

SIGGEN SEMINAR (14 – 17 April 2015)

N2000 from Designation to Implementation effective management and monitoring for N2000 and multi designated sites.

This year the seminar will run from **14th-17th April**, and will focus on **Protected Areas and their role in the implementation of N2000 sites**. In particular we will be looking, from a management perspective, at the implementation problems and successes of the Habitats and Birds Directives in Protected Areas, from a park, national and wider European perspective.

The seminar will seek to investigate through case studies and examples on the effectiveness of N2000 management and its implications with the management of overlapping national or regional designated sites. The aim is not only to look at the current situation, but especially to explore opportunities how we, as Protected Area managers, can support the process of the implementation to improve its effectiveness. This will particularly focus on Reporting and Monitoring of N2000 Habitats.

What systems do you use to gather data? In what way does data gathering and evaluation improve better management of the Protected Areas/N2000 sites. What are their deficiencies and how can they be improved? What are the issues of having multiple designations overlapping in one site?

Do we really have a coherent European network or just a set of country approaches?

We will also use this opportunity to discuss and contribute to the current European Commission Fitness Check on EU Nature Legislation.

So, if you manage or are responsible for N2000 site, want to input into the major review of European nature policy or are interested in finding out more, then this is the seminar for you!

We will also touch the issue of Monitoring and Reporting with regard to systems that help us to gather the data you need. How does your work fit into the data gathering at a national level and therefore into reporting to the Commission.

Participants should leave the seminar with a better understanding of the Directive, and how they impact the work of Protected Areas and in general the effectiveness of the N2000 network. They should also receive some new ideas to improve data monitoring and reporting systems for their sites. Additionally participants will meet fellow Protected Area managers from across Europe in a relaxing and fun atmosphere and return back renewed, refreshed and invigorated in their work!

The seminar will bring together EUROPARC members, especially from national agencies, regional governments and parks.

Our seminars are always fun, lively, interactive and informative. We also aim to make them as relevant to the work of Protected Areas and certainly are a valuable chance to learn from others across Europe. We ask participants to come prepared with case studies or example that we can work through.

Registration closes on 3 April (or when places are filled).

Places are limited so please book early!

Location: The Siggen Estate (Gut Siggen), Siggen, Germany

Costs: The seminar is **FREE** for **members** of the **EUROPARC Federation**. Participants will therefore **ONLY** cover their own travel to and from the event.

Trainers: Input from Michael HOSEK, EUROPARC Council; Malgorzata SIUTA, CEWEB and Douglas Evans from the European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity in Paris and D^r Zsolt Vegvari, Hortobagy National park, HU

Seminar Outline Programme

Tuesday 14th April: Participants arrive (*please note arrival earlier than 14th is not possible*)

- Dinner from 18.30 -19.30 (a cold dish can be left for late arrivals)
- Evening - Ice breakers and Welcome

Wednesday 15th

- 9.15am Introduction to EUROPARC, participants and trainers
- Introduction to Birds and Habitats Directives N2000 network
- N2000 the wider environmental view - CEEweb
- N2000 national and parks view - Michael Hosek
- Birds and Habitats Directive - who does what or what are we doing? Participation ladder

Lunch

- N2000 monitoring and reporting requirements under the nature directives in general as well as the Natura 2000 - Douglas Evans European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity in Paris
- Reporting and monitoring: the good, the bad and the ugly. What is needed, by whom and in what format? Case study from the Hortobagy National Park
- Case studies continuation followed by brainstorming on exploring the main challenges in the implementation process.
- **Participants are asked to bring any N2000 monitoring examples they may be working on. You will have 5 minutes to present your case study. Please let Carol Ritchie c.ritchie@europarc.org know in advance in order to plan this session**

Case study need only indicate the following (there will be an additional opportunity to highlight a more general presentation about your site):

- **what is the N2000 site**

- **the species/habitat being managed**
- **the main management issue in place to reach favourable conservation status**
- **the monitoring regime**
- **the challenge or monitoring/reporting issue you wish to discuss.**

- an analysis of the main common issues arising

Evening to relax. Participants can bring material from their park to show if they wish.

Thursday 16th April

- 9.15 am Recap Reporting and Monitoring
- Monitoring and Reporting – looking at the issues that arose from the case studies and identify some best practise. Brainstorming and prioritising
- Principles of good practise - Summary from Douglas Evans,
- Summary and conclusion

Lunch

- Taking into account the mandate of the Fitness Check for the EU Nature legislation: the seminar will seek to gather case studies and examples on the effectiveness of N2000 management
- What is the Fitness Check? Introductory presentation. Federico Minozzi, EUROPARC
- Implications for Protected Areas Michael HOSEK; EUROPARC Council; Malgorzata SIUTA; CEEWEB
- Brainstorm on challenges and opportunities of the REFIT for the birds and Habitats directives
- Input into response from the EUROPARC Federation

Evening to relax.

Friday 17th April: participants depart

Travel arrangements to the Seminar Centre Gut Siggen, Germany

The [Siggen Estate](#) belongs to the Alfred Toepfer Foundation and lies on the north-eastern coast of Germany in the county of Holstein. It is a 20 minute taxi ride from the nearest train station, Oldenburg (Holst), and a five minute bike-ride to the nearest beach.

Please contact [Noemie COURANT](#) with any questions you might have.

By car

You can find the Siggen Estate on Google by searching for 'Siggen, Heringsdorf, Germany'. Alternatively please [follow this link](#) and it should take you to a google map on which the estate is marked.

By plane

The two nearest airports are Hamburg or Lübeck (Lübeck is slightly nearer but is smaller). From these you will need to take a train (see below) which takes a bit more than an hour.

By train

The nearest train station to Siggen Oldenburg (**Holst**). Please note: there are two Oldenburg's in Germany, one on the east coast and one on the north coast. The Oldenburg you need is on the east coast and should be followed by the words Holstein when booking a train.

You can book your tickets at: <http://www.deutschebahn.com/site/bahn/en/start.html>. The easiest way to book is to use the option for electronic tickets. They will be sent to you per email and you can just print them out. Travel with the Deutsche Bahn is otherwise fairly uncomplicated, everything is well sign posted and most conductors should speak a little English.

From the train station Oldenburg (**Holst**) you will need to take a taxi. When we know more about peoples arrival times we will be able to see whether taxi sharing is possible. We suggest taking a print out of the google map above because not all of the Taxi drivers are aware of exactly where Gut Siggen lies.

Contacts:

If any problems arise on your way to Siggen please use the following contacts:

Noemie COURANT, The EUROPARC Federation, n.courant@europarc.org

Seminarzentrum Gut Siggen der Alfred Toepfer Stiftung F.V.S.

Ms Uta Gielke

23777 Heringsdorf (Ostholstein), Germany

Tel: 0049 (0) 40 33 402 14