

**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: Sweden

Name of the area: Muddus/Muttos National Park

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas:
Last renewal 2012, 10 years ago.

Central authority concerned:

Name: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)

Address: S-106 48 Stockholm

Tel: +46 8 698 10 00

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e-mail: Jenny.Lindman-Komstedt@Naturvardsverket.se

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Authority responsible for its management:

Name: Laponiatjuottjudus

Address: Kvarnbogatan 11, 962 32 Jokkmokk

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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.

No conditions are listed neither in the Resolution CM/ResDip(2012)3 on the renewal of the European Diploma, nor in the Resolution Res(67)23 on the award of the European Diploma. Hence it follows that there are no conditions to be explained.

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. provide sufficient financial and human resources, including field staff, to “Laponiatjuottjudus” (management board) in order to implement the management plan and ensure a smooth transition from the former county management structure to the board.

Today Laponiatjuottjudus has nine employees. Laponiatjuottjudus as an organisation is well equipped to implement the management plan since we now consist of a wide-ranging of competence within the field staff. The future challenge is to continue the work of creating a steady platform to develop and maintain management work required to preserve and develop the Lapponia World Heritage site. The board of Laponiatjuottjudus holds regular meetings over the year where all parts attend, and all their decisions are made in consensus. This gives a guarantee that the work performed by the management employees is established from the joint cooperative effort of the board. Laponiatjuottjudus has been granted a new extended trial period from the Swedish Government to manage the Lapponia World Heritage site until July 2025. Before the end of the trial period a decision will be made by the Swedish Government if they will prolong the management of the World Heritage site in the care of Laponiatjuottjudus.

The Management Plan was translated into English in 2014 and is available on http://lapponia.nu/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Lapponia-forvaltningsplan-eng-web-150327_2.pdf.

2. continue the predators' inventories and use the results in order to help conserve the exceptional predator populations while allowing the Sami population to continue their traditional reindeer herding activities;

Norrbotten County Administrative Board (CAB) is the Government Agency responsible for the predators' inventories in Sweden. In the management task concerning the predators' inventories in Lapponia we are continuously working with the Sami communities and CAB.

Laponiatjuottjudus also keep contact with the “Norrbotten County Ornithological association” (Norrbottens ornitologiska förening) regarding inventories of different birds of prey in the county.

3. establish a centralised research database linked to a GIS for the whole Lapponia area and make the results of the research widely available for scientist and visitors;

Laponiatjuottjudus have developed a basic GIS system that is available for the management to use within the organisation. The development of our GIS system is a long-term work in progress that will continue during the following years. The management have not been granted access to existing systems used by the former county management (CAB).

Laponiatjuottjudus have access to the system “Skötsel-DOS” used by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) and the county administrations (CAB). The system is used to manage data in protected areas, including all the facilities such as cabins, trails, bridges, and the efforts planned and performed by the management during the year. The data for the facilities in the National Parks in the system will eventually be made public by the EPA.

4. continue the monitoring of the fire areas including the natural regeneration processes and design a programme to monitor the effects of climatic change;

In 2013 the Norrbotten County Administrative Board (CAB) summarized the studies, which have been conducted in the forest fire area, into a report. The Muddus/Muttos ecology and fire history is well documented and it is an important task for the future to continue and encourage the research in the area. The

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences continuously perform research in the fire areas. It is important to encourage people to visit the park and give the visitors a broad range of information about the whole Muddus/Muttos area, including the value of forest fires for the biodiversity. In 2020 a scientific article about the beetle community in the area was published in the journal Ecological Processes (<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13717-020-00246-5>).

In Sweden CAB is coordinating the different surveys and follow-ups of the national environmental objectives and the EU Birds and Habitats Directives that the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) is responsible for. These surveys and follow-ups of species- and habitats of interest indicate changes over time in both vegetation and animal species that possibly could be associated to climate change. Laponiatjuottjudus has an exchange with CAB and we take part of the information and reports every year.

In 2015 the County Administration Board (CAB) summarized the consequences of climate change in the Norrbotten County into a report.

5. assess the visitor flows and their impact both within and outside the park (ecological and economic impact);

With the visitor entrance in the National Park we hope to canalize visitors and to monitor the effect visitors have on the area. The entrance is wheelchair accessible and contain an entrance portal, fireplaces, toilet, recycling station and a parking space. The new entrance was financed by the SEPA. Information signs to the entrance was produced in 2020 and was installed in 2021.

The positive trend of number of visitors through the entrance is still keeping up with around 6000p/year (data from visitor counters). With this information the management get a good estimation of where and how people hike in the area.

Keeping the trails accessible is important to canalize visitors and support them to visit the park in a safe way.

The visitor cabins in the National park are equipped with books containing suitable information about the area that also mentions the European Diploma for Protected Areas. All the cabins include signs over the European Diploma for Protected Area.

Due to the pandemic there was no education in ethical guidelines and sustainable tourism for tourist companies in Lapponia. Hopefully, it will be possible in 2023.

6. consider linking the Muddus National Park with the Sarek and Padjelanta National Parks and other conservation areas so that the Lapponia World Heritage Site becomes a single European Diploma site;

This is a question to consider and discuss for the board of Laponiatjuottjudus together with the Swedish EPA no decision made on 2022.

7. reflect on the use of the different national and international designations for the area; organise a workshop with the relevant international organisations (e.g. Council of Europe, World Heritage Convention, Ramsar Convention and National Park Service) with a view to harmonising the reporting and monitoring requirements and the respective perimeters.

Laponiatjuottjudus is positive to discuss and exchange information with people who possess relevant expertise in the different matters.

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.

Today Laponiatjuottjudus management crew consist of nine full-time employees.

During 2022 the economic funding was comparable to the previous funding. The management now also have the amount of staff required but thereby the funding is setting a stricter limit to what is possible in the future work. The future funding is still very uncertain and varies from one year to another. This uncertain level of funding of course affects the management, since it is very difficult to plan in the long-term as the funding varies every year, hence it is a question of prioritizing.

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 of boundaries to report.

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 management have continued with the regular maintenance work in the park.

In 2022 the inventory descriptionsystem of trails will be synchronized with the system used by CAB to improve quality of description and procure processes.

Result of the inventories of predators performed by Norrbotten County Administrative Board and Ornithological Association in 2020:

Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*): One successful nesting with 4 chicks was found by the Ornithological Association.

Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*): one successful breeding confirmed

Eurasian lynx (*Lynx lynx*): no successful breeding confirmed

Jokkmokk, December 2022

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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

No changes

6.2. Flora and vegetation: changes in the plant population and in the vegetational cover; presumed causes

No changes

6.3. Fauna: changes in the sedentary or migratory populations; congregating, egg-laying and breeding grounds

No changes

7. Cultural heritage and socio-economic context

7.1. Cultural heritage

Saami traditional culture has been strengthened since the possibility to work with the governance of the NP's within the board of Laponiatjuotjudus gives a direct input into management of the areas.

7.1.1. Changes concerning cultural heritage

Strengthened information of traditional livelihood in context with nature values. Cultural sites identification has been increased.

7.2. Socio-economic context

Development of tourism with a high degree of respect of the OUV (Outstanding Universal Values of the World Heritage site) natural and cultural values.

7.2.1. Changes concerning the socio-economic context

Number of actors within the tourism sector has increased and the interest of the values of the Lapponia areas are higher than for 10 Y ago. Ethical code of conduct has been developed for the area.

8. Education and scientific interest

8.1. Visitors – Information policy

Extensive information work has been done since the World Heritage area was implemented, new information material with the base in the OUV for the area has been produced and revised during the years.

8.1.1. Arrangements for receiving and informing the public (building, booklets, maps, cards, etc.)

Laponia visitor center (Naturrum Lapponia) is one of the main nodes for information, contains information on all Lapponia areas and NP's together with the OUV for the areas. The entrance to the Muddus site is also a source of information for visitors. The Lapponia office works continuously with revision of information at the different sites and the World heritage area as focal point.

8.1.2. Frequentation by visitors and behavior (number, distribution in time and space)

Visitor counters have been in use since 2015 at focal points in the area and give relevant information on visitor behavior and travel patterns in the area.

8.1.3. Special visits (distinguished persons, groups, etc.)

8.2. Scientific research

Laponia grants together with the CAB annually permissions to enter the World Heritage Area for research purposes, the number varies between years. The research aims are very different from geology and glaciology to flora and fauna. The parts are national and international research universities and research institutions.

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.)

Data holder of observations are CAB and SEPA.

8.2.2. Scientific publications

Surveys within national environmental programs are published annually by SEPA.

9. Site description (vulnerability, protection status, ownership, documentation)

9.1. Changes in legislation or regulations

The revision of the management directives for the Lapponia area was made in 2013 and hence also for the ED Sites.

9.2. Changes in ownership title (conversion to public property, rentals, etc.)

None

9.3. Extension or transfer, new uses (for example, conversion into total reserve)

None

10. Site management (management plans, budget and personnel)

10.1. Improvements made

The Laponiatjuottjudus organization platform was implemented in 2011 with local partnerships.

10.1.1. Ecological action affecting the flora and biotopes; controls of fauna

Eradication of invasive species (*Pinus Contorta*) from the western part of the Muddus site

10.1.2. Protection against the elements (fire, water regime)

None, the management plan states the we the natural processes should be undisturbed, we are not in areas where wildfires or flooding is a problem, they only occur within the natural regimes.

10.1.3. Approaches and thoroughfares (paths, roads, car parks, signposting, fencing, etc.)

No new paths or roads, only maintenance of existing infrastructure.

10.1.4. Field equipment (hides and study facilities)

None

10.1.5. Waste management

Waste management is continuously improved within the existing infrastructure, and entrepreneurs working within the World heritage must present waste plans for their activity.

10.1.6. Use of renewable energy systems

Facilities are mainly off grid with solar power as main source of energy.

10.2. Management

Laponiatjuottjudus has today all fully working management organization working together with the CAB.

10.2.1. Administrative department: changes made

Completely new organization platform since 2011

10.2.2. Wardens' department: changes made

None still at CAB

10.2.3. Internal policing measures

10.2.4. Infringement of regulations and damage; legal action

None still at CAB

11. Influence of the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas

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