

## From Patchwork to Network

### Results peer exchange De-Fragmentation inside ECONAT

Hans Bekker; [hans.bekker@rws.nl](mailto:hans.bekker@rws.nl)

Hans Bekker; Centre for Transport and Navigation, Rijkswaterstaat.  
Pb 5044 2600 GA Delft, The Netherlands; [hans.bekker@rws.nl](mailto:hans.bekker@rws.nl) (corresponding author)

---

**Keywords:** infrastructure, connectivity, wildlife passage, ecoducts, road ecology, international cooperation

ECONAT 2000 has been developed to promote the exchange of best practice and experience for implementing Natura 2000 and its harmonization with economic developments. The aim is to enhance trans-boundary and cross-sectoral cooperation by exploring in greater detail how the 'legal', 'ecological' and 'economic' targets in the Habitats and Birds Directives are applied in practical cases. The ECONAT 2000 network originally was an initiative of the Dutch 'Rijkswaterstaat'. They established an international exchange of experiences in the field of 'Natura 2000 and economic developments' with France (L'Atelier Technique des Espaces Naturels), UK (Natural England - Nature Conservation Agency in England) and the NLWKN in Germany. Please find more information about the network and its activities on <http://econat.n2000.fr/home>.

ECONAT organised in April 2010 in Utrecht (NL) a peer exchange around de-fragmentation. The results of this meeting were presented in the general conference in June in Schneverdingen (Germany). The results are combined in the poster. In summary: De-fragmentation of linear infrastructure is one of the instruments to come from patchwork of isolated nature areas to a real network of Natura 2000 sites.