

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)2
on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 23 septembre 2020
at the 1384th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)¹*

Appendix 5: Model plan for annual reports

Annual report for the year 2024

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: The Netherlands

Name of the area: Boschplaat

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas:
renewal in 2020, 4 years.

Central authority concerned:

Name: Staatsbosbeheer

Address: Postbus 2, 3800 AA Amersfoort

Tel: 030-6926111

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e-mail: info@staatsbosbeheer.nl

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Authority responsible for its management:

Name: Staatsbosbeheer

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www: www.staatsbosbeheer.nl/terschelling

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>

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

N/A

2. Recommendations: List here all recommendations which were attached to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma. Explain either how the recommendations have been totally complied with or detail the progress in complying with the recommendations. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

1. communicate the final version of the "Vision for De Boschplaat" to the Council of Europe, together with information about the revised management plan for the diploma-holding and Natura 2000 area, by December 2022;

The final version of the "Vision for de Boschplaat" is send to de Council in 2022. The Natura 2000 management plan ended in 2022 and is extended for three more years. The new Natura 2000 management plan in which the "Vision" should be incorporated, will be made by the Province of Friesland. It is planned for the year 2026/2027. First a new vegetation mapping will be made in 2025, after which a new habitat map will be created. The new N2000 management plan will be based on this new map. This doesn't mean the implementation of the Boschplaat vision will be delayed. Currently we are working on the design of the new wash-over and drifting dunes in de sand-dike. We are also in contact with a local farmer who will lease an area of over 50 hectares for grazing along the sand-dike. This must lead to a more diverse vegetation with less grasses and reed and more flowering plants. This new lease contract will be based on Nature Inclusive Farming, an initiative of the Dutch ministry of agriculture, fisheries and nature (LVVN). With NIL we give farmers land for extensive farming and on the other hand the farmer must implement more extensive management on his own land. This way nature will take advantage in both nature area's and farmland.

2. review annually the grazing in De Groede, and adjust its intensity and the boundaries of grazing areas as necessary so as to retain the biodiversity value of this section of De Boschplaat Nature Reserve;

The intensity of grazing in 2024 is as agreed in the contract between Staatsbosbeheer and farmers. For 2025 there is a question to add 1 or 2 new farmers to the contract (in the contract there are 14 farmers and private individuals includes at the moment). Staatsbosbeheer will seize this opportunity to add new terms and conditions about manure accounting to the contract, since there is a huge manure problem for farmers in the Netherlands. They are searching for land to put manure on and also ask us. We will allow farmers to register no more than the minimum amount of nitrogen and phosphate per hectare that is allowed in nature area's in their administration. That means that only for the cattle which is grazing on the Boschplaat they are allowed to register and amount of manure: the amount of manure the cattle produces in reality on the Boschplaat. This has no influence on the Boschplaat, since the cattle is only eating what grows in the area.

3. assess the requirements for additional financial resources to undertake targeted and time-limited research, monitoring and educational activities;

This continues to get more difficult year by year. For 2025 the financing of Staatsbosbeheer in the Netherlands is cut off by ~5%. Monitoring of breeding birds is seen as an extra that is not necessary to meet minimum requirements and in that way not financed by the province or ministry. Our team has emphasized that the Boschplaat is an important natural area and that it is necessary to monitor to see what developments are, to intervene in time.

4. devise a strategy for the management and control (or eradication) of invasive alien species on De Boschplaat to be included in the future management plan;

Staatsbosbeheer is working on a plan to eliminate and/or control invasive species on the island of Terschelling. We do that together with de local authorities. We also started a group of volunteers who will focus on the control/elimination of invasive plants. On the Boschplaat we also added a new grazing area to the grey dunes in the west to minimize *Prunus serotina*.

5. maintain contact with all agencies involved in marine accident prevention and, if an incident does occur, with agencies involved in the minimisation of the effects of the accident on De Boschplaat;

No new developments made. On Schiermonnikoog (other island) there was an practical exercise in 2024 initiated by Rijkswaterstaat how to handle a new spill of container-stuff.

6. review the information available to both Dutch and international visitors, stressing and demonstrating the conservation and heritage importance of De Boschplaat.

No new developments made. Currently we are working on a website for the Boschplaat vision, this will also be available (party) in English.

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.

The financial situation according to surveillance and monitoring is still under pressure. Staatsbosbeheer is planning to do only the specific tasks which have financial coverage by the province or ministry of LNV. Large parts of the supervision and public guidance are not financed through a sustainable way and rely on occasional projects, such as "Wij en Wadvogels". This means that our bird-watchers/guards are not financed in a structural way, although they are necessary to keep an eye on the closed breeding area.

Because of coastal erosion the zoning with poles and markers gets more labor intensive, because markings must be replaced every year.

In the last couple of years we've seen an increased use of electric scooter on the foot path on the Boschplaat. By better information and more enforcement the amount of scooters decreased this year.

This winter we changed the markings on the beach for drivers of 4x4's (on Terschelling it is allowed to drive on the beach in wintertime) to prevent them from riding on vulnerable habitats. As far as we can see for now this works well. We are in good contact with representatives of the 4x4 drivers.

Litter, out of the sea and from underneath eroded dunes, remains a major problem. Yearly many groups of volunteers clean parts of the beach and the Boschplaat.

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.

The Boschplaat is subject of annual coastal erosion. Since the eighties almost 400 hectares of the Boschplaat eroded. This is part of the natural dynamics.

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.

In autumn 2024 large mussel beds are discovered along the south coast of the Boschplaat.

Breeding birds: in 2024 SOVON (www.sovon.nl) did a complete inventory of breeding birds on the Boschplaat, part of a 6-yearly inventory. We see an increase of breeding barnacle geese (>400 in 2024, 40 in 2018). This is seen as a problem by local farmers.

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

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