

**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 2019

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: Spain

Name of the area: Ordesa and Monte Perdido National Park (Parque Nacional de Ordesa y Monte Perdido)

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas: Year in which the diploma was conceded, 1988. Year in which it was renewed, 1993, 1998, 2003, and 2008 and 2018 (renovation until June 13th. 2028). Number of years since the last renewal, 1.

Central authority concerned:

Name: Ministry for Ecological Transition. National Parks Autonomous Agency (Ministerio para la Transición Ecológica. Organismo Autónomo Parques Nacionales)

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Authority responsible for its management:

Name: Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Environment of the Government of Aragón. Directorate General of Natural Environment and Forest Management (Departamento de Agricultura, Ganadería y Medio Ambiente del Gobierno de Aragón. Dirección General de Medio Natural y Gestión Forestal)

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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.

No conditions

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. Pursue the management of the park in accordance with the Land Use and Management Plan (PRUG) approved in 2015, the Law No. 30/2014 of 3 December 2014 on National Parks and the Royal Decree No. 389/2016 of 22 October 2016 which adopted the Master Plan of the National Parks Network. Follow up on the foreseen creation of a visitor-access point at Pineta Valley and the new visitors centre at Escalona and strengthen collaboration with the Pyrenees National Park (France);

The PRUG has 10 action programs, divided into general and, where appropriate, specific directives that are developed in actions.

Thus, the specific directive DE1 (Protect and conserve the geological resources) of the general directive DG1 of the P1 Program consists of 2 actions. Both have been carried out.

The specific directive DE3 (Protect and conserve the flora and habitats resources) of the DG1 consists of 9 actions. The fourth one has been developed and the eighth one has been partially developed

The specific directive DE4 (Protect and conserve wildlife resources) consists of 7 actions. The first, third and fifth and seventh actions have been developed.

The general directive DG2 (Promote the maintenance and development of anthropic activities that facilitate the conservation of natural habitats and landscapes linked to traditional human activities) consists of 5 actions. The fourth one is going to be developed and the fifth one has been developed.

The general directive DG3 (Protect the configuration, silence and quality of landscapes) consists of 4 actions. The first one is being developed.

The specific directive DE1 (Support conservation research) of DG1 of P2 Program consists of 24 actions.

The second, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, 11th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 18th, 19th, 20th and 24th ones are being developed. The 12th one has been partially developed.

The specific directive DE2 (Develop monitoring on public use) consists of 7 actions. The fourth one is going to be developed.

The general directive DG2 (Support the knowledge of the economic and social activities of the environment) consists of 4 actions. The first and fourth ones are being developed.

The specific directive DE1 of DG3 consists of 6 actions. The 5th and the 6th ones are being developed.

The general directive DG4 (Transmit the obtained information) consists of 6 actions. The 1st, 5th and 6th ones are being developed. The 3rd and 4th ones have been developed.

The general directive DG1 (Reduce and eliminate the impacts generated by activities and actions incompatible with the nature of the Park) of the P3 Program consists of 15 actions. The 1st, 3rd, 5th, 6th and 14th ones are being developed.

The general directive DG1 (Implement the necessary measures for the conservation and protection of the material cultural heritage linked to traditional activities) of the P4 Program consists of 6 actions. The 5th and the 6th ones are being developed.

The general directive DG2 (Implement the necessary measures for the conservation and protection of intangible cultural heritage) consists of 3 actions, which are being developed.

The general guideline DG3 (Implement the necessary measures for the identification, study, protection, conservation of the archaeological heritage) consists of one action, which is being developed.

The specific directive DE1 (Consolidate and improve the maintenance of the information and interpretation centers and the continuous training of personnel) of the general directive DG1 of the P5 Program consists of 7 actions. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th ones are being developed. The 6th action has been partially developed.

The specific directive DE2 (Improve infrastructure and equipment for public use) consists of 20 actions. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th, 15th, 16th, 19th and 20th ones are being developed.

The specific directive DE3 (Procure the safety of visitors, based on a greater public awareness of the risks associated with the uses of the Park) consists of 6 actions. The 2nd one has been developed and the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th ones are being developed.

The specific directive DE4 (Implementing models for quality for the visit) consists of 4 actions. The 1st, 3rd and 4th ones are being developed.

The general directive DG1 (Develop environmental education and training programs related to the recognition and conservation of natural and cultural values) of the P6 Program consists of 7 actions. The 4th is being developed. The 6th and 7th ones have been developed on the occasion of the National Park's centennial.

The general directive DG1 (Promoting socio-economic development actions in coordination with the competent Administrations and private entities linked to the area of socioeconomic influence) of the P7 Program consists of 9 actions. The 3rd and 5th ones are being developed.

The general directive DG2 (Carrying out concrete actions that facilitate the integration and development of these socio-economic activities in the Park) consists of 7 actions. The 1st one is being developed.

In the P8 Program there is a common action to all the general directives, which is being developed.

The general directive DG1 (Encourage and strengthen collaboration with the National Parks Network and, in particular, with those that harbor mountain ecosystems) consists of 5 actions. The 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th ones are being developed.

The general directive DG2 (Strengthen the collaboration with the other spaces of the Network of Protected Natural Spaces of Aragón) consists of 3 actions. The 2nd one has been developed and the 3rd one is going to be developed.

The general directive DG4 (Develop and integrate the objectives of the Charter of Cooperation with the Parc National des Pyrénées and the management plan of the Pyrenees-Monte Perdido World Heritage Site) consists of 8 actions. The 3rd, 4th and 8th ones are being developed.

The general directive DG5 (Integrate the management criteria of the Ordesa-Viñamala Biosphere Reserve and strengthen collaboration with the Spanish Network of Biosphere Reserves) consists of 3 actions. The 1st and 3rd ones are being developed.

The general directive DG6 (Integrate the management criteria of the Sobrabe Geopark-Geological Park of the Pyrenees) consists of 2 actions. The 1st one has been developed.

The general directive DG1 (Establish procedures for action and their dissemination among all the personnel involved for their knowledge and application) of the P10 Program consists of 11 actions. The 2nd and 7th ones are being developed.

Regarding the improvement of access to Pineta information point and the creation of the visitor center in Escalona, the project writing on this one is nearing completion.

With regard to collaboration with the Parc National des Pyrénées, the Cooperation Charter remains in force, which is expected to be renewed in 2020; collaboration continues within the framework of the World Heritage Site shared by both National Parks; and the POCTEFA PMPPM Project for the period 2011-2014 has been completed, as well as a new POCTEFA PMPPM2 has been initiated for the period 2015-2019, in which the two National Parks are partners together with other Spanish and French participants and carry out various joint actions.

2. Ensure that people entering the park are aware of the rule that dogs are only allowed in the park if held on a leash, and inform visitors that they are not allowed to enter the French National Park with dogs, even if held on a leash;

The PRUG approved in 2015 states that "9.1. They are considered incompatible activities with the purposes of the National Park: (...) 9.1.2. For the protection of flora and fauna: (...) e) The introduction of dogs without leash in the National Park, (...)".

Informative signage has been placed on the prohibition of carrying dogs without leash in all accesses to the National Park. This information is also provided in the Visitor Centers and information points, as well as in the buses to the Ordesa Prairie, which have some cages to transport dogs. On the other hand, National Park rangers fill complaint files for carrying dogs without leash. The penalty corresponding to the infraction is a fine, for an amount between 100 and 1,000 €, in accordance with the provisions of article 100 of the Law of Protected Areas of Aragón.

Likewise, in the visitor centers and information points it is warned that dogs are not allowed in the neighboring French National Park. In addition, the Parc National des Pyrénées have sent 4 big and 6 small informative signs in Spanish about this prohibition. This signs are a similar type to that used in the French National Park. The big ones have been settled in Pineta (2), Ordesa and Bujaruelo. The small ones have been settled at

information points and visitor centers (Bielsa, Pineta and Torla), refuges (Ronatiza and Góriz) and the GR 11 path (Ordiso). Attached to this document there are some pictures about the signs.

3. Subject to the availability of resources, conduct a study on mitigating the impact of visitors on flora, fauna and landscape, and assess the effect of promoting alternative access ways to the park on the quality of visits in sectors with high touristic pressure.

Nothing to report as the recommendation was adopted in July 2018.

However, it should be noted that a system of visits to the Sierra de las Cutas viewpoints was established years ago in order to decongest the visit to the Ordesa Valley. Thus, without entering the National Park, a taxi service runs the Cutas track from Torla and a bus service does from Nerín, to offer a panoramic view of the Ordesa Valley from the Sierra de las Cutas viewpoints.

On the other hand, to alleviate the decrease in visits to the Añisclo sector due to the closure of the road by the works of the second tunnel (see point 3), a shuttle bus system has been established from Vio to San Úrbez, in the northern access to San Úrbez, during two and a half months in the summers of 2017 and 2018. In the summer of 2018, the visit to southern side of the canyon has been authorized through a vehicle service with guided tour up to 500 m before arriving at the area under construction.

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 modifications exist in management concerning aspects of environment and finances. Regarding to the staff, the Director has been replaced on November 13.

However, it is worth mentioning the closure of the Añisclo canyon road since April 2017, as said in the 2017 and 2018 reports. The closure was due to the slope movements that have caused serious structural damage in the second tunnel of the road. The General Directorate of Mobility and Infrastructure of the Government of Aragon made an initial intervention, as an emergency work, on the Puyarruego-Buerba road (outside the National Park) to improve traffic as an alternative to traffic in that situation. At the same time, the study of the origin of the problem was carried out and three offers were requested with different solutions: the one that implied blasting was rejected due to the enormous environmental impact, the opening of a new tunnel did not prosper either because of the environmental impact and the high economic and time costs, so it was not considered viable, and the one that was adopted has been to stabilize the rock mass by means of anchors and bolts. The works have finished in spring of 2019 and the road has been reopened.

In the summer of 2017, a shuttle bus system was established from the Vio hill, where a parking lot for vehicles was prepared, down to the Ereta de Bies, in the vicinity of San Úrbez, so that visitors could access the northern side of Añisclo Canyon for free. This system has been repeated in the summer of 2018 and, in addition, it has been exceptionally allowed the passage of groups of up to 5 vehicles from tourism companies that have made the visit of the southern side of Añisclo Canyon on the south side up to 500 m before arriving at the area under construction.

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 boundary changes. Maps of the other protection areas that include the national Park and its Peripheral Protection Zone were attached in the 2014 report: Network Nature 2000, Biosphere Reserve, World Heritage and Geo Park Site.

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.

In the Añisclo Canyon it is planned to perform a widening, improvement and conditioning of the HU-M-22107A road, in the municipality of Fanlo, Huesca, to expand the parking spaces. The Project is pending an environmental impact report at the Aragonese Institute of Environmental Management (INAGA).

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