

**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 2022

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, 2

Central authority concerned:

Name: *Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic*

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Tel: *+420 267 121 111*

Fax: *+420 267 310 308*

e-mail: info@mzp.cz

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Authority responsible for its management:

Name: *Podyji National Park Administration*

Address: *Na Vyhlidce 5, 669 01 Znojmo*

Tel: *+420 515 282 241*

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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.

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. *pursue the collaboration with the operator of the hydroelectric power station at Vranov to manage a nature-friendly flow regime and guarantee a minimum residual flow rate;*

No changes. Minimum residual flow is set in the water management permit. Other rules are in the declaration signed by NP Administration and the operator. The operator respects all rules. The functionality of the agreement is shown by the gradual transformation and stabilization of the species community, in which species more demanding of environmental stability appear.

2. *by 2022, adopt and begin the implementation of the management plan for the period 2020-2029. Prepare this management plan in a participatory manner, taking into account particularly: visitor management in light of the new allocation of quiet zones, the development of leisure activities on the Dyje river, the agreement on water use, the harmonisation of fishing regulations, population control of ungulates in the buffer zone and specific provisions dedicated to climate change and how to address this issue in relation to the long-term conservation of threatened and rare species;*

The management plan was agreed upon with the NP Council in June 2022 and approved by the ministry of environment of the day 24th August 2022. The text has been translated into German and provided to an Austrian partner. The management plan contains the main rules for the care of habitats and species (incl. regulation of invasive species), conservation of water regime, migration, and other values of its landscape and as well for an eco-friendly way of tourism, and life of resident people. The principles of research, monitoring and ecological education in NP are also established.

3. *continue and further develop the established good 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;*

On the one ("local") side, we cooperate with municipalities, local civic associations, and land owners on the preparation and realization of projects. The path with tree planting and restoration of the tree line around a stream were implemented, NP Administration treated approx. 10 old trees in villages (municipality ownership) with a method that balances the need for operational safety and the effort to delay felling as much as possible. Two municipalities received a few young saplings of old fruit varieties for planting on municipal land. On the other ("global") side, NP Administration defends the interests of local farmers and municipalities as a member of several working groups that prepare rules for drawing subsidies, conceptual documents such as common policies (eg. CAP), laws or methodologies, etc. As part of the successful implementation of cross-border projects, a memorandum was signed on the cooperation of municipalities from the areas of national parks, a joint excursion of the Czech mayors to the Thayatal National Park visitor centre was carried out, where further possibilities for cooperation in the framework of new cross-border projects were discussed.

4. *in the management plan, give special emphasis to the issue of extending vineyards on valuable dry grasslands.; and promote traditional, small-scale vineries within the national park;*

These principles are included in the management plan.

5. *continue encouraging sustainable agriculture, particularly in the buffer zones;*

Several organic farmers got subsidies to support their way of land management. We prefer small farmers to large national and multinational companies in the lease of our land near villages.

6. *continue to strengthen the co-operation with the Thayatal National Park within the framework of the existing twinning agreement;*

Regular meetings of Thayatal/Podyjí management continued. Three joint several-day Czech-Austrian excursions were organized for the staff of both administrations. Two sectoral staff exchanges took place to get knowledge about the work system at the sister organization. And more than 15 events were also held for the general public, students and children from the region of both parks.

7. *use more regularly the European Diploma logo on publications and appropriate infrastructure, promote the European Diploma more actively, and encourage partners and stakeholders to use the European Diploma logo.*

The logo is used on the websites of the NP and on information tables in the field. We use the logo or the flag in some of our leaflets or other publications and during our lectures and public activities.

“The Diploma for Podyjí-Thayatal” – it was an official title for five public events for schools, families and interested persons. The target was to propagate the European Diploma ideas and natural values of both parks. Participation: 450 pupils, 700 of others.

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.

Prescribed fire management: The first few patches of dry grasslands were managed by prescribed fire to restore grassland habitat and support populations of endangered species.

Biodiversity support: We have extended sheep grazing to several important and already significantly degrading steppe localities (e.g. with a declining population of *Pulsatilla grandis*). We made low scale disturbances on localities with the last few specimens of some rare plant species (*Cypripedium calceolus*, *Daphne cneorum*) to reduce competition.

Management of wetlands: In order to inhibit the succession and overgrowth of wetland sites, especially ponds and fishponds, cattail (*Typha* sp.) and reed (*Phragmites* sp.) vegetation was manually and mechanically removed.

Shrub control: In recent years we face severe shrub encroachment in grasslands and open woodlands. We focused more on this problem and increased our management effort. The most effective is a combination of various, both mechanical and chemical control methods, such as the cut stump method (with herbicide treatment), stem injection, foliar application, and stem painting. In some situations, shrub/small trees grubbing with a machine seems to be very effective. Technological details of some methods were consulted with experts from Hungary and Slovakia. Although we made big progress in our knowledge base and experience, we still face a lack of human sources for difficult fieldwork.



Shrub grubbing in Masovicka strelnice

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.

No information
