

Renewal EDPA
expert Wreport 4th renewal

Weerribben-Wieden NP

The Netherlands

Prof. Dr. Maurice Hoffmann

Weerribben-Wieden NP, what it is

De WWNP builds the largest freshwater wetland in North-West Europe. Its situated approx. 85 km north-east of Amsterdam. Two thirds of the total of 10,000 hectares belong to De Wieden Nature Reserve.

De Weerribben is largely owned and managed by Staatsbosbeheer, the National Forest Service, whereas the major part of De Wieden are owned and managed by Natuurmonumenten, several hundreds of hectares are in private ownership.

Both sites are former peat extraction areas. Landscapes in the two parts differ. De Weerribben is a wetland with many canals and large reed beds. De Wieden is an open landscape with large lakes surrounded by reed belts and quaking mires (“trilveen”) as a special habitat.

De Wieden

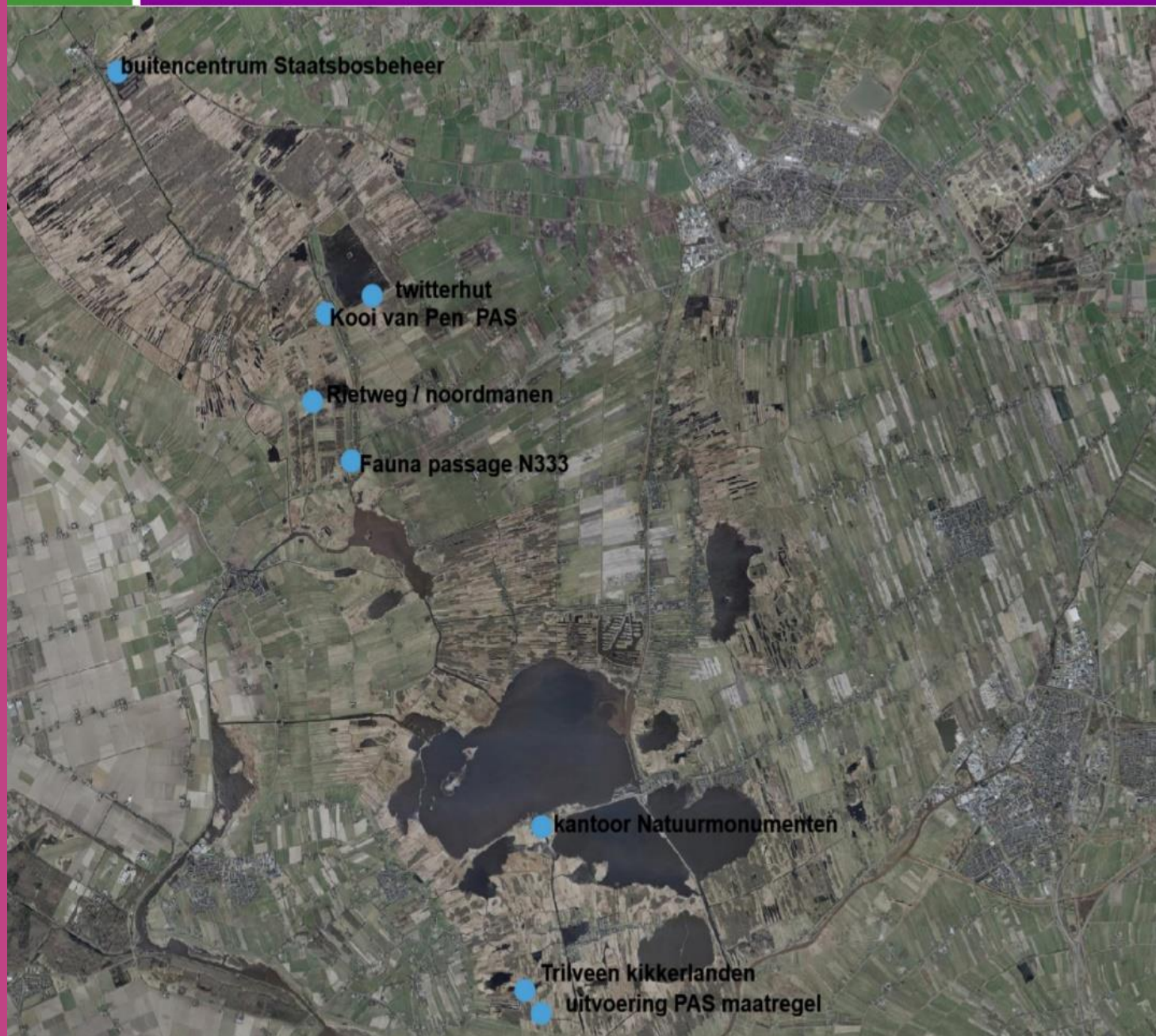
Route veldbezoek Europees Diploma



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Legenda

0 960 1.920 meter
Meters

Schaal:
1:96.000

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Lycaena dispar batava, an endemic subspecies of the Large Copper which is only known from the Weerribben-Wieden National Park and the neighbouring Rottige Meenthe (prov. Friesland). (red list category seriously threatened).



the lowest possible level with only high flight routes and no holding tracks above the National Park

2050m



Recommendation 1

- Pursue the monitoring of the effects of the connection between De Weerribben and De Wieden on mammals and invertebrates, paying particular attention to light conditions, vegetation cover



Recommendation 2

- ▶ Continue the monitoring of the development of fish stocks, with an emphasis on eels, to strengthen the ecological function of the reserves and natural reproduction in line with Natura 2000 requirements.

Recommendation 3

- Design and implement a management plan for fish stocks covering all species and continue the monitoring of their development, with emphasis on eels, to strengthen the ecological function of the reserves and natural reproduction in line with Natura 2000 requirements.

Recommendation 4

- Monitor the trends in boating activity and its impact on the fauna. Envisage to limit the size of the boats and their number during peak periods.

Recommendation 5

- ▶ Continue with the designation of adjoining areas as extensions of, or buffer zones to, the protected areas, especially to the north (Rottige Meenthe) and south-east (Staphorster Veld) and create a connection between the two separate parts of De Wieden Nature Reserve between the Zuideindiger Wiede and the Bovenwiede.

Recommendation 6

- Pursue the renovation works at the Weerribben Visitor's Centre in Ossenzijl and raise the attractiveness of both visitor's centers to foreign visitors by introducing at least English, preferably also German and French texts to all exhibitions.

Recommendation 7

- ▶ Give more visibility to the logo of the European Diploma and raise awareness about its aims and objectives on the website of the nature reserve, through social media, flyers, brochures, website and information panels in the visitor's centres and in the field.
- ▶ **Note to the Council:** This approach would be very much helped if the Council would pay more attention to advertising the network of EDPA's; the Council website, <https://www.coe.int/en/web/bern-convention/european-diploma-for-protected-areas>, is presently limited in that respect. The EDPA sites should be much more profiled as a (the) European **network** of pristine sites with European significance. Initiatives could also be taken to select ecosystems that are at the European level, and then consecrate them to stimulate member states actively to apply



Recommendation 8

- ▶ Anticipating the decision of Dutch authorities to adopt a new definition for national parks, ensure that the Weerribben-Wieden National Park complies with the new criteria of national parks and continues benefiting of this designation.

Recommendation 9

- ▶ Avoid at all times burning practices when managing the reed lands whenever an alternative, equally effective management approach is available, and if compatible with the management goals