



European Union Network for the  
Implementation and Enforcement  
of Environmental Law

## Nature Protection in permitting and inspection of industrial installations – implementation of Art. 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive:

*Inspection of quarries and open cast mining in Natura 2000 sites and planning tool for risk assessment for inspection of Natura 2000 sites (update 2018)*



In 2017 the IMPEL Nature Protection Expert Team working on Nature Protection in permitting and inspection of industrial installations related to Article 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive, continued to contribute to the knowledge on this Directive within IMPEL, by sharing best practices between member states on the inspection of non-extractive energy industry (NEEI) facilities within or close to, Natura 2000 sites. With examples of best practice, the project group pushes to ensure proper implementation and enforcement of the Nature directives and to promote nature conservation within the NEEI sector.

The project consisted of two parts:

- Part 1: Develop guidance for inspections of quarries and open cast mining in Natura 2000 sites
- Part 2: Develop a roadmap for a planning tool concerning the inspection of Natura 2000 sites

### Background

Part 1 of the 2017 project was a continuation of work undertaken during the IMPEL 2016 project on nature protection in permitting and inspection of extractive industry where aspects of inspection were touched upon, but not considered in any detail. According to IMPEL guidance book 'Doing the right things (DTRT)' developed in 2009, inspection activities should be planned in advance and a systematic approach like inspection planning and programming is recommended. Dedicated and detailed guidance was developed for quarries and open cast mining. During the expert team meeting in September 2016 (Trogir, Croatia) the need for a planning tool for inspections of nature protected sites was expressed.

### TARGET GROUP

- Public Authorities; especially those involved in inspections
- Other interested parties on the implementation of Nature Protection Legislation

### EU LEGISLATION

- [Habitats Directive](#)
- [Birds Directive](#)

### PUBLICATION DATE

2017

### REPORT NUMBER(S)

2017/19



European Union Network for the  
Implementation and Enforcement  
of Environmental Law

## Key Points

Part 1 aimed to prepare a basic policy for carrying out the inspection of non-energy extractive industry installations within or close to Natura 2000 sites. 'Guidance for environmental, nature protection and land use inspections in or near Natura 2000 sites – quarries and open cast mining' ([IMPEL doc. 2017/19-1](#)) provides examples of best practices from member countries and compares inspection procedures and competences of the inspection authorities. The guidance covers following themes:

- Systematic preparatory work to be done before the site visit
- Visit checklist
- Post-visit follow-up measures



Part 2 aimed to develop a roadmap for a planning tool concerning inspection of nature protected sites. 'Report on Roadmap for Planning Tool for inspection of Natura 2000 sites' ([IMPEL doc. 2017/19-2](#)). As the development of the planning tool is a complex task the project team proposed a multi-annual approach and has defined the following work packages for the next years:

1. Development of indicators, decision whether an already existing tool (e.g. IRAM) can be used for the purpose, identification of an eligible IT developer
2. Development of the tool, test phases, feedback to the developer
3. Agree final format, user manual, availability of tool and manual via IMPEL communication channels
4. Feedback from users and identification of needs for adjustments

The work will also look into the possibilities adapting the already existing, IMPEL IRAM tool, which is a comprehensive methodology to perform an integrated risk assessment.

## LINKS

- [IMPEL Project Page](#)
- [IRAM Tool](#)
- [Inspection guidance](#)
- [Roadmap planning tool](#)
- [DTRT Handbook](#)

## KEY WORDS

- Natura 2000 sites
- Nature protection
- Inspection
- Inspection planning
- Quarries and open cast mining
- IRAM Tool