

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2019)12
on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Nature Reserve of
Naardermeer (Netherlands)**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 21 November 2019
at the 1361th meeting (Budget) of the Ministers' Deputies)¹*

Annual report for the year 2025

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: Netherlands

Name of the area: Naardermeer

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas:
Awarded at 5 May 2004, renewal at 21 November 2019

Central authority concerned:

Name: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature

Address: The Hague, Bezuidenhoutseweg 73, 2594 AC The Hague

Tel: +31 70 379 8911

e-mail: <https://www.government.nl/contact/public-information-service/email>

www: <https://www.government.nl/ministries/ministry-of-agriculture-fisheries-food-security-and-nature>

Authority responsible for its management:

Name: Vereniging Natuurmonumenten

Address: Meerkade 2, 1412 AB Naarden

Tel: +31-35-6990000

e-mail: p.blom@natuurmonumenten.nl

www: <https://www.natuurmonumenten.nl/natuurgebied/naardermeer>

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. preserve the integrity of the Naardermeer Nature Reserve and avoid, through regional planning processes, further habitat fragmentation within the reserve and in the surrounding landscape; increase the ecological connectivity both within the reserve and between the Naardermeer Nature Reserve and the surrounding natural areas;

- Phase 1 of the development of De Schil has been completed. Phase 2 is currently underway and is expected to be completed in 2026. Phase 3 is currently being prepared. Soil research has been conducted, which shows that excavating the topsoil offers good opportunities for developing species-rich grasslands.

- Due to a shortage of space for electricity transport, the high-voltage network (380kV) must be expanded in the west of the Netherlands. A study shows that the preferred variant will run along the Naardermeer. We want to prevent the natural values of the Naardermeer from being damaged and are closely monitoring developments so that we can propose adjustments and, if necessary, file an objection. In 2025, a literature review of bird mortality was conducted, and practical research was conducted in the immediate vicinity to investigate bird mortality caused by the high-voltage power lines. This research will also be conducted in winter to assess the effects on migratory birds.

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. following the withdrawal of the plans for the A6-A9 motorway connection that required the construction of a new stretch of road north-west of the nature reserve, monitor the possible impact on the diploma-holding area and its surrounding environment of the alternative selected route using the existing A1 and A9 highways;

- No new developments

2. finalise the Natura 2000 management plan and the water management plan including the water level agreement for the Naardermeer Nature Reserve by 2020; if necessary, plan and implement additional management lines to ensure the long-term conservation of the Naardermeer Nature Reserve within the context and requirements of the European Diploma;

- Following the note on the project "De Schil" as mentioned in note 1, fase 1 has finished. Phase 2 is underway. Phase 3 is in preparation..

- The Natura 2000 management plan was evaluated in 2025. A draft is ready. Work has also begun on writing a new management plan for the coming period. The Province of North Holland is the client. The Water Board and Natuurmonumenten are involved as key stakeholders.

3. by 2020, draw up a development plan for the recently acquired lands within the buffer zone of the Naardermeer Nature Reserve – the Hilversumse Bovenmeent (De Jong grounds) – in order to ensure the full integration of this area into the reserve buffer zone by 2024;

-The agricultural land of De Jong, already owned by Natuurmonumenten, will be included in the design of phase 2 De Schil. Implementation of the project started in 2025. The water level is expected to be raised in 2026.

4. before 2029, secure the necessary funding to acquire the remaining areas within the buffer zone which are not yet the property of the Natuurmonumenten organisation. Alternatively, if the current administrative procedures do not allow the necessary land acquisition, ensure that the management of these areas is carried out in collaboration with the authorities responsible for the diploma-holding area;

-The developments and prospects in both land position and design are progressing well

5. within the continued monitoring of Bovenste Blik Lake, integrate further research aiming to identify the main reasons for the decreasing water quality in this lake; define and implement appropriate management measures to prevent further water contamination; improve and keep the water quality in this lake at the same levels currently observed in the remaining lakes of the Naardermeer Nature Reserve;

- Following on from the 2024 report, it can be reported that developments in the Bovenste Blik in the field of Chara-vegetation are going well.

6. initiate studies focusing on the biological control of invasive alien plant species occurring in the reserve and prepare a strategic plan for their mechanical or manual control;

- Following the 2024 report on the decline of aquatic plants, an investigation into the causes of the decline has been launched. Various specialists reviewed the monitoring data, discussed potential relationships, and formulated hypotheses. Additional field data was also collected. This investigation will be extended in 2026.

- Various-leaved Water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum heterophyllum*) is present in the Uitwatering. In 2025, the Province, the Water Board, and Natuurmonumenten collaborated vigorously to combat Various-leaved Water-milfoil. This resulted in the installation of special wooden dams and two special grids that allow dephosphated water to pass through, but not the invasive plant species. Mechanical removal of the Various-leaved Water-milfoil also began in late summer. Unfortunately, we concluded that we cannot eliminate the species from the Naardermeer lake, but that we must focus on controlling it and preventing its further spread.

7. strengthen the monitoring programmes and the conservation measures to guarantee the presence of naturally occurring species newly appeared in the diploma area.

This year, 157 breeding pairs of the Purple Heron were mapped using a drone.

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.

In 2025, a new boat was purchased, named Purper, after the purple herons in the Naardermeer lake. The boat was donated by a company in Naarden. It is extra large and can transport machinery essential for managing the species-rich grasslands and reed beds.

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.

In 2025, various plots of land were acquired in two locations. Some of the land has already been converted into wet meadows. Another portion is still in agricultural use. Further research is required before it can be converted into a nature reserve, followed by conversion into wet meadows.

The total area involved is 11,8 hectares.

A map showing the location of the acquired lands is attached separately.

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.

No further information

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

--