This paper looks at the regulatory, political and institutional framework of nature conservation in Catalonia, describing how this framework has developed in recent decades while making a set of proposals to improve it and to provide it with a greater coherence. We also make an analysis of the general measures of nature protection without going into detail about the policies on protected natural spaces and protected and endangered species (which are dealt with in other papers), likewise discussing the sectoral policies (agriculture, forests, waters, territorial planning, landscape, environmental assessment, etc.) which affect them. We conclude by proposing a series of goals and measures aimed to overcome the current limitations.