



THE NATIONAL PARKS NETWORK

Information updated on 14 March 2019

1. INTRODUCTION

Law 30/2014 of 3 December on National Parks, defines the **national parks** as *natural areas with high ecological and cultural value, which have been little changed by human exploitation or activities. Due to the beauty of their landscapes, the representativeness of their ecosystems, or the uniqueness of their flora, fauna, geology or geomorphological formations, they have certain outstanding ecological, aesthetic, cultural, educational, and scientific values whose conservation deserves priority treatment and is thereby declared to be of national interest for the Spanish State.* Similarly, it stipulates that the **National Parks Network** is a system made up of the areas declared national parks, their regulatory framework, and the system of relations necessary for their operation. This Network constitutes a representative sample of the major natural systems in Spain.

The **aims of the National Parks Network** are the following:

- a) *To form a complete and representative structure of the natural systems found in the Annex to Law 30/2014.*
- b) *To cooperate in fulfilling the national parks' technical and social aims, as well as those related to natural heritage.*
- c) *To establish a unified action framework in all the Network's parks, which ensures the coordination and collaboration required to maintain a favourable state of conservation.*
- d) *To form synergies for the actions carried out in the national parks and the Network by the different public authorities responsible for their management.*
- e) *To contribute towards the socioeconomic development of the national parks' surroundings, through cooperation with the authorities and other social actors found within the territory.*
- f) *To promote and strengthen the external image of the Spanish national parks and the international role played by Spanish policies in this matter.*
- g) *To contribute towards environmental awareness in society in collaboration with other relevant institutions and organisations.*

The **National Parks Network Master Plan** (passed by Royal Decree 389/2016, of October the 22nd) is *the ultimate basic planning and regulating instrument*, as set forth by Law 30/2014 of 3 December on National Parks. It defines aspects such as the national parks' strategic objectives on different matters, the basic guidelines for planning, conservation, and coordination, the Network's common action programme, etc.

There are several documents related to the National Parks and the Network on the website <http://www.mapama.gob.es/es/red-parques-nacionales/>

2. BASIC INFORMATION

2.1. Location of national parks

At present, there are **15 natural areas comprising the National Parks Network, which are located in 12 autonomous communities and 19 province of Spain**. The table below shows information on the autonomous communities and the provinces in which they are located:

NATIONAL PARK	AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY	PROVINCES
Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici	Catalonia	Lleida
Cabrera Archipelago	Balearic Islands	Balearic Islands
Cabañeros	Castile-La Mancha	Ciudad Real and Toledo
Caldera de Taburiente	Canary Islands	Santa Cruz de Tenerife (island of La Palma)
Doñana	Andalusia	Huelva and Seville
Garajonay	Canary Islands	Santa Cruz de Tenerife (island of La Gomera)
Atlantic Islands of Galicia	Galicia	Pontevedra and A Coruña
Monfragüe	Extremadura	Cáceres
Ordesa y Monte Perdido	Aragon	Huesca
Picos de Europa	Principality of Asturias, Castile-Leon, and Cantabria	Asturias, Leon, and Cantabria
Sierra de Guadarrama	Madrid and Castile-Leon	Madrid and Segovia
Sierra Nevada	Andalusia	Granada and Almería
Tablas de Daimiel	Castile-La Mancha	Ciudad Real
Teide	Canary Islands	Santa Cruz de Tenerife (island of Tenerife)
Timanfaya	Canary Islands	Las Palmas (island of Lanzarote)



There are 12 autonomous communities within whose territories a protected area declared a national park is located. Of these, the Canary Islands has 4 national parks within its territory, and Andalusia, Castile-La Mancha, and Castile-Leon with 2 national parks each.

In terms of provinces, there are 19 that have a national park within its territory. Of these, Santa Cruz de Tenerife has 3 national parks, while Ciudad Real has two.

It should be noted that the Council of Ministers approved at the end of 2018 the proposal for a declaration of a future national park, that of the Sierra de las Nieves in the province of Málaga, and whose draft law of declaration is currently prepared

2.2. Dates and instruments of declaration, reclassification, and enlargement

The table below shows information, by chronological order, on the national parks' dates of declaration, as well as their reclassification or enlargement of boundaries. In 2018 is the 100 anniversary of the two first National Parks of Spain, La Montaña de Covadonga and El Valle de Ordesa, nowadays Picos de Europa and Ordesa y Monte Perdido, respectively.

NATIONAL PARK	DECLARATION	RECLASSIFICATION (*)	ENLARGEMENT
Picos de Europa (initially “Montaña de Covadonga”)	Law of 24 July 1918	Law 16/1995 of 30 May	Administrative Decision of 4 February 2015
Ordesa y Monte Perdido (initially “Valle de Ordesa”)	Royal Decree of 16 August 1918	Law 52/82 of 18 July	
Teide	Decree of 22 January 1954	Law 5/81 of 25 March	Administrative Decision of 14 October 1999
Caldera de Taburiente	Decree of 6 October 1954	Law 4/81 of 25 March	
Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici	Decree of 21 October 1955	Law 7/88 of 30 March	Decree 234/96, of 26 June
Doñana	Decree 2412/1969, of 16 October	Law 91/78 of 28 December	Administrative Decision of 6 February 2004
Tablas de Daimiel	Decree 1874/1973, of 28 June	Law 25/80 of 3 May	Administrative Decision of 21 January 2014
Timanfaya	Decree 2615/1974, of 9 August	Law 6/81 of 25 March	
Garajonay	Law 3/81 of 25 March		
Cabrera Archipelago	Law 14/91 of 29 April		Administrative Decision of 7 February 2019
Cabañeros	Law 33/95 of 20 November		Administrative Decision of 15 November 2005
Sierra Nevada	Law 3/99 of 11 January		
Atlantic Islands of Galicia	Law 15/2002 of 1 July		
Monfragüe	Law 1/2007 of 2 March		
Sierra de Guadarrama	Law 7/2013 of 25 July		

(*) For several national parks, reclassification also involved enlargement.

2.3. Areas

The total area of the national parks is 465.371,81 hectares (368,604.09 on land and 96.767,72 on sea), of which the terrestrial part amounts to approximately 0.73 % of Spanish territory. The total area of the national parks' peripheral protection zone is 389.514,41 hectares, which amounts to 0.77 % of Spanish territory. The total area of the national parks' areas of socioeconomic influence is 1,772,454.77 hectares, which amounts to 3.5 % of Spanish territory.

Below is a table with the national parks' areas (specifying land area and sea area for marine-terrestrial parks), their peripheral protection zone, and their area of socioeconomic influence.

NATIONAL PARK	LAND AREA (HA)	SEA AREA (HA)	TOTAL AREA (HA)	PERIPHERAL PROTECTION ZONE (HA)	AREA OF SOCIOECONOMIC INFLUENCE (HA)
Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici	14.119,00	-	14.119,00	26.733,00	145.057,75
Cabrera Archipelago	1.318,00	89.482,52	90.800,52	-	24.918,31
Cabañeros	40.856,00	-	40.856,00	-	182.292,52
Caldera de Taburiente	4.690,00	-	4.690,00	6.229,25	51.860,04
Doñana	54.252,00	-	54.252,00	74.278,95 ⁽¹⁾	200.601,86
Garajonay	3.984,00	-	3.984,00	4.558,95	36.812,06
Atlantic Islands of Galicia	1.194,80	7.285,20	8.480,00	-	25.328,48
Monfragüe	18.396,00	-	18.396,00	97.764,00	195.500,73
Ordesa y Monte Perdido	15.696,20	-	15.696,20	19.196,36	89.290,44
Picos de Europa	67.127,59	-	67.127,59	-	133.683,56
Sierra de Guadarrama	33.960,00	-	33.960,00	62.687,26 ⁽³⁾	175.593,40
Sierra Nevada	85.883,00	-	85.883,00	86.355,00 ⁽²⁾	266.690,91
Tablas de Daimiel	3.030,00	-	3.030,00	4.337,32	82.113,86
Teide	18.990,00	-	18.990,00	7.374,32	127.958,28
Timanfaya	5.107,50	-	5.107,50	-	34.752,58
Totals (ha)	368.604,09	96.767,72	465.371,81	389.514,41	1.772.454,77

Source: the data on the national parks' areas are those specified in the content of the regulatory provisions for their declaration, reclassification, or enlargement, and in the case of Sierra Nevada National Park and Ordesa y Monte Perdido National Park, in their planning instruments, which included the figures for their areas. The data on the areas of the peripheral protection zones are those included in the regulations, and in their absence, were calculated using geographic information systems based on the most up-to-date cartographic information available. The data on the areas of the areas of socioeconomic influence were calculated by means of analysis through geographic information systems based on the version of municipal boundaries updated on 18 November 2015 by the Spanish National Geographic Institute.

- (1) Concerning the surface data, Doñana National Park's peripheral protection zone is considered to include both this national park's protection zone and the adjoining Natural Park's territory.
- (2) Concerning the surface data, Sierra Nevada National Park's peripheral protection zone is considered to be equivalent to the territory of the natural park surrounding the national park.
- (3) Sierra de Guadarrama National Park's peripheral protection zone includes, on its slope in Segovia, 7,011 hectares of the national park's Special Protection Area, comprising the combined areas of the Montes Matas and Pinar de Valsain, which are included in the peripheral protection zone (in this Area, the national park's legal status shall be applicable, with a few exceptions).

As defined by Law 30/2014 of 3 December on National Parks, the peripheral protection zone is the sea or land area outside, contiguous to, or adjoining a national park, given its own legal status with the intention of disseminating the park's values to its surroundings and mitigating the ecological or landscape impact from the outside inside the national park.

Similarly, the national park's area of socioeconomic influence is the territory comprising the municipal districts that contribute land to the park, as well as—on an exceptional basis provided that there are objective grounds for it—any others that are directly involved, where deemed as such by declaratory statutes, for which the public authorities will carry out active policies for their implementation.

2.4. Other protection mechanisms, recognitions, and certifications

Over the past few years, the national parks have received different international recognitions and certifications as a result of their good management and state of conservation:

- **All the national parks are part of the Natura 2000 Network (European network made up of Sites of Community Importance and Special Protection Areas for Birds). Five of the have Natural Fluvial Reserves and two of them have nature monuments inside their limits.**
- **10 national parks are listed as Biosphere Reserves (UNESCO), 4 are World Heritage Sites (UNESCO), 3 have been awarded the European Diploma of Protected Areas by the Council of Europe, 5 are Starlight destiny 4 are RAMSAR wetlands, , 2 are on the IUCN Green List of Protected Areas, 1 is a Specially Protected Area of Mediterranean Importance, 1 is an OSPAR (Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic) zone, and 1 is a Geopark.**
- **5 national parks have been granted ISO 14001 certification (AENOR), 5 with EMAS certification (AENOR), 3 have the Q Mark for tourism quality (Spanish Tourism Quality Institute) and 6 have the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism status (EUROPARC).**

The table below summarises the different recognitions and certifications of the national parks:

RECONOCIMIENTOS Y CERTIFICACIONES	RED NATURAL 2000 (1)	RESERVA DE LA BIOSFERA (2)	DIPLOMA EUROPEO (3)	PATRI-MONIO HUMANA-DIDAD (4)	RAMSAR (5)	ZEPIM (6)	OSPAR (7)	CARTA EUROPEA (8)	ISO 14.001 (9)	EMAS (10)	Q DE CALIDAD TURISTICA (11)	GEO-PARQUE (12)	LISTA VERDE (13)	DESTI-NO STAR-LIGHT (14)	RE-SER-VAS FLU-VIA-LES (15)	MONU-MEN-TOS NATU-RALES (16)
Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici																
Archipiélago de Cabrera																
Cabañeros																
Caldera de Taburiente																
Doñana																
Garajonay																
Islas Atlánticas de Galicia																
Monfragüe																
Ordesa y Monte Perdido																
Picos de Europa																
Sierra de Guadarrama																
Sierra Nevada																
Tablas de Daimiel																
Teide																
Timanfaya																

- (1) **Natura 2000 Network sites, including Sites of Community Importance (SCI) and Special Protection Areas (SPA) for Birds:** The 15 currently declared national parks are part of the Network.
- (2) **Biosphere Reserves (UNESCO):** Doñana (1981), Ordesa y Monte Perdido (1977), Tablas de Daimiel (1980), Timanfaya (1993), Sierra Nevada (1986), Caldera de Taburiente (2002), Picos de Europa (2003), Monfragüe (2003), Garajonay (2012), and part of the territory of Sierra de Guadarrama (2013).
- (3) **European Diploma of Protected Areas by the Council of Europe for good management:** 3 national parks have been awarded the above-mentioned diploma, which is renewed every five years, Doñana in 1985, Ordesa y Monte Perdido in 1988, and Teide in 1989.
- (4) **UNESCO World Heritage Site:** The National Parks Network has 4 parks with this designation: Garajonay (1987), Doñana (1994), Ordesa y Monte Perdido (1997), and Teide (2007).
- (5) **RAMSAR:** The National Parks Network has had 2 parks with this designation since 1982: the Doñana National Park and the Tablas de Daimiel National Park, which were joined by Aigüestortes in 2005 and Sierra de Guadarrama in 2013.
- (6) **Specially Protected Area of Mediterranean Importance:** Since 2003, the Cabrera Archipelago Marine-Terrestrial National Park has been on this list.
- (7) **OSPAR, Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic:** Since 2008, the Atlantic Islands of Galicia National Park has been a member of this network.
- (8) **European Charter for Sustainable Tourism:** the EUROPARC Federation has given this distinction to 6 national parks: Sierra Nevada (2004), Doñana (2006), Garajonay (2008), Cabañeros (2009), Monfragüe (2011) and Islas Atlánticas de Galicia (2015).
- (9) **ISO 14001 Environmental Management:** AENOR has granted 5 national parks with this environmental management certification: Sierra Nevada (2004), Teide (2005), Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici (2006), Timanfaya (2007), Cabrera Archipelago (2008) and Sierra de Guadarrama (2013).
- (10) **Environmental Verification (EMAS):** AENOR has verified the environmental statements of 5 national parks: Teide (2005), Aigüestortes (2006), Timanfaya (2007), Cabrera Archipelago (2008), and Sierra de Guadarrama (2013).
- (11) **Mark of Tourism Quality** awarded by the Spanish Tourism Quality Institute (ICTE): Recognition for the efforts made in implementing Quality Systems: Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici, Doñana and Monfragüe.
- (12) **Geopark:** Ordesa y Monte Perdido National Park is included within the territory of Sobrarbe Geopark, which was declared a Geopark in 2006, joining the European Geoparks Network and the Global Geoparks Network, under the auspices of UNESCO.
- (13) **IUCN Green List of Protected Areas:** Sierra Nevada was added in 2014 and Doñana in 2015.
- (14) **Starlight Destiny:** 3 National Parks: Teide (2013), Islas Atlánticas de Galicia (2016) and Monfragüe (2016) and La Palma Island where Caldera de Taburiente National Park is included (2012), under the auspices of UNESCO, UNWTO and International Astronomical Union.
- (15) **Natural Fluvial Reserves:** in compliance with the National Hydrological Plan, whose development is under the responsibility of the Ministry for the Ecological Transition, different natural fluvial reserves were declared in the inter-community River Basin Districts through two Agreements of the Council of Ministers of 2015 and 2017. 8 of these natural fluvial reserves are located total or partially in 5 national parks: Cabañeros (Estena, Estenilla and Estomiza rivers), Monfragüe (Balvaón and Malvecino rivers), Ordesa and Monte Perdido (Ara river from its source to the Arazas river, including this last river, and Vellós river from its source to the Aso river), Sierra de Guadarrama and its Special Protection Area (Manzanares and Alto Eresma rivers) and Sierra Nevada (the birth of the Genil River).
- (16) **Nature monuments:** the nature monuments of Teide (inside Teide National Park) and Glaciares Pirenaicos-Macizo del Monte Perdido or Tres Sorores (within the Ordesa and Monte Perdido National Park) were declared by their autonomous communities, respectively in 1994 and 2007.

2.5. Ownership of the lands

The lands of the National Parks Network are publicly (82.09 %) and privately (17.91%) owned. Data on ownership is broken down for each of the national parks in the table below:

PARQUE NACIONAL	SUPERFICIE TOTAL	SUPERFICIE DE TITULARIDAD PÚBLICA	SUPERFICIE DE TITULARIDAD PRIVADA	% SUPERFICIE PÚBLICA	% SUPERFICIE PRIVADA
Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici	14.119,00	14.006,00	113,00	99,20%	0,80%
Archipiélago de Cabrera	90.800,52	90.800,52	0,00	100,00%	0,00%
Cabañeros	40.856,00	22.747,88	18.108,12	55,68%	44,32%
Caldera de Taburiente	4.690,00	656,60	4.033,40	14,00%	86,00%
Doñana	54.252,00	45.563,73	8.688,27	83,99%	16,01%
Garajonay	3.984,00	3.984,00	0,00	100,00%	0,00%
Islas Atlánticas de Galicia	8.480,00	8.450,70	29,30	99,65%	0,35%
Monfragüe	18.396,00	9.651,43	8.744,57	52,46%	47,54%

Ordesa y Monte Perdido	15.696,20	14.767,66	928,54	94,08%	5,92%
Picos de Europa	67.127,59	64.535,60	2.591,99	96,14%	3,86%
Sierra de Guadarrama	33.960,00	29.264,00	4.696,00	86,17%	13,83%
Sierra Nevada	85.883,00	65.086,00	20.797,00	75,78%	24,22%
Tablas de Daimiel	3.030,00	3.020,26	9,74	99,68%	0,32%
Teide	18.990,00	18.986,00	4,00	99,98%	0,02%
Timanfaya	5.107,50	4.958,17	149,33	97,08%	2,92%
Totales	465.371,81	396.478,55	68.893,26	85,20%	14,80%

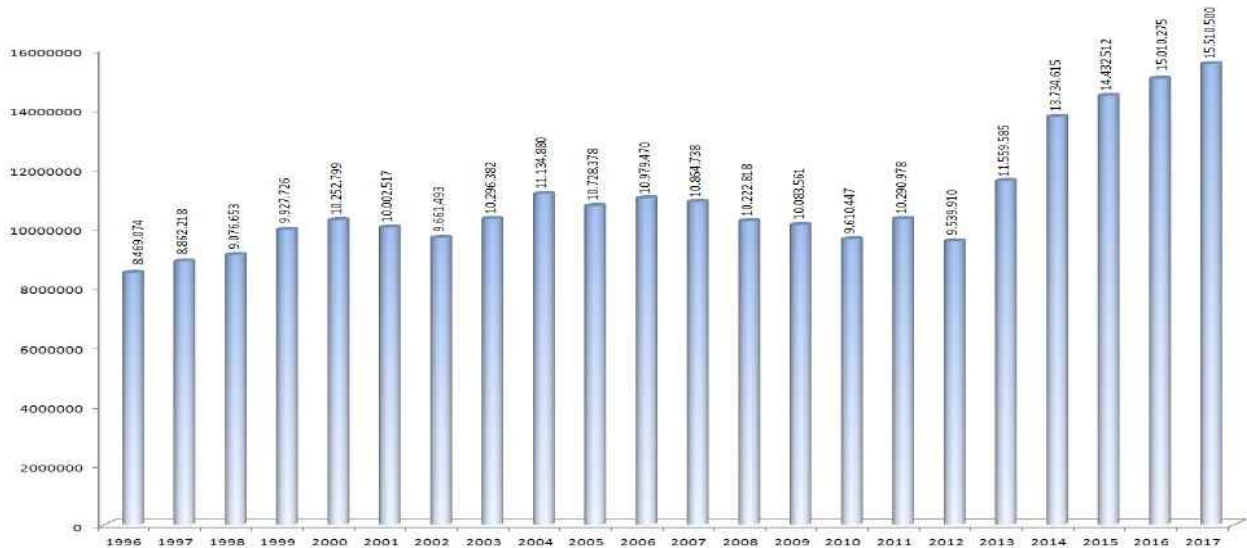
Source of data on ownership: figures provided by the national parks' management bodies.

According to the information available to the OAPN, it can be said that roughly 34 % of the Network's area is owned by the state (with 12 % of the national parks' area owned by the OAPN), 13 % owned by the autonomous communities, and 38 % owned by the municipalities.

2.6. Visitors to the National Parks Network estimation

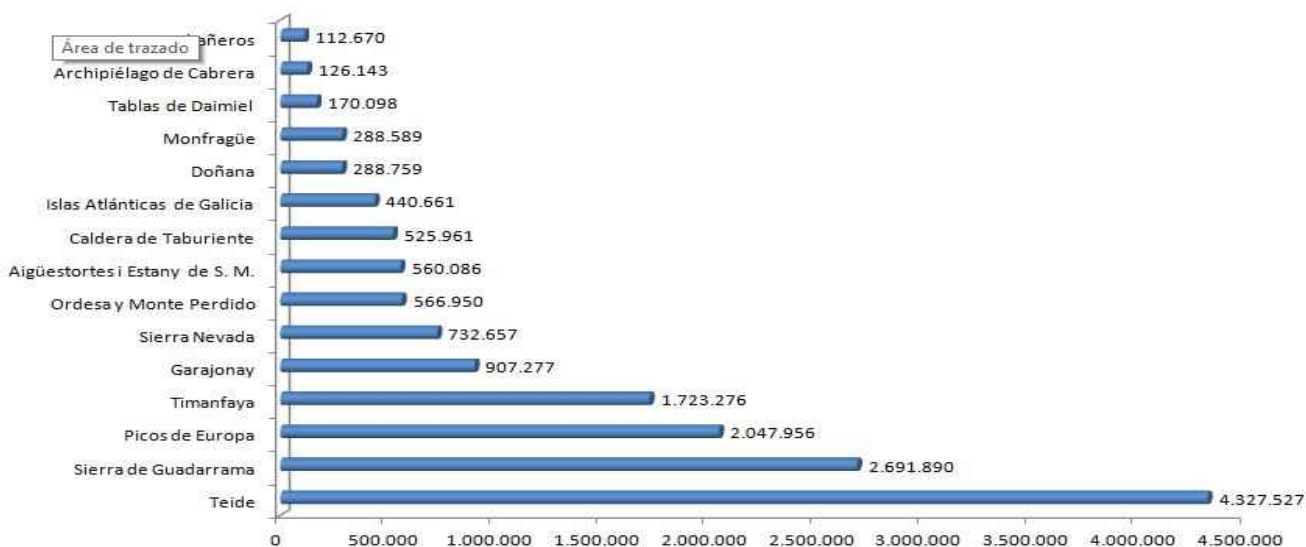
The data on visitors to the National Parks Network are clear evidence of the great interest generated by natural areas in general and national parks in particular. It is therefore necessary to counterbalance the conservation of their natural values with their dissemination, as well as the enjoyment of the general public. **The number of visitors estimation to the national parks which, over the past few years hovered around ten million visitors, reached an all-time high of more than fifteen million and a half visitors in 2017.** The more than four million visitors of Teide National Park, among other reasons, have contributed to this.

The graph below shows the evolution of visitor flow estimation to the National Parks Network during the 1996-2017 period:



Source: data provided by the national parks' management bodies.

The graph below shows data on visitors to each of the national parks in 2017:



Source: data provided by the national parks' management bodies.

2.7. Areas of socioeconomic influence

The definition of the national parks' area of socioeconomic influence is found on page 5 of this document.

169 municipalities comprise the national parks' areas of socioeconomic influence. According to data from the Spanish National Statistics Institute (INE), these municipalities had a population of 1.487.241 inhabitants in 2018.

Tables with data on the municipalities of the area of socioeconomic influence for each of the national parks, with their population in 2018, are shown below.

AIGÜESTORTES I ESTANY DE SANT MAURICI	Town (2018)
Naut Aran	1.790
Vielha e Mijaran	5.493
Alt Àneu	406
Espot	352
Esterri d'Àneu	756
Guingueta d'Àneu (La)	298
Sort	2.164
Torre de Cabdella (La)	747
Vall de Boí (La)	1.022
Vilaller	536
Total	13.564

ARCHIPIÉLAGO DE CABRERA	Town (2018)
Palma	406.492
Ses Salines	4.860
Total	411.352

SIERRA DE GUADARRAMA	Town (2018)
Alameda del Valle	195
Becerril de la Sierra	5.564
Boalo, El	7.399
Canencia	423
Cercedilla	6.948
Guadarrama	15.785
Lozoya	559
Manzanares el Real	8.597
Miraflores de la Sierra	5.897
Los Molinos	4.328
Navacerrada	2.911
Navarredonda y San Mamés	122
Pinilla del Valle	187
Rascafría	1.663
Soto del Real	8.694
Aldealengua de Pedraza	76
Basardilla	149
Collado Hermoso	123

CABAÑEROS	Town (2018)
Hontanar	152
Los Navalucillos	2.171
Alcoba	602
Horcajo de los Montes	903
Navas de Estena	223
Retuerta de Bullaque	978
Total	5.029

CALDERA DE TABURIENTE	Town (2018)
Barlovento	1.855
Breña Alta	7.154
Garafía	1.626
Paso (El)	7.543
Puntagorda	2.073
Puntallana	2.493
San Andrés y Sauces	4.112
Santa Cruz de la Palma	15.674
Tijarafe	2.564
Total	45.094

DOÑANA	Town (2018)
Almonte	24.013
Hinojos	3.909
Aznalcazar	4.495
La Puebla del Rio	11.879
Total	44.296

GARAJONAY	Town (2018)
Agulo	1.067
Alajero	2.006
Hermigua	1.805
San Sebastián de la Gomera	8.945
Valle Gran Rey	4.484
Vallehermoso	2.829
Total	21.136

ISLAS ATLÁNTICAS DE GALICIA	Town (2018)
Ribeira	27.067
Bueu	12.148
Vigo	293.642
Vilagarcía de Arousa	37.519
Total	370.376

MONFRAGÜE	Town (2018)
Casas de Millán	585
Casas de Miravete	140
Casatejada	1.381
Deleitosa	728
Higuera	102
Jaraicejo	489
Malpartida de Plasencia	4.602

El Espinar	9.061
Gallegos	94
La Losa	523
Navafria	291
Navas de Riofrio	395
Ortigosa del Monte	568
Otero de Herreros	963
Palazuelos de Eresma	5.308
Real Sitio de San Ildefonso	5.267
Santiuste de Pedraza	94
Santo Domingo de Pirón	61
Segovia	51.683
Sotosalbos	113
Torrecaballeros	1.323
Torre Val de San Pedro	187
Trescasas	1.052
Total	146.603

SIERRA NEVADA	Town (2018)
Abla	1.235
Abrucena	1.150
Alboloduy	621
Alsodux	133
Bayárcal	284
Beires	117
Canjáyar	1.202
Fiñana	1.992
Fondón	975
Laujar de Andarax	1.538
Nacimiento	460
Ohanes	596
Paterna del Río	362
Rágol	304
Las Tres Villas	570
Aldeire	628
Alpujarra de la Sierra	978
Bérchules	719
Bubión	302
Busquístar	279
Cáñar	343
Capileira	558
Dílar	2.032
Dólar	621
Dúrcal	6.975
Ferreira	300
Güéjar-Sierra	2.849
Huéneja	1.151
Jerez del Marquesado	977
Juñeres	142

Mirabel	653
Romangordo	259
Saucedilla	858
Serradilla	1.568
Serrejón	420
Toril	164
Torrejón el Rubio	571
Total	12.520

ORDESA Y MONTE PERDIDO	Town (2018)
Bielsa	476
Broto	531
Fanlo	97
Puértolas	215
Tella-Sin	226
Torla-Ordesa	298
Total	1.843

PICOS DE EUROPA	Town (2018)
Amieva	675
Cabres	2.002
Cangas de Onís	6.278
Onís	740
Peñamellera Baja	531
Peñamellera Alta	1.246
Camaleño	946
Cirolligo de Liébana	1.337
Tresviso	64
Oseja de Sajambre	240
Posada de Valdeón	433
Total	14.492

TIMANFAYA	Town (2019)
Tinajo	6.119
Yaiza	16.289
Total	22.408

Lanjarón	3.485
Lanteira	576
Lecrín	2.103
Lugros	332
Monachil	7.826
Nevada	1.079
Nigüelas	1.182
Pampaneira	321
Pórtugos	389
Soportújar	266
Tahá, La	653
Trevélez	742
Válor	672
La Zubia	18.995
Total	69.014

TABLAS DE DAIMIEL	Town (2018)
Daimiel	18.051
Torralba de Calatrava	2.959
Villarrubia de los Ojos	9.902
Total	30.912

TEIDE	Town (2018)
Adeje	47.280
Arico	7.831
Fasnia	2.768
Garachico	4.819
Granadilla de Abona	48.374
Guancha (La)	5.428
Guía de Isora	20.991
Güímar	19.739
Icod de los Vinos	22.749
Orotava (La)	41.833
Realejos (Los)	36.405
San Juan de la Rambla	4.799
Santiago del Teide	10.755
Vilaflor	1.645
Total	275.416

Source: Spanish National Statistics Institute (2019)

The table below shows information on the evolution of the population in the municipalities of the areas of socioeconomic influence of each of the national parks from 2012-2018, with data for the National Parks Network total and the evolution of the Spanish population for the same period as a reference.

POBLACIÓN TOTAL ÁREAS INFLUENCIA SOCIOECONÓMICA PARQUES NACIONALES							
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici	14.043	13.953	13.765	13.629	13.550	13.587	13.564
Archipiélago de Cabrera	412.875	403.435	404.143	405.596	407.844	411.352	414.538
Cabañeros	5.931	5.652	5.505	5.393	5.299	5.196	5.029
Caldera de Taburiente	47.386	47.095	46.158	45.393	44.907	44.712	45.094

Doñana	43.051	43.332	43.490	43.699	43.581	43.570	44.296
Garajonay	22.350	21.153	20.721	20.783	20.940	20.976	21.136
Islas Atlánticas de Galicia	375.127	374.406	372.626	371.203	369.538	369.769	370.376
Monfragüe	13.254	13.122	13.025	13.056	12.913	12.724	12.520
Ordesa y Monte Perdido	1.979	1.911	1.907	1.894	1.883	1.867	1.843
Picos de Europa	15.686	15.546	15.330	15.085	14.723	14.651	14.492
Sierra de Guadarrama	149.254	148.903	147.304	146.650	145.989	146.112	146.603
Sierra Nevada	71.584	70.641	70.038	69.921	69.651	69.271	69.014
Tablas de Daimiel	32.993	32.910	32.491	32.178	31.577	31.208	30.912
Teide	272.655	274.775	268.289	267.518	270.580	271.344	275.416
Timanfaya	20.847	21.354	20.876	21.639	21.868	22.285	22.408
TOTAL	1.499.015	1.488.188	1.475.668	1.473.637	1.474.843	1.478.624	1.487.241
España	47.265.321	47.129.783	46.771.341	46.624.382	46.557.008	46.572.132	46.722.980

Source: Spanish National Statistics Institute

2.8. Natural systems in the National Parks Network

One of the aims of the National Parks Network is to form a complete and representative structure of the natural systems found in the Annex to Law 30/2014, in such a way as to guarantee the conservation of a representative sample of the major natural systems in Spain. This is because they possess highly valuable biodiversity and geodiversity.

Law 30/2014 of 3 December on National Parks includes 40 natural systems (27 terrestrial and 13 marine) in its Annex, of which 39 (27 terrestrial and 12 of the 13 marine) are currently represented by the Spanish national parks. The only natural system that is not currently represented by the national parks are the systems related to underwater gas emissions, although this marine system would be included in new proposals for the declaration of new National Parks.

The table below shows the number of national parks in which each of the natural systems mentioned is represented:

TERRESTRIAL NATURAL SYSTEMS	NO. OF PARKS IN WHICH IT IS FOUND
Watercourses and riparian forests	13
Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin	11
Pine forests, Spanish juniper and juniper groves	10
Holm oak forests, kermes oak forests, cork oak forests, and wild olive woodlands	8
Unique formations and landforms of mountains and high mountains	8
Unique landforms and geological features of the Iberian Massif and the Alpine mountain ranges	8
Freshwater ponds, reed beds, cattail and bulrush beds, and water table grasslands with temporary flooding	7
Supra-forest shrublands, high-elevation grasslands, wooded highland steppes, and gravel pits	7
Oak forests, beech forests, and birch forests	7
High mountain wetlands and lakes	5
Portuguese oak forests and Pyrenean oak forests	5
Unique natural systems of glacial or periglacial origin	5
Atlantic mixed forests of the hill or montane level	5
Fluvial canyons on structural reliefs	5
Coasts, cliffs, dunes, and coastal deposits	4
Unique natural systems of volcanic origin	4

Unique natural systems of karstic origin	4
Halophilic ponds, salt pans, and gypsum outcrops	3
Silver fir forests and Spanish fir forests	2
Coastal wetlands and coastal marshlands	2
Systems and formations related to the continental and marine Tertiary basins	2
Laurel forest	1
Mediterranean steppelands, esparto and albardine grasslands	1
Mediterranean xerophilic garrigues	1
Fire tree and heath forest	1
Balsam spurge and Canary Island spurge vegetation areas and other thermo-Macaronesian formations	1
Coastal and inland desert areas	1

MARINE NATURAL SYSTEMS	NO. OF PARKS IN WHICH IT IS FOUND
Coralligenous communities	2
Communities of photophilic algae or kelps	2
Hard substrate communities with photophilic or sciophilous algae populations	2
Unique communities of great filter feeders: Sponges, ascidians, and bryozoans	2
Maërl bed bottoms	2
Detritic and sedimentary bottoms	2
Marine phanerogam meadows	2
Steep-sloped shoals and escarpments	2
Rocky shallows	1
Deep-sea coral reefs	1
Large underwater mountains, caves, tunnels, and canyons	1
Pelagic zones used as transit or reproduction areas, or the regular habitat of cetaceans or large migratory fishes	1
Systems related to underwater gas emissions	0

Source: OAPN (general cartography project for the natural systems of the National Parks Network)

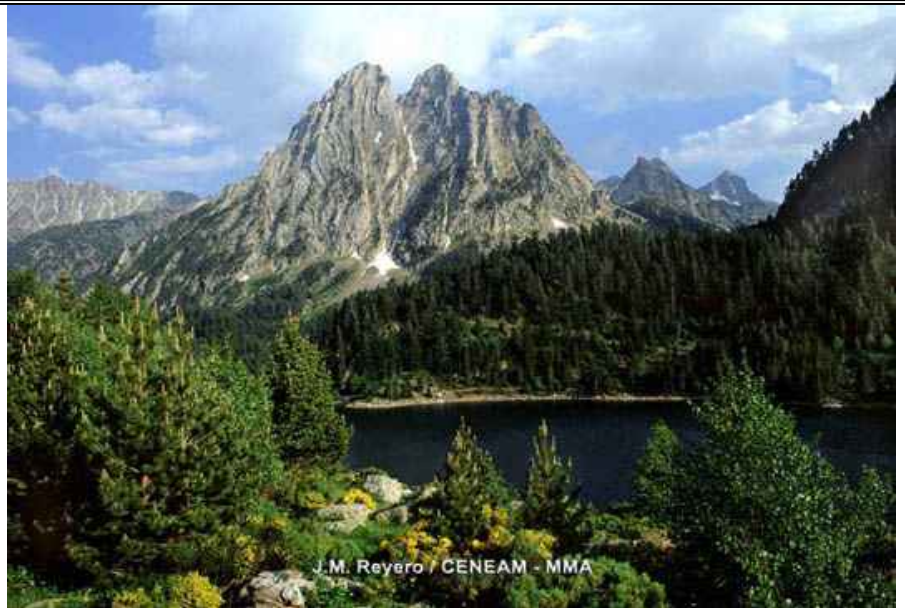
Furthermore, information on the natural systems present in each of the national parks is found below:

NATURAL SYSTEMS IN THE NATIONAL PARKS NETWORK (Systems in Law 30/2014)

Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Natural systems of glacial or periglacial origin.
Unique formations and landforms of mountains and high mountains.
Supra-forest shrublands, high-elevation grasslands, wooded highland steppes, and gravel pits.
Pine forests, Spanish juniper and juniper groves.
Unique landforms and geological features of the Iberian Massif and the Alpine mountain ranges.
High mountain wetlands and lakes.
Silver fir forests and Spanish fir forests.
Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin.
Atlantic mixed forests of the hill or montane level.
Oak forests, beech forests, and birch forests.
Watercourses and riparian forests.



Cabrera Archipelago Marine-Terrestrial National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Detritic and sedimentary bottoms.
Marine phanerogam meadows.
Hard substrate communities with photophilic or sciophilous algae populations.
Communities of photophilic algae or kelps.
Coralligenous communities.
Maërl bed bottoms.
Unique communities of great filter feeders: Sponges, ascidians, and bryozoans.
Large underwater mountains, caves, tunnels, or canyons.
Steep-sloped shoals and escarpments.
Deep-water coral banks.
Pelagic zones used as transit or reproduction areas, or the regular habitat of cetaceans or large migratory fishes.
Mediterranean xerophilic garrigues.
Pine forests, Spanish juniper and juniper groves.
Coasts, cliffs, dunes, and coastal deposits.
Halophilic ponds, salt pans, and gypsum outcrops.
Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin.



Cabañeros National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Holm oak forests, kermes oak forests, cork oak forests, and wild olive woodlands.
Portuguese oak forests and Pyrenean oak forests.
Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin.
Fluvial canyons on structural reliefs.
Unique landforms and geological features of the Iberian Massif and the Alpine mountain ranges.
Unique formations and landforms of mountains and high mountains.
Watercourses and riparian forests.
Freshwater ponds, reed beds, cattail and bulrush beds, and water table grasslands with temporary flooding.
Oak forests, beech forests, and birch forests.



Caldera de Taburiente National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Unique natural systems of volcanic origin.
Pine forests, Spanish juniper and juniper groves.
Supra-forest shrublands, high-elevation grasslands, wooded highland steppes, and gravel pits.
Watercourses and riparian forests.



Doñana National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Coastal wetlands and coastal marshlands.
Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin.
Coasts, cliffs, dunes, and coastal deposits.
Pine forests, Spanish juniper and juniper groves.
Freshwater ponds, reed beds, cattail and bulrush beds, and water table grasslands with temporary flooding.
Halophilic ponds, salt pans, and gypsum outcrops.
Holm oak forests, kermes oak forests, cork oak forests, and wild olive woodlands.
Systems and formations related to the continental and marine Tertiary basins (*1)
Watercourses and riparian forests.



Garajonay National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Natural systems of volcanic origin.
Laurel forests.
Fire tree and heath forest.
Watercourses and riparian forests.



Atlantic Islands of Galicia Marine-Terrestrial National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Detritic and sedimentary bottoms.
Hard substrate communities with photophilic or sciophilous algae populations.

Communities of photophilic algae or kelps.

Coralligenous communities.

Maërl bed bottoms.

Unique communities of great filter feeders: Sponges, ascidians, and bryozoans.

Marine phanerogam meadows.

Steep-sloped shoals and escarpments.

Rocky shallows.

Coasts, cliffs, dunes, and coastal deposits.

Unique landforms and geological features of the Iberian Massif and the Alpine mountain ranges.

Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin.

Freshwater ponds, reed beds, cattail and bulrush beds, and water table grasslands with temporary flooding.

Coastal wetlands and coastal marshlands.

Oak forests, beech forests, and birch forests.

Watercourses and riparian forests.

Atlantic mixed forests of the hill or montane level.



Monfragüe National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin.

Unique landforms and geological features of the Iberian Massif and the Alpine mountain ranges.

Fluvial canyons on structural reliefs.

Holm oak forests, kermes oak forests, cork oak forests, and wild olive woodlands.

Unique formations and landforms of mountains and high mountains.

Watercourses and riparian forests.

Freshwater ponds, reed beds, cattail and bulrush beds, and water table grasslands with temporary flooding.

Pine forests, Spanish juniper and juniper groves.



Ordesa y Monte Perdido National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Supra-forest shrublands, high-elevation grasslands, wooded highland steppes, and gravel pits.

Unique formations and landforms of mountains and high mountains.

Unique natural systems of glacial or periglacial origin.

Unique landforms and geological features of the Iberian Massif and the Alpine mountain ranges.

Unique natural systems of karstic origin.

Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin.

Pine forests, Spanish juniper and juniper groves.

Fluvial canyons on structural reliefs.

Oak forests, beech forests, and birch forests.

Holm oak forests, kermes oak forests, cork oak forests, and wild olive woodlands.

Silver fir forests and Spanish fir forests.

Atlantic mixed forests of the hill or montane level.

Portuguese oak forests and Pyrenean oak forests.

Watercourses and riparian forests.

High mountain wetlands and lakes.



Picos de Europa National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Supra-forest shrublands, high-elevation grasslands, wooded highland steppes, and gravel pits.

Oak forests, beech forests, and birch forests.

Unique formations and landforms of mountains and high mountains.

Unique landforms and geological features of the Iberian Massif and the Alpine mountain ranges.

Unique natural systems of karstic origin.

Unique natural systems of glacial or periglacial origin.

Atlantic mixed forests of the hill or montane level.

Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin.

Pine forests, Spanish juniper and juniper groves.

Portuguese oak forests and Pyrenean oak forests.

Fluvial canyons on structural reliefs.

Holm oak forests, kermes oak forests, cork oak forests, and wild olive woodlands.

Watercourses and riparian forests.

Freshwater ponds, reed beds, cattail and bulrush beds, and water table grasslands with temporary flooding.

High mountain wetlands and lakes.



Sierra de Guadarrama National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Unique formations and landforms of mountains and high mountains.
Supra-forest shrublands, high-elevation grasslands, wooded highland steppes, and gravel pits.
Pine forests, Spanish juniper and juniper groves.
Unique natural systems of glacial or periglacial origin.
Unique landforms and geological features of the Iberian Massif and the Alpine mountain ranges.
Portuguese oak forests and Pyrenean oak forests.
Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin.
Holm oak forests, kermes oak forests, cork oak forests, and wild olive woodlands.
Atlantic mixed forests of the hill or montane level.
Watercourses and riparian forests.
High mountain wetlands and lakes.
Oak forests, beech forests, and birch forests.



Sierra Nevada National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Supra-forest shrublands, high-elevation grasslands, wooded highland steppes, and gravel pits.
Unique natural systems of glacial or periglacial origin.
Unique formations and landforms of mountains and high mountains.
Unique landforms and geological features of the Iberian Massif and the Alpine mountain ranges.
Pine forests, Spanish juniper and juniper groves.
Holm oak forests, kermes oak forests, cork oak forests, and wild olive woodlands.
Portuguese oak forests and Pyrenean oak forests.
Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin.
Watercourses and riparian forests.
Unique natural systems of karstic origin
Freshwater ponds, reed beds, cattail and bulrush beds, and water table grasslands with temporary flooding.
Mediterranean steppelands, esparto and albardine grasslands.
High mountain wetlands and lakes.
Oak forests, beech forests, and birch forests.
Coastal and inland desert areas (*2)
Fluvial canyons on structural reliefs (*3)



Tablas de Daimiel National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Systems and formations related to the continental and marine Tertiary basins (*1)
Freshwater ponds, reed beds, cattail and bulrush beds, and water table grasslands with temporary flooding.
Halophilic ponds, salt pans, and gypsum outcrops.
Unique natural systems of karstic origin.
Unique deposits and landforms of fluvial and aeolian origin.
Watercourses and riparian forests.
Holm oak forests, kermes oak forests, cork oak forests, and wild olive woodlands.



Teide National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Unique natural systems of volcanic origin.
Supra-forest shrublands, high-elevation grasslands, wooded highland steppes, and gravel pits.
Pine forests, Spanish juniper and juniper groves.
Unique formations and landforms of mountains and high mountains.
Watercourses and riparian forests.



Timanfaya National Park

Natural Systems in the Law

Unique natural systems of volcanic origin.
Balsam spurge and Canary Island spurge
vegetation areas and other thermo-
Macaronesian formations.
Coasts, cliffs, dunes, and coastal deposits.



J.L. Perea / CENEAM - MMA

Source: OAPN (general cartography project for the natural systems of the National Parks Network and ecological monitoring projects on the marine environment in the Network)

(*1) "Systems and formations related to the continental and marine Tertiary basins" have been considered present in Tablas de Daimiel National Park and Doñana National Park for being indirectly related to natural systems such as peat bogs, some types of ponds, and endorheic areas.

(*2) "Coastal and inland desert areas" have been considered present in Sierra Nevada National Park for being indirectly related to gullied areas in sandy soils.

(*3) "Fluvial canyons on structural reliefs" are considered to be present in Sierra Nevada National Park based on information provided by the national park management body

While the National Parks Network amounts to only a tiny percentage of Spanish territory, **it nevertheless holds great natural resources in terms of both geodiversity and biodiversity**. In fact, the most current information available shows that nearly 80% of vascular plant species and 80% of vertebrate species found in Spain are found in the national parks, which are refuge and reservoir of threatened species as emblematic as the Iberian lynx, the bearded vulture, the imperial eagle or the grouse, as well as many other endangered species of flora and fauna. They are privileged spaces for research and monitoring of biodiversity, ecological processes and global change.

3. OPERATION OF THE NETWORK

As stipulated in Law 30/2014, on the National Parks Network, **management and organisation of the national parks are directly assigned to the autonomous communities within whose territories they are located, including the marine-terrestrial national parks whenever there is ecological continuity between the terrestrial and marine ecosystems. This must be supported by the best scientific evidence available and expressly recognised as such in the declaratory statute. Management of the national parks declared on waters under the sovereignty or national jurisdiction of Spain will fall on the Spanish central government. The main management instrument is the Use and Management Master Plan (PRUG), with regard to which the table below shows the current status of the plans in force:**

NATIONAL PARK	APPROVAL OF PRUG IN FORCE	REMARKS
Aigüestortes i Estany de Sant Maurici	2003	
Cabrera Archipelago	2006	The new PRUG project, which was processed when the park had not yet been expanded, received a favourable report from the Board of Trustees and has passed public consultation
Cabañeros	In progress	The PRUG project was submitted to public information in 2016, and at the beginning of 2019 there have been participation meetings to try to resolve the main issues on which there are discrepancies with rights holders in the park.
Caldera de Taburiente	2005	New PRUG projects are under preparation for the four National Parks of the Canary Islands.
Doñana	2016	
Garajonay	1986	New PRUG projects are under preparation for the four National Parks of the Canary Islands.
Atlantic Islands of Galicia	2019	
Monfragüe	2014	
Ordesa y Monte Perdido	2015	
Picos de Europa	In progress	The PRUG that was approved in 2002 is temporarily suspended by the judgement of the contentious-administrative Chamber of the Supreme Court of 27 April 2005. PRUG's new project has been submitted to public information in March 2019
Sierra de Guadarrama	Pending approval	The new PRUG has been informed favorably by the Network Council and is pending approval by the Autonomous communities of Madrid and Castilla y León
Sierra Nevada	2011	
Tablas de Daimiel	2017	
Teide	2002	New PRUG projects are under preparation for the four National Parks of the Canary Islands.
Timanfaya	1990	New PRUG projects are under preparation for the four National Parks of the Canary Islands.

* PRUG is the Plan Rector de Uso y Gestión in Spanish, that means Management Plan

At the same time, **management of the National Parks Network falls on the Spanish central government**, through the National Parks Autonomous Agency. Aside from monitoring and complying with the National Parks Network Master Plan (the Network's main planning instrument), management of the

Network includes the implementation, in collaboration with the autonomous communities, of different plans and programmes: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the Network (with ecological, sociological, and functional monitoring programmes), Research Programme, Programme for the Development of Geographic Information Systems, Volunteer Programme, Subsidy Programme, etc.

The system is rounded off with the different consultative, collaborative, and coordinating bodies, whose duties are set out in Law 30/2014 on the National Parks Network: Board of Trustees (in each national park), National Parks Collaboration and Coordination Committee, Coordination Committees (in the national parks found in more than one autonomous community), National Parks Network Council, National Parks Scientific Committee, etc.

Each of the national parks has a Board of Trustees (in the case of Andalusia, a Participation Council), which is made up of the public authorities involved, including the local authorities concerned, the social agents in the area, the agents that carry out economic activities at the heart of the national park, the owners of lands included in the park from the public and private sectors, and institutions, associations, and organisations that have something to do with the park, or whose purposes are in line with its aims. These have been set up to ensure compliance with the rules laid down in the best interests of the national parks and to serve as the participatory body for society in the national parks.

The National Parks Collaboration and Coordination Committee is a body presided over by the Director of the National Parks Autonomous Agency. The managers of the national parks, duly designated by the relevant autonomous communities, are members of this committee. It has been established in order to strengthen the collaborative and coordination mechanisms, explore possible common purposes, synchronise the launching of programmes and activities in the national parks, exchange information and experiences, and facilitate the dissemination of information about the national parks. Different working groups have been set up within the Committee.

The Coordination Committee will be established in the national parks found in more than one autonomous community (at present, Picos de Europa and Sierra de Guadarrama) in order to harmonise the management activities of each of the autonomous communities in the most appropriate way possible. The Spanish central government, within the framework of this Committee, will coordinate the activities and decisions in order to ensure the shared responsibility of the authorities involved and the group's coherence. These activities and decisions will be adopted by the relevant authorities, and under no circumstances may the Coordination Committee take on the park's management, neither for specific nor general cases.

The National Parks Network Council is a consultative collegiate body, attached to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment, of which the Spanish central government, the autonomous communities within whose territories the national parks are located, a representation of the municipalities included in the national parks' areas of socioeconomic influence, the Chairs of the Board of Trustees, representatives of the Scientific Committee, a representation of non-profit organisations working at the national level whose purposes are connected to environmental protection, and a representation of the most influential agrarian, fisheries, business, and trade union organizations nationwide, as well as a representation of associations for owners of lands included in the national parks.

The National Parks Network also has a Scientific Committee, which acts as a scientific advisory body, with the generic role of providing scientific advice regarding any matter brought before it by the Management of the National Parks Autonomous Agency, on its own initiative or at the behest of the national parks' management authorities. Among other duties, the Committee provides advice on the creation of the Research Programme for the National Parks Network and its revisions and participates in evaluating, selecting, and monitoring projects subsidised as a result of public calls for applications for research funding promoted by the National Parks Autonomous Agency on matters related to the Network.