

Resolution on Wilderness Areas

We the undersigned organizations call upon the European Commission and EU member states to take urgent action to protect Europe's remaining large areas of natural habitat with non-intervention management, also known as wilderness or wildland, which are threatened by inappropriately located logging and development.

In addition to containing an irreplaceable European natural heritage of biodiversity and habitats, these areas can offer stronger sustainable economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits - for local communities, landholders and society in general - if left intact.

Such benefits include addressing climate change through carbon sequestration and flood mitigation, fast-growing nature-based tourism opportunities of relevance to the rural development agenda, and potential to help tackle important inner city issues such as youth development and healthcare.

These areas represent a very small and shrinking proportion of the European region, and little time remains to secure their protection for future generations.

It would be highly beneficial if the European Commission were to develop appropriate recommendations that provide guidance to the EU member states on the best ways of ensuring the protection of present and potential wilderness or wildland and their natural processes. We are convinced that this would be an important cornerstone in the endeavour of the European Union to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010 – and beyond.

| Organisation | Name of signatory |
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| Birdlife International | Claire Papazoglou, Regional Director, European Division |
| Countdown 2010 | Sebastian Winkler, Director |
| EUROPARC Federation | Erika Stanciu, President |
| Eurosite | Gernant Magnin, Director |
| PAN Parks Foundation | Zoltan Kun, Director |
| IUCN | Tamas Marghescu, Director (Europe) |
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| The Wild Foundation | Vance Martin, President |
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| IUCN – WCPA, Wilderness Task Force | Vance Martin, Co-Chair |
| Kalkalpen National Park, Austria | Erich Mayrhofer, Nationalpark Direktor |
| Pro Natura – Friends of the Earth Switzerland | Urs Tester, Abteilungsleiter Biotope und Arten |
| Stiftung Naturlandschaft Sihlwald, Switzerland | Leo Lorenzo Fosco, Chairman Christian Stauffer, Board Member |
| EUROPARC Česká Republika, on behalf | Tomáš Rothröckl, President, |

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| of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sumava National Park and Protected Landscape Area administration • Krkonose National Park Administration • Ceske Svycarsko National Park Administration • Podyji National Park Administration • Agency for Nature and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic • Natural Sciences Faculty at the Palacký University, Olomouc | EUROPARC Česká Republika |
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| Nationalpark Harz, Germany | Friedhart Knolle, Presse, Marketing & Regionalentwicklung |
| Nationalparkverwaltung Bayerischer Wald, Germany | Karl Friedrich Sinner, Director |
| Nationalpark Eifel, Germany | Henning Walter, Director of the Authority of the Eifel National Park |
| Manfred-Hermsen-Stiftung, Germany | Michaela Deu |
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| Nationalpark Müritz, Germany | Ulrich Messner, Head of Müritz National Park Authority |
| Parc naturel regional de Brière, France | Bernard Guihéneuf, Directeur du Parc naturel regional de Brière |
| Hungarian Ministry of Environment and Water | László Haraszthy, State Secretary for Nature and Environment protection |
| Gower Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Wales, UK | Richard Beale, Gower AONB Team Leader |
| Nature Protection Board of Latvia | Rolands Auzins, Director |
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| European Environmental Bureau | John Hontelez, Secretary General |
| CEEweb for Biodiversity | Klara Hajdu, Executive Director |
| Mountain Wilderness Slovenije | Matjaž Jeran, Secretary General |
| Baltic Fund for Nature of St Petersburg Naturalists Society | Roustam Sagitov, Director |
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| Association of National Parks and Protected Areas of Slovakia (ZNPCHÚS) | Ivan Vološčuk, Chairman |
| European Bureau for Conservation and Development (EBCD) | Despina Symons, Director |
| WWF Germany | Eberhard Brandes, Chief Executive Officer |
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| Sicona – Ouest, Luxembourg | Rainer Herscheid |
| Landesverband Berlin der Gartenfreunde e.V., Germany | Peter Ehrenberg, Präsident |
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| Zooschweiz – Swiss Association of Scientific Zoos | Felix Weber, President |
| Programa de Voluntariado Ambiental en Espacios Naturales, Direccion General del Medio Natural, Csejeria de Desarrollo Sostenible y Ordenacion del Territorio, Comunidad Autonoma de la Region de Murcia, Spain | Rodrigo Alfonso Borrega Fernandez, Director General Del Medio Natural |
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| Club Serres for Unesco | Katerina Emmanouilidou, President |
| P.E. Praxis | Katerina Emmanouilidou, President |
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| Rila National Park, Bulgaria | Todor Serez, Director of Rila NP |
| Retezat National Park, Romania | Zoran Acimov, Director of Retezat NP |
| Majella National Park, Italy | Dr. Nicola Cimini, Director of Majella NP |
| Borjomi Kharagauli National Park, Georgia | N.Muladze, Visitor Service Department |
| Peneda Geres National Park, Portugal | Henrique Miguel Pereira, Director of PGNP |
| Hohe Tauern National Park, Austria | |
| State Nature Conservation Centre, Pärnu-Viljandi Region, Estonia | Deputy Director |
| State Nature Conservation Centre, Estonia | Jaanus Tuusti, Director General |
| Governor of Viljandi County, Estonia | Kalle Kuthis, Governor of Viljandi |
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| CIPRA International | Andreas Gotz, Executive Director |
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| Sosna Association Slovakia | Dr. Stefan Szabo, Chairman |

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| Camp Denali, Alaska | Jenna Cole, Managing Director |
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| Rucksack Reisen, Germany | |
| Stroming B.V., Netherlands | |
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| Latvian Ornithological Society | Viesturs Kerus, Chairman |
| Researcher at La Molina University, Peru | Juan Chang Olivas, researcher |
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Signatories at 28 July 2008