



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**WILD
EUROPE**

**EC PRESIDENCY CONFERENCE
ON RESTORATION OF LARGE
WILD AREAS**

**“Rebuilding the Natural Heart
of Europe”**

The EC Presidency and European Commission in
association with Wild Europe and the Royal Belgian
Institute of Natural Sciences

14 November 2010

EC Presidency Conference on wild area restoration

Rebuilding the Natural Heart of Europe

16th November 2010, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels
10 Rue Vautier, 1000 Brussels

Day 1	Assessing what's possible: can we achieve a practical vision?
0815 - 0900	Registration
0900 - 0935	<p>Opening Session, Restoration – building for the future Chair: Toby Aykroyd, Director, Wild Europe</p> <p>Welcome – the title: conference aims and geographic focus Toby Aykroyd, Director, Wild Europe</p> <p>Welcome by the EC Belgian Presidency Representative of the Belgian EC Presidency</p> <p>The wilderness momentum for modern Europe Jo Mulongoy, Head of Scientific Division, CBD Secretariat, Montreal</p> <p>Facing the perfect storm - wild area restoration at a critical time for biodiversity Ladislav Miko, Director of Natural Environment, European Commission DG Environment</p>
0935 - 1040	<p>Session 1 Restoring wildness to the heart of Europe Chair: Erika Stanciu, WWF Danube Carpathian Programme</p> <p>The meaning of wild area restoration Vladivoj Vancura, Conservation Manager, PAN Parks Foundation</p> <p>If <i>they</i> can do it...! Restoring the original EU heartland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wild Area Restoration Belgium, TBA• South East England – Great Fen, Alan Bowley, Senior Reserves Manager, Natural England• Swords to plough blades and military areas to wilderness, Christof Schenck, The Foundation for Natural Landscapes Brandenburg, Germany• Netherlands – Riverine restoration, Johan Bekhuis, Ark Foundation
1040 - 1110	Coffee break

1110 - 1210	<p>Session 2 Restoring wildness across Europe Chair: Alberto Arroyo, WWF Natura 2000 Coordinator, European Policy Office</p> <p>Restoration in Europe – an overview Magnus Sylven, International Consultant, former director, WWF Europe / Middle East</p> <p>‘Rewilding Europe’ initiative– pre launch update Frans Schepers, Programme Leader, WWF Netherlands</p> <p>Restoration: a global perspective Harvey Locke, Vice President, Conservation Strategy, Wild Foundation US</p>
1210 - 1255	<p>Session 3 Conservation and beyond: key drivers for a visionary restoration agenda Chair: Boris Barov, European Policy Officer, Birdlife International</p> <p>Land abandonment & CAP Reform – future opportunity? David Baldock, Director, Institute for European Environmental Policy</p> <p>Climate change and ecosystem services – new developments Hugh Fullerton-Smith Director, European Nature Trust Anton Vorauer, River Management Specialist, WWF Alpine Programme</p> <p>The sustainability agenda Esa Härkönen, Senior Advisor, Metsähallitus</p>
1255 - 1300	<p>Introduction to workshops: Your Visions for a Wilder Europe Chair: Zoltán Kun, Director PAN Parks Foundation</p>
1300 - 1400	Lunch
1400 - 1515	<p>Session 4 Workshops</p> <p>Your Visions for a Wilder Europe</p> <p>Each group to lay out its vision for 25, 50 and 100 years ahead with each group also being allocated a specialist reference to one of the following five topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. location, size, connectivity 2. species reintroduction 3. urban social engagement, role in education, public support 4. economic contribution 5. funding, policies and incentives, ownership
1525 - 1600	<p>Session 5 Workshop feedback Chair: Zoltán Kun, Director PAN Parks Foundation</p> <p>Summary of participant input from each workshop session chair</p>
1600 - 1630	Tea break

1630 - 1730	<p>Session 6 Wild by Design – key elements of restoration ecology Chair: Paul Grigoriev, Programme Coordinator, IUCN Regional Office for Europe</p> <p>Process - habitats and systems Vania Proenca, Senior Researcher, University of Lisbon</p> <p>Management - non intervention and naturalistic Feiko Prins, OBO Large Herbivore Network</p> <p>Connectivity - from buzzword to building block Giacomo Luciani, EURAC specialist, Carpathian Convention, UNEP Vienna Office</p> <p>Reintroductions - missing pieces in the ecological jigsaw Pierre Devillers, Chair of Scientific Council, Convention on Migratory Species</p>
1730	Close of Day 1
1745 - 2000	Networking Opportunity - Selection of films and discussion forums

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Day 2	Developing a restoration strategy for the vision
0815 - 0900	Registration
0900 –0935	<p>Session 1 Using best practice from existing initiatives Chair: Zoltan Kun, Director PAN Parks Foundation</p> <p>Large scale restoration in a crowded country: The Dutch Eco-net and Oostvaardersplassen Chris Kalden, Director General, Staatsbosbeheer Netherlands</p> <p>Restoring the forests of Europe – best ecological practice: the Sumava Bayerischerwald programme Hans Kiener, Deputy Director, Bayerischer Wald National Park, Germany</p>

0935 – 1015	<p>Session 2 Building cross-sector consensus Chair: Ernst Schulte, Head of Forest Unit, European Commission, DG Environment</p> <p>Landowner and Farming A representative from European Landowners Organisation</p> <p>Forestry Daniel Vallauri, Principal Forest Officer, WWF France</p> <p>Urban social arena Jo Roberts, Director, The Wilderness Foundation UK</p>
1015 – 1045	Coffee break
1045 – 1130	<p>Session 3 Using the value of wild area restoration Chair: Giacomo Luciani, EURAC specialist, Carpathian Convention, UNEP Vienna Office</p> <p>Promoting the value of restoration in a recession – TEEB update Pavan Sukhdev, Coordinator TEEB Study, Head UNEP Green Economy Initiative</p> <p>The business of sustainability Neil Birnie, Chief Executive, Conservation Capital Ltd</p> <p>Funding large areas for the long run - innovation and stability Marianne Kettunen, Senior Policy Analyst, IEEP</p>
1130 – 1200	<p>Session 4 Addressing the policy framework Chair: Sonja Gantioler, Institute of European Environmental Policy</p> <p>Best practice in the Member States and the Commission Alberto Arroyo, WWF Natura 2000 Coordinator, European Policy Office</p> <p>Inputting to international conventions Paul Grigoriev, Regional Programme Coordinator, IUCN ROfE</p>
1200 – 1255	<p>Session 5 Research, Education and Communication Chair: Jurgen Tack, Director, INBO</p> <p>The research agenda – what’s needed? Steve Carver, Senior Researcher, Department of Geography, Leeds University</p> <p>Education - influencing curricula Helen McDade, Head of Policy, John Muir Trust</p> <p>Communication – capturing hearts and minds Staffan Widstrand, Director, Wild Wonders of Europe</p>
1255 - 1300	<p>Introduction to workshops: Participants build their restoration strategy Chair: Toby Aykroyd, Director, Wild Europe</p>

1300 - 1400	Lunch
1400 - 1515	<p>Session 7 Workshops</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New policies and incentives for restoration – what’s needed? 2. Biodiversity benefits of wilderness: identifying, proving and promoting best practice 3. Sustainability, funding & the role of the corporate sector 4. Restoration – making it work: what should go in a standard toolkit? (management, benefit valuation and usage and communication) 5. Communication strategy – to whom and how? Identifying targets and making wilderness ‘fashionable’
1525 - 1545	<p>Keynote presentation: Wilderness in the EU Post 2010 Biodiversity Strategy Kurt Vandenberghe, Head of Cabinet, Environment Commissioner, European Commission</p>
1545 - 1630	<p>Session 8 Workshop feedback Chair: Toby Aykroyd, Director, Wild Europe</p> <p>Summary of participant input, from each workshop chair</p>
1630 - 1700	Tea break
1700 - 1730	<p>Final Session – Implementing and communicating the restoration strategy Chair: Erika Stanciu, President, Europarc Federation</p> <p>Communicating the values of restoration to decision takers Gyula Hegyi, Advisor to Cabinet, EC DG Employment and Social Affairs</p> <p>Building a wilder Europe: Implementing the restoration strategy Stefan Leiner, Head of Natura 2000 Unit, European Commission DG Environment</p>
1730	Conference closes