

RESOLUTION ResDip (2008) 1

ON THE REGULATIONS FOR THE EUROPEAN DIPLOMA OF PROTECTED AREAS

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008
at the 1018th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

APPENDIX 5

MODEL PLAN FOR ANNUAL REPORTS

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013

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. They should not, without justification, exceed six pages. The report of the year preceding the one in which the validity of the European Diploma of Protected Areas is to be renewed should be more detailed. Any new text or map introducing a change in the situation of the area should be attached to the annual report.

State: Finland

Name of the area: Seitsemien National Park

Central authority concerned:

Name: Ministry of Environment

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Authority responsible for its management:

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I. General information

1. Natural heritage (general abiotic description: geomorphology, geology and hydrogeology, habitats, flora, fauna, landscape) – State of conservation

- 1.1. Environment: changes or deterioration in the environment, of natural or anthropic origin, accidental or permanent, actual or anticipated
- 1.2. Flora and vegetation: changes in the plant population and in the vegetational cover; presumed causes
- 1.3. Fauna: changes in the sedentary or migratory populations; congregating, egg-laying and breeding grounds

1. No changes

2. Cultural heritage and socio-economic context

- 2.1. Cultural heritage
 - 2.1.1. Changes concerning cultural heritage
- 2.2. Socio-economic context
 - 2.2.1. Changes concerning the socio-economic context

2. No changes

3. Education and scientific interest

3.1. Visitors – Information policy

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

The yearly changing theme of informing public was mires. Several guided tours and exhibitions were organized for the public, as a part of the Boreal Peatland LIFE-project. One object of the project is increase the public awareness on the natural values of mires. Actions of the project are directed to the several mire areas in Southern Finland.

The provincial co-operation in environmental education was not very active during the year, due to limited resources of the participants of the environmental education network.

3.1.2. Frequentation by visitors and behaviour (number, distribution in time and space)

Estimated number of visits to Seitsemien Visitor Centre is 29 500 and Kovero Crown Tenant Farm 8 400 in 2013. In client groups provided with guidance were over 7000 participants.

The number of visits to Seitsemien National Park will be approximately 40 000 in 2013.

According the visitor survey and the customer survey (made at year 2012) the most popular visiting places are The Visitor Centre and the Kovero Crown Tenant Farm. Most of the visits are made between May and October, but winter season is also important.

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

Cooperation with local entrepreneurs and tourism operators was active. The partnership agreements were made with five new entrepreneurs. “The Heritage Day” –event was arranged again together with local entrepreneurs and first time with “The Martha Organisation”. Natural Heritage Services has began cooperation with “Marthas” by arranging events together. “The Marthas” is a Finnish home economics organization, which promote the quality and standard of life in the home, cultural and civic education and environmental protection. “The Heritage Day” –event achieved a new record -over five hundred visitors became familiar with the demonstration of traditional skills during one day.

Environmental education at local schools was continued by arranging lectures for pupils. With the funding of the Boreal Peatland LIFE three guided tours was arranged for disabled people and 1000 kindergarten children and pupils for 5 and 6 grades were taken to the mires of Seitsemien.

3.2. Scientific research

3.2.1. Current or completed research (observation, experimentation, etc.; identification or inventory of the species listed in the appendices to the Bern Convention, etc.)

3.2.2. Scientific publications

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

4.1. Changes in legislation or regulations

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

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

4. No changes

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

5.1. Improvements made

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

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

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

5.1.4. Field equipment (hides and study facilities)

The reservable cooking shelter was completed at Soljanen region and a new skiing trail from the Visitor Centre to the Kovero area will be opened in winter. The new skiing route is not locating in the park area. Construction was funded by Regional Employment and Economic Development Centre.

5.1.5. Waste management

5.1.6. Use of renewable energy systems

5.2. Management

5.2.1. Administrative department:

5.2.2. Wardens' department:

5.2.3. Internal policing measures

5.2.4. Infringement of regulations and damage; legal action

II. Influence of the award of the European Diploma of Protected Areas

III. Conditions and/or recommendations for award or renewal

Progress with measures taken in order to meet the conditions and/or recommendations defined during the award or renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas.

Actions taken in order are explained in sections I/3 and I/5.