

PUBLIC VOTE TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Only one vote is allowed per valid email account in each of the project categories. You may cast your vote through the eocaconservation.org website once you have registered.
2. You will be asked to register before you are allowed to make your project vote(s). This requires you to submit your email address and a user name. Once submitted, you will be asked for a four digit verification code, this will be in a confirmation email sent to the address you have used to register. Inputting the code will verify your email and your account will be created to allow you to vote.
3. To help us run a fair vote in line with our Terms & Conditions, we store information from your computer or other electronic device from which you cast your vote. This information includes your computer IP address, the type of browser you are using, the operating system you are using, your registration email and the time your vote was cast. By registering and placing your vote(s), you agree to these Terms & Conditions and give EOCA your permission to collect this information from you. The information we collect will be used by EOCA and its subcontractors to ensure the vote is conducted in line with these Terms and Conditions. The information will then be deleted once the voting is closed, votes have been counted and verified, and the winners of the project vote announced. *(The deleting of information will not apply to EOCA member emails used to access the members only area of this website).*
4. We will not sell, rent or pass on your email address to any other organisation. The information we collect will only be used for the purposes laid out in these Terms and Conditions.
5. If you choose to subscribe to our newsletter, using the same email with which you have voted, this is all that you will receive from us. You can unsubscribe to the newsletter at any time by clicking the unsubscribe link in our email newsletter, or by sending a request to info@eocaconservation.org with the subject 'Un-subscribe Me'.
6. EOCA, its sub-contractors and partners, cannot accept any responsibility whatsoever for any technical failure or malfunction or any other problem with any online system, server or provider or otherwise, which may result in any vote being lost or not properly registered or recorded.
7. Voting is available between the dates given on this website. Voting will start at 12.00hrs BST/13.00hrs CEST on the start date and finish at 12.00hrs BST/13.00hrs CEST on the last day of the voting, unless otherwise stated on the voting page of the website. Votes received outside of the specified times will not be counted.

- 8.** Voting is only available via this website, eocaconservation.org No voting is available by email, mail, telephone or any other method.
- 9.** At the discretion of EOCA's General Managers, and in exceptional circumstances, an alternative method of voting may be offered to rural communities where access to the internet, or electronic devices from which to vote, are extremely limited. This alternative option will only be offered in situations where the local community will be actively involved or impacted by the project's implementation. Voting will be held under strict and pre-determined conditions to ensure voting is fair and transparent. Further details can be found in our policy on rural community voting, which can be provided on request.
- 10.** EOCA reserves the right to disqualify votes if it has reasonable grounds to suspect that fraudulent, excessive or suspicious patterns of voting have occurred, or if it considers there has been any attempt to unfairly influence the voting. This may include for example, votes from spambots, programmes designed to specifically vote continuously for one project, multiple email addresses created from one account specifically for the purpose of voting, or any other attempts that have been made to try to vote in a way that is not in line with these Terms & Conditions.
- 11.** EOCA reserves the right to disqualify a participating conservation body if it has reasonable grounds to suspect that fraudulent, excessive or suspicious patterns of voting have occurred originating from the organisation, or if it considers there has been any attempt to unfairly influence voting, or promote, or not discourage fraudulent voting. Participating conservation organisations are required to encourage their supporters to vote in the way specified by these Terms & Conditions.
- 12.** If, during the voting period, any concerns are raised about a proposed project included in the vote, or the implementing organisation, EOCA will carry out additional due diligence checks. This may include, but is not limited to, contacting the organisation for comment, seeking advice from our scientific advisers, and seeking views from other contacts in order to assess the concerns. Based on these additional checks, EOCA reserves the right to remove them from the vote and from the possibility of receiving funding from EOCA, or to keep the organisation and project in the vote. The decision of EOCA is final.
- 13.** The outcome of the vote or poll will be revealed by EOCA on social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn) within a week of the vote or poll having finished. In the event of any fault, mistake, misunderstanding or dispute concerning the outcome of a vote or poll, or the operation of any part of the web based voting system, the decision of EOCA shall be final.
- 14.** Once the votes have been counted and verified, the decision of EOCA is final.