

**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 2021

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: Portugal

Name of the area: Selvagens Islands Nature Reserve

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas:
awarded since 1992; 9 years since the renewal in 2012.

Central authority concerned:

Name: Governo Regional da Madeira / Secretaria Regional de Ambiente, Recursos Naturais e Alterações Climáticas

Address: Rua Dr. Pestana Júnior, nº6 – 5º andar

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e-mail: gabinete.sra@madeira.gov.pt

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Authority responsible for its management:

Name: Instituto das Florestas e Conservação da Natureza, IP-RAM

Address: Rua João de Deus n12E R/C C, 9050-027 Funchal, Portugal

Tel: (+351) 291 145 590

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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.

1. that **The Portuguese Government continues to take the necessary steps to preserve the current islands status of the Selvagens Islands and to unequivocally support the Madeira Regional Government in all matters concerning the nature reserve, in accordance with the provisions of Act No. 15/86 of 21 May 1986:** The legal status of the Reserve has not been changed and there are no perspectives that such changes will occur, even considering a far future.

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. **Continue to take all precautions to ensure that no non-native species of plants and animals are introduced:** No changes or deterioration of the environment occurred and the policies presented on the earlier annual reports still apply.
2. **Continue to improve the accommodation and the radio/phone system, which provides the capacity for wardens to contact their authorities in Madeira and their families:** A VSAT phone system with national indicative is installed, as well as a satellite internet system, fundamental for contacts, either with authorities as family. Small reconstruction and maintenance work was carried out at the biological stations of Selvagem Grande and Selvagem Pequena, to provide a better logistic support to the projects on going in the field and the comfort of the visitors.
3. **Continue the studies to survey the effect of the eradication of the alien species of the flora and fauna for the next few years:** The flora and fauna conservation status is improving due to the success of the alien species eradication project (2001 – 2004) (details given on the 2002 annual report). Monitoring of the main actions of this project, is maintained up to present, involving an intensive monitoring on both flora and fauna: evaluate the effects of the programme on non-target species, namely gecko *Tarentola bischoffi* and pipit *Anthus berthelotii*; evaluate quantitatively the regeneration of the natural habitats of the island. Qualitative and quantitative data is being obtained every year and reports are being produced accordingly. During 2021, local and foreign scientists develop various research projects in the fields of flora and fauna in Selvagem Grande, Selvagem Pequena and Ilhéu de Fora.
4. **Make efforts to eliminate the breeding of the Yellow-legged Gull (*L. m. atlantis*) on Selvagem Pequena and Ilhéu de Fora:** Although the yellow-legged gull (Atlantic form) *Larus michahellis atlantis* should not be considered an alien species, there is a constant effort to prevent their breeding on the islands (Selvagem Grande, Selvagem Pequena and Ilhéu de Fora). Due to the remoteness of Selvagens Islands and to their characteristics this is an easy and forward task.
5. **Increase the awareness of the importance of the cultural and geological heritage:** No changes occurred and the policies presented on the earlier annual reports still apply.
6. **Continue the programme of reconstruction of the remaining unrestored rubble walls:** Most of the remaining unrestored rubble walls of the plateau are now well preserved and maintenance efforts are considered one of the priority duties of the nature wardens of the Island.

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 changes occurred.

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 occurred.

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.

All the events and lectures addressed to the public in general and target groups, as well as the website, facebook campaigns and new production of illustrated material, namely informative panels, used to raise awareness about the importance of the Selvagens Islands Nature Reserve, were reinforced with the European Diploma logo.

Considering the need to contain the spread of the COVID 19 pandemic, reducing the risk of contamination, without prejudice to other measures that may be adopted and that are justified due to the elevation of the risk classification of the disease in question, it was decreed since March 2020, while immediate and provisional preventive measure, the suspension of all activities in the areas under the jurisdiction of the Institute of Forests and Nature Conservation IP-RAM, including Selvagens Islands Nature Reserve, except the minimum necessary for the fulfillment of the mission. For this reason, and by recommendations of the Regional Government of Madeira, there was a decrease in the number of visitors and foreign scientists.

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

No changes or deterioration of the environment occurred.

6.2. Flora and vegetation: changes in the plant population and in the vegetational cover; presumed causes

The flora and vegetation conservation status is improving due to the success of the mice and rabbits eradication project (2001 – 2004) (details given on the 2002 annual report). Qualitative and quantitative data is being obtained every year and reports are being produced accordingly. Since 2003 some species that have been extinct, were observed. The most relevant aspect of the work carried out in 2006 is the finding of four new species to Selvagem Grande. Throughout the island, endemic species like *Monanthes lowei* and *Schizogyne sericea* have increased their abundance and ground cover. This also happened with other indigenous and macaronesian endemic species like *Centaurea melitensis*, *Chenopodium coronopus*, *Lycopersicum esculentum*, *Spergularia falax* and *Anagalis arvensis*. In 2010 four species from bryoflora were reported new for these islands. No changes occurred in Selvagem Pequena nor in Ilhéu de Fora and the flora and vegetation of these two islands present a very good conservation status.

6.3. Fauna: changes in the sedentary or migratory populations; congregating, egg-laying and breeding grounds

Terrestrial animal populations, namely of arthropods, terrestrial birds and reptiles are increasing in number and distribution. As a result of the work carried out in Selvagem Grande since 2001, in 2006 a new spider species, a new four species from Aphidae and a new order of Arachnida Solifugae were identified. Five species of the family Braconidae (Hymenoptera) were reported new for the Selvagens Islands. No changes occurred in Selvagem Pequena nor in Ilhéu de Fora and the fauna of these two islands present a very good conservation status.

7. Cultural heritage and socio-economic context

7.1. Cultural heritage

7.1.1. Changes concerning cultural heritage

No changes occurred

7.2. Socio-economic context

7.2.1. Changes concerning the socio-economic context

No changes occurred

8. Education and scientific interest

8.1. Visitors – Information policy

No changes occurred and the policies presented on the earlier annual reports still apply.

8.1.1. Arrangements for receiving and informing the public (building, booklets, maps, cards, etc.)

No changes occurred and the policies presented on the earlier annual reports still apply.

There is a program presented by the IFCN, IP-RAM that intends to mark the 50th anniversary of the oldest Nature Reserve in the country and mark the beginning of another 50 years towards even greater excellence, with a set of initiatives being outlined, such as: the launch of a book illustrated for children; an expedition to the Selvagens Islands; an international conference; a regatta; a swim crossing between the Selvagem Grande and the Selvagem Pequena; the project “Selvagens Islands without garbage”; an autonomous water motorbike crossing from Funchal to Selvagens; merchandising; between others.

Considering the need to contain the spread of the COVID 19 pandemic, this program has only been carried out since October 2021 and will last until end of 2022.

8.1.2. Frequentation by visitors and behavior (number, distribution in time and space)

During the year of 2021, permits to visit the reserve were issued to 91 boats, involving 530 persons. Most of the visits occurred from July to October. As usual, each permit was valid for 48 hours. When asked visitors were allowed to overnight on shore. At the period requested, anchor and visits on land are not allowed at Selvagem Pequena as established by legislation and regulations. Public awareness, for the importance of this Nature Reserve as a bird sanctuary and as the southwest point of the Portuguese territory, involved photograph and film divulgation.

8.1.3. Special visits (distinguished persons, groups, etc.)

- Ministro da Defesa Nacional (Minister of National Defense);
- Comitativa do Ministro da Defesa Nacional (Minister of National Defense Representatives);
- Secretária Regional de Ambiente, Recursos Naturais e Alterações Climáticas (Regional Secretary for the Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Changes);
- Presidente do Conselho Diretivo do Instituto das Florestas e Conservação da Natureza IP-RAM (Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Forests and Nature Conservation IP-RAM)
- Vogal do Conselho Diretivo do Instituto das Florestas e Conservação da Natureza IP-RAM (Member of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Forests and Nature Conservation IP-RAM)
- Cosmonauta da Agência Espacial Russa (Roscosmos) (Russian Space Agency Cosmonaut)
- Diretor-Geral da Direção-Geral de Recursos Naturais, Segurança e Serviços Marítimos (General-Director of Directorate-General for Natural Resources, Safety and Maritime Services)
- Distinguished journalists, a number of renowned national and international media industry;
- Distinguished investigators, as ornithologists and herpetologists, from a number of renowned national and international universities and other scientific institutions.

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.)

Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health of Ilhas Selvagens, Portugal	National Geographic Society	2015
Ongoing work with Cory's Shearwater and Madeira Storm Petrel.	Francis Zino / Centre d'Études Biologiques de Chizé	2016
Monitorização da ecologia térmica da lagartixa <i>Teira dugesii</i> na Selvagem Grande.	FCUL	2016
ANTARES-mapeamento das zonas endémicas nacionais para a presença de esporos de <i>Bacillus anthracis</i> no solo, seleção e padronização de métodos eficazes na deteção de <i>Bacillus anthracis</i> em amostras de solos e criação de uma base de dados com a caracterização molecular das estirpes autóctones de <i>Bacillus anthracis</i> , para diferenciação rápida de estirpes exóticas introduzidas por via accidental ou deliberada, em atos de bioterrorismo. mapeamento das zonas endémicas nacionais para a presença de esporos de <i>Bacillus anthracis</i> no solo, seleção e padronização de métodos eficazes na deteção de <i>Bacillus anthracis</i> em amostras de solos e criação de uma base de	Unidade Militar Laboratorial de Defesa Biológica e Química / Instituto Nacional de Saúde Dr. Ricardo Jorge / Instituto Nacional de Investigação Agrária e Veterinária	2016

<p>dados com a caracterização molecular das estirpes autóctones de Bacillus anthracis, para diferenciação rápida de estirpes exóticas introduzidas por via accidental ou deliberada, em atos de bioterrorismo. mapeamento das zonas endémicas nacionais para a presença de esporos de Bacillus anthracis no solo, seleção e padronização de métodos eficazes na deteção de Bacillus anthracis em amostras de solos e criação de uma base de dados com a caracterização molecular das estirpes autóctones de Bacillus anthracis, para diferenciação rápida de estirpes exóticas introduzidas por via accidental ou deliberada, em atos de bioterrorismo. mapeamento das zonas endémicas nacionais para a presença de esporos de Bacillus anthracis no solo, seleção e padronização de métodos eficazes na deteção de Bacillus anthracis em amostras de solos e criação de uma base de dados com a caracterização molecular das estirpes autóctones de Bacillus anthracis, para diferenciação rápida de estirpes exóticas introduzidas por via accidental ou deliberada, em atos de bioterrorismo. mapeamento das zonas endémicas nacionais para a presença de esporos de Bacillus anthracis no solo, seleção e padronização de métodos eficazes na deteção de Bacillus anthracis em amostras de solos e criação de uma base de dados com a caracterização molecular das estirpes autóctones de Bacillus anthracis, para diferenciação rápida de estirpes exóticas introduzidas por via accidental ou deliberada, em atos de bioterrorismo.</p>		
<p>PTDC/MAR-PRO/0929/2014, OCEANWEBS - Redes tróficas oceânicas: utilização de dados espaciais, informação sobre dieta e biomarcadores de predadores de topo para revelar a estrutura e funcionamento de ecossistemas pelágicos subtropicais.</p>	<p>FCUL / Centro de Estudos do Ambiente e do Mar da Universidade de Aveiro (CESAM-UA)</p>	<p>2016-2019</p>
<p>PTDC/BIA-ANM/3743/2014, SEAMIGRANT - Causas e consequências da variabilidade individual nas estratégias de migração de uma ave pelágica, com relevância para a monitorização do oceano num contexto de mudanças globais.</p>	<p>ISPA-IU / FCUL / CESAM-UA</p>	<p>2016-2019</p>
<p>EuroCigua - Risk Characterization of Ciguatera Food poisoning in Europe. GP/EFSA/AFSCO/2015/03</p>	<p>AECOSAN / Autoridade de Segurança Alimentar e Económica (ASAE) / Centro nacional de epidemiologia do Instituto de Saúde Carlos III (ISCIII) / Instituto de Pesquisa e Tecnologia Agro-alimentar (IRTA) / Universidade de Vigo (UVIGO) / Instituto Nacional Saúde Doutor Ricardo Jorge (INSA) / Instituto Federal da Alemanha para a avaliação de riscos (BfR) / serviço de saúde das Ilhas Canárias / Universidade de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ULPGC) / Instituto</p>	<p>2016-2020</p>

	Português Mar e da Atmosfera (IPMA) / Laboratório de Chipre / Instituto de Pesquisa Francês para a Exploração do Mar (IFREMER) / Universidade de Tessalónica / IFCN IP-RAM	
MONACO EXPLORATIONS – SELVAGENS ISLANDS Expedition	Instituto Oceanográfico da Fundação Alberto I / Centro de Investigação em Biodiversidade e Recursos Genéticos (CIBIO) / InBIO Laboratório Associado, Universidade do Porto / IFCN IP-RAM	2017
MISTIC SEAS 2	Fundo Regional de Ciência e Tecnologia (Governo Regional dos Açores, Portugal), Direção Regional de Assuntos do Mar (Governo Regional dos Açores, Portugal); Secretaria Regional do Ambiente e Recursos Naturais (Governo Regional da Madeira, Portugal); Direcção-Geral dos Recursos Naturais, Segurança e Serviços Marítimos (Ministério do Mar, Governo de Portugal; a Direcção-Geral da Sustentabilidade da Costa e do Mar, Fundação Biodiversidade (Ministério da Agricultura e Pescas, Alimentação e Ambiente, Governo da Espanha); Direção Geral de Proteção do Meio Ambiente Natural (Governo das Canárias, Espanha); Agência Regional para o Desenvolvimento da Investigação e da Tecnologia e Inovação (Madeira, Portugal); e o Instituto Espanhol de Oceanografia (Espanha).	2017-2019
The Selvagens' Limpet Project – para uma estratégia de conservação da lapa gigante das ilhas Selvagens	Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias (coordenação); Museu de História Natural do Funchal; Centro de Ciências do Mar da Universidade do Algarve e Instituto Português de Malacologia	2019-2020
Mapeamento de habitats com uso de imagem aérea e drone.	MARE-Madeira, ARDITI	2019
Patella aspera, Patella candei – análise morfológica da concha e avaliação do valor nutricional.	Direção Regional das Pescas	2020
Recolha de imagens para publicação do livro "Madeira Vista do Céu-From the Sky": Ilhas Selvagens e Ilhas Desertas	Gregório Cunha	2020-2021
Ilhas – uma constelação – projeto artístico com espetáculos, podcasts e instalações sonoras acerca da Geografia insular das ilhas, particularmente as da Macaronésia.	Sara Anjo	2020-2022

Depollution project, clean-up actions: Ilhas Selvagens e Ilhas Desertas	Wings of the Ocean	2021
Projeto fotográfico para divulgação da Reserva Natural das Ilhas Selvagens em livro, revista, filme e televisão.	Luís Ferreira/Revista National Geographic	2021
Censo nacional da população reprodutora de gaivota-de-patas-amarelas	IFCN IP-RAM, SPEA	2021
Projeto INTERREG MacFlor2 – observação, colheita e cartografia de elementos de flora vascular, espécimes de herbário, amostras de DNA e flores.	UMA	2021
Solidão e Solitude – descodificar as bases práticas do impacto do isolamento e das suas diferentes formas, nomeadamente a insularidade e a desconstrução deste conceito, tendo em vista os termos de solidão e solidão e a sua compreensão. – Ilhas Selvagens e Ilhas Desertas	Carolina Caldeira	2021
Tese de doutoramento, pesquisa científica artística “O horizonte alargado. Poéticas da conciliação na natureza a partir da prática artística no context das ilhas da Macaronésia no século XXI”.	Universidade do País Vasco UPV/EHU	2021
Produção e realização de documentário de História Natural e Ambiente para a RTP1 de 50 minutos com estreia em 2022.	Wildstep Productions	2021
Projeto “Proteção do ambiente e gestão dos espaços naturais -Atividades de demonstração/ações de informação para um melhor desempenho dos ativos do setor” (PRODERAM 2020) - Projeto com enquadramento na Medida 1 “Transferência de conhecimento e ações de informação”, do PRODERAM 2020, mais especificamente na Submedida 1.2 “Apoio a atividades de demonstração e ações de informação”	Instituto das Florestas e Conservação da Natureza (IFCN)	2021-2022
Microceno - Biocenose microbiana de ilhas vulcânicas prístinas: potencial para a astrobiologia, biotecnologia e reconstrução paleo-ambiental.	Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT); Universidade de Évora	2021-2024

8.2.2. Scientific publications

Sousa, R., Pinto, A. R., Vasconcelos, J., Riera, R. (2020). Does harvesting affect the relative growth in *Patella aspera* Röding, 1798?. *The European Zoological Journal*, 87:1, 395-401, DOI: 10.1080/24750263.2020.1791266

Sousa, R., Henriques, P., Vasconcelos, J., Pinto, A. R., Delgado, J., Riera, R. (2020). The protection effects of marine protected areas on exploited molluscs from an oceanic archipelago. *Aquatic Conservation Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems*. 30. 10.1002/aqc.3285.

Sousa, R., Vasconcelos, J., Riera, R. (2020). Weight–length relationships of four intertidal mollusc species from the northeastern Atlantic Ocean and their potential for conservation, *Molluscan Research*, DOI: 10.1080/13235818.2020.1809810

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Gil, V., Pinho, C. J., Aguiar, C. A. S., Jardim, C., Rebelo, R., Vasconcelos, R. (2020). Questioning the proverb ‘more haste, less speed’: classic versus metabarcoding approaches for the diet study of a remote island endemic gecko. *PeerJ* 8:e8084.

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- ANTARES-mapeamento das zonas endémicas nacionais para a presença de esporos de *Bacillus anthracis* no solo, seleção e padronização de métodos eficazes na deteção de *Bacillus anthracis* em amostras de solos e criação de uma base de dados com a caracterização molecular das estirpes autóctones de *Bacillus anthracis*, para diferenciação rápida de estirpes exóticas introduzidas por via accidental ou deliberada, em atos de bioterrorismo (2016). Unidade Militar Laboratorial de Defesa Biológica e Química / Instituto Nacional de Saúde Dr. Ricardo Jorge / Instituto Nacional de Investigação Agrária e Veterinária.

Furtado, R. (2015). Ocorrência de plásticos no tubo digestivo do Calca-mar (pelagodroma marina hypoleuca) das Ilhas Selvagens : Potencialidades para a monitorização da poluição no mar português? Tese de mestrado, Biologia Marinha e Conservação, ISPA-IU. 62 pp.

Boieiro, M., Aguiar, A., Rego, C., Borges, P., Serrano, A. (2015). The biodiversity of terrestrial arthropods in Madeira and Selvagens archipelagos. IDE@ - SEA. 6B. 1-20.

Penado, A., Rocha, R., Sampaio, M., Gil, V., Carreira, B. and Rebelo, R. (2015). Where to “Rock”? Choice of retreat sites by a gecko in a semi-arid habitat. Acta Herpetologica 10(1): 47-54.

Lourenço, R., Roque, I., Tomé, R., Sepúlveda, P., Equipa Atlas, Melo, C. & Pereira, C. (2015). Current status and distribution of nocturnal birds (Strigiformes and Caprimulgiformes) in Portugal. Airo 23:36-50

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

9.1. Changes in legislation or regulations

the responsible regional authority is working on updating the Selvagens Islands Nature Reserve legislation and regulations in order to increase the marine area to 2677km², in an area of 12 nautical miles around the Selvagens Islands. It is in this extension that all existing species will be fully protected from extractive activities, such as fishing or the exploitation of inert materials.

9.2. Changes in ownership title (conversion to public property, rentals, etc.)
No changes occurred

9.3. Extension or transfer, new uses (for example, conversion into total reserve)
See 9.1.

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

Monitoring of the main actions of the project “Restoration of the terrestrial habitat of Selvagem Grande (for details refer to previous annual reports).

10.1.2. Protection against the elements (fire, water regime)
There is no need for this kind of protection.

10.1.3. Approaches and thoroughfares (paths, roads, car parks, signposting, fencing, etc.)
No changes occurred

10.1.4. Field equipment (hides and study facilities)

Small reconstruction and maintenance work was carried out at the biological stations of Selvagem Grande and Selvagem Pequena, to provide a better logistic support to the projects on going in the field and the comfort of the visitors.

10.1.5. Waste management
No changes occurred

10.1.6. Use of renewable energy systems
Maintenance work was carried out

10.2. Management

10.2.1. Administrative department: changes made
No changes occurred

10.2.2. Wardens’ department: changes made
No changes occurred

10.2.3. Internal policing measures
No changes occurred

10.2.4. Infringement of regulations and damage; legal action
During 2021 not occurred significant infringement.

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

Our point of view on this matter has not changed since the previous reports. Therefore we still believe that it is always important to be awarded with such a distinguished Diploma. It is of enormous importance in obtaining political and economic support at regional, national and international levels. Overall, it is recognition for the conservation effort made by the *Governo Regional da Madeira*. The award of the diploma plays an important role as an encouraging factor to the wardens and officers responsible for this Protected Area. Moreover it is a matter of Regional pride, with a very positive influence on the public support towards general nature conservation actions.