

**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>*

**Annual report for the year 2022**

**State:** Republic of Armenia

**Name of the area:** Khosrov Forest State Reserve

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

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2013)2  
on the award of the European Diploma of Protected Areas  
to the Khosrov Forest Reserve (Armenia)** *(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 10 July 2013  
at the 1176th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2018)14  
on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected  
Areas awarded to the Khosrov Forest Reserve (Armenia)** *(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 4 July 2018 at  
the 1321st meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

Council of Europe takes over the area under its auspices until 2028 July 10.

**Central authority concerned:**

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**Authority responsible for its management:**

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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:**

1. The new management plan of Khosrov Forest State Reserve is still in the discussion phase, in which all conditions submitted to the SNCO will be included. The draft management plan will be submitted to the Secretariat of the Bern Convention prior to its adoption.
2. According to the new management plan the boundaries of the reserve will be expanded, a buffer zone will be established with a clear protection regime and restrictions, which will ensure the integrity of rare and endangered plant and animal species. It will also reduce the probability of anthropogenic pressures (grazing, poaching) and will improve the effectiveness of conservation of the reserve.
3. Currently the law on the specially protected nature areas is being revised and once it is adopted the legal regime of Khosrov Forest State Reserve as a strictly protected nature area will be maintained.

**2. Recommendations:**

1. An awareness and training programme as part of the new management plan will be implemented. In 2022 working with local communities to better support and protect the environment Khosrov Forest State Reserve SNCO in cooperation with the relevant departments of regional administrations and municipal administrations, public schools, international donors, NGO and other organizations engaged in public and environmental activities, organized several dozen educational visits, fieldworks, seminars on environmental topics for school children and community members from both adjacent communities of Khosrov Forest State Reserve and from all over Armenia within the framework of projects aimed at environmental education and upbringing.  
The projects and initiatives aim at educating school children in a way to raise awareness of environmental values without polluting and destroying the entire ecosystem, so they can understand and protect Armenia's exceptional natural sites and preserve them for future generations. A community driven approach through environmental education is considered as a relevant factor for sustainable development.
2. Khosrov Forest State Reserve SCNO is managed with the joint support from the state budget and donor organisation funding: WWF, CNF, which provide staff with specific incentives to foster their interest in the preservation and conservation of the state reserve and its value.
3. Annually conducted biodiversity research and monitoring activities of a number of vertebrate species (predatory mammals, hooved animals, birds of prey) including wolves, provide required data about status of the represented species in the territory of Khosrov Forest State Reserve. The state of conservation of the wolf population (*Canis lupus*), both at national level and in the diploma-holding area are assessed by specialists. In 2022 monitoring camera traps installed in the territory of state reserve have periodically recorded wolf packs.

**3. Site Management:**

There have not been changes in the management of Khosrov Forest State Reserve. It should be highlighted, that currently the ecotourism activities are managed very effectively in Khosrov State Reserve compared to previous years with the active involvement of tour operators and other companies. As a result numbers of visitors and revenues have increased which is a positive tendency that hopes to be maintained in the upcoming years as well.

**4. Boundaries:**

The borders of Khosrov Forest State Reserve are planned to change after the adaptation of the new management plan. Currently there are no changes. The total area of Khosrov Forest State Reserve is 23.213.5 ha.

**5. Other information:**

Since January in 2018 until now camera traps installed in Khosrov Forest State Reserve have regularly captured a leopard. The Caucasian leopard subspecies (*Panthera pardus tulliana*) also known as the Persian or Central Asia leopard is common in Armenia. The species is qualified as critically endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and the Red Data Book of Armenia. The leopard is one of the rare and valuable representatives of the fauna of Armenia and its presence in Khosrov Forest State Reserve has an important environmental significance as its protection is currently one of the most important environmental challenges not only in Armenia but also for the entire region. The leopard protection program is implemented by the Ministry of Environment of Armenia in cooperation with WWF Armenia and Khosrov Forest State Reserve SNCO since 2002. The main goal of the project is to restore population of the endangered leopard, preserve both habitat and main prey species and stabilize ecological processes in the region. The leopard is one of the symbols of Armenia. It can be found in petroglyphs, ancient sculptures, stories, coats of arms of Armenian kings as a symbol of wisdom and power. In 2022 monitoring camera traps recorded leopard's footages more than ten times in all quarters.