

Question for written answer E-015520/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Seán Kelly (PPE)

Subject: Falcarragh to Meenlaragh Special Protection Area in Ireland

The Falcarragh to Meenlaragh area in Ireland was designated a Special Protection Area (SPA) in 2011 (site code 004149).

According to the Commission's 'Note on Establishing Conservation Measures for Natura 2000 Sites'¹, 'there is some flexibility in defining and establishing the conservation measures', thus allowing for possible alternatives which can be considered under the Birds Directive.

Can the Commission elaborate further on which basis this flexibility can be defined, and whether this flexibility could potentially allow for the Falcarragh to Meenlaragh SPA area to be treated in a different manner than it is at present?

Furthermore, out of the 1 438 Natura 2000 sites designated for the species, can the Commission indicate whether any of these sites have been allowed flexibility, and can it explain what this flexibility entails for each site?

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<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/docs/comNote%20conservation%20measures.pdf>