TransParcNet Meeting 2021
The contribution of the Transboundary Protected Areas to the EU Green Deal

Online - Thursday, 10th of June 2021

Presentation and update about the EUROPARC Transboundary Programme and the network

Rolands Auzins & Stefano Santi, Co-chair EUROPARC TB Task Force
The **EUROPARC Transboundary Programme**

is a **special methodology and certification system**

to support mutual understanding, often between countries where history may have created mutual distrust or administrative barriers, and develop management tools to enable greater cooperative management.

**Four elements of the system:**

- EUROPARC Basic Standards for transfrontier cooperation,
- verification process by external verifiers,
- certification as a “EUROPARC Transboundary Area”,
- renewal of the Certificate every five years.
Do you remember?
Our last TPNmeeting was online on December 9th 2020
In January we prepared together with the Rete Italiana EGB (LP) and your kind support the project "YOUTH AND NATURE, WITHOUT BORDER" for the financing of the Waldesian Church
In the meantime, as a follow up of our 2020 TPN meeting, a specific Working Group began working on a common project idea to be financed for the benefit of the entire network.

**WG members**
- Pavel Bečka
- André Claassen
- Pertti Itkonen
- Daniele Piazza
- Leo Reyrink
- Stefano Santi
- Riina Tervo

**Supported by:**
- Stefania Petrosillo
- Lisanne Krujswijk (Former Intern)
On March 2\textsuperscript{nd} 2021 we had a Task Force meeting to discuss about projects initiatives, TransParcNet meeting 2021, webinars in other languages, recruitment, and Chair turnover.
We also updated **TB strategy and Action Plan** in order to harmonize it with Europarc’s general strategy and better target our next steps.

It includes 6 Categories of strategic activities:

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<th>SUMMARY ON ACTIVITIES</th>
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- Red: Work to be done
- Yellow: Needs attention and some work input
- Green: Doing well, flying high
- Grey: Not enough knowledge for defining the progress
Stefania with EUROPARC Spain organized one webinar in Spanish–Portuguese to present the TB programme and to promote the participation in it. Another one in French is planned with EUROPARC Francophonie (28th September, everyone welcome!).

We also had targeted meetings with some Parks who had shown interest in joining the TB programme.
Thanks to the kind availability of a former Europarc intern, Elisa Tuillon, we had the opportunity to carry out a small research on how the members of our network communicate the themes of the TB programme through their websites.

And, of course, we organized today’s TPN meeting (hope you will enjoy it)
UPDATE FROM THE NETWORK

EUROPARC.ORG/TRANSBOUNDARY-COOPERATION

1. Pasvik-Inari Trilateral Park (FI/NO/ RU)
2. Oulanka-Paanajärvi Transboundary Parks (FI/RU)
3. Maas-Schwald-Nette Nature Park (NL/DE)
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9. Julian Alps Transboundary Ecoregion (IT/ SI)
10. Binntal Veglia Devero Transboundary Nature Park (IT/CH)
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Pasvik Zapovednik (RU):
- Ecoweek (April 2021) - common Pasvik-Inari TP themes: Brown bear monitoring, Ramsar convention, our joint projects: PAN, Aurora.
- Birdwatching trips (on Varlama Island, 06.06.2021) and publications in social media.

Metsähallitus (FI):
- Social media –campaign on bird watching for World Environment Day, 5.6.2021
- Extension and renovation of Visitor Centre Siida and renewal of its permanent exhibition continue. Name of the new exhibition is «These lands are our children».

Photos: I.Mihalchuk, Y.Medvedko
Through the Kolarctic PAN project (2019-2022) the vision of a new Visitor Point in the outskirts of Øvre Pasvik National Park, is now being realized. In this PAN (Phenomena of the Arctic Nature) we cooperate amongst others with our partners in the Pasvik Inari Trilateral Park, to disseminate the values of the nature protected areas and support sustainable nature tourism.

Figure: The main building will be a reused building originally for forestry workers, the drawings shows the new interior with a new open entrance room dedicated to information posters and screens.
From the yearly bird registration in Pasvik Nature Reserve on Friday 4. June, 24 eager bird watchers identified 50 species and 192 individuals. Unusually good weather - 28°C.
OULANKA-PAANAJÄRVI TRANSBOUNDARY PARKS

• Transborder Karelia CBC collaboration project Pro Trout has installed six receivers of underwater acoustic radiosignals in Paanajärvi NP along the migration route of the transborder brown trout in April-June 2021.

• The receivers record the migration schedule, reach and survival of juvenile brown trout that were marked with tiny radiotransmitters in River Kuusinkijoki, Finland, in August 2020. The data recorded by the receivers will be used to improve the simulation model of the brown trout life cycle in Oulanka-Paanajärvi area.

• The model can be used to estimate sustainable levels of fishing mortality of brown trout in each side of the Finnish-Russian border. In Oulanka National Park, fishing of brown trout remains prohibited also in 2021. The prohibition has now been in place for seven years.
OULANKA-PAANAJÄRVI TRANSBOUNDARY PARKS

• Winter is the best time of the year to transport materials to the park
• In the summer new duck boards are put on their place on hiking trails
• Above a picture from Paanajärvi NP and below from Oulanka NP
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Cross Border Project Nature and Woodprotection against fires didn’t prevent a big fire last year. But this spring after one year on some places the heath is recovering rather well!
Leo Reyrink is out of office, but you still might hear from him!

Long live the new designated captain André Claassen
Massive barkbeatle attack in NLP Saxon Switzerland. More than half of the spruce (Picea abies) is absorbed (>2000 ha). The process is going on...
We are on the way back to wilderness – 75% of our area is nature dynamic area now
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ŠUMAVA AND BAVARIAN FOREST NATIONAL PARKS

For the first time in our national parks and in the Czech Republic, a wolf was caught and tagged. The telemetric collar is worn by a female wolf.

© Jan Mokrý
ŠUMAVA AND BAVARIAN FOREST NATIONAL PARKS

Two new INTERREG projects has started:
- Assessment of the risk of infecting wild animals with the invasive parasite large American liver fluke
  Partners: LWF and our national park administrations
- Insects, fungi, lichen and mosses - promoting biodiversity and development of forest nature protection concepts in the Bohemian Forest
  Goethe-University Frankfurt and our national park administrations

© Bavarian Forest National Park Administration
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National Parks Thayatal (AT) & Podyjí (CZ)

While the borders looked like this: ↑

Our cooperation looked like this: ↓

Transboundary Parks... following nature's design
.. and nevertheless both National Parks managed to further deepen their transboundary cooperation:

- Approval of a new project: “nATCZwork”
  - Language courses for employees
  - Employee exchanges
  - Joint excursions
  - Transboundary Networking

- Application of another new project: “Wo ist die Grenze? – Kde je Hranice?”
  - Visitor management and improvement of visitor infrastructure

- Organization of a joint anniversary conference „50 years together“

- Coordination in research and management

- Completion of the research project „Connecting Nature AT-CZ“
  - Transboundary biodiversity and habitat network research
Controlled and agreed implementation of the new logo for the 2 national parks and several online meetings.
Building of the common center for rangers of the transboundary national park on the Hungarian part of Lake Fertő is already in process. Opening late summer 2021.
TRANSBOUNDARY ECOREGION JULIAN ALPS

2021

PREPARATION FOR NEW EU PROJECTS

FIRST STEP TOWARDS RECOGNITION OF TRANSBOUNDARY UNESCO MAB JULIAN ALPS

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEE TB FRIENDS IN PERSON

ZOOM MEETINGS OF TB ECOREGION JULIAN ALPS STEERING COMMITTEE – 12/2020, 04/2021, 06/2021

TNP CELEBRATE THE PARK’S 40TH ANNIVERSARY 24 JULY 2021 IN TRENTA - TB EVENT: RENAMING INFO CENTRE DOM TRENTA TO TRANSBOUNDARY INFO ECOREGION JULIAN ALPS DOM TRENTA AND OFFICIAL PRESENTATION OF THE FILM NATURE WITHOUT BORDERS
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Joint promotion and cross-marketing initiatives (according to COVID restrictions) (Binntal and Veglia Devero Transboundary Parks @Ernen Market, CH)

Mutual exchange and on-field learning initiatives (Trans Park Guides @ Alpe Veglia, IT)
Shared project management and development (Interreg IT – CH “Mineralp”)

Constant coordination, development and follow up (Steering Group on-line meetings)
Hiking Without Borders
400km International Hiking Trail System

Completion of our 400km cross border hiking trail system on May 2021

Intensive coordination and close cooperation between nature conservation and tourism

Only when people see and experience what we protect they can gain an understanding of nature and our work
Digital Information-Points
We Explain The Secret Behind The Obvious

Establishment of a network of digital information points in the landscape

Explaining nature and culture of the region

Small information signs with QR code: easy to find, but not disturbing the beauty of the landscape

Information can be accessed at any time via the internet

Bilingual and cross-border
CANDIDATE AREA - HÁLDI
Overview

The Háldi area not yet confirmed as TBA. But, work in progress to prepare if we are accepted.

Reports and documents of development project (Interreg) concluded 31th of May. Some work still to be concluded. Waiting for borders to open.

Joint Management Board established. First meeting in Teams 15.01.21. Cooperation plan and Action plan accepted. Second meeting planned in August.

Group of stakeholders will be invited to meeting during 2021.

Common Information Film – in 2021 only available in visitor centres – and for you. Please use this link. (Limited link Vimeo).

Coordinated Háldi Area information in the web sites of Metsähallitus and Reisa NP.

https://www.nationalparks.fi/halditransboundaryarea
https://reisanasjonalpark.no/en/haldi-transboundary-area/

Other information service for the visitor centres – info screen.
Info-session for specialist, researchers and managers. Mountain Fox conservation and management. 19 participants.

Working to establish common basemap for the Hálidi area and the Nordkalotten hiking trail. Takes time....