

Inventory

Implementation of Articles III.4 and III.5 of the Convention

Switzerland		
Party since 1 July 1995		
National Reports submitted: COP12 (2017), COP11 (2014), COP10 (2011)		
Relevant Legislation		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Act on Protection of Nature and Cultural Heritage (1966, SR 451). • Ordinance on the Protection of Nature and Cultural Heritage (1991, SR 451.1). • Ordinance on Alluvial Zones of National Importance (1992, SR 451.31). • Ordinance on Raised Bogs and Transitional Mires of National Importance (1991, SR 451.32). • Ordinance on Fenlands of National Importance (1994, SR 451.33). • Ordinance on Mire Landscapes of Particular Beauty and National Importance (1996, SR 451.35). • Federal Act on the circulation of protected species of fauna and flora (Loi sur les espèces protégées, LCITES) (2012, SR 453). • Federal Act on Spatial Planning (1979, SR 700). • Federal Act on the Protection of the Environment (1983, SR 814.01). • Ordinance on the Environmental Impact Assessment (1988, SR 814.011). • Federal Act on the Protection of Water (1991, SR 814.20). • Federal Act on Agriculture (1998, SR 910.1). • Federal Act on Forests (1991, SR 921.0). • Federal Act on Hunting and Protection of Wild Mammals and Birds (1986, SR 922.0). • Ordinance on Hunting and Protection of Wild Mammals and Birds (1988, SR 922.01). • Ordinance on Waterbirds and Migratory Birds of International and National Importance (1991, SR 922.32). • Federal Act on Fishery (1991, SR 923.0). 	
Article III.5		
	Laws that Implement the Take Prohibition	
	Aquatic Mammals	Unknown
	Terrestrial Mammals	Not Applicable
	Birds	Taking of all Appendix I birds is prohibited, but relevant law is not identified.
	Reptiles	Unknown
	Fish	Taking of all Appendix I fish is prohibited, but relevant law is not identified.
	Exceptions to the Take Prohibition	
	Aquatic Mammals	Unknown

	Terrestrial Mammals	Not Applicable
	Birds	Exceptions have been granted for scientific purposes, i.e. the ringing of birds. The birds were captured, ringed and the released again. However, the permissible scope of exceptions was not identified.
	Reptiles	Unknown
	Fish	None granted, but no law is identified to determine the scope of permissible exceptions.
Article III.4		
Laws to conserve and, where feasible and appropriate, restore habitats of CMS Appendix I species		
	Switzerland has designated various protected areas, including Ramsar sites, Important Bird Areas, and Emerald sites. However, insufficient information is provided to determine whether any Appendix I species inhabit these areas, and insufficient information is provided to identify the content of any obligations arising from these designations.	
Laws that 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		
	Windmills (birds and bats)	<p>To ensure a concentration of wind farms, the Confederation, the cantons, the energy business community and environmental organizations have heard on a set of selection criteria for sites likely to host wind farms.</p> <p>On behalf of the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN), the Swiss Ornithological Institute has elaborated a map identifying areas of potential conflicts between wind energy production and the conservation of breeding birds as well as migratory birds.</p> <p>The Federal Office of Energy SFOE, the Federal Office for Spatial Development ODT and the Federal Office for the FOEN therefore decided to establish the basic documents by elaborating the "Energy Concept". The main goal was to find a consensus between interest representatives of the Confederation, the cantons, the economic circles of the energy and the associations of protection of the environment with respect to the criteria and principles of site selection wind turbine installations by 2010. The concept is a working tool for all those involved in development of wind energy in Switzerland.</p>
	Cell towers (birds and bats)	Unknown
	Dams (fish)	Unknown

	Road construction (mammals)	Unknown
	Train tracks (mammals)	Unknown
	Fishing gear/bycatch (marine mammals, sea turtles, fish)	Unknown
	Shipping (marine mammals)	Unknown
Laws that prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger the species, including strictly controlling the introduction of or controlling or eliminating, already introduced species.		
	<p>Switzerland supports the implementation of the International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the White-headed Duck by implementing activities to control and eradicate <i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>.</p> <p>The Federal Act on the Protection of the Environment (1983, SR 814.01) stipulates that the environmental impact of new facilities - or the expansion of existing ones - must be assessed before approval (Article 10a, Environmental Impact Assessment). The Ordinance on the Environmental Impact Assessment (1988, SR 814.011) includes a list of installations subject to environmental impact assessment (EIA) and stipulates the decision-making process. New construction and modifications to existing electric power infrastructure and power lines require in most cases an EIA (increasing the voltage, large changing the alignment, significant increase of mast, etc., construction and expansion of railway lines, etc.). Construction of new higher voltage lines are subject to strict EIA procedures and they may include compensatory measures for habitats and species, in particularly if it concerns protected areas and species of red data lists. There are Guidelines on Electricity Grids and Landscape Protection and the Swiss Landscape Concept stipulates that "transmission lines may not affect avifauna".</p> <p>The ordinance on power lines (RS 734.31 Ordonnance du 30 mars 1994 sur les lignes électriques (OLEI)) regulates the construction of new power lines (Art. 2, sentence 1) and for existing powerlines, if they pose threat to man or to the environment (sentence 2c). Art. 30 stipulates "if local needs require, measures shall be taken such, that birds on cross-arms cannot cause shorts to ground or phase-to-phase short circuits" and that "The planning and establishment of new lines in areas frequented by birds should be done in such a way as to minimize the risk of collision".</p> <p>The Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) has published Recommendations for the Prevention of light Emissions which contain the principles applicable to technical and spatial planning.</p>	

		Wild and domesticated birds are monitored to observe the spread of avian influenza in Switzerland. However, insufficient information is provided to identify the content of any obligations.
Reservations, territorial inclusions, and territorial exclusions		
	Reservations	None
	Territorial Scope	“Switzerland”. Thus, the Convention is presumed to apply to all territory, including any overseas territories and semi-autonomous zones.