



European Diploma

Annual report 2018



Foto by Martin Kavčič: Storm shelter Aljaž tower on the top of Mt. Triglav after renovation in 2018

Triglavski narodni park (Triglav National Park)



**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)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: 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 (14)
- Renewal 2009 (9)

Central authority concerned:

Name: TRIGLAVSKI NARODNI PARK
Address: Ljubljanska cesta 27
Tel: + 386 4 5780 200
Fax: + 386 4 5780 201
e-mail: triglavski-narodni-park@tnp.gov.si
www: www.tnp.si

Authority responsible for its management:

Name: TRIGLAVSKI NARODNI PARK
Address: Ljubljanska cesta 27
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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 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. A new law should provide the adequate legal basis for the conservation of the Triglav National Park as early as possible.

As mentioned in previous reports the new Triglav National Park Act was adopted in 2010. In 2017, an Act Amending Triglav National Park Act was adopted.

<http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO7642>

2. The management plan must be finalised and formalised as soon as the new law on the Triglav National Park is passed

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopted the Triglav National Park Management Plan for the period 2016 – 2025 in May 2016:

<http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=URED6942>

The Triglav National Park annual programme of work for 2018 was prepared according to the MP as well as the Triglav National Park annual report. All national and international projects which were already approved or are in the process of evaluation were selected and prepared according to the content of MP.

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. Ensure that, when the new zoning is in place, any further change of zones is in favour of increased protection.

As mentioned in previous reports the Triglav National Park Act defines three zones, 1st and 2nd are central zone, 3rd is peripheral zone. There were no changes in zonation in 2018.

2. The land-use planning regulations related to new constructions and renovation work should be strictly applied.

No changes comparing to last year.

3. Work on adapted solutions to solve the problem of wastewater should be continued, especially for buildings and mountain huts with intensive human occupation.

There are 36 mountain huts in the Triglav National Park and at the end of the year 2018, 16 of them had wastewater treatment plants. For a few years the Slovenian Alpine Association has a consultancy office that helps to solve environmental issues of the mountain huts. Together with the park staff regular consultancy and monitoring of the treated waste water is in place. Alpine clubs and managers accepted these activities in a very positive way and they are stimulated for improvements. A new Decree on the discharge and treatment of urban wastewater (Official Gazette RS, 98/15) was passed. According to the new Decree the proper treatment and discharge of the wastewater should be settled by the end of 2021. As a proper treatment of wastewater of the mountain huts are considered: wastewater treatment plants, 3-compartment septic tanks with drain field and dry toilets. In 2018 the Triglav National Park Public Institution co-financed some measures to improve the functioning of wastewater treatment plants and also a seminar for mountain hut managers on managing drinking and waste water, wastes and energy supply.

Four out of six mountain huts owned by TNP have wastewater treatment plants.

4. Schemes to enable the co-existence of sheep and cattle farming and the presence of large carnivores such as bears, wolves and lynx should continue to be developed, to ensure their continuing presence and an increase in their population

In 2013, the TNP Scientific advisory board adopted a strategy for the managing large carnivores within the protected area where the general policy and measures are foreseen. According to the results of comprehensive winter monitoring (snowtracking) within TNP as part of the project LIFE+ WolfAlps (LIFE12 NAT/IT/000807) the wolf presence in TNP was confirmed. Furthermore, we continue with educational and awareness raising activities (e.g. guided school visits, exhibitions, etc) in order to increase the acceptance of large carnivores by the general public and different users of the Triglav National Park area. As a Transboundary pilot region we participate in a project ForAdapt

<https://peerageofscience.org/conference/eccb2018/107464/> and also in a project AlpBioNet2030 (Alpine Space Programme). Projects are focusing on an issue of human - nature coexistence, including with regard to large carnivores.

5. The best integration possible of the various activities conducted in the park should be ensured, for example the integration of farming and nature protection

In 2018 we continued to work on launching a brand for local products – ‘Sign of Quality’. It is a certificate that guarantees geographic origin and the high quality of products and services in the area of the Triglav National Park and Julian Alps Biosphere Reserve. So far there are six ecological farms holding the certificate.

6. All measures aiming at converting artificial spruce forest to climax mixed forests and at increasing the area of protection forests should be pursued

As mentioned in previous reports forestry management plans require for the artificial regeneration to be carried out with pioneer vegetation only or with other broadleaved tree species occurring naturally in affected area. The main principle of today’s forest management is to encourage natural regeneration. However, even artificial, some conifer forests in the Triglav National Park (e.g. high karst plateaus Pokljuka and Mežakla) are important from nature conservation point of view (e.g. glacial relics such as Capercaillie and Three-toed Woodpecker) which presents an additional challenge for the proper management of forests in the Triglav National Park.

As also mentioned in previous reports, there was an ice storm in 2014. Direct impacts of it in the Triglav National Park were not so severe since the damages were limited to the lowland forest stands, but they caused increased attacks of bark beetles to which also contributed severe damages caused by wind in 2017 (Pokljuka, Mežakla) and 2018 (Soča, Trenta). Due to bark beetles infestation intensive interventions are required in order to limit further spread of insects to healthy coniferous stands.

7. A detailed management plan and practical measures to cope with problems related to traffic and transportation should be developed and implemented.

A detailed management plan which highlights problems related to traffic and transportation is part of TNP MP where transport and environmentally friendly mobility are on-going tasks.

To promote sustainable mobility a Sustainable Mobility Promotion Day in the Vrata Valley was organised by TNP Public Institution together with the Municipality of Kranjska Gora:

<https://www.kranjska-gora.si/sl/novice/2018/umiranje-prometa>

Hop on hop off bus continued to operate this summer.

<https://www.tnp.si/assets/Publikacije/Discover/Odkrivaj-Vodnik-za-obiskovalce-biosfernega-obmocja-Julijske-Alpe-2018.pdf>

Together with the representatives of the Ministry of Infrastructure and municipalities of Kranjska Gora nad Tolmin we worked together to find the best solutions to cope with traffic on the Vršič road (the road through the pass Vršič the highest mountain pass across Julian Alps) which is one of the busiest roads in the park due to picturesque landscape.

A working group on Traffic Management on Pokljuka high plateau continues to work on finding solutions on how to cope with increased stationary traffic during winter and winter sports events on Pokljuka.

8. The extension of existing installations for downhill and cross-country skiing as well as jumping should be prevented. Renovation and upgrading should be accepted only if they take the protection of nature and the landscape into account. Continue to monitor the various sporting activities practised in the national park and ensure that they remain compatible with the conservation objectives.

According to the new law on TNP 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. Where in the TNP cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, paragliding and mountain biking is allowed is shown on detailed maps which are part of TNP MP.

In order to reduce the impact of winter sport practitioners on wildlife in the Alps TNP experts participate in the project WeWild – We respect Alpine wildlife. A joint communication strategy for the protected areas in the Alps was prepared in 2018.

9. The best possible integration of new buildings and the renovation of old buildings through respecting the traditional local style should be encouraged

The TNP 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 and part of Kranjska Gora are prepared. Expert basis includes also guidelines and recommendations for placement and architectural design.

The Public institute TNP is also involved in the consultative and licensing process for all building cases in the national park.

10. The transition of ownership in the park should be followed closely; an active policy of acquisition of land, which is important for the protection of nature and the activities carried out in the park should be developed

The TNP does not have an active role in the denationalisation process but we collaborate closely with the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, the State Attorney and Administrative Unit Radovljica in order to follow the process as an interested party and to contribute in the decision making process. According to

the Denationalisation Act when the state property is part of the denationalisation process state attorney represents the state. First-instance authorities who consider the requests for denationalisation are administrative units, the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning.

According to the Triglav National Park Act, the Public institution Triglav National Park has a public authorisation to exercise pre-emption right on agricultural land, forest land, water areas and urban or built-up land in the name of the state of Slovenia. This year pre-emption right was exercised on 21,14 ha of land.

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.

No changes.

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:

We continue with the survey on the Triglav National Park visitation which represents a base for long term visitation monitoring and definition and implementation of measures oriented to nature conservation and protection of cultural heritage. For the purpose of getting information on visitation in the most visited points of the park we installed automatic counters. We also conduct a survey on visitation of Mt. Triglav.

We started a Community of schools of the Julian Alps Biosphere Reserve which includes 38 elementary schools. The Community connects primary schools students, principals and teachers in the Julian Alps Biosphere Reserve with the aim of rising awareness on the importance of the national park, biodiversity and cultural landscape. <https://www.tnp.si/sl/spoznajte/skupnost-sol/>

Managing authorities of the Triglav National Park and of the Prealpi Giulie Nature Park signed the agreement on cooperation in the management of the Transboundary Ecoregion Julian Alps and for achieving the objectives of the Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas.

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/Seja-sveta-TNP-Dvoletno-poro-ilo-o-izvajanju-Na-rta-upravljanja-Triglavskega-narodnega-parka-ter-podpis-vizije-in-sporazuma-o-sodelovanju-TNP-in-Naravnega-parka-Juljsko-predgorje/>

The Triglav national Park is now also on social media:

<https://www.facebook.com/triglav.national.park.official/>

<https://www.instagram.com/triglav.national.park/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8hWSbpW2GwBE5IM-vZ-DJg>

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:*

There have been some surface dynamics, e.g. landslides and erosion. We have to mention rapid reduction in the size of the Triglav Glacier, the last glacier in the Julian Alps. As mentioned above due to bark beetles infestation intensive interventions are required in order to limit further spread of insects to healthy coniferous stands which caused changes in the landscape.

6.2. *Flora and vegetation: changes in the plant population and in the vegetational cover; presumed causes:*

Dispersion of alien species because of soil deposits of unknown origin. The trend of overgrowing of grasslands and pasturelands continues to be present because they are not in use anymore and because of climate change.

6.3. *Fauna: changes in the sedentary or migratory populations; congregating, egg-laying and breeding grounds:*

The growing of the populations of *Ardea cinerea* and *Phalacrocorax carbo* was detected. As mentioned above, the presence of wolf was detected in 2018.

7. Cultural heritage and socio-economic context

7.1. Cultural heritage

7.1.1. *Changes concerning cultural heritage:*

The conservation status of officially protected and recorded cultural heritage in the territory of the park is satisfactory.

7.2. Socio-economic context

7.2.1. *Changes concerning the socio-economic context*

In 2018 there were for the first time since the Triglav National Park Act was adopted additional funds were allocated to finance the implementation of the TNP MP. The funds have to be invested in nature conservation (in 2018 for example for monitoring of visitation and recreation, water research, exercise pre-emption right) and development (in 2018 for example for sustainable mobility, maintenance and construction of information infrastructure, preparation of building typology and assistance to investors in the design of agriculture facilities,...)

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.):*

Two new infocenters have been opened in Bled and Bohinj, new infopoints in Kobarid and in Slovenian Alpine museum and a mobile information terminal. <https://www.tnp.si/en/visit/about-the-park/information-points/>

In 2011 we started to issue a guide to Triglav National Park Triglavski narodni park/Triglav National Park (first titled Odkrivaj/Discover) for visitors of the park <https://issuu.com/tnp-publikacije>

New booklet for schools <https://www.tnp.si/assets/Obiscite/Aktivnosti/Programi-za-sole/Dokumenti/JZ-TNP-Programi-za-vrtce-in-sole.pdf>

8.1.2. *Frequentation by visitors and behavior (number, distribution in time and space)*

In 2016 we started a systematic gathering of quantitative and qualitative data related to park visit.

<https://www.tnp.si/assets/Publikacije/Acta-triglavensia/Acta-Triglavensia-5.pdf>,

<https://gjam.zrc-sazu.si/sites/default/files/triglav240.pdf> (page 188)

8.1.3. *Special visits (distinguished persons, groups, etc.):*

The Triglav National Park received ample attention from various visitor groups from Slovenia and abroad and distinguished Slovenian and foreign guests. Among foreign guests we should mention the deputy director of Kronotsky State natural Biosphere Reserve, the delegation from Hochtanus Natural Park, led by the provincial governor and director of the director of the park (<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/triglavski-narodni-park-obiskala-delegacija-iz-naravnega-parka-hochtaunus/>). In 2017 a delegation from Crater Lake National Park visited Triglav National Park together with the ambassador and other representatives of the United States Embassy in Slovenia. In that occasion, parks signed a "twinning" agreement to exchange know-how and experience in finding ways to conserve the natural environment while also attracting visitors.

<https://www.tnp.si/sl/javni-zavod/obvestila/nova-novica-10/>,

<https://english.sta.si/2390115/triglav-national-park-twinning-with-us-park>

8.2. Scientific research

Basic scientific research is performed by external institutions and outside researchers. Institutions and researchers have to obtain an authorization and must provide the results to the Park (see below the research performed)

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.):*

- monitoring of periglacial flora,
- monitoring of water quality (6 high alpine lakes and 8 springs),
- water tracing test to find out if and how much of the wastewater from the mountain hut is leaking to the high alpine lake Dvojno jezero,
- monitoring of *Botrychium simplex*: 1 location, stable population

- monitoring of *Cypripedium calceolus*: new localities
- *Canis lupus*: observation in Pokljuka

8.2.2. *Scientific publications:*

Acta triglavensia published by TNP: <https://www.tnp.si/sl/spoznajte/publikacije/>

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

9.1. *Changes in legislation or regulations:*

The Triglav National Park Act was adopted in 2010 and Act Amending Triglav National Park Act in 2017.

9.2. *Changes in ownership title (conversion to public property, rentals, etc.):*

The process of denationalisation (re-privatisation) in Slovenia is not finished yet. The area of TNP is subject to a relatively high number of denationalisation claims. Most of these claims are concerned with restitution of property to the Roman-Catholic church and agrarian communities. On the other hand according to the Triglav National Park Act the Triglav National Park Public Institution has a public authorisation to exercise pre-emption right on agricultural land, forest land, water areas and urban or built-up land in the name of the state of Slovenia. Since 2010 pre-emption right was exercised on 27,93 ha of land.

9.3. *Extension or transfer, new uses (for example, conversion into total reserve):*

As written above new the Triglav National Park Act defines tree zones. Comparing to the previous Triglav National Park Act the core area is bigger than it was before.

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:*

- eradication of alien species on different locations in TNP: Radovna, Mangartsko sedlo, Bohinj.
- hunting is carried out in the border zone of the park but mainly as a form of biological regulation of herbivores, regulation is performed on the following species: deer, red deer, mouflons and chamois.

10.1.2. *Protection against the elements (fire, water regime):*

Protection from forest fires and from flood and erosion activity of the watercourses is not under park jurisdiction.

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

The Park is not responsible for the maintenance of the roads; this is ensured by the State, by the Slovenian Forest Service or by municipalities.

Park infrastructure (paths, huts, signposting, etc) required regular maintenance which was carried out.

10.1.4. *Field equipment (hides and study facilities):*

There were no special actions, measures or installations.

10.1.5. *Waste management:*

As mentioned in previous reports the Triglav National Park is not responsible for waste management on the park territory. According to the Slovenian legislation, municipalities are responsible for waste management below 1500 m.a.s.l., above this altitude those who manage the mountain huts and refuges take the responsibility.

10.1.6. *Use of renewable energy systems:*

No specific changes were made, only renovation and some upgrades on established systems.

10.2. Management

10.2.1. *Administrative department: changes made*

No changes.

10.2.2. *Wardens' department: changes made:*

No specific changes.

10.2.3. *Internal policing measures*

The new law on the Triglav National Park gives additional authorisation to rangers in terms of supervising and penalisation in case of breaking the law.

10.2.4. *Infringement of regulations and damage; legal action*

No special cases.

11. **Influence of the award of the Euroean Diploma for Protected Areas**
Positive stories and feedback on social media about the award.

Compiled by Alenka Mencinger