



Conditions and Costs

For whom is it intended?

The EUROPARC Transboundary Parks Programme welcomes European Protected Areas located along or near international borders. To join the program, **membership in the EUROPARC Federation**¹ is a prerequisite. If you are not yet a member, kindly initiate the membership application process with the EUROPARC Federation. After our Council reviews and approves your membership application, you can proceed to register as a candidate for the EUROPARC Transboundary Parks Programme.

What are the expenses involved?

As it is customary, there are costs associated with the certification process that we request your contribution towards. The overall expenses for the certification process will be shared among the applying parties and include the following:

- **Registration fee** (for candidacy as protected areas): **EUR 500**
- **Verification fee** (for administration of the application and verification process): **EUR 3,000**
- **Re-evaluation fee** after 5 years (for certificate renewal): **EUR 2,000**

Additionally, you are responsible for covering the costs related to local travel, accommodation and board for the verifiers.

How does the process unfold?

How does the process unfold to become a "EUROPARC Transboundary Area"?

Follow these 10 steps:

- 1) Ensure you are already a member of the EUROPARC Federation or become one.

¹ To be eligible for the Transboundary Parks Programme, a protected area must be a full member of the Federation, provided it operates as its own legal entity and maintains an independent budget. However, if a protected area lacks its own legal entity, it can still apply for the Transboundary Parks Programme by being represented by its higher authority at the Federation. In this case, the higher authority must be a full member of the Federation for the protected area to be eligible to receive the Transboundary Parks Certificate.

- 2) Indicate your interest in the Transboundary Parks Programme, and we will send you information material along with the "Registration form."
- 3) Register as a candidate for the Transboundary Parks Programme and fulfil the associated registration fee.
- 4) Receive the detailed Manual containing the "Basic Standards" and "Application forms."
- 5) Complete and submit your application by the 15th of November, along with payment for the verification fee.
- 6) We will proceed to process your application.
- 7) Upon application acceptance, we appoint a verifier who conducts a desk evaluation in February/March.
- 8) Following a successful desk evaluation, the verifier visits your park in May/June.
- 9) The verifier submits a report to the Steering and Evaluation Committee (STEC), which provides recommendations to the Council.
- 10) The Council makes the decision to award the Certificate. Upon a positive outcome, you will receive your Transboundary Parks Certificate at the EUROPARC Conference or other dedicated event around September/October.

To assist you in completing your application and navigating the process, we have prepared a Manual that will be provided to you upon registration. Once you have assembled all required documents, you can submit your application. Our impartial verifiers will assess it and visit your Protected Area to observe the practical implementation of your cooperation.

If you meet the defined minimum standards for effective transboundary cooperation, you may be honoured as a "EUROPARC Transboundary Area" and receive your certificate during the EUROPARC Conference in the fall other dedicated event. The certificate remains valid for five years after the evaluation of the Transboundary Area is conducted.

For additional details about the program and its advantages for you, please refer to the document titled "The Certification Programme of EUROPARC in a nutshell."

For further information on the Transboundary Parks Programme please get in touch with:

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