

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL ENVIRONMENT Directorate B - Natural Capital ENV.B.3 - Nature Head of Unit

Brussels,

Seger E. baron van Voorst tot Voorst Managing Director Stichting Nationale Park De Hoge Veluwe Apeldoornseweg 250 NL-7351 TA Hoenderloo

Subject: Fitness Check of the EU Nature legislation

Dear Mr van Voorst tot Voorst,

Thank you for your letter of 17 December following our conversation at the Fitness Check conference, outlining your thoughts and proposals regarding the implementation of the two Nature Directives.

I have noted in particular your comments on the need for allowing more flexibility in implementation and for taking greater advantage of the knowledge and experience of land owners when assessing the impact of plans and projects on Natura 2000 sites.

We will give due consideration to these elements while preparing the Commission's conclusions on the evidence gathering and public consultation process. The Commission's conclusions on the Fitness Check will be set out in a Staff Working Paper later in the year.

Thank you again for your interest in this issue and for taking the time to submit your views.

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Notaro - electronically signed -