wildE

*Scientific conference*

# New perspectives on rewilding for Nature and People in Europe

**Maison Irène et Frédéric Joliot-Curie**
Rue du Trône 100
1050 Brussels

23 and 24 November 2026

## Agenda

### MONDAY 23 NOVEMBER

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| 10:00-10:30 | **Reception** |
| 10:30-10:45 | **Introduction to the event**<br>***Arndt Hampe*** |

### Session I - Europe is rewilding: trends and implications

*Moderation: Henrik Smith*

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| 10:45-11:05 | **Deep-time perspectives on Europe's present and future nature**<br>***Jens-Christian Svenning*** |
| 11:05-11:20 | **Agricultural abandonment and rewilding indicators across Europe**<br>***Matthias Baumann***, *Xiang Liu & Tobias Kümmerle* |
| 11:20-11:35 | **A darkening Europe - implications for biodiversity**<br>***Wanben Wu***, *Jens-Christian Svenning, Sean Pang & Robert Buitenwerf* |
| 11:35-11:50 | **Indicators of rewilding and ecosystem integrity: recent trends in Europe**<br>***Magali Weissgerber***, *Henrique M. Pereira, Gavin Stark & Nestor Fernandez* |
| 11:50-12:20 | **General discussion** |
| 12:20-13:30 | **Lunch break** |

## Session I - Europe is rewilding: trends and implications

*Moderation: Lluis Brotons*

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| 13:30-13:45 | **A Pan-European survey of rewilding perceptions**<br>***Angus Smith***, *Arjen Buijs, Sabrina Dressel & Georg Winkel* |
| 13:45-14:00 | **Modelled future rewilding trajectories in Europe**<br>***Reinhard Prestele***, *Judith Kloibhofer & Mark Rounsevell* |
| 14:00-14:15 | **Consequences for ecosystem functioning and carbon dynamics**<br>***Anna Ferretto***, *Reinhard Prestele, Adrien Damseaux, Martin Wittenbrink, Peter Anthoni, Carolina Natel, Hector Camargo-Alvarez & Almut Arneth* |
| 14:15-14:30 | **Rewilding consequences for biodiversity *Marcel Montanyès***, *Tristan Bakx, Ella Plumanns- Pouton, Guillem Pocull, Reinhard Prestele, Caspar Lauterwasser, Henrique Pereira, Gavin Stark & Lluís Brotons* |
| 14:30-15:00 | **General discussion** |
| 15:00-15:30 | **Coffee break** |

## Session II – Rewilding with and for people

*Moderation: Liesbeth Bakker*

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| 15:30-15:50 | **Gelderse Poort, a gateway to the future**<br>***Wouter Helmer***, *rewilding pioneer, co-founder ARK Nature & Rewilding Europe* |
| 15:50-16:05 | **Rewilding across socio-economic contexts: A framework for landscape rewilding in Europe *Joana Santana*,** *Ricardo Ceia, Ana Teresa Pinto, Jóni Vieira, Francisco Moreira & Pedro Beja* |
| 16:05-16:20 | **Rewilding in policies and institutions *Stanislava Brnkalakova***, *Zuzana Sarvasova, Tatiana Kluvankova, Olena Shelvytska & Maria Kozova* |
| 16:20-16:35 | **The contribution of rewilding to nature's contributions to people: a systematic review**<br>***Alba Lázaro González***, *Inge van Halder, Cecilia Fraccaroli & Arndt Hampe* |
| 16:35-17:05 | **General discussion** |
| 20:00 | **Networking dinner (with exhibition of "Rewilding through Art" gallery)** |

# TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER

## Session I - Europe is rewilding: trends and implications

*Moderation: Jette Bredahl Jacobsen*

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| 9:00-9:15 | **Costs of rewilding: variable cases**<br>***Sven Wunder***, *Cecilia Fraccaroli, Dario Schulz & Chloë Fish* |
| 9:15-9:30 | **An economic understanding of rewilding trade-offs**<br>***Tim de Kruiff***, *Andrew Stratton, Jette Bredahl Jacobsen & Jens Abildtrup* |
| 9:30-9:45 | **Spatial heterogeneity in the costs and benefits of rewilding**<br>***Jens Abildtrup***, *Toho Hien, Jette B. Jacobsen & Tim de Kruiff* |
| 9:45-10:00 | **Rewilding conflicts and associated management strategies in Europe**<br>***Agata Konczal***, *Ravi van de Port, George Iordachescu & Georg Winkel* |
| 10:00-10:30 | **General discussion** |
| 10:30-11:00 | **Coffee break** |

## Session III – Rewilding in a rapidly changing world

*Moderation: Sven Wunder*

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| 11:00-11:20 | **A multi-scale approach to integrating rewilding into agricultural landscapes *José Maria Rey Benayas***, *University Alcala de Henares* |
| 11:20-11:40 | **Rewilding coastal landscapes: an overview from the REWRITE project**<br>***Vona Meleder***, *Nantes University* |
| 11:40-12:00 | **Rewilding forests: an overview from the WILDCARD project**<br>***Giorgio Alberti***, *University of Udine* |
| 12:00-12:30 | **General discussion** |
| 12:30-13:30 | **Lunch break** |

## Session IV – Rewilding and disturbances: friends or foes?

*Moderation: Francisco Moreira*

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| 13:30-13:45 | **A biodiverse Europe requires rewilded disturbance regimes**<br>***Robert Buitenwerf***, *Sean Pang, Wanben Wu & Jens-Christian Svenning* |
| 13:45-14:00 | **Restoring fire regimes through rewilding**<br>***Lluís Brotons***, *Ella Plumanns-Pouton, Tristan R.M. Bakx, Robert Buitenwerf, Josep Maria Espelta, Francisco Moreira, Adrian Regos, Miriam Selwyn* |
| 14:00-14:15 | **How can we accommodate rewilding and disturbances in landscape management: a synthesis *Josep Maria Espelta***, *Rodrigo Balaguer-Romano, Miquel de Caceres, Ella Plumanns-Pouton, Miriam Selwyn & Lluis Brotons* |
| 14:15-14:45 | **General discussion** |

## Session V : Next-generation rewilding: thinking nature and people together

*Moderation: Henrique Pereira*

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| 14:45-15:05 | **The IUCN guidelines for rewilding and a look beyond**<br>***Steve Carver***, *University of Leeds* |
| 15:05-15:25 | **Towards climate-smart rewilding: an integrated framework for biodiversity, climate change, and society**<br>***Gavin Stark***, *Magali Weissgerber, Néstor Fernández & Henrique M. Pereira* |
| 15:25-15:40 | **We need to keep talking: building a lasting community for rewilding research *Paul Mahony*** |
| 15:40-16:00 | **Rewilding in European landscapes: how to best connect ecological functions, restoration and sustainable land use**<br>***Aveliina Helm,*** *Tartu University, Society for Ecological Restoration Europe* |
| 16:00-16:30 | **Coffee break** |

## Session V : Next-generation rewilding: thinking nature and people together

*Moderation: Georg Winkel*

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| 16:30-17:30 | **Roundtable discussion: "Rewilding nature and people - which way(s) to go?"**<br>***Aveliina Helm***, *Wouter Helmer, Steve Carver, José Maria Rey Benayas* |

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**KEY:** ***Presenter***, *Co-authors*