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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Standing Committee**

31<sup>st</sup> meeting  
Strasbourg, 29 November – 2 December 2011

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**Other complaints**

**Development plans in Kyparissia Bay,  
Southern Kyparissia  
(Western Peloponnese, Greece)**

***REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT***

*Document prepared by:  
The Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change (Greece)*

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**HELLENIC REPUBLIC**  
**MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

**Environmental Planning Division**  
**Natural Environment Management Section**  
**(NEMS)**

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Our ref: 141994/3544

Athens, December 22nd, 2010

To: International and EC Affairs  
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CC: 1. Minister's Office  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Secretary General Office  
General Director's Office  
Ministry of the Environment, Energy and  
Climate Change  
17, Amaliados St., 115 23 Athens  
2. Region of Peloponnese  
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GR 22 100, Tripolis  
3. Prefecture of Messinia  
Prefect's Office  
Headquarters Building, GR 24 100  
Kalamata

**Subject:** Response to the letter of the European Commission in relation to the protection of priority species in the Natura GR 2550005 site.

**Related documents:**

1. Your ref 52914/2689/E04/3-12-2010 document to the NEMS with the attached letter of the E.C. General Director for the Environment.
2. Our ref 141535/2685/20-9-2010 document
3. Our ref. 111763/2645/22-9-2010 document
4. Our ref. 111777/2663/16-9-2010 document
5. Our ref. 111268/1536/9-6-2010 document
6. The Ministerial Decision (ref. 1028460/2439/B0010/15-4-2009) of the Deputy Ministers of Economics and Internal Affairs concerning the licensing of exploitation of the seashore and the banks of lakes and rivers to the Local Authorities (Government's Gazette 792/B/29-4-2009)

In response to the document No1, we would like to inform you that we have already answered it with our No 2 document. Additionally, we would like to inform you that:

- ✓ During the forthcoming weeks, a new law concerning Conservation & Biodiversity will be approved by the Greek Government. The new law will cater for a more effective protection regime for the priority species in all Natura 2000 sites.
- ✓ At the same time, and within the framework of updating the Specific Environmental Study that was carried out in 2002 (LIFE programme B4-3200/98/442) and the institutionalization of a Presidential Decree Draft, our Service is considering the issuing of a Joint Ministerial Decision according to the article 21 (Law 1650/86) that will offer a specific legal protection regime for the site during the next 3 (2+1) years. The protection regime will face all conservation problems in an integrated way for the whole Natura GR 2550005 site.
- ✓ Our Service has already informed the Local Authorities with the document No 3 and sent (with the document No 4) the Specific Environmental Study along with the Presidential Decree Draft, which include a Management Plan for the Area. This plan should be taken into account by the Local Authorities, so that they can enforce the necessary Environmental Protection measures.
- ✓ More specifically, and as far as the exploitation of the seashore in protected areas is concerned, we inform you that the Ministerial Decision (document No 6) is in force. This Decision requires the official approval and rescript of the Ministry of the Environment when Local Authorities are licensing the exploitation of the sandy seashore sites.
- ✓ We notify you that our Service was not informed by the Local Authorities about the denunciations that are included in the document No1. However, it should be reminded that Local Authorities are in a process of restructuring within the framework of the new Administrative System of the country. During the forthcoming period, our service will cooperate with the Local Authorities to examine the denunciations in the document No1 and especially the licensing of the touristic Unit at Avlona (prefecture of Messinia). Our service has requested (document No 5) the consideration of the Management Plan in the Presidential Decree Draft during the licensing process from the Local Authorities.

Taking into consideration the above information, our Service concludes that the current Environmental Planning for all the Natura 2000 sites and the measures that will accrue will be sufficient for the Protection of the Natural Environment in the Natura 2000 sites.

We will be at your disposal for any further elucidations you may need.