

**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 2023

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:
3

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 2024/2025.

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;

This year the intensity of grazing was higher than the years before, although it still falls within the agreed conditions. The normal grazing pressure is yearly around 0,3 cows/hectare. Because the vegetation in a part of the Groede is getting rougher, we are working on a plan to put a higher grazing intensity in this part, combined with no grazing in an other part during the first half of the breeding season.

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

This continues to be a yearly search. Because Staatsbosbeheer doesn't have sufficient resources, the question raised by the provincial management team in what way we are obliged to do monitoring of flora and fauna. 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.

On the other hand we started with planning the "Vision of the Boschplaat". We have a lot of contacts with scientists and universities in the Netherlands to do research on the Boschplaat and on the new measures to be taken (washovers, drifting dunes, grazing). An important part is to do a start-monitoring in advance. Also the cultural aspects will be involved.

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.

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;

This is an ongoing process. Together with Rijkswaterstaat a contingency plan is made to protect the Boschplaat is case of for example an oilspill. We are in contact about fine-tuning this plan because of the presence of the channels that make preventing pollution more difficult.

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

In spring 2023 we placed a new information panel at the entrance of the Boschplaat. Rules a re in three languages. Online information still needs to be updated.

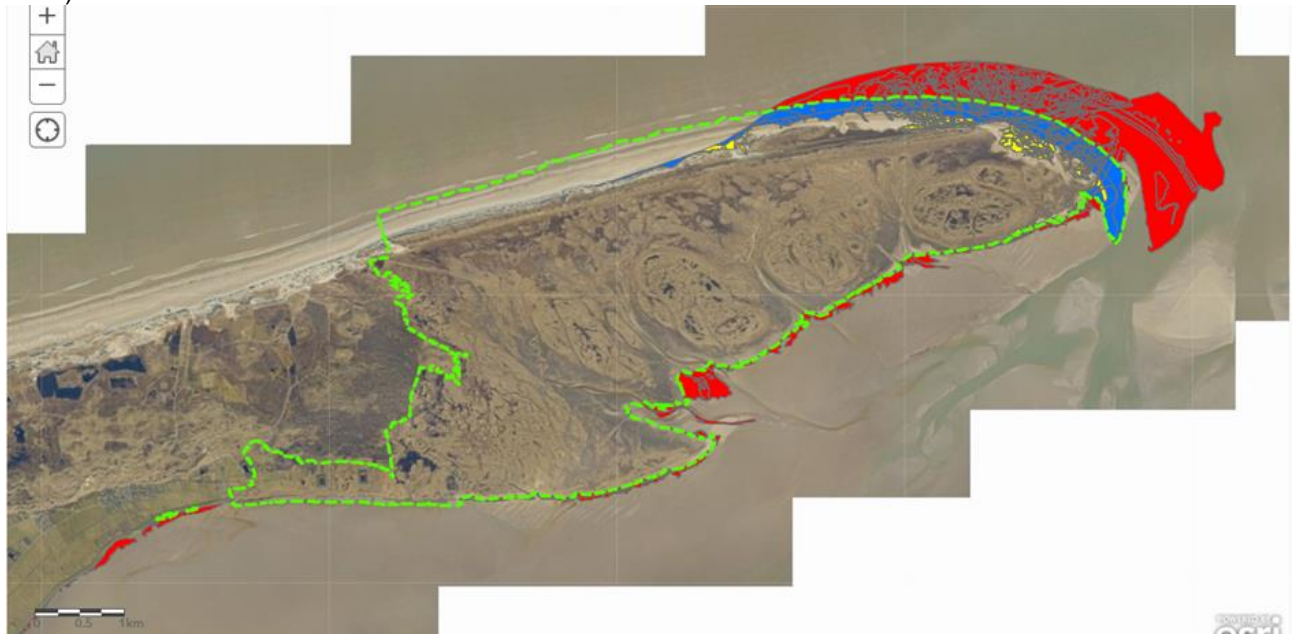
3. Site Management: List here any changes to the European Diploma holding site management, in relation to both terrestrial and aquatic environments (as appropriate), and in relation to staff and finances, since the last annual report was submitted to the Council of Europe. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

In relation to the "Vision on the Boschplaat" the province of Friesland made an investigation of the N2000 of the effect of coastal erosion on the N2000 habitattypes in the area. The conclusion is that there is a decrease of certain important habitats on the Boschplaat, but on the larger Wadden sea scale the area of these habitats is increasing. It is part of the natural dynamics. Therefore there is no reason the react on the erosion, for example by a beach nourishment.

The financial situation according to surveillance and monitoring is 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 year we managed to create and implement a new zoning plan around the breeding area, financed by this project.

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. The map below (concept, province of Friesland 2023) the red area is the area that is eroded.



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.

The zonation of the recreational activities still needs attention. The earlier reported use of so called fatbikes on the beach and the walking path stopped because rental companies don't have them anymore. Outside the management area of Staatsbosbeheer we see an increase of recreational activities. A local company has started to do boat excursions on the Waddensea, sometimes close to the Boschplaat. Staatsbosbeheer reacted on the licence application which was submitted to the province of Friesland, to stop this activity. Mainly because of disturbance of resting birds (on the water and on the shore) and noise disturbance in this quite area. None the less the boat trips are allowed now.

Special breeding birds

We are happy to report that in 2023 for the first time in years we found a breeding Whinchat. This bird is a Natura 2000 species of which the national population is declining over the years. Other noteworthy breeding

birds are one pair of red-breasted merganser and at least one pair of short-eared owls. Also we finally have two breeding pairs of the sand plover, after several years of absence.

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