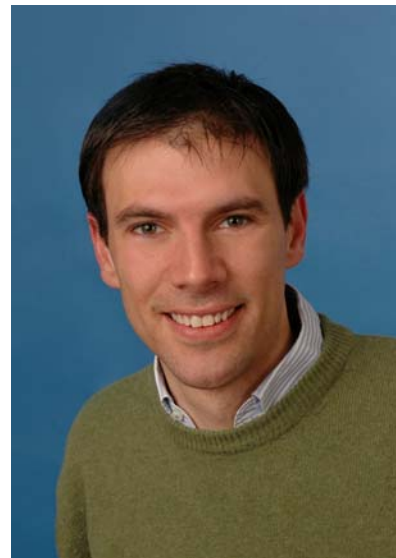


### An Italian in Grafenau! Federico Minozzi joins the team.

Many of you will already know Federico Minozzi, who has recently joined the staff here at the EUROPARC Headquarters in Grafenau. Formerly the coordinator of EUROPARC Italy, where he worked for four years, Federico is currently responsible for the Junior Ranger Programme, networking with the French and Italian Section and with the EU, and the development of an Agro-environmental project at the Federation. He will be based in Grafenau for the next few months and will then join the Brussels team in their new office.



**1) Federico, first of all please paint a picture of yourself for our members. Tell us something about the following:**

**a) How your friends/colleagues would describe you**

For a more realistic answer I think you should interview my colleagues and friends...but they would probably mention something about a "happy, quiet, tall man" who likes climbing mountains and exploring the world.

**b) Your background**

I come from Rome, but I live in Spoleto, a small nice medieval town in Umbria, the green heart of Italy. I studied Political Science in Rome and the job I had with Federparchi and EUROPARC was my first real position.

**c) Your hobbies**

I don't consider them hobbies; they are part of my life and behaviour. I enjoy walking and trekking in the mountains, I'm a Scout leader, I like photography and taking pictures of natural surroundings, I'm a fencer and I like to do sport and I enjoy good food and wine.

**d) Your outlook on/motto for life**

"La vita è un gioco: giocala!" – which more or less means: Life is a game: play it!

**2) You previously worked for the EUROPARC Italian Section and so are already quite familiar with our work. What do you think will be different between the Section work and working for the Headquarters?**

We are talking about the same family, so a lot of the work areas will be similar. But being a member of the Directorate will give me the opportunity to work on a European level. Countries, Sections and the European Union will now be my first points of contact.

**3) What will you bring with you from EUROPARC Italy that will be useful for your work for the Federation?**

During the last years I got to know the whole Italian park network well; to meet the people working in these parks; and to gain an overview of how parks function and are managed in most European countries. So I think I can bring knowledge about the ambitions, hopes, problems, priorities and good practice from many EUROPARC members to the Federation.

**4) What are you looking forward to about working for the Federation and what are your current expectations regarding your position here?**

I hope to contribute to the work of the Federation, creating new connections with European institutions, national governments and other environmental organisations in order to promote, to support and improve the profile of the role and the work of European protected areas.