



GREECE: THREATS TO MARINE TURTLES IN THINES KIPARISSIAS (2010/5)

43rd meeting of the Standing Committee, 27 November-1 December 2023



An update Report on the area

- The **Management Plan for the area** is under way (to be issued by the end of 2023)
- **Conservation targets** for the whole of the Natura-2000 network in Greece were adopted and issued by a Deputy Minister's Decision in 2021 ('Designation of national targets on the conservation of natural habitats and species of EU interest') (Government Gazette, no. 1375/B/7.4.2021)
- The afore-mentioned Decision was later updated by a newer Deputy Minister's Decision (Government Gazette, no. 1091/B/28.2.2023) also including conservation targets for *Caretta caretta* based on the population size of reproductive individuals and the number of nests

* *Natural Environment & Climate Change Agency*

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An update Report on the area

- **Two environmental projects** currently running in the area:
 - Formulation of a report about the **regulation and delimitation of human activities on the beaches** within the jurisdiction of the local Management Unit of NECCA/OFYPEKA* based on carrying-capacity data
 - A project dealing with **placing informative signs in the reproduction sites** of marine turtles

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Purpose and the benefits of the report on human activities on the beaches

- The **description** of the current status in the area and particularly the geomorphology, species & habitats, human activities, pressures & threats as well as the land users
- The **mapping** of current activities and the identification of conflicts and management queries
- The **assessment of the carrying capacity** at each site leading to:
 - specialization of **terms & conditions of time access to the beach** throughout the year and throughout the day
 - delimitation of **parking areas** to protect sand dunes as well as speed limit designation for the protection of the fauna
 - spatial and time designation of **allowed activities in the coastal zone** of the protected area, in total
 - specific **limitations** for each activity (e.g., type and direction of light intensity in order to protect *C. caretta*, prohibition of playing music, etc.)
 - designation of the **minimum required infrastructure** for environmental upgrade and beach protection (e.g., installation of garbage bins, information kiosks, signs, poles for preventing vehicle access to the beach, temporary constructions and delimitation of parking areas, etc.)
 - **current infrastructure assessment** and potential removal of unsuitable infrastructure

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- **Elimination of invasive plant genera *Carpobrotus* and *Agave***, which threaten significant habitats and plant species in the protected area, has been asked by the local Management Unit of NECCA/OFYPEKA
- A **certificate of violation** was issued by the **Department for Environmental Inspection of MEE*** in **June 2023** against the owner of a building in the area of Vounaki (Municipality of Trifylia) for having planted **non-native plant species and invasive plant species** around his property as well as having built a cement jardiniere within the Areas of Nature Protection **category 1 'Sand dunes and Coastal Zone'**
- The inspectors have also obliged a **neighbouring owner of a building to remove some non-native plant species** from her property; this owner has already complied with the inspectors' recommendation

**Ministry of Environment & Energy*

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- The complainant is kindly requested to provide **precise information** over their claim on the **erosion** in the area of Kalo Nero, since the Kalo Nero beach is **quite lengthy** and **geographic coordinates are needed** for the national authorities to investigate the case
- A study on the restoration of environmental damage to be paid by the offender (a company) for the opening of the illegal roadways in the area was mentioned for the first time by the local Decentralized Administration back in 2012 designating a deadline to draw it up by the end of 2012



An update Report on the area

- Due to the offender's non-compliance to the Decision issued and the appeals made against it by the offender, MEE decided to involve the Coordination Office for the Implementation of Environmental Liability in 2021 to eventually block five illegal roadways and carry out the study in the future in case of the offender's persistence not to comply with the administrative decisions
- MEE expresses its **commitment** to monitor the area and to continue with the **implementation** of the measure (environmental restoration **study**) according to national provisions regarding the implementation of environmental liability and after **ensuring the needed funding** regardless of the offender's response and the outcome of the pending trial before the Supreme Court



Photos 1 & 2: Aspects of blocked roads

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Photo 3: Aspect of a blocked road



Photos 4 & 5: Aspects of blocked roads

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Photo 6: Aspect of a blocked road



Thank you very much for your
attention!

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