Norwegian and Finnish Nature Protection Cooperation in Pasvik-Inari area

Meeting on September 7th 2022, Inari, Finland

Statsforvalteren i Troms og Finnmark
County Governor of Troms and Finnmark

Øvre Pasvik nasjonalpark

METSÄHALLITUS
FORSTSTYRELSEN
MEAHCIRÁÐÐEHUS

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and presentation of the participants
2. Selection of chair and secretary
3. Important information from each organization (15 minutes each)
    a) Norway: County Governor of Troms and Finnmark, Øvre Pasvik National Park Board, Nibio and Municipality of Sør-Varanger
    b) Finland: Metsähallitus Parks & Wildlife Finland, ELY-centre and Municipality of Inari
4. Current state of affairs in cross-border cooperation and wishes for future
    a) Norway
    b) Finland

5.a. EUROPARC co-operation

- Re-evaluation of certificate for Pasvik-Inari Trilateral Park –cooperation planned for 2023 -> possibilities for action
  - Official bilateral letter this autumn asking for one-year postponement with reference to Russia's aggression on Ukraine. Further decisions by autumn 2023. Earlier EUROPARC has granted max. 2 postponements before the 5-year-tb certificate has run out
  - Letter to Steering committee of Transboundary Parks –programme and EUROPARC Council asking for consultation on whether applying as bilateral park would be possible for us. Further decisions by autumn 2023
  - Let the tb certificate run out, and give time for the bilateral cooperation to evolve

Agenda

6. Construction of possible bilateral work plan

   a) Management: staff exchange (see next slide), workgroup work, steering group work

   b) Monitoring: bird ringing, brown bear in 2023

   c) Enlightenment activities: Dissemination of information like Pasvik-Inari TP website

   d) EUROPARC cooperation: Participation in Transboundary Parks –programme (see next slide)

   e) Cooperation in current projects and ideas for future

6. Construction of possible bilateral work plan

a) Management: staff exchange in 2022
   - Specialist in Communication Victoria Gonzalez from Nibio Svanhovd in Finland in June (20.-23.6.2022)
     - Themes: monitoring of Lesser white-fronted goose through DNA-analysis of water samples; renovation of cultural heritage sites; environmental education; visitor centres and infrastructure in Northern Lapland park area
   - Fieldwork manager Alexander Kopf from Metsähallitus in Norway in autumn (29.8.-2.9.2022)
     - Themes: protected areas and their management, cooperation with f. ex. SNO, monitoring of brown bear
   - Common report in making
   - In general good reflections from the staff exchange: discussion and learning process, increment of understanding

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d) EUROPARC cooperation: Participation in Transboundary Parks –programme (see next slide)

e) Cooperation in current projects and ideas for future

6. Construction of possible bilateral work plan

d) EUROPARC cooperation:

Participation in Transboundary Parks – programme

- Norwegian and Finnish protected areas are currently members of EUROPARC after having paid the annual fee
- If we should postpone the re-evaluation of certification with one year, we will have the possibility to participate in TransParcNet –network in 2023 after paying the annual fee
- Official TransParcNet -network is composed of certified parks and candidates. Transboundary areas are deleted from the network after 1 or 2 year-postponement of re-evaluation of the certificate.

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7. Targets for year 2023: Suggestions for possible targets with reference to P-I TP Action Plan

- Ad hoc steering group meeting in autumn in Norway
- Ad hoc working group
- Staff exchange
- Brown bear monitoring
- Social media campaign for European day of Parks (May 24th)
- Launching review and update the “Principles of sustainable nature tourism in Pasvik-Inari area”: communication on current situation in Norway and Finland
- Funding needs / New project ideas

Agenda

8. Other items

9. Next meeting

10. Closing of the meeting

Takk! Kiitos! Takkâ! Spä'sseb! Giitu!

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