

SCOPE & DEFINITIONS

This chapter establishes criteria for required plans and programs needed to ensure proper protection, enhancement, and management of natural resources and any species (flora or fauna) declared endangered or threatened by either the United States or Spanish governments.

Adverse Effect – Changes that diminish the quality or significant value of natural resources. For biological resources, adverse effects include significant decreases in overall population diversity, abundance, and fitness.

Conservation – Planned management, use, and protection; continued benefit for present and future generations; and prevention of exploitation, destruction, and/or neglect of natural resources.

Management Plan – A document describing natural resources, their quantity, condition, and actions to ensure their conservation and good stewardship.

Natural Habitats of Community Interest – Those habitats in the EU that are in danger of disappearance because they have a small area of distribution (whatever the cause, human or natural induced), or that represent an outstanding example of the Continental, Atlantic, Macaronesian, Alpine, or Mediterranean bio-geographical regions.

Natural Resource – All living and inanimate materials supplied by nature that are of aesthetic, ecological, educational, historical, recreational, scientific, or other value.

Natural Resources Management – Action taken to protect, manipulate, or alter natural resources in harmony to meet present and future human needs.

Priority Natural Habitats – Those natural habitats included under the catalogue of Natural Habitats of Community Interest that, due to an existing high proportion of their distribution area within a specific Host Nation, the survival of the habitats is the special responsibility of this Host Nation.

Priority Species – Any endangered species on the list of Species of Community Interest that, due to the high proportion of the area of distribution included in a specific Host Nation, the survival of the species is the special responsibility of that Host Nation.

Significant Land or Water Areas – Land or water area that is normally 500 or more acres outside the cantonment area; areas of smaller size are included if they have natural resources that are especially vulnerable to disturbance.

Site of Community Importance – A site that, in the biogeographical region (or regions) to which it belongs, contributes significantly to the maintenance or restoration at a favorable conservation status of a Natural Habitat of Community Interest or a Species of Community Interest and may also contribute significantly to the coherence of the European Union (EU)

ecological network “Natura 2000” and/or contributes significantly to the maintenance of biological diversity within the biogeographic region (or regions) considered. For animal species ranging over wide areas, Sites of Community Importance shall correspond to the places within the natural range of such species that present the physical or biological factors essential to their life and reproduction.

Spanish Protected Species – Any species of flora or fauna listed or designated by Spain, because the species continued existence is, or is likely to be, threatened and is therefore subject to special protection from destruction or adverse modification of associated habitat.

Species of Community Interest – Those species present within the EU included under any of the following categories:

- **Endangered Species** – Those species whose survival is not probable if the factors threatening their survival are not modified (excluding those occurring in very small areas of the Host Nation lands and well represented in the Western Palearctic region).
- **Vulnerable Species** – Those species that will soon become endangered if the current factors affecting them are not changed.
- **Rare Species** – Those species with small populations that could become vulnerable or endangered in the near future.

Threatened and Endangered Species – Any species of flora or fauna, listed in Table 13.1.

CRITERIA

C13.1 PROTECTION OF SPECIES & HABITATS

Installations that have land and water areas shall take reasonable steps to protect and enhance known endangered or threatened species and Spanish protected species and habitats in accordance with the criteria established in this chapter.

An assessment of potential impacts will be completed for proposed projects located in or likely to have a significant effect on a Site of Community Importance (see C13.2). The assessment of potential impacts will be submitted to the Spanish Base Commander to obtain approval from the Spanish Ministry of Environment (or the Environmental Department of the Autonomous Community where the project will be located) prior to construction of the project. Projects with negative assessments may still be approved if determined to be in the overriding public interest, providing that compensatory measures are taken to protect the Site of Community Importance and animal and plant Species of Community Interest.

The following activities are prohibited for animal Species of Community Interest (see C13.2):

- The capture or killing of the species in the wild
- The disturbance of the species during its reproductive cycle, hibernation, or migration
- The destruction or collection of eggs or nests in the wild
- The deterioration or destruction of breeding sites or resting places

The following activities are prohibited for plant Species of Community Interest (see C13.2):

- The picking, collecting, cutting, uprooting, or destruction of the plant in the wild
- The possession, transport, sale, or trade of the plant species taken in the wild

C13.2 PROTECTED SPECIES LIST

Installations shall maintain, or have access to, Table 13.1, OEBGD Table C13.T2, and a current list of Spanish protected species and protected habitats.

The Spanish lists (maintained by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fishing, and Food [Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación] and the Autonomous Government of Andalucía) are titled:

- National Catalog of Endangered Species (which includes endangered species, species sensitive to habitat modifications, vulnerable species, and species of special interest)
- Catalog of Endangered Plant Species of Andalucía
- Species of Community Interest (which includes plants and animals)
- Natural Habitats of Community Interest

Table 13.1 is included in this chapter. OEBGD Table C13.T2 and the Spanish lists are available from the Environmental Executive Agent.

C13.3 NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLANS

Installations with significant land or water areas shall, after coordination with the Spanish Base Commander or similar appropriate Spanish authorities, develop natural resources management plans. The natural resources management plan should consider protective measures established in Spanish national or Andalusian Management Plans on Natural Resources (Planes de Ordenación de los Recursos Naturales) if existing. The installation's natural resources management plan should also include the following elements if the installation encompasses the following categories of protected species:

- A Recovery Plan with recovery measures for species or sub-species classified as endangered
- A Habitat Conservation Plan for species or sub-species classified as sensitive to the changes in its habitat

- A Conservation Plan for species or sub-species classified as vulnerable
- Species-specific procedures to maintain the population levels for species or sub-species classified as of special interest

C13.4 INITIATE SURVEYS & IMPLEMENT PLANS

Installations having natural resources management plans shall, after coordination with the Spanish Base Commander or similar appropriate Spanish authorities (for example, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fishing, and Food), and if financially and otherwise practical, and in such a way that there is no net loss of mission capability:

C13.4.1 Initiate surveys for endangered or threatened species and Spanish protected species and habitat identification, or support Spanish-initiated surveys

C13.4.2 Implement natural resources management plans

C13.5 NOTIFICATION

The Spanish Base Commander, or if there is no Spanish Base Commander the U.S. Ambassador, will be notified (via the Component chain of command, who will also notify the Environmental Executive Agent) of the discovery of any endangered or threatened species and Spanish protected species not previously known to be present on the installation.

C13.6 MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS

Installations shall maintain grounds to meet designated mission use and ensure harmony with the natural landscape and/or the adjacent Spanish facilities where practical.

C13.7 EXPERIENCE & TRAINING

Installations shall ensure that personnel performing natural resource functions have the requisite expertise in the management of their discipline (i.e., endangered or threatened species, Spanish protected species, wetlands, soil stabilization). This may be in-house, contract, or through consultation with another agency. Government personnel directing such functions must have training in natural resources management.

C13.8 MAINTENANCE & PROTECTION OF HABITATS

Installations shall place emphasis on the maintenance and protection of habitats favorable to the reproduction and survival of Spanish protected species and habitats (see C13.2) and indigenous plants, fish, and wildlife.

Within Andalusian-designated forested lands, the following activities require a permit. Installations with such designated forested lands that intend to conduct these activities must submit a permit request to the Spanish Base Commander, who may submit the permit request to the appropriate Andalusian authority.

- Harvesting of wood or other tree-derived materials (e.g., cork, tree fruits, etc.)
- Any use of lands affected by wildfires
- Substitution of tree or shrub species if not indicated in the Management Plan
- Reforestation of deforested lands without the existence of a Reforestation Plan
- Plantings of "rapid growth tree species"
- Cutting, burning, moving, or partial harming protected Andalusian forest species
- Conducting potentially-eroding activities
- Change in land uses

C13.9 CONSISTENCY WITH CURRENT PRINCIPLES

Land and vegetative management activities will be consistent with current conservation and land use principles (e.g., ecosystem protection, biodiversity conservation, and mission-integrated land use).

C13.10 PROTECTIVE COVER & EROSION CONTROL

Installations shall utilize protective vegetative cover or other standard soil erosion/sediment control practices (including the construction of erosion-control structures if warranted) to control dust, stabilize sites, and avoid silting of streams.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. An assessment of potential impacts will be completed for proposed projects located in or likely to have a significant effect on a Site of Community Importance (see C13.2). The assessment of potential impacts will be submitted to the Spanish Base Commander to obtain approval from the Spanish Ministry of Environment (or the Environmental Department of the Autonomous Community where the project will be located) prior to construction of the project.

2. Within Andalusian-designated forested lands, the following activities require a permit. Installations with such designated forested lands that intend to conduct these activities must submit a permit request to the Spanish Base Commander, who may submit the permit request to the appropriate Andalusian authority.

- Harvesting of wood or other tree-derived materials (e.g., cork, tree fruits, etc.)
- Any use of lands affected by wildfires
- Substitution of tree or shrub species if not indicated in the Management Plan
- Reforestation of deforested lands without the existence of a Reforestation Plan

- Plantings of "rapid growth tree species"
- Cutting, burning, moving, or partial harming protected Andalusian forest species
- Conducting potentially-eroding activities
- Change in land uses

Table 13.1 – Selected European-Listed Endangered & Threatened Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	OCONUS Country of Listing
Mammals		
Bear, brown	<i>Ursus arctos arctos</i>	Italy
Chamois, Apennine	<i>Rupicapra rupicapra ornata</i>	Italy
Chimpanzee	<i>Pan troglodytes</i>	Wherever found in the wild or in captivity
Ibex, Pyrenean	<i>Capra pyrenaica pyrenaica</i>	Spain
Lion, Asiatic	<i>Panthera leo persica</i>	Turkey
Lynx, Spanish	<i>Felis (=Lynx) pardina</i>	Spain
Urial	<i>Ovis musimon (=orientalis) ophion</i>	Cyprus
Birds		
Bullfinch, Sao Miguel (finch)	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula murina</i>	Eastern Atlantic Ocean-- Azores
Eagle, Spanish imperial	<i>Aquila heliaca adalberti</i>	Spain
Falcon, Eurasian peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus peregrinus</i>	Europe, Eurasia south to Africa and Mideast
Ibis, northern bald	<i>Geronticus eremita</i>	Southern Europe
Pigeon, Azores wood	<i>Columba palumbus azorica</i>	East Atlantic Ocean Azores
Tern, roseate	<i>Sterna dougallii dougallii</i>	Western Hemisphere
Reptiles		
Lizard, Hierro giant	<i>Gallotia simonyi simonyi</i>	Spain (Canary Islands)
Lizard, Ibiza wall	<i>Podarcis pityusensis</i>	Spain (Balearic Islands)
Turtle, green sea	<i>Chelonia mydas (incl. agassizi)</i>	Wherever found
Turtle, olive (=Pacific) ridley sea	<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	Wherever found
Fishes		
Ala Balik (trout)	<i>Salmo platycephalus</i>	Turkey
Cicek (minnow)	<i>Acanthorutilus handlirschi</i>	Turkey

Note: This table does not include a complete list of Spanish-designated threatened and endangered species. It also does not include the lists of protected habitats. The following complete, current lists are maintained by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food:

- National Catalog of Endangered Species (which includes endangered species, species sensitive to habitat modifications, vulnerable species, and species of special interest)
- Catalog of Endangered Plant Species of Andalucía
- Species of Community Interest (which includes plants and animals)
- Natural Habitats of Community Interest

The Spanish lists are available from the Environmental Executive Agent whenever a current list is needed.