

New initiatives from a decade of progress

A conference for an action plan to protect and restore
wilderness and old growth/primary forest in Europe

With the patronage of the President of the Slovak Republic,
Her Excellency Zuzana Caputova



WILD
EUROPE



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20 - 21ST NOVEMBER 2019, TATRA HOTEL, BRATISLAVA, REPUBLIC OF SLOVAKIA

DAY 1	OVERVIEW AND PLANNING
08.00	Registration opens
09.00 - 09.40	<p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome <i>Toby Aykroyd, Coordinator, Wild Europe</i> • Introduction and objectives <i>Ladislav Miko, Head of EU Representation in Slovakia Chairman, Wild Europe</i> • The President of the Slovak Republic <i>Her Excellency Zuzana Caputova</i> • New Green Deal for ecosystems in an era of climate change <i>Daniel Calleja, Director General DG Environment, EC (video) with introduction by EC personnel</i> • Sustainable conservation for Europe's natural heritage <i>Isabelle Anatole-Gabriel, Head of Europe and North America Department, UNESCO World Heritage (video)</i>
09.40 - 10.30	<p>Session 1 Overview: challenges and achievements for Europe in an era of climate change <i>Session Chair: Harald Egerer, Head of the UN Environment Programme Vienna Office Head of the Carpathian Convention</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2009 – 2019, the decade appraised <i>Toby Aykroyd, Coordinator, Wild Europe</i> • The current position with wilderness <i>Luc Bas, Director IUCN Regional Office for Europe</i> • An update on old growth forest <i>Andreas Beckmann, Chief Executive, WWF Central & East Europe</i>
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 - 11.50	<p>Session 2 Model initiatives in Slovakia, for wider replication <i>Ladislav Miko, Head of EU Representation in Slovakia, Chairman, Wild Europe</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new national framework for wilderness <i>Michal Wiezik MEP</i> • Wood bioenergy legislation: potential for Europe-wide replication <i>Professor Viliam Pichler, Forestry Faculty, University of Zvolen</i> • Effective address of illegal and inappropriate logging <i>Mario Kern, Interior Ministry, Slovakia</i> • Protecting fauna and flora of old growth forest <i>Martin Mikolas, Forestry Faculty, Czech University of Life Sciences</i>

11.50 - 12.50	<p>Session 3 Progress with the old growth/primary forest protection strategy in Europe <i>Session Chair: Zoltan Kun, Head of Conservation, Wild Europe</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of old growth/primary forest mapping with follow up actions, an Early Warning System <i>Francesco Sabatini, Humboldt University, Berlin</i> • Climate change & carbon modeling – findings for scientific forestry <i>Miroslav Svoboda, Czech University of Life Sciences</i> • Climate change, bioenergy and old growth/primary forest protection <i>Mary S Booth, Director, Partnership for Policy Integrity, USA</i> A collation of best practice in natural forest tourism enterprise (multi-lingual) <i>Maike Bartels, Frankfurt Zoological Society</i> • Website development outline • Open Forum – contributions from participants on their initiatives <i>Plenary feedback on examples</i>
12.55 - 13.00	<p>Introduction to workshops: Building a European Action Plan <i>Zdenka Krenova, Global Change Research Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences</i></p>
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 16.00	<p>Session 4 Workshops - Building a European Action Plan Each of the themes is related to a practical initiative, so input from participants can make a direct difference.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Addressing the wood biofuel challenge – the urgency of action Coordinators: <i>Mary S Booth, Director, Partnership for Policy Integrity (PFPI) USA</i> <i>Michael Norton, Director of the Environment Programme, European Academies of Science Advisory Council (EASAC)</i> 2. Implementing the New Green Deal & Biodiversity Strategy – for EU and non EU states Coordinators: <i>Kris Decler, International Board, Society for Ecological Restoration</i> <i>Zoltan Kun, Head of Conservation, Wild Europe</i> 3. Research: addressing the gaps Coordinators: <i>Bernhard Kohler, PA & Forests Programme, WWF Austria</i> <i>Anastaysiya Bakteeva, Conservation Capital</i> 4. The new IUCN Rewilding Task Force – what is needed? Coordinator: <i>Steve Carver, Co-Chairman IUCN Task Force</i> 5. Illegal and inappropriate logging, innovative solutions Coordinator: <i>David Gehl, European Director, Environmental Investigation Agency</i>
16.00 - 16.30	Tea break
16.30 - 17.40	<p>Session 5 Workshop feedback <i>Session Chair: Zdenka Krenova, Global Change Research Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences</i></p>
17.40 - 17.45	Wrap up and introduction to evening event <i>Toby Aykroyd, Coordinator Wild Europe</i>
17.45 - 20.00	Opportunity for side meetings [please notify in advance if space needed]
20.00 - 22.00+	<p>Conference Gala Dinner Clima Carpathia - A world class vision proposed for the Carpathians <i>Christoph Promberger, Director, Fundacia Conservacion Carpathia (FCC Romania)</i></p>

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DAY 2	ACTIONS IN THE FIELD
09.00 - 09.05	Introduction to the day ahead
09.05 - 10.10	<p>Session 1 Model initiatives for the wild <i>Session Chair: Eladio Fernandez Galliano, Former Head of Biodiversity and Heritage, Council of Europe</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany, new funding initiative to support wilderness targets <i>Manuel Schweiger, Programme Director, Germany, Frankfurt Zoological Society</i> • Progressing the Danube Carpathian Programme (TBC) <i>Ionut Sorin Banciu, Regional Forest Lead, WWF Central & East Europe</i> • President Macron's 10% vision for France <i>Lydie Doisy, IUCN France Wilderness Group; Coordinator Programme Régional d'Espaces en Libre Evolution (PRELE)</i> • The long way to environmental laws on wilderness (Czech Republic) <i>Pavel Kindlmann, Director CzechGlobe Foundation, Prague Jaromir Blaha, Hnutí DUHA, Czech Friends of the Earth</i>
10.10 - 10.30	<p>Session 2 Launch of the European Wilderness Forum <i>Session Chair: Gernant Magnin, Wild Europe Executive Committee</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background and objectives <i>Adrian Hagatis, General Manager, Romanian Wilderness Society</i> <i>Erika Stanciu, former Secretary of State for Forests, Ministry of Environment, Romania, Head of Policy, Wild Europe (video)</i> • Area case studies on benefits Wilderness area representatives
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee break
11.30 - 11.35	<p>Session 3 Natural habitats, ecosystem services and climate change: the need for sound science <i>Session Chair: Martin Mikolas, Forestry Faculty, Czech University of Life Sciences</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystem services and climate change – why sound science must guide the New Green Deal and beyond <i>Michael Norton, Director of the Environment Programme, European Academies of Science Advisory Council (EASAC)</i> • Linking incentives to science: action for bioenergy in Europe – EU level and country model replication <i>Mary S Booth, Director, Partnership for Policy Integrity (PFPI) USA</i>
11.35 - 12.25	<p>Session 4 Promoting best practice in the wild <i>Session Chair: Bill Murphy, former Head of Environment and Recreation, Coillte Irish Forestry Agency</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steps towards a wilder nature in state owned forest: examples to replicate in Europe <i>Becka La Moine MP, Sweden</i> • An update on policy and practice for illegal & inappropriate logging <i>David Gehl, European Director, Environmental Investigation Agency</i> • European Natural Forest Conservation Summer School <i>Stephanie Kalberer, Frankfurt Zoological Society</i>

12.10 - 13.00	<p>Session 5 A framework for large-scale restoration in Europe <i>Session Chair: Theresa Frei, European Forest Institute</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core elements for a restoration/rewilding strategy <i>Kris Decler, International Board, Society for Ecological Restoration</i> • Launch of the IUCN Task Force on Rewilding <i>Steve Carver, Co-Chairman IUCN Task Force</i>
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 14.50	<p>Session 6 New legal, enterprise and funding frameworks <i>Session Chair: Viktoria Hasler, Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism, Austria</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term legal protection: freehold/leasehold frameworks and easements – a new initiative <i>Adam Eagle, Clifford Chance LLP, Founder: The Legal Mechanism</i> • Private sector protection: a report on landholder incentives <i>Bernhard Kohler, WWF Austria</i> • A practical enterprise toolkit for wild nature <i>Anastaysiya Bakteeva, Conservation Capital</i>
14.50 - 15.10	<p>Session 7 EU Parliamentary Resolutions: to date and looking ahead <i>Session Chair Zoltan Kun, Head of Conservation, Wild Europe</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2009 Resolution on Wilderness: using a powerful mandate • Components for a Resolution with old growth/primary forest, impacting on EU and non-EU countries <i>Session Leader: Michal Wiezik MEP</i>
15.10 - 16.00	<p>Session 8 European policy & practice – the wider impact <i>Session Chair: Andreas Beckmann, Chief Executive, WWF Central & East Europe</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The New Green Deal and the global impact of Europe <i>Hannah Mowat, FERN (video conference)</i> • European linkage with key international instruments (UN Decade for Restoration, CBD) – the Carpathian Convention and UNEP <i>Harald Egerer, Head of the UN Environment Programme Vienna Office Head of the Carpathian Convention</i> • Updating key instruments: Stage II of Management Guidelines for N2000 wilderness, and the Wilderness Register <i>Steve Carver, Director Wildland Research Institute (Leeds University), Co-Chair IUCN Rewilding Task Force</i>
16.00 - 16.30	Tea break
16.30 - 17.00	<p>Closing Session Implementing and communicating the Action Plan for wilderness and old growth/primary forest in Europe <i>Ladislav Miko, Head of EU Representation in Slovakia Chairman, Wild Europe</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Plan: Message from Bratislava: an interactive session • Send off – the way ahead
17.00	Conference close
17.00	Press Conference: immediately following closure of the conference



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