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## Resolution CM/ResDip(2019)2 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Wurzacher Ried Nature Reserve (Germany)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 4 September 2019  
at the 1352<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

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The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Having regard to Resolution Res(65)6 instituting the European Diploma for certain protected landscapes, reserves and natural features, as amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas;

Having regard to Resolution Res(89)11 on the award of the European Diploma to the Wurzacher Ried Nature Reserve (Germany);

Having regard to Resolution CM/ResDip(2009)4 on the renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Wurzacher Ried Nature Reserve (Germany);

Taking into consideration the expert's report presented at the meeting of the Group of Specialists on the European Diploma for Protected Areas on 5 and 6 March 2019;

Having regard to the proposals of the Standing Committee to the Bern Convention;

Noting that holding the European Diploma implies the maintenance of exceptional European interest, the continuance of exemplary management and compliance with the provisions of Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1, especially with regard to the obligations to report annually and to give appropriate visibility to the European Diploma;

Renews the European Diploma for Protected Areas awarded to the Wurzacher Ried Nature Reserve, until 18 June 2029;

Attaches the following condition to the renewal:

By 2021, revise the 2007 management plan or draft a new management framework meeting the provisions and objectives of the European Diploma for Protected Areas and complementary to the Natura 2000 management plan in preparation;

Attaches the following six recommendations to the renewal:

1. investigate the possible technical methods to connect the aquatic system of the Haidgauer high moor, separated by the trunk road B465, through water channels or other technical measures in order to enable more water flow towards the eastern part of the moor and to ensure water exchange, especially in the Randlagg;
2. draw up a prevention plan to manage invasive species, to be prepared in case of their appearance, according to EU Regulation 1143/2014;
3. pursue the efforts to create an observation tower next to the Torfmuseum to provide an additional attraction in the area without disturbing the ecosystem;

4. in co-operation with the aeronautical authority, stop any unnecessary acrobatic flights over the Ried due to their negative impact on the site and especially birdlife;
5. resume negotiations with landowners in order to acquire land in the outlying areas – mainly near the village of Albers – to limit and eventually stop the deposition of substances harmful to this sensitive environment, such as livestock effluents or chemical fertilisers. In case of inconclusive results, long-term agreements should be negotiated to reduce this;
6. preserve the integrity of the landscape around the basin of Bad Wurzach and avoid the construction of technical infrastructure on the hills and hilltops in the visual range of the Wurzacher Ried.