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**Subject: Consultation on the conservation status assessments of habitats and species of community interest - 28 July to 15 September 2008**

This is to announce that via the internet-site <http://biodiversity.eionet.europa.eu/article17> you can take part in the public consultation on the draft EU-level (biogeographic) assessments of the Art.17 reports under the Habitats Directive. The consultation will be open from 28 July to 15 September 2008.

The public consultation is part of the evaluation of the national reports under Art.17 of the Habitats Directive for the period 2001-2006. The assessment of the data is carried out by the European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity (ETC/BD) of the European Environmental Agency (EEA) and in close cooperation with the European Commission.

In the frame of the public consultation it will be possible to comment on the following issues:

1. The biogeographical assessments at the EU level as assessed by the ETC/BD
2. The biogeographical assessments as reported by Member States

A background document for those interested to participate in the public consultation is being produced by ETC/BD. It is available in the library of CIRCA-Reporting (<http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/env/monnat/library>)

Once the consultation period is finished the ETC/BD will revise the biogeographical assessments. Final results will be part of a (internet-based) technical report. This work will form the basis for the composite report of the European Commission.

Outside of the consultation period you can search and view the national results.

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