



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE
Committee of Ministers
Comité des Ministres

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2018)19
on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 4 July 2018
at the 1321th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)¹*

Appendix 5: Model plan for annual reports

Annual report for the year 2025

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: Scotland, United Kingdom

Name of the area: Beinn Eighe National Nature Reserve

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas:

Year 8 – renewal from 4 July 2018

Central authority concerned:

Name: Ian Sargent

Address: NatureScot, The Links, Golspie Business Park, Golspie, Sutherland, KW10 6UB

Tel: 01463 701621

Fax:

e-mail: ian.sargent@nature.scot

www: www.nature.scot

Authority responsible for its management:

Name: Doug Bartholomew

Address: Anancaun, Kinlochewe, by Achnasheen IV22 2PA

Tel: 01463 701653

Fax:

e-mail: Doug.Bartholomew@nature.scot

www: www.nature.scot/beinn-eighe

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. make a comprehensive mid-term assessment of the implementation of the Beinn Eighe National Nature Reserve Management Plan (2015-2026) in 2020 and revise the relevant parts of the plan as appropriate;

Completed in 2020.

2. prepare a revised management plan, taking an appropriately long-term view based on adaptation to the effects of climate change, by the end of 2026;

We have started to draft a new management plan for Beinn Eighe. This still requires public consultation and to take account of any changes. But we hope to publish the new plan in 2026. A strong element of this new plan will be to consider the long-term future, and make the habitats more resilient to climate change, but also to the biodiversity crisis, and the threats of disease. Following publication of our management plan we will work on updating our 'operational plans' such as our Habitat Management Plan.

3. ensure the continuance of monitoring of, and research on, the flora and fauna for the conservation of the native species, to derive appropriate performance and conservation indicators, and to assess the effects of climate change;

We continue to support University groups and students to visit the NNR and undertake learning and research. We are hoping to obtain funding to look at improving wildfire resilience on the NNR. The aim is to model various approaches to see what interventions will be effective in mitigating wildfire impacts and improving the long-term resilience of the habitats to wildfire in the future. This is challenging because this type of modelling is largely un-tested in temperate rainforest region of the northwest Highlands of Scotland.

4. devise and implement with local stakeholders a tourism development strategy and a prioritised action plan so that the infrastructure of facilities can be developed for the benefit of both the national nature reserve and the economic well-being of the people who live in the area;

This winter we will be progressing work to update some elements of our visitor centre to improve the experience. The Community Deer Stalking scheme continues to progress with most of the participants now obtaining their Deer Stalking Level 1 qualifications, and a few obtaining their Level 2 awards. This allows locally living people to undertake deer shooting on the NNR and keep the venison giving them access to sustainable, low-food-miles meat.

5. develop further awareness-raising and educational activities on the role of biodiversity and ecosystem services, particularly targeting children and youths.

The Junior Ragner program continues to be successful in engaging locally living young people in biodiversity, and rangering activities. While the number of young people living in the area is declining, this program attracts a good number of young people and offers them a quality experience.

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.

We have obtained a permanent rolling seasonal member of staff, who will be employed between April and October every year. This will help us manage our visitor centre, especially at weekends, and improve the quality of the visitor experience throughout the NNR. The funding for that has partly come about through the recent introduction of car parking meters with invitations to pay if you are parking, which started earlier this year. This has generated enough income to help cover some seasonal staff on these sites.

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.

| |
|------|
| None |
|------|

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.

| |
|-----------------|
| Nothing to add. |
|-----------------|

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