

**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 .2018

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 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:

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Authority responsible for its management:

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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.

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.

The Montecristo goat management is included in the LIFE Project 13 NAT / IT / 000471 "Resto con LIFE". Within 2019 the Goat and Ecosystem Management Plan is going to be concluded. Before its approval the Plan will be sent to the International Union for Conservation of Nature Species Survival Commission in order to be completed with the considerations on the subject of the recommendation;

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.

Monitoring activities will be pursued together with the concrete actions provided by the LIFE project "Resto con LIFE". A research on the population of ancient holm oaks situated on the upper slopes of the island is underway. In 2018 about 500 plants of the species produced with seeds harvested on the island were planted; the seed harvesting of many target species of priority habitats, such as Quercus ilex, Phillerea sp., Arbutus unedo, Juniperus phoenicia and other herbaceous species, has been carried out;

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

The Ailanthus has been almost totally eradicated thanks to the Project LIFE 08/NAT/IT/000353 "Montecristo2010". Monitoring activities are ongoing and will be carried on until 2019 at least, according to the After Life conservation programme. In 2018 the effectiveness of ailanthus eradication has been carried out and the remaining sprouts or seedling have been eliminated, especially in the Lecci Valley. Such monitoring activities will be implemented at least until 2019. In addition according to the Life Project Resto Con LIFE 13/NAT/IT/000471 an eradication plan for other IAS has been drawn, see n. 8 below. More informations can be obtained visiting the project website www.restoconlife.eu

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.

The completion of the video surveillance system will be dealt together with the Tuscan Archipelago National Park. In 2018, some extraordinary maintenance activities were carried out on the equipment located on Monte Fortezza

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.

On 3 December 2018 an agreement was signed between the Carabinieri for Biodiversity Command and the National Park of the Tuscan Archipelago. The agreement provides a new organization for the visits in relation to the restructuring of the "Casotto dei Pescatori" building, which is going to be an info point structure, as foreseen in Action E.8 of the LIFE project "Resto con LIFE". One of the goals is the experimentation of an increase in visitors to 2000 per year, in groups of 75 people (instead of 50) each. This action should finally increase the number of people cutting down the number of boat dockings. Visitors will continue to be guided by Carabinieri Forestali personnel. The monitoring of the impact on the paths is foreseen.

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 : : : : :

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. With regard to the endowment of forest workers (OTI), in 2018 5 workers have been stabilized and there have also been 15 new hires, among which 3 for an indefinite term and 12 fixed term. According to this, it has been possible to carry out a lot of work shifts in Montecristo, with a considerable increase in the management and maintenance activities of the structures. No fixed keepers were provided, but this activity was organised by 2-week shifts.

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.
