

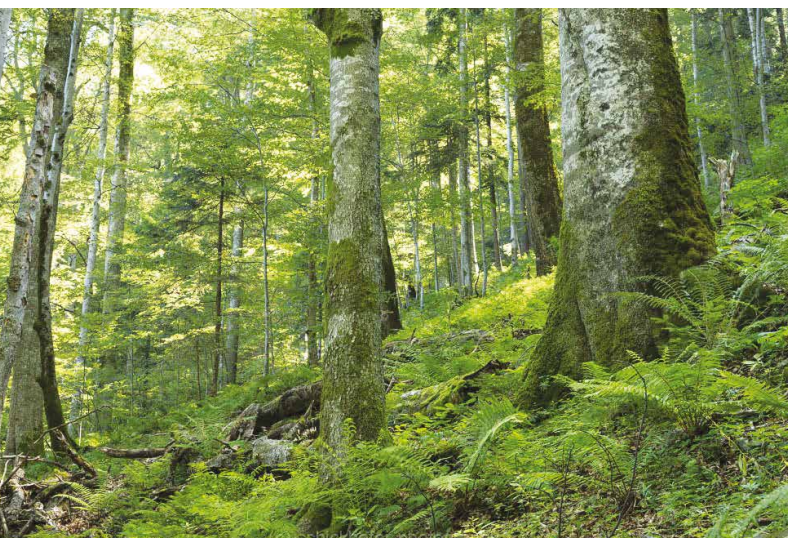


**WILD  
EUROPE**

# Conference for protection of old growth forest in Europe

13/14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017

HOSTED BY THE EU COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS  
101 RUE BELLIARD, BRUSSELS



**HOSTED BY THE  
EUROPEAN COMMITTEE  
OF THE REGIONS**



# Conference schedule

## DAY ONE

**0800**

**Registration opens**

**0900 – 0945**

**SESSION 1**

### **Setting the scene**

*Session Chair Toby Aykroyd, Wild Europe*

- **Welcome from our hosts, the Committee of the Regions**  
*Roby Biwer, Rapporteur of the European Committee of the Regions on the fitness check of the Nature Directives*
- **Welcome from the Director General of DG Environment EC**  
*Daniel Calleja – by video (he is in Beijing)*
- **Old growth forest – An EC perspective on Europe’s precious natural heritage**  
*Humberto Delgado-Rosa, Head of Natural Capital, European Commission*
- **Old growth forest protection, a united European endeavour for global benefit**  
*Isabelle Anatole-Gabriel, Head of Unit, Europe & North America, UNESCO World Heritage Centre*

**0945 – 1035**

**SESSION 2**

### **The current situation with old growth forest**

*Session Chair – Eladio Fernandez-Galliano, Head of Biodiversity and Heritage, Council of Europe*

- **What is old growth forest – a definition structure**  
*Ana Marin, Malaga University*
- **Where is it located – how much is left, mapping for protection**  
*Francesco Sabatini, Humboldt University, Berlin*  
*Steffen Fritz, International Institute for Applied Statistical Analysis (IIASA) Vienna*
- **Levels of protection (policy and legal): filling the gaps**  
*Catherine Weller, Senior Lawyer, ClientEarth*

**1035 – 1105**

**Coffee Break**

1105 – 1210

SESSION 3

## The values of old growth forest

Session Chair – Luc Bas, Director IUCN Regional Office for Europe

- **The ecological value of old growth forests**  
*Daniel Vallauri, WWF France*
- **Old growth forests and climate change – the PES agenda**  
*Steve Prior, Director Forest Carbon*
- **The non-extractive socio-economic value**  
*Neil Birnie, Managing Director, Conservation Capital*

1210 – 1255

SESSION 4

## Threats to old growth forest

Erika Stanciu, Chair ProParks Foundation

Former Secretary of State for Forests, Ministry of Environment, Romania

- **General threats**  
*Hanna Aho, FERN*
- **Illegal logging**  
*David Gehl, Environmental Investigation Agency*
- **Bio energy**  
*Sini Eräjää, Birdlife International*

1255

## Workshop briefing

1300 – 1400

Lunch

1400 – 1600

SESSION 5

## Workshops to develop key elements of the Protection Strategy

- **Policy and legislation: what's needed**  
*Coordinators: Catherine Weller, Senior Lawyer, ClientEarth / Kees Bastmeijer, University of Tilburg*
- **Devising an Early Warning System, with interactive map**  
*Coordinators: Bernhard Kohler, WWF Austria / Steffen Fritz, IIASA*
- **Management: best practice & training for protection**  
*Coordinator: Erika Stanciu, Chair ProParks Foundation, Former Secretary of State for Forests, Ministry of Environment, Romania*
- **Funding sources**  
*Coordinator: Ben Delbaere, Delbaere Consultancy*
- **Addressing illegal logging**  
*Coordinator: David Gehl, Environmental Investigation Agency*

1600 – 1630

Tea Break

**1630 – 1720**

**SESSION 6**

## **Presentation of Results by five workshop leaders**

*Session Chair – Zoltan Kun, Wild Europe*

**1720 – 1730**

### **Wrap Up – developing the Strategy**

*Ladislav Miko, Chairman Wild Europe*

*Former Director, Natural Environment (DGE) European Commission*

## **EVENING EVENT**

**1900 – 2300**

### **Visions for ancient forest in Europe**

*Ladislav Miko, Chairman Wild Europe*

*Former Director of Natural Environment, European Commission*

*Christoph Promberger, Director Fundatia Conservation Carpathia*

A presentation on the remarkable Conservation Carpathia Foundation (Romania) initiative, now becoming Europe's largest non-state funded purchase and protection programme for old growth forests and their unique wildlife; how this benefits local communities and landholders. With award winning ancient forest films.

Reception and seated dinner in the Dinosaur Gallery at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences.

# DAY TWO

## 0900 – 0905

**Introduction – the day ahead**

## 0905 – 1000

### SESSION 1

#### **The Importance of partnerships – presentation and panel discussion**

*Session Chair - Jürgen Tack, Science Director, European Landowners Organisation*

- **A key state forest agency initiative**  
*Nikolay Vassilev, Bulgarian Executive Forest Agency*
- **Incentives to private landholders**  
*Matt McLuckie, Conservation Capital*
- **A perspective from forest research**  
*Theresa Frei, European Forest Institute*
- **Corporate responsibility**  
*Katarina Schabasser CCA Administrator  
JAF International Corporation*

## 1000 – 1130

### SESSION 2

#### **Workshops to develop key elements of the Protection Strategy**

- **Incentivising the private sector in practice**  
*Coordinator: Matt McLuckie, Conservation Capital*
- **Ecosystem services and bio energy**  
*Coordinators: Steve Prior, Forest Carbon*
- **Mapping and research requirements**  
*Coordinators: Francesco Sabatini, Humboldt University, Berlin / Bart Steen, Joint Research Centre, EC*
- **New approaches to long-term protection**  
*Coordinator: Andras Krolopp, The Nature Conservancy TBC*
- **Communication and representation**  
*Coordinator: Matthias Schickhofer, Founder Supporting Change Consultancy*

## 1130 – 1200

**Coffee Break**

## 1200 – 1245

### SESSION 3

#### **Presentation of Results by five workshop leaders**

*Session Chair – Anne-Marie Bastrup-Birk, European Environment Agency (EEA)*

## 1245 – 1300

### SESSION 4

#### **Global conservation perspective**

A new initiative, and why old growth forest protection strategy in Europe will have wider impact  
Virginia Young, InTact Primary Forest Network (Global)

**1300 – 1400**

**Lunch**

**1400 – 1515**

**SESSION 5**

**Highlighting existing initiatives in the field – case studies with panel discussion**

*Session Chair - Bernhard Kohler, WWF Austria*

**Carpathian Convention**

Miroslava Plassman, WWF Danube Carpathian Programme

**Romanian situation**

Erika Stanciu, Chair ProParks Foundation  
Former Secretary of State for Forests  
Environment Ministry, Romania

**Protection in Ukraine**

Michael Brombacher, Director Europe Frankfurt  
Zoological Society

**Progress in Belarus**

Viktar Fenchuk, APB-BirdLife Belarus

**Austrian initiatives**

Erik Mayrhofer, Director Kalkalpen National Park – TBC

**Advancing the Beech Forest Network**

Marcus Waldherr, Coordinator European Beech  
Forest Network

**Nephin –a vision from Ireland**

Bill Murphy, former Head of Environment  
& Recreation, Coillte Irish Forestry Agency

**1515 – 1545**

**SESSION 6**

**Presentation and discussion of a Protection Strategy**

*Toby Aykroyd and Zoltan Kun*

**Key elements for development:**

- Definition structure
- Mapping framework
- Practical protection: Early Warning System
- Enhancing the policy and legal framework
- Funding and incentives
- Securing long-term protection
- Communication & representation
- Setting objectives: short, medium, long-term
- Action Plan and next steps Q&A

**1545 – 1615**

Coffee break, including votes into boxes

**1615 – 1645**

**SESSION 7**

**Closing keynotes: a call to action**

**CLOSE**



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of the Regions**