

Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management

Natura 2000

The Western Scheldt & Saeftinghe, Vlakte van de Raan and the Voordelta

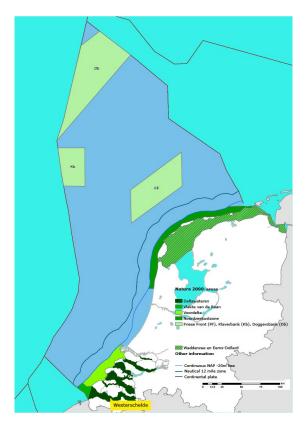
Natura 2000 is a European network of protected nature areas where certain animals, plants and their natural habitats are protected in order to preserve biodiversity. Biodiversity in Europe has been under pressure for years. Protection is desperately needed for both plants and animals. Flora and fauna are no respecters of national borders and so it is important to tackle nature conservation in a European context to ensure that nature in Europe and in the Netherlands does not become increasingly uniform.

All the EU Member States designate protected areas for specific species. These designated areas make up the Natura 2000 network. There are more than 160 of them in the Netherlands, both on land and on water. The province of Zeeland has several Natura 2000 areas, three of which are the Voordelta, the Vlakte van de Raan and the Western Scheldt. There are regulations in place here to protect the animals and special plants.

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Natura 2000 is a network of protected nature areas in Europe. For more information, see www.rwsnatura2000.nl.





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