**Call for participants**

**Study trip
“Regional development and tourism in protected areas”**

**Wadden Sea National Park and Müritz National Park, Germany
12 - 18 June, 2016**

This one-week study trip to selected German national parks offers colleagues from foreign protected areas an **intensive exchange of experience and know-how** in the field of **regional development and tourism in protected areas.** It also looks ataspects of volunteer management.

If you – **as a member of staff or a volunteer in a protected area** – are working in regional development and tourism, we cordially invite you to apply for a place on this study trip. The study trip has been devised for specialist staff rather than for park directors.

Together with approximately six participants from across Europe you will be guided through the Wadden Sea National Park (Lower Saxony and Schleswig-Holstein) and the Müritz National Park (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern). The hosting parks are keen to show you their **successful partnerships, projects and working practices** in regional development and sustainable tourism. **Field trips, lectures and workshops with experts and practitioners on-site** (see detailed programme) will give you insights into best-practice solutions of the visited parks, support peer learning and joint processing of new strategies for your home park.

Please note:

**Basic English** skills are essential to take part.

We expect a **summary of “lessons learned”**, approx. 3-5 pages plus photos, from each participant within two months after the study trip.

Participants need to pay the **costs for their journey** to/from Hamburg, as well as for **board and lodging**. Costs for lodging (including breakfast)in a single bedroom will amount to **325, -** **Euro** in total. Lunch and dinner can be individually chosen and will cost approx. 8 to 12 Euro per meal. Costs for transport, entrance fees, speakers etc. will be covered by EUROPARC Germany’s project fund.

Participants need to arrange their own **liability, health and accident insurance**.

**Deadline for application: 15 April, 2016**

We will inform you by 25 April, 2016, if you have been selected as a participant.

Please submit the completed questionnaire by 15 April, 2016 via e-mail to:

Anne Schierenberg

E-mail: anne.schierenberg@europarc-deutschland.de

EUROPARC Deutschland e.V., Pfalzburger Str. 43/44, 10717 Berlin

Tel.: +49 (0)30/ 2887882-15, Fax: +49 (0)30/ 2887882-16

We look forward to receiving your application.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Anne Schierenberg.

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The study trip is part of the **project “International exchange of competences of players in protected areas”** (ANNIKA),run by EUROPARC Germany. The project supports the international exchange of know-how, experiences, and working practices between European protected areas. Therewith it aims to increase the expertise of German and European park staff in the fields of park management and nature conservation. At large, the intention is to strengthen the co-operation between the participating European parks and to support long-term relationships.

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| The project is financed by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) with funds of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB). |

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1. **Personal details**

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| Name       |
| Address (full-time staff: official address, volunteers: private address)        |
| E-mail address      Phone number       |
| Date of birth       |
| Professional qualification       |
| Other relevant know-how, experience etc. (participation in training programmes etc.)       |
| English language skills [ ]  Basic [ ]  Intermediate [ ]  Proficient |
| Do you have liability insurance that covers the activity? [ ]  Yes Do you have accident insurance that covers the activity? [ ]  YesDo you have health insurance that covers the activity? [ ]  Yes |

1. **General information about your position and role**

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| Name of the park you are working for       |
| Your position      Employed or volunteering since       |
| Please describe your key tasks and responsibilities in the protected area.      |

1. **Reference to the topic of the study trip**

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| What role does regional development and tourism play in your protected area? How do you use or implement regional development and tourism in your daily work or what plans exist in that field?      |
| What role does volunteer management play in your protected area and if applicable in your daily work?      |
| What can other protected area staff learn from you and your work regarding to this topic?       |
| Why do you want to take part in this study trip? Which personal benefit do you expect from it?      |
| How could this study trip have a positive effect on your work? What would you need to learn in order to benefit in the long-term from it? In which aspects would you need further expertise? To what extent could you apply newly gained expertise to your work?      |
| Further recommendations/ questions etc.      |

1. **Statement of your protected area’s director (filled in by the director, please)**

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| Your personal and professional recommendation of your employee/volunteer.      |
| How can your park benefit from the participation of the employee/volunteer in the study trip?      |
| To what extent are you interested or able (financially, personnel) to build up long-term relationships and cooperation with German parks?       |
| Further recommendations/questions etc.      |

Place, Date Signature Employee/Volunteer

Place, Date Signature Protected Area’s Director