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Balkan Green Belt Photo Contest 2016

Participate in the photo contest!

The nature of the Balkan Green Belt is home to an astonishing variety of landscapes and creatures.

We invite all visitors and residents along the Balkan Green Belt to go on a journey of exploration and photograph the most beautiful motives and most impressive experiences.

Participation pays off!

The prizes are various: from bicycle, binoculars and tripod for photo camera which can be used when spending time in the nature, to T-shirts, mugs and USB stick with interesting motive. In addition the prize-winning pictures will be represented on www.czip.me and www.europeangreenbelt.org.

Be part of the first Balkan Green Belt Photo Contest taking place in all of the nine countries along the Balkan Green Belt!

What is Green Belt?



Iron Curtain divided physically and ideologically the European continent on east and west from the end of II world war to the end of Cold war (from 1945 to 1990). Instead of people, today this border area is represented by various habitats with different plant and animal species.

The European Green Belt forms a 12.500 km long pan-European ecological corridor along the route of the former Iron Curtain from the Barents Sea in the north to the Mediterranean south of Europe, with an extraordinarily high level of biodiversity.

It connects 24 countries and it is a symbol for trans boundary cooperation and a common European natural and cultural heritage.





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The European Green Belt includes four organizational regions: Fennoscandian, Baltic, Central European and Balkan. The overall steering is done by a coordination group with members from all regions. Each section is coordinated by a regional coordinator and in every country National Focal Points are persons in charge.

What is Balkan Green Belt?

Balkan Green Belt presents the the southernmost part of the European Green Belt and a hot spot of biodiversity and endemism. Predominantly located in the mountain ranges of the Balkan Peninsula it forms an extremely heterogeneous mosaic of natural landscapes including pristine alpine ecosystems, forests and steppe habitats as well as lakes and coastal zones. Besides extraordinary cultural landscapes developed with a multitude of threatened plant and animal species.

Green Belt in Montenegro

Montenegro joined Green Belt initiative in 2003. "Green Belt" forms 172 km of border area toward Albania which includes variety of protected areas, ecosystems and biodiversity richness. It includes: delta of the river Bojana, Ulcinj salina National Park Skadar Lake, canyon of Cijevna river and National Park Prokletije. Beside protection on national level, some of this areas are declared as wetlands of international importance under Ramsar Convention, Emerald habitats under Bern Convention, Important Bird Areas (IBA) and Important Plant Area (IPA).

Who can take part?

Each person travelling along or visiting the Balkan Green Belt in Montenegro.

What are the prizes?

1. Bicycle
2. Binoculars
3. Tripod for photo camera
4. T-shirt and USB stick
5. Mug and USB stick

When is the closing date?

30th June 2016

How can the photos be submitted?

The participation is free. Send your pictures to: green.belt.crna.gora@gmail.com





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This is the jury:

Zenepa Lika (Vice-president of Ulcinj Municipality)
Ilija Peri (Riders.me)
Saša Popovi (Saša Popovi photography)
Radonja Srdanovi (Mountain guide)
Voice of the public (voting via Facebook page CZIP CG)

The winners will be announced by the end of July 2016 on the website of Center for Protection and Research of birds www.czip.me

We are looking forward to your pictures!





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Conditions of entry

Organisation. There is no entry fee. The organisers will bear the organisational costs of the competition. The organisers are Center for Protection and Research of birds and EuroNatur (Germany). The competition is open to all persons who visited the Balkan Green Belt of the respective country. The closing date by which entries must arrive is 30th June 2016.

Subjects and judging. Subject is the Balkan Green Belt part of the respective country. The jury will award prizes to the top 5 pictures.

The jury consists of four both professional and amateur nature photographers: Ilija Peri, Zenepa Lika, Saša Popovi and Radonja Srdanovi, while the fifth member of the jury will be the public. After the closure of the contest, one week voting for the top five pictures will be done on Facebook page of Center for Protection and Research of birds (CZIP CG).

The prize-winning pictures will be represented through the websites of the organisers and europeangreenbelt.org. The jury's decisions are final. The organisers reserve the right to disqualify pictures that were obviously taken by infringing the code of conduct for wildlife photographers. This can be found at <http://www.euronatur.org/Code-of-conduct.736.0.html>.

Digitally manipulated pictures and pictures that were not taken along the Balkan Green Belt of the respective country will not be accepted.

Pictures. No more than 5 pictures may be entered per person. Only one photo per person can win the prize. Entries shall be in the form of digital colour pictures, submitted by email (but no prints, no black and white photographs and no panorama formats).

The titles of digital picture files must contain the photographer's name and the name and number (1-5) of the picture (e.g. MaxMueller_Brownbear_Croatia_1.jpg). Pictures of animals or plants taken in controlled conditions (pen, botanical gardens or similar) must be identified by a "C" in the file name and contain corresponding information in the list of pictures.

Digital manipulation. No subsequent modification of a picture or its content is permitted. Adding or removing animals, parts of animals, plants, unwanted elements, people etc. into/from the image is also not allowed.





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List of pictures. The entry must include a list of the pictures in Montenegrin or English as pdf or Excel-file. In addition to the name, email and address of the photographer, picture title and number (1 to 5), this list must also provide a detailed description of the subject including the following information: date the picture was taken, species (if possible), location (country, region, habitat, nature reserve, etc.) as well as a short story about the development and background of the picture.

Entries submitted via e-mail address green.belt.crna.gora@gmail.com. No more than 5 pictures per person plus accompanying list of the pictures may be entered. Entries can only be accepted if entrants abide the given instructions.

Copyright, liability and posting. The copyright for all photos entered must be held by the photographer. The photographer retains the copyright to his/her pictures at all times and his/her name will appear alongside the photo whenever it is published. By entering the competition the contestant grants the competition organisers the right to use the photos entered free of charge for the following purposes:

- The use of the photos to advertise the competition in the competition organisers' publications, on their websites and in press coverage.
- All prize-winning pictures may be used by the organiser EuroNatur and Center for Protection and Research of birds... for commercial sale of communication material and its advertisement, like calendars.
- All prize-winning pictures may be used by the organiser EuroNatur and Center for Protection and Research of birds for an exhibition and its advertisement.
- The non-profit foundation EuroNatur and Center for Protection and Research of bird have the right to use the prize-winning photos in their own publications to advertise their conservation projects at the Balkan Green Belt. Pictures that have been entered but have not won prizes will only be used for the above purposes after consultation with the photographer and by contractual agreement.

The use of the photos beyond the above-mentioned purposes may only proceed after consultation with the photographer. Rights to pictures may not be held by agencies or publishers. The organisers do not accept any liability for claims of third parties.

Further information:

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