

**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: **RISERVA NATURALE STATALE ISOLA DI MONTECRISTO**

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas:
1988 first award, 2018 last renewal –

Central authority concerned:

Name: Arma dei Carabinieri – Comando CC Tutela Biodiversità e Parchi – Raggruppamento
Carabinieri per la Biodiversità

Address: Via Carducci 5 – I-00187 ROME

Tel: +39 06 4665 7866

Fax: +39 06 4820660

e-mail: rgpbiodo@carabinieri.it

www: <http://www.carabinieri.it/arma/oggi/reparti/organizzazione-per-la-tutela-forestale-ambientale/cufa/comando-carabinieri-per-la-tutela-biodiversita'-e-parchi/>

Authority responsible for its management:

Name: Reparto Carabinieri per la Biodiversità di Follonica

Address: Via E. Biccocchi, 2 I – 58022 FOLLONICA (GR)

Tel: +390566 40019

Fax:

e-mail: 043591.001@carabinieri.it;
giovanni.quilghini@carabinieri.it

www: <http://www.carabinieri.it/arma/oggi/reparti/organizzazione-per-la-tutela-forestale-ambientale/cufa/comando-carabinieri-per-la-tutela-biodiversita'-e-parchi/>

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 No conditions were attached to the renewal

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. explore, with the help of the International Union for Conservation of Nature Species Survival Commission, the status of the "Montecristo Goat", the needs for its preservation and if its in situ conservation is needed, the ways and means of its integration and conservation within the island's ecosystems;

Once the LIFE + 13 NAT / IT / 000471 "Resto con Life" project ended on December 2019, the actions for the management of the Montecristo Goat are carried on as part of the *After-LIFE Conservation Plan 2020-2025* and based on the "Goat Management Plan of Montecristo ". New fences to protect habitats of high conservation value have been built. The annual census of the goat population was carried out. In 2020, was also completed the containment fence for a core of individuals designed for an *ex situ* conservation plan at the state reserve of Marsiliana (GR). The goat population has been monitored during the year and some individuals were captured and subsequently transferred to the enclosure for the *ex situ* conservation, in implementation of the provisions of the management Plan of the species.

2. continue the monitoring of the island's flora, fauna and vegetation units, and evaluate the management activities that are necessary for the conservation of species and the restoration of native vegetation;

The fences monitoring and management for the protection of habitats and reforested areas continued. The actions had aimed to promote the resumption of the natural ecological succession of autochthonous phytocenoses. The seedlings produced from seeds and propagules collected on the island were integrated. The consistency of the floristic collection has been increased and many cultivation treatments have been carried out among the species of the *ex Orto* area. In autumn took place the annual seed harvest for the successive seedlings production for future reforestation.

3. continue ecological surveillance of the island in order to detect undesirable alien species early enough to ensure their eradication;

Monitoring and treatment for the containment of invasive alien plant species has been carried on during the whole year. The interventions concerned *Oxalis pes-caprae*, *Phytolacca americana*, *Opuntia monacantha*, *Agave americana*

4. complete the remote surveillance system as far as necessary and feasible in order to be able to detect and prohibit any illegal activities on and around the island;

Ordinary and service works on the remote surveillance system were carried out at the locations of Cima dei Lecci, Punta del Diavolo, Cala Giunchitelli and Cala del Fico. The interventions are under completion

5. explore any sensible arrangements for visitors as a possible alternative to the existing quota of 1,000 per year, including possible improvements to awareness-raising and educational activities targeting the public visiting the island;

In accordance with the Convention between Carabinieri for Biodiversity Command and the National Park of the Tuscan Archipelago, signed on 03 December 2018, has been maintained the experimental fruition of 2000 visitors per year in groups of 75 people. Visitors are welcomed by military personnel on duty and subsequently guided on three defined paths. The "Casotto Pescatori" building, set up in 2018 as Info Point structure, is the start point for visitors coming to the island. During the year, fewer than 2000 expected visitors were authorized, due to the epidemiological emergency from COVID-19 still ongoing.

6. ensure that the resources are secured in a sustainable way to maintain the management of the reserve and to further develop its long-term management plan.

The authority responsible for the reserve management (RCB Follonica) is going on with the setup of the naturalistic management plan of the Reserve.

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.

The surveillance by military personnel continued as in previous years. Connections with the reserve are ensured through the naval service of the Carabinieri Arma through the Porto S. Stefano (GR) and Portoferraio (LI) CC naval Sites . On the island the security service is provided by military personnel patrols in fortnightly shifts present during the period of the guided tours. Coordination of operations has been maintained by managing the dispatch of OTI personnel on shifts to carry out work activities, such as management and maintenance of the structures. This has also been possible thanks to the chance, during the year, to recruit contract workers with specific tasks.

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.

The fishing boat sunk nearby the Reserve (Cala Giunchitelli) has not yet been recovered and is lying on the seabed at a depth of about 20 m. The monitoring carried out reveals that the hull is in precarious condition and it is broken in several parts. The competent authorities for the sea have drawn up a recovery plan. The plan is not in the possession of the Department and the timing is not known.

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