

by CEEweb for Biodiversity

Protection status of the Emerald sites strengthened after NGO proposal

The Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) had its 32nd Standing Committee meeting in Strasbourg, 27-30 November 2012. Following CEEweb proposal, NGOs managed to amend the resolution on national designation in order to enhance the protection status of the designated Emerald sites.

Following CEEweb suggestion, NGO proposal was formulated in cooperation with the EHF and Pro Natura - Friends of the Earth Switzerland to enhance the protection status of the designated Emerald sites. As a result, Resolution No. 8(2012) of the Bern Convention Standing Committee on the national designation of adopted Emerald sites and the implementation of management, monitoring and reporting measures was successfully amended on the 32nd Bern Convention Standing Committee meeting, where the EHF was represented by Friedrich Wulf.

What are the changes?

- designated sites must be protected from external threats
- satisfactory conservation status must be achieved for the Emerald species and natural habitats present on the site
- proper site management must be implemented to ensure the good conservation status of the species' populations and natural habitats

Why is Emerald important in Central and East Europe?

Set up under the Bern Convention, the Emerald Network of protected areas aims to supplement the Natura 2000 Network, on a similar basis, in non-EU countries, based on the highest possible methodological synergy. Once established, the network will significantly speed-up future designation of Natura 2000 in EU candidate and potential candidate countries.

Useful links

List of decisions and texts adopted at the 32nd meeting of the Standing Committee

<http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/nature/bern/Institutions/Documents/2012/Misc12%2032e%20SC%202012E%20Version%20FINAL.pdf>

CEEweb for Biodiversity about the Emerald network

<http://www.ceeweb.org/work-areas/priority-areas/biodiversity-policies-and-conventions/pan-european-level/emerald/>

Council of Europe Information Document on Emerald

http://www.ceeweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/CoE_Information_Document_-_Emerald.pdf

About CEEweb for Biodiversity

CEEweb for Biodiversity is an umbrella organization of NGOs in the Central and Eastern European region. Our mission is the conservation of biodiversity through the promotion of sustainable development.

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