



THE SWISS PARKS NETWORK

Nadja Urfer Head of Tourism Coordination Office Thursday, 13th February 2025, Slovakia

www.parks.swiss

SCHWEIZER PÄRKE RESEAU RETE RAIT

Agenda

- Development of parks in Switzerland
- Swiss Parks network
- Support for facilitating partnership with Swiss entities



THE SWISS PARKS

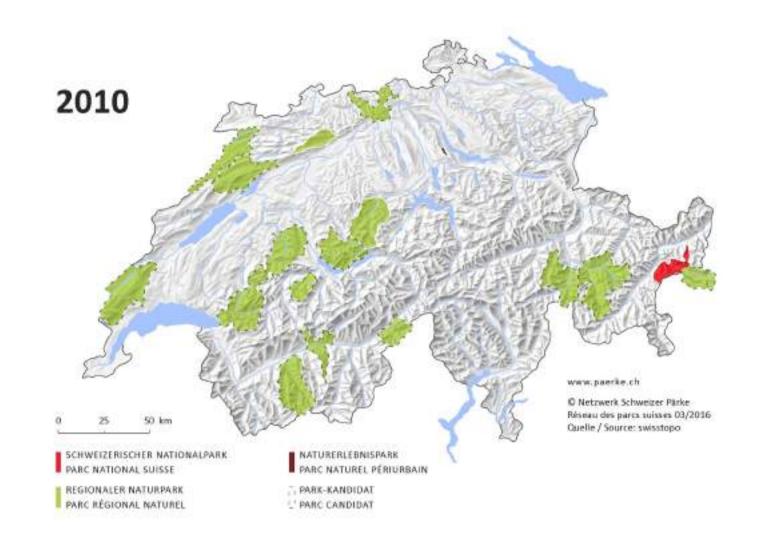




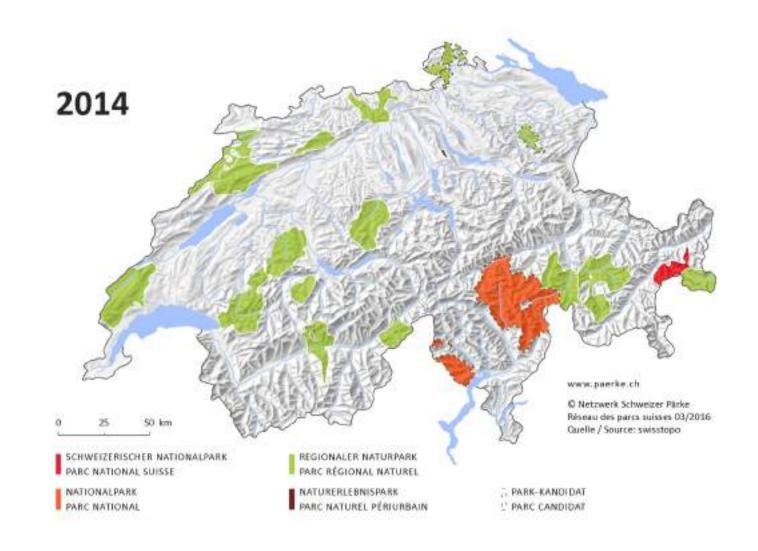


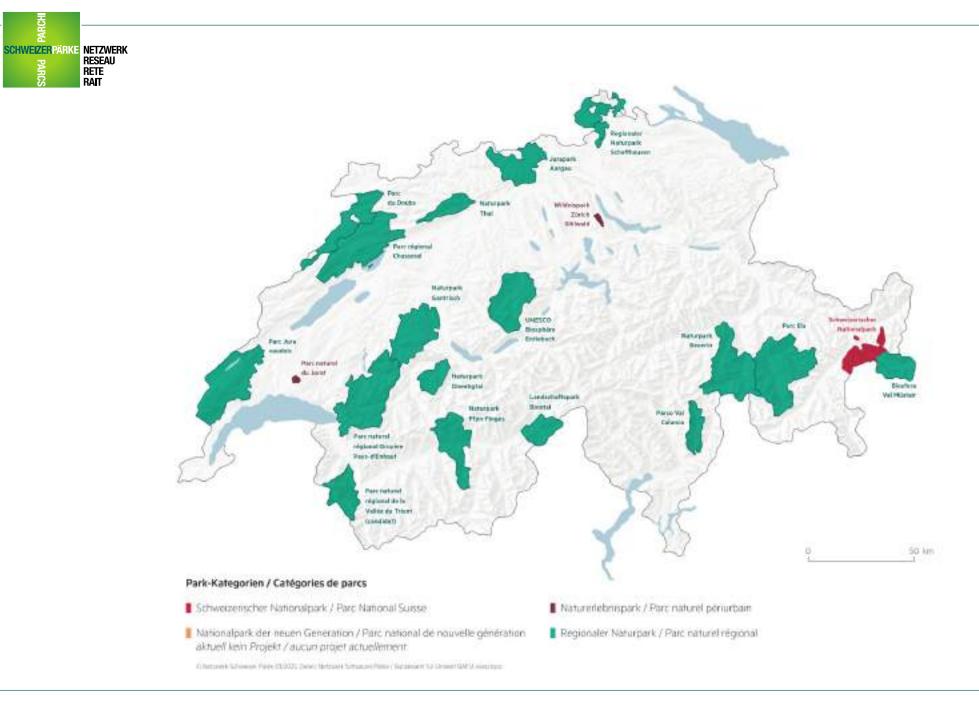












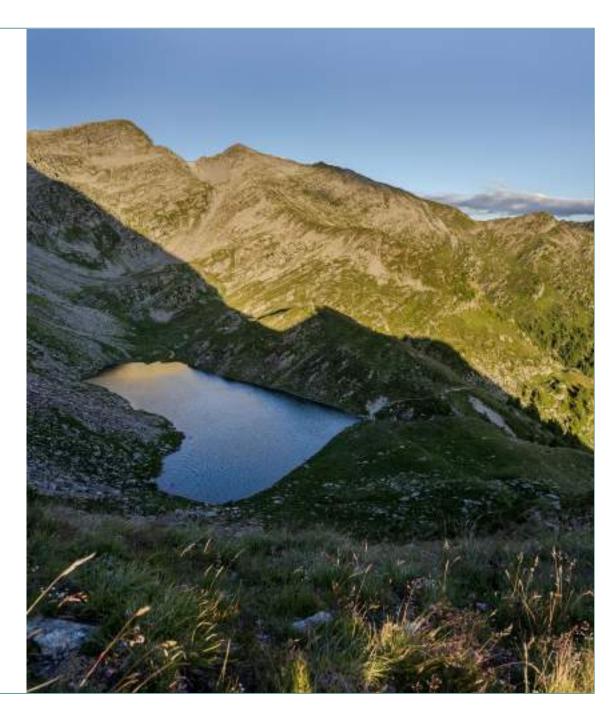
PARCHI

Facts and Figures

In 2025:

- 20 parks
- Area: 6'055 km² (14.6 % of Switzerland)
- Municipalities: 233
- Cantons: 12
- Population: approx. 329'990





What are the tasks of the Swiss parks?

- Ensure the free development of nature
- Preserving and enhancing the cultural and natural landscape
- Promotion of a sustainable regional economy
- Education and awareness raising
- Research

CHWEIZER PÄRKE RESEAU RETE RAIT

Schweizerischer Nationalpark © ST - BAFU





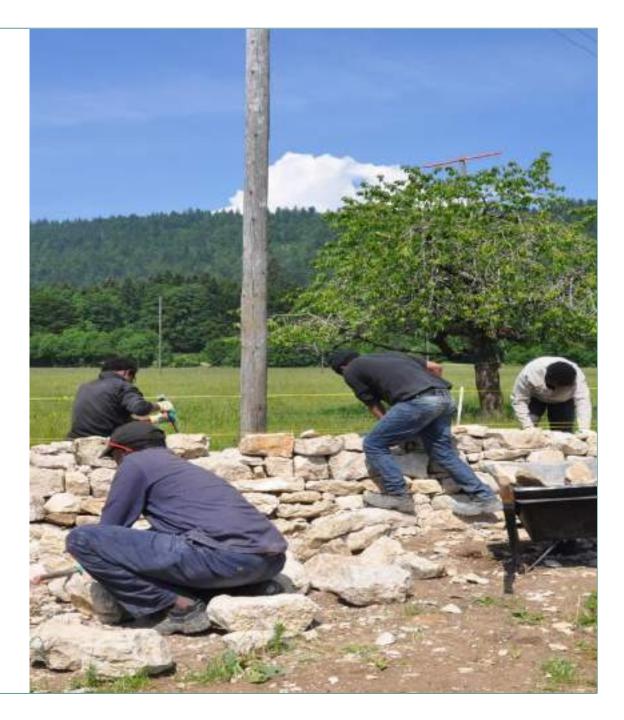
THE NEED FOR AN UMBRELLA ORGANISATION - THE SWISS PARKS NETWORK

Legal background

CHWEIZER PÄRKE RESEAU

rete Rajt

- Bottom-up principle in the development of parks
- Several levels of government involved
- Parks operate at regional and cantonal level, relevant laws are enacted at federal level
- → Need for an umbrella organisation that represents the interests of the parks at political level



Economic background

Chweizer Pärke netzwerk

reseau Rete Rait

- Relatively small and low-population park regions have little access to larger partners
- Nationally active companies and organisations seek national publicity and recognition

→ Need for an umbrella organisation that can address large potential partners



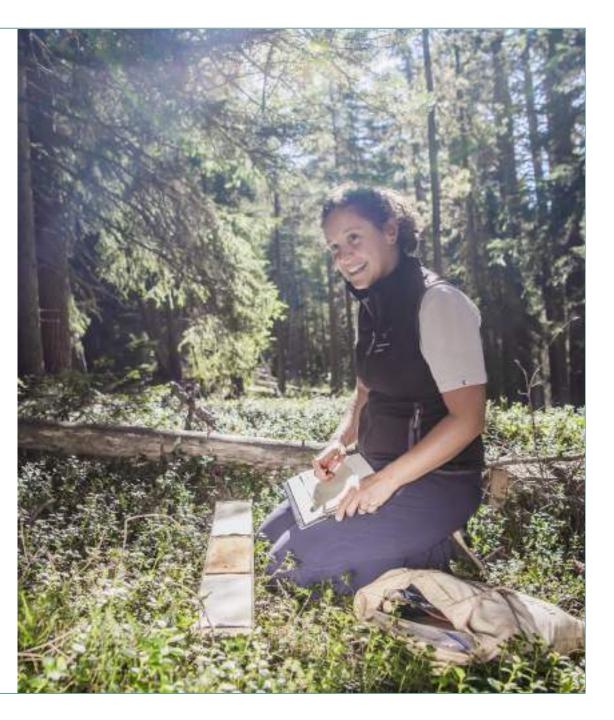
Practical background

CHWEIZER PÄRKE RESEAU

RETE

- Complex tasks that can be fulfilled in a coordinated manner (e.g. Geoinformation system GIS)
- Implementation projects that have a greater impact when fulfilled together (e.g. tourism projects)

→ Need for an umbrella organisation to identify and coordinate joint projects





Swiss Parks Network

- Founded in 2007
- All Swiss parks and the park candidates are members
- Other large protected areas and park initiatives are associate members (e.g. UNESCO World Natural Heritage)



SCHWEIZER PÄRKE RESEAU RETE RAIT

Our Network

President: Stefan Müller-Altermatt, National Councillor

Board consisting of the president and 8 directors (or senior executives) of the parks

Executive Management: Dominique Weissen Abgottspon

Office: 20 employees, 12.8 full-time equivalents





Strategy of the Swiss Parks Network 2020-2025

Vision

Preserve, enhance and develop areas of great natural and cultural quality and create added value for nature, society and the economy.



Promoting the Swiss parks at national level

Positioning the parks at national level

the parks



FIELDS OF ACTIVITY OF THE SWISS PARKS NETWORK

Fields of activity

RETE

CHWEIZER PÄRKE RESEAU

- Anchoring the parks in politics
- Exchange of experience and knowledge transfer between the parks
- Cooperation at national and international level
- Public relations
- Implementation of cross-park projects and services, particularly in the fields of tourism and geo-information





GOOD PRACTICES FOR SUSTAINABILITY IN TOURISM

CHWEIZERPÄRKE NETZWERK RESEAU RETE RAIT



The valuable commitment of the Swiss parks and their partners

We are committed to sustainable and regional development that benefits nature and residents. Our values are shared by the Swiss Parks and their partner compagnies

www.parks.swiss

We place the nature and the landscape at the heart of our priorities.

We are committed to maintaining a high-quality landscape with a high level of biodiversity. We ensure that we minimise the impact of our actions on the climate by using resources sustainably and by promoting the energy transition.

We support the local economy

We stimulate the local economy, offer a wide range of products and services and help maintain jobs in the parks.

We learn from each other

We promote exchange with local and supra-regional partners. We collaborate for a sustainable region.



We offer innovative and high-quality products and services

We are committed to continuous improvement. We are creative, dynamic and attentive to our customers' needs.

We cultivate the identity of our region

We are attached to the landscape and cultural values of our park. We play a key role in preserving and promoting our heritage and know- how.

We work ethically and with kindness.



We are committed to a caring and inclusive society. We are reliable and respectful partners and employers.

We share the values of our parks.

We communicate proudly and authentically the unique features of our regions. We raise awareness of nature conservation and sustainability among our customers and partners.



Tourism vision of the Swiss Parks 2030

Chweizerpärke netzwerk

RESEAU RETE BAIT

The Swiss Parks are pioneers in strong sustainability in tourism and leisure.

We, the Swiss Parks, are committed to ensuring that tourism and leisure activities in the parks have positive effects on residents, visitors, culture and the local economy while preserving and enhancing the nature and the landscape.



TOURISMUSVISION DER SCHWEIZER PÄRKE 2030

DIE SCHWEIZER PÄRKE SIND VORREITER FÜR ECHTE NACHHALTIGKEIT IN TOURISMUS UND FREIZEIT

Wir, die Schweizer Pärke, engagieren uns dafür, dass Tourismus- und Freizeitaktivitäten in den Pärken eine positive Wirkung auf die Bewohner:innen und die Gäste, die Kultur und die lokale Wirtschaft haben bei gleichzeitiger Erhaltung und Aufwertung von Natur und Landschaft.

- Wir wollen negative Auswirkungen der Tourismus- und Freizeitaktivitäten auf unsere Lebensgrundlage, d.h. die Biodiversität, sowie unsere Natur- und Kulturlandschaften reduzieren und uns proaktiv an den Klimawandel anpassen.
- Wir wollen, dass die touristische Entwicklung zum Wohlbefinden der Menschen beiträgt, sowohl heute als auch in Zukunft. Wir binden die lokale Bevölkerung und die Gäste ein, fördern das gegenseitige Verständnis und sensibilisieren für die Werte der Pärke, die zum nachhaltigen Handeln animieren.
- Wir wollen mit den Tourismus- und Freizeitaktivitäten die Wirtschaft in den Parkregionen stärken. Dabei sind Regionalität, lokale Wertschöpfung und regenerative Kreislaufwirtschaft besonders wichtig. Wir fördern den stetigen Lernprozess hin zu einer nachhaltigeren Wirtschaft.

Als Leuchttürme für eine enkeltaugliche Tourismusentwicklung engagieren wir uns zusammen mit unseren Partnern in einem kontinuierlichen und ganzheitlichen Verbesserungsprozess, um diese Vision zu erreichen.



Program «Corporate Volunteering» - Team building event with a sustainable impact on nature



...fine regional products





...a wide range of operational work





...exciting inputs & careful instructions





Program «Partner Companies»

The program "Partner Companies" is based on the seven values of the Swiss parks. It is an innovative program that **accompanies companies in park areas on their path to greater sustainability.**





Sustainability in Tourism

- Free public transportation to and in Swiss Parks
- Savurando: Culinary day hike or e-bike tour with riddle
- The Green Route: E-Bike Trail through 6 parks
- Parks for all

CHWEIZER PÄRKE RESEAU RETE RAIT













CALL FOR PROPOSALS

STRENGTHENING BIODIVERSITY IN PROTECTED AREAS - FACILITATING PARTNERSHIP WITH SWISS ENTITIES

FACILITATING PARTNERSHIP WITH SWISS ENTITIES

Added value of Swiss Parks Network

- Many years of experience in the transfer of knowledge and exchange of experience in the field of nature and landscape
- Good network with relevant partners throughout the country

Match-making process

-
-
-
_
_

Chweizerpärke netzwerk

RESEAU RETE BAIT

Submission of Swiss partner contact form as PDF to <u>Swiss-</u> <u>contribution@mirri.gov.sk</u> Deadline: 7 April 2025, 23:59 CET



Analysis of needs and contacting potential partners with special expertise



Feedback with recommendation of at least 1 Swiss partner including contact within approx. 3 weeks 27





QUESTIONS?

MÁTE OTÁZKY?





Swiss Parks Network

Nadja Urfer Monbijoustrasse 61 CH-3007 Bern

Tel. +41 (0)31 381 10 71 n.urfer@parks.swiss www.parks.swiss