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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

32nd meeting
Strasbourg, 27-30 November 2012

Possible file

**THREATS TO MARINE TURTLES
IN THINES KIPARISSIAS BAY
(GREECE)**

REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT

*Document prepared by
the Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Climate Change of Greece*

**URGENT**

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE
DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
Environmental Planning Division
Natural Environment Management Section

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Inf: Christos CHRYSSOMALIS
 Our ref: 141994/3544

Athens, March 21, 2012

To: International and E.C. Affairs Section
at Ministry for the
ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & CLIMATE CHANGE.
15, AMALIADOS St., (GR)11523, ATHENS

CC: 1. Minister's Office.
2. HELLENIC DELEGATION
at COUNCIL OF EUROPE
21 PLACE BROGLIE, (F)67000- STRASBOURG
3. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
DIVISION 03
3, AKADIMIAS STR, (GR)10671 ATHENS.

Subject : Complaint for the NATURA 2000 site:
“KYPARISSIA DUNES (NEOCHORI KYPARISSIAS)” GR 2550005.

Related documents:

- a. Ref 674/6/AS Hellenic delegation in Council of Europe (our ref 160389/509/16.3.2012)
- b. Ref DG-IV, IdA 12.1.2012 document of D.G. Council of Europe for Bern Convention.
(our ref 160160/213/6.2.2012).
- c. Our ref 161888/3074/15.12.2011
- d. Our ref 141994/3544/22.12.2010
- e. Our ref 111763/26454/22.09.2009

Attached we are forwarding references (a) and (b) and request, within the context for your authority, to inform the concerned parties about the issues that are requested in these documents. Regarding the respective issues we have already provided the information in our references (c), (d) and (e), requested from the European Commission, additionally we inform you, within our authority the following:

1. In accordance with law 3937/31.3.2011 “Preservation of Biodiversity and other Provisions” (J.O. 60 A’) the above referenced area of NATURA 2000 is designated as Special Area of Conservation, (S.A.C.) in the areas characterized as Habitat /Species Management Areas as per Article 5.4 of the above reference law.

2. The procedure for the special protection of the above area and the issuance of a Joint Ministerial Decision (J.M.D.) applicable for a period of 2 years is being jointly prepared by the competent Legislative authority of the Ministry in accordance with article 6.9 of the above referenced law and in parallel with the current administrative and political developments.

3. Updating and supplementing the Special Environmental Impact Assessment (S.E.I.A.) prepared specifically for this referenced area, as we have informed you in detail in the reference (e), has been included in the overall planning by our office in next time period 2012 - 2015 by *EPPERAA* under the 4th Community Support Framework.

4. Until the implementation of the above it is clarified, with above reference (e) document to the Administration B’ in Messinia Prefecture, has described in detail and have given instructions for the

need to protect the site and elements of the subject area in order to ensure the requirements set under the Directive 92/43 E.C. when in subject region was included in the European Ecological Network NATURA 2000.

Please inform the above respective parties with a copy to our Service. Attached are all of above referenced documents for your quick review.

att : Above referenced documents

CC: Division

NEM Section

C. VERVERIS

C. CHRYSSOMALIS

Dr. G. MANOURIS

Head of Division



URGENT

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

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Inf: Dr C. Ververis
Ms E. Fardi
Our ref: 141994/3544

Athens, December 22nd, 2010

To: International and EC Affairs
Section
15, Amaliados St., GR 115 23
Athens

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
Secretary General Office
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 No. 1, 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.

cc Division
NEM Section
Dr C. Ververis
C. Chrysomallis
Ms E. Fardi

Yours sincerely

Dr. G. MANOURIS
Head of Division