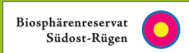


CEETO

Monitoring Workplan - Tosco-Emiliano Apennine National Park (IT)

Deliverable D.T2.4.1

Version 1.1
11/2018





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1. Introduction

The Tosco Emiliano Apennines National Park was set up in May 2001 by the Italian Republic President and is part of the of the Italian protected area system. The Park is characterized by the Euro - Mediterranean climatic border, that means: European climate in Emilia - Romagna region (northern side of the Park) and Mediterranean climate in Tuscany (southern side of the Park). In 2015 the National Park and the neighbourhoods (ion the whole 223.229 ha) had been designated as a UNESCO “Man and Biosphere” Reserve. The CEETO project focuses on two sensitive areas: the Pietra di Bismantova and the Lagdei plain/pond.

2. Description of pilot areas

The CEETO project focuses on two sensitive areas: the Pietra di Bismantova and the Lagdei plain (pond).

2.1. Pietra di Bismantova



This area, placed in the municipality of Castelnuovo ne' Monti (Re), is a SIC (a site of Community Interest for Rete Natura 2000 network) and it is a biocalcarenite stone on a sandy basis. It includes 9 habitats of Community Interest, 3 of which are defined of primary interest.

Especially during the summer-time these habitats suffer because of the high number of tourists who came here for different reasons, such as climbing, hiking, cycling, etc.

2.2. Lagdei Plain



The Lagdei Plain, placed in the municipality of Corniglio (PR), belongs to the SIC “Alta Valle del Torrente Parma, Val Cedra” and it is characterized by prairies, moorlands, screes, glacial lakes and peat bogs.

This area suffers the high number of tourists who reach the site especially by car, during the summer-time and during the weekends in spring and autumn, mainly for a daily trip.



3. Monitoring activities of the Action Plan

Both the 2 areas suffer for a summer-time high touristic flow. During this period, lots of people reach the sites especially by car, creating many problems for the natural habitat's conservation. The monitoring tools are different according to the 2 different places.

3.1. Pietra di Bismantova

The Pilot Action in this site is focused on the proper management of the touristic flows that reach the area, for recreational or sport activities, especially during July and August. The natural value of the area and the habitats conservation needs are not really perceived as important factors by tourists.

The main problem is related to traffic jams, overcrowded parking spaces and lack of safety along the main access roads both for tourists and local people who came here during their free time.

So, there is the concrete need to better manage these touristic flows during the high season and to distribute them in a wider period/season, for example in spring and autumn.

The number of cars and people who reach the parking areas and the main access roads will be monitored through people/car counters that will provide us the information on the number of tourists visiting the area, coming from the main access road.

At the same time there is a need to raise awareness, both of the tourists and the local tourism service providers, regarding the correct behaviour to be adopted within the protected area.

To these purposes, will be organized, in partnership with the municipality of Castelnovo ne' Monti and the local stakeholders, some days dedicated to sustainable tourism, in order to enhance different ways of access and/or parking spaces to the Pietra main square and to the top of the stone itself. During these days, a shuttle bus will be set up to connect the village of Castelnovo ne' Monti with the main parking area of the Pietra di Bismantova.

A questionnaire will be also provided to the local stakeholders and tourists to raise awareness and to receive feedbacks about the initiatives taken.

3.2. Lagdei plain

The Pilot Action in this site is focused on the proper management of the touristic flows that reach the area, for recreational or sport activities, especially during July and August. The natural value of the area and the habitats conservation needs are not really perceived as important factors by tourists.

The main problem is related to traffic jams, overcrowded parking spaces and lack of safety along the main access roads both for tourists and local people who came here during their free time. Moreover, the behaviour of the visitors is not always adequate, and it contributes to create a general sense of chaos and disorder.

So, there is the concrete need to better manage these touristic flows during the high season and to distribute them in a wider period/season, for example in spring and autumn.



The number of cars and people who reach the parking areas and the main access roads will be monitored through people/car counters that will provide us the information on the number of tourists visiting the area.

At the same time there is a need to raise awareness, both tourists and the local tourism service providers, regarding the correct behaviour to be adopted within the protected area.

To these purposes, will be organized, in partnership with the municipality of Corniglio and the local stakeholders, some days dedicated to sustainable tourism development. During these days, the main access roads will be closed to the car traffic, with police control in order to discourage people to park outside the parking spaces and to have inadequate behaviours.

A questionnaire will be also provided to the local stakeholders and tourists to raise awareness and to receive feedbacks about the initiatives taken.

4. Data collection and evaluation

One of the main objectives is to collect information on the type of tourists who frequent the areas, their wishes / expectations, their level of awareness of the needs of nature conservation and the concepts of development of an increasingly sustainable tourism.

The questionnaire will be distributed at different times of the tourist season, mainly from May to October, in order to collect data on the level of awareness of the need for conservation of protected areas by local actors (citizens and service providers related to tourism) and, at the same time, on the history and requirements of visitors.



The data collected through the questionnaires will be useful in order to find out possible solutions both for high touristic flows and nature conservation in these 2 SIC.

Data collected in this project will be also very useful for the ECST renewal project.

For the counter persons/cars for the [Pietra di Bismantova](#) the number of people can be useful also to create possible alternative events/recreational activities in the neighbourhood of the Pietra and in the village center of Castelnovo n  Monti, in partnership with the local municipality.

Even the number of shuttle bus runs will provide us a clear number of tourists reaching the site.

Regarding Lagdei Plain the counter cars/people data will be connected with the number of people using the chair lift and with the data collected in partnership with the local municipality and local police who will monitor the situation also for security and safety reasons.





5. Monitoring Workplan

Pietra di Bismantova						
Tasks	2018		2019			
	3/4	4/4	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4
1 Monitoring Plan						
1.1. Preparation of visitor survey						
1.2. Conduction out of visitor survey						
1.3. Data analysis						
1.4. Repetition of visitor survey						
1.5. Evaluation of results						
2 Implementation of pilot action						
2.1. Working Table with the Municipality to define the first draft of the traffic management plan						
2.2. Working Table with the local stakeholder to refine the first draft of the traffic management plan and to develop the action plan						
2.3. Approval of the management plan and the action plan						
2.4. Reporting						
3 Sustainable Tourism Action Plan						
3.1. Workshop on the spot						
3.2. Working Table with the local stakeholder to develop the action plan						
3.3. Formal approval of the Action Plan						
Piana Lagdei						
Tasks	2018		2019			
	3/4	4/4	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4
1 Monitoring Plan						
1.1. Preparation of visitor survey						
1.2. Conduction out of visitor survey						
1.3. Data analysis						
1.4. Repetition of visitor survey						
1.5. Evaluation of results						
2 Implementation of pilot action						
2.1. Implementation of some thematic test days						
2.2. Working Table with the local stakeholder to discuss about the test day and plan the following activities						
2.3. Realization of the activities in the Pilot Action						
2.4. Reporting						
3 Sustainable Tourism Action Plan						
3.1. Workshop on the spot						
3.2. Working Table with the local stakeholder to develop the action plan						
3.3. Formal approval of the Action Plan						