Subject: eNews: the best events after summer | the future of CAP

EUROPARC Federation eNews
July 2017

Dear readers,

Summer has finally reached Europe with sunny days and high temperatures... While in most European offices it is now time to relax and enjoy holidays, in our National - Nature - Regional - Perurban - Marine Parks and Nature 2000 sites, the activity is intense as ever! So you might have few time to read this email, but we highly recommend you to take a look on the latest updates from Brussels and the important Save the Date(s) we bring you today... We will have an interesting meeting in about the Coexistence of Large Carnivores and the 10th edition of the Charter Network meeting!

In the meantime, our office in Regensburg and our member ADRIMAG in Portugal, are busy preparing EUROPARC Conference 2017 and getting ready to welcome delegates from across the world... Have you booked your place? Do not forget that this year we will have also Council and President elections, so have your say and join us in Portugal, between the 6-10th September.

Wish you happy readings.

Your EUROPARC team

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EUROPARC UPDATES

Excellent Seminar-dialogue with DG Environment: Partnerships for biodiversity

On the 14th of June, 21 EUROPARC members representing European protected areas from 8 countries and 12 officers from the European Commission - Directorate-General for Environment - participated in the Seminar-dialogue Partnerships for Biodiversity: European policies and the role of Protected Areas,
solutions they are implementing. Outcomes from the Federation’s programmes were also introduced, ranging the topics of biodiversity protection, Natura 2000, sustainable agriculture and fisheries, sustainable tourism, health, youth and transboundary cooperation.

The officers from the DG ENVI made a presentation about the new *Action Plan for nature, people and the economy* adopted by the EU following the evaluation of the Birds and Habitats Directives.

All presentations can now be downloaded. EUROPARC and DG Environment are looking at replicating the successful model of the Seminar-Discussion in 2018.

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**EUROPARC Conference 2017: Have you saved your place?**

From the 6th - 10th September, the Annual Conference of the EUROPARC Federation will be held in Portugal, in the Magic Mountains territory. Over 200 people have already booked their place for the biggest event of protected area professionals.

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.

Registrations and more information available at [europarc2017.montanhasmagicas.pt](http://europarc2017.montanhasmagicas.pt)

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"Living Together": Large Carnivores networking event

**SAVE THE DATE:** 12-14 October 2017, Prealpi Giulie Nature Park, Italy

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

EUROPARC is organising from the 12-14 October 2017 a [workshop on Coexistence between people and large carnivores](http://europarc2017.montanhasmagicas.pt) in partnership with the Prealpi Giulie Natural Park (IT) and the support of ELO – the European Landowners Organisation. This event will also be part of the networking initiatives promoted within the framework of the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process in the Alpine Region.

The event will support progress towards more effective management and protection of large carnivores, in coordination and with the involvement of the [European Platform on coexistence between people and large carnivores](http://europarc2017.montanhasmagicas.pt) and the WISO Platform of the Alpine Convention. The focus of the event will mainly be on the Alpine Region, but, as a cross-cutting topic, it’s open to other regions.

Soon, the detailed programme will be presented and registrations open.
CAP Consultation: results presented in Brussels

The Future of the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) was the main topic of discussion on 7th July, in the European Commission. At the “CAP have your say”, the results of the 3-months public consultation to the CAP were introduced and the first debate was opened.

The results of both the consultation and the on-the-ground analysis will feed into a Communication on modernising and simplifying the CAP to be published by the Commission later in 2017, which will drive the political debate towards the CAP reform post 2020.

All presentations are now available on the European Commission’s website.

According to the CAP consultation’s results, it is consensual that a Common Policy for Agriculture is still needed, but is clear that CAP is not addressing the environmental challenges. Hence, several NGOs joined the Living Land Campaign to call for a reformed CAP that must be:

- Fair – for farmers and rural communities,
- Environmentally Sustainable – for clean air and water, healthy soil, and thriving plant and animal life,
- Healthy – for good food and the well-being of all people,
- Globally Responsible – for the planet’s climate and sustainable development around the world,

EUROPARC, along with the French Regional Nature Parks and EUROPARC Germany supported the Living Land Campaign, which joined over 250,000 citizens. Environmental challenges, requirements and priorities were indeed part of the debate in the “CAP have your say event”. Moreover, EUROPARC highlighted near the European Commission, best practices from members and experts, especially due to the work of the Sustainable Agriculture Commission.

First European Summit of Regional Nature Parks
Europe’s Regional Nature Parks for Biological Diversity and Sustainable Rural Development

VDN (Association of German Nature Parks) and EUROPARC Federation gathered a 3-years project aiming at strengthening cooperation and fostering experience exchange among Nature, Regional and Landscape Parks across Europe. The outcomes of the project were introduced in Brussels, in the 1st European Summit of Regional Nature Parks.

Regional Nature Park representatives from 20 European states sign Declaration in Brussels

In the Declaration, representatives from Regional Nature Parks call on the European Union and its Member States to make greater use of Regional Nature Parks in implementing an integrated, far-sighted approach for a sustainable rural Europe. Download here the Declaration.

“LIVING LANDSCAPES”

Europe has almost 900 Regional Nature Parks in 20 Member States of the European Union plus Switzerland and Norway, covering 8% of the total surface area of the EU-28. The Living Landscapes book, launched in the Summit, provides relevant information about Europe’s Regional Nature Parks and the results of the first comprehensive study on these parks. The study was supported by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation with funding from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety.

Invasive Alien Species EU launches updated list

The EU Environment has just launched a new brochure about Invasive Alien Species, explaining the origin, spread, impacts & measures for the 49 listed species. Invasive alien species can easily spread across borders. This is why the EU has adopted a law - the IAS Regulation - to tackle the problem in a coordinated, joint effort across all Member States. The IAS Regulation is fairly young; it entered into force in January 2015. It also implements the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 which sets a specific target to combat the threat of invasive alien species in order to halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Download the brochure here.

PROJECT UPDATES

10th Charter Network Meeting Save the date!

Federparco - EUROPARC Italy and the Gran Sasso e Monti della Laga National Park will host the 10th Charter Network Meeting, between the 25-28th October. The Charter network meeting is the gathering of Sustainable Destinations awarded with the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas and is organised every 2 years.
We will honour the local population and businesses, recovering their homes and businesses towards a sustainable destination. We will learn of the new steps in the life of the Charter across Europe, and show how it can work as a support for the renaissance of marginalised and devastated areas.

EUROPARC invites all members and professionals with an interest in the Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas to join us in this important meeting. The event will take place in "Apennine Floristic Research Centre" in the village of Barisciano (L’Aquila Province). More information will be shared soon.

[Image]

Transboundary Parks Ecoregion Julian Alps hosted the TransParcNet meeting 2017

"Changing Climate, Changing Parks" was the theme of the 6th TransParcNet meeting, the annual gathering of protected area professionals involved in cross-border cooperation programmes. Representatives from Parks working within the Transboundary Parks Programme framework gathered to share experience and project outcomes in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The 3-days meeting was kindly hosted by the Julian Alps Transboundary Convention, which encompasses Triglav National Park (Slovenia) and Prealpi Giulie Nature Park (Italy) and counted with over 40 participants from 10 European countries.

Check the photo gallery here and download the presentations here.

[Image]

IMPACT INTERREG EUROPE Team meeting in Molise

EUROPARC is a partner of the Interreg Europe Project IMPACT: New management models for Protected Areas. The project, funded by the European Regional Development Fund, aims to explore new management models to balance preservation and exploitation of Protected Areas.

During three days, IMPACT partners, stakeholders and other participants had the opportunity to discover two different protected areas in the Regione Molise and to know a little bit more about their management. More about the meeting here.

[Image]

CEETO EUROPARC joins new project

EUROPARC is a partner of the CEETO Interreg Central Europe Project (Central Europe Eco-Tourism: tools for nature protection) that aims to make tourism a real driver for nature protection and local socio-economic well-being.

The kick-off meeting took place in Bologna, Italy, on the 26-27th June, with the participation of over twenty partner representatives from eleven nationalities. The project is funded by the European Union Regional Development Fund.

For more information visit the project website.

[Image]

EUROPARC SECTIONS

Nordic-Baltic Conferences on Agriculture and Tourism

The Nordic-Baltic section will be represented by Kaja Lotman, Vice-President of the EUROPARC Federation, in 2 interesting events in September.

Kaja will lead a seminar on "Nature friendly agriculture in European Protected Areas", where best practice from across EUROPARC membership will be shared, specially with the contributions of EUROPARC Sustainable Agriculture Section.

**Conference "Tourism in Protected Areas"**, 14-16 September, Saare-Kõpu manor, Estonia
Kaja will introduce the Federation and the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas.

[Image]

Spain Seminar on Conservation and Land Development

EUROPARC Spain and the Asturias Regional Administration organised on the 29th June a Seminar on the topic "Conservation and Land Development". The event was hosted by the Nature Park Sierra de las Nieves, and participants looked at good practices on sustainable local development around protected areas from Asturias, Cataluña y Andalucia. More about the seminar in castellano here.

[Image]

OPPORTUNITIES
Awards

The Ramsar Secretariat invites nominations of suitable individuals, organizations or initiatives, and invites readers to disseminate this call widely within their network, so as to attract as many good nominations as possible.

All information is available on the Convention website. Applications due in September 30th.

UN Environment Champions of the Earth

Nominations for the UN Environment Champions of the Earth is open until the 22nd July! Do you know someone who is making an outstanding contribution to the protection and restoration of environment?
There are 4 categories for nominations, read more here.

2017 Call for proposals for LIFE Grants

The EU Commission 2017 Call for proposals for LIFE Action Grants several opportunities for both LIFE, sub-programmes and preparatory projects. Check all information here.

GOOD TO KNOW

Lake District National Park (UK) becomes a World Heritage Site!

EUROPARC congratulates its member Lake District National Park for achieving this fantastic world recognition! The Lake District’s bid for World Heritage status was put together by the 25 partners that make up the Lake District National Park Partnership. Inscription is in the ‘Cultural Landscapes’ category and the recognition was given earlier this month, in Poland. Find out more about it here.

Hossa National Park the newest (and 40th!) National Park in Finland

On the year that Finland celebrates 100 since the creation of its first National Park, a new Park has been announced! The Hossa National Park is an excellent destination: the trails running along pine heaths invite you to hike and cycle, and the crystal-clear lakes to go canoeing and fishing. The rock paintings of Juva-Olkky and Väräkkylä depict stories of shamanism, dating back thousands of years. More about the Park here or here.

EUROSITE Conference

Between the 25-27 September, Eurosite organises its Annual Meeting 2017 in combination with the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process thematic networking event - site managers and other stakeholders from all over Europe will join EUROSITE for an exciting programme exploring the best practices of using alternative funding mechanisms and collaboration possibilities in the management of Natura 2000 areas.

The Annual Meeting will take place in Finland, and participants will be looking at "improving natural sites - joining forces and prioritising conservation actions".
Registration and more information here.

ALPARC Reading mountains 2017

The festival aims at celebrating Alpine Literature, languages and cultural diversity all over the Alps. It will take place on the 11th December and partners can organise their own events by registering on the website of the Alpine convention (ALPARC). More information here.