



Promoting Natura 2000 & Sustainable Wildlife Use



PROJECT BACKGROUND

The European Commission recognises that the success of Natura 2000 requires the support of European citizens, especially of local people, various land-users and landowners, and their participation in the decisions on the implementation of the conservation and management of areas involved.

Indeed many of our valuable habitats are the result of traditional land use and their conservation is dependent on traditional practices and skills. Some of the most important wildlife sites in Europe have survived the pressures of development and destruction due to the interest of wildlife recreational uses, such as hunting and angling.

The 'Birds' and the 'Habitats' Directives fully recognise the legitimacy of wildlife use, limits these activities to certain species and sets out the legal requirements to be implemented through Member States legislation. This provides the framework for the management of hunting and angling. Wildlife use carried out in a sustainable manner, can positively contribute to the conservation of wild populations and their habitats.

The European Commission wants to promote greater involvement of the hunters' and anglers' community in the implementation of the 'Birds' and 'Habitats' Directives and in the conservation and management of Natura 2000 sites. It also wants to encourage dialogue with a view to promote co-operation between organisations and stakeholders concerned with nature conservation and sustainable use. Wildlife users and managers and other conservationists share a common interest in preserving wild species and their habitats. In the light of continuing fragmentation of habitats and the changing climate, stakeholders are encouraged to combine their efforts.

Under contract with the European Commission, the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU (FACE), in partnership with the European Landowners Organization (ELO) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) embarked on a project to promote these aims.

The work programme forms following main Tasks:

- Task 1: Organisation of European Workshops to promoting Natura 2000 & sustainable wildlife use
- Task 2: Assessment of the Sustainable Hunting Initiative
- Task 3: Investigation for a Sustainable Hunting and Angling Initiative
- Task 4: Organisation of a conference on Promoting Natura 2000 & sustainable wildlife use



www.usenatura2000.eu
biodiversity@face.eu & nature@elo.org

