

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2022)6
on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 13 July 2022
at the 1440th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)¹*

Appendix 5: Model plan for annual reports

Annual report for the year 2024

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: Switzerland

Name of the area: Swiss National Park (SNP) / Parc Naziunal Svizzer

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

Since 1967, last renewal 2022

Central authority concerned:

Name: Federal Commission of the Swiss National Park
Heidi Hanselmann (president)

Address: Runatsch 124
7530 Zernez
Switzerland

Tel: 0041 81 851 41 11

Fax:

e-mail: heidi.hanselmann@nationalpark.ch

www: www.nationalpark.ch

Authority responsible for its management:

Name: Dr. Ruedi Haller
Director of the Swiss National Park

Address: Runatsch 124
7530 Zernez
Switzerland

Tel: 0041 81 851 41 11

Fax:

e-mail: rhaller@nationalpark.ch

www: www.nationalpark.ch

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. mobilise all players at federal, cantonal and local levels to remedy the polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) pollution in the Spöl river (complete clean up)

The government of the canton of Grisons has approved the restoration plan for the Spöl. Tenders for the work can be invited next winter. All the preliminary work can be carried out in the summer. Fish are to be removed in the autumn of 2025 and the restoration works are scheduled to start in the spring of 2026.

2. continue activities to enlarge the buffer zone of the Swiss National Park in the municipalities of Zernez, S-chanf and Scuol; the extension of the buffer zone will in turn mitigate the effects of climate change on the reserve;

The expansion of the biosphere reserve in the Scuol - Valsot region has stagnated in recent years. The management committee did not see any possibility of developing the project further. Nevertheless, efforts are continuing to expand the reserve. The working group responsible for this has decided that the municipalities concerned should vote on an expansion in 2027 or 2028.

A management plan has been developed and approved for the period from 2025 to 2028.

A logo is to be used to improve public visibility. A competition has been launched for this purpose at local schools. The best proposals will be realised by a graphics agency.

3. continue to raise awareness among local inhabitants, municipalities and visitors of the presence of large carnivores, support sheep-breeders in applying preventive measures, and work in close co-operation with the Hunting and Fisheries Department of the Canton of Grisons;

The wolf project has still not been approved for funding in the form presented. However, various purchases (such as telemetry devices) could be made at the end of 2023.

The wolf pack has reared 7 pups in the reporting year. Unfortunately, there were two kills of cattle outside the SNP in the summer. According to the canton's regulations, this is sufficient to eliminate the entire pack. However, this must take place outside the SNP. This decision has triggered various reactions. For example, the SNP's research commission has commented on the criteria, as they are not based on scientific findings. Unfortunately, there is no monitoring programme to check the effects of the regulation measures and adjust them if necessary. Our project, which has not yet been approved, could do this.

There have also been some strong reactions to this decision among the general public.

The SNP endeavours to bring those politically responsible together and, at least for the area surrounding the SNP, to find new ways to ensure conflict-free coexistence between local people and wolves.

4. while maintaining traditional monitoring practices, further develop and secure funding for research focusing on current challenges (such as the effects of Il Fuorn road traffic, visitors, invasive alien species, natural disasters, PCB pollution and noise pollution) and support for management decisions;

The monitoring programmes focusing on biodiversity and the influence of climate change have been reviewed and adjusted. We are now entering the implementation phase. Over the coming years, Pro Natura will support the monitoring programme in the Swiss National Park with a financial contribution of CHF 250'000 per year.

5. continue the co-operation with the neighbouring Stelvio National Park at operational level and seek out opportunities to establish strategic co-operation between the two management authorities;

We collaborate with the Stelvio National Park in the framework of Natura Rätica and with respect to measures against poaching. This autumn, the Stelvio National Park is taking part in an SNP project investigating the genetics of red deer in the vicinity of the National Park.

6. include the Macun area in the area covered by the European Diploma and consider including the remaining part of the biosphere reserve;

No measures taken.

7. give more visibility to and use more regularly the European Diploma logo on publications and appropriate infrastructure.

We are striving to publicize the European Diploma within the network of Swiss Parks. We require the Diploma to assert our claims with respect the SNP's goals more plausibly. The Diploma is also mentioned on our website.

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.

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.

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 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
- 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 European Diploma for Protected Areas

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