

"The Commission is not aware of any plans to build up a fence along the Danish – German borders with an aim to prevent the passing of wildlife.

It should be noted though that, according to the provisions of the EU legislation, any projects that might cause an impact to the biodiversity and the wildlife of the area, should undergo an assessment before a final decision is taken. For that purpose the procedures of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive apply (Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU).

Also, in cases where a site is included in the European ecological network Natura 2000, the article 6 of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) applies. This article of the Habitats Directive foresees that an appropriate assessment is carried out for any projects that may have a significant impact on a Natura 2000 site, so that to ensure that they will not adversely affect the integrity of the site.

Article 12 of this Directive also provides a framework of strict protection of certain animal species which prohibits the deliberate capture, killing, disturbance of these species or the deterioration of their breeding or nesting sites.

It is therefore important that, before a decision is taken for the promotion of any such project, a close cooperation between the two countries is established and a thorough evaluation is carried out concerning the possible impacts of the project in the biodiversity of the area in accordance with applicable EU legislation."