



European Diploma

Annual report 2024



Photo: Tanja Menegalija

Triglavski narodni park (Triglav National Park) Slovenija



**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 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: **SLOVENIA**

Name of the area: **TRIGLAVSKI NARODNI PARK**

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

- Award 2004 (19)
- Renewal 2009 (14)
- Renewal 2019 (4)

Central authority concerned:

Name: TRIGLAVSKI NARODNI PARK
 Address: Ljubljanska cesta 27
 Tel: + 386 4 5780 200
 Fax: + 386 4 5780 201
 e-mail: triglavski-narodni-park@tnp.gov.si
 www: www.tnp.si

Authority responsible for its management:

Name: TRIGLAVSKI NARODNI PARK
 Address: Ljubljanska cesta 27
 Tel: + 386 4 5780 200
 Fax: + 386 4 5780 201
 e-mail: triglavski-narodni-park@tnp.gov.si
 www: www.tnp.si

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. National authorities should guarantee the necessary budget in order to fully implement the Triglav National Park Management Plan adopted in 2016 including a comprehensive monitoring scheme, and to ensure the long-term conservation of the natural and cultural values of the park.

A budget of 3.537.352 € is dedicated for the implementation of the Annual program of work for the Triglav National Park Public Institution in 2024. Most of the funds (almost 85 %), 2.990.600 € are provided from the state budget. The remaining 15 % (546.752 €) is compiled by sources from international projects, so-called non-public sources and commercial activities. The financing follows the dynamics laid down by the existing Triglav National Park Management Plan (2016 – 2025) and the items of adopted state budget. Other institutions and bodies that are responsible for carrying out some management tasks and activities within an area of Triglav National Park provide funding sources through their own annual programs of work and financial plans. Furthermore, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning provided also over 5 million € for co-financing of developmental projects of the park local communities (see recommendation 6).

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. Strengthen the inter-ministerial coordination regarding the management of the National Park

Different sectors at the state level, that is ministries with their agencies, directorates and institutes) and local communities have an important role in the implementation of management tasks and activities. As leading or cooperating partners they are involved in the management of the protected area, therefore some tasks and corresponding financial obligations should be included in their annual programs, staffing and financial plans.

Most of the expert work regarding improved collaboration with sectors and local communities has been done in the field of implementing measures for sustainable traffic mobility, the preparation of the landscape and building typology and tenders by the agricultural sector and partly Ministry of the Economy, Tourism and Sport to co-finance individual environmental measures. Intersectoral collaboration is also active regarding the large carnivores and the game species management, in particular the wolf and alpine ibex.

In general, a level of measures implemented by other competent sectors is still below the indicators values foreseen by the Triglav National Park Management Plan (2016-2025). It's up to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia or the competent ministry (Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning) to strengthen the coordination of the activities of other sectors regarding the management plan implementation and the co-financing of tasks, especially in the field of sustainable development (including education, healthcare, social care) and protection of cultural heritage.

In 2024, the preparation of the management plan for the period 2026-2035 began. In addition to the public institution as a carrier, individual ministries, professional institutions and park municipalities participate in the preparation of the document.

2. Continue to follow up closely on the transition of land ownership in the park (denationalisation); pursue the active policy of acquisition of land important for nature protection and other park's activities.

Competent authorities for consideration of requests for denationalization are administrative units, Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning. In 2024, no significant administrative steps were taken in order to speed up the denationalization process in the Triglav National Park.

According to the provisions of Art 46 of the Triglav National Park Act (2010), the Triglav National Park Public institution is authorized to exercise a pre-emption right on agricultural land, forest land, water areas and urban or built-up land on behalf of the state of Slovenia. In 2024, a pre-emption right was exercised on 37,2 ha of privately owned forests that met the criteria laid down in the Triglav National Park Management Plan (2016-2025) All of the land purchased is located in the 1st or 2nd conservation zone.

3. Pursue the efforts for transforming the zonation towards 1st zone (wilderness) and keep the 3rd zone for sustainable use, provided that the central of part of the National Park does not decrease in size.

There were no changes in zonation in 2024.

4. Continue the good collaboration with municipal authorities responsible for land-use planning when preparing land use plans and implementing them. Strictly apply the regulations related to new constructions and renovation works.

The Triglav National Park Authority continued with the preparation expert groundwork for defining the building typology in the national park. Expert basis also contains guidelines and recommendations for placement and architectural design, materials and construction techniques. So far, the typology for municipalities of Bohinj, Gorje, part of Kranjska Gora and Kobarid are prepared. Expert basis contents also.

In 2024, the Triglav National Park participated in initial stages of preparation for two regional spatial plans (Gorenjska and Goriška) and was actively involved in the drafting of updated spatial planning acts for the municipalities of Bovec, Bohinj, and Kranjska Gora.

More than 200 opinions in the procedures for issuing consents and permits for specific spatial interventions were prepared. Two brochures were reprinted to assist investors in construction and renovation.

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/252/pri-gradnji-in-obnovi-objektov-vam-lahko-pomagata-nasi-brosuri.html>

5. Continue to work on adapted solutions to solve the problem of wastewater, especially for buildings and mountain huts with intensive human use.

The dry toilets that were constructed in 2023 for the Koča pri Triglavskih jezerih mountain hut were tested in 2024.

6. Develop a funding mechanism to support local development projects of the National Park and municipalities within the Biosphere Reserve.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning provided 5.888.615,00 eur for promotion and financing of projects, investments and the implementation of activities in the Triglav National Park <http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=URED8265>

The grants for the conservation and development of agriculture and rural areas in the Triglav National Park financed from the state budget amounted to 100.000,00 €. <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/uprava/obvestila/>

Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation (part of the state budget mentioned above) contributed 18.800 € for the implementation of the UNESCO MAB program in the Julian Alps Biosphere reserve. Funds were used for podcasts production featuring people who live and work in Biosphere reserves in Slovenia and are well known in local community.

7. Together with local communities, prepare favourable conditions for social acceptance of increased populations of large carnivores such as brown bear, wolf and lynx. Further develop schemes to enable the co-existence of sheep and cattle farming with carnivores in the park.

Brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), wolf (*Canis lupus*) and lynx (*Lynx lynx*) are regularly observed in the Triglav National Park area. Due to observed incidents and increasing frequency of conflicts mainly between the wolf and agricultural activities (property damages), this priority issue was a subject of several discussions among competent bodies and affected stakeholders also in 2024. As in previous years, there're still three wolf packs permanently present within the Julian Alps area, that is in Jelovica and Pokljuka plateaus and one in upper Sava valley. Latter migrates regularly to Italy as well and is consisted of hybrids. There's a common agreement between competent scientific and management authorities that hybrids present additional pressure (genetic pollution) for entire wolf population in the Slovenian Alps therefore a permit for taking of the wild the entire pack was issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning. The Triglav National Park as a contracting partner to SFS regarding the wolf monitoring in Slovenia will also participate in collecting the spatial data during the winter (snow tracking) seasons in 2024/2025 and 2025/2026. Furthermore, several educational and public awareness raising activities took place also in 2024 to increase the acceptance of large carnivores' presence in the Triglav National Park area.

8. Strengthen all measures aiming at converting artificially regenerated spruce forests to climax mixed forests and increase the area of protected forests; apply appropriate mitigation measures specifically adapted to the national park status after natural disasters.

The main principle of today's forest management is to encourage natural regeneration but some forest stands in the Triglav National Park (e.g., high karst plateaus Pokljuka and Mežakla) are artificial due to past forestry practice. However, even artificial they're important from nature conservation point of view (e.g. crucial habitats for glacial relics such as Western Capercaillie and Three-toed Woodpecker) which presents an additional challenge for the proper management of forests in the Triglav National Park.

As mentioned in previous reports, intensive interventions were required in order to limit further spread of bark beetles to healthy coniferous stands and several large open areas appeared. It is expected that the natural process of forest regeneration will speed up the conversion of artificial spruce stands to more natural but on the other hand, degraded areas present also a potential site for the introduction of invasive alien plant species which was one of the Triglav National Park management priorities also in 2024. A developed methodology for early monitoring of degraded forest areas will be used in practice in the following years. The Triglav National Park Public Institution is in regular contacts with Slovenia Forest Service, Slovenian Institute for Nature Conservation and land owners to agree on interventions to be applied by respecting the protected area management objectives.

9. In liaison with relevant partners, implement the tourism strategy and continue developing practical measures to cope with problems related to traffic and transportation, the development of new technologies and new forms of tourism, especially in seasonal hot-spot areas.

The promotion of environmentally friendly mobility in the entire area of Biosphere Reserve Julian Alps is an ongoing activity

<https://www.tnp.si/en/visiting-park/information-for-visitors/mobility/>

Information on organised public transport in the Triglav National Park and the Julian Alps Biosphere Area, guided tours, hints for excursions and tips for visiting is available also in printed version

<https://www.tnp.si/en/sustainability/research-and-projects/publikacije/?c=1/>

Work on finding the most suitable solution to cope with traffic on the Vršič and Predel roads in cooperation with the Ministry of Infrastructure and municipalities of Kranjska Gora and Bovec is in progress.

Five electric vans were lent to the Municipalities Tolmin, Kobarid, Bovec, Kranjska Gora and Bohinj. They are used for transport of schoolchildren and other residents.

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/153/petim-obcinam-tnp-predana-elektricna-vozila-za-prevoze-prebivalcev-.html>

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/163/v-nekaterih-obcinah-tnp-ze-na-voljo-prevozi-za-obcane.html>

10. Prevent the extension of installations for downhill and cross-country skiing as well as jumping. Renovation and upgrading of existing installations should be accepted only if nature and landscape protection's interests are duly considered. Continue to monitor the various sporting activities practised in the National Park, with special attention to new sport development (electric biking, for example), ensure that they remain compatible with the conservation objectives.

In 2024, we continued preparing an action plan for managing visitation and recreational activities, and we have partially implemented some measures outlined in the plan. Monitoring of various recreational activities is carried out either through numerous existing counters (<https://www.tnp.si/sl/podrocja-dela/projekti-in-raziskave/spremljanje-obiska/>) or through specific project activities aimed at analysing certain recreational activities. If excessive pressure from a particular recreational activity on the natural environment or the experience of the area is detected, we proceed with preparing a carrying capacity assessment and a risk evaluation, and, if necessary, we limit the activity. An example of this was the restriction of canyoning in two gorges and the establishment of a reservation system. In 2024, we also conducted an analysis of visits to the highest peak of the national park – Mt. Triglav, where, due to excessive visitation, we plan to implement measures to reduce the pressure of visitors.

11. Encourage the best integration of new buildings and the renovation of old buildings in respecting the traditional local style; ensure support to maintaining traditional agriculture practices and their related infrastructure (hay racks, shepherds, cattle mountain buildings, etc.); further develop the Park or regional branding system for goods and services.

Group of representatives of the Triglav National Park Public Institute, the conservators of the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia, the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology of the Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Architecture continued the survey of drywall construction in the Julian Alps. Educational awareness events were also prepared for various target groups (lectures, drywall restoration workshops ...).

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/176/raziskovali-suhozidne-gradnje-na-obmocju-gorjus-v-bohinju.html>

The public institute Triglav National Park participated in the preparation of guidelines for three municipal spatial acts (Bovec, Kranjska Gora and Bohinj). It was also involved in the consultative and licensing process for all building cases in the national park.

The brand Triglav National Park Quality was expanded to cover also services, home-made products and local goods, schools, pastures and organic farms. <https://www.tnp-kakovost.si/en/> Seven new Quality mark holders were selected this year. In total, we currently have 55 holders of the quality mark and 10 primary schools.

12. Promote capacity building and specialisation among permanent park rangers and hire more seasonal rangers during the peak season. Use more regularly the European Diploma logo on publications and appropriate infrastructure, and in general promote the European Diploma for Protected Areas more actively.

No seasonal rangers were hired during the high season. Permanent rangers participated in different courses (improving first aid skills, identification of rare and protected fungal species, digital monitoring of the wolf, brown bear and lynx) and regular renewal of knowledge to perform their regular work.

38 junior rangers participated in the Junior Ranger Programme (Europarc Federation) 18 of them got the certificate of Junior Ranger
<https://www.tnp.si/en/sustainability/education/junior-ranger/>

Diploma logo is used on all important park publications. Diploma was mentioned on all important events.

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 were no significant changes in terrestrial and aquatic environments. At the end of November 2024, the number of staff was 57. Budget was slightly higher comparing to 2023 (see above).

Appointed was a new Council of the Triglav National Park Public Institution
<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/227/po-konstitutivni-seji-sveta-javnega-zavoda-triglavski-narodni-park-.html>

The forum of the interested public was held at the beginning of the year. The forum is a method of discussion between the residents of the protected area and all those who are connected to it in their work and activities.
<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/127/forum-po-cem-si-zelimo-da-bodo-triglavski-narodni-park-prepoznali-cez-naslednjih-100-let.html>

The preparation of a new Triglav National Park management plan for the period 2026 – 2035 has begun.
<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/209/priprava-novega-nacrta-upravljanja-triglavskega-narodnega-parka.html>

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 changes.

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.

Celebration of the 100th anniversary of the signing of the lease for the establishment of the Alpine Conservation Park, the forerunner of the Triglav National Park.
<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/posebni-dogodki/100-letnica/>

Awards:

The Triglav National Park received two Slovenian Natura 2000 awards in the categories of species and habitat types and communication activities for Natura 2000 sites
<https://natura2000.gov.si/novica/dve-slovenski-nagradi-natura-2000-triglavskemu-narodnemu-parku/>

New publications: Visitor Guides and Brochures

<https://www.tnp.si/en/sustainability/research-and-projects/publikacije/?c=1>

Project LIFE FOR SEEDS: activities are in progress <https://www.tnp.si/sl/trajnostni-razvoj/projekti-in-raziskave/projekti/life-semenska-banka/>.

Project FRACTAL ended in November

<https://www.alpine-space.eu/project/fractal/>

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/221/zakljucni-dogodek-projekta-fractal-s-poucnim-predavanjem-.html>

One of the outcomes of the project is a cartoon titled Green Infrastructure With Us at Home

<https://www.triglavskazakladnica.si/sl/vsebine/podrobnosti-vsebine/330/zelena-infrastruktura.html>

Cross-border Biosphere Reserve of the Julian Alps was declared at the 36th meeting of the International Coordinating Council of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme in Agadir

<https://www.gov.si/en/news/2024-07-05-cross-border-julian-alps-biosphere-reserve-declared/>

Survey on people's opinion about the Triglav National Park conducted by Cambridge and Warwick Universities showed that the local communities in the Triglav National Park have a very strong connection with nature and strong environmental values.

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/136/raziskava-o-mnenju-ljudi-o-triglavskem-narodnem-parku.html>

International collaboration

The twinning agreements were signed with the Berchtesgaden National Park from Germany and with the Mercantour National Park from France.

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/187/triglavski-narodni-park-pobraten-z-narodnim-parkom-berchtesgaden.html>

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/13/na-prireditvi-ob-francoskem-drzavnem-prazniku-o-poglobitvi-strokovnega-sodelovanja.html>

A Letter of Intent was signed with the Valley of Flowers National Park from India

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/134/z-mednarodnega-dogodka-ob-100-letnici-v-bohinju.html>

A professional trail maintenance team from the Crater Lake National Park (United States of America) helped to reconstruct Pokljuka Gorge trail and Soča trail which were both highly damaged in last year storms

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/178/srečanje-s-strokovnjaki-za-poti-iz-pobratenega-np-crater-lake-zda.html>

Canyoning

In canyons of Fratarica and Predelnica canyoning is managed by new ordinances where max. number of people entering the canyons in different hours is determined

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/obisk-parka/aktivnosti-in-znamenitosti/vodni-sporti/soteskanje/>

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/151/novosti-za-soteskarsko-sezono-2024-v-fratarici-in-predelici-v-logu-pod-mangrtom.html>

Managing canyoning in canyon of Jerečica is in progress and follows regimes in Fratarica and Predelnica.

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/190/novosti-za-soteskarsko-sezono-2024-v-soteski-jerecica-v-obcini-bohinj-.html>

A workshop where participated canyoning providers, nature conservation organizations and locals was organized to evaluate the canyoning season.

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/medijsko-sredisce/novice/novica/229/z-dogovorom-o-skupnih-pravilih-k-izboljsanju-upravljanja-soteskanja-.html>

Web page has a new content named Digital library <https://www.tnp.si/en/digital-library/>

Compiled by Alenka Mencinger