

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: Hungary

Name of the area: The volcanic phenomena of the Tihany Peninsula

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

2018

Central authority concerned:

Name: Department of Nature Conservation, Ministry of Agriculture

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Authority responsible for its management:

Name: Balaton-felvidéki National Park Directorate

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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

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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. by 2020, prepare an overarching management document integrating the relevant planning instruments currently applicable to the site; define management objectives for the five main zones;

The draft of the new management plan for the European Diploma holding area was prepared by the expert group of BfNPD. We sent a draft management plan to the Ministry of Agriculture for approval. The structure of the management plan follows the management plans for protected areas in Hungary. The plan is based on the current European Diploma Management Plan and the Natura 2000 maintenance plan for the area. The zoning of the management plan is in line with the zoning of the national park. The management plan contains all the new biotic data and information that have been generated since 2007. The clarification of the zoning of the NP and the approval of the Natura 2000 conservation plan are in progress. It is advisable to wait for its final result by finalizing the European Diploma management plan.

2. together with the municipal authorities, continue to enforce the ban on new buildings on the site;

No significant changes have occurred since the last report. The National Park Directorate has been able to reinforce the ban on new buildings on the site with the help of the municipality and other state authorities.

3. continue to manage and control visitor pressure; together with the municipal authorities take measures to moderate the motorised traffic on the peninsula;

In 2020, mainly due to the Covid epidemic, we saw a strong growth in tourism, especially walking tourism. We tried to deal with the increased number of people by continuously maintaining the indicated tourist routes and increasing the control of rangers. By managing and informing tourist traffic, we can reduce the pressure on natural values. A complete renovation of the previously built study trails in the area will take place in 2021 financing by Environment and Energy Efficiency Operational Programme. Plans for the information board system and the planning of the individual equipment are in progress. A new study trail will be built around the Inner Lake, and there will also be important improvements in the garden of the Lavender House Visitor Center to keep visitors close to the village, reducing the pressure on the other parts of the peninsula. Cycling tourism has also noticeably intensified. On the peninsula, we have designated some existing dirt roads that support cycling. The route-system was shared with several cycling organizations, including the National Cycling Association. This bike route-system is also reflected on the new Europe Diploma Management Plan.

4. keep the balance between closed forested areas and open areas (open meadows, meadows with hedges and bushes, lavender fields with oaks and almonds);

The results achieved untill now have been maintained with mechanical and manual activities by the national park. The development of our machine park for area management is in progress. A complete rebuilding of our sheepfold on Csúcs hill financed by Environment and Energy Efficiency Operational Programme has done. This facility is extremely important for grassland maintenance.

5. encourage farming and wine-growing practices consistent with the conservation of natural and landscape assets and establish a functional buffer zone between the vineyards and the wetland zone;

The 17-hectare vineyard area on the northern side of Lake Külső, which was placed under the management of the BfNPD in 2018, plays an important role in maintaining the nature values of the lake. In the part of the area further away from the lake, there will still be a vineyards on about 5 hectares, but the other parts will be treated as grasslands, ensuring the development of the natural zonation of the lake shore.

6. pursue the policy of acquisition of private land;

Because of the very high land prices on Tihany peninsula the National Park Directorate had not been able to buy new land here this year.

7. take the necessary steps to improve the water quality of the Belsö Lake;

A project financed by a state-tender (Environment and Energy Efficiency Operational Programme) is in progress to improve water quality and restore the natural state of the lake by the national park. As a part of that program established a shallow settling lake to filtrate the rainwater coming from the village. This natural filtrate system has started working. A multi-functional amphibian machine and tools had been bought to work as an aquatic weed cutter and vegetation harvester. This machine is suitable for the treatment of filtrate lake vegetation as well as other conservation interventions in the Külső Lake, Belső Lake and Felső Marsh. Using the special machine, we relocated about 40 tons of seaweed from the Külső Lake to the Belső Lake to accelerate the establishment of macrovegetation and thus begin to improve water quality.

8. continue to control invasive species such as Ailanthus;

The achieved results have been maintained with mechanical and manual activities by the national park. A detailed survey was carried out on the spread of invasive non-native species. The NP participates in the Life4Oakforests project (LIFE16 NAT/IT/000245), which was started in 2017, as part of which will again be a large-scale intervention on the peninsula to reduce invasive species. The treatments of invasive tree species in the Life4OakForests project are in progress.

This year, about 150 acacia trunks were injected with herbicide, the affected area is about 5 hectares. There has also been mechanical extermination of invasive species, especially young *Aillanthus* trees, on hot spring cones and in the old lavender field on about 3 hectares.

9. pursue the co-ordinated management with nearby protected areas such as the reed beds on the shore of Lake Balaton and the Külsö and Felsö marshes.

No significant changes have occurred since the last report. The National Park has managed the reed beds on the shore of Lake Balaton and Lake Külső and Felső marches with the same method as other parts of the protected area. The project of forcing back invasive weed species involves this area, too.

- 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.
 - No significant changes have occurred since the last report.
- **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 have occurred since the last 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.
 - Nothing else.

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