

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1
on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008
at the 1018th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)¹*

Appendix 5: Model plan for annual reports

Annual report for the year 2020

Annual reports should describe the changes that have taken place since the previous year in dynamic terms of management and function and not be limited to basic data. Any new text or map introducing a change in the situation of the area should be attached to the annual report.

State: ITALY

Name of the area: Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas:
1985 first award, 2020 last renewal –

Central authority concerned:

Name: Arma dei Carabinieri – Raggruppamento Carabinieri Biodiversità

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Authority responsible for its management:

Name: Reparto Carabinieri Biodiversità di Pratovecchio

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¹ As amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2014)2 on 2 July 2014 at the 1204th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies.
Internet : <http://www.coe.int/cm>

1. **Conditions:** List here all conditions which were attached to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma. Explain either how the conditions have been totally complied with or detail the progress in complying with the conditions. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

N/A

2. **Recommendations:** List here all recommendations which were attached to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma. Explain either how the recommendations have been totally complied with or detail the progress in complying with the recommendations. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

1. implement the management plan for the Casentino Forests National Park and reinforce co-operation with the national park in order to co-ordinate all the activities, especially in terms of research;
the research activities are carried out within the integral nature Reserve and in the buffer area represented by the casentinesi biogenetic nature reserves, taking care of the coordination with the Foreste Casentinesi, Monte Falterona and Campigna national park and taking into account the indications coming from the park plan.

2. the nature reserve should continue to stand out as the reference for nature protection in the region;
The Pratovecchio Department (Reparto Carabinieri Biodiversità of Pratovecchio) maintained relations with universities and research institutes for multidisciplinary study of the Reserve. Through television, we proceeded to inform about the characteristics and significance of the integral reserve at regional and national level.

3. care should be taken to ensure that the Sasso Fratino Integral Nature Reserve and the adjacent biogenetic reserves continue to be managed as a cohesive whole;
The Sasso Fratino Reserve and the surrounding biogenetic Reserves are managed by the Pratovecchio Department which pays particular attention to their integrated management. The interventions on the bands of biogenetic nature Reserves bordering Sasso Fratino are very limited or null, the reserves in this sense constitute a buffer zone.

4. special attention should continue to be given to protecting Monte Falco in order to avoid, in particular, the construction of any new ski slopes;
There are no plans to change the state of places or make ski runs.

5. the necessary funding should be provided in order to maintain the very high standard of scientific research;
In the Integral Nature Reserve and adjacent Reserves, research activities were carried out linked to the loans received with the LIFE projects in progress and in collaboration with research institutions and universities.

6. any further damage in the buffer zone, such as the laying of new roads or significant improvement work on the ski slopes, should be avoided;
No plans to expand existing ski lifts are planned for the future. There are no changes in the state of places in the Reserves adjacent to the Sasso Fratino integral nature reserve.

7. the number of visits should not be increased and they should be restricted to researchers and people with a genuine interest in the site;
Visits to the integral Reserve have remained contained, they are authorized for reasons strictly linked to research and university-level education related to the conservation of ecosystems. To reduce the number of internal presences and to select the type of visitors, without however affecting a total refusal to some groups, alternative routes of considerable environmental interest have been proposed, but outside the integral nature Reserve. The emergency due to the covid 19 pandemic led to a reduction in access requests.

8. the possibility of extending the European Diploma to include the biogenetic reserves should be studied.
The opportunity to extend the European diploma to adjacent biogenetic reserves has been abandoned.

3. **Site Management:** List here any changes to the European Diploma holding site management, in relation to both terrestrial and aquatic environments (as appropriate), and in relation to staff and finances, since the last annual report was submitted to the Council of Europe. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

No change in management during 2020

It should be noted, however, that some trails commonly used for control and access of researchers have become difficult and in one case, due to the landslide, crossing has become dangerous. It is the opinion of Pratovecchio Department that they should proceed to their arrangement (even if minimal) in order to be able to continue traveling safely. During the visit for the renewal, the expert of the Council of Europe agreed on the need to carry out small maintenance interventions on the paths to guarantee safety.

4. **Boundaries:** Give details of any changes to the boundaries of the European Diploma holding site since the last annual report was submitted to the Council of Europe. If there are any changes, please attach an appropriate map to this report. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

No changes reported

5. **Other information:** List here any other information about the European Diploma holding site which you consider should be provided to the Council of Europe.

1) Biodiversity conservation and protection activities

a_ the following researches are currently underway:

- LIFE14 NAT/IT/000759 "WetFlyAmphibia"- Aimed in improving the conservation status of five population of species included in Amphibians Community interest (*Bombina variegata* declining at national level, *Salamandrina terdigitata* and *Triturus carnifex*) butterflies (*Euplagia quadripunctaria* *, priority species, *Eriogaster catax*) and their habitats, and also the habitat of Community interest 6430 (Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels) within the Natura 2000 sites included in the Casentino biogenetic National Reserves and National Forest Park.
<http://www.lifewetflyamphibia.eu/it/>

- LIFE18 NAT/IT/000931 STREAMS, settembre2019-Dicembre2023. Improve the conservation status of mediterranean trout populations *Salmo cettii* through combined actions aimed at eliminating the sources of introgression and improving the quality of the species habitats.

- LIFE 17ESC/IT/001 ESC360 – Monitoring of saproxylic beetles.

- Project Sabiod - Scaled Acoustic Biodiversity - Study of the soundscape in areas with different levels of protection and anthropization -University of Pavia - Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences - Interdisciplinary Centre for bioacoustics and environmental research in collaboration with 'University of Toulon - LSIS.

- Monitoring of Northern Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) – Camera trap monitoring in the Integral Natural Reserve and in the Biogenetics Natural Reserves – Reparto Carabinieri Biodiversità di Pratovecchio

- Camera trap monitoring in the Foreste Casentinesi Monte Falterona e Campigna Nazionale Park and Casentinesi Biogenetics Natural Reserves – University of Study of Florence – National Park – Reparto Carabinieri Biodiversità di Pratovecchio

- Monitoring of Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) in the Casentinesi Biogenetics Natural Reserves and Integral Natural Reserve of Sasso Fratino – Reparto Carabinieri Biodiversità di Pratovecchio

- National monitoring of Wolf (*Canis lupus*) - ISPRA (Italian institute for environmental protection and research) with collaboration of Reparto Carabinieri Biodiversità di Pratovecchio

b_Primeval beech forest of Sasso Fratino as UNESCO site:

The surveys by the University of Tuscia (Viterbo) for the preparation of the Management Plan have begun

2) Didactics, popularization and promotion

- Rai Bologna – video shoot for tg3 regionale Emilia Romagna – 7 august

- Radioimmagionaria – video shoot for tg3 regionale Emilia Romagna – 27 august

- Life GoProFor – Application of the IBP – Index of Biodiversity Potential in the Integral Natural Reserve of Sasso Fratino - 30-31 october

- Parco Nazionale - video shoot for restyling visitor centers – 21/10/2020

The following sections of the form should only be filled in if your area is in the year before a renewal of its European Diploma for Protected Areas, i.e. year 4 after the award of the European Diploma or year 9 after its renewal.

6. Natural heritage (general abiotic description: geomorphology, geology and hydrogeology, habitats, flora, fauna, landscape) – State of conservation

- 6.1. Environment: changes or deterioration in the environment, of natural or anthropic origin, accidental or permanent, actual or anticipated
- 6.2. Flora and vegetation: changes in the plant population and in the vegetational cover; presumed causes
- 6.3. Fauna: changes in the sedentary or migratory populations; congregating, egg-laying and breeding grounds

7. Cultural heritage and socio-economic context

- 7.1. Cultural heritage
 - 7.1.1. Changes concerning cultural heritage
- 7.2. Socio-economic context
 - 7.2.1. Changes concerning the socio-economic context

8. Education and scientific interest

- 8.1. Visitors – Information policy
 - 8.1.1. Arrangements for receiving and informing the public (building, booklets, maps, cards, etc.)
 - 8.1.2. Frequentation by visitors and behavior (number, distribution in time and space)
 - 8.1.3. Special visits (distinguished persons, groups, etc.)
- 8.2. Scientific research
 - 8.2.1. Current or completed research (observation, experimentation, etc.; identification or inventory of the species listed in the appendices to the Bern Convention, etc.)
 - 8.2.2. Scientific publications

9. Site description (vulnerability, protection status, ownership, documentation)

- 9.1. Changes in legislation or regulations
- 9.2. Changes in ownership title (conversion to public property, rentals, etc.)
- 9.3. Extension or transfer, new uses (for example, conversion into total reserve)

10. Site management (management plans, budget and personnel)

- 10.1. Improvements made
 - 10.1.1. Ecological action affecting the flora and biotopes; controls of fauna
 - 10.1.2. Protection against the elements (fire, water regime)
 - 10.1.3. Approaches and thoroughfares (paths, roads, car parks, signposting, fencing, etc.)
 - 10.1.4. Field equipment (hides and study facilities)
 - 10.1.5. Waste management
 - 10.1.6. Use of renewable energy systems
- 10.2. Management
 - 10.2.1. Administrative department: changes made
 - 10.2.2. Wardens' department: changes made
 - 10.2.3. Internal policing measures
 - 10.2.4. Infringement of regulations and damage; legal action

11. Influence of the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas