

Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas

(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008 at the 1018th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)¹

Appendix 5: Model plan for annual reports

Annual report for the year

Annual reports should describe the changes that have taken place since the previous year in dynamic terms of management and function and not be limited to basic data. Any new text or map introducing a change in the situation of the area should be attached to the annual report.

State: Swi	tzerland						
Name of the area: Swiss National Park (SNP)/ Parc Naziunal Svizzer							
	number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas: 7, last renewal 2012						
Central authority concerned:							
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 $^{^{1}}$ As amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2014)2 on 2 July 2014 at the 1204th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies. Internet: http://www.coe.int/cm

www: www.nationalpark.ch

1. Conditions: List here <u>all</u> conditions which were attached to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma. Explain <u>either</u> how the conditions have been totally complied with <u>or</u> detail the progress in complying with the conditions. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

In the letter addressed to Federal Councillor Doris Leuthard on 11th July 2012 concerning the successful renewal of the European Diploma for the Swiss National Park (SNP), no conditions were mentioned.

- **2. Recommendations:** List here <u>all</u> recommendations which were attached to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma. Explain <u>either</u> how the recommendations have been totally complied with <u>or</u> detail the progress in complying with the recommendations. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.
 - 1. take all necessary measures to fulfil the UNESCO condition that the national park, which is the core zone of the "Biosfera Val Müstair/Parc Naziunal" biosphere reserve, be entirely surrounded by a buffer zone:

After conducting a feasibility study, we have started negotiations with the relevant stakeholders this year. It has become evident that this will be a lengthy process.

- ensure that staff numbers are sufficient to comply with existing requirements and grant sufficient additional resources with a view to the celebration in 2014 of the 100 year jubilee;
 Done
- 3. continue to raise among local inhabitants, municipalities and visitors, the awareness of the return of large carnivores, working in close co-operation with the Hunting and Fishing Department of the county of Graubünden:

The SNP has applied to the federal government for a major project that will 1) record and document wolf presence in the entire Engiadine greater area; 2) regularly assess acceptance among the local population; 3) analyse the effects of wolves on other species (ungulates, red foxes, small mammals), and 4) conduct vegetation surveys to study the effects of large carnivore presence on the ecosystem in and around the SNP. The project will be carried out in cooperation with the Office for Hunting and Fisheries of the Canton of Grisons and academic partners. It will take place in the greater region of the SNP.

The proposal was submitted to the Federal Office for the Environment. Although a commitment was promised for the end of 2020 or beginning of 2021, it is still pending to date.

4. initiate studies with the different ministries and authorities concerned on the possibilities of minimising the impact of the Pass dal Fuorn road;

The measures implemented in 2017 have been successful. On this basis, we try to achieve further progress in small steps each year.

- continue the close co-operation with the neighbouring Stelvio National Park;
 Due to the extraordinary situation, no further steps could be taken. Coordination of surveillance is ensured and works well.
- 6. consider the enlargement of the European Diploma area to include the whole of the Biosphere Reserve.

 Currently, the focus is on enlarging the area based on Swiss law to receive the status of a "Swiss Park of National Importance" by 2024. The process to reach the European Diploma could be started around 2030
- 3. Site Management: List here any changes to the European Diploma holding site management, in relation to both terrestrial and aquatic environments (as appropriate), and in relation to staff and finances, since the last annual report was submitted to the Council of Europe. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

In 2021 – was the second year where the 3 large predators bear, wolf and lynx have been present in the SNP at the same time.

The further development of the pandemic has affected the Swiss National Park in various ways. Contacts were reduced to a minimum. Wherever possible, staff have been working from home. We were thus able to keep operations running without any major disruptions.

As in the previous year, visitor numbers were very high in the summer of 2021. We had to sanction more breaches of National Park rules. This is likely due to a high number of visitors with little nature experience.

4. Boundaries: Give details of any changes to the boundaries of the European Diploma holding site since the last annual report was submitted to the Council of Europe. If there are any changes, please attach an appropriate map to this report. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

No changes.

5. Other information: List here any other information about the European Diploma holding site which you consider should be provided to the Council of Europe.

Europadiplom renewel visit in November 2021. Peter Skoberne could meet different stakeholder, staff and representatives from the strategic organ.

The following sections of the form should only be filled in if your area is in the year before a renewal of its Euroean Diploma for Protected Areas, i.e. <u>year 4</u> after the award of the European Diploma or <u>year 9</u> after its renewal.

6. Natural heritage (general abiotic description: geomorphology, geology and hydrogeology, habitats, flora, fauna, landscape) – State of conservation

- 6.1. Environment: changes or deterioration in the environment, of natural or anthropic origin, accidental or permanent, actual or anticipated
- 6.2. Flora and vegetation: changes in the plant population and in the vegetational cover; presumed causes
- 6.3. Fauna: changes in the sedentary or migratory populations; congregating, egg-laying and breeding grounds

7. Cultural heritage and socio-economic context

- 7.1. Cultural heritage
- 7.1.1. Changes concerning cultural heritage
- 7.2. Socio-economic context
- 7.2.1. Changes concerning the socio-economic context

8. Education and scientific interest

- 8.1. Visitors Information policy
- 8.1.1. Arrangements for receiving and informing the public (building, booklets, maps, cards, etc.)
- 8.1.2. Frequentation by visitors and behavior (number, distribution in time and space)
- 8.1.3. Special visits (distinguished persons, groups, etc.)
- 8.2. Scientific research
- 8.2.1. Current or completed research (observation, experimentation, etc.; identification or inventory of the species listed in the appendices to the Bern Convention, etc.)
- 8.2.2. Scientific publications

9. Site description (vulnerability, protection status, ownership, documentation)

- 9.1. Changes in legislation or regulations
- 9.2. Changes in ownership title (conversion to public property, rentals, etc.)
- 9.3. Extension or transfer, new uses (for example, conversion into total reserve)

10. Site management (management plans, budget and personnel)

- 10.1. Improvements made
- 10.1.1. Ecological action affecting the flora and biotopes; controls of fauna
- 10.1.2. Protection against the elements (fire, water regime)
- 10.1.3. Approaches and thoroughfares (paths, roads, car parks, signposting, fencing, etc.)
- 10.1.4. Field equipment (hides and study facilities)
- 10.1.5. Waste management
- 10.1.6. Use of renewable energy systems
- 10.2. Management
- 10.2.1. Administrative department: changes made
- 10.2.2. Wardens' department: changes made
- 10.2.3. Internal policing measures
- 10.2.4. Infringement of regulations and damage; legal action

11. Influence of the award of the Euroean Diploma for Protected Areas

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