Group of Specialists
on the European Diploma for Protected Areas

REPORT
ON THE SPOT EXPERT APPRAISAL OF THE WACHAU PROTECTED LANDSCAPE (AUSTRIA)
9-11 September 2018

Peter Skoberne
(Slovenia)

Strasbourg, 5 – 7 March 2019

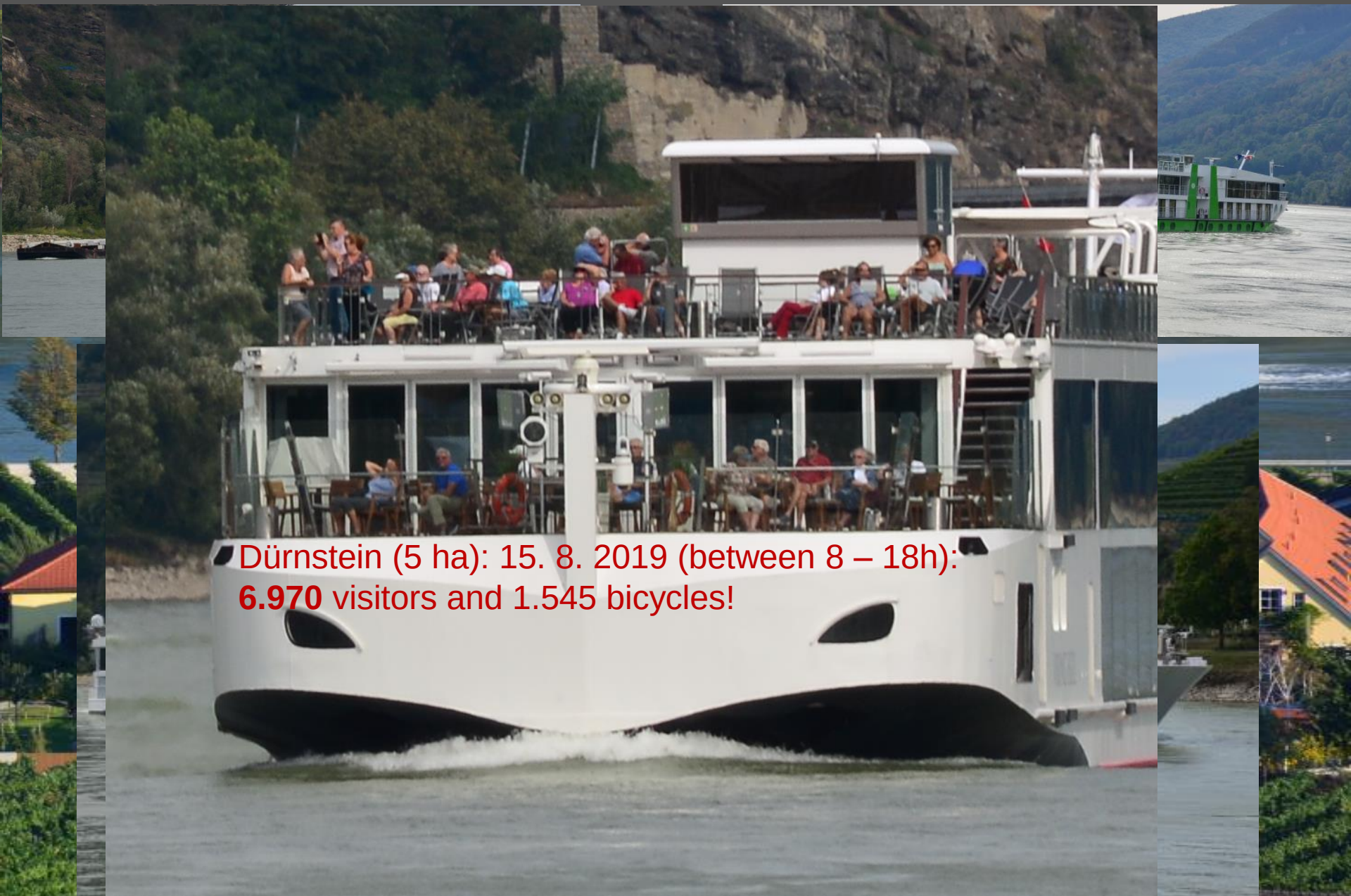
Joe Sultana

http://www.weltkulturerbe-wachau.org/fileadmin/Bibliothek/Wachau/Fotos/managementplan.pdf

LIFE Natur Wachau
Altarmanbindung Aggsbach
Das Projekt
Lebensraumsicherung
Artenvielfalt
Projektpartner
viadonau

Gewässer vorhanden
Gewässer neu
Naturschutzgebiet geplant
Artenschutz: Seeadler
Artenschutz: Amphibien
Artenschutz: Schwarzpappel
Weissenkirchen
Rührsdorf
Rossatz
Dürnstein
LIFE + Auenwildnis Wachau

River traffic & tourism



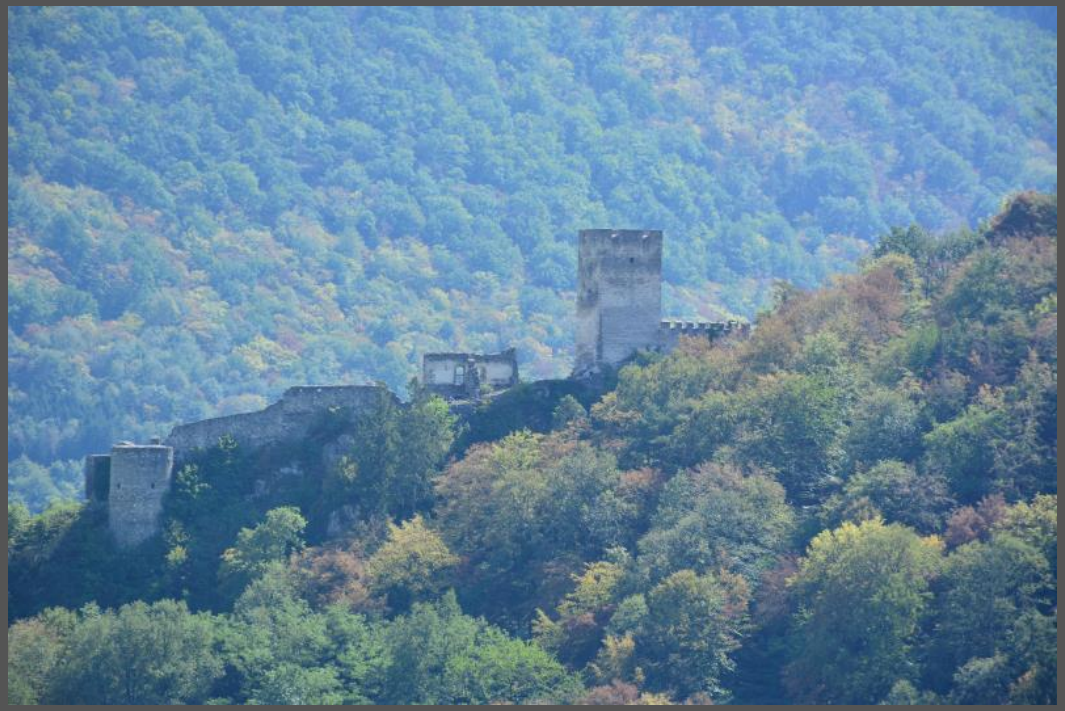
Dürnstein (5 ha): 15. 8. 2019 (between 8 – 18h):
6.970 visitors and 1.545 bicycles!

HOCHWÄSSER
STADT MELK

1501
1787
002
54
1862

Historical continuity

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venus_of_Willendorf



Gott
segne den
Weinberg
F. M. Sch.
9 4 9

Codex Wachau (since 1983)

Wine trade marks:
Steinfeder®, Federspiel® and Smaragd®

Apricots

Stift Göttweig
Marillengarten
Im Reich der Wachauer Marille

Naturpark Jauerling

Spitz quarry

Dry grasslands (Setzberg)

Mangement Plan (2017)

Managementplan
Welterbe Wachau

http://www.weltkulturerbe-wachau.org/fileadmin/Bibliothek/Wachau/Fotos/managementplan.pdf

ED awarded to the Wachau Protected Landscape in 1994

NATURA 2000 in 1998

UNESCO WH Site in 2000

ED renewed in 2009 (condition + 8 recomm.)

On-the-spot appraisal: 10 – 11 Sept. 2018

Conclusion

EUROPEAN INTEREST	✓
CONSERVATION MEASURES AND MANAGEMENT	✓

INITIAL CONDITION **“That the scheme to build a dam on the Danube at Dürnstein be abandoned definitively, as well as a similar scheme within and immediately downstream from the area covered by the diploma”.**	✓

Recommendations	2009	2019
The existence of the **Jauerling protected zone** should continue to be guaranteed	✓	+
The **river should be maintained at its present level**, guaranteeing the survival of the last alluvial forests.	✓	–
Work on **restoration of the terraces and integration of the irrigation network** should continue	✓	+
Strict standards should be imposed on **river tourism traffic**, to ensure that it meets appropriate quality requirements for the Wachau		–
The refurbishment of the Spitz quarry should finally be started; works should be staggered until 2019	–	–
The **mouflon population** should be brought within a limit compatible with natural regeneration of the forest, without systematic recourse to protection fences;	✓	–
Efforts should be continued to preserve the **apricot orchards**;	✓	+
Steps should be taken to ensure that consultation on how to **protect the Wachau against flooding** takes place in co-operation with the local authorities concerned, in order to avoid separating the river from the hinterland by a substantial dyke.	✓	–
Secure a **sustainable budget to the managing authorities to ensure the management plan can be fully implemented** without relying on financial resources from projects.		+
Develop an integral approach to the tourist visit management.		+
Use more regularly the European Diploma logo.		+

Recommendations 1, 2, 3:

Secure a sustainable budget to the managing authorities to ensure the management plan can be fully implemented without relying on financial resources from projects.

Encourage the setting up of a long-term institutional management frame for Wachau Protected Landscape and Jauerling – Wachau Naturpark.

Ensure the implementation and updating of the Management Plan in a participatory way.

Recommendation 4:

Continue the good practice of complex approach for forestry and wild game management (including co-operation of managing authorities in bordering administrative units).

Recommendation 5:

Continue the good practice of maintenance and reconstruction of wine terraces.

Recommendation 6:

Efforts should be continued to preserve the apricot orchards.

Recommendation 7:

Develop an integral approach to the tourist visit management.

Recommendation 8:

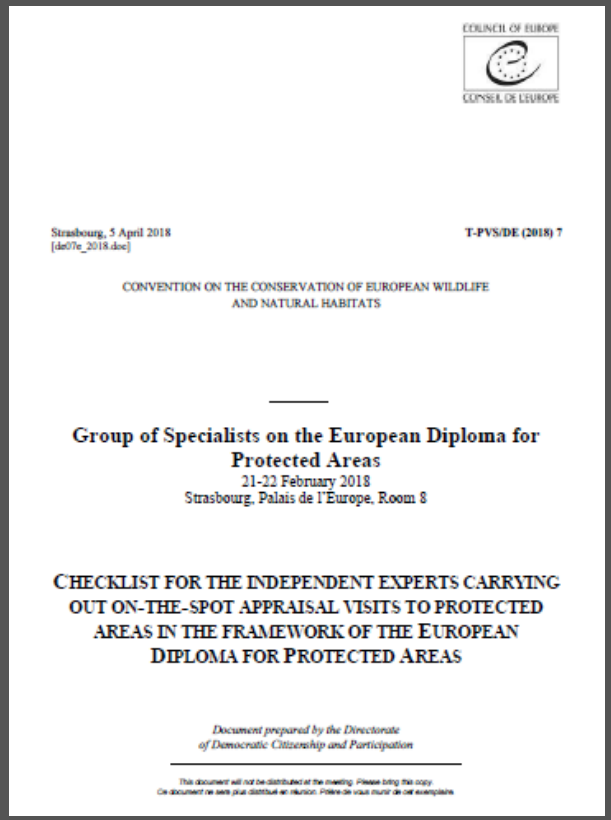
Explore optimal solutions for preserving the landscape picture (colours of the protection nets, fences against rockslides, light pollution, Christmas tree plantations).

Recommendation 9:

Use more regularly the European Diploma logo on publications and appropriate infrastructures, promote the European Diploma more actively, encourage partners and stakeholders to use European Diploma logo.

At the end …

- positive response of managers to the on-the-spot-appraisal (should be useful more frequent);
- helpful guidance document (T-PVS/DE (2018) 7;
- focus more attention to multiple designations



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 5 April 2018
[de07e_2018.doc]

T-PVS/DE (2018) 7

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS

Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas
21-22 February 2018
Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe, Room 8

CHECKLIST FOR THE INDEPENDENT EXPERTS CARRYING OUT ON-THE-SPOT APPRAISAL VISITS TO PROTECTED AREAS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN DIPLOMA FOR PROTECTED AREAS

Document prepared by the Directorate of Democratic Citizenship and Participation

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MaB UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme Programme sur l'homme et la biosphère

European Diploma of Protected Areas of the Council of Europe

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