

# SGHN. Position paper

## Land consolidations

SGHN position on land consolidations given that none of the considerations established in Article 6 of Directive 92/45 are met in the draft.

Land consolidation drafts must consider:

- The exclusion of the areas considered: Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Special Protection Areas of Natural Value, priority habitats according to EU Directives, habitats of taxa endangered at the state level, (Red books) or at the autonomic level (Galician Catalogue of Endangered Species) and cultural heritage goods protection areas.
- The conservation of every hedge and mass of autochthonous trees and shrubs with a density higher than 15% of the canopy cover fraction.
- The preservation without ‘conditioning’ or modification of river courses, riparian vegetation, floodable areas and mowing meadows.
- The inclusion of only quality agricultural land: capability class I to IV, only exceptionally class V if they are small areas (< 5 ha) mixed among those of class I to IV.
- The accurate assessment of land productivity before land consolidation in economic and agricultural terms.
- The setting of objectives to be achieved with the land consolidation: demographic, in terms of rural population fixation or increase, and productivity, in agricultural and economic terms. The fulfilment of this requirement is more essential than ever, given the current situation of severe economic crisis and public deficit, which calls for exceptional measures to control public spending.

Santiago de Compostela, 29 December 2019

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