

EUROPARC Webinar

1

March 2024

11:00 CET

# Nature restoration in Europe

Restoring what was lost and monitoring what we restore

Organised by:



EUROPEAN NATURE  
ACADEMY



E. C. O.  
INSTITUTE OF ECOLOGY



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Photo: European Bison and Konik in National Park Zuid-Kennemerland, by Ruud Maaskant

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EUROPARC Federation was founded in **1973** with the aim of supporting Protected Areas to fulfill their role as preservers of Europe's natural beauty.



Our vision:

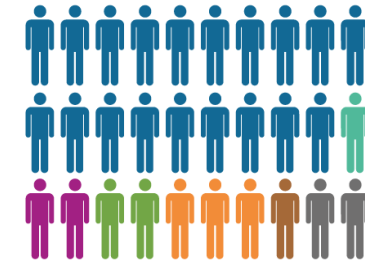
**Sustainable Nature; Valued by People.**




**Nature Knows No Boundaries**



**+400 members in 40 countries**



-  Protected Areas
-  National governmental organizations
-  NGO's
-  Regional Government Agencies
-  Other official Agencies Associations
-  Supporting organisations
-  Honorary and individual members





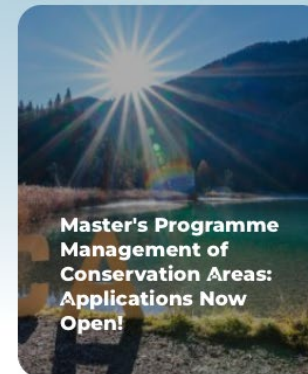
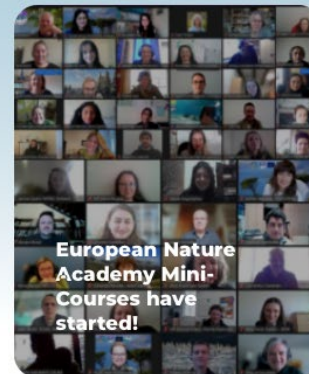
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Follow the latest updates and news for Protected Areas at

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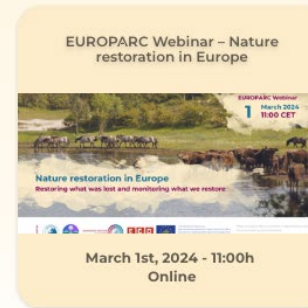


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### Our Programmes and Projects

Click on the icons for more information about our programmes.



# LIFE ENABLE – competence-based capacity building

**The project focus is on  
'co-learning'**

**Think through  
management challenges  
to develop practical  
solutions**

- *Cost-free*
- *Flexible*
- *Inclusive*
- *Replicable*

- 7 partners & due to finish 31 July 2024
- A new & innovative learning hub: European Nature Academy
- Induction Seminar + 10 online modules
- Forest & marine courses
- Train the trainer course
- Practical tasks & assignments
- Applied learning
- Networking with your peers

# Nature Restoration in Europe

*Restoring what was lost and monitoring what we restore*



**RestorEO: A transparent EO-based monitoring system for biodiversity and ecosystem restoration**

**Daniel Wuttej – E.C.O.** – Project Manager at E.C.O. Institut für Ökologie, Austria.



**Creating resilient ecosystems in the Netherlands.**

**Myrthe Fonck - PWN.** - Strategy Nature Advisor for PWN, Netherlands

**Questions & Answers / Conclusions**



# Where Nature Restoration stands in the policy framework?



## EU Habitats Directive (1979)

Art. 4: Priority to maintain or restore natural habitats at a favourable conservation status...



## THE BIODIVERSITY PLAN

For Life on Earth

### CBD Global Biodiversity Framework (2022)

TARGET 2: Ensure that by 2030 at least 30% of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine ecosystems are under effective restoration...



### Bern Convention – Strategic Plan for Action to 2030 (2023)

Target 1.1: Natural and semi-natural ecosystems are maintained and where possible **restored** or rehabilitated, leading to an overall increase in area, connectivity, integrity and resilience.



# EU Nature Restoration Regulation

EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030 (May 2020)

EC proposal (June 2022)

EU Parliament approval 27 Feb 2024

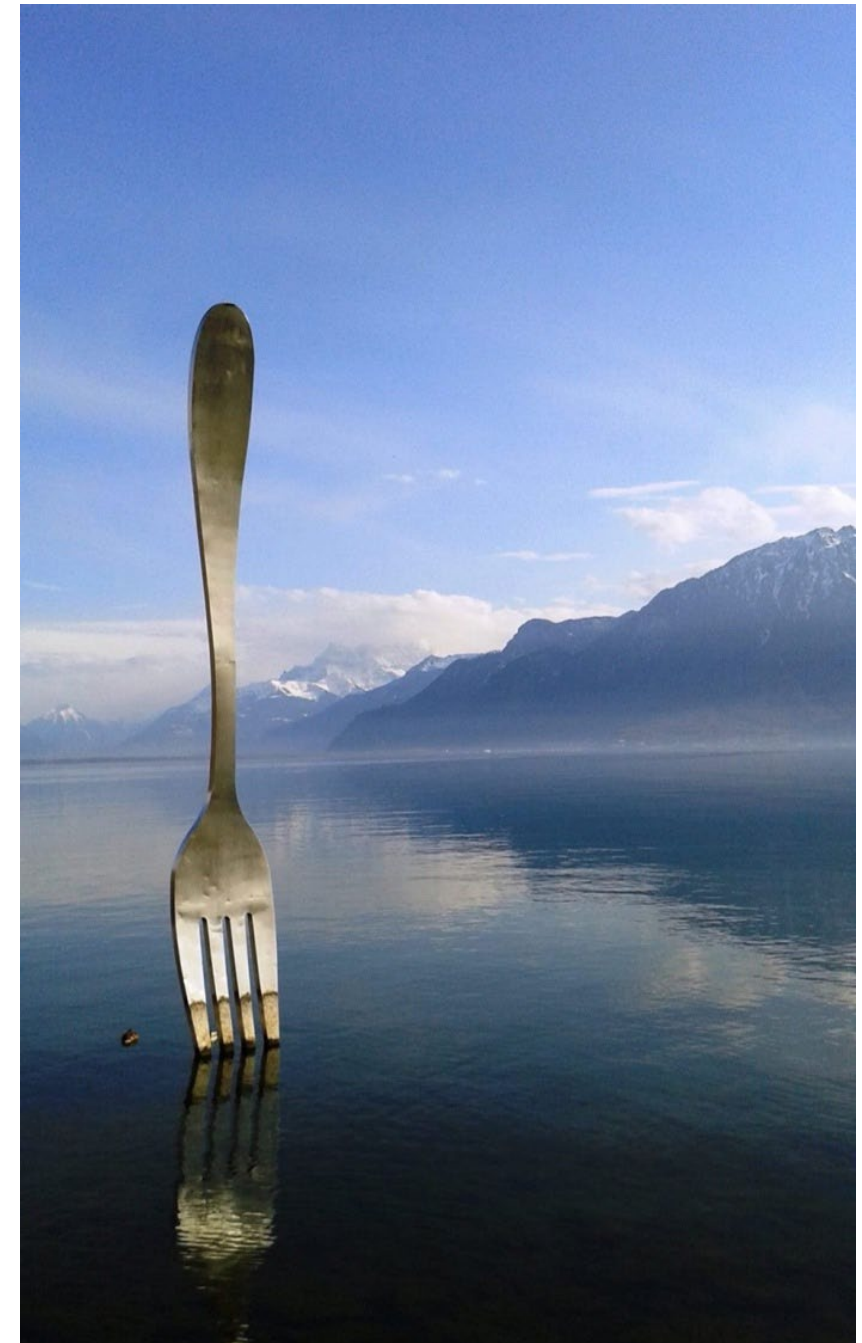
## EU commitment

Critical, Ambitious and Innovative

Brings back NATURE at core of European policy  
and action for future with:

**EU binding** legislation

**Clear** and measurable **targets!**



# EU Nature Restoration Regulation

EU countries must restore:

- At least 30% of habitats in poor condition by 2030, 60% by 2040, and 90% by 2050
- Priority to Natura 2000 until 2030
- Ensure no deterioration of restored areas
- National Restoration plans to be adopted by MS





Specific targets for:

- Agricultural ecosystems (might be suspended under exceptional circumstances)
- Drained peatlands restoration (30% by 2030...)
- Forest ecosystems + three planting (3BLN)
- Free flowing rivers (25.000 km)
- Urban and peri-urban green spaces



## Not all is solved:

Restoration is expensive... but pays back (1€ = €8)

Controversial

Can't ignore productive land

Engagement of landowners, farmers, land managers, users...

Planning, planning, planning

Monitoring and assessment are crucial

Restoration cannot happen only in Natura 2000/PAs



## EUROPARC committed to support PAs for RESTORATION:

- Learning exchange
- Capacity building
- Innovative financing mechanisms



# A role for Protected Areas?

[EUROPARC SIGGEN Seminar 2022](#)

- PAs have the knowledge to plan, implement, lead and inspire
- PAs are core reservoirs of biodiversity: model and connecting gates to restored areas
- PAs are living laboratories for restoration
- Facilitate community engagement and foster ownership
- Bridge between different authorities and the ground
- Pilot innovative models for financing restoration at scale



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