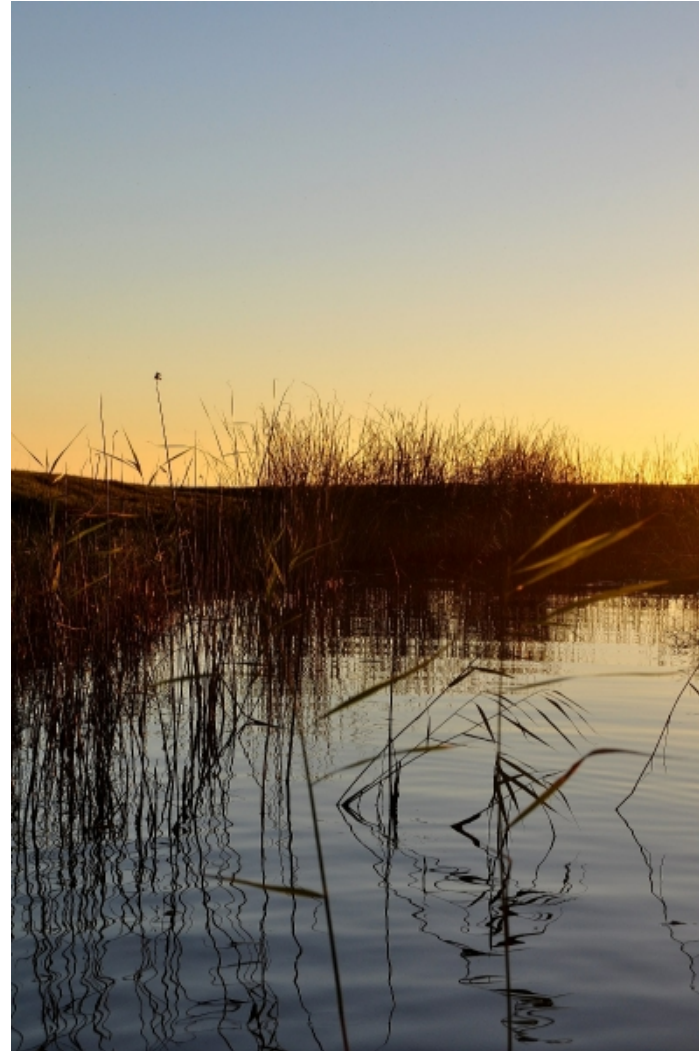


Matsalu National Park

- Diploma was first awarded in 2003 for a period of 5 years.
- Diploma was renewed in 2008 for a period of 10 years with:
 - 4 Conditions, and
 - 5 Recommendations.
- The question is: should the European Diploma for Protected Areas be renewed for a further 10 years, 2018 to 2028?



Matsalu National

- *“The objective of the on-the-spot appraisal is to assess whether the conditions of the site remain the same as when the Diploma was awarded and extended, or whether they have improved or deteriorated”*



Matsalu National



Monday 12 September

Morning: Meetings with officials in Tallinn

Afternoon: Meetings with officials and NGOs at Matsalu, and short visit to the NP (grasslands).

Tuesday 13 September

Many meetings with officials, local authorities and others, and visits to parts of the NP (grasslands, boat journey in the Bay).

Wednesday 14 September

Meetings with officials and County Governor; walk around coastal meadows; final discussion with Kaja Lotman.



Matsalu National Park

4 Conditions (virtually all fulfilled)

C1: Land reform – almost completed

C2: Meadows – fulfilled

C3: Funding – fulfilled

C4: Compatibility of private land – fulfilled

5 Recommendations (very considerable progress)

R1: Co-operation with farmers – good

R2: Social role – successfully implemented

R3: External threats – addressed in a different way

R4: Alien species – work continues

R5: Scientific studies – new recommendation

Matsalu National Park

“My overall impression is that the condition of the National Park is certainly as good as when the EDPA was first awarded”

Recommendation 1: The management plan for 2015 to 2024 needs to be fully implemented, appropriately funded, and revised before the end of the plan’s period in 2024.



Matsalu National Park

Recommendation2:

Continuing co-operation with the local farmers is essential for the management and well-being of the grassland communities of the National Park. This should be fostered at all opportunities, and liaison with both farmers and others in relation to the use of the hay cut would be beneficial.



Matsalu National Park

- **Recommendation 3:** In order to achieve the full potential of the National Park for scientific research and education, a Scientific Advisory Group should be established. The Group would provide strategic advice and ...



Matsalu National Park

Recommendation 4:

Although hunting will always be severely restricted and confined to limited areas within the National Park, co-operation with hunters is essential for the management and control of some invasive species.

Recommendation 5:

Whilst alien invasive species can threaten the biodiversity of the National Park, they should be controlled and, as far as practically possible, eliminated. An early warning system should be established ...

Matsalu National Park



Recommendation 6:
By 2024 prepare a
climate change
adaptation plan for
the National Park

Matsalu National Park

Recommendation 7: For national and international visitors printed guides to the hiking trails and hiking routes should be available in Estonian and other major European languages and, when the opportunity arises, the number of trails could be increased.



Matsalu National

My recommendation is that the European Diploma for Protected Areas be further renewed for the 10 years 2018 to 2027, and that 7 recommendations (as outlined above) are attached to the renewal.

