

# WILDLIFE ESTATES LABEL

*WE act for biodiversity*



## Editorial

As a new member of the ELO team and Chief Operating Officer for the Wildlife Estates (WE) Secretariat, I would like to take this opportunity to expose my view towards the future direction of the Wildlife Estates Label.

It is great honor to join this successful initiative, and I am looking forward to working in the Brussels office to provide assistance, advice, and direction to the WE Label.

While society relies on the natural world for the countless services it delivers for free, the declining biodiversity indicates that nature is suffering. This is a clear sign that we have reached the point where sustainable resource management must become the default option. Only with the help of projects like the WE Label, we can discover and promote practices that combine the two seemingly conflicting goals – exploiting natural resources and restoring precious biodiversity.

I am happy to see that we are already off to a good start. By the end of 2013, the WE Label had reached 1.000.000 hectares across various regions in Europe. The number of labelled Wildlife Estates is constantly expanding, and the principal aim of my work

will be to make sure this trend is continuing with momentum. I have set as a first priority to acquire a new label in the Czech Republic, as well as many other EU countries, and to establish a positive relationship with stakeholders in this country.

I am fully aware of the responsibility to preserve the trust that the WE Label team expressed by offering me this position. I will do my best to meet your expectations, and to make sure the WE Label continues to produce excellent results.

Yours sincerely,  
Konstantin Kostopoulos

### **Promising discussions on brand new Wildlife Estate Label in Czech Republic**

On the 28th May 2014, a very important meeting was held in Prague, in the building of UZEI (Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information). It explored the issues relating to management of the Wildlife Estates Label in Czech Republic. 14 relevant stakeholders gathered to the event, representing various organizations that are crucial for successful development of WE label in the Czech Republic. These, among others, include Mendel University, UZEI, Private Farmers Association, and Czech Agricultural University.

To read the whole article please [click here](#).



## Swedish WE awarded for successful multi-purpose integration

The award ceremony took place on the occasion of the 7th Forum for the Future of Agriculture during which ELO and the Wildlife Estates Jury were honoured to award the management of Johannishus Gods estate. Located in the south-east of Sweden, it has large areas under the scope of the EU's Natura 2000 program.

Through its management, the owners have ensured sustainable crops planting in order to protect the various game species that live on the land. As expressed on their website, the estate "aims to achieve a balance between dense, viable wildlife populations and rational agriculture and forestry". The estate managers concentrate on diverting the wildlife from sensitive areas to better suited habitats. They also practice hunting as part of the game management, imposing cautious and well-planned guidelines during hunting season.

The estate came into being in 1684, when Admiral Hans WACHTMEISTER purchased several farms in the middle of Blekinge, namely Skunckenberg (changing name in the mid-18th century to become the now-awarded Johannishus), Edestad, Wambasa and Tromtö. The estate was sold and acquired repeatedly since, until quite recently, when it came under management of Johannishus Estate Management Ltd.

To read the whole article please [click here](#).

## ELO co-chairs the new platform on large carnivores

On 10<sup>th</sup> June 2014, European Landowners' Organization, together with 7 other stakeholder associations, signed an agreement to launch The EU Platform on Coexistence between People and Large Carnivores. There farmers, conservationists, hunters, landowners and scientists will be able to exchange ideas and best practices on sharing the same land with large carnivores.

To read the whole article please [click here](#).

On Tuesday March 25 2014, Jean-Pierre POLY, Director General of ONCFS and Bernard BAUDIN, President of the FNC signed the convention dictating the requirements of the Wildlife Estates Label in France.

To read the press release please [click here](#).

## Upcoming events

2/09/2014 - 4/09/2014

WE Plenary Session, Holkham, UK:  
**The Implementation of the Label in the EU and UK**

To register and get more information about the event  
**CLICK HERE**

[www.wildlife-estates.eu](http://www.wildlife-estates.eu)

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