

Europarc Spain

Spanish section of the Federation of Nature and National Parks
of Europe (EUROPARC–Spain)



What is EUROPARC-Spain?

EUROPARC-Spain is the Spanish State's Section of the EUROPARC Federation, a pan-European body formed by organisations dedicated to nature conservation in 38 countries.

All of the administrations in charge of planning and managing protected natural areas participate in EUROPARC-Spain, from the Ministry of the Environment to the regional and provincial administrations. Since its creation in 1993, it is the most important professional forum where proposals to improve these areas are discussed and designed.

In order to carry out its functions, EUROPARC-Spain has an Assembly of members and a Board of Management. It also has a Technical Office to carry out its activities, while the "Fernando González Bernáldez" university foundation constitutes the legal and administrative instrument that provides its legal personality for functioning.

General objectives of EUROPARC-Spain

The **three general objectives** of EUROPARC-Spain are as follows:

1. To facilitate and support relations between protected natural areas in the Spanish State and with other areas.
2. To promote common projects.
3. To encourage co-operation between protected natural areas, especially in the fields of information and training.

Strategic objectives of EUROPARC-Spain

The Strategy of EUROPARC-Spain was approved by the General Assembly in 1999. It includes the organisation's **six strategic objectives**. The degree to which these aims are being met should be evaluated and revised on a regular basis:

Objective 1

To act as an observatory for the evolution and the state of the issue of protected areas in the Spanish state.

Objective 2

To facilitate the exchange and dissemination of information.

Objective 3

To contribute to enhancing the protected areas as social and environmental services in sectorial policies.

Objective 4

To promote professionalisation and qualifications for the staff at protected areas

Objective 5

To collaborate with public administrations on the matter of protected areas and work alongside other organisations with common objectives at national and international levels.

Objective 6

To contribute to the maturity and professionalisation of the pan-European organisation EUROPARC, to which it belongs, ensuring coordination and the exchange and dissemination of information at international level.

Activities carried out by EUROPARC-Spain

In fulfilling its strategic objectives, EUROPARC-Spain carries out a wide and varied number of actions and initiatives:

Objective 1

To act as an observatory for the evolution and the state of the issue of protected areas in the Spanish State

- Maintaining and updating databases on protected natural areas.
- Publishing and disseminating Yearbooks on the state of protected natural areas.

Objective 2

To facilitate the exchange and dissemination of information.

- Attending to requests for information.
- Maintaining and updating the EUROPARC-Spain website.
- Promoting and maintaining the newlist on protected natural areas.
- Promoting and maintaining the newlist on Documentation Centres for protected natural areas and the environment.
- Promoting and maintaining the newlist on training in protected natural areas.
- Publishing and disseminating a monthly electronic newsletter.
- Publishing and disseminating the two annual paperback issues of the EUROPARC-Spain newsletter.
- Thematic publications on protected natural areas.
- Celebrating European Parks Day on an annual basis.

Objective 3

To contribute to enhancing the protected areas as social and environmental services in sectorial policies.

- Organising the annual EUROPARC-Spain Congress.
- Organising thematic conferences and seminars on protected natural areas.
- Disseminating the Action Plan for protected natural areas in the Spanish State.
- Following up on the actions proposed in the Action Plan.

Objective 4

To promote professionalisation and qualifications for the staff at protected areas.

- Publishing on an annual basis the postgraduate course of Expert in protected natural areas.
- Participation of Technical Office and Board staff in training courses and professional meetings.

Objective 5

To collaborate with public administrations on the matter of Protected areas and work alongside other organisations with common objectives at national and international levels.

- Collaboration with various administrations to provide technical advisory services in drawing up documents to plan and manage protected natural areas.
- Collaboration with protected areas in Latin America.

Objective 6

To contribute to the maturity and professionalisation of the pan-European organisation EUROPARC, to which it belongs, ensuring coordination and the exchange and dissemination of information at international level.

- Contributing to promoting the Action Plan at international level.
- Participating in international meetings.

How to contact EUROPARC-Spain

Visit our webpage:

www.europarc-es.org

Write to us:

Oficina Técnica EUROPARC-España.

ICEI. Finca Mas Ferré. Edif. A. Campus de Somosaguas.

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How to contact the EUROPARC Federation

Visit our webpage:

www.europarc.org

Write to us:

EUROPARC Federation Headquarters

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Germany



Fundación **BBVA**

The BBVA Foundation is aware of the need to maintain biodiversity and that this will not be possible without providing suitable protection and conservation for natural resources, reducing environmental pollution levels to tolerable minimums or promoting economic development models that are sustainable and environmentally balanced.

Therefore, the BBVA Foundation collaborates with EUROPARC-Spain on the PLAN OF ACTION and on various initiatives aimed at preserving protected areas in Spain.

The BBVA Foundation has also supported the EUROPARC-Spain delegation which is taking part in the Vth World Parks Congress "Benefits beyond Boundaries" to be held in Durban, South Africa, in September 2003.

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Lagunas de Ruidera

