

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002211/26
to the Commission
Beatrice Timgren (ECR)
(1 June 2026)**

Subject: Detrimental effect of EU rules on Swedish forestry jobs and investment

The forestry industry in Sweden is warning that the cumulative effect of EU regulations threatens thousands of jobs in Sweden and will cost billions of kronor ⁽¹⁾. The rules risk limiting access to forest materials in Sweden, with disastrous effects for the broader economy, negatively affecting not only the forestry industry but also the transport, packaging, construction, chemical and energy sectors ⁽²⁾. The impact will also have spillover effects, negatively affecting local communities, as services such as restaurants, supermarkets and schools require functioning local economies ⁽³⁾.

As one industry representative stated, ‘one cannot drastically limit logging and believe that today’s investments and industrial structure will remain unchanged.’

1. Has the Commission assessed the cumulative economic and employment effects of the Nature Restoration Regulation ⁽⁴⁾, rules regarding land use, land-use change and forestry, and related land-use and biodiversity initiatives on Sweden’s forestry industry and forest-dependent rural communities?
2. How will the Commission ensure that EU objectives do not undermine raw material supply, investment certainty and the competitiveness of the European forest-based bioeconomy?
3. Will the Commission compensate Member States for the cost of regulations that have already been adopted before proposing additional forest-related initiatives or mandating stricter enforcement of current rules?

Submitted: 1.6.2026

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(25 August 2026)**

The Commission has impact assessed its proposal for a Nature Restoration Regulation (NRR) in line with its better regulation policy ⁽¹⁾. This includes estimates of costs as well as impact on different stakeholders.

As the NRR as agreed by the co-legislators includes significant flexibilities for Member States, impacts will depend significantly on their national restoration plans.

Member States are responsible for drafting these, deciding which measures to implement and where, in cooperation with stakeholders, ensuring they are adapted to local socioeconomic circumstances.

A thriving rural world and bioeconomy rely on healthy and resilient ecosystems and the long-term resilience of supply chains. The NRR notably aims to ensure that active forest management remains viable under a changing climate and increasing biodiversity-related risks, which themselves undermine raw material supply, investment certainty and rural livelihoods.

The EU Bioeconomy Strategy ⁽²⁾ aims to ensure resilient and sustainable ecosystems and value chains, notably by strengthening sustainable forest management recognising regional diversity and long-standing practices in close cooperation with Member States and international partners.

The Commission supports its proposals with impact assessments that assess significant economic, social and environmental impacts with a view to minimise adjustment and administrative costs for businesses and public authorities.

¹ EU-regler sätter miljarderna på spel — tusentals jobb hotas: ‘Påverkar hela samhällen’, <https://www.tn.se/naringsliv/47798/eu-regler-satter-miljarderna-pa-spel-tusentals-jobb-hotas-paverkar-hela-samhallen/>.

² Skogsindustrin sätter värde på skogen, page 10, <https://www.skogsindustrierna.se/siteassets/bilder-och-dokument/rapporter/skogsindustrin-satter-varde-pa-skogen/skogsindustrin-satter-varde-pa-skogen-2026.pdf>.

³ Ibid, p. 6.

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2024/1991 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2024 on nature restoration and amending Regulation (EU) 2022/869, (OJ L, 2024/1991, 29.7.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1991/oj>).

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2024/1991 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2024 on nature restoration and amending Regulation (EU) 2022/869, OJ L, 2024/1991, 29.7.2024.

⁽²⁾ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/bioeconomy-strategy_en.

Support for implementation of EU environmental legislation can be available, where appropriate, through EU funds including cohesion policy ⁽³⁾, the Common Agricultural Policy ⁽⁴⁾, Horizon Europe ⁽⁵⁾, EU programmes for the environment and climate action ⁽⁶⁾ etc., as well as through national funding.

⁽³⁾ <https://cohesiondata.ec.europa.eu/themes/2/21-27>.

⁽⁴⁾ https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/common-agricultural-policy_en.

⁽⁵⁾ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding_en.

⁽⁶⁾ https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life_en.