



Soomaa NP © Arne Ader



# Wilderness , Wild Europe Initiative and the future of nature conservation in Europe

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EUROPEAN WILDERNESS  
GONE FOREVER  
MILLIONS BC - 2012

Will true wilderness play a role in the future of Europe's nature conservation ?

# How much wilderness is needed in Europe



## Who we are

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PAN Parks is the only European-wide organisation focusing on the protection of wilderness areas



# What is PAN Parks?



 Certified PAN Park     Wilderness Partner



The  
European

Wilderness  
Preservation  
System

# What happened between 2008-2012



- Civil Society initiated a Resolution on Wilderness
- submitted to EC
- signed by over 100 organisations including Birdlife, Europarc, IUCN, PAN Parks, WWF
- led to forming Wild Europe Initiative



Paanajärvi NP ©Viktor Gritsuk

# What happened between 2008-2012



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## European Parliament special report on wilderness

- adopted on 3 February 2009
- provides a popular mandate as vast majority approved
- follow-up needed now



# What happened between 2008-2012



Majella NP © Barbara Mayer

## EC Presidency Conference in Prague, May 2009

- adopted the Agenda for Europe's wilderness with 24 recommendations
- Policy
- Awareness building
- Information needs
- Supporting capacity

# What happened between 2008-2012



Majella NP © Bruno D'Amicis

## Wilderness Working Group chaired by Europarc

- participants from NGO sector and protected areas
- main focus on developing a wilderness definition
- finalised in April 2012 approved by EC in September (next presentation)

# What happened between 2008-2012



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## EC Presidency Conference on wilderness restoration in Brussels November 2010

- announcing the inclusion of wilderness in EC 2020 Biodiversity Strategy
- announcing the development of a guidance document for N2000 managers

# What happened between 2008-2012



Oulanka NP © Paavo Hamunen

EC wilderness guidance document for N2000 sites

- Alterra, Eurosite, PAN Parks
- final draft submitted in March 2012
- final document soon available on EC website

# What happened between 2008-2012



Majella NP © Bruno D'Amicis

## Wilderness Register to be set as foundation of European Wilderness Preservation System

- Alterra, University of Leeds, PAN Parks
- unique database available on EEA (by Sept 2013)
- currently in consultation phase with preliminary list

# IUCN / WCPA another major player



Oulanka NP © Paavo Hamunen

We need to speak one voice for wilderness

- this approach enable better communication and knowledge about wilderness in the Pan-European WCPA region and will contribute to reaching our conservation objectives



# PAN Parks contributions in 2013



# The PAN Parks Concept



An area of at least **10,000 hectares** of land or sea, with its native plant and animal communities and their associated **ecosystems**, in an essentially **natural state**



Oulanka NP © Hannu Hautala



# The PAN Parks Concept



We help to increase the management effectiveness of the areas through third party audit based on Principles and Criteria



# The PAN Parks Concept



We help develop these areas through

- active promotion of local and sustainable tourism and
- raising awareness and creating positive perception of wilderness



Oulanka NP © Michael Hennemann

# PAN Parks contributions



Work programme 2013: Linking **wilderness to EC policies and priorities** in order to ensure proper protection and representation of wilderness within N2000 network



# Analysing legal protection under the current nature directives



Borjomi-Kharagauli NP © Konstantin Gabrichidze

# Promoting N2000 guidance document



# Collecting best-practice for mgmt



Peneda-Geres NP © Marcos Veiga

# Contributing to wilderness register



# Pro-biodiversity business examples



Wilderness for people – people for wilderness  
Tourism / Finance, investment / Forestry



# PAN Parks contributions



Fulufjället NP, © Vitantonio Dell'Orto

## Developing research agenda for wilderness

- What the benefits of wilderness protection are
- Joint report with Society for Conservation Biology
- Wilderness Resource Bank

# Wilderness Funding Programme



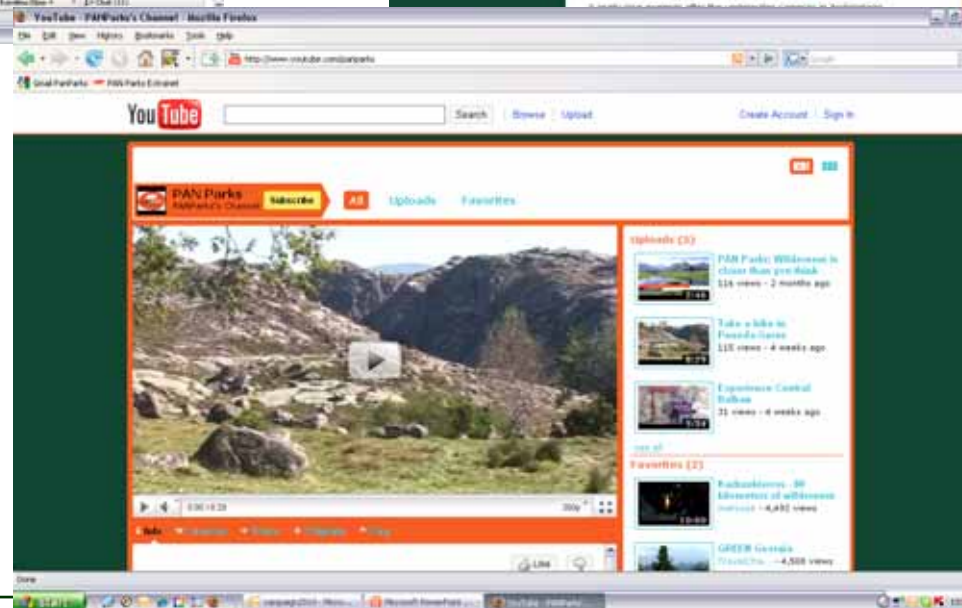
Archipelago NP © Janne Görling

FR event in the House of Lords, London  
species protection / training / interpretation

# Awareness Promoting wilderness on social media Facebook, Twitter, Linkedin, Pinterest



Youtube.com



# International Year of Wilderness



Irish EC Presidency Conference  
Wilderness in modified landscape  
with multiplied public benefits  
May 2013

# Run up for WILD10 conference



Salamanca, Spain in October 2013  
Be there through [wild10.org](http://wild10.org)

## 5% vision – moral argument



23 October: EEA reported 21% protection in Europe! Is 5% too much?



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*Wilderness host important species and even more species dependent on wilderness during breeding*

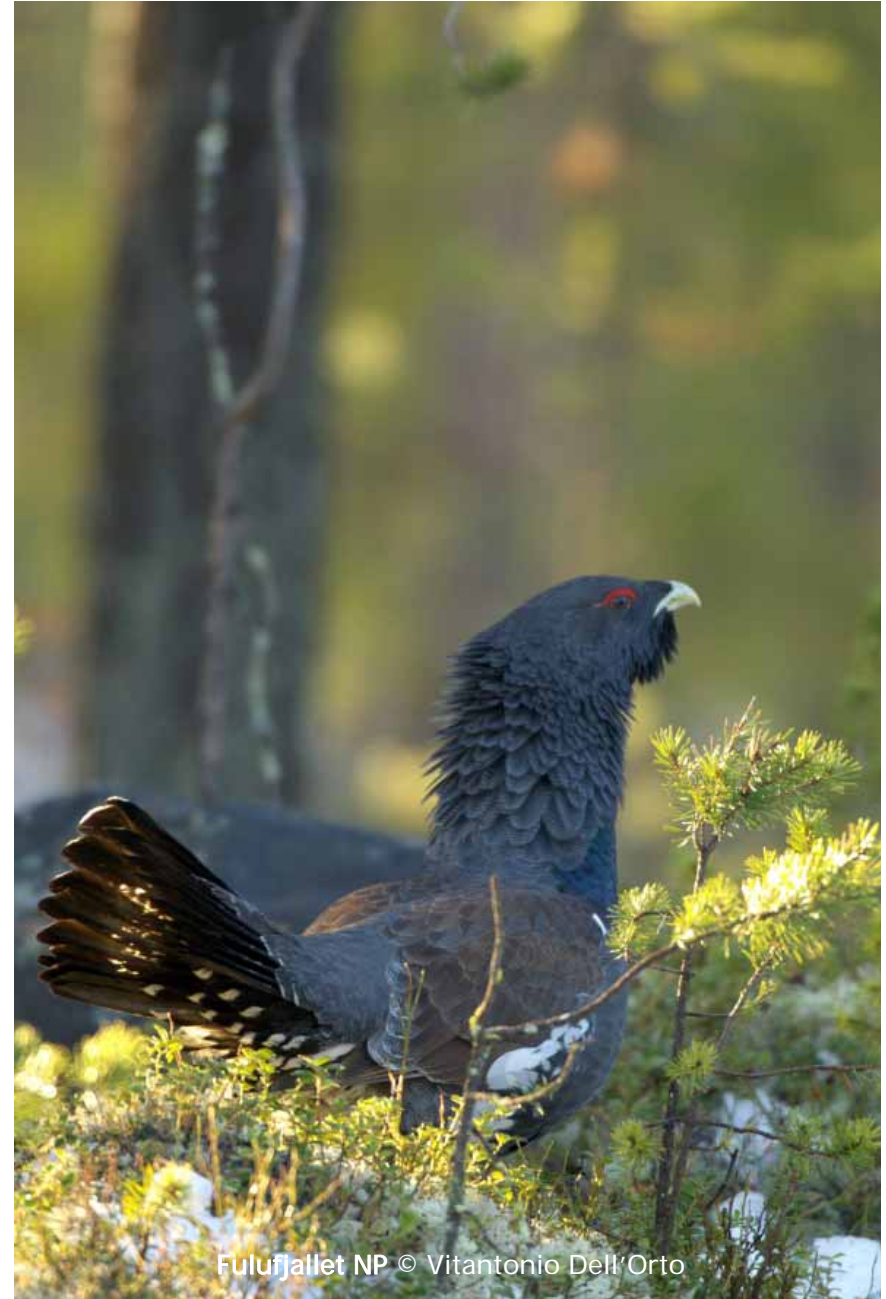
*Wilderness is a scarce resource in Europe!*

*According to the European Parliament's report on wilderness in 2009 less than 1% of Europe's land territory can be considered as wilderness*

# The argument

According to the European Environmental Agency roughly 5% of Europe's land territory is covered with complete artificial surface: infrastructure, housing, industry

We have the **MORAL** obligation to increase the 1% wilderness to 5% in order to compensate our 5% artificial surface footprint on our continent





# The Million Project of PAN Parks Foundation is the first step towards the 5%

One step: 1 million hectare

One goal: 5% of Europe - the size of Spain

One organisation but several supporting partners  
across Europe



Wilderness is beautiful!  
We need to tell its story!  
PAN Parks tells the story of  
European wilderness





PAN Parks works to protect Europe's wilderness, the continent's most undisturbed areas of nature

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<http://panparks.org>

<http://facebook.com/panparks>

<http://panparks.org/user/register>

<http://linkedin.com/panparksgroup>

<http://youtube.com/user/PANParks>

<http://storiesofwilderness.panparks.org>

<http://mymillionproject.ning.com>

info@panparks.org



THANK YOU!

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[www.panparks.org](http://www.panparks.org)