

**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)<sup>1</sup>*

**Appendix 5: Model plan for annual reports**

**Annual report for the year 2022**

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: Germany

Name of the area: Nationalpark Bayerischer Wald (Bavarian Forest National Park)

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas: 2021/1

**Central authority concerned**

Name: Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz  
(Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Consumer Protection)  
Address: Rosenkavalierplatz 2, 81925 München  
Tel: 089 – 9214 – 00  
Fax: 089 – 9214 – 2266  
e-mail: [poststelle@stmuv.bayern.de](mailto:poststelle@stmuv.bayern.de)  
www: [www.stmuv.bayern.de](http://www.stmuv.bayern.de)

**Authority responsible for its management**

Name: Nationalparkverwaltung Bayerischer Wald  
Address: Freyunger Str. 2, 94481 Grafenau  
Tel: 08552 – 9600 – 0  
Fax: 08552 – 9600 – 100  
e-mail: [poststelle@npv-bw.bayern.de](mailto:poststelle@npv-bw.bayern.de)  
www: [www.nationalpark-bayerischer-wald.bayern.de](http://www.nationalpark-bayerischer-wald.bayern.de)

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

1. instruct the relevant authority of the Free State of Bavaria to apply for the extension of the European Diploma to the enlarged area of the Bayerischer Wald National Park;

In 2021, the Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Consumer Protection (StMUV) applied to the Council of Europe for the extension of the European Diploma to the 1997 enlarged area of the National Park. On March 14, 2022, the StMUV received a notification from the Council of Europe that the Group of Specialists had proposed the renewal of the European Diploma for the Bayerischer Wald National Park and had agreed to the extension of the European Diploma to the boundaries of the area of the National Park as enlarged in 1997.

In 2022, a further extension of the National Park by about 700 hectares was implemented. The StMUV will ask the Council of Europe to also include this enlarged area in the European Diploma area for the National Park Bayerischer Wald.

2. immediately stop all interference in the forest in the 1997 extension area, including bark beetle control, with the exception of the buffer zone (*Randbereiche*), where such measures are intended to minimise the spread of the bark beetle to adjoining private forests outside the national park, and for security reasons;

The nature zone of the National Park Bayerischer Wald, in which there is to be no further interference in the forest and therefore no more bark beetle control, was extended in 2022 to 75 % of the total area of the national park. Bark beetle control now only takes place in the buffer zone of the national park to protect adjoining privately managed forests and for traffic safety reasons.

3. guarantee that the same regulations as those in condition 2 are applied for the enlargement to the east, which is proposed for 2022, without any transition period;

This condition will also be implemented on the basis of the approval of the Communal National Park Committee at its meeting on 15.11.2022.

4. take into consideration the neighbouring core zone in the Šumava National Park (Czech Republic) when designing infrastructure for visitors and ensure that the management goals and conservation measures of the proposed extension area to the east are harmonised with those of the adjoining area in the Šumava National Park;

Planning and implementation of management goals, conservation measures and infrastructure for visitors in the extension area to the east of Finsterau will be carried out in compliance with the above-mentioned condition in harmony with the management and the core zone of the Šumava National Park, in close collaboration with the Šumava National Park Administration.

**2. 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. grant the national park administration the appropriate legal rights as a nature protection authority (*Naturschutzbehörde*), in addition to its role as a forestry authority (*Forstbehörde*), to strengthen its function in the field of nature protection;

The recommendation is under consideration.

2. grant the national park watch (rangers) additional rights, in particular the right to impose fines for violations of the national park regulations, as is the case in the Šumava National Park (Czech Republic);

The recommendation is under consideration.

3. periodically evaluate the national park plan and update topics when useful;

This recommendation is being implemented. Most recently, the three appendices "Educational and Recreational Facilities", "Species and Biotope Protection", and "Tourism and Regional Development" were updated by the National Park Administration, presented before the Communal National Park Committee and

the National Park Advisory Board and put into effect by the Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Consumer Protection.

4. periodically evaluate the management of visitors so as to avoid overtourism in sensitive areas and react if and when problems occur;

Visitor management is reviewed on an ongoing basis, also in order to be able to deal with any undesirable developments in good time.

5. secure the continuation of research studies, in particular those that have been conducted for a long time and those that are important in the context of climate change in a broader sense and in relation to invasive species;

This recommendation is being implemented. No change over the previous year.

6. reduce to a minimum the forest roads that do not function as service roads and replace them with hiking routes in line with the infrastructure plan in places where disturbance of wildlife is to be avoided;

This recommendation is being implemented. In the past year, approx. 8 km of back roads in the Falkenstein-Rachel area, which have become dispensable in the course of the expansion of the nature zone, have now been reclaimed.

7. harmonise the hiking routes with those on Czech territory to avoid mismatches;;

This recommendation is going to be implemented in the coming years within the framework of cross-border collaboration.

8. carefully observe any plans for further installations for the production of green energy in the vicinity of the Bayerischer Wald National Park and report without delay to the Council of Europe if effects on the park can be expected;

This recommendation is being implemented. No change over the previous year.

9.

10. make more use of the European Diploma logo in all information material and brochures, and explain the relevance of the diploma wherever appropriate, in particular in the visitors' centres and on the website.

This recommendation is being implemented. No change over the previous year.

**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.

Increase of bark beetle infestation in the border area (Randbereich): 54.000 cbm of spruce logs had to be felled in the buffer zone. Additional 6.500 cbmm were uprooted or broken by a thunderstorm in the Rachel-Lusen area. 40 % of the infested or uprooted spruce logs were felled, debarked and then remained as deadwood in the forest ecosystem.

Furthermore, structural improvement measures were carried out over a total area of 149 hectares in the management zone as part of an Interreg project: e.g. enrichment of deadwood (20-40 solid cubic metres/hectares), inoculation of deadwood with rare fungal species, cultivation of silver fir (8 hectares) and other rare tree species (20 trees), planting of yew trees (200 trees /10 hectares).

In addition, 5 hectares of semi-natural spruce forest in the management zone were thinned and enriched with deadwood and other structural elements (snags, root plates). The goal is transformation into the FFH habitat type 9110 (Hainsimsen beech forest).

**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.

Together with the 1997 extension area, the National Park Bayerischer Wald had until now a total area of approx. 24,250 hectares and was extended as of 23.06.2022 by legislative decree of the Bavarian State Government by approx. 605 hectares of land owned by the Free State of Bavaria as well as other smaller areas (approx. 90 hectares). The total area is now approx. 24.945 hectares. The land consolidation corresponds to an increase in area of nearly 3 %. The new boundaries and the zoning of the area are shown in the enclosed map.

**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.

Intensive cross-border cooperation with the adjoining Šumava National Park, as before; no change.

\*\*\*

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**

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|