



ACTION POINTS

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FACE

BIODIVERSITY MANIFESTO

Hunting is a highly popular form of nature recreation, an activity enjoyed by 7 million people in Europe. It is one of the oldest forms of consumptive use of renewable natural resources and provides significant social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits in different regions of Europe.

The Biodiversity Manifesto shows the commitment of Europe's hunters to biodiversity conservation through 38 action points divided in eight specific sections.

This has two main purposes:

- To demonstrate the role and contribution of hunting to biodiversity conservation to policy-makers and the public.
- To promote the coordination and enhancement of this contribution in line with international conservation priorities.



1. HABITATS

FACE AND ITS MEMBERS WILL

- 1.1** Develop and encourage strategies to support appropriate Greening and Rural Development measures under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).
- 1.2** Continue to collaborate with farmers, landowners and conservation organisations to maintain and restore farmland biodiversity through local actions.
- 1.3** Work with landowners, forestry interests and conservation organisations to develop policies and strategies that seek to achieve sustainable forest management.
- 1.4** Continue efforts at the local level to establish, restore and maintain wetlands and their biodiversity.
- 1.5** Increase the involvement of hunters in research programmes related to habitat conservation.
- 1.6** Collate and communicate best practice examples of habitat conservation by hunters.



2. SPECIES

FACE AND ITS MEMBERS WILL

- 2.1** Increase the engagement of hunters in species monitoring programmes.
- 2.2** Increase the involvement of hunters in research programmes related to species conservation.
- 2.3** Continue to implement actions and develop strategies to combat the illegal killing, taking and trade of species.
- 2.4** Encourage hunters to implement appropriate conservation measures that benefit species, including the development and implementation of management and action plans.
- 2.5** Highlight best practice amongst hunters with regard to species' identification programmes, sustainable harvest, restoration and conservation.
- 2.6** Contribute to the implementation of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) policies, including prevention, eradication or management of such species.

A photograph of a wolf standing in a grassy field. The wolf has grey and brown fur, pointed ears, and is looking directly at the camera. The background is a blurred green field.

2. SPECIES

FACE AND ITS MEMBERS WILL

- 2.7** Contribute to the conservation and management of large carnivores.
- 2.8** Contribute to the formulation of guidance documents on issues such as hunting during periods of severe environmental conditions (e.g. extreme cold or dry weather, forest fires, oil spills and epizootics).
- 2.9** Contribute to the conservation of endangered species.
- 2.10** Collaborate on the conservation and sustainable use of migratory birds and the conservation of habitats along their flyways, especially within the framework of the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA).
- 2.11** Promote the control of widespread opportunistic species and generalist predators to the benefit of biodiversity.



3. PROTECTED AREAS

FACE AND ITS MEMBERS WILL

- 3.1** Engage in facilitating dialogue and conflict resolution between stakeholders within protected areas.
- 3.2** Continue to promote hunters' engagement in the management of protected areas in collaboration with the relevant competent authorities and other stakeholders, especially with regard to the Natura 2000 Network.
- 3.3** In relation to the above-mentioned points, collate and communicate best practice examples to the hunting community and public.
- 3.4** Continue to promote the application of IUCN guidelines for protected areas.



4. SUSTAINABLE USE

FACE AND ITS MEMBERS WILL

- 4.1** Encourage and promote a better understanding of sustainable use principles and their implementation.
- 4.2** Support the Sustainable Hunting Initiatives.
- 4.3** Encourage the collection of hunting and population statistics that enable the assessment of the sustainability of hunting practices.
- 4.4** Promote the use and improvement of recording systems for game bag statistics at national level.
- 4.5** Encourage and develop strategies to ensure that hunting tourism follows sustainable use principles.
- 4.6** Seek ways to involve and organise local hunters, their knowledge and experience in promoting good management and best practice for the implementation of EU Nature and Biodiversity Policies.
- 4.7** Raise awareness of the value of game as a resource.



5. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

FACE AND ITS MEMBERS WILL

- 5.1** Encourage the creation, improvement and maintenance of ecological features, which contribute to the concept of Green Infrastructure.
- 5.2** Actively demonstrate and explain ‘tried-and-tested’ management measures undertaken within hunting areas that support the Green Infrastructure concept.
- 5.3** Actively contribute to the development of Green Infrastructure policy within the EU.



6. ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

FACE AND ITS MEMBERS WILL

- 6.1** Endeavour to improve information on ecosystems and the services they provide through involvement in research and monitoring that values biodiversity.
- 6.2** Endeavour to improve understanding of the importance of healthy and resilient ecosystems and the services they provide, by collaborating in awareness-raising programs and educational activities, both for hunters and the public.
- 6.3** Advocate that the conservation work carried out by hunters contributes to the maintenance and enhancement of functioning ecosystems.
- 6.4** Actively contribute to the development of EU policy goals on ecosystem services.



7. INVESTING IN NATURE

FACE AND ITS MEMBERS WILL

- 7.1** Improve understanding of how hunters invest in nature conservation so that policies and funding mechanisms can be better targeted.
- 7.2** Promote economic tools and policies to support hunters' conservation actions, which provide sustainable solutions for biodiversity conservation.
- 7.3** Encourage actions associated with hunting to be conducted through rural development programmes (e.g. CAP) that create jobs and economic activities, while sustaining nature.



8. HUNTERS FOR NATURE

We will set in place a system for regular reporting and reviewing of the FACE BDM to ensure that hunters' contribution to the conservation of biodiversity is in line with EU and global policy priorities.



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