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Committee of Ministers  
Comité des Ministres

Internet : <http://www.coe.int/cm>

**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>*

**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: **ESTONIA**

Name of the area: **MATSALU NATIONAL PARK**

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas: **2017**

**Central authority concerned:**

Name: Ministry of Environment

Department of Nature Conservation

Address: Tallinn Narva mnt 7A

Tel: 626 2871

Fax:-

e-mail: taimo.aasma@emvir.ee

www:envir.ee

**Authority responsible for its management:**

Name: Environmental Board

Address: Narva mnt 7A Tallinn 15

Tel: +375247889

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www: [www.kaitsealad/Matsalu.ee](http://www.kaitsealad/Matsalu.ee) ,

www: keskkonnaamet.ee

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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.

**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. ensure that the management plan for 2015 to 2024 is implemented and appropriately funded, and revised before the end of the plan's period in 2024;  
*There have been **no major financial problems** in implementation of the management plan basic activities*

**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. continue the co-operation with the local farmers and other stakeholders to improve the management and well-being of the grassland communities of the national park. Liaise with both farmers and others in relation to the use of the cut hay;  
*There have been two courses for Matsalu farmers who have started the meadow management. On the meetings of stake holders board there have been reports about the success of meadow management in park. 72 farmers and 27 private landowners have managed 6769,32 ha of meadows in 2019. The renovation works have been done on 366,41 ha, 5363,08 m of fences have been erected for new pastures and 10 farms has participated in renovation works.*

2. envisage the setting-up of a scientific advisory group in order to achieve the full potential of the national park for scientific research and education. The group would provide strategic advice and, upon request, review the quality of research proposals and scientific results, and provide other scientific advice;

*There is an informal group of scientists who are involved in scientific research of biodiversity in Matsalu. Markus Vetemaa (ichthyology) University of Tartu Marine Institute, Elle Roosaluuste (botany) and Ave-Liina Helm (botany and management of seminatural grasslands), Riinu Rannap (herpetology) University of Tartu,;*

*Hannes Pehlak (ornithology), Coastal grassland habitat: breeding success of meadow birds; Predator interactions and their impact on grassland breeding waders*

*Kalev Sepp University of Life Science – ecosystem services of seminatural grasslands and research on topic Attitude to Nature Protection in Home Region*

*Discussions are going on about restoration plans of Kasari delta fish spawning areas (Tartu University).*

3. despite the hunting restrictions within the national park, strengthen co-operation with hunters for the management and control of some invasive species;

*In cooperation with hunters invasive predators' control on islands has been organised, including management of transport to the islets.*

4. set up a warning system to detect, at an early stage, and enable appropriate action to be taken against alien, invasive species which could threaten the biodiversity of the national park;

*- There have been 2 official webcams in the nature to recognise the invasive predators.*

- *There is a monitoring scheme for mammals in the park in two areas (square 1kmX1kmX1km monitoring time in February) which helps recognize alien mammals as well.*
- *The works of eradication of *Heracleum sosnowskyi* took place in two areas in National Park in 2019*

5. prepare a climate change adaptation plan for the national park by 2024;  
*The discussion have been started about the climate change plan for national park.*

6. ensure that printed guides to the hiking trails and routes in Estonian and translations into the major European languages are available for national and international visitors and assess the opportunity and feasibility of an increase in the number of trails.  
*The informational board at Salevere visitor trail was renewed.*  
*Some additional boards where erected in frames of Coastal Hiking Trail <https://coastalhiking.eu/en>*  
*The process of sustainable tourism certificate started this year with two meetings of stakeholders.*

**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.

*The process of merge Environmental Board and Environmental Inspection has been initiated.*

**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 but the change of regulation is in process where the parks borders will be enlarged*

**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.

**T**he process to renew the sustainable tourism certificate of EUROPARC Federation has started.

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**

No changes

