EUROPARC CONFERENCE
06 — 10 Sep 2017
Montanhas Mágicas
Portugal

New Voices
New Visions
New Values

for People
and Nature
in Europe
Modern Park Rangers – improving skills for effective Ranger teams

Frank Gruetz, European Representative IRF
President ERF
Duties of Rangers in Parks

• Patrolling
Duties of Rangers in Parks

• Law Enforcement
Duties of Rangers in Parks

- Environmental education
Duties of Rangers in Parks

• Involving communities
Duties of Rangers in Parks

- Land management
Duties of Rangers in Parks

• Working with volunteers
Duties of Rangers in Parks

- Visitor information and visitor management
Duties of Rangers in Parks

- Monitoring
Duties of Rangers in Parks

• Infrastructure maintenance
Duties of Rangers in Parks

• Fire fighting
Duties of Rangers in Parks

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Ranger Training Projects in the Past

European Ranger Project erp
“Promoting environment literacy through integrated youth and ranger training programmes”

• Financed by the Johann Jacobs Foundation
• Project term of two years (August 1998 to July 2000)
• Diverse Partners: e.g. Losehill Hall, IRF, SCRA, CMA, APGVN, Administration of Slovak National Parks,…
• Endorsed by IUCN and EUROPARC
TOPAS – Training of Protected Area Staff

• responds to the demands of European nature conservation organizations such as EUROPARC Federation, IRF and the IUCN for a large scale European initiative in the “Parks for Life”-project to standardize education and continuing education measures for employees of protected areas from all over Europe
• Project term three years (01.12.2000 – 30.11.2003)
• Financed by the EU Leonardo II Programme
• Endorsed by IUCN and EUROPARC
Why do we need Modern Park Rangers?

- Rising complexity of nature conservation laws in the EU (e.g. NATURA 2000, European Policy for biodiversity 2020/2050,…)
- Rising pressure from industry, economy and society into the protected areas
- Advanced skills in Nature Interpretation and Environmental Education
- Use of modern technologies in nature conservation
- Networking across borders (e.g. transboundary projects)
• Interaction/cooperation with communities
• The high speed of species extinction
• Cross-border problems in nature conservation (e.g. Large Carnivores, reintroduction of endangered species,...)
  • ...
  • ...
HOW SHOULD THE TRAINING OF MODERN PARK RANGERS LOOK LIKE?
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