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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Working Party - European Diploma

Muddus National Park
(Sweden)

Category A

On-the-spot appraisal by

Eythor Einarsson
Director, Department of Botany
Museum of Natural History
Reykjavik, Iceland

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- I. The Muddus National Park was established in 1942 and constitutes, with its area of 49.200 hectares, the largest area in Sweden of primary fir and pine forests and includes both extensive stretches of untouched mires and peatland, and hills covered with subalpine forests and scrub.
- II. The Muddus National Park was awarded the European Diploma in 1967 for a period of five years and in 1972 the Diploma was renewed for another five years period.
- III. In order to consider whether the European Diploma could be renewed for a further period of five years an on-the-spot appraisal of the National Park was carried out by me during the second week of August 1976. During the visit to the National Park I was accompanied by Dr. Peter Baum from the Environment and Local Authorities and Dr. Bengt Edholm, Regional Forestry Officer for Pärälälven's district, Sweden.
- IV. The on-the-spot appraisal was carried out in accordance with the regulations in force (Resolution (73) 4, article 7) and the terms of reference decided upon by the Working Party-European Diplomas.

1. There does not seem to have been any change in the state of the Muddus National Park since the date of the last renewal. The Muddus is almost automatically protected because of its remote situation and difficulties of access. The state of the Muddus National Park is in any aspect excellent.
2. The state of the conservation of the landscape and the flora and fauna has not changed. Due to natural cycles and unfavourable climatic conditions, especially during the early summer of 1975, there has, however, been a regression in the populations of many bird species since the date of the last renewal. No conservation measures or management can help in this matter, but nature will without doubt recover by herself during years with more favourable summers.

3. No legislative alterations concerning the conservation status of the Muddus National Park have been made, but on the 1 July this year the Naturvårdsverket (Nature Conservancy) took over from the Domänverket (National Board of Crown Forests and Lands) the responsibility of the administration of the National Park.

New signposts have been installed, park borders have been put in order, two new tourist huts of logs have been built and the bridge of the river Muddusjokk has been rebuilt.

4. The impact of the public on the nature of the National Park is practically nil as only 4-500 visitors do come to this area of nearly 500 km² every year.

5. The budgetary resources assigned to the management of the Muddus National Park for the last two budgetary years were as follows: 1974/75-41.399.00 Sw. kr., 1975/76-76.415.00 Sw. kr.

V. All this taken into account I should like to recommend very strongly the renewal of the European Diploma for a further period of five years to the Muddus National Park.

Eythor Einarsson
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