



WILD EUROPE

DRAFT

*“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

Version12 30/10/2019

“New initiatives from a decade of progress”

20 – 21st November 2019, Tatra Hotel, Bratislava, Republic of Slovakia

Day 1	Overview and planning
0800	Registration opens
0900 - 0940	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome• 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>• Director General DG Environment, EC (video) <i>Daniel Calleja, with introduction by EC personnel</i>• Sustainable conservation for Europe’s natural heritage <i>Isabel Anatole-Gabriel, Head of Europe and North America Department, UNESCO World Heritage (to be confirmed)</i>
0940 - 1030	Session 1. Overview: challenges and achievements for Europe in an era of climate change <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/primary forest <i>Andreas Beckmann, Chief Executive, WWF Central & East Europe</i>
1030 - 1100	Coffee break
1100 - 1150	Session 2 Model initiatives in Slovakia, for wider replication <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A new national framework for wilderness <i>Michal Wieszik MEP</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 Kem</i> • Protecting fauna and flora of old growth forest <i>Martin Mikolas, Forestry Faculty, Czech University of Life Sciences</i>
1150 - 1250	<p>Session 3 Progress with the old growth/primary forest protection strategy in Europe</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> • Website development outline • Open Forum – contributions from participants on their initiatives <i>Plenary feedback on examples</i>
1255 - 1300	Introduction to workshops: Building a European Action Plan
1300 - 1400	Lunch
1400 - 1600	<p>Session 4 Workshops - Building a European Action Plan</p> <p>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 2. Implementing the New Green Deal & Biodiversity Strategy – for EU and non EU states 3. Research: addressing the gaps 4. Wild nature enterprise & fund raising - developing a new toolkit 5. The new IUCN Rewilding Task Force – what is needed? 6. Illegal and inappropriate logging, innovative solutions
1600 - 1630	Tea break
1630 - 1740	Session 5 Workshop feedback

	Summary of participant input, to create an Action Plan
1740 - 1745	Wrap up and introduction to evening event
1745 - 2000	Opportunity for side meetings [please notify in advance if space needed]
2000 - 2200+	<p>Conference Gala Dinner</p> <p><i>A world class vision proposed for the Carpathians, Fundacia Conservation Carpathia (FCC Romania)</i></p>

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Day 2	Actions in the field
0900 - 0905	Introduction to the day ahead
0905 - 1010	<p>Session 1 Model initiatives for the wild</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sumava National Park, Czech Republic <i>Vice Minister Vladimir Dolejsky, Czech Environment Ministry</i> • Germany, new funding initiative to support wilderness targets <i>Manuel Schweiger, Programme Director, Germany, Frankfurt Zoological Society</i> • President Macron’s 10% vision for France • Progressing the Danube Carpathian Programme (TBC)

1010 - 1030	<p>Session 2 Launch of the European Wilderness Forum</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 <i>Wilderness area representatives</i>
1030 - 1100	Coffee break
1100 - 1135	<p>Session 3 Natural habitats, ecosystem services and climate change: the need for sound science</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>
1135 - 1225	<p>Session 4 Promoting best practice in the wild</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practice for wilderness in European state forests: examples for replication <i>Rebecka Le Moine MP, Sweden</i> • An update on policy and practice for illegal & inappropriate logging <i>David Gehl, European Director, Environmental Investigation Agency</i> • Wilderness management training <i>Michael Brombacher, Director, European Department, Frankfurt Zoological Society</i>
1225 - 1300	<p>Session 5 A framework for large-scale restoration in Europe</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>
1300 - 1400	Lunch

<p>1400 - 1450</p>	<p>Session 6 New legal, enterprise and funding frameworks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term legal protection: freehold/leasehold frameworks and easements – a new initiative • Private sector protection: a report on landholder incentives • Launch of a practical enterprise toolkit for wild nature <i>Anastaysiya Bakteeva, Conservation Capital</i>
<p>1450 - 1510</p>	<p>Session 7 EU Parliamentary Resolutions: to date and looking ahead</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2009 Resolution: using a powerful mandate Components for a Resolution with old growth/primary forest, impacting EU and non-EU countries <i>Session Leader: Michal Wiezik MEP</i>
<p>1510 - 1600</p>	<p>Session 8 European policy & practice – the wider impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The New Green Deal and the global impact of Europe (biofuel, timber, resources) • 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> • Looking ahead to IUCN Global at Marseilles, promoting the 4 Motions: wilderness, old growth forest, climate change & biodiversity and bioenergy
<p>1600 - 1630</p>	<p>Tea break</p>
<p>1630 - 1715</p>	<p>Closing Session – Implementing and communicating the Action Plan for wilderness and old growth/primary forest in Europe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Action Plan: Message from Bratislava: an interactive session</i> • Send off – the way ahead
<p>1715</p>	<p>Conference close</p>
<p>1730</p>	<p>Press Conference: immediately following closure of the conference</p>