Protecting our Life Support System

Anna Heslop, Wildlife Project Leader
ClientEarth

EEB Conference
5 November 2018
Introduction to ClientEarth

• ClientEarth is a non-profit environmental law organisation

• We use law, science and policy to tackle key environmental challenges

• We work on climate change, energy, environmental justice, biodiversity, forests and human health
Law (huh), what is it good for?

- Cases in national courts - “individuals are entitled, as against public bodies, to rely on the provisions of a directive which are unconditional and sufficiently precise”

- Infringement procedures

- Other regulatory challenges - licences, ombudsman etc

- Using other laws to get the result
Sweetman (C-258/11, C-323/17, C-164/17)
Cases in national Courts – Ambient Air Quality Directive

• Legal action in national courts – UK, Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Italy
• Pressure to move infringements – Commission intervention with member states
• Public awareness - Systemic shift towards more sustainable alternatives – German Diesel ban, UK Clean Air Zones, car manufacturers
Commission v Poland C-441/17 Bialowieza
Where are we going?

• Ensuring that EU law continues to offer real environmental protections

• Pushing for greater ambition in tackling threats to nature

• Access to environmental justice in Member States and at EU level
Empowering others to act

• Sharing knowledge, skills and expertise – capacity building

• Keeping pressure on regulators and decision makers to use their powers and carry out their duties
Thank you

Anna Heslop
Wildlife Project Leader
ClientEarth

Twitter: @clientearth

aheslop@clientearth.org

www.clientearth.org

Funded by Arcadia, a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin