



CMS

2025 CMS National Report

Deadline for submission of the National Reports: : 30 September 2025

Reporting period: from May 2023 to February 2025

Parties are encouraged to respond to all questions and are also requested to provide comprehensive answers, when required.

National Report format is available through the CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS), which has been successfully implemented and used by CMS, AEWA, IOSEA and Sharks MOU in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC.

Through Resolution 12.5 (Rev. COP14) and Decisions 14.27, 14.25 National Reports and 14.2 Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species, the Standing Committee and the Secretariat were tasked with developing a new format for National Reports that aligns with the SPMS. However, given that the indicators of the SPMS are not yet in place, and due to the time constraints caused by the exceptionally short intersessional period before COP15, there is insufficient time to substantially amend the National Report format to fully align it with the SPMS.

The Standing Committee therefore agreed to develop a new format for the reporting period after COP15, and to use the previous National Report format for the current reporting period, with only minor adjustments. These adjustments would include a limited number of additional questions on topics that COP14 specifically requested to be reported through National Reports.

Additionally, it was agreed not to attach the full list of species in Appendices I and II for verification by Parties, as this information was collected during previous reporting cycles but could not be fully assessed and reflected in the National Reports format due to a lack of resources. Instead, the Standing Committee agreed to collect information on Range States for species listed in the Annex to Resolution 14.19 during this reporting cycle, in accordance with Decision 14.234.

A proposal of the National Reports format was circulated by the Secretariat to the Standing Committee members on 13 December and it was agreed through communication procedure, in line with Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure.

This online version of the format strictly follows the one adopted by Standing Committee through communication procedure. In addition, as was also the case for reporting prior to COP14, it incorporates pre-filled information, notably in Sections II and III, based on data available at the Secretariat from the previous reporting cycles.

Please note that guidance is available for a number of questions throughout the national report as both in-text guidance and as tool tips (displayed via the information 'i' icon).

For any question, please contact Mr. Aydin Bahramlouian, Public Information Officer, aydin.bahramlouian@un.org

NOTICE: Before clicking on the hyperlinks in this questionnaire, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

RESOURCES FOR THE CMS NATIONAL REPORT FROM OTHER RELEVANT INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES

Convention/Agreement/Process

Information source

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

National Reports

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

Annual trade reports, Annual illegal trade reports, Implementation reports

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat

National Reports, Ramsar Information Sheets

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Country reports

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

National Reports

United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)

National Reports

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

National Communications, Biennial Reports, Update Reports

Various CMS Family Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)

National Reports

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

National Reports

Note: These reporting processes of other relevant intergovernmental frameworks are examples of information resources to be used when filling out this national report, which may assist in identification and strengthening of synergies among these processes. This list is **not** exhaustive. There are many other sources of information that may also be of relevance for migratory species, their habitats and migrations systems.

High-level summary of key messages

In your country, during the reporting period, what does this report reveal about:

Guidance:

This section invites you to summarise the most important positive aspects of CMS implementation in your country and the areas of greatest concern. Please limit this specifically to the current reporting period only.

Your answers should be based on the information contained in the body of the report: the intention is for this section to distil the technical information in the report into “high level” messages for decision-makers and wider audiences.

Please try also to be specific or provide specific examples where you can, e.g. “New wildlife legislation enacted in 2024 doubled penalties for poisoning wild birds” rather than “stronger laws”; “50% shortfall in match-funding for GEF project on gazelles” rather than just “lack of funding”.

The most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> 1. On November 20, 2024, the Swiss Federal Council mandated the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) to implement the second phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan (AP SBS II) from 2025 to 2030. AP SBS II focuses on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of biodiversity conservation efforts, particularly within existing program agreements and sectoral policies.
2. The importance of biodiversity including migratory species is, in addition to existing regulations, successfully mainstreamed in Switzerland's Sustainable development Strategy 2030, the Swiss Landscape Concept (SLC), the Federal Council's health policy strategy 2020–2030, and the Tourism Strategy of the Confederation.

The greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> 1. Pressure on habitats / land-use changes / spatial planning;
2. Conflicts / trade-offs with renewable energy policy;
3. Conflicts / trade-offs with agricultural production;
4. Conflicts / trade-offs regarding recreational activities;
5. Lack of public awareness about the state of biodiversity in general and the avoidance of disturbances in protected areas specifically.

The main priorities for future implementation of the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> - Further development and implementation of the second phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan (AP SBS II)
- Preservation, maintenance and valorisation of existing protected areas as well as conservation and remediation of 301 supra-regional wildlife migration corridors;
- Design and implementation of the countrywide ecological infrastructure;
- Specific promotion and conservation of national priority species;

I. Administrative Information

Name of the Party

>>> Switzerland

Date of entry into force of the Convention in your country (DDMMYY)

>>> 01.07.1995

Any territories which are excluded from the application of the Convention

>>> -

Report compiler

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II. Accession/Ratification of CMS Agreements/MOUs

Please confirm the status of your country's participation in the following Agreements/MOUs, and indicate any updates or corrections required:

Yes, the lists are correct and up to date

Country participation in Agreements/MOUs:

Please select only one per line

	Range State, but not a Party/Signatory	Not applicable (= not a Range State)	Party/Signatory
Aquatic Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACAP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACCOBAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AEWA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ASCOBANS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Atlantic Turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Birds of Prey (Raptors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bukhara Deer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dugong	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EUROBATS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gorilla Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
High Andean Flamingos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IOSEA Marine Turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Middle-European Great Bustard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monk Seal in the Atlantic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pacific Islands Cetaceans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ruddy-headed Goose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Saiga Antelope	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sharks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Siberian Crane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slender-billed Curlew	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
South Andean Huemul	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Southern South American Grassland Birds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wadden Sea Seals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
West African Elephants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Western African Aquatic Mammals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

III. Species on the Convention Appendices

III.1 Please confirm that the Excel file “Res. 14.19 species per Party” linked below correctly identifies the **Appendix II** species listed in Resolution 14.19 Guidance on the treatment of species included within aggregated families listed under Appendix II for which your country is a Range State.

The list of Resolution 14.19 species per Parties is available **here**.

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

GUIDANCE TIP:

During the last two reporting cycles, information has been collected on Appendix I and Appendix II species, and the information received still needs to be analyzed. Therefore, this reporting cycle only focuses on bird species identified under Resolution 14.19. This Resolution invites Parties to consider the list of Species in its Annex when preparing National Reports. This question aims at collecting information on Range States of species listed in the Annex to Resolution 14.19. Parties are therefore invited to review the Range State data which are available in the excel spreadsheet “Res. 14.19 species per Party”. Please confirm that the list is correct, or if amendments are needed, create a line for each species for which you wish to indicate different information from that shown in the Excel spreadsheet. Where possible, please also provide supporting evidence, such as a reference to a scientific paper. A more detailed spreadsheet with Data per countries and territories is available here as background information. The data used for these spreadsheets are based on the CMS standard references for non-passerine and passerine species, as determined by Resolution 12.27(Rev.COP14) Taxonomy and Nomenclature, using its online version HBW-BirdLife Version 9.0 (October 2024)..

No, amendments are needed for the following species:

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Section III Appendix II Switzerland rev 2025.xlsx](#) - Amendments requested

IV. Legal Prohibition of the Taking of Appendix I Species

IV.1. Is the taking of Appendix I species prohibited by national or territorial legislation in accordance with CMS Article III(5)?

Yes for all Appendix I species

Please identify any change in the legal statute(s) concerned that has been introduced since the last reporting:

Please provide links and clearly identify the relevant statute(s) by providing the title, date, etc.

>>> The prohibition of taking of CMS Appendix I species is enshrined in the

- Federal Act on Protection of Nature and Cultural Heritage;
 - Federal Act on Hunting and Protection of Wild Mammals and Birds;
 - Federal Act on Fishery;
- and their associated ordinances.

Further details can be found in Switzerland's National Report 2023. There has been no change in the legal status of Appendix I species since the last report.

IV.2 **Exceptions:** Where the taking of Appendix I species **is** prohibited by national legislation, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition during the reporting period?

No

IV.4. Are any vessels flagged to your country engaged in the intentional taking of Appendix I species outside of your country's national jurisdictional limits (consistent with the definition of "Range State" in Article I of the Convention)?

No

V. Awareness

V.1. Please indicate the actions that have been taken by your country during the reporting period to increase people's awareness of the values of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems (note that answers given in section XVIII may also be relevant).
(select all that apply)

GUIDANCE TIP:

Awareness raising may include actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in various CMS documents, such as Resolution, Res. **11.9 (Rev.COP13)** (World Migratory Bird Day), as well as a number of other resolutions and decisions which include specific provisions about awareness raising, including Resolutions Res. **13.6** (Insect Decline), Res. **14.18** (Avian Influenza), Res. **14.17** (Communities and livelihoods), Res. **14.16** (Ecological Connectivity), Res. **14.15** (Action Plan to address aquatic Wild Meat Harvests), Res. **14.14** (CMS Jaguar Initiative), Res. **14.13** (Initiative for Central Asian Flyway), Res. **14.12** (Single Species Action Plan for the Angelshark (*Squatina squatina*) in the Mediterranean Sea), Res. **14.10** (Single Species Action Plan for the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (*Sousa teuszii*)), Res. **14.8** (Conservation and sustainable management of seagrass ecosystems), Res. **14.5** (Reducing the risk of vessel strikes for marine megafauna), Res. **14.1** (Samarkand Strategic Plan for migratory species 2024 - 2032), Res. **12.6 (Rev.COP14)** (Wildlife health and migratory species), Res. **12.11 (Rev.COP14)** (Flyways), Res. **12.17** (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), Res. **12.19 (Rev.COP14)** (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), Res. **12.20** (Management of Marine Debris), Res. **12.21 (Rev.COP14)** (Climate Change and Migratory Species), Res. **12.25** (Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species), Res. **11.16 (Rev.COP14)** (The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds), Res. **11.17 (Rev.COP14)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), Res. **11.24 (Rev.COP13)** (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), Res. **11.31 (Rev.COP14)** (Illegal and unsustainable taking of wildlife), Res. **8.12 (Rev.COP12)** (Improving the Conservation Status of Raptors and Owls in the African-Eurasian Region), and Decision 14.194 (Ecological Connectivity), Decision 14.54 (Marine Wildlife Watching) and Decision 14.223 (Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Species).

- Campaigns on specific topics
- Press and media coverage
- Community-based celebrations, exhibitions and other events
- Engagement of specific stakeholder groups
- Special publications
- Interpretation at nature reserves and other sites
- Other (please specify)

>>> The actions listed in Switzerland's last National Report are ongoing (i.e., Strategic Goal no. 7 of the Swiss Biodiversity Strategy (SBS) , Festival for Nature, Eurobirdwatch, International Bat Night, Oiseaux de nos jardins).

Impact of actions

V.2. Please provide details for the actions selected in the previous question and indicate any specific elements of CMS COP Resolutions which have been particularly taken forward by these actions.

>>> See Switzerland's last National Report.

V.3. Overall, how successful have these awareness actions been in achieving their objectives?

Tick one box

GUIDANCE TIP:

If the impact of awareness actions has been assessed by (for example) project evaluation studies or follow-up audience attitude surveys during the reporting period, those provide a basis for answering this question. If the assessment has involved any type of quantitative measure of the impact, please specify. It is recognized that such assessment studies may not always be available, in which case it is acceptable to base your answer on an informed subjective judgement. Alternatively, if there is genuinely no basis for forming such a judgement, please select "Unknown".

Question V.4 gives you the opportunity to explain the basis on which you have answered question V.3.

- 3. Good impact

V.4. Please identify the main form(s) of evidence that has/have been used to make this assessment.

>>> Biodiversity awareness, including migratory species, is monitored using the following indicators:

- Wissen über Biodiversität (Knowledge about biodiversity)
- Einstellung zu Biodiversität (attitude towards biodiversity)
- Wahrnehmung der Biodiversität in der Bevölkerung (Perception of biodiversity by the population)

In addition to national indicators, campaigns are monitoring success as follows:

- Number of activities conducted in the framework of the "Festival for Nature"
- Eurobirdwatch: number of events and participants
- International batnight: number of events
- Oiseaux de nos jardins: number of species recorded

VI. Mainstreaming Migratory Species in Other Sectors and Processes

VI.1. Does the conservation of migratory species currently feature in any national or local strategies and/or planning processes in your country relating to development, poverty reduction and/or livelihoods?

Yes

Please provide details:

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please describe how CMS objectives are incorporated in other sectoral strategies such as transport, construction, agriculture, tourism, education, spatial planning, Sustainable Development Goals and other strategies.

>>> On November 20, 2024, the Swiss Federal Council mandated the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) to implement the second phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan (AP SBS II) from 2025 to 2030. AP SBS II focuses on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of biodiversity conservation efforts, particularly within existing program agreements and sectoral policies.

The International Cooperation Strategy 2025-2028 adopted by Parliament in December 2024 sets out Switzerland's priorities for development and economic cooperation, humanitarian aid and the promotion of peace and human rights. The overarching objective of international cooperation is to end poverty and support sustainable development worldwide.

Saving lives and ensuring access to basic services; contributing to sustainable economic growth; protecting the environment and combating climate change; promoting peace and human rights, and strengthening democracy and the rule of law. These are the objectives set by Switzerland's International Cooperation Strategy 2025-2028.

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) addresses the sustainable use, conservation and restoration of biodiverse ecosystems such as forests, wetlands and mountains. Healthy ecosystems are essential for human well-being and sustainable livelihoods. They provide food, clean air and water, and support climate change mitigation and adaptation. SDC's efforts aim to bolster resilience and promote sustainable practices in vulnerable regions while preserving fragile ecosystems.

In its 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy (2030 SDS), the Federal Council outlines the priorities it intends to set to implement the 2030 Agenda over the next ten years. The 2030 SDS and the associated 2021-2023 Action Plan were adopted by the Federal Council on 23 June 2021. Chapter 4.2.3 is dedicated to preserving, sustainably using, promoting and regenerating biodiversity with challenges identified for the fields of coordinating settlement and infrastructure development, inputs of nitrogen, heavy metals, microplastics, medicines (such as antibiotics), the use of plant protection products and the consequences of climate change with the protection, promotion and sustainable use of the soils, bodies of water, biodiversity and landscapes. It is therefore incumbent on all stakeholders in all sectors also to safeguard biodiversity and make use of synergies in a manner favourable to nature and landscape.

The Swiss Landscape Concept (SLC) is a concept in the context of Art. 13 of the Federal Law on Spatial Planning (LAT). The updated version was adopted by the Federal Council on 27.05.2020. As a planning instrument of the Swiss Confederation, the SPC defines the framework for a coherent and quality-oriented development of the Swiss landscape.

The strategic objectives and principles of spatial planning set out in the updated SLC are defined in such a way that they contribute to a coherent federal landscape policy that is binding on the authorities. 14 landscape quality objectives form the core of the SPL and support the actors involved at the federal, cantonal and municipal levels in the development of high landscape quality. The sectoral objectives give concrete expression to the landscape quality objectives for 13 policy areas (federal buildings, energy, transport, etc.). The SLC also includes a plan of measures to support the implementation of the sectoral objectives.

Objectives relevant for migratory species include

- Preservation and promotion of nocturnality;

The Federal Council has adopted the updated federal tourism strategy in 2021. Landscape is highly valued in this strategy. Another important tool is the Handbook of Sustainability in Swiss Tourism Destinations, published by the Zurich University of Applied Sciences. The handbook provides managers of tourism destinations with specific inputs on how to contribute to biodiversity conservation.

Further, migratory species feature for instance in the following national strategies and/or planning processes related to development:

- Exploitation of natural resources;
- Economic development;
- Land-use planning;
- Pollution control;
- Designation and development of protected areas;
- Development of ecological networks;
- Planning of powerlines; and the
- Planning of dams.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

Climate, disaster risk reduction and environment - Climate change, natural hazards, and environmental degradation threaten global stability and progress towards sustainable development. The SDC addresses these challenges through projects that make people and their livelihoods safer and more resilient, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote sustainable development.

Switzerland's international cooperation strategy 2025-2028 - The International Cooperation Strategy 2025-2028 adopted by Parliament in December 2024 sets out Switzerland's priorities for development and economic cooperation, humanitarian aid and the promotion of peace and human rights. The overarching objective of international cooperation is to end poverty and support sustainable development worldwide. It is an integral part of Swiss foreign and security policy.

VI.2. Does your country integrate the 'values of migratory species and their habitats' in any other national reporting processes?

E.g. Agenda 2030, reporting for International Whaling Commission, CBD, EU Nature Directives, etc.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Responses to this question should be focused on the reporting processes of the country rather than on plans and regulations within the country. This question intends to understand if the values of migratory species and habitats are featured in other national reporting that your country participates in, such as reporting to other biodiversity MEAs, the International Whaling Commission, European Commission etc.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> Switzerland has a comprehensive strategic and programmatic framework ensuring that biodiversity including migratory species is integrated in national and local planning and their respective reporting processes. This can be understood as a clear recognition of the intrinsic value of biodiversity or the value in terms of ecosystem services delivered by biodiversity such as the provisioning, regulating, cultural and habitat services.

This said, migratory species are ex- and implicitly addressed in multiple National reports to MEAs, to the SDGs and to FAO, for instance including:

- Ramsar NR to COP14 (and earlier reports): questions relating to Ramsar targets 2, 3, 4, 7;
- CBD 6th NR (and earlier reports): Information on implementation of Aichi Targets 2, 11 and Switzerland's Strategic Goals 1 and 6;
- CITES Biennial Report 2013/2014;
- FAO, THE STATE OF SWITZERLAND'S BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE;
- SDGs Voluntary National Review 2022; and last but not least
- the national reports to CMS Agreements and MOUs (for Switzerland: AEWA, Raptors, Eurobats).

VI.3. Provide some examples of significant involvements (if any) of non-governmental organizations and/or civil society in the conservation of migratory species in your country.

>>> • Swiss Biological Records Centre / Centre Suisse de Cartographie de la Faune (info fauna - CSCF): Data management on the distribution and the ecology of fauna in Switzerland / coordination of eco-faunal research / rationalisation and standardisation of data acquisition methods / public information on species and habitats. The Swiss Biological Records Center maintains the Swiss node of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility GBIF.

• Swiss Ornithological Institute: The Swiss Ornithological Institute is a non-profit foundation sponsored by the public and is engaged in research and conservation projects in support of bird species occurring in Switzerland throughout the year. The primary tasks of the Swiss Ornithological Institute include the monitoring of the distribution, abundance and status of bird species occurring in Switzerland throughout the year; conducting scientific studies on the ecology and migration of species; and improving living conditions for threatened species. As a national centre of competence for the conservation of birds, it is also an information centre for the broad public, the media and the authorities.

• KORA – Carnivore Ecology and Wildlife Management is an in-state foundation based in Ittigen. KORA studies the life history of carnivores (lynx, wolves, bears, wildcat and golden jackal) and monitors the development of their populations. KORA provides information to the authorities and the general public and offers an advisory function. KORA observes the effects of the large carnivores on our cultural landscape and acquires the basis for a conflict free coexistence of large carnivores with humans.

• Swiss Coordination Centres for Bat Protection: Bat conservation activities are carried out by an Eastern and a Western coordination centre supported by the Federal Office for the Environment FOEN. Both coordination centres coordinate the activities of the cantonal collaborators in charge for bat conservation as well as the local volunteers engaged in bat protection".

• The Foundation Pro Bartgeier, the only organization authorized by the Swiss federal government to release bearded vultures into the wild in Switzerland, works towards the return of the Bearded Vulture in the Alps. The Foundation Pro Bartgeier (Bearded Vulture) advocates, that the conditions for a viable Bearded Vulture population are met in the Alps, that Bearded Vultures are reintroduced in sufficient numbers and with the necessary genetic variability, that the resettlement will be carefully monitored and scientifically well-founded, to continuously assess the population dynamics and potential risks, that an optimum protection of sensitive

species is ensured and that the general public is informed and a wide acceptance of this species is created. The Pro Bartgeier Foundation is the only organization authorized by the Swiss federal government to release bearded vultures into the wild in Switzerland. The foundation works closely with various partners from neighboring Alpine countries.

- Swiss Parks Network: The Swiss National Park, regional nature parks and nature discovery parks are the most original natural and cultural landscapes in Switzerland. The Swiss parks support a network aiming at exchanging experiences and supporting public relations.
- Pro Natura: Engagement at the protection of species and their habitats, owns and maintains a number of protected areas of local, national or international importance for migratory species.
- WWF- Switzerland: Protection of biodiversity, alpine habitats, waters, environmental education, diverse projects
- BirdLife Switzerland is active for the conservation of biodiversity in Switzerland and, through its partnership with BirdLife International, all over the world.
- Nos Oiseaux: Various projects in the field of the study and protection of birds and their habitats.
- zoosuisse - Association of Scientifically Managed Swiss Zoos: The members of zoosuisse implement the WAZA (World Association of Zoos and Aquarias) World Zoo Conservation Strategy by playing an active role in nature and species conservation inside and outside the zoos, providing space and exemplary habitat for endangered species, providing experiences with animals, creating and publishing new knowledge and helping to protect endangered species and their habitats. zoosuisse participates in internationally coordinated conservation breeding programmes for endangered animal forms (species and subspecies). In addition, the member institutions make an annual contribution of around CHF 1.6 million to various nature conservation projects abroad.

VI.4. Provide some examples of significant involvements (if any) of the private sector in the conservation of migratory species in your country.

>>> - Sponsoring of NGO's and diverse general actions for the promotion of biodiversity, and / or species or habitat protection.

- In the context of corporates sustainability strategies: Support / sponsoring of NGO's and of various local projects and initiatives to underscore the corporates responsibility towards people, society and the environment.

- According to the Swiss Biodiversity Strategy, the different sectors should take the importance of biodiversity into account in their actions and decisions. In order for biodiversity to be given greater consideration in business decisions and for the negative impact of economic activities on biodiversity to be reduced, Switzerland shall increase its focus on market-based instruments and incentives, environmental product information, internationally recognised sustainability standards and the integration of environmental and sustainability factors into financial market processes.

VI.5. Are legislation and regulations in your country concerning Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) considering the possible impediments to migration, transboundary effects on migratory species, and of impacts on migratory patterns and migratory ranges?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please refer to Resolution **7.2 (Rev.COP14)** (Impact Assessment and Migratory Species).

Yes

Please describe any hindrances and challenges to the application of EIA and SEAs with respect to migratory species, lessons learned, and needs for further capacity development.

>>> On the national level, the environmental impact assessment (EIA) is anchored in the Federal Law on the Protection of the Environment (EPA) RS 814.01 and the according ordinance (RS 814.011). The EIA aims at ensuring that environmental objectives and requirements are taken into account early in the planning stage of new or the modification of existing installations and constructions.

Switzerland is considering the introduction of an environmental impact evaluation (EEE). The EEE aims at ensuring that environmental objectives and requirements are taken into account in the development and approval of plans and programmes. To this purpose, an assessment of existing instruments has been conducted to identify the aspects of an EEE already being implemented (alike cantonal spatial plans and their approval by the federal government). A synopsis of the topic in Switzerland is presented in the publication linked below.

A 2024 report by the Federal office for the environment (FOEN) and the Conference of Swiss Environmental Services (CCE) outlined four EIA development projects: integrating environmental studies into spatial planning, revising the EIA Ordinance Annex, improving impact report quality, and ensuring environmental protection measures. These projects will be developed collaboratively with cantons starting in 2025.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[Évaluation des effets sur l'environnement pour les plans et programmes - Synopsis of the environmental impact evaluation \(EEE\) in Switzerland \(in French\)](#) - The environmental impact evaluation (EEE) aims to ensure that environmental objectives and requirements are taken into account in the development and approval of plans and programmes. The EEE has been established at international level for many years under the heading of strategic

environmental evaluation (SEA). It enables the timely identification of the major environmental impacts of a plan or programme and the potential conflicts it may present. The EEE constitutes a component for the evaluation of environmental impacts, the introduction of which has been planned by the Federal Council since 2008. This publication aims to present a synopsis of the topic in Switzerland.

VI.6. To what extent have biodiversity and migratory species considerations been specifically integrated into national energy and climate policy and legislation?

GUIDANCE TIP

Please refer to Resolutions **12.21 (Rev.COP14)** (Climate Change and Migratory Species), Res. **11.27 (Rev.COP13)** (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species), Res. **10.11 (Rev.COP13)** (Power Lines and Migratory Birds), and Decision **14.207** (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species) for more information.

>>> Switzerland has a comprehensive strategic and programmatic framework ensuring that biodiversity including migratory species is integrated in national energy and climate policy and legislation.

Please provide any examples related to such policy and legislation.

>>> See section X, sub-section on collisions and electrocution.

VII. Governance, Policy and Legislative Coherence

(SPMS Target 3: National, regional and international governance arrangements and agreements affecting migratory species and their migration systems have improved significantly, making relevant policy, legislative and implementation processes more coherent, accountable, transparent, participatory, equitable and inclusive.)

VII.1. Have any governance arrangements and agreements affecting migratory species and their migration systems in your country, or in which your country participates, resulted in improvements during the reporting period?

GUIDANCE TIP:

This question is intended to understand improvements in governance arrangements in your country, which may potentially include improvements in policy, legislation, governance processes, plans etc. Please also consider the guidance below in VII.2.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> On November 20, 2024, the Swiss Federal Council mandated the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) to implement the second phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan (AP SBS II) from 2025 to 2030. AP SBS II focuses on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of biodiversity conservation efforts, particularly within existing program agreements and sectoral policies.

The AP SBS II consists of a series of measures (M) and audit requests (P) directed to stakeholders of the federal administration. Feedback from audit requests will inform the definition of additional measures as adequate: an updated version with reinforced horizontal scope across sectors will be published before the end of 2025.

To what extent have these improvements helped to make relevant policy, legislative and implementation processes more coherent, accountable, transparent, participatory, equitable and inclusive?

3. Good contribution

Please describe how this assessment was made

>>> The SPS AP II was adopted by the Swiss Federal Council recently with some parts still being developed. It is too early to provide an assessment.

For other policies, please refer to the most recent national report.

VII.2. Has any committee or other arrangement for liaison between different government agencies/ministries, sectors or groups been established at a national and/or subnational level in your country that addresses CMS implementation issues?

GUIDANCE TIP:

There is no fixed model for what these arrangements may involve, and it is for each Contracting Party to decide what best suits its own circumstances. Examples could include a steering group that includes representatives of territorial administration authorities, a coordination committee that involves the lead government department (e.g. environment) working with other departments (e.g. agriculture, industry); a forum that brings together government and NGOs; a liaison group that links with business and private sector interests; a stakeholder forum involving representatives of indigenous and local communities; a coordination team that brings together the National Focal Points for each of the biodiversity-related MEAs to which the country is a Party (see also question VII.3); or any other appropriate mechanism.

These mechanisms may be specifically focused on migratory species issues, or they may address CMS implementation in conjunction with related processes such as NBSAP coordination, a National Ramsar Committee, etc.

The Manual for National Focal Points for CMS and its Instruments may be helpful in giving further context.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> Two different bodies are established to this purpose, the "Process meetings Biodiversity International" and the "Interdepartmental Biodiversity Advisory Group", which encompasses all National Focal Points of biodiversity-related conventions.

VII.3. Does collaboration between the focal points of CMS and other relevant global or regional Conventions take place in your country to develop the coordinated and synergistic approaches described in paragraphs 29, 30 and 32 of **Res. 11.10 (Rev.COP14)** (Synergies and partnerships) and in paragraph 7 of **Res. 14.3** (Engagement in CBD processes including the Global Biodiversity Framework) ?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Relevant Conventions may include other global agreements such as biodiversity-related Conventions and Agreements, UNFCCC, UNCCD, as well as regional agreements, including CMS Agreements. Such collaboration may also be relevant

to aligning efforts related to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, and NBSAPs as described in **Dec. 14.6** (CMS Engagement in CBD Processes Including Global Biodiversity Framework) and **Res.8.18 (Rev.COP12)** (Integration of Migratory Species into NBSAPs and into On-going and Future Programmes of Work under CBD). Guidance documents for integrating considerations relevant to Migratory Species in NBSAPs are available at CMS website.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> There is a close and regular collaboration among national focal points of biodiversity relevant agreements. The collaboration encompasses, inter alia, the following: information exchange; consultations on relevant national strategic and programmatic issues; coordination for a synergetic implementation of the GBF by all biodiversity-related conventions, as applicable.

VII.4. Has your country or any jurisdictional subdivision within your country adopted legislation, policies, initiatives or action plans during the reporting period that promote community involvement in conservation of CMS-listed species?

Yes

Please identify the legislation, policies, initiatives, or action plans concerned:

>>> Switzerland is organised in 26 cantons, with each canton having its own legislation, policies, initiatives and action plans.

VIII. Incentives

VIII.1. Has there been any elimination, phasing out or reforming of harmful incentives in your country during the reporting period resulting in benefits for migratory species?

Yes

Please indicate what measures were implemented and the time-periods concerned.

>>> The federal government's biodiversity-relevant subsidies amount to around CHF 10 billion per year, excluding border protection in the agricultural sector. Eight subsidies totalling CHF 3.3 billion per year were examined in detail as part of the Swiss Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan phase I (2017-2024).

In 2022, the Federal Council commissioned the two departments for Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER) and for the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC) to review subsidies and other incentives in agricultural and regional policy and in the forestry sector in terms of their impact on biodiversity. On June 19, 2024, it took note of these evaluations and decided on selected targeted improvements.

To counteract the negative effects of border protection on biodiversity in Switzerland, two measures are to be examined in the context of agricultural policy from 2030 (AP30+). First, financial support for biodiversity advisory services, and second, the promotion or development of digital tools for agriculture to optimise sustainability, including biodiversity, across the entire farm. These measures will further improve the quality of biodiversity in Switzerland. The impact of the supply security instrument on biodiversity is low. While there are certain negative effects, there are also positive ones associated with the instrument of structural improvement contributions in civil engineering. The incentive system for voluntary ecological measures and the requirements for ecological compensation measures for overall improvements should be reviewed.

Measuring the impact of sales promotion measures in the milk, meat and egg industries on biodiversity has not been possible. One instrument of the New Regional Policy was evaluated: loans for infrastructure projects in rural and mountainous areas. While there are conflicting goals between economic benefits and the protection of biodiversity, there are also promising opportunities for biodiversity to generate economic added value in the regions. Under the New Regional Policy, three packages of measures are being implemented to help project developers identify and reduce the impact on biodiversity at an early stage of project development.

Another evaluation leading to further improvements was related to subsidies for access roads in the forests.

On January 29, 2025, the Federal Council took note of the progress report on improving the impact of subsidies on biodiversity. According to the progress report, the subsidies that are most important for biodiversity are currently being reviewed in a broader context (e.g. Agricultural Policy 2030+), have recently been introduced or reformed (e.g. the energy sector), or are due to expire (in various policy areas). The Federal Council therefore sees no need for further investigation at this stage. However, these processes should be developed further so that the impact of subsidies on biodiversity can be better assessed in future. In recent years, processes within the federal administration have been improved to better consider the impact of subsidies on biodiversity. By the end of 2025, the Federal Council intends to review how transparency regarding tax reductions can be improved. The Federal Department of Finance (FDF) and the Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC) have been given the relevant mandates. The DETEC has also been instructed to submit a further progress report by the end of 2028, proposing additional measures and/or reforms if necessary.

The second phase (2025-2030) of the action plan for the Swiss Biodiversity Strategy was adopted by the Federal Council at its meeting on 20 November 2024. The measure M10 of the second phase aims for the confederation to build and support a dialogue around biodiversity-relevant subsidies at the cantonal level".

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[Impact des subventions fédérales sur la biodiversité](#) - Un projet du plan d'action évalue l'impact des subventions fédérales sur la biodiversité. Le Conseil fédéral a lancé les premières adaptations.

VIII.2. Has there been development and/or application of positive incentives in your country during the reporting period, resulting in benefits for migratory species?

Partly / in some areas

Please indicate what measures were implemented and the time-periods concerned.

>>> The measures included in the previous national report remain valid and are under further development. One example is the project 'Resource-conserving measures in arable farming to promote biodiversity'. The project aimed to optimise resource-conserving and biodiversity-promoting cultivation methods for winter wheat and corn so that they could be implemented on a large scale as best practice in Switzerland. The project focused on the impact of the measures on the diversity and ecosystem services of invertebrates, as well as on the indicator species: the skylark.

This goal has been achieved for winter wheat, but work is still needed to implement the proposed measures for corn. The measure of wide sowing in winter wheat is both agronomically and economically feasible in conventional and extensive cultivation methods. Wide sowing is a relatively low-threshold 'in-crop' measure

that enables positive ecological effects to be generated with relatively little effort or risk. This measure is continuing in some cantons, where a similar measure — 'wide-row cereals' — is compensated for within defined parameters (usually through networking contributions).

The Wildlife and species conservation convention-programme for the period 2025-2028, a financial agreement between the Swiss Confederation and each canton, offers since this year new financial resources to the cantons for the implementation of species and natural habitats conservation plans and measures in protected areas from which some are from national and international importance for waterbirds and migratory birds.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

Projet ressource «Mesures ménageant les ressources dans les cultures et visant à préserver la biodiversité» -

L'agriculture est aujourd'hui pratiquée selon un mode intensif qui met à mal la résilience des écosystèmes. La diversité des espèces, en particulier, marque un recul. Les méthodes de production plus modernes offrent aux écosystèmes la possibilité de remédier à la surexploitation des ressources sans pour autant compromettre les rendements.

IX. Sustainable Production and Consumption

IX.1. During the reporting period, has your country implemented plans or taken other steps concerning sustainable production and consumption which are relevant for conservation of migratory species?

Yes

Please describe the measures that have been planned, developed or implemented

>>> On November 20, 2024, the Swiss Federal Council mandated the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) to implement the second phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan (AP SBS II) from 2025 to 2030. AP SBS II focuses on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of biodiversity conservation efforts, particularly within existing program agreements and sectoral policies.

The AP SBS II consists of a series of measures (M) and audit requests (P) directed to stakeholders of the federal administration and includes a measure addressing sustainable production and consumption:

M3: A knowledge base for biodiversity-conscious consumption (Samarkand SPMS, target 5.1)

Sustainable forestry: The federal government is implementing its Forest Policy that sets out its objectives for the future of Swiss forests, and balances the ecological, economic and social demands that they must satisfy. In this context, sustainable forest management ensures that forests are able to perform their protective service, supports biodiversity, prepares forests for climate change, improves the quality of the landscape and helps to mitigate the effects of a warming atmosphere. The federal government also creates favourable conditions for an efficient and innovative forest and wood industry. The forest policy is thus in line with the goals of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Wood Resource Policy sets out a vision in which wood is a characteristic component of architecture and interior design and has a positive impact on quality of life.

These policies are reflected in specific measures on the following topics:

- Promotion of resilient and multifunctional forests through proactive silvicultural measures
- Preservation of the forest area in its current spatial distribution; this will become even more important in the future in view of growing competing spatial demands (settlement, recreation, infrastructures, flood defences)
- Conservation and promotion of biodiversity in the forest
- Financing of forestry interventions to secure the ecosystem services of the forest in the long term (e.g. protection, recreation, climate protection, water filtration)
- Preservation of forest health and measures to improvement management of events
- Exploitation of the untapped potential of Swiss wood for increased use as a building material, a chemical raw material and, to a lesser extent, a source of energy.

Sustainable agriculture: Agriculture needs biodiversity, and biodiversity needs agriculture. Therefore, agriculture plays a significant role in promoting biodiversity. However, there are still major challenges to preserving the diversity of life and enabling it to contribute to food security.

Preserving and promoting natural wealth requires interconnected natural and cultural areas. Without the care and maintenance provided by agriculture, numerous species, breeds and varieties would not survive. Dry meadows rich in flowers, for example, become overgrown with trees if they are not used. Around one-third of Switzerland's land area is used for agriculture, influencing species and habitat diversity more than almost any other activity — and promoting biodiversity in the process.

The Swiss agricultural policy is reflected in specific measures including, among others, the following topics:

- Biodiversity contributions are made to promote various types of biodiversity areas (BFF).
- Monitoring agriculture-related environmental objectives concerning species and habitat diversity
- Evaluation of biodiversity priority areas
- Assessing the state of and change in species and habitat diversity in biodiversity priority areas.

Other measures as described in the most recent national report:

Sustainability is a fundamental principle anchored in the Federal Constitution (art. 73, SR 101, 1999) and guiding Switzerland's actions. Therefore, sustainability is reflected in Switzerland's legal framework as well as in the programmes and strategies.

In general terms, this includes regulating fisheries and harvesting of other species, promotion of sustainable agriculture, a national strategy for sustainable development, promotion of renewable energy/energy efficiency, circular economy approaches, EIA, sustainable tourism, greening of public procurement and eco-labelling.

2030 Sustainable Development Strategy (2030 SDS):

More specifically, in its 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy (2030 SDS), the Federal Council outlines the priorities it intends to set to implement the 2030 Agenda over the next ten years.

The 2030 SDS is first and foremost an instrument to coordinate between policy areas, and works in particular to make sustainable development a core component of the numerous federal sectoral activities.

The strategy sets out the priorities of the Federal Council's sustainability policy in the policy areas where there is a particular need for action and coordination in order to implement the 2030 Agenda at federal level. The Federal Council has thus defined three priority themes: sustainable consumption and production; climate, energy and biodiversity; and equal opportunities and social cohesion.

Fighting food waste: the Federal Council launches an action plan:

Nearly one third of the food produced for Swiss consumption is wasted or thrown away unnecessarily, that is

about 330 kg of waste per capita per year. The Federal Council adopted an action plan with the aim of reducing food waste by half by 2030 compared to 2017. To achieve this, the Confederation will conclude an agreement with companies and organizations in the food sector.

Ecological scarcity method:

The ecological scarcity method makes it possible to assess the impact of emissions, the use of resources and waste as part of a life cycle assessment. The key metrics of this method are eco-factors, which measure the environmental damage in eco-points (UBP) per unit of quantity. This publication describes how Switzerland's eco-factors are derived on the basis of current emissions in relation to the targets set out in legislation.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

Biodiversité - L'agriculture a besoin de la biodiversité et la biodiversité a besoin de l'agriculture. Cette dernière fait donc beaucoup pour favoriser la biodiversité. Le chemin pour préserver la diversité du vivant et sa contribution à la sécurité alimentaire reste toutefois semé d'embûches.

Forest and wood: In brief - Switzerland's forests protect against natural hazards, filter drinking water, provide a habitat for a wide variety of species, offer space for recreation, store CO2 and deliver raw materials for climate-friendly technologies. Their diversity of tree species and structures has been growing for decades now, improving resilience to the effects of climate change. The impact of climate change varies from region to region. Drought, heat, storms, pests and the confluence of these factors are increasingly damaging the health of the forests and diminishing their benefits as a life-sustaining natural resource.

Please describe what evidence exists to show that the intended results of these measures are being achieved.

>>> The MONET 2030 indicator system gives an overview of sustainable development in Switzerland, providing a picture of the progress made towards the 17 sustainable development goals (SDG) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda as well as in relation to the Federal Council's sustainable development strategy 2030 and to certain topics specific to Switzerland.

The MONET indicator system includes a set of indicators related to sustainable consumption and sustainable production (see link).

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

The MONET 2030 indicator system - The MONET 2030 indicator system gives an overview of sustainable development in Switzerland, providing a picture of the progress made towards the 17 sustainable development goals (SDG) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda as well as in relation to the Federal Council's sustainable development strategy 2030 and to certain topics specific to Switzerland.

X. Threats and Pressures Affecting Migratory Species; Including Obstacles to Migration

Which of the following pressures on migratory species or their habitats are having an adverse impact in your country on migratory species included in the CMS Appendices?

Guidance: This question asks you to identify the important pressures that are reliably known to be having an actual adverse impact on CMS-listed migratory species at present. Please avoid including speculative information about pressures that may be of some potential concern but whose impacts have not yet been demonstrated.

Please note that, consistent with the terms of the Convention, “in your country” may in certain circumstances include areas outside national jurisdictional limits where the activities of any vessels flagged to your country are involved.

Intentional Taking

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please note that as per Article 1(i) of the Convention, “Taking” means taking, hunting, fishing, capturing, harassing, deliberate killing, or attempting to engage in such conduct.

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Legal hunting		3
Illegal hunting		3
Other harvesting and take		3
Illegal trade	Anguilla anguilla (Appendix II)	3
Deliberate poisoning	Falco peregrinus	2

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing intentional taking?

>>> Pressures from intentional taking are low with existing regulations being enforced.

Regarding Falco peregrinus, a working group combating the deliberate poisoning has been established.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning intentional taking?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), Res. **14.15** (Action Plan to Address Aquatic Wild Meat Harvests in West Africa), Res. **13.3** (Chondrichthyan Species), Res. **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative), Res. **12.10 (Rev.COP14)** (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), Res. **12.11 (Rev.COP14)** (Flyways), Res. **12.12 (Rev.COP14)** (Action Plans for Birds), Res. **12.15** (Aquatic Wild Meat), Res. **12.17** (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), Res. **12.19** (Rev.COP14) (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), Res. **11.15 (Rev.COP14)** (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds), Res. **11.16 (Rev.COP14)** (The prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds), Res. **11.17 (Rev.COP14)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), Res. **11.18 (Rev.COP14)** (Saker Falcon Global Action Plan), Res. **11.21** (Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle in the South Pacific Ocean), Res. **11.22 (Rev.COP12)** (Live Capture of Cetaceans from the Wild for Commercial Purposes), Res. **11.24 (Rev.COP13)** (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), Res. **11.31 (Rev.COP14)** (Illegal and unsustainable taking of wildlife), and Decisions 14.148-14.150 (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), 14.119-14.121 (Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean), 14.125 (Asia Pacific Illegal Taking of Migratory Birds Intergovernmental Task Force), Decision 14.126 (South-West Asia Illegal Taking of Migratory Birds Intergovernmental Task Force).

>>> Intentional taking is regulated and monitored in Switzerland. No negative trends can be associated with legal hunting.

Unintentional Taking

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Bycatch	3	Waterbirds
Catch in Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG)	NA	
Other forms of unintentional taking	NA	

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing bycatch or catch in ALDFG?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **12.22**(Bycatch), Res. **12.20** (Management of Marine Debris), Res. **11.21** (Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle in the South Pacific Ocean), Res. **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), and Res. **13.3** (Chondrichthyan species) and Dec. 14.31 b) and c). Parties are encouraged to report on the implementation of the recommendation included in Drynan and Baker 2023 “Technical mitigation techniques to reduce bycatch of sharks” provided in Annex 1 to UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.27.1.1/Rev.1.

>>> Other forms of unintentional taking / bycatch of waterbirds can occur, however, seems to have a low impact on populations when compared to other pressures and does not impact migratory species.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning bycatch?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please provide information on any significant trend in bycatch of CMS-listed species, notably those listed on App. I. Related to the guidance given on the overarching part of Question X.1, this is a key example where you are encouraged to think about activities outside national jurisdictional limits of any vessels flagged to your country (in addition to any other circumstances in which bycatch is a noteworthy pressure on relevant species).

>>> No significant negative trends identified.

Collisions and electrocution

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Wind turbines	Raptors, bats and other species of birds, bats	2
Other collisions	Collisions with glass (all migratory birds)	2
Electrocution	Raptors and other species of birds	2
Vessel strikes		

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing collisions and electrocution?

>>> Collisions:

The A8.1 pilot project, 'Bird protection on overhead lines', forms part of the action plan for implementing the Swiss biodiversity strategy and has enabled the issue of bird electrocution to be addressed nationwide. Specifically, the focus is on the pylons of Swiss Federal Railways' (SBB) overhead lines (see the most recent national report).

SBB's traction current department has conducted a nationwide survey to compile a hazard inventory of its masts. Using a risk-based assessment, SBB has identified three categories of installations that are priorities for renovation. These are:

- mast heads with vertical, upward-facing support insulators
- mast head areas with critical construction methods
- yokes with supported suspension cable construction

The uppermost area of the catenary system or transmission line poses a particularly high risk, as this is where birds prefer to perch. Constructions where the insulator is suspended downwards from the supporting structure pose a lesser risk to birds than constructions where the insulator is supported upwards by an insulator on the supporting structure.

With the hazard inventory serving as a compass for planning, the next step is the practical implementation of the renovations. In several phases, installations and pylons that are hazardous to birds will be renovated. Thanks to SBB's commitment, the hazard inventory is nearing completion and bird protection measures will be implemented on some catenary pylons in 2023 and 2024.

A map of potential conflicts between nesting birds and wind turbines is currently being developed. Its publication is scheduled for late 2026 - early 2027.

Selected wind farms monitor collisions since a few years. The first results of these monitoring exercises are expected to be available at the beginning of next year.

Electrocutions:

A modification of article 30 of the Swiss Ordinance on power lines strengthens the implementation of electrocution preventing measures on the power installations (power pylons and lines).

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning collisions and electrocution?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution **7.4** (Electrocution of Migratory Birds), **7.5 (Rev.COP12)**(Wind Turbines and Migratory Species), **10.11 (Rev. COP13)** (Power Lines and Migratory Birds), **11.17 (Rev.COP14)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African Eurasian Region), **11.27 (Rev.COP13)** (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species), **12.10 (Rev.COP14)** (Conservation of African Eurasian Vultures), Res. **14.5** (Reducing the risk of vessel strikes for marine megafauna), Res. **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans) and Decision 14.48.

>>> No additional negative trends identified.

Other mortality

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Disease, including highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)	3	
Unexplained stranding events	NA	
Accidental/indirect poisoning	2	Overall impact on migratory species: low to medium. However, impact can be severe for single species, e.g. Lead poisoning may be the most significant threat to Bearded Vultures in Europe
Disease	3	

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in countering other mortality?

>>> Implementation of regulations: E.g., a pigeon breeder has received a conditional prison sentence of 15 months for attempting to poison birds of prey such as the rare peregrine falcon.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning other mortality?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **11.15 (Rev.COP14)** (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Species), Res. **12.6** (Rev.COP14) (Wildlife health and migratory species), Res. **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative), Res. **13.6** (Insect Decline), Res. **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), Res. 14.18 Avian influenza and Decisions 14.148-14.150 (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures).

>>> No additional negative trends identified.

Alien and/or invasive species

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Alien and/or invasive species	Species of birds affected by <i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	3

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing alien and/or invasive species?

>>> The inventory of the alien species that have become established in the environment in Switzerland, including those which may be detrimental to the environment (i.e. invasive alien species) has been updated. In addition to outlining the regions of origin and introduction pathways, the inventory shows how their numbers have evolved over time. A total of some 1,300 established alien species are known, of which 197 species are considered invasive. Selected species groups are discussed in more detail below. Example species are used to show the pathways through which they are introduced and the harm that can be caused by invasive alien species of the respective group.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning alien and/or invasive species?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution **11.28** (Future CMS Activities related to Invasive Alien Species).

>>> Nile goose populations have increased since establishment.

Disturbance and disruption

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Disturbance	All species/species groups	2

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning disturbance and disruption?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), Res. **12.16** (Rev.COP14) (Recreational In-Water Interaction with Aquatic Mammals), Res. **11.29 (Rev.COP12)** (Sustainable Boat-based Wildlife Watching), Res. **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative) and measures to mitigate threats to Important Shark and Ray Ares under Decision **14.61**.

>>> Disturbance by recreational activities remains a concern.

Pollution

	Species/species groups affected (provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Marine debris (including plastics)		NA
Light pollution	Migratory birds, bats	2
Underwater noise		unknown
Other pollution		multiple
Fish aggregating devices (FADs)		NA

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing pollution?

>>> Existing regulations are being implemented, e.g.:

Plastics:

The Federal Council released the Plastics in the Environment report, gives an overview of the subject (as of summer 2022). The first part of the report describes the plastics life cycle from manufacture to disposal. It then goes on to present the most common sources of plastics and how they enter the environment, plastics sinks, and the effects on the environment and health. The second part of the report highlights ongoing and previously implemented measures, as well as potential for improvements.

The FOEN has summarised current knowledge and core messages for the general public in ten factsheets on

the main topics of the Plastics in the Environment report (as of spring 2020).

Pesticides:

On May 8, 2024, the Federal Council adopted the interim report on the implementation of the “Action Plan on Plant Protection Products”. Initial conclusions are positive. The measures taken by the agricultural sector have reduced the risks to the environment. However, the results show that, with the withdrawal of various active substances, crop protection is becoming an ever greater challenge for agriculture

Light pollution:

A campaign to raise awareness on the consequences of light pollution was conducted.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning pollution?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), Res. **13.5 (Rev.COP14)** (CMS international light pollution guidelines for migratory species), Res. **12.14** (Adverse Impacts of Anthropogenic Noise on Cetaceans and Other Migratory species), Res. **12.17** (Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of south Atlantic Whales), Res. **12.20** (Management of Marine Debris), Res. **7.3 (Rev.COP12)** (Oil Pollution and Migratory species), and Decision **14.223** (Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Species).

>>> No additional negative trends identified.

Habitat destruction/degradation

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Landscape fragmentation/loss of ecological connectivity, physical barriers	Fish species	2
Habitat degradation		2
Mineral exploration/extraction		NA
Unsustainable land/resource use		3
Urbanization		3
Mineral exploration/extraction, incl. deep-seabed mineral exploitation		NA
Fire		3
Physical barriers	Fish species	2

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing habitat destruction/degradation?

>>> Habitat destruction/degradation is a major concern to biodiversity in Switzerland. Significant advances include sustainable use of managed habitats, regulations aiming at restricting habitat losses and last but not least habitat restoration measures.

Rehabilitation projects are a central component of the revised Federal Act on the Protection of Waters. The aim is to restore near-natural streams, rivers and lakes as well as their characteristic animal and plant life. Local recreation and flood protection benefit as well as biodiversity.

Nationally, total of 160 km of obstructed watercourses (rivers and lakeshores) were revitalized and 577 transverse structures removed between 2011-2019. The majority of watercourse revitalization projects are carried out on the Central Plateau, where the degree of impoundment is also highest. The impact monitoring, which started in 2020, will evaluate the effect of implemented rehabilitations on flora and fauna and habitat diversity.

Construction outside the building zone

The separation of buildable and non-buildable land is one of the fundamental principles of land use planning in Switzerland. It has the effect of keeping arable land affordable, which helps agriculture to produce by covering its costs. Of course, this separation also contributes greatly to the preservation of a very attractive landscape with a high recreational potential.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning habitat

destruction/degradation?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **14.6** (Deep-seabed mineral exploitation activities and migratory species) **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), Res. **13.3** (Chondrichthyan species), Res. **13.6** (Insect Decline), Res. **12.11 (Rev.COP14)** (Flyways), Res. **12.12 (Rev.COP14)**(Action Plans for Birds), Res. **12.13** (Important Marine Mammal Areas), Res. **12.17** (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), Res. **12.19 (Rev.COP14)** (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), Res. **12.24**(Promoting Marine Protected Areas Networks in the ASEAN Regions), Res. **12.25** (Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Habitats for Migratory species), Res. **11.17 (Rev.COP14)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), Res. **11.18 (Rev.COP14)** (Saker Falcon Global Action Plan), Res. **11.21** (Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle in the South Pacific Ocean), Res. **11.24 (Rev.COP13)** (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), Res. **14.16** (Ecological Connectivity), and Decisions **14.148-14.150** (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures).

>>> Habitat loss and degradation through unsustainable land-use practices (construction, habitat fragmentation) as well as through pollution alike nitrogen input are a concern.

Climate change

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Climate change	2	Birds, fish

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report concerning climate change?

>>> On 19 August 2020, the Federal Council adopted an action plan on the implementation of the adaptation strategy in the period 2020–25. This builds on the first action plan for the period 2014–19 and implements many of the measures contained in it.

The 2020–25 action plan contains 75 measures at federal level. 63 of the measures concern activities in the water management, management of natural hazards, soil protection, agriculture, forestry, energy, tourism, biodiversity management, health (human and animal), housing and spatial development sectors. Most of these measures aim to improve the framework for adapting to climate change, to improve the knowledge base through monitoring and research, to review and, where necessary, amend standards, to develop new management strategies and to integrate adaptation into existing processes and forms of cooperation.

The Swiss Ornithological Institute publishes the Swiss Bird Index SBI, a general index of all regular Swiss breeding birds as well as several sub-indices. One of these sub-indices is the SBI® Climate Change focusing on species that are predicted to increase or decline with climate change. All SBI indices are updated annually. The action plan on Biodiversity AP SBS II includes a measure aiming at providing future-oriented conservation planning tools taking into account climate-driven changes to habitat and species distribution.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning climate change?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Decision **14.211** (Climate change and Migratory Species).

>>> Negative trends include increased heatwaves, increase in heavy rainfalls, decrease in frost days. decrease in snow days, the zero degree line has risen by 300 - 400 meters, the vegetation period increased by 2-4 weeks (starts earlier - ends later).

Levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Inadequate transboundary management	3	
Inadequate legislation	3	
Lack of knowledge	3	

Inadequate enforcement of legislation	2	
---------------------------------------	---	--

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc?

>>> Increased levels of knowledge and awareness on the importance of supra-regional wildlife migration have among other concerns led to the adoption by the Swiss parliament of the revised Federal Act on Hunting and Conservation of Wild Mammals and Birds (see answer to question XII.5). This revision has led to the provision of financial resources to improve connectivity (through sanitation of wildlife corridors of supra-regional importance) as well as habitat quality (inter alia in the most important protected areas for migratory birds) by the mean of programme agreements among the confederation and the cantons. One focus of the programme agreements over the years 2025-2028 will be on precisising the necessary planning principles (object sheets, different types of restoration plans, monitoring plans) if those are missing. Projects and measures to improve the permeability of the corridors can also be implemented and supported financially.

Moreover, personnel resources aimed at strengthening surveillance (intrusion prevention) as well as public information / awareness in the country's most important migratory bird sites which are under high public pressure benefit also from subsidies. (Since 2008, programme agreements have been the main instrument for implementing environmental policy in partnership between the Confederation and cantons. To that end, every four years, the Confederation and cantons agree on the services that will be provided by the cantons to reach the strategic goals of the Confederation.)

During the reporting period, has your country adopted new legislation or other domestic measures in response to CMS Article III(4) (b) specifically addressing obstacles to migration?

CMS Article III(4)(b) states 'Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavor...to prevent, remove, compensate for or minimize, as appropriate, the adverse effects of activities or obstacles that seriously impede or prevent the migration of the species.'

GUIDANCE TIP:

This question is intended to specifically report on any new legislation or domestic measures **addressing obstacles to migration**. Relevant information would not include general conservation measures.

No

XI. Conservation Status of Migratory Species

XI.1. What (if any) major changes in the conservation status of migratory species included in the CMS Appendices (e.g. national Red List category changes) have been recorded in your country during the reporting period?

“Conservation status” of migratory species is defined in Article I(1)(b) of the Convention as “the sum of the influences acting on the migratory species that may affect its long-term distribution and abundance”; and four conditions for conservation status to be taken as “favourable” are set out in Article I(1)(c).

If more rows are required, please upload an Excel file detailing a longer list of species. GUIDANCE TIP:

The emphasis of this question is on “major changes” during the reporting period. Information is expected to be provided here only where particularly notable shifts in status have occurred, such as those that might be represented by a re-categorisation of national Red List threat status for a given species (or subspecies, where relevant). Please record if any CMS listed species has become extinct or extirpated from your country - or reintroduced/re-established/established - during the reporting period (or before if not previously reported to CMS).

Please note also that you are only being asked about the situation in your country. Information about global trends, and global Red List reclassifications etc, will be communicated to the CMS via other channels outside the national reporting process.

Terrestrial mammals (not including bats)

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[uv-2202-df.xlsx](#) - Terrestrial mammals (not including bats)

Bats

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)

Birds

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[UV-2124-DFI_NR_CMS.xlsx](#) - Please find enclosed the updated red list of breeding birds. Changes in red list status are marked as follows red: increased risks, green: decreased risks, blue: no change when compared to the red list published in 2011.

Fish

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[uv-2217-rl-fische_anhang_dfi.xlsx](#) - Please find enclosed the updated red list of fish and cyclostomes. Changes in red list status are marked as follows red: increased risks, green: decreased risks, blue: no change when compared to the red list published previously

XII. Cooperating to Conserve Migration Systems

XII.1 During the reporting period, has your country initiated or participated in the development of any proposals for new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II species?

E.g. Developments following the advice in Resolutions **12.8** and **13.7**.

No

XII.2. During the reporting period, have actions been taken by your country to encourage non-Parties to join CMS and its related Agreements?

No

XII.3. During the reporting period, has your country participated in the implementation of Concerted Actions under CMS (as detailed in Resolution **12.28 (Rev.COP14)**) to address the needs of relevant migratory species?

Yes

Please describe the results of these actions achieved so far:

GUIDANCE TIP:

If any progress report on implementation of Concerted Actions has been submitted to the COP and/or the Scientific Council in the period under consideration, Parties can refer to that report rather than restating the same information in replying to this question (please indicate the document number)

>>> - Ecological Connectivity and Migratory Species – organization of newly launched Global Partnership on Ecological Connectivity (GPEC).

- Integration of biodiversity requirements into land degradation neutrality delivery – organization of workshop in cooperation with the CMS Working Group on Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region and the Secretariat of the UNCCD.

XII.4. Have any other steps been taken which have contributed to enhancing cooperation on the conservation of migratory species in ways that fully reflect a migration systems approach?

E.g. steps implementing Resolutions **12.11 (Rev.COP14)** (Flyways) and Res. **12.17** (South Atlantic Whales), and Decisions 14.130 (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds), 14.137 (Flyways), and 14.207 (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species).

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> Switzerland provided, among others, financial support to activities enhancing cooperation that reflects a migration system approach, e.g.:

- Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024-2032 – development of its monitoring framework (€ 45'000);

- Ecological Connectivity and Migratory Species – organization of newly launched Global Partnership on Ecological Connectivity (GPEC) (€ 20'000);

- Integration of biodiversity requirements into land degradation neutrality delivery – organization of workshop in cooperation with the CMS Working Group on Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region and the Secretariat of the UNCCD (€ 20'000).

XII.5. Has your country mobilized resources and/or taken steps to promote and address ecological connectivity and its functionality in relevant international processes?

E.g., Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, etc.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please describe initiatives aimed at implementing Decision 14.194.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> - Ecological Connectivity and Migratory Species – organization of newly launched Global Partnership on Ecological Connectivity (GPEC)

- Area-based conservation measures to implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: Planning ecological connectivity into national and transboundary protected area networks to support migratory species

XIII. Area-Based Conservation Measures

XIII.1. Have critical habitats and sites for migratory species been identified (e.g. by an inventory) in your country?

GUIDANCE TIP:

The CMS does not have a formal definition of what constitutes a “critical” site or habitat for migratory species. It is left to report compilers to work with any interpretations which may be in existing use at national level, or to use informed expert judgement.

Helpful reflections on the issue can be found in the Resolution **Res. 14.16** (Ecological Connectivity) and in “**Strategic Review of Aspects of Ecological Networks relating to Migratory Species**” presented to COP11 and the “**Critical Site Network Tool**” developed under the auspices of AEWA and the Ramsar Convention. For sharks and rays please refer to <https://sharkrayareas.org>. For marine mammals, please refer to <https://www.marinemammalhabitat.org/imma-eatlas/>.

Partially - to a large extent

What are the main gaps and priorities to address, if any, in order to achieve full identification of relevant critical habitats and sites?

>>> On November 20, 2024, the Swiss Federal Council mandated the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) to implement the second phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan (AP SBS II) from 2025 to 2030. AP SBS II focuses on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of biodiversity conservation efforts, particularly within existing program agreements and sectoral policies.

Key Measures of AP SBS II relevant for migratory species:

M4: Restoring Efficient Ecosystems

Objective: By 2030, identify all ecologically valuable habitats requiring remediation, including necessary measures, resources, and timelines. Prioritize restoration based on available funding. Establish a national framework for identifying additional areas needing restoration, focusing on ecosystem services and national priority habitats and species. Pilot a restoration project in at least one region, demonstrating ecological capacity improvements for services like agriculture.

M6: Ecologically Valuable Areas and Connectivity

Objective: Upgrade and implement extensive management for 30% of riparian areas by 2030, enhancing biodiversity and recreational value. Explore ecological upgrades for agriculturally used riparian zones, leveraging regional biodiversity and landscape quality projects (Art. 76 eLwG). Investigate and support watercourse revitalization. By 2030, identify areas suitable for expanding the ecological network nationwide. Develop and implement voluntary model agreements between the public sector and third parties for biodiversity protection and maintenance in pilot projects by 2030.

M7: Biodiversity in a Changing Climate

Objective: Identify priority areas for climate-vulnerable species and habitats, particularly above the tree line, by 2030. Develop decision-making principles and tools for managing species and habitats in a changing climate, considering land use changes.

M8: Species conservation

Objective: 2029, action plans for 10 priority guilds will have been developed and tested in pilot projects. The results will be processed for wider application and distributed widely.

By 2030, the action plans will be incorporated into the relevant program agreements between the federal government and the cantons as a basis and prioritization tool.

XIII.2. Has any assessment been made of the contribution made by the country’s protected areas network specifically to migratory species conservation?

Partly / for some areas

Please provide details:

GUIDANCE TIP:

The “contribution” may relate to habitat types, and/or geographical coverage/distribution factors, and/or coverage of particular priority species or species groups, and/or factors concerning functional connectivity, and/or any other factor considered relevant to the conservation of migratory species.

The “contribution” may relate to the use of the identified **Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs)** (www.marinemammalhabitat.org) and support to identification of new **Important Shark and Ray areas (ISRAs)** (<https://sharkrayareas.org>).

Regarding Birds of Prey, the “contribution” may relate to the Internationally Important Raptors Sites (relevant to the range of the Raptors MOU, as sites listed in table 3 of Annex 3 of the Raptors MOU).

(If you have information on assessments of management effectiveness, please do not include that here, but provide it instead in your response to question XIII.4).

>>> Critical habitats and sites for migratory species have been identified, and most of these benefit from area-based conservation measures. However, circumstances may change, necessitating further assessments, as demonstrated by the case of waterbirds in Switzerland.

A first inventory of waterbird sites of national and international importance was compiled and published by the Swiss Ornithological Institute in 1976. The inventory was subsequently revised in 1987 for sites of international importance and in 1995 for sites of national importance.

Taking the inventories into account, Switzerland enacted the Ordinance on Waterbirds and Migratory Birds of International and National Importance in 1991, designating 9 sites of international importance and 2 sites of national importance. Major revisions of the Ordinance came into force in 2001 and 2009, increasing the number of designated sites to 10 sites of international importance and 25 sites of national importance.

A study identifying important waterbird sites in Switzerland outside those already designated by law was published by the Swiss Ornithological Institute in 2024.

The study is based on systematically collected results from waterbird counts, breeding population surveys and observational data from the ornitho.ch reporting platform. For the period 2012-2022, the study identified 48 sites of national importance for a total of 18 species, based on quantitative criteria. Eight of these sites also meet the criterion of international importance for a total of 3 species. While some of these sites were included in previous inventories, several areas have only achieved national or international importance in the last 30 years. These include sections of lakes in Central Switzerland and parts of Lakes Zurich and Lugano. These changes are due both to ecological changes in these areas and to the establishment of some species as winter visitors during this period (e.g. Red-crested Pochard). The list presented in this study provides an up-to-date basis for a new assessment on the effective protection of waterbirds.

The Federal Office for the Environment also commissioned a detailed assessment of waterbird sites of national and international importance. This was conducted by the Swiss Ornithological Institute, with the aim of assessing the importance of each site for waterbirds during the following periods: winter, breeding season, migration and moulting season. The assessments further evaluated the impact of leisure activities on the waterbirds and identified vulnerabilities within the protected area. The assessments issued recommendations for cantonal authorities on how to improve the effectiveness of the protected area.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[OrnitholBeob_2024_121_236_Moosmann.pdf](#) - Moosmann M, Knaus P, Müller C, Werner S, Strebel N (2024) Important areas for waterbirds in Switzerland outside of existing waterbird and migratory bird reserves. Ornithologischer Beobachter 121: 236-256.

XIII.3. Has your country adopted any new legislation or other domestic measures in the reporting period in response to CMS Article III(4) (a) ("Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavor ... to conserve and, where feasible and appropriate, restore those habitats of the species which are of importance in removing the species from danger of extinction")?

Yes

Please give the title or other reference (and date) for the measure concerned:

>>> On November 20, 2024, the Swiss Federal Council mandated the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) to implement the second phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan (AP SBS II) from 2025 to 2030. AP SBS II focuses on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of biodiversity conservation efforts, particularly within existing program agreements and sectoral policies.

See further information under question XX.1

As outlined in Chapter X (see the section on knowledge and awareness), in the period 2025 - 2028, the programme agreements between the Swiss confederation and the cantons give financial support to the cantons, e.g., for the restoration and enhancement of natural habitats for the target species or species of national priority present in the most important protected areas for migratory birds of the country.

XIII.4. In respect of protected areas in your country that are important for migratory species, have any assessments of management effectiveness been undertaken in the reporting period?

Yes

Please provide a reference and details on what is covered:

>>> Monitoring the Effectiveness of Habitat Conservation in Switzerland WBS

To protect precious habitats and the biodiversity, Switzerland designated about 7000 sites of national importance. These sites are legally protected and include fens and raised bogs, dry grasslands, and flood plain habitats as well as amphibian breeding sites. In 2011, the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) and the WSL Swiss Federal Research Institute launched the joint project "Monitoring the effectiveness of habitat conservation in Switzerland WBS" to observe developments and changes in these sites.

The sites of national importance are a crucial element of the network of protected sites in Switzerland. The WBS is using remote sensing as well as extensive floristic and faunistic field surveys to evaluate whether these sites are developing in line with their conservation targets and whether the area and quality of habitats is being maintained. These indicators permit the identification of negative changes at both national and regional level, such that appropriate measures can be initiated. The WBS is operated as a long-term program. A report of the second study cycle was published in 2025.

Regarding the conservation objectives, analyses of the data since 2011 show both positive and negative developments in the biotopes of national importance, in coarse synthesis:

- Positive developments predominated in Dry meadows and pastures
- Positive developments predominated in Amphibian breeding area
- Negative developments predominated in fens
- Negative developments predominated in raised bogs
- Negative developments predominated in River floodplains and deltas
- No clear changes in River floodplains and deltas as well as Lake floodplains

IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas:

The Swiss National Park is included in the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[Resultate der Wirkungskontrolle Biotopschutz Schweiz – Kurzfassung Stand 2025](#)

[Monitoring the Effectiveness of Habitat Conservation in Switzerland WBS](#)

XIII.5. Beyond Protected Areas, are other effective area-based conservation measures implemented in your country in ways which benefit migratory species?

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> Connectivity:

Adoption by the parliament of the revised Federal Act on Hunting and Conservation of Wild Mammals and Birds with important new elements: such as new subsidies for remediation of 301 supra-regional wildlife migration corridors as well as for species and habitat conservation activities in the most important protected areas for migratory birds of the country.

Ecological compensation in agriculture:

Ecological compensation is a generic term for measures to maintain and restore the function of natural environments and to network them, mainly in regions where land use is intensive or densely populated. The restoration of built-up watercourses and lake-shores, the definition and management of watercourses and the ecological rehabilitation of hydropower are important building blocks for the promotion of biodiversity in Switzerland.

The definition of the water spaces (prohibition of pesticides, fertilizers, soil conversion and construction of new facilities) is currently underway and is expected to be completed by 2030.

In addition to the definition of watercourse areas, revitalization is also an important measure for making Swiss watercourses more natural again. The aim is to revitalize around 4,000 km of the 14,000 km of built-up watercourses by 2090. The implementation has started. However, the target of 50 km of restored water courses per year has not yet been reached.

Revitalized and connected water bodies are also important measures for the continued existence of native fish fauna, which have come under severe pressure. In order to protect particularly endangered species, additional activities are currently underway - for example, to promote migratory fish.

The forest is extremely important for the conservation of biodiversity in Switzerland.

However, deficits exist in this regard, for example the shortage of diverse structures, the lack of old wood and deadwood, the high number of endangered species, and the currently insufficient designation of forest reserves. The Federal Council set out the strategic direction to be taken in eliminating these deficits in the Forest Policy 2020 (2013) and Swiss Biodiversity Strategy (2012). The enforcement guidelines substantiate the Federal Council's requirements. Action objectives to be attained by 2030 are defined in six areas of activity. The regional action requirement is identified and priorities for implementation are set on the basis of potential and deficit analyses. Information is provided about the organisational and financial provisions for the implementation of measures.

XIV. Ecosystem Services

XIV.1. Has any assessment of ecosystem services associated with migratory species been undertaken in your country since the last reporting?

GUIDANCE TIP:

The phrase “associated with” migratory species allows you to report on any assessments that cover ecosystem services of systems, habitats or species assemblages that include migratory species. The question is therefore not expecting you to limit this to assessments focused solely on one or more migratory species.

For a broader biodiversity assessment to be relevant here, the migratory species involved must be making some identifiable contribution to the ecosystem services concerned.

No

XV. Safeguarding Genetic Diversity

XV.1. Are strategies of relevance to migratory species being developed or implemented to minimize genetic erosion of biodiversity in your country?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Strategies to be considered under this section do not necessarily have to specifically address migratory species but be of sufficient relevance in relation to the objective of safeguarding the genetic diversity of wild populations.

Yes

Please select the relevant strategies (select all that apply):

- Captive breeding
- Captive breeding and release
- Other

>>> Very little is known about the genetic diversity of native wild plants, fungi and animals. The federal government has therefore initiated a three-year pilot project, forming part of the SBS Action Plan Phase I, to monitor genetic diversity. Organised by the Department of Environmental Systems Science at ETH Zurich, the pilot project is funded by FOEN. It aims to establish the basis for the comprehensive monitoring of 50 species of animals, fungi and plants. The project evaluation is pending.

On November 20, 2024, the Swiss Federal Council mandated the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) to implement the second phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan (AP SBS II) from 2025 to 2030. AP SBS II focuses on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of biodiversity conservation efforts, particularly within existing program agreements and sectoral policies. AP SBS II includes the following measure:

M9 Genetic diversity: Genetic knowledge is part of protection and promotion measures for a set of representative/indicator species for each guild that is being worked on in connection with the species promotion measure. Monitoring of genetic diversity in line with nature and water conservation priorities has been established. Ex situ conservation measures are better coordinated and prioritized. Guidelines for implementing these measures provide clarity and support enforcement.

Other activities include relocation of lynx from Switzerland to other regions in neighbouring countries to support building up and conserving a meta-population in Middle-Europe.

Please describe the Captive breeding strategy:

>>> Lynx translocations:

The FOEN (Swiss Federal Office for Environment) is responsible and take decisions for lynx translocation projects, in the country or with other European countries. It mandates the KORA - an in-state foundation - regularly for translocation projects for the lynx in Switzerland. Some projects are also proposed by the KORA in Europe. This can be for the support of existing populations or for the creation of new ones. Reintroductions do not only serve the reestablishment of the original biodiversity, but potentially also as "stepping stones" to improve the connectivity between existing lynx occurrences. Removing animals from an established population is permissible if the population is big enough and in a good status. On mandate of FOEN, KORA mainly leads the projects in terms of captures and transport of suitable lynx, in cooperation with the FOEN, the respective cantons and the FIWI (Centre for Fish and Wildlife Health). The good data set in Switzerland and the long-standing experience guarantees the successful implementation of such projects.

Bearded Vulture:

The Bearded Vulture was long discredited as a dangerous predator and was intensively pursued until, at the beginning of the 20th century, it had entirely disappeared from the Alps. The Foundation Pro Bartgeier works towards the return of the Bearded Vulture in the Alps. The Foundation Pro Bartgeier (Bearded Vulture) localized in Switzerland advocates, that the conditions for a viable Bearded Vulture population are met in the Alps, that Bearded Vultures are reintroduced in sufficient numbers and with the necessary genetic variability. A total of 264 young bearded vultures were successfully released into the wild in the Alpine region by 2025. Of these, 56 were released in Switzerland. The reintroduction of bearded vultures is ongoing and the population is growing. In the canton of Graubünden alone, 16 young birds have fledged this year. Valais recorded seven fledglings, and one young bird fledged in each of the cantons of Bern, Ticino and, for the first time, St. Gallen.

XVI. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

XVI.1. Does your country's National Biodiversity Strategy or Action Plan (NBSAP), or other relevant plans or strategies used in your country, explicitly address obligations under CMS, priorities for the conservation and management of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, and ecological connectivity?

Yes

a. Please provide a link to or attachment of the strategy/action plan

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[Aktionsplan Strategie Biodiversität Schweiz, Phase 2 2025 – 2030](#) - Aktionsplan Strategie Biodiversität Schweiz, Phase 2 2025 – 2030: Phase II (2025–30) On 20 November 2024, the Federal Council commissioned the FOEN to implement the second phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan from 2025 to 2030 (AP SBS II) while reconfirms the validity of the national biodiversity Strategy (SBS) targets a until 2030. The plan of action specifically addresses existing shortcomings in order to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the activities taking place under the programme agreements and sectoral policies. It does this by filling knowledge gaps, running pilot applications to test promising approaches and drawing up implementation concepts. The content of AP SBS II makes reference to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The need for action is met in the form of the FOEN's own initiatives and by assessing those of other federal offices. The FOEN's 15 measures address the effects of climate change, on biodiversity and insect mortality in particular. New approaches to promoting species and preserving genetic diversity are also being developed and tested. Further measures address the fields of economy, knowledge and innovation; one set of measures aims to improve the ecology of specific habitats such as forests, lakes and settlements and to improve their connectivity. Other federal offices with policy areas involving biodiversity will define measures to be implemented in AP SBS II. Spatial planning, transport, energy

b. Please identify the elements in the plan/strategy that are particularly relevant to migratory species, and highlight any specific references to the CMS/CMS instruments

GUIDANCE TIP:

Specify page numbers, section/paragraph numbers etc., where possible.

>>> Relevant information about the Swiss Biodiversity Strategy are included in Switzerland's National Report to CMS COP-12 (chapters IV. National and Regional Priorities, and VIII. Global and National Importance of CMS). The following information focuses on the Action Plan Phase II (AP SBS II) for the Swiss Biodiversity Strategy. On November 20, 2024, the Swiss Federal Council mandated the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) to implement the second phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan (AP SBS II) from 2025 to 2030. AP SBS II focuses on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of biodiversity conservation efforts, particularly within existing program agreements and sectoral policies.

The AP SBS II consists of a series of measures (M) and audit requests (P) directed to stakeholders of the federal administration. Feedback from audit requests will inform the definition of additional measures as adequate, and may ultimately lead to a second, improved version of the AP SBS II.

A rapid appraisal of the linkages among the AP SBS II and the Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species provides the following indicative mapping:

M1: Biodiverse and resilient forests (Samarkand SPMS, target 2.3)

M2: Resilient and biodiverse lakes in the face of climate change (Samarkand SPMS, target 2.3)

M3: A knowledge base for biodiversity-conscious consumption (Samarkand SPMS, target 5.1)

M4: Restoration of productive ecosystems (Samarkand SPMS, target 2.2)

M5: The public sector as a role model (Samarkand SPMS, target 2.2)

M6: Ecologically valuable areas and connectivity (Samarkand SPMS, target 2.2)

M7: Biodiversity and climate change (Samarkand SPMS, target 3.4)

M8: Species conservation (Samarkand SPMS, targets 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)

M9: Genetic diversity (Samarkand SPMS, targets 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)

M10: Review and further development of subsidies and incentives

M11: Nature-based solutions

M12: Counteracting insect decline

M13: Integral risk management for biodiversity (Samarkand SPMS, targets 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 6.4)

M14: Optimised data and information management for biodiversity (Samarkand SPMS, targets 4.1, 5.2, 5.3, 6.1, 6.2)

M15: Settlements for people and nature (Samarkand SPMS, target 5.4)

P1: Integrating biodiversity into spatial planning processes and instruments (Samarkand SPMS, targets 2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 5.4)

P2: International trade in wild species (Samarkand SPMS, targets 3.1, 5.1)

P3: Ecosystem services in agriculture (Samarkand SPMS, target 2.3)

P4: Biodiversity-friendly energy production (Samarkand SPMS, targets 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 6.4)

This tentative mapping has to be refined and reviewed based on the final version of the AP SBS II.

c. Please add comments on the implementation of the strategy or action plan concerned.

>>> The Implementation of the biodiversity plan of action has been divided in two phases since its inception.

Phase I covers the years 2017-2024 and Implementation Phase II the years 2025-2030.

The second phase of the Biodiversity Action Plan from 2025 to 2030 specifically addresses existing shortcomings in order to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the activities taking place under the programme agreements and sectoral policies. It does this by filling knowledge gaps, running pilot applications to test promising approaches and drawing up implementation concepts.

Implementation Phase II includes an overall evaluation for the assessment of the Swiss Biodiversity Strategy and its implementation. The results of the remediation efforts made by the cantons up to then and the remaining deficits will also be demonstrated.

XVI.2. Please provide information on the progress of implementation of other relevant action plans (single species, species group, etc.), initiatives, task forces, and programmes of work in your country that have not been addressed in previous questions.

E.g. AEMLAP, Great Green Wall, Bonn Challenge, Action Plans for Birds, Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of South Atlantic Whales, Energy Task Force, Programme of Work on Climate Change and Migratory Species, etc.

>>> Coordination of the African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan (AEMLAP):

Successful implementation of actions depends upon international coordination, including to catalyze and facilitate implementation of priority national actions. At the heart of a strong network of stakeholders, the AEML Working Group is responsible for the implementation of the AEMLAP. It facilitates agreements on national and international implementations through the adoption of a Programme of Work and supports the establishment of regional groups supporting those priorities.

Since 2021, the AEMLAP Coordination Unit is localized at the Swiss Ornithological Institute at Sempach/Switzerland.

XVII. Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices of Indigenous and Local Communities

In the absence of a national definition of 'indigenous and local communities', please refer to the Convention on Biological Diversity document **Compilation of Views Received on Use of the Term "Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities"** for helpful guidance on these terms.

XVII.1. During the reporting period, have actions been taken in your country to foster consideration for the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities that are relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems?

Not applicable

XVII.2. During the reporting period, have actions been taken in your country to promote and foster effective participation and involvement of indigenous and local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems?

Not applicable

Please provide details on the implementation of the actions concerned.

GUIDANCE TIP

Responses to these questions may involve actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans).

>>> Switzerland has no indigenous and local communities as understood by the CMS.

XVIII. Knowledge, Data and Capacity-Building

XVIII.1 During the reporting period, which steps taken in your country have contributed to the achievement of the results defined in the area of knowledge, data and capacity building? (Answers given in Section V may be relevant)

(select all that apply)

- Public awareness campaigns
- Capacity building
- Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives
- Agreements at policy level on research priorities
- Research by academia, research organizations and other relevant stakeholders

XVIII.2 Please describe the contribution these steps have made towards achieving the results defined in Target 15:

GUIDANCE TIP

Steps taken may include actions, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), Res. **13.3** (Chondrichthyan Species), Res. **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative), Res. **13.5 (Rev.COP14)** (CMS international light pollution guidelines for migratory species), Res. **13.6** (Insect Decline), and Decisions 14.130/14.131 (AEM LAP), 14.134 (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds), 14.148-14.151 (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), Decisions 14.207-14.208 (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species), and 14.182 (Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Wildlife).

Public awareness campaigns

>>> -

Capacity building

>>> Capacity building activities for e.g. rangers or protected area managers are an important opportunity to raise awareness on migratory species.

Agreements at policy level on research priorities

>>> The new « Research Master Plan Environment 2025-2028 » (available in German and French) explicitly describes the scientific expertise necessary to fulfill the tasks of the FOEN, and the implementation of environmental policies in 18 research areas under the FOEN's authority, in the near- and future-term. The 18 priority research areas include highly relevant for the implementation of the CMS, such as monitoring/capacity building/communication; international environmental policy; water; biodiversity; landscape; forests; and addresses climate change in terms of a multidisciplinary theme.

XVIII.3 What assistance (if any) does your country require in order to build sufficient capacity to implement its obligations under the CMS and relevant Resolutions of the COP?

(select all that apply)

- No assistance required

XIX. Resource Mobilization

XIX.1 During the reporting period, has your country made financial or other resources available for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory species?

GUIDANCE TIP:

The “resources” that are relevant here can be financial, human or technical. In addition to funding, “in-kind” forms of support such as staff time or administrative infrastructure could be relevant, as could the loan of equipment, provision of data processing facilities, technology transfer, training or mentoring schemes and other initiatives for capacity building.

- Yes, made available for activities within the country
- Yes, made available for activities in one or more other countries

Please indicate whether the overall levels of resourcing concerned are the same or different from those in the previous reporting period:

- The same

XIX.2. During the reporting period, has your country received financial or other resources for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory species?

- No