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

Resolution CM/ResDip(2020)4
on the renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas awarded to the National park of Berchtesgaden (Germany)

(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 23 september 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: Germany

Name of the area: Berchtesgaden National Park

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

Central authority concerned:

Name: Bavarian Ministry for Environment and Consumer protection

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Tel: +4989 9214 0

Fax: +4989 9214 2266

e-mail: poststelle@stmuv.bayern.de

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Authority responsible for its management:

Name: Nationalparkverwaltung Berchtesgaden

Address: Doktorberg 6, 83471 Berchtesgaden

Tel: +49 8652 9686-0

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e-mail: poststelle@npv-bgd.bayern.de

www: www.nationalpark-berchtesgaden.de

[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.

1. accelerate the finalisation of the management plan currently in preparation and attach a scientific research programme to it. The Council of Europe shall be informed upon completion and approval of the document, which should be effective no later than eighteen months after the renewal of the diploma;

No change

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. include in the management plan currently in preparation specific provisions dedicated to climate change and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term conservation of threatened or rare species;

In the National Park Plan, climate change is recognized as one of the most important drivers of change with high importance for nature conservation and management. To collect data on how climate is changing and how this affects ecosystems, the Research Department of the national park is operating a network of weather stations and conducts long-term biodiversity monitoring on 54 sites in close cooperation with Bavarian Forest National Park

The research project investigating the effect of disturbances, herbivory and changing snow cover on forest regeneration is continued and will create valuable insights on future forest dynamics and inform forest restoration in the management zone of the park.

Climate change is challenging traditional mountain farming and thus, the research project evaluating whether changes in pasture management affect biodiversity has been continued. Results from these research projects will be implemented in conservation and management strategies of the national park.

Climate change, as a part of global change, is facilitating the occurrence of novel or invasive disturbances. In a new research project the national park is investigating the ecological effects of reduced health of Pinus mugo shrublands caused by novel pathogens. The project focusses on microclimate, soil development, regeneration and biodiversity. It will generate valuable insights on the dynamics of this keystone habitat and will inform conservation planning.

2. abstain from any extension of forest and mountain roads and consider dismantling some of these roads, and abstain from installing additional infrastructure in the park, including wastewater pipes. If no alternative solution exists, infrastructure should be developed on the existing forest roads;

No change

3. continue negotiating with landowners and tenants for the replacement of forest grazing by light grazing;

No change

4. search, together with the competent authorities, for alternative locations for the police training centre, and at least abstain from further expansions of it, and continue negotiations with the army to reduce the impact of the army training ground to a minimum;

No change

5. conduct a scientific study on the red deer population and game regulation, including the plausibility of winter enclosures to gain enough data for future management;

The research projects on the interactions of wild ungulates with their environment have been continued. To study the spatio-temporal habitat use and activity patterns of red deer the data of thirty female red deer has been retrieved from radio collars that have been on the animals for

approximately two years. In a constant monitoring effort ten red deer have been equipped with new radio collars. In the project focusing on chamois 24 animals have been collared.

6. conduct a study on invasive alien species and develop a strategy on how to react to the arrival of these species;

No change

7. ensure that the park administration keeps remains responsible for hunting at regional level;

No change

8. secure an adequate budget and staffing for the park administration to enable effective and efficient management;

The funding is the responsibility of the Bavarian State Ministry for the Environment and Consumer Protection. The national park's budget is sufficient and secure. In addition, specific projects are financed by the ministry." The number of permanent positions could be increased through a so-called employee budget, which was founded in 2024 and defines the financial scope for action, but not the organization of the employment relationships.

9. limit the spotlights of the Jenner cable car to reduce light pollution and consider the construction of a path that is accessible for people with disabilities and a viewpoint next to the mountain station of the Jenner cable car;

The National Park Authority is in constant exchange with the management of the Jenner cable car. Only the emergency lighting in the interior is actually still on at night. This small amount of light is nevertheless recognisable in long-exposure night shots. However, this does not represent an ecological impairment.

10. pursue consequently the conversion of spruce forests into mixed forests, using natural processes and disturbances, for example bark beetle and wind fall areas as foreseen in the new conceptual framework, without enlargement of the bark beetle control zone;

No change

11. make more extensive use of the European Diploma logo in all information material and brochures, and explain the relevance of the diploma wherever appropriate, first of all in the visitors' centre and on the website.

No change

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 number of permanent positions could be increased through a so-called employee budget, which was founded in 2024 and defines the financial scope for action, but not the organization of the employment relationships.

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.

No change.

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 Berchtesgaden National Park received IUCN certification as an internationally recognized category II national park on 18.11.2024.

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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 Euroean Diploma for Protected Areas