

**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 2020-2021

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: Russia

Name of the area: Kostomuksha state nature reserve

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas:
Awarded 1998, renewed 2016

Central authority concerned:

Name: Ministry of natural resources and ecology of Russian Federation

Address: 125993, Moscow, st. B. Gruzinskaya, 4/6

Tel: +7 (499) 657-57-06

Fax: +7 (499) 254-48-00

e-mail: pr@mnr.gov.ru

www: <http://www.mnr.gov.ru/en/>

Authority responsible for its management:

Name: FSBI Kostomuksha state nature reserve

Address: Republic of Karelia, Kostomuksha, Priozernaya street, 2

Tel: +7 911-427-05-06

Fax: +7(814) 595-45-24

e-mail: kost.zap@mail.ru

www: <http://www.kostzap.com>

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. in co-operation with the Finnish authorities, remove security equipment (wire fences, electric fencing and other devices) on the border between the two countries to optimise links between the two sides of the border and to foster ecological processes;

The movement of animals between Russia and Finland occurs regularly. The Kostomukshsky Nature Reserve, the Karelian Scientific Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences and LUKE - Natural Resources Institute Finland track the movements of forest reindeer and wolves using collars with GPS transmitters and radio tags. Migration routes for animals remain open, they do not have obstacles when crossing the border of the two countries. The location of animals in real time can be monitored online using a special map.

2. implement individual training plans for field staff in the conservation/management of natural environments and in natural sciences in general so as to broaden the scope and raise the level of skills of such staff in matters which are central to their work;

- Employees of the reserve regularly improve their qualifications, participate in field seminars, internships and conferences, and undergo retraining courses. In 2021, 6 employees were trained in different areas. Also, employees of the reserve regularly become listeners of training seminars for specialists of specially protected areas, held by the FSBI "Information and Analytical Center for the Support of Nature Conservation" of the Ministry of Natural Resources of Russia.

3. consider the renewal of the management plan for the diploma-holding area for a period that is consistent with the duration of the renewal of the European Diploma and with a view to its updating in the context of the integration of the diploma-holding area in the Kostomuksha Nature Reserve since 2015;

- The territory management plan is updated annually, taking into account the economic and political aspects of the development of the protected area system and the regional development of the Republic of Karelia.

4. finalise by 2022 the project for the establishment of the biosphere reserve including the diploma-holding area. Ensure the strong commitment of local authorities and socio-economic stakeholders to help the authorities of the diploma-holding area to preserve it. This should also help adapt the composition of the diploma-holding area and in particular its buffer zone and if possible extend them, so as to confirm its European significance and the preservation of the diploma-holding area; it is referred in particular to the central area of the Kalevala National Park;

- Within the framework of the Metsola Biosphere Reserve, which includes the Kostomukshsky Nature Reserve, the Kalevalsky National Park and the territory of the Kostomukshsky Urban District, cooperation agreements have been concluded with Karelian Okatysh JSC, Periodika Publishing House, Petrozavodsk State University, administration of the Kostomukshsky Urban District.

The nature reserve has signed a contract with Karelian Okatysh JSC for the development of a program for monitoring and conservation of biodiversity on the territory of the Kostomuksha city district. The joint program is designed until 2023.

The idea of expanding the Druzhba International Nature Reserve by including the territories of the Kalevalsky National Park, as well as Finnish specially protected areas, was supported at the level of the Ministry of Natural Resources of Russia. We are waiting for the response of our Finnish colleagues.

5. ensure the long-term preservation of the natural aspect of the diploma-holding area, which helps to maintain its European significance by the appropriate management of fires and other natural processes as a whole;

- The Kostomukshsky Nature Reserve has become a participant of the Russian-Finnish research project BIOKARELIA KA5051 "Cross-border tools for biodiversity conservation through monitoring and prevention of forest fires along the Russian-Finnish border". This is a project of the Karelia cross-border

cooperation program. The BLOKARELIA KA5051 project is aimed at developing practical tools for forecasting and monitoring forest fires to preserve biodiversity by mapping forests of high conservation value along the Russian-Finnish border.

6. develop a regional vision for the development of scientific, and/or nature-based tourism so as to optimise the potential of the diploma-holding area and of the Kostomuksha Nature Reserve as a whole; this should (1) be considered with the support of the UNESCO MAB (Man and the Biosphere) programme and of the Council of Europe, (2) involve regional and local authorities and the private sector, and (3) exclude all tourist practices that are incompatible with the natural aspect of the diploma-holding area, such as artificial feeding of wildlife;

- Art tourism is developing in the reserve. It is assuming a small number of participants. The art-residence uses alternative energy sources - solar panels. Feeding of wild animals in the reserve and the national park is not carried out. Tourist groups use routes with wooden decking so as not to trample the vegetation cover. All excursions are conducted only accompanied by an employee of the reserve and do not involve deviations from the routes laid out.

7. continue monitoring the pumping of water in the diploma-holding area and provide regular information on its impact on the diploma-holding area in the annual reports on this area.

- The water company "Gorvodokanal" annually monitors the quality of the water of Lake Kamennoye, including microbiological, radiological and sanitary-chemical indicators. Information about them is published in the annual "Chronicle of Nature", which is prepared by the scientific department of the reserve. The water level in the lake is stable. There is a tendency to decrease the amount of water consumed from Lake Kamennoye. Compared to 1990, the volume of water consumed per year has decreased: from 9 million cubic meters to 5.5 million cubic meters. This is partly due to the widespread introduction of water meters and the conscious attitude of city residents to resources.

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.

There are no changes during the reporting period

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.

There are no changes during the reporting period

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.

Non

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

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