

**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 2021.

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:
10

Central authority concerned:

Name: Bavarian Ministry for Environment, Health and Consumer protection

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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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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;

The draft National Park Plan is submitted to the Central Authority concerned for review and approval.

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.

2. 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 recognised as one of the most important drivers of change with high importance for nature conservation and management. To collect data how climate is changing and how this affects ecosystems, the Research Department of the national park is operating a network of weather stations and has initiated a biodiversity monitoring. Moreover, a research project has been started which study effects of climate on biodiversity via a space-for-time approach. Climate change is challenging traditional mountain farming and thus, a new research project has been started evaluating whether changes in pasture management affect biodiversity. Results from these research project will be implemented in conservation and management strategies of the national park.

3. 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;

According to the National Park Ordinance, it is generally forbidden to widen or build new roads. The national park administration and the higher-ranking authorities have already strictly monitored compliance with this rule in the past and are determined to continue to do so in the future.

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

Entitled farmers were granted the legal right by the government to demand the replacement of forest grazing land with the creation of open pastures. This replacement has taken place in large parts of the National Park. However, this right is based on voluntariness. And to date, not all have demanded this replacement of forest grazing. However, the national park administration is in constant dialogue with the right holders in order to make progress.

5. 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;

The planned extension of the Federal Police training centre on Kühroint is still in a planning phase. Currently, there is only a coordinated plan that is to be submitted for approval. In this procedure, the National Park Authority will contribute its views as a responsible body for public concerns,

There has been an established cooperation with the German army administration for many years. Discussions take place at regular intervals with designated contacts in which critical points are coordinated. Critical activities of the army were withdrawn several times this year.

6. 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 Department of the national park has launched a research project on the interactions of roe deer, chamois and red deer with their environment. The study will be carried out in cooperation with

the Technical University of Munich (TUM), the State Institute for Forests and Forestry (LWF) and the Bayerischer Wald National Park. Aims of the project are to better understand how ungulates interact with the vegetation, the role of carcasses in mountain ecosystems and the effects of human activities (hunting, winter feeding and tourism) on the spatio-temporal habitat use. Results from this research project will be implemented in wildlife management strategies of the national park.

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

Neophyte control has been carried out in the Berchtesgaden National Park for many years. There is a list of all species found in the National Park and their locations. Under the supervision of the botanists of the Research Department, these have since been monitored and occurrences mechanically removed. To date, neophytes have only appeared in the management zone.

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

According to German and Bavarian law, the National Park Authority is also the competent lower hunting authority for the entire National Park area.

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

Funding belongs to the Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Consumer Protection. The budget of the national park is adequate and secure. In addition, specific projects are financed. The staff body increased in the fields of research, visitor guidance, information and environmental education. For now, management of the park is effective and efficient. The main problem are temporary staff positions. These should be converted into permanent positions in the upcoming years.

10. 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. The floodlight at the mountain station that shines down into the valley was no longer switched on after these discussions.

In the buildings of the mountain station, the National Park has been given its own room, in which a small information exhibition is currently being set up.

From this room you can step onto a viewing platform from which you have a view of the valley and the surrounding mountains of the national park. These facilities are designed to be barrier-free for people with disabilities.

11. 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;

In 2018, the new conceptual framework for the conversion of spruce forests into mixed forests, derived from previous practical observations, was incorporated into the park management regulations. The essential method is that the planting of beech and fir is only carried out in places with natural disturbances, e.g. windthrow or bark beetle infestation. There is no human-introduced thinning of the forests in order to keep the human impact as low as possible. In this context, wildlife management plays an important role to keep the impact of herbivores low.

In addition, the zone where the bark beetle is actively controlled has been reduced from 700 m to 500 m. This has resulted in a reduction of the zone with bark beetle. This has led to a reduction of the zone with active human intervention against the bark beetle from 1.881 ha to 1.260 ha.

12. 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.

Berchtesgaden National Park will launch its new, official website in 1st quarter of 2022 (www.nationalpark-berchtesgaden.bayern.de). On the new website the European Diploma will have an own sub site (navigation: Natur -> Auszeichnungen -> Europadiplom) with detailed description, logo and link to the official diploma-website.

Berchtesgaden National Park also communicates the European Diploma on appropriate printed material. The original, framed certificate is presented in the entrance hall of the National Park Administration building in Berchtesgaden.

13. **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 full staff positions has remained the same.
The number of actual employees has increased by 13.
The financial allocations have increased by about 150,000 €.
No changes in site management.***

14. **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 changes

15. **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 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

