

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

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: Czech Republic

Name of the area: Podyjí National Park

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

2020, 0

Central authority concerned:

Name: Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Rep	oublic
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Address: Vrsovicka 1442/65, 100 10 Praha 10

Tel: +420 267 121 111

Fax: +420 267 310 308

e-mail: <u>info@mzp.cz</u>

www: <u>www.mzp.cz</u>

Authority responsible for its management:

- Name: Podyji National Park Administration
- Address: Na Vyhlidce 5, 669 01 Znojmo
- Tel: +420 515 282 241
- Fax: +420 515 282 241
- e-mail: <u>info@nppodyji.cz</u>
- www: <u>www.nppodyji.cz</u>

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 <u>all</u> conditions which were attached to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma. Explain <u>either</u> how the conditions have been totally complied with <u>or</u> detail the progress in complying with the conditions. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

N/A

2. **Recommendations:** List here <u>all</u> recommendations which were attached to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma. Explain <u>either</u> how the recommendations have been totally complied with <u>or</u> detail the progress in complying with the recommendations. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

1. ensure, in collaboration with the operator of the hydroelectric power station at Vranov, that the negative amplitudes in the flow regime from the dam sluices are reduced and that a minimum residual flow rate is guaranteed;

The water management permit was issued in accordance with the position of the national parks. The river and water plant managers comply with the agreements (at least within the territory of both national parks (Podyji and Thayatal). The flow falls below the minimum residual flow only in rare cases of extreme long lasting dry periods (low water level is a natural state in this case). National park administration has to specially agree with each individual case.

2. secure the adoption and implementation of the management plan for the period 2010-2019; Most of the tasks of the 2012-2020 management plan have been completed. Unfortunately, the tasks concerning the improvement of the structure of the landscape of the buffer zone (especially revitalization of the source areas of the streams) and the removal of old technological burdens were fulfilled only partially. Nevertheless, the unfulfilled and continuously valid tasks were included in the design of the new management plan (which will be valid until 2040). The new management plan should be approved in the first quarter of 2021.

3. control the development of leisure activities, and in particular avoid the use of the River Dyje for water sports;

The amendment to the Nature and Landscape Protection Act (from 2017) brought the modification of the national park zoning. The "quiet area" (klidové území) of the national park, where leisure activities are strictly regulated, now makes up about 50% of the whole national park area (before the amendment it was about 30%). The protection rules of the river Dyje remains unchanged (no water sports outside inhabited areas).

4. intensify co-operation with the Thayatal National Park to harmonise the fishing regulations within the two parks and reduce the negative effects of fishing in the core zones;

Since 2014, a joint project with NP Thayatal has been underway, which includes research into the state of fish stocks and the extent to which they are affected by sporting fishing, and research into the potential sport fishing risks for terrestrial biota. The project, including the fish research, was extended until end of 2021. The change in the Nature Protection Act gave the Podyji National Park Administration the authority to affect rules for the fishery at least partially (for example entry of fishermen or restocking). The Czech ministry of environment is now considering the Podyji National Park Administration's proposal of these regulations prepared in accordance with the preliminary results of the research. After that, we will discuss them also with Thayatal National Park. Then we will start negotiation with the sportfishing association, which is the manager of fishing rights in the Podyji National Park.

5. develop relations with municipalities and the local community in order to encourage sustainable management of their land within the national park, in line with the principles and rules laid down in the management plan;

The national subsidies supported the small projects of local municipalities to improve the environment. The Podyji National Park administration helped the municipalities with the preparation of the applications for these subsidies as well as with their own implementation (i.g. help with supporting documents). These included, for example, landscaping in municipalities, reducing light pollution, and creating information points for the public. The Podyji National Park Administration cooperated with civic associations to improve the structure of the agricultural landscape of the national park buffer zone (i.g. planting of old fruit trees varieties).

6. pursue and improve the management of agricultural areas, particularly in the buffer zones;

The amendment of the Nature and Landscape Protection Act (from 2017) introduced stricter rules for the use of chemicals in agriculture in the national park's buffer zone. The result is not only a reduction in the amount of chemicals applied in the buffer zone, but also an improvement in the retention capacity of the landscape. Some of the fields, where pesticides were banned, farmers decided to changed to grassy meadows (a total of about 60 ha).

7. grant funding to public authorities for water supply and purification within the park's perimeter;

No changes since 2019: All municipalities in the buffer zone have sewerage system and water supply.

8. undertake research on the influence of the artificial barriers on the ecosystem of the Dyje River. Mitigation measures on the riparian ecosystems should be adopted.

Since 2014 the joint project with the Thayatal National Park has been underway, which includes research into river permeability. The project (include the fish research) was extended until the end of 2021. According to the preliminary results, the weirs are not an absolute barrier for fish. The migration is taking place to a certain extent there.

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.

Another area (approximately 70 ha) of the forest in close to nature state regulation were transferred to the non-intervention state regime.

About 5 hectares of woodland were actively managed by coppicing or canopy opening to support forest biodiversity.

Control of invasive woody species (black locust, tree of heaven, box elder and green ash) by targeted chemical control methods (drill-fill, hack-squirt etc.) was realized on an area of 10 hectares. Area of new sheep and horse pastures was created: cca 7 hectares. Most of it is in the forest habitats. As we believe it will improved the condition for biodiversity there.

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.

The following sections of the form should only be filled in if your area is in the year before a renewal of its Euroean Diploma for Protected Areas, i.e. <u>year 4</u> after the award of the European Diploma or <u>year 9</u> 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