

HUMAN RIGHTS,
DEMOCRACY
AND THE RULE OF LAW

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



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DROITS DE L'HOMME,
DÉMOCRATIE
ET ÉTAT DE DROIT

Report

On the spot expert appraisal of the Naardermeer Nature Reserve (the Netherlands)

6-7 September 2017

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Structure of the report:

- 1. European interest***
- 2. Conservation measures***
- 3. Management***
- 4. Uses and socio-economic activities***
- 5. Connectivity of the area***
- 6. Implementation of the conditions and recommendations***
- 7. Conclusions and remarks***

- **Condition:**
- the government concerned shall undertake to adopt a management plan for the diploma-holding area, within no more than two years of the renewal of the period of validity;
- **Recommendations:**
- 1. extend the perimeter of the diploma-holding area by including in the park the territory currently separating its two cores;
- 2. implement a programme to study and monitor the status and development of large predators throughout the Bieszczady National Park and the three neighbouring parks of Cisniansko-Wetlinski, Dolina Sanu and Nadsanski; recruit for the purpose a zoologist who will report on this programme to the diploma-holding area's scientific team;
- 3. step up co-operation between the management of the Bieszczady National Park and the municipalities with a view to forging a common vision and setting common objectives for spatial planning and development, taking account of the biological and landscape significance and sensitive nature of the sites;
- 4. draw on the activities and expertise of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, particularly for the application of its articles on conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity (4), spatial planning (5) and forestry (7);
- 5. consider strengthening co-operation between the bodies directly responsible for managing the protected areas on the borders of the three neighbouring countries (Poland, Slovakia and Ukraine), based on the programming of joint activities

- **Recommendations:**

- 1. set up and implement the new-style reserve plan and organise the required prior public consultation;
- 2. continue to maintain the native tree/shrub gene bank, as well as the tree nursery, to guarantee the genetic origins of trees planted in the reserve;
- 3. following the results of the fieldwork for site condition monitoring of upland features of interest, adapt the current deer management to limit trampling impacts from deer on dry heaths;
- 4. monitor the evolution of the American mink (*Mustela vison*) population and its propagation within the area;
- 5. continue to limit the development of recreational facilities in the core area of the reserve and maintain the existing facilities to the present standard; if possible, investigate ways to improve the standards of visitor facilities;
- 6. improve car park facilities for hill-walkers in Glen Torridon;
- 7. continue to integrate and implement safety measures in management of the area, particularly checking visitor facilities for hazards and revising the reserve's fire plan.