THE GREEN BACKBONE OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

The European Centre for Nature Conservation (ECNC) is happy to announce the organization of an international conference on establishing the Pan-European Ecological Network in Central and Eastern Europe. This conference will be held at Cracow, Poland from 24 to 28 February 1998 and is organized by ECNC in cooperation with IUCN and the Polish Institute for Nature Conservation.

Introduction
Introduction to the Green Backbone of Central and Eastern Europe.

European conference on the establishment of the Pan-European Ecological Network in Central and Eastern Europe, with a focus on landsdistribution, land ownership and the funding to implement the Pan-European Ecological Network.

The conference
A European conference, to be held in Cracow, Poland has the objective to define a common approach to the implementation of the Pan-European Ecological Network in the CEE Region. The Executive Bureau of the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy has endorsed this conference as an action which will provide results that will be fed into the "Environment for Europe" Ministerial Conference to be held in Aarhus (Denmark, 1998). Please consult the ECNC Website for the first announcement, the provisional programme and the preliminary registration form at: www.ecnc.nl/doc/ecnc/meetings/cracow98/index.html Additional information can be obtained from the ECNC Secretariat.

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LANDSCAPE ECOLOGICAL PLANNING AND GIS (ON MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY LEVEL) WITH LANDSCAPE TYPES CHARACTERISTIC TO THE ARCHEAN SHIELD AREAS: an Excursion to easternmost Municipality of the European Union.

We would like to invite you to an international excursion organized jointly by IALE's GIS Contact Group, Fin-IALE (Finnish Association for Landscape Ecology), Iломанты Commune and Forest Masters of Northern Karelia.

The excursion will be held in Northern Karelia, Eastern Finland, mainly in Ilomantsi, on 7 - 12 June 1998. It includes also some invited lectures, visits to planning organisations and field excursions to some National Parks, esker, mire and shore conservation areas, Natura 2000 objects, North-Karelian Biosphere Area and culture-historically and archaeologically important sites.

Preliminary application should be forwarded before February 28, second circular March 31, final application April 15, pre-payment before May 1, deadline for abstracts and posters May 15. The excursion fee is expected to be USD 500 to 700 including accommodation, meals and transportation during excursion, social program and excursion guidebooklet.

Further information:
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THE 6th FORUM ON NATURE CONSERVATION AND PASTORALISM, LUHACOVICE, CZECH REPUBLIC 6-10 JUNE 1998

The European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism brings together ecologists, nature conservationists, farmers and policy makers. This non-profit network exists to increase understanding of the high nature conservation and cultural value of certain farming systems and to inform work on their maintenance.

After considering several options and possible venues for our biennial meeting, the Executive Committee can confirm that the 6th Forum will be held in Luhacovice, in the south-east of the Czech Republic, between Saturday 6 June and Wednesday 10 June 1998. The land surrounding Luhacovice forms part of the White Carpathian Landscape Protection Area and one of the outstanding features of this Area is the survival of between 3,000 and 4,000 ha of unimproved hay-meadows.

The proposed theme for the conference is “Managing high nature conservation value farmland: policies, processes and practices” and it is our intention that the meeting should focus on practical lessons to be learned from experiences in both the EU and central Europe. We are not only interested in comparing and contrasting policies across these countries but also in considering how successful these policies have been when implemented on the ground in all areas of Europe. In particular we are keen to emphasise why a detailed understanding of the ecological links between farming practices and wildlife value is necessary in order to formulate clear and effective policies.

The detailed programme is still in development but is likely to include:
1) presentations on the success (or otherwise) of the different agri-environment schemes introduced within the EU
2) workshops concerned with the management of marginal and abandoned land (such as alpine meadows and pastures)
3) presentations on the characteristics of high nature conservation value farming systems in central European countries

Full details of the conference programme, fees and administrative arrangements will be finalised within the next few months. Anyone interested in receiving these details should send a note of their NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE, FAX and E-MAIL details to Dr Davy McCracken at the address given below. This will ensure that potential delegates receive further information and booking forms immediately these become available.

Please also indicate whether you would be interested in making an ORAL or POSTER presentation and include an indication of a potential TITLE. Note, however, that while it is expected that there will be no restriction on the number of poster presentation, it may prove necessary to limit the number of oral presentations.

Dr Davy McCracken
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United Kingdom
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1998 PRAIRIE CONSERVATION AND ENDANGERED SPECIES CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 19-22, SASKATOON INN SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN.

The conference theme, “RE-GROWING THE LAND / RE-GROWING OURSELVES,” explores the connections between prairie ecosystem and species conservation and the economic, social and ethical forces of our society.

Keynote Presenters confirmed to date:
Fritz Knopf, Senior Scientist, U.S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division

continue, next page
Noel McNaughton, farmer and Holistic Management Trainer
Clifford Lincoln, MP (Quebec), President of Council of Environment Ministers of Canada
Colin Maxwell, Executive Vice-President, Canadian Wildlife Federation
William Rees, Professor of Community and Regional Planning (UBC) and founding member of Pollution Probe

Also: additional plenary presenters, numerous poster presenters, concurrent sessions, an international art show, the Prairie Conservation Awards night, and display booths.

For more information and updates on program, space for our trade show, the art show, the poster session or any other aspect of the conference visit our Home Page: http://www.extension.usask.ca/conferences/pcaes.html
contact us by e-mail: pcaes.conference@usask.ca or contact Peter Jonker: Tel.: +1 306-966-5552; Fax: +1 306-966-5567

First Announcement

THE PERMANENT EUROPEAN CONFERENCE FOR THE STUDY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPE
18th SESSION IN RØROS AND TRONDHEIM, NORWAY, 1998

The eighteenth session of the Permanent European Conference for the Study of the Rural Landscape will take place in Røros and Trondheim, Norway, from Monday 7th to Friday 11th September 1998.

The Conference will concentrate on three main themes. Papers are invited which will address the following questions:

1. The relevance for landscape management of research on historical landscape change - tool or critique?
2. The role of landscape in the constitution of national and regional identity
3. The future of the past

The 18th session will combine main sessions in the historic mining town of Røros and the city of Trondheim with field excursions to various parts of Central Norway. A post-conference field excursion from Saturday 12th to Sunday 13th September to the island of Sula will be arranged for those who are interested. The excursions will show a cross-section of inland and coastal landscapes.

Accommodation in varying price classes will be available in different hotels and hostels.
For participants from Central and Eastern Europe, there is a strong possibility of getting financial support from the Research Council of Norway through its Eastern European Programme. This financial support will be administered by the conference committee.

All offers of papers and requests for further information should be sent to

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Department of Geography, University of Trondheim
N-7055 DRAGVOLL, NORWAY
Tel: +47-73591918, Fax: +47-73591878
E-mail: Michael.Jones@sv.ntnu.no

or
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More information about the conference will be available on the home page of the Department of Geography, University of Trondheim. The address is: http://www.sv.ntnu.no/geo/
PAYMENT OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES 1998

For 1998 the IALE dues will be
$20 US for regular members ($85 US incl. Landscape Ecology)
$10 US for student members ($60 US incl. Landscape Ecology)

Application for a free corresponding membership due to currency exchange problems should be forwarded separately to the treasurer.

The bank account is:

Postbank Amsterdam, no. 74 45 098
Swiftcode INGBNL2a

Payment of the fee in the equivalent of US$ can be made either by sending money to the treasurer, by direct payment through the bank, or by credit card. The last option is the safest and cheapest. Those who wish to pay in this manner should complete the following form and send it to:

IALE treasurer, Dr. Rob Jongman
WAVU, Department of Physical Planning and Rural Development
Gen. Foulkesweg 13
6703 BJ Wageningen
The Netherlands
Fax: +31 (0)317 482166

IALE membership payment of

☐ regular membership ($20 US) ☐ regular membership incl. Landscape Ecology ($85 US)
☐ student membership ($10 US) ☐ student membership incl. Landscape Ecology ($60 US)

to be paid through:

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State: ..........................................................................................................................

Country: .......................................................................................................................