



WILD EUROPE

Protection and Restoration of
Wilderness and
Large Natural Habitat Areas

'Wild.....' What's in a Word?



- Natural habitat areas
- Substantial absence of human artifact
- Ideally large and connected
- Natural management (herbivore)
- Landscape, biodiversity, social, spiritual, economic qualities

The Present Position



- Imminent threats – eg old growth forest
- Potential for large scale restoration
- Limited window of opportunity
- The climate change driver

The Wildland 'Sector'



- Good initiatives, often not linked
- Limited local capacity to combat threats
- External support inadequately utilized
- Wildland benefits not fully promoted

Wildland Benefits



- Nature tourism etc: niche marketing
- Environmental services
- Addressing urban social issues
- Valuing the benefits
- Utilising the benefits
- Benefits for who?

Wild Europe – The Initiative



- A European strategy for wildland
- Core group of key organizations
- Coordinated voice in policy representation
- Exchange of best practice
- Promote the full value of wildland

2009 Wild Area Conference



- Official programme of EC Presidency
- 240 attendees
- Policy makers - government
- Conservation & wildland NGOs
- Recreational, landholding, business, carbon, hydrology, urban social interests

2009 Conference Objectives



- Definitions and mapping
- Policy recommendations for improved protection
- Assess opportunity for restoration
- Propose Action Plan
- Input to EC Biodiversity Strategy

Wildland Support Network



- Coordinate Action Plan
- 2012 CAP Reform negotiation
- Catalyze individual opportunities
- Early warning system for threats
- Promote value of wildlands

Parallel Activities - Resolution



- Resolution on protection of wilderness
- Guidelines on improved protection
- Liaison with Commissioner Dimas and EC Environment DG
- Guidelines linked to 2009 Conference
- A strategy for joint representation



Your Involvement

- Signing the Resolution
- Proposing appropriate guidelines
- Input to development of Prague conference
- Participate in Wild Europe Action Plan from 2009



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