



## European Diploma

## Annual report 2022



Mount Triglav, photos are part of the exhibition on the occasion of celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Triglav National Park. Photos by Jaka Čop (left) and Jošt Ganta (right).

## Triglavski narodni park (Triglav National Park) Slovenija



**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)<sup>1</sup>*

**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: **SLOVENIA**

Name of the area: **TRIGLAVSKI NARODNI PARK**

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

- Award 2004 (17)
- Renewal 2009 (12)
- Renewal 2019 (2)

**Central authority concerned:**

Name: TRIGLAVSKI NARODNI PARK  
 Address: Ljubljanska cesta 27  
 Tel: + 386 4 5780 200  
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 e-mail: triglavski-narodni-park@tnp.gov.si  
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**Authority responsible for its management:**

Name: TRIGLAVSKI NARODNI PARK  
 Address: Ljubljanska cesta 27  
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<sup>1</sup> 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. National authorities should guarantee the necessary budget in order to fully implement the Triglav National Park Management Plan adopted in 2016 including a comprehensive monitoring scheme, and to ensure the long-term conservation of the natural and cultural values of the park.

For the implementation of the annual program of work of the Triglav National Park Public Institution, 3.255.364 € is planned for 2022. Most of the funds, that is 2.473.762 € (76 %), are provided from the state budget. Other financial sources (781.602 €) are available from international projects (428.682 €), so-called non-public sources (115.920 €) and marketing activities (237.000 €). The financing follows the dynamics defined by the Triglav National Park Management Plan 2016 – 2025 and the items of adopted state budget. Other holders of management tasks and activities provide funding sources through their own annual programs of work and financial plans. Funds (partly raised by the rebalancing in November 2022) are sufficient to cover most of the planned tasks of the Triglav National Park Management Plan. However, some further efforts should be dedicated to the budget to become more operational as its availability is strictly related to the adoption of the Triglav National Park annual program of work. For this reason, some measures which should be implemented in winter or early spring could not be financially supported. It should be mentioned that Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning in 2022 provided over five million Euros for co-financing of developmental projects of park local communities (see recommendation 6).

**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. Strengthen the inter-ministerial coordination regarding the management of the National Park

Different sectors at state level (ministries with their agencies, directorates, institutes) and local communities have an important role in the implementation of management tasks and activities. As leading partners or cooperating partners they are involved in the management of the protected area, therefore some work and financial obligations should be included in their annual programs, staffing and financial plans.

Most of the expert work regarding improved collaboration with sectors and local communities has been done in the field of implementing measures for sustainable traffic mobility, the preparation of the building typology and tenders by the agricultural sector to co-finance individual environmental measures. In 2022, intersectoral collaboration was also improved regarding the large carnivores and the game species management, in particular the wolf and alpine ibex.

In general, level of measures implemented by sectors is below the indicators values foreseen by the Triglav National Park Management Plan. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia or the competent ministry (Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning), should strengthen the coordination of the activities of other sectors in the management plan implementation and co-financing of tasks, especially in the field of sustainable development and protection of cultural heritage.

2. Continue to follow up closely on the transition of land ownership in the park (denationalisation); pursue the active policy of acquisition of land important for nature protection and other park's activities.

Triglav National Park does not have an active role in the denationalization process but it collaborates closely with the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, the State Attorneys Office of the Republic of Slovenia and the Administrative Unit Radovljica to follow the process as an interested party and to contribute in a decision-making process. According to the Denationalization Act when the state property is part of the denationalization process state attorney represents the state. First-instance authorities who consider the requests for denationalization are administrative units, Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning. In 2022, no significant administrative steps were taken in order to speed up the denationalization process in Triglav National Park.

According to the Triglav National Park Act, Triglav National Park Public institution is authorized to exercise a pre-emption right on agricultural land, forest land, water areas and urban or built-up land on behalf of the state of Slovenia. In 2022, a pre-emption right was exercised on 20,45 ha of privately owned forests, and on 46,48 ha as a part of the EU co-financed project VrH Julijcev.

3. Pursue the efforts for transforming the zonation towards 1st zone (wilderness) and keep the 3rd zone for sustainable use, provided that the central of part of the National Park does not decrease in size.

Triglav National Park Act defines three zones, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> are central zone, 3<sup>rd</sup> is peripheral zone. There were no changes in zonation in 2022.

4. Continue the good collaboration with municipal authorities responsible for land-use planning when preparing land use plans and implementing them. Strictly apply the regulations related to new constructions and renovation works.

The Triglav National Park Authority is running expert groundwork and an inventory and evaluation of the existing building stock (including alpine pastures) in order to define the typology and provide potential solutions in construction works. So far the typology for municipalities of Bohinj, Gorje, part of Kranjska Gora and Kobarid are prepared. Expert basis contents also guidelines and recommendations for placement and architectural design, materials and construction techniques.

In 2022 guidelines for construction and design of auxiliary building in Gorenjska region were prepared: [https://issuu.com/tnp-publikacije/docs/tnp\\_pomozni\\_objekti.net](https://issuu.com/tnp-publikacije/docs/tnp_pomozni_objekti.net) In 2022, the Triglav National Park actively participated in the preparation of municipal spatial planning acts for the municipalities of Bohinj, Kranjska Gora, Bovec and Bled. We are involved in the procedures for issuing consents for specific spatial interventions by preparing opinions.

5. Continue to work on adapted solutions to solve the problem of wastewater, especially for buildings and mountain huts with intensive human use.

There are 36 mountain huts in the Triglav National Park and at the end of the year 2022, 16 of them had wastewater treatment plants. Four of six by Triglav National Park owned mountain huts have wastewater treatment plants.

For a few years Slovenian Alpine Association has a consultancy office that helps to solve environmental issues on the mountain huts. Together with the park staff regular consultancy and monitoring of the treated waste water is in place. As a proper treatment of wastewater on the mountain huts are considered: wastewater treatment plants, 3-compartment septic tanks with drain field and dry toilets.

Project Vrh Julijcev, which is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund and the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning also deals with the wastewater treatment and defining solutions to minimize the impact of mountain huts and visitation on water quality of high-altitude lakes. Together with the Slovenian Alpine Association and Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation (both partners of the project Vrh Julijcev) and the Alpine Club Ljubljana Matica as the owner of the mountain hut (Koča pri Triglavskih jezerih) we work on improving the conditions of high-altitude lake (Dvojno jezero). We try to find the best solution for wastewater treatment and consequently reducing the consequences of the operation of the hut on the lake Dvojno jezero. As part of the project Vrh Julijcev, we will study the possibility of introducing dry toilets and upgrading the existing wastewater treatment plant. Technical improvements regarding the hut's wastewater treatment should be implemented by the end of 2023 at the latest.

<https://www.tnp.si/assets/Uploads/2022-FGG-Izboljsanje-stanja-naravne-vrednote-Dvojno-jezero-Koncno-porocilo.pdf>

<https://www.tnp.si/assets/Uploads/2022-Geologija-dop-2020-251-04-TNP-Koca-Triglavskajezera-MKCN-stroc.pdf>

<https://www.tnp.si/assets/Uploads/2022-PZI-zbirno-tehnicno-porocilo.pdf>

6. Develop a funding mechanism to support local development projects of the National Park and municipalities within the Biosphere Reserve.

According to the Decree on standards and criteria for supporting and co-financing of projects, investments and implementation of activities in the Triglav National Park (<http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=URED8265>) action plan for the year 2022 was adopted in March. In 2022 financial resources of 4.974.969,00Euros were provided by the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning. In 2022 128projects were co-financed: <https://www.tnp.si/assets/Uploads/Priloga-2-ANPLS-2022.pdf>

More information: <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/razpisi-za-obmocje-triglavskega-narodnega-parka>

Rules on aid for the preservation and development of agriculture and rural areas in the Triglav National Park were adopted in 2020. <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/zakonodaja/> They lay down aid measures, conditions and procedures for granting aid for agricultural conservation projects. The grants are financed from the state budget. Total amount of the aid in 2022 was 86.000,00 €, aid recipients were nine <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/razpisi-za-obmocje-triglavskega-narodnega-parka/>

The Triglav National Park Public Institution received 7.000 € from the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (part of the state budget mentioned above) for the implementation of the Unesco MAB program in the Julian Alps Biosphere reserve. In addition to the coordination of the biosphere reserve, most of the work was focused on empowering the identity of the Biosphere reserve among all target groups via education system, signalization improvements and promoting the local quality brands via Triglav National Park Quality measures. <https://www.tnp-kakovost.si/sl/https://julian-alps.com/en/>

7. Together with local communities, prepare favourable conditions for social acceptance of increased populations of large carnivores such as brown bear, wolf and lynx. Further develop schemes to enable the co-existence of sheep and cattle farming with carnivores in the park.

Brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), wolf (*Canis lupus*) and lynx (*Lynx lynx*) are regularly observed in the Triglav National Park area. Due to observed incidents (property damages) with the wolf in 2022, this priority issue is going to be the main topic at the next Triglav National Park Council meeting, presumably in January 2023. It is planned that all relevant and competent bodies will attend the meeting. There was also a "hybrid" wolf pack identified in the park's area and its vicinity in 2022 which presents additional pressure (genetic pollution) to the wolf population in the Slovenian Alps. As already reported, Triglav National Park also collaborates closely with Slovenia Forest Service (SFS) as a Coordinating Beneficiary of the project LIFE Lynx. As a result, altogether five animals equipped with the GPS collars were successfully released at Pokljuka and Jelovica plateaus. All of them together with their offspring are still present in the Julian Alps wider area. Triglav National Park as a contracting partner to SFS regarding the wolf monitoring in Slovenia is also participating in collecting of spatial data in winter (snow tracking) and summer (howling). Furthermore, several educational and public awareness raising activities took place also in 2022 to increase the acceptance of large carnivores' presence in the Triglav National Park area.

8. Strengthen all measures aiming at converting artificially regenerated spruce forests to climax mixed forests and increase the area of protected forests; apply appropriate mitigation measures specifically adapted to the national park status after natural disasters.

The main principle of today's forest management is to encourage natural regeneration but some forest stands in Triglav National Park (e.g., high karst plateaus Pokljuka and Mežakla) are artificial due to past forestry practice. However, even artificial they're important from nature conservation point of view (e.g. glacial relics such as Western Capercaillie and Three-toed Woodpecker) which presents an additional challenge for the proper management of forests in Triglav National Park.

As mentioned in previous reports, intensive interventions were required in order to limit further spread of bark beetles to healthy coniferous stands and several large open areas appeared. It is expected that the natural process of forest regeneration will speed up the conversion of artificial spruce stands to more natural but on the other hand, degraded areas present also a potential site for the introduction of invasive alien plant species which was one of the Triglav National Park management priorities in 2021 and in 2022 too. A developed methodology for early monitoring of degraded forest areas was used in practice and it will be subject of field activities in the following years as well. The Triglav National Park Public Institution is in regular contacts with Slovenia Forest Service, Slovenian Institute for Nature Conservation and land owners to agree on interventions to be applied by respecting the protected area management objectives. Some actions of the project VrH Julijcev are focusing in improvement of dense spruce stands in Pokljuka and Mežakla plateaus. More than 15.000 trees belonging to several broadleaved species were planted.

9. In liaison with relevant partners, implement the tourism strategy and continue developing practical measures to cope with problems related to traffic and transportation, the development of new technologies and new forms of tourism, especially in seasonal hot-spot areas.

Detailed management plan which highlights problems related to traffic and transportation is part of Triglav National Park Management Plan. Transport and environmentally friendly mobility are on-going tasks.

We continue to promote environmentally friendly mobility not only in the Triglav National but in the entire area of Biosphere Reserve Julian Alps <https://www.tnp.si/en/visit/about-the-park/traffic-and-public-transport/> Data management and visitors informing are unified in the entire Biosphere Reserve Julian Alps as well. To inform visitors we installed bus timetable displays in all Triglav National Park information centres where all public transport lines operating in Biosphere reserve Julian Alps can be browsed.

Together with the representatives of Ministry of Infrastructure and municipalities of Kranjska Gora and Bovec we continue to work together to find the best solutions to cope with traffic on the Vršič road and Predel road.

Mangartsko sedlo Nature trail was opened in August <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/dela-na-mangrtskem-sedlu/> ,

Working group on Traffic Management on Pokljuka high plateau decided that there will be no new parking spaces designed and that the solution to cope with increased stationary traffic is increasing frequency of public transport and arrangement of parking spaces outside of the park near the park border.

10. Prevent the extension of installations for downhill and cross-country skiing as well as jumping. Renovation and upgrading of existing installations should be accepted only if nature and landscape protection's interests are duly considered. Continue to monitor the various sporting activities practised in the National Park, with special attention to new sport development (electric biking, for example), ensure that they remain compatible with the conservation objectives.

According to the Triglav National Park act it is forbidden to construct new installations for downhill and cross-country skiing and enlarging of the existing ones in the whole territory of the park. Detailed maps showing where in the park cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, paragliding and mountain biking is allowed are part of The Triglav National Park Management Plan.

We continue to work with a non-profit organization Digitize the Planet with an aim to digitize national park regimes and restrictions for making them accessible to a broad user group. [https://content.digitizetheplanet.org/rules/show\\_protectedarea/d4dc01f2-4fc5-47b1-988c-42c05f12e312](https://content.digitizetheplanet.org/rules/show_protectedarea/d4dc01f2-4fc5-47b1-988c-42c05f12e312)

In 2022, in the field of paragliding, in cooperation with the Municipality of Bohinj and the local paragliding association, we have prepared common instructions for paragliding groups, which contributes to easier management and limiting the increasing pressure of paragliding in Bohinj area.

In the area of mountain biking guidance, the Triglav National Park and the Julian Alps Biosphere Area have worked together to develop and implement a regulated system of legal mountain bike trails, with regulated management and owners' consents.

In 2022, the Triglav National Park started the process of preparing an action plan for visitor and recreational activities, which identifies actions and targets for all problematic areas of recreational activities.

11. Encourage the best integration of new buildings and the renovation of old buildings in respecting the traditional local style; ensure support to maintaining traditional agriculture practices and their related infrastructure (hay racks, shepherds, cattle mountain buildings, etc.); further develop the Park or regional branding system for goods and services.

The Triglav National Park Authority run expert groundwork and an inventory and evaluation of the existing building stock (including alpine pastures) in order to define the typology and provide potential solutions in construction works. In 2022 a guidelines for construction and design of auxiliary building in Gorenjska region and book Transhunnance Architecture of Slovenia and Europe were published.

Public institute Triglav National Park participated in the preparation of guidelines for three municipal spatial acts (Kranjska Gora, Bohinj and Bovec). We were also involved in the consultative and licensing process for all building cases in the national park.

The brand Triglav National Park Quality was expanded to cover also services, goods and schools. <https://www.tnp-kakovost.si/sl/> Six new Quality mark holders were selected this year and eight schools.

12. Promote capacity building and specialisation among permanent park rangers and hire more seasonal rangers during the peak season. Use more regularly the European Diploma logo on publications and appropriate infrastructure, and in general promote the European Diploma for Protected Areas more actively.

There were no seasonal rangers hired during high season. One new ranger was hired this year which makes 19 all of them. They attended the following training programs: workplace safety training, fire protection training, a refresher course for a qualified person - game inspector, meeting of park rangers of Slovenija. 30 junior rangers participated in the Junior Ranger Programme (Europarc Federation) <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/mladi-nadzorniki-na-izletu-v-neznano-2022/>

Diploma logo is used on all important park publications. Diploma was mentioned on all important events.

**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.

There were no significant changes in terrestrial and aquatic environments. At the end of November 2022, the number of staff was higher (for 3,50 employees) comparing to the December 2021. Budget was higher comparing to 2021 (see above). Tit Potočnik, PhD, was appointed director of the public institution Triglav national park in January 2022.

**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.

**Project VrH Julijcev** was extended for one more year. In 2022 the following tasks were performed:

- Goreljek Bog Nature Trail was renewed <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/prenovljena-ucna-pot-goreljek/>,
- monitoring of *Tetrao urogallus* with GPS telemetry transmitters continues <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/pogovor-tisler/> as well as monitoring of *Lagopus muta* with GPS transmitters, <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/nova-novica-32/>
- establishing 19 quiet zones at Pokljuka all of them are marked with special signs,
- regular eradication of fish in Double lake,
- Belar's days for schools in Biosphere Reserve Julian Alps were organized again after corona period <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/belarjevi-dnevi-2022/>
- Ranger John Duwe from partner National Park Crater Lake, USA, also participate at Belar's days
- Educational summer camp for Yunion Rangers at Pokljuka and several other activities for Junior rangers were organized <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/mlade-nadzornike-obiskali-na-pokljuki/>

Short **documentary Nature Without Borders** was awarded several times: ITFF Africa, (2022) <https://itff.africa/2022-winners-doc-tv-section-2/> in <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/narava-bre-meja-nagrade/>, Finisterra Brazil Film Art & Tourism Festival Brazil (2022)

**New publications:** Visitor Guides and Brochures <https://www.tnp.si/sl/spoznajte/publikacije/>

**Project LIFE FOR SEEDS-** Conservation of priority grassland habitats in Slovenia through the establishment of seed bank and *in situ* restoration officially started in 2021 <https://lifeforseeds.si/en/about-project/> <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/projekti/life-semenska-banka/>, <https://lifeforseeds.si/en/>

In 2022 we started to perform activities in the field in 2022: clearing overgrown land, seed collection, botanical inventories, mowing

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/za-obnovo-travnikov-life-for-seeds/>  
<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/kosnja-grbinastega-travnika-radovna/>

At the expert symposium on Bled the experts reached a consensus that ibex is a native species in Slovenia <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/stroka-prepoznavna-alpskega-kozoroga-za-domorodno-vrsto-v-sloveniji/>

At the celebration of International Day of Biosphere Reserves the Triglav National Park was awarded with **Slovenian Natura 2000 award** in category: Communication campaigns for Natura 2000 areas <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/slovenska-nagrada-natura-2000-za-komuniciranje-triglavskemu-narodnemu-parku/>

A new portal **Houses of our ancestors** connects old houses in upper Gorenjska, which are open to visitors. <https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/hise-nasih-dedov/>