

Quality counts: Criteria and standards for large protected areas in Germany

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Two new national parks for Germany



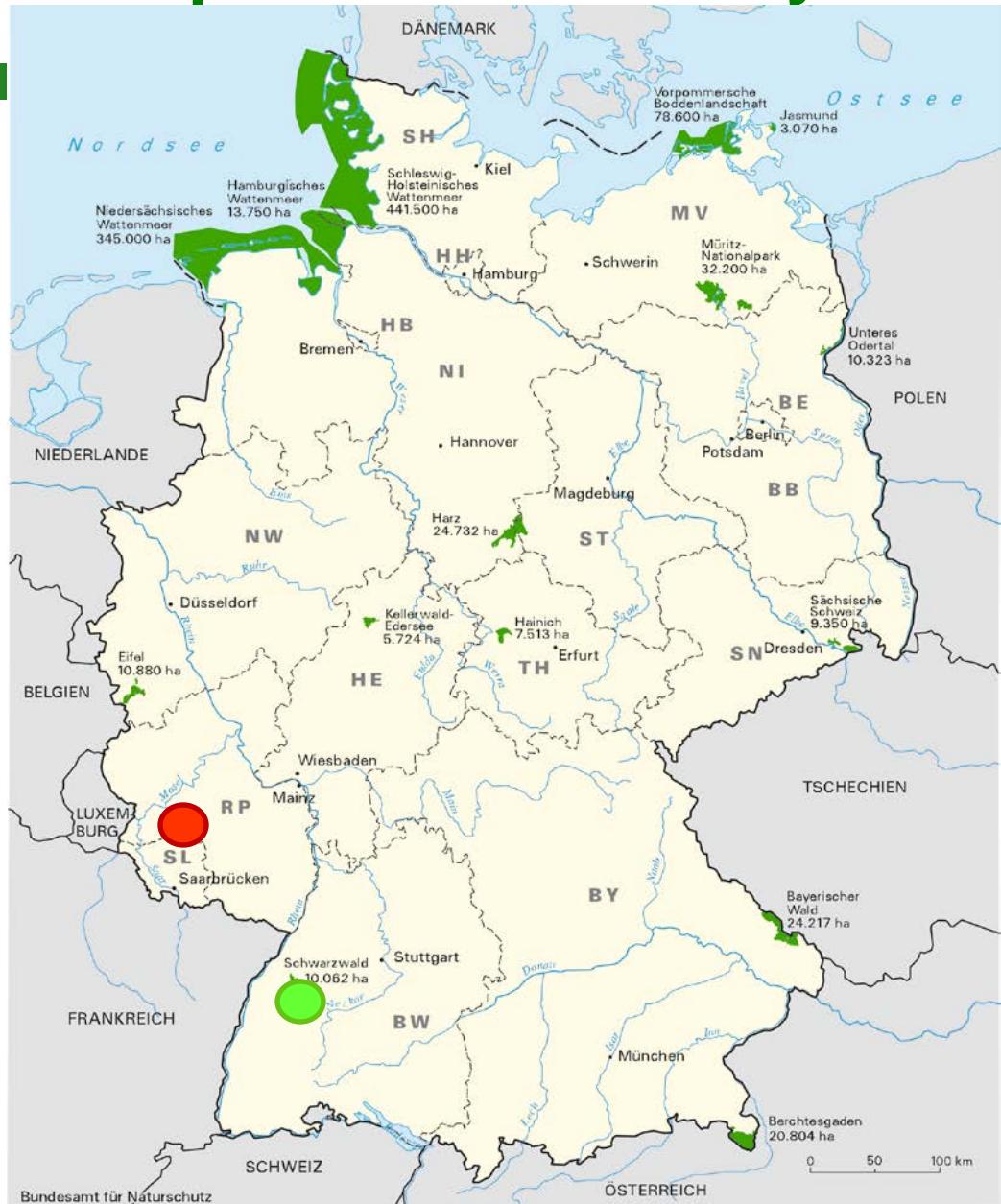
- 14 National parks in Germany (situation Jan. 2014) (= 0.6 % terr. surface)
- Schwarzwald (2014)
- Hunsrück/Hochwald (2015)

German Federal government:

- no responsibility for implementation

but

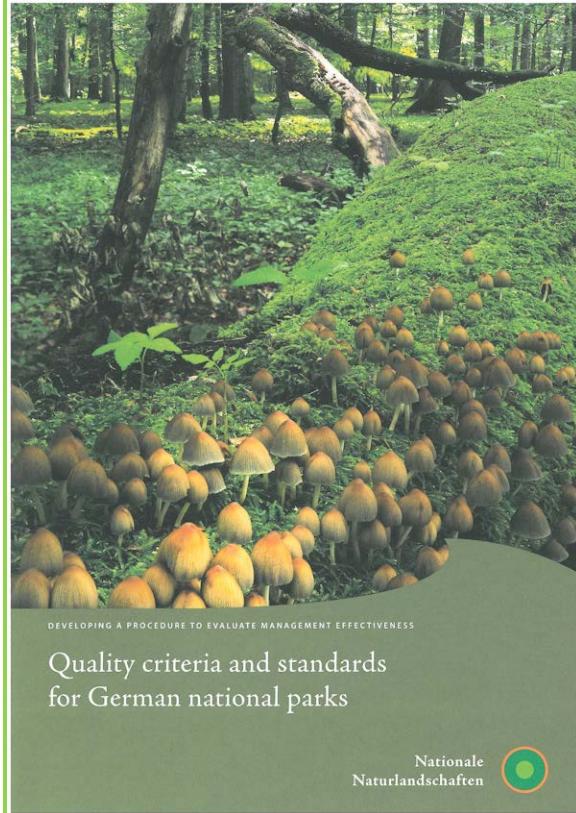
- strong consultation process



Set of standards and criteria to be applied:



- German Federal Nature Conservation Act (2009)
- 44 quality criteria in 10 fields of action (EUROPARC Germany 2008), e.g.:

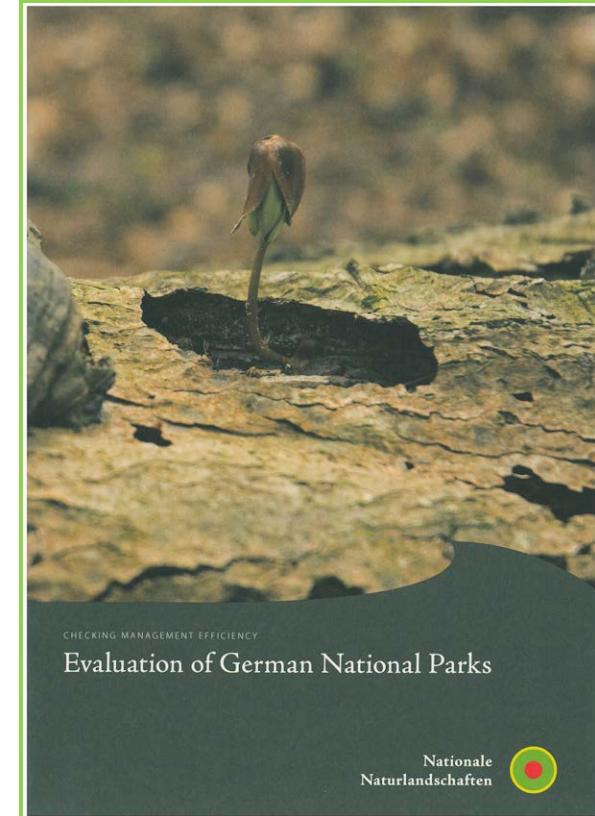
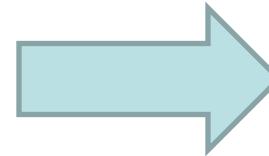


DEVELOPING A PROCEDURE TO EVALUATE MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS

Quality criteria and standards
for German national parks

Nationale
Naturlandschaften

A photograph of a forest floor covered in green moss and small brown mushrooms. A large, fallen tree trunk lies across the scene. The bottom of the image contains a dark green footer with white text and a circular logo.



CHECKING MANAGEMENT EFFICIENCY

Evaluation of German National Parks

Nationale
Naturlandschaften

A photograph of a small plant sprouting from a piece of wood on the ground. The bottom of the image contains a dark green footer with white text and a circular logo.



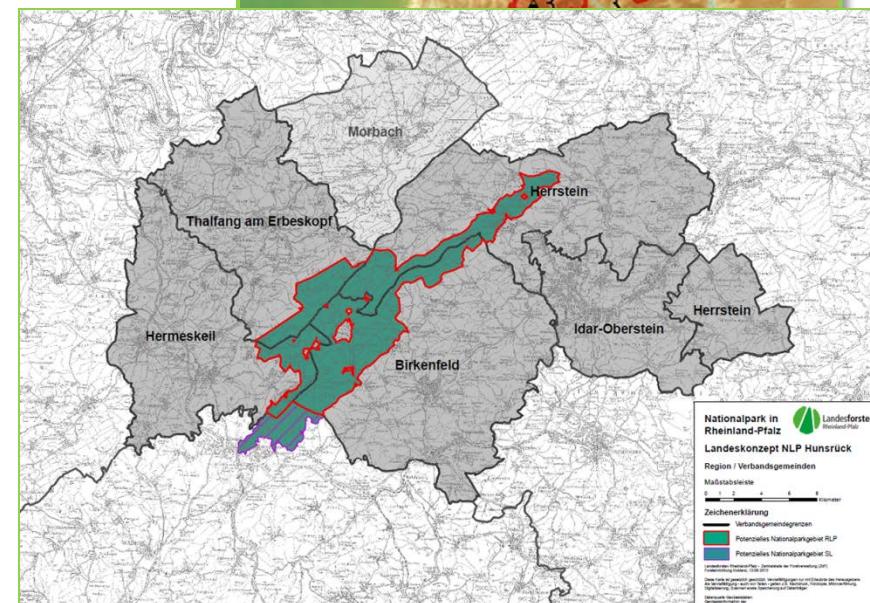
Implementation

➤ National Park Schwarzwald:

- Federal state: Baden-Württemberg
- Start: 1.1.2014
- Area: 10.062 ha
- Core area now: 33 %
- Core area 2044: > 75 %
- Administration: 89 staff

➤ National Park Hunsrück-Hochwald:

- Federal state: Rheinland-Pfalz / Saarland
- Start: 1.1.2015
- Area: 10.061 ha
- Core area now: 25 %
- Core area 2044: > 75 %
- Administration: 53 staff



Lessons learnt



- It is possible to implement new national parks even in an industrialized country like Germany.
- The combination of legal obligations and broadly accepted quality criteria help to increase quality of the new parks.
- The application of these criteria through an evaluation process will also help to enhance quality of existing parks.
- Please refer to:
 - <http://www.europarc-deutschland.de/service/veroeffentlichungen>
 - http://www.bfn.de/0308_gebietsschutz+M52087573ab0.html

Thank you very much for your attention!

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