



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT
Directorate D - Natural Capital
ENV.D.3 – Nature Protection
The Head of Unit

Brussels,
ENV.D.3 NN/MA/pp ARES (2017)

Dear Petitioner,

Thank you for your message dated 27 June 2017. Commissioner Vella asked me to reply on his behalf.

We are aware of the latest estimate for the Finnish wolf population and share your concerns on the low numbers. The Commission is discussing with the Finnish authorities to ensure compliance with the provisions of Article 16 of the Habitats Directive which only allow wolf hunting under strict conditions. We are currently assessing how the Finnish authorities have taken into account the Commission's observations, the lessons learned in the previous years and the recent population figures.

The Commission will take all necessary actions to ensure compliance with the Habitats Directive.

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Notaro