

# Contents

## I. Recommendations

Recommendation No. 114 (2005) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 1 December 2005, on the control of the Grey squirrel ( <i>Sciurus carolinensis</i> ) and other alien squirrels in Europe.....	9
Recommendation No. 115 (2005) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 1 December 2005, on the conservation and management of transboundary populations of large carnivores .....	10
Recommendation No. 116 (2005) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 1 December 2005, on the conservation of sturgeons ( <i>Acipenseridae</i> ) in the Danube River Basin .....	12
Recommendation No. 117 (2005) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 1 December 2005, on the plan to set up a wind farm near the town of Balchik and other wind farm developments, on the Via Pontica route (Bulgaria).....	14
Recommendation No. 118 (2005) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 1 December 2005, on protection of the Hermann tortoise ( <i>Testudo hermanni</i> ) in the Massif des Maures and Plaine des Maures localities (Var), France .....	17
Recommendation No. 119 (2006) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 30 November 2006, on the conservation of certain endangered species of amphibians and reptiles in Europe.....	21
Recommendation No. 120 (2006) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 30 November 2006, on the European Strategy for the Conservation of Invertebrates .....	23

Recommendation No. 121 (2006) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 30 November 2006, on the implementation of six new action plans for most threatened birds in the Convention's area.....	25
Recommendation No. 122 (2006) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 30 November 2006, on the conservation of biological diversity in the context of climate change .....	27
Recommendation No. 123 (2007) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 29 November 2007, on limiting the dispersal of the Grey squirrel ( <i>Sciurus carolinensis</i> ) in Italy and other Contracting Parties.....	31
Recommendation No. 124 (2007) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 29 November 2007, on progress in the eradication of the Ruddy duck ( <i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i> ) .....	32
Recommendation No. 125 (2007) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 29 November 2007, on trade in invasive and potentially invasive alien species in Europe.....	33
Recommendation No. 126 (2007) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 29 November 2007, on the eradication of some invasive alien plant species.....	54
Recommendation No. 127 (2007) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 29 November 2007, on the conservation and restoration of the European sturgeon ( <i>Acipenser sturio</i> ) .....	57
Recommendation No. 128 (2007) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 29 November 2007, on the European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity.....	59
Recommendation No. 129 (2007) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 29 November 2007, on the construction of a dam and hydro-electric power station in Lesce on the Dobra River (Croatia) .....	61

Recommendation No. 130 (2007) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 29 November 2007, on the wind farms planned near Balchik and Kaliakra, and other wind farm developments on the Via Pontica route (Bulgaria).....	63
Recommendation No. 131 (2007) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 29 November 2007, on the Planned Motorway Vc across the Drava Marshlands in Slavonia (Croatia).....	67
Recommendation No. 132 (2007) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 29 November 2007, on the conservation of fungi in Europe.....	70
Recommendation No. 133 (2008) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 27 November 2008, on the control of the water hyacinth ( <i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> ).....	72
Recommendation No. 134 (2008) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 27 November 2008, on the European Code of Conduct on Horticulture and Invasive Alien Plants.....	76
Recommendation No. 135 (2008) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 27 November 2008, on addressing the impacts of climate change on biodiversity .....	77
Recommendation No. 136 (2008) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 27 November 2008, on improving the conservation of the common hamster ( <i>Cricetus cricetus</i> ) in Europe .....	90
Recommendation No. 137 (2008) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 27 November 2008, on population level management of large carnivore populations .....	92
Recommendation No. 138 (2008) of the Standing Committee, adopted on 27 November 2008, on the European Strategy for Plant Conservation 2008-2014.....	94

## II. Resolution

Resolution of the Standing Committee, adopted on 29 November 2007, on the revised regulations of the European Diploma of Protected Areas .....	99
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## **I. Recommendations**



**Recommendation No. 114 (2005)  
of the Standing Committee,  
adopted on 1 December 2005, on the control  
of the Grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*)  
and other alien squirrels in Europe**

The Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, acting under the terms of Article 14 of the Convention,

Having regard to the aims of the Convention to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats;

Recalling Recommendation No. 78 (1999) of the Standing Committee on the conservation of the Red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*) in Italy;

Recalling Recommendation No. 99 (2003) of the Standing Committee on the European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species;

Noting that the Grey squirrel has established a population in the wild in the Ticino valley and surrounding areas;

Noting that the Grey squirrel is likely to further spread in the next decades over a large part of Europe, causing both economic damage to forests and also impacts to other native biological diversity, including damage to forest species and changes of biocenoses, and that its spread will probably lead to the extinction of many populations of the native Red squirrel,

Recommends that Contracting Parties:

1. encourage international and national institutions to support and fund further studies into the impacts on forests, Red squirrels and other biological diversity caused by the Grey squirrel and into efficient control measures;
2. request Parties to apply measures preventing the introduction of alien squirrel species addressing relevant pathways such as trade and tourism; to be particularly attentive to detect new introductions in order to apply justified and species specific rapid interventions, such as eradication, especially in the very early stages of introduction;

Further recommends that Italy:

3. urge the authorities of the Ticino valley, in particular the Ticino park, to start without delay an eradication programme on the Grey squirrel, following the guidelines developed by the Istituto Nazionale per la Fauna Selvatica (INFS) and the Italian Ministry of Environment, so as to prevent its expansion to Switzerland and other neighbouring states.

**Recommendation No. 115 (2005)  
of the Standing Committee,  
adopted on 1 December 2005, on the conservation  
and management of transboundary populations  
of large carnivores**

The Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, acting under the terms of Article 14 of the Convention,

Having regard to the aims of the Convention to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats;

Wishing to promote coexistence of viable populations of large carnivores with sustained development of rural areas in appropriate regions;

Aware that the drafting and implementation of Action plans may be a useful tool to redress the situation;

Recalling its Recommendation No. 59 (1997) on the drafting and implementation of Action plans of wild fauna species;

Recalling its following Recommendations:

- Recommendation No. 74 (1999) on the conservation of large carnivores;
- Recommendation No. 82 (2000) on urgent measures concerning the implementation of Action plans for large carnivores in Europe;
- Recommendation No. 89 (2001) on the conservation of the European lynx in the Alps;
- Recommendation No. 94 (2002) on urgent measures for the conservation of the Iberian lynx;
- Recommendation No. 100 (2003) on the conservation of large carnivores in the Carpathians;
- Recommendation No. 101 (2003) on the implementation of the Pan-Alpine Conservation Strategy for Lynx (PACS);

Considering that some co-ordinated Action plans, such as the Pan-Alpine Conservation Strategy for Lynx, are excellent examples of how states can co-operate to survey and manage a threatened population;

Wishing to see more co-ordination between states in the conservation and management of transboundary populations of large carnivores;

Considering these Action plans as guidelines for competent national authorities;

Recommends that Contracting Parties to the Convention:

4. co-operate on and share information relating to the conservation and management of transboundary populations of large carnivores, including as appropriate the consideration of jointly drafting and implementing (or, if necessary, reinforcing) Action plans for transboundary populations of large carnivores;
5. engage in this work with neighbouring states not yet Parties to the Convention where appropriate;
6. implement any of such Action plans for transboundary populations through the harmonisation and co-ordination, when appropriate, of existing national Action plans;
7. consider the populations listed in the appendix as some potential candidates for further action in the context of this recommendation.

## Appendix

- Bear in the Alps;
- Lynx in the Alps (reinforcing of PACS);
- Bear, wolf and lynx in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland;
- Bear, wolf and lynx in Finland, Norway and Sweden;
- Bear, wolf and lynx in the Carpathians;
- Wolf in France, Italy and Switzerland;
- Bear, lynx and wolf in the Dinaric-Pindos Range;
- Lynx in the Balkans;
- Iberian lynx (reinforcing of co-operation for captive breeding and re-introduction);
- Lion (*Felis leo*) and leopard (*Panthera pardus*) in the National Park of Niokolo Koba (Senegal) and Mali.