

BELGIAN
FLAT OYSTER DAY

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Legal (environmental)
requirements for
oyster introduction
in Belgium

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Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS)
**Scientific Service Management Unit of the
Mathematical Model of the North Sea (MUMM)**

Advice to the minister on environmental aspects of:

- Sand and gravel extraction
- Dumping of dredged material
- Aquaculture
- Offshore wind farms

Competent for:

- Aerial surveillance at sea
- Specific marine environmental legislation such as species protection and EIA

Legal requirements for oyster introduction/reintroduction

- Diverse subject, with attention to safety at sea, interactions with other users, spatial planning, pollution, ecology,...
- Legislative instruments, often originating from international fora
- Legislation to follow <objective and <location

Legal requirements for oyster introduction/reintroduction

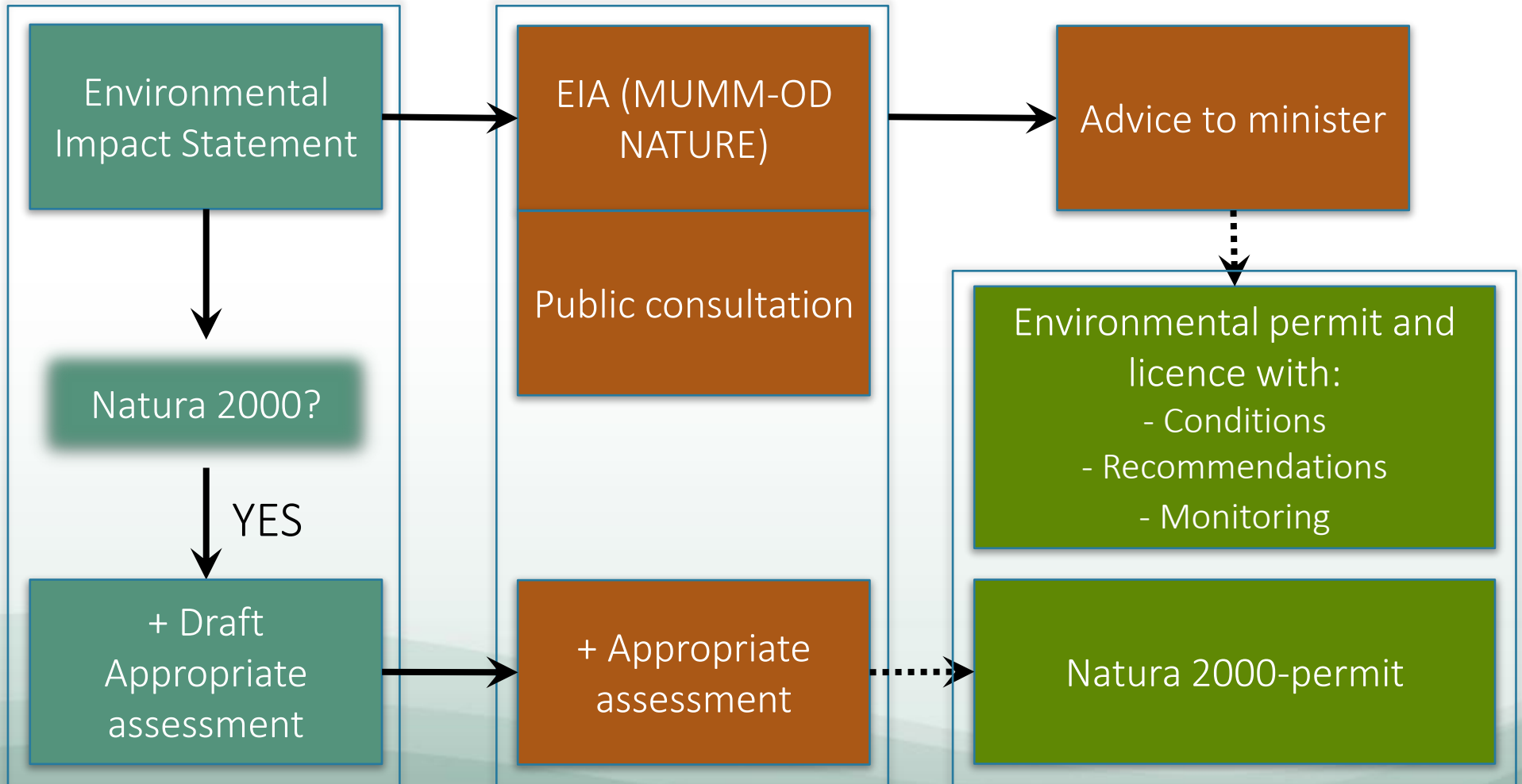
1. Objective

- Commercial
- Scientific
- (Part of environmental management plan)

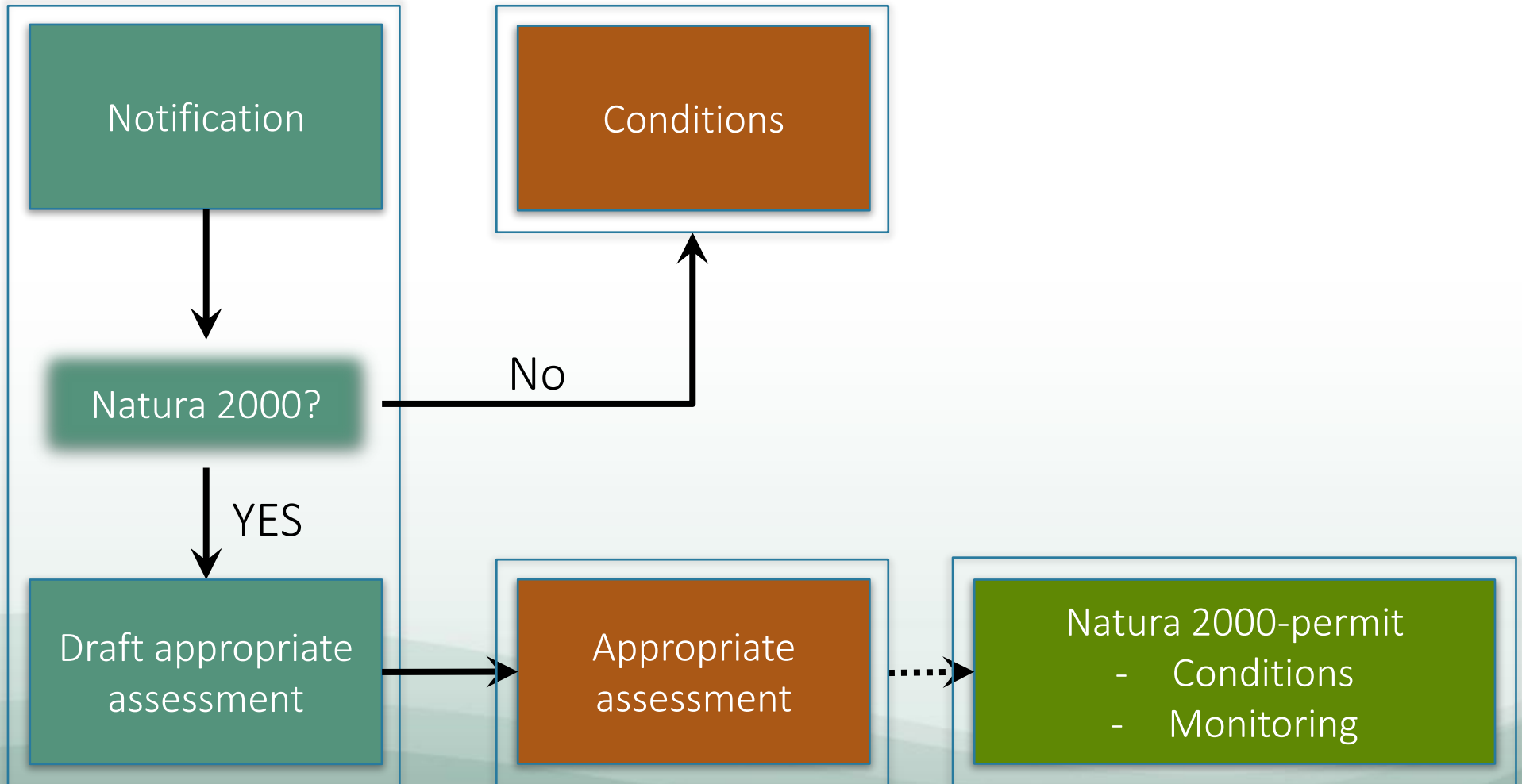
2. Location

- Natura 2000 area or not
- (Area foreseen for aquaculture in marine spatial plan)
- (Area foreseen for commercial and industrial activities in marine spatial plan)

Commercial project



Scientific project



Appropriate assessment

- Allows to assess the impact against the conservation objectives that were adopted for Natura 2000-areas and protected species.
- Conservation objectives set in ministerial decree on the basis of scientific report.
- If significant impact on conservation objectives: (1) no permit or (2) if high public importance (social and/or economic reasons) and no alternatives: permit through derogation approval by the EC and compensation.
- For projects that do not require an EIS/EIA procedure: standard form in preparation.

Specifically for oyster introduction

- Interactions with other users of the sea;
- No introduction of non-indigenous species (*Crassostrea*, *Bonamia*);
- Avoidance of indirect introduction of non-indigenous species (origin oysters, fouling);
- Avoidance of marine litter;
- The polluter pays principle;
- Restoration of the site to original state after the project.

Wet van 20 januari 1999 ter bescherming van het mariene milieu
KB van 21 december 2001 betreffende de soortenbescherming in
de zeegebieden onder de rechtsbevoegdheid van België
KB van 27 oktober 2016 tot aanduiding en beheer van de
mariene beschermdde gebieden
MB van 2 februari 2017 betreffende de aanname van
instandhoudingsdoelstellingen voor de mariene beschermdde
gebieden
KB van 22 mei 2019 tot vaststelling van het marien ruimtelijk plan
voor de periode 2020-2026 in de Belgische zeegebieden