

# The European Rewilding Network

Rewilding  
Europe®



A rewilding movement is taking shape in Europe, with exciting and ambitious initiatives developing all across the continent. Rewilding Europe is now building a living network of these, to develop rewilding as a conservation tool and as something to learn from and get inspired by.

# An inspiring network of rewilding initiatives



Over the past decades, several different forms of rewilding have started in dozens of places, all across Europe. Many new local rewilding initiatives are still coming up. As this rewilding movement matures, Rewilding Europe feels that it is now time to connect all these rewilding projects, to learn from and be inspired by each other.

Although each initiative is unique and has its own opportunities linked directly to the area and the people involved, it is really worth a lot to exchange ideas and knowledge between these initiatives. We are all in a learning process. Learning from each other will save us all time and money and will speed up the development of rewilding actions. Therefore, we are now creating the European Rewilding Network. In order to inspire each other and stimulate others to contribute to the rewilding of many more parts of Europe. Joining this network will make it easier and more feasible to share experiences, expertise and best practices on rewilding, throughout the continent.

All initiatives that are included in this network will be showcased through an online database that is openly accessible to all. There will be a short but clear outline presented about each initiative: What do you want to reach with your rewilding initiative: What is your vision or

dream? What makes your initiative an example for others to follow? What can we all learn from it?

Members of the network will find it easier to find facts, contacts and inspiration from the other initiatives. Also funding ideas can be exchanged and possibly wildlife to reintroduce elsewhere. By being part of a movement for active rewilding, these initiatives will also quickly be much more visible to the outside world.

Rewilding Europe will assist this process through providing the online network with expertise and some quality control. There will also be certain training opportunities, learning seminars and experience-sharing on-site visits arranged.

## Who can take part?

Rewilding initiatives that include at least one or more of the following criteria can become members of the European Rewilding Network:

- Large-scale restorations of natural processes, including large herbivores and/or carnivores being present.
- Successful agreements with forestry organisations about changing the forestry into more sustainable harvesting of wood in ecosystems that also allow for natural densities of herbivores.

- Successful agreements with hunting associations about sustainable hunting, no-take zones and wildlife watching tourism in order to see wildlife in natural numbers and with natural behaviour.
- Successful examples of enterprises and businesses that are based on rewilding and the values of the wild, and that also contribute to these values.
- Pilot projects with one or more large wildlife species in more natural densities.
- Re-introductions and re-stockings of locally extinct or rare keystone wildlife species, or breeding of such species with the goal to release them into the wild.
- Methods and experiences to multiply the numbers of wild or rewilded animals and herds.

**We look forward to welcoming all of Europe's most exciting rewilding initiatives into the 'European Rewilding Network'.**

**Explore the network and its members via [www.rewildingeurope.com/rewilding-network/](http://www.rewildingeurope.com/rewilding-network/)**

## Making Europe a Wilder Place