



# Wilderness in Europe

Toby Aykroyd, Wild Europe Initiative

# Wild Europe initiative



Promotes a coordinated strategy for the protection and restoration of large tracts of natural ecosystem: 'wilderness' and 'wild areas'



# Wild Europe initiative



- Partnership since 2005
- Strong links to Europarc Federation
- Non intervention management
- Socio-economic benefit agenda
- Recommended to EC by 2009  
EU Parliamentary Resolution



# Wild Europe: key activities



- Promoting policy instruments
- Advocacy eg *Fitness Check*
- Sector projects: forestry, CAP, PES
- Individual area campaigns
- Economic Benefits Group - ANEEP
- Social Benefits Forum



# The momentum for wilderness and wild areas



- 2008 Joint petition: improved protection
- 2009 European Parliament Resolution
- 2009 EC Presidency Prague conference
- 2010 EC Presidency Brussels conference on Restoration Strategy
- 2011 Wilderness cited in EU Biodiversity Strategy



# The momentum for wilderness and wild areas



- 2012 Consensus wilderness definition for EC, national strategies
- 2013 EC Guidelines: non-intervention management in N2000 network
- 2014 EC Wilderness Register
- 2015 Wild Europe Foundation with Endowment Fund
- 2016 European Wilderness Council?



# Using the enterprise agenda for stronger protection



# Addressing urban social issues





# Romania – Carpathia: “Europe’s Yellowstone”



# The 'Nephin Wilderness'



# The wilderness agenda



Help us take it further – 2.00 pm today !!!