for the remaining species, as they do not appear in the relevant annexes to the Nature Directives and are therefore not on the reference list. The remaining species are therefore not monitored in the national monitoring programme (NOVANA).

The three species the Natura 2000 sites are designated to protect are monitored regularly in the national monitoring programme (NOVANA) at different time intervals. In the most recent programme period (2017-2021), otter were monitored once, Eurasian bittern were monitored three times, and common crane were monitored three times.

In addition to the species mentioned by WWF Denmark and WWF Germany in their letter of 7 May 2018 and their complaint of 23 September 2019, several species and habitat types in the Natura 2000 sites mentioned are monitored. Tables 2 and 3 show the species and habitat types monitored in the two habitat sites and the three bird protection areas. The most recent mapping period was 2017-2021. The next mapping period will be 2022-2026. Habitat types are mapped once per period, while species are mapped with varying frequency, although at least once per period.

Table 2. Habitat types and species monitored in bird protection areas F60, F63 and habitat site H90. The bird protection areas and the habitat site are all part of the *Wadden Sea* (N89) Natura 2000 site.

ID	Danish	English
1	Udpegningsgrundlag for Fuglebeskyttelsesområde nr. 60	Designation basis for Bird protection area no. 60
2	Fugle:	Birds:
3	Rørdrum (Y)	Eurasian bittern (Y)
4	Pibesvane (T)	Beckwick's swan (T)
5	Sangsvane (T)	Whooper swan (T)
6	Grågås (T)	Greylag goose (T)
7	Kortnæbbet gås (T)	Pink-footed goose (T)
8	Bramgås (T)	Barnacle goose (T)
9	Gravand (T)	Shelduck (T)

10	Knarand (T)	Gadwall (T)
11	Spidsand (T)	Pintail (T)
12	Skeand (T)	Shoveler (T)
13	Pibeand (T)	Wigeon (T)
14	Krikand (T)	Teal (T)
15	Havørn (T)	White-tailed eagle (T)
16	Rørhøg (Y)	Marsh harrier (Y)
17	Hedehøg (Y)	Montagu's harrier (Y)
18	Engsnarre (Y)	Corncrake (Y)
19	Plettet rørvagtel (Y)	Spotted crake (Y)
20	Klyde (TY)	Avocet (TY)
21	Hvidbrystet præstekrave (Y)	Kentish plover (Y)
22	Strandhjejle (T)	Grey plover (T)
23	Hjejle (T)	Golden plover (T)
24	Islandsk ryle (T)	Red knot (T)
25	Almindelig ryle (T)	Dunlin (T)
26	Brushane (Y)	Ruff (Y)
27	Rødben (T)	Redshank (T)
28	Sortklire (T)	Spotted redshank (T)
29	Hvidklire (T)	Greenshank (T)
30	Stor kobbersneppe (Y)	Black-tailed godwit (Y)
31	Lille koppersneppe (T)	Bar-tailed godwit (T)
32	Storspove (T)	Whimbrel (T)
33	Fjordterne (Y)	Common tern (Y)
34	Sortterne (Y)	Black tern (Y)
35	Blåhals (Y)	Bluethroat (Y)
36	Udpegningsgrundlag for Fuglebeskyttelsesområde nr.63	Designation basis for Bird protection area no. 63
37	Fugle:	Birds:
38	Rørhøg (Y)	Marsh harrier (Y)
39	Hedehøg (Y)	Montagu's harrier (Y)
40	Engsnarre (Y)	Corncrake (Y)
41	Sortterne (Y)	Black tern (Y)
42	Rødrygget tornskade (Y)	Red-backed shrike (Y)
43	Udpegningsgrundlag for Habitatområde nr. 90	Designation basis for Habitat site no. 90
44	Naturtyper:	Natural habitat:
45	Næringsrig sø (3150)	Eutrophic lake (3150)
46	Vandløb (3260)	Watercourses (3260)
47	Bæklampret (1096)	European brook lamprey (1096)
48	Flodlampret (1099)	European river lamprey (1099)
49	Havlampret (1095)	Sea lamprey (1095)
50	Snæbel* (1113)	Houting (1113)
51	Dyndsmerling (1145)	Weatherfish (1145)
52	Odder (1355)	Otter (1355)

Table 3. Habitat types and species monitored in bird protection area F70 and habitat site H87. The bird protection area and the habitat site are both part of the *Frøslev Mose* (N97) Natura 2000 site.

53	Udpegningsgrundlag for Fuglebeskyttelsesområde nr. 70	Designation basis for Bird protection area no. 70
54	Fugle:	Birds:

55	Rørhøg (Y)	Marsh harrier (Y)
56	Hedehøg (Y)	Montagu's harrier (Y)
57	Trane (Y)	Common crane (Y)
58	Tinksmed (Y)	Wood sandpiper (Y)
59	Blåhals (Y)	Bluethroat (Y)
60	Rødrygget tornskade (Y)	Red-backed shrike (Y)
61	Udpegningsgrundlag for Habitatområde nr. 87	Designation basis for Habitat site no. 87
62	Naturtyper:	Natural habitats:
63	Næringsrig sø (3150)	Eutrophic lake (3150)
64	Brunvandet sø (3160)	Dystrophic lake (3160)
65	Surt overdrev* (6230)	Acid grassland* (6230)
66	Tidvis våd eng (6410)	Molinia meadows (6410)
67	Højmose* (7110)	Raised bogs* (7110)
68	Nedbrudt højmose (7120)	Degraded raised bogs (7120)
69	Hængesæk (7140)	Transition mires and quaking bogs (7140)
70	Rigkær (7230)	Alkaline fens (7230)
71	Stilkege-krat (9190)	Old acidophilous oak woods with Quercus roburon sandy plains (9190)
72	Skovbevokset tørvemose* (91D0)	Bog woodland* (91D0)

2.6. Monitoring the passage of wolves through the wild boar fence

In connection with ongoing reporting to the Danish EPA of monitoring data on wolves, Natural History Museum Aarhus and Aarhus University, which carry out this monitoring in Denmark on behalf of the Danish EPA, have concluded that at least four wolves have crossed the border from Germany to Denmark – and thus crossed the fence – since the fence was completed in December 2019.

The most recent statement of monitoring findings is available here: https://dce.au.dk/fileadmin/dce.au.dk/Udgivelser/Notatet_2020/N2020_81.pdf

Natural History Museum Aarhus and Aarhus University work with the German authorities, for example, through the international Cewolf register. The register makes it possible to share information on individual wolves. As the biological material from Danish wolves (faeces, hair collected as part of the monitoring task, or saliva collected from livestock killed by wolves as part of the management task, including the compensation scheme) is analysed for DNA, the following conclusions can be made about the wolves that have crossed the wild boar fence since 2 December 2019.

Individual wolf	**Place of birth**	**Most recent observation in Germany**	**First observation in Denmark**
GW1430m	Germany	30-12-2019	05-01-2020
GW1629m	Germany or Poland	18-05-2020	23-05-2020
GW1700f	Germany	22-06-2020	03-10-2020
GW1840m	Germany or Poland	Unknown	13-08-2020*

*It is considered unlikely that wolves can stay for more than six months in Denmark without being recorded in the monitoring, and this is why GW1840m is assessed to have migrated from Germany after the fence was established.

Since late 2012, when a wolf was found dead in Thy National Park for the first time in recent times, a total of 14 wolves have migrated to Denmark from Germany. This corresponds to an annual migration of 1.75 wolves. With an increasing wolf population in Germany, increasing migration of wolves to Denmark from Germany was expected. Nevertheless, given the fact that the Danish EPA's monitoring of wolves in Denmark has shown that one wolf migrated from Germany to Denmark in 2018, that two wolves migrated from Germany to Denmark in 2019, while four wolves migrated from Germany to Denmark in 2020, there is no immediate indication that the wild boar fence has an appreciable negative effect on wolves' possibilities to spread across the border from Germany to Denmark.

3. Temporary nature of the wild boar fence

The "Bill on project design and construction of a wild boar fence along the Danish-German border" (forslag til lov om projektering og anlæg af et vildsvinehegn langs den dansk-tyske landegrænse) from the Danish Minister for Environment and Food states that: "The wild boar fence is a temporary measure. The Minister for Environment and Food may decide that the fence should be taken down if African swine fever is contained in Europe, and it is therefore no longer necessary to prevent wild boar from coming to Denmark as part of the measures to prevent African swine fever from coming to Denmark." The Bill was adopted by the Danish Parliament (Folketing) on 4 June 2018.

Similarly, the subsequent construction permit of 13 August 2018 to establish the wild boar fence states that the fence is a temporary measure. The construction permit also states that, when the Danish Minister for Environment and Food assesses that African swine fever has been contained in Europe and it is no longer necessary to prevent wild boar from coming to Denmark from Germany, the Minister may order the wild boar fence to be taken down at six months' notice.

The Danish Nature Agency will be responsible for removing the fence, which will include the entire fence and then restoration of the area. The removal will include all fences and any access routes that are only relevant to the fence, and restoration of the landscape will be with the greatest possible consideration for nature and the environment. Prior to taking down the fence and restoring the area, the Danish Nature Agency will submit a plan to the Minister.