



EUROPARC
F E D E R A T I O N

EUROPARC Federation eNews

May 2017

Dear readers,

May is the month to celebrate our European Protected Areas! The [European Day of Parks](#), is when we really put the spotlight on the great work of our Protected Areas across Europe. On and around the 24th of May, there are hundred of activities available and if your park is organising an activity let us know, by [filling in this online form](#). This is really important for us to build a critical mass of information to get as much visibility across Europe. We are bigger together. So do let us know what you are doing!

Our eNews now has a new feature: the **members requests**. If you would like to put a question to the network or need to find specific information, send us an email to office@europarc.org and we will be send it out in the next eNews,

Registrations for **EUROPARC Conference 2017** are open! Join us between the **6th - 10th September** in the **Magic Mountains region, Portugal**, for an exclusive programme where we will be looking at the "new voices, new values, new visions for nature and people in Europe". [Check all the details about the conference here](#) and take advantage of the **early-bird fee**.

Wish you happy readings,

Your *EUROPARC team*

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Are you ready for the European Day of Parks?

The European Day of Parks (EDoP) is celebrated on the 24th of May, and every year hundreds of activities are organised on and around that day.

In 2017, with the theme "**Changing Climate, Changing Parks**" we will be celebrating:

- how healthy parks are fundamental for the livelihoods of millions of European citizens
- how Parks are changing too, finding ways to face the effects of climate change and to minimise its impacts;
- how we plant, care, restore and promote genetic diversity;
- how we are finding new ways to reduce our footprint;
- how we are promoting sustainability in our local communities.

Invite your neighbours to better understand the effects of climate change and how this also affects the Park. Inspire them with your example and make a real call to action!

Find out the activities our members have organised!

Have you organised your activities? If you are still looking for inspiration read the Guidelines we have produced for you and download the communication tools in your language! There are 23 versions! Finally.... Register your activities here! It will take you only 2 minutes to fill...!



EUROPARC Conference 2017: Registrations are now open!

From the 6th - 10th September, the Annual Conference of the EUROPARC Federation will be held in Portugal, in the Magic Mountains territory.

At a time when modern society is questioning its core values, the EUROPARC Conference 2017 theme - New voices, new visions, new values - for people and nature in Europe - will help us widen the debate. Throughout the Conference, we will examine the role of Protected Areas as inspiring territories. Promoting a more socially inclusive, environmentally healthier and economically viable model.

Enjoy the early-bird fee until the 30th June!

All information available at europarc2017.montanhasmagicas.pt



Seminar-dialogue with DG Environment

Partnerships for biodiversity: European policies and the role of Protected Areas

13-14 June, Brussels

Invitation for EUROPARC Members, to a Dialogue with the EU Commission

On 13th and 14th of June, EUROPARC welcomes members to a special seminar in Brussels. This is a unique opportunity to engage in dialogue with the European Commission-DG Environment about the role of Protected Areas across a range of important topics.

With the topic "Partnerships for biodiversity: European policies and the role of Protected Areas", this seminar will, through bringing case studies from the field to the policy makers directly, improve the dialogue between the European Commission and Protected Areas (PAs). The event will also raise awareness of Protected Areas managers in EU policies and funding, with members of the DG Environment presenting the latest funding opportunities and policy updates.

Attendance is free to EUROPARC members but registrations is mandatory. Deadline for registrations: 2nd June.

[Download the draft programme and register here](#)

Call for short presentationsÂ measuring the impact of people in periurban parks

The natural spaces around our major urban places are vital green lungs for city dwellers as well as important features of the landscape. The pressures these greenspaces are under can be immense with **multi-use visitation** (trekking, mountain bikes and other sports events) that can damage ecosystems.

In order to make informed decisions on how to better address the issue of visitors' impacts, EUROPARC's **PERIURBAN Commission** is organising a workshop during the **Annual Conference**, which will examine different methodologies to measure the **impact of visitors**, ranging from the **classical concept of carrying capacity** to the newest ones as **limits of acceptable change and other methodologies**, with a special emphasis on key environmental impact areas such as **loss of vegetation cover and soil erosion**. In addition, practical prevention recommendations will be provided.

If you are thinking of attending the Annual Conference and you have an experience or good practice on this topic you would like to share with other managers and technicians, please contact Teresa Pastor at t.pastor@europarc.org before the 31st of May, suggesting a title of your contribution and few lines of what will be it about.



Sustainable Agriculture in Protected AreasÂ Outcomes from Siggen Seminar 2017

Protected Areas for Sustainable Agriculture: Sharing experiences from across Europe that support agriculture in Protected Areas

Agriculture and livestock breeding are crucial activities for many communities in and around European Protected Areas. At **EUROPARC Siggen Seminar 2017**, we gathered 20 experts from Protected Areas across Europe and NGOs to have a deeper understanding of the role Protected Areas play in promoting Sustainable Agricultural practices.

We bring you [an interesting web article](#), based on the inputs collected during the Seminar. The full report and all presentations are also available [here](#).



EUROPARC WEBINARS: Special edition for the celebration of the UN International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development

Sharing best practices and learning with your peers from across Europe is now easier than ever, thanks to the new [EUROPARC Webinars](#).

To celebrate the UN IYST, EUROPARC is organising a series of 3 webinars on the topic of **Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas**.

April: Visitor Management in Transboundary Parks ([see recordings](#))

May: Working together in Sustainable Destinations- **16th May** ([more information here](#))

June: Sustainable Tourism in Marine Protected Areas



Linking Biodiversity to national economic and social priorities

As part of a major study for the European Commission, on "Linking biodiversity to national economic and social priorities in the EU Member States", the [Institute for European Environmental Policy](#) (IEEP).EUROPARC participated in the 1st

Regional Workshop for the Mediterranean, held in Barcelona, on the 3rd of May. [Read more](#).

News from your BRUSSELS representation



EUâ€™s Action Plan â€œfor nature, people and the economyâ€

Following the long evaluation process of the Natura 2000 Birds and Habitats Directives and the [conclusions published at the end of last year](#), the EU Nature Directives are fit for purpose, although substantial improvements in their implementation are needed.Â Hence why, the European Commission has just launched an **Action Plan â€œfor nature, people and the economyâ€.**

The aim of the Action plan is to **provide guidance for better implementation of the Directives**, towards reaching the EUâ€™s biodiversity targets for 2020 of halting and reversing biodiversity loss and improve climate resilience and mitigation.

The action plan covers 4 priority areas and its divided into 15 concrete actions. Although most of the actions will be performed by the European Commission and Committee of the Regions, support from member states and relevant stakeholders will be needed. The Commission believes that â€œthe action plan will lay a solid foundation for reconciling and building bridges between nature, people, and the economy.â€

The EU Action Plan will be presented at a conference on the 6th June 2017 in Brussels.

Download the EU Communication and the detailed factsheets.

CAP Public Consultation: 250.000 Europeans showed their will for a reform on EU Agriculture

The 'Consultation on modernising and simplifying the Common Agricultural policy (CAP)' was open between the 2 Feb to the 2 May. During this period, over 250.000 citizens and 600 organisations and enterprises shared their perspective through an online questionnaire.Â

The Commission is expected to present its response to the consultation in a Conference on 7 July.

[ReadÂ more about the CAP consultation here.](#)

PROJECT UPDATES



First European Summit of Regional Nature Parks Â 21 June, Brussels

On the 21 June 2017, the **German Association of Nature Parks** and **EUROPARC Federation** organise the 1st Summit of Regional Nature Parks. We will share the results of the Europeâ€™s Nature-Regional-Landscape Parks and learn these parks are strong players for nature conservation and sustainable rural development in Europe. An expert panel discussion with participation of representatives of the **European Commission**, the **Committee of the Regions** and **Members of the European Parliament** will follow, concerning the question of how Regional Nature Parks can be more efficiently used for achieving the objectives of the EU. [All information here.](#)



Transboundary Parks Ecoregion Julian Alps hosts the TransParcNet meeting 2017

TransParcNet meeting 2017 â€žChanging climate â€“ changing parks: Transboundary approaches to climate changeâ€œ will take place **from 6th to 9th June** in Triglav National Park (SI), hosted together with their Italian Partner Prealpi Giulie Nature Park.

Nature doesnâ€™t simply stop at the border and habitats can even span several countries. Transboundary Protected Areas, cooperating across different states, are therefore ideally placed to implement European and international policies. EUROPARC wants to showcase the quality work undertaken by cross-border protected areas and is therefore collecting good practices in transboundary cooperation.Â



Junior Ranger ProgrammeÂ trilateral cooperation in the Baltic



Latvia, Finland and Estonia have agreed to enhance the Junior Ranger (JR) cooperation in these countries. The objective of this cooperation is to share the experience of JR camps and seminars and develop new ideas on how to increase interest in youth to join this programme – shortly how to market JR program. The result of this cooperation will be an **electronic manual or best practice document to manage the programme** (camps, cooperation network, etc.), which will be then shared with all EUROPARC members.



IMPACT Interreg keeps working in the development of action plans to **improve regional policies to foster sustainable development in protected areas**. Among the actions of the project, the identification of good practices that can be incorporated in the action plans, and the experience gathering from local stakeholders is paramount. EUROPARC Federation, in its role of communication adviser of IMPACT Interreg Europe project, is developing a series of videos to understand how socio-economic activities currently take place in protected areas:

[IMPACT Interreg Europe project presentation](#) | [IMPACT Interreg Europe for youth and volunteers](#)
- David R. Mateos |

[Protected areas and their benefits for businesses](#) - Maria Jose Galindo

IMPACT INTERREG EUROPEÂ Updates

EUROPARC SECTIONS



GermanyÂ Opportunity for Park Staff:Â international study trips

EUROPARC Germany is organising 2 study trips in 2017 for park staff about **environmental education and alternative funding strategies**.

The exchange programme is open for the participation of protected areas professionals and volunteers. [Get to know the complete programme](#) of both study trips and apply today! [Deadline for application -15th May.](#)



Central and Eastern EuropeÂ Results from the Wilderness workshop

Wilderness represents a fundamental element of Europeâ€™s natural heritage. However, the approach to wilderness and the protection of wild areas changes dramatically within each country. EUROPARC Central and Eastern Europe and [IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas](#), gathered wilderness experts from 7 countries for a workshop to discuss the challenges and opportunities of wilderness. Protected Areas, NGOs and National state administrations shared the different management approaches in their countries. All presentations and sound records are now available for [download here](#).



SpainÂ What do we do with our Forests?Â LIFE Project RedBosques

Forests are key ecosystems in the Mediterranean region. In Spain, over 50% of Natura 2000 area is covered by forests. The [LIFE project RedBosques](#), lead by EUROPARC Spain/FundaciÃ³n Fernando GonzÃ¡lez BernÃ¡ez aims to improve the management of Spanish Mediterranean forests included in Natura 2000, facilitating access of practitioners to state-of-the-art knowledge. The ultimate goal is that forest managers effectively include biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation objectives in their daily practice. The project runs until 2019 and all information is available at www.redbosques.eu

MEMBERS REQUESTS

The Krkonoše Mts. National Park (CZ) needs support on legislation: **How legislation in your country solves issue of civil air traffic (either with or without engine) above the area of national parks?**

If you have any knowledge on this area please share it with Jakub KaÅ¡par at jkaspar@krnap.cz.

GOOD TO KNOW

Experience exchange with Caucasus â€“ MÄritz National Park

On 20th and 21st of April, MÄritz National Park received a group of 24 guests from protected areas in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. During the visit, the Park shared its experience with the implementation of the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas, with a special focus on the methodology and the benefits it bring for the Park and its local communities.

EUROPEAN PARKS' ACADEMY

The European Parksâ€™ Academy (EPA) is a unique opportunity to learn more about emerging trends and new approaches in the management of protected areas. The Seminar will run from **18.07 to 29.07** and applications due on the 31st May!

[All information is available here.](#)

#NATURE for ALL

#NatureForAll is a global movement to inspire a new generation of thinkers and doers across all sectors of society to connect with nature and take action to support its conservation.Â [Read more about it here](#)

INTERREG project in the Nordic-Baltic for Tourism Development

"Best practice in tourism development, marketing and sustainable management of Attractive Hardwoodsâ€œ is the name of the Interreg project thatÂ EUROPARC member, Å½emaitija National Park will start, together with partners from Sweden and Poland. [Read more here.](#)

Species conservation Officer - IUCN

[IUCN ECARO is hiring](#) a species conservation expert with strong background in Red List development.

PUBLICATIONS

Transboundary Conservation eNews IUCN

Find out about the latest worldwideÂ updates on cross border cooperation between Protected Areas. Special focus on **PANORAMA Solutions**, where you will find several examples from our TransParcNetwork.Â

[Download.](#)

Linking policy and practice: The EU Biodiversity Strategy in the management of Transboundary Protected Areas

The study conducted by Natalya Yakusheva, winner of the Alfred Toepper Natural Heritage Scholarship,Â explores the links between the **European Unionâ€™s and national political objectives for nature conservation**, and the day-to-day implementation and management practices in 2 Transboundary Parks. Â [Read it here.](#)

COMING EVENTS

MAY

9-13, Czech Republic [4th European Ranger Congress](#): â€œExploring new approaches to conserving natureâ€

10, Brussels Committee of the RegionsÂ [Seminar](#) "Health in cities â€“ making it everyone's business"

19-21, Prague, [Interpret Europe Seminar](#): "Crossing Borders"

21, Natura 2000 Day

24, [European Day of Parks!](#)

29 May - 2 June Brussels, [Green Week](#): "Green Jobs for a Greener Future"

JUNE

6, BrusselsÂ presentation of the EU's Action Plan

6-9 Ecoregion Julian AlpsÂ [TransParcNet meeting](#): â€œChanging climate â€“ changing parksâ€

7-8, Amersfoort, the NetherlandsÂ [Eurositeworkshop](#) â€œOne Site, One Plan. Integrated Conservation Managementâ€

13-14, Brussels [EUROPARC Seminar-Dialogue](#) "European policies and the role of Protected Areas"

21, BrusselsÂ [First European Summit of Regional Nature Parks](#)



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