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Subject: Healthy Parks Healthy People Europe, a new EUROPARC strategy, and much more!

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EUROPARC
F E D E R A T I O N

EUROPARC Federation eNews

May 2020

Dear readers,

For many, summer break is right around the corner. A time to refresh, catch your breath and, spend time in nature. And while we at EUROPARC will certainly do so as well, we are also working very hard on our [ONLINE EUROPARC Conference 2020](#): to be held on the 8th and 9th of September. We want to give you the best EUROPARC has to offer with networking, capacity building and in depth workshops. We will ask ourselves the question: Our new future: How ready are we? As we delve into challenges surrounding the big topics of our time: COVID-19, biodiversity and climate change. In the upcoming week we will reveal our conference page and tentative programme, so stay tuned!

In the meantime, we are still collecting answers on our online questionnaire about the [new EUROPARC Strategy!](#) How can EUROPARC best support the work of Protected Areas in Europe? This is the opportunity for members to directly influence our new strategy and we are looking forward to hearing all your suggestions. The questionnaire will be available until the 17th of July.

Over the summer, it is also possible to vote for the Natura 2000 awards. The Natura 2000 Award is designed to reward excellence in the management of Natura 2000 sites and showcase the added value of the network for local economies. There are 27 finalists in total and the public can [vote for its favorite here](#).

Health is a topic that is on everyone's minds right now. This is why EUROPARC launched its [Healthy Parks Healthy People Europe](#) programme, which is developed by the EUROPARC Federation and built on the innovative practise gathered by the [Health and Protected Areas](#) commission over several years. Europe's parks are well equipped to support health outcomes for people. The programme is exclusive to EUROPARC members and we encourage all our members to provide well managed, accessible facilities and engaging target groups in health-promoting activities.

Our Enews is taking a little summer break, we will be back in September. In the mean time, stay put for updates on our online EUROPARC conference 2020 and enjoy the summer!

We wish good readings,
EUROPARC Directorate

EUROPARC Updates

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Healthy Parks Healthy People Europe:

Launch of the new EUROPARC programme

As the largest network of Protected Areas in Europe, EUROPARC wants to **improve cooperation, the exchange of ideas and experience and the development of better policy and practice**. Our vision is for “sustainable nature, valued by people”, and we see the sustainable nature of Europe’s parks and protected areas as a **key asset for health and well-being**. To realise this vision, EUROPARC has launched the new programme: Healthy Parks Healthy People Europe that aims to **support parks and protected areas at the national, regional and local level to deliver better outcomes for the health of people and nature**.

Study after study has indicated significant and sustained increases in people’s health and happiness, when connected to nature. Yet we are experiencing **tangible biodiversity loss associated with removal of places for nature** being replaced by buildings, industry, roads and other infrastructure, not to mention the challenges of climate change.

To make the Healthy Parks Healthy People Europe programme a success will take the **active commitment** of EUROPARC Federation members and the **development of partnerships** with a range of other organisations and networks in health and other sectors. Join this exciting new European project and together we can make Europe a healthier and happier place. [Find more information here](#), or:

[Read the brochure here!](#)

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A new EUROPARC Federation Strategy

[Online questionnaire for our members](#)

A new EUROPARC strategy

We want to hear from our members

The **consultation process for the new EUROPARC strategy** is well underway. We have concluded most of the strategy workshops with our sections, with just the German section workshop on the 10th of July to go (German section members can register [here](#)). We want to thank everyone that has already given their inputs on the new strategy! Our online questionnaire for members is still opened until the **17th of July** and we look forward to hearing how we can best support the work of Protected Areas in Europe.

Partake in the questionnaire here: [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Italian](#), [Spanish](#)

Note that the questionnaire is to be filled exclusively by EUROPARC members, and the membership number will be asked. We suggest one collective answer per organisation. If you need any help, drop us a line under members.europarc@europarc.org



The EUROPARC Conference 2020 goes online!

8/9 September: Our new future - how ready are we?

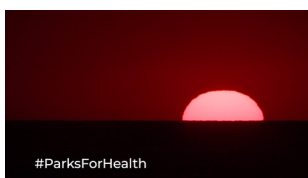
Due to the challenges arising from COVID-19 this **year's EUROPARC conference** will now be **ONLINE**. International cooperation and connection is more important than ever, so we want to ensure we provide this opportunity to bring members together, albeit virtually! EUROPARC CONFERENCE 2020, will be an innovative 2 day event on the **8th AND 9th of September**. We will look to the future; what skills and capacities do Protected Areas need to implement the new European strategies in this COVID-19 world. [Find more information here!](#)



Brussels office field trip

Preserving biodiversity in agriculture

The Brussels Office had a field trip to the [Natural Park Burdinale-Mehaigne](#) to learn more about concrete projects on agriculture and biodiversity in Belgium! Two projects aim to create a community that preserve biodiversity in agricultural practices: the project Generations-Terre seeks to reduce phytosanitary products while [the project GAL](#) is working with farmers within the Park to protect wildlife, especially bird species. [You can read the article \(in French\) here.](#)



Outcomes of the European Day of Parks #ParksForHealth

Due to COVID-19, this year's European Day of Parks was a special, but memorable one. Through our online campaign #ParksForHealth, we generated quite some traction on social media. [You can find the outreach report here.](#) Thanks to all the parks that submitted footage, we were able to create [a wonderful video](#) highlighting the importance of Protected

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News from Brussels

2 June 2020

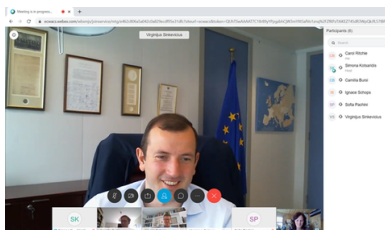
Seminar-Dialogue
with DG Environment

organised by:



Seminar Dialogue 2020 Partnerships for biodiversity

The EUROPARC Federation and the Nature Unit of the DG Environment organised the “**Seminar-Dialogue 2020 – Partnerships for Biodiversity**” on the 2nd of June 2020, titled ‘**Biodiversity, climate and Protected Areas towards 2030**’. We discussed the role of Protected Areas and Natura 2000 in the new EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and EU climate policies. Due to COVID19 the seminar was online with a restricted number of participants. **It was a successful and productive exchange. We would like to thank again the DG ENV Nature Unite and DG CLIMA for this opportunity.** [Find the full report here.](#)



Meeting with DG Environment Commissioner Sinkevičius

On the 18th of June, EUROPARC President Ignace Schops and Executive Director Carol Ritchie met with EU Environment Commissioner **Virginijus Sinkevičius** to discuss **the role of Protected Areas** in the implementation of the new EU strategies on biodiversity and agriculture. Additionally, we expressed **our willingness to represent the needs of our members** in DG environment processes and structures, as well as bring the models and practice from parks to better action for the Biodiversity Strategy and implement European policy. [Have a](#)

[look at our article for more information!](#)



Website updates

The policy webpage on our website was updated, [have a look](#) at the new sections and find more information of all the work EUROPARC does in Brussels.

TRAINING & CAPACITY BUILDING

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Webinar: Healthy Parks Healthy People Europe

Connecting People and Nature for a healthier and happier Europe

The launch of the new EUROPARC programme Healthy Parks Healthy People Europe was accompanied by a webinar on connecting people and nature for a healthier and happier Europe. You can find the outcomes, presentations, as well as a [recording of the webinar here](#).

Ochrana přírody

2020 Czech Nature Conservation

The unique Elbe Canyon Black Grouse in the Kokořské Mts Sumava National Park
Bird Migration Monitoring 60 Years of State Nature Conservation Karkonosze National Park



Czech Nature Conservation Journal

First ever English version

The Czech Nature Conservation Journal, is a bi-monthly publication that is aimed at professional and voluntary nature conservationists, as well as the general public interested in natural and landscape heritage conservation and management. It is issued by the Nature Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic. They plan on publishing an English version once a year. In this issue in English, selected articles from the 2019 volume are presented. With special attention on topics relating to biological diversity conservation and management, protected area management and landscape integrity including water regime in relation to climate change. [You can read the publication in English here](#).



Challenges and opportunities in managing European protected areas during and after COVID-19

Collaboration with Cambridge University

We have a unique opportunity to work with researchers at Cambridge University to [examine the impacts of covid on protected areas management](#). This is a crucial piece of work, and EUROPARC would very much encourage members to **indicate their willingness to participate** by emailing europarc@europarc.org, with the subject title **FIDELIO**. The research team is planning to distribute questionnaires in all areas and possibly conduct personal interviews depending on the language required and the level of support that can be provided by the park authority in translation. Workshops will also be organised during the project with EUROPARC hosting **two online workshops. One 1st July and 1st September** (in English). We will liaise with the Researcher to identify representative parks. For further details, please contact Fidelity researchers directly on fidelio@hermes.cam.ac.uk or visit the website www.fidelio.landecon.cam.ac.uk, for further

information on this project. Further details will come soon!

RESOURCES

Case Study: Promoting Biodiversity in urban areas

We need biodiversity - that much is clear. At the same time Europe is urbanising more and more, threatening its biodiversity. How can we solve this problem? [Have a look at this case study](#), from Finland on the concept of "National Urban Parks" by the Finland Ministry of the Environment and get inspired on how to promote biodiversity in urbanised areas!

EGNOS: A free a satellite-based system to support Protected Areas

The European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS) is the public and free satellite-based augmentation system provided by the European GNSS Agency on behalf of the European Commission. EGNOS facilitates, to both field managers and operators, the performance of tasks related to the inventory, monitoring and maintenance of both natural and manmade items in Natural Parks. [Read the article on how it can help Protected Areas](#).

OPPORTUNITIES

Waste Management in Arche de la Nature: Online Questionnaire

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area. This allows the park to welcome over 300,000 visitors each year. This level of attendance requires the implementation of an efficient waste management system and the park is questioning the system in place. The aim of this questionnaire is to collect testimonies and feedback on waste management in other natural areas. You can fill it out in [English](#) or in [French](#).

French Foundation for Biodiversity Research: Study on the taxation of natural areas

The French Foundation for Biodiversity Research (FRB) is conducting a study about the taxation of natural areas and they are looking for information on incentive tax systems in Belgium, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain, Switzerland and the United-Kingdom. The aim of this study is to compare the tax system of different European countries to show that natural areas, especially protected areas, are often taxed more than other areas. If you want to provide information, please contact Louise Dupuis under louise.dupuis@fondationbiodiversite.fr.

Partner wanted: For a study on youth engagement

Jackie Wragg is the Youth Engagement Officer with Moors for the Future and South West Peak Landscape Partnership in the UK. In 2018 she started the survey "The Natural World and Me" about **youth engagement**. She is now looking for **another project on an international level** to partner up with in order to bring an international link to the survey and future analysis. [More information on the project and how to participate can be found here](#).

CAREER

Job openings at EUROPARC in Regensburg: Minijob (10 hour) and internship (fulltime)

The Regensburg office is looking for an intern and part-timer in the communications and membership department! Do you want to contribute directly to the work of a **wide European environmental organisation** and workalong an international team? [Then check out our job vacancies!](#)

