

Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the Euroean 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 2018

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: Finland

Name of the area: Ekenäs Archipelago National park

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

Renewal year 2011, 5 years

Central authority concerned:

| Name: | Ministry of Environment |
|---|--|
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| Authority responsible for its management: | |
| Name: | Metsähallitus, Parks & Wildlife Finland |
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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

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.

Condition: within one year finalise and complete the approval process of the management plan (master plan) which itself will include plans to enlarge the national park.

Situation: Management plan was accepted year 2012 and it included the plan to enlarge the national park. Metsähallitus also made year 2014 a report/appraisal on the needs of the existing marine national parks including Ekenäs archipelago national park. It included the same suggestion on enlargement but the inventory data and biological, especially marine values were explained more detailed. More precise land use plan (zoning) concerning the eastern part of Jussarö island was completed in 2015 to define more precisely which parts should be added to the national park. This work as official procedure has continued within 2016-2018 with the authorities.

In 2017, the Ministry of Environment started the enactment process of nature reserves in Uusimaa region. The national parks planned enlargement area, Segelskär (appr. 6200ha to be established by a government statute) next to the national park, was included in the process. This ensures the protection of this area before the enlargement of the national park itself. The process is still ongoing.

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. Make efforts to implement all aspects on the new management plan

- Implementation has been described in annual reports.

2. Inform the Secretariat of the result of the management effectiveness evaluations (Report of the state of the parks) which will be made at five years intervals;

- No changes after 2016. The management effectiveness evaluation (MEE) has been replaced by formalised Natura 2000 Site condition assessment (NATA). The renewal of Ekenäs archipelago NATA is anticipated by 2019 - 2020.

3. Continue the management of habitat types and species, particular attention should be paid to - the inventory of marine habitats and improvement of methods involved:

Inventories were not carried out during year 2018.

- the restoration for damaged communities and the control of alien species:

Has been complied with annually as planned. Mink and raccoon dog control continues.

4. Continue to pay close attention to the recreational facilities and educational issues, in particular

- improve the safety, quality and quantity of the infrastructure

- further develop customer service and interpretation and

- raise the public's awareness of nature conservation in Ekenäs Archipelago National Park:

Metsähallitus was granted with partners funding from Interreg Central Baltic programme to improve the facilities in Jussarö. The funding was granted and project will take place during 2018-2020. Approximately 190 000 euros will be invested to Jussarös service (piers, recreational infrastructure). An agreement has been made with Raasepori City for organising the customer service and tourist information together at the Ekenäs visitor centre in 2019 and preparing a development plan of the Ekenäs visitor/nature centre with several partners.

5. Review and where necessary renew the regulations of the national park within two years:

Achieved. New regulations were issued in 2013.

6. Deepen co-operation with local stakeholders, especially in the nature tourism sector:

Achieved. Several events have been organised during years.

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.

See sections 6-9 for details and explanations.

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.

The diploma and logo can be seen in Ekenäs Visitor Centre. The logo is also on the information boards at the national park and in the national park leaflet/brochure. The logo is also on national park and visitor centre webpages (Finnish, Swedish and English pages).

National park has no other national or international awards/designations.

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. <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: No changes
- 6.2. Flora and vegetation: changes in the plant population and in the vegetational cover; presumed causes:
 Peatland vegetation & insects are returning steadily on restored peatlands. The increasing white-tailed deer population in the area causes grazing pressure on vulnerable protected small plants. More effort has been put into reducing the deer population in the area.
- 6.3. Fauna: changes in the sedentary or migratory populations; congregating, egg-laying and breeding grounds.
 Invasive small predators have been removed during 2018, within the same frames as during previous years.

7. Cultural heritage and socio-economic context

- 7.1. Cultural heritage
- 7.1.1. Changes concerning cultural heritage. No changes.
- 7.2. Socio-economic context
- 7.2.1. Changes concerning the socio-economic context: No changes

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.) No changes.
- 8.1.2. Frequentation by visitors and behavior (number, distribution in time and space)

Estimated number of visits to Ekenäs Visitor Centre is 15 500 visitors in 2018, 93 guided groups for approximately 1 897 visitors. The customer service satisfactory index is 4,48 out of 5 being maximum. The number of visits to national park in 2018 was approximately 53 000, out of which 7500 for Rödjan and 9500 for Jussarö.

- 8.1.3. Special visits (distinguished persons, groups, etc.) No distinguished persons or groups.
- 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: No scientific publications

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

- 9.1. Changes in legislation or regulations: No changes
- 9.2. Changes in ownership title (conversion to public property, rentals, etc.): No changes
- 9.3. Extension or transfer, new uses (for example, conversion into total reserve): No changes

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 A shorter 2-day volunteer camp financed by Sofia von Julin's foundation (Metsähallitus was only borrowing a boat and paid fuel for it) checked again (started year 2011) all the known patches of invasive species *Rosa rugosa* (ca. 14 [a couple of new patches]) + surroundings. All the patches were re-treated and now on all sites there is left only 1 - 15 small stems of *R. rugosa* left. Young pines & birches were not removed from *Salsola kali* (EN) site in Jussarö southern beach due to lack of resources.
- 10.1.2. Protection against the elements (fire, water regime): No changes
- 10.1.3. Approaches and thoroughfares (paths, roads, car parks, signposting, fencing, etc.) No significant changes in 2018.
- 10.1.4. Field equipment (hides and study facilities): No changes
- 10.1.5. Waste management: No changes
- 10.1.6. Use of renewable energy systems: No changes
- 10.2. Management
- 10.2.1. Administrative department: changes made:

From the beginning of the year 2018 a new Coastal area was created. Mr Henrik Jansson will start as a regional director in the Coastal area of Metsähallitus Park and Wildlife.

10.2.2. Wardens' department: changes made: No changes

- 10.2.3. Internal policing measures: No internal policy measures during 2018.
- 10.2.4. Infringement of regulations and damage; legal action: Only minor infringements of regulations were discovered and no legal actions were taken.

11. Influence of the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas