

## **Manual of European Environmental Policy**

The following pages are a section from the Manual of European Environmental Policy written by the Institute for European Environmental Policy.

The Manual was published by Earthscan/Routledge from 2010 to 2012. It was designed as an on-line interactive reference work and annual printed versions were also produced.

This section is the text of the Manual as published in 2012. It is therefore important to note the following:

- The contents have not been updated since 2012 and no guarantee is given of the accuracy of the contents given potential subsequent developments.
- The sections include links to external websites (e.g. to legal texts). These links continue to work as long as those links are not broken by those websites.
- The sections also include the original links that enabled interactivity within the published on-line version of the Manual. These links no longer work.

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The Manual should be cited as follows:

Farmer, A.M. (2012) (Editor). Manual of European Environmental Policy. 1043pp. Routledge, London.

# Related legislation: Water and Marine

The EU water legislation set out in this Chapter of the Manual of EU Environmental Policy is not the only EU law with specific objectives relating to water or that contribute to those water objectives. These related items of legislation can be considered according to the themes of setting water objectives, controlling pressures on water, general planning and other actions.

Most objective setting for Europe's waters is contained within the water legislation itself, primarily through the concepts of Good Ecological Status and Good Environmental Status together with quality objectives for specific pollutants and microbiological issues, such as for bathing waters. However, it is important to note that the EU's nature protection legislation sets objectives for habitats and individual species that are either entirely aquatic in character or link to aquatic environments. Therefore, in order to understand the objectives for Europe's waters it is necessary to consider the following Directives in addition to those set out in this Chapter on water:

- Habitats Directive [92/43/EEC](#).
- Birds Directive [79/409/EEC](#).

EU water law sets a range of obligations on various pressures on Europe's waters, such as agricultural nitrates and domestic sewage. However, it is important to note that legislation in other areas also sets obligations on activities that result in pressures on water. This is most clearly seen with the IPPC Directive 2008/1/EC, which applies to a large range of different industrial (and related) activities, whereby Member States are required to set emission values in permits for water discharges based on Best Available Techniques. Further sectoral Directives also control emissions to water from waste incinerators, landfill sites and titanium dioxide plants. A wide range of measures address controls on individual toxic substances so contributing to water protection (see Chapter 9). Finally, the National Emission Ceilings Directive seeks to reduce acidifying and nitrogen emissions to air from Member States, thus contributing to reducing the acidification and eutrophication of surface waters. The following Directives, therefore, need to be included when considering legislation, which is aimed at reducing pressures on Europe's waters:

- The Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive [2008/1/EC](#).
- The Industrial Emissions Directive ([2010/75/EU](#))
- Landfill Directive [1999/31/EC](#).
- Waste Incineration Directive [2000/76/EC](#).
- Titanium Dioxide Directive (and amendments) [78/176/EEC](#).
- The REACH Regulation (EC) No [1907/2006](#).
- National Emission Ceilings Directive [2001/81/EC](#).

EU water law sets out a number of planning processes for water management. Some are comprehensive in character (such as River Basin Management Plans and Marine Strategies), while others address specific issues (such as flood plans and pollution reduction plans). It is important to note that the impact assessment Directives also contribute to water protection within wider planning activities:

- SEA Directive [2001/42/EC](#).
- EIA Directive [2003/35/EC](#).

A number of other EU policies also interact with EU water policy. These particularly include those relating to funding, such as the Structural Funds (which may support infrastructure spending to reduce pressures on water), cross compliance in funding under the Common Agricultural Policy and support for research on water issues:

- European Agriculture Rural Development Fund Regulation (EC) No [1698/2005](#).
- European Rural Development Fund Regulation (EC) No [1698/2005](#).
- LIFE+ Regulation (EC) No [614/2007](#).
- Seventh Research Framework Decision [1982/2006/EC](#).
- Structural Fund Regulation (EC) No [1083/2006](#).

A report<sup>1</sup> produced by IEEP for IMPEL in 2010 examined the interaction between selected water Directives and industrial pollution control Directives. It considered the interactions from the perspective of the IPPC Directive regulatory cycle and from the perspective of the Water Framework Directive river basin planning cycle, including separate analyses of interactions with the Quality Standards Directive, Groundwater Directive, Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive, E-PRTR Regulation and REACH Regulation. A further report<sup>2</sup> in 2011 examined experience of these issues by IMPEL members.

Each section of each chapter of The *Manual* also contains a related legislation section specific to that section.

## References

1 Farmer A.M. Cherrier V. 2010. Linking the Water Framework Directive and the IPPC Directive. IMPEL, Brussels. <http://www.ieep.eu/topics/water-marine-and-fisheries/2010/12/linking-the-water-framework-directive-and-the-ippc-directive>

2 Farmer A.M. Cherrier V. 2010. Linking the Water Framework Directive and the IPPC Directive. Phase 2. IMPEL, Brussels. <http://www.ieep.eu/assets/870/impel-report-WFD-IPPC-final-report-07-December-2011.pdf>