

4rd Natura 2000 biogeographical seminar for the Mediterranean region

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A methodology to identify conservation objectives and measures at site-specific level

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Working group

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INFRINGEMENT PROCEDURE 2015/2163 - FAILURE TO ESTABLISH THE NECESSARY CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES AND MEASURES FOR THE SACs

Objectives and Measures Standard Form – designed within the Project Mettiamoci in RIGA
 To be filled in for every not-D species and habitat in every SAC



SECTION 1 - BASIC DATA																										
STANDARD DATA FORM										IV REPORT ART. 17																
Region	Region code	Site type	Site code	Site name	Group	Habitat code	Species code	Species name	Cover	Presence intensity	Dist. surface	Population	Isolation	Connectivity	Global	Range	Area	Structure and functions	Population	Habitat for the species	Future prospects	Overall assessment	Limit distribution-national	Limit distribution-region	Pressures	Threats
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera		5183			10,79	D																
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera		4962			496,2	B	C			A	B										A04.03	G01.06 - K02
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera		6230			2826,19	A	C			B	B										A04.03 - G02.02	G01.06 - A04.01
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera		6520			10,79	B	C			B	B										A04.03 - G02.02	G01.06 - A04.01
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera		6110			431,48	A	C			A	A											G.02.02
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera		6220			291,29	A	C			A	A											G.02.02
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera		6230			2	A	C			A	A											G.02.02
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera		6110			2578,09	A	C			B	B											G.02.02
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera		6130			10,79	C	C															G.02.02
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera		6280			10,79	D																G.02.02
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera		6280			129,44	D																G.02.02
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	P	6066		<i>Asplenium adnigrum</i>			C	C	A	B												G.01.04.01 - A.10.02
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	I	6080		<i>Carabus olympiae</i>			A	C	B	C												G.02.02
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	F	6163		<i>Cottus gobio</i>			C	B	C													I.02.06.06
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	I	6199		<i>Euplagia quadripunctaria</i>			C	C	B	B												A04.03 - G02.02 - K02
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	F	6107		<i>Salmo marmoratus</i>			B	C	B	B												I.02.06.06

SECTION 1 – BASIC DATA

- SDFs
- Conservation Status (IV Report Art.17)
- Pressures and threats

SECTION 2 - OBJECTIVES					
Habitat	Objective	Art. 17 Parameters	Attributes	Targets	Additional Information
4060 Alpine and boreal heath	Long term maintenance of the favourable conservation status, as defined by the following attributes and target	Area	Surface	No decrease in the site	
		Structure and functions	Species composition	Dominance of typical species	For typical species please see: Angelini P., Casella L., Grignetti A., Genovesi P. (ed.), 2016.
				Absence or irrelevant coverage of species linked to dynamic phenomena (herbs, wood species)	
			Distribution	No fragmentation	
		Other quality parameters	No damage due to wild herbivore fauna		
		Art. 17 Parameters	Pressures	Targets	Additional Information
Future prospects	Abandonment of pastoral systems, absence of pasture	Maintenance of extensive grazing			
	Ski resorts	No direct/indirect relevant impact on the habitat			

SECTION 2 – OBJECTIVES, ATTRIBUTES AND TARGETS

- Art. 17 Parameters
- Attributes /Sub attributes
- Targets (threshold values)

SECTION 3 - MEASURES												
species/habitats	Conservation status	Pressures	Objectives	Priority (years)	Measures	Target (unit and quantity) (e.g. 100 ha, 3 ponds etc.)	Responsible bodies	Enforcement (for regulatory measures)	Financing (2014-2020) on PAF 2021-2027	Measure included in PAF 2021-2027	Fund (PAF 2021-2027)	Further information on the implementation of measures (e.g. implemented measure, measure included in a programme or project, or in FOPs, costs, timeable etc.)
4060 Alpine and boreal heath	A	Abandonment of pastoral systems, absence of pasture, Ski resort	Long term maintenance of the favourable conservation status	1	Obligation: no intervention of any kind except the one envisaged in the management plan, aimed either at the conservation of the habitat or at the improvement of habitat suitability for <i>Carabus</i> .	Whole area covered by the habitat (about 900 ha)	Piemonte region	D.G.R. n. 24/493/2017	NA	NA	NA	The measure is set out in D.G.R. n. 24/493/2017. The intervention is envisaged in the Foresty Plan which includes the rules for the management of grasslands set out in the LIFE Carabus project (http://www.lifecarabus.eu/index.php?lang=it)
					In case of natural dynamics detrimental for the habitat, implementation of selective cutting and/or extensive grazing	10% of the area	Piemonte region	NA	NA	The measure is set out in D.G.R. n. 24/493/2017. The specific implementing rules are set out in the above mentioned Foresty Plan		
					Ban on the construction of new ski slopes and ski lift		Piemonte region	S. D.G.R. n. 24/493/2017	NA	NA	The bans are implemented through surveillance activities by the Carabinieri Corps and other surveillance structures in the region. Violations are sanctioned under Regional Law 19/2008	

SECTION 3 – MEASURES

- Target of the measure
- Responsible body
- Enforcement
- Source of financing
- Cost

➤ a common methodology for all the Regions which ensures a homogeneous degree of quality at national level while respecting geographical differences

Section 1 – Basic data

First part

								STANDARD DATA FORM								IV REPORT EX-ART. 17										
								HABITAT				SPECIES														
Region	Reg Bio	Site type	Site code	Site name	Group	Cod. Habitat/Species	Name Habitat/Species	Cover	N caves	Representativity	Relative surface	Population	Isolation	Conservation	Global	Range	Area	Structure and functions	Population	Habitat for the species	Future prospects	Overall assessment	Limited distribution	Limited distribution Reg	National Priority	Role of the Region
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	H	4060		496,2		B	C			A	B	FV	FV	XX			FV	FV→			6	
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	H	6230		2826,19		A	C			B	B	U1	FV	U1			U1	U1→			4	M
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	H	6520		10,79		B	C			B	B	U1	FV	U1			U1	U1↑			4	E
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	H	8110		431,48		A	C			A	A	FV	U1	XX			FV	U1→			4	
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	H	8220		291,25		A	C			A	A	FV	FV	XX			FV	FV↑			6	
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	H	8230		2		A	C			A	A	FV	U1	XX			FV	U1→			4	
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	H	9110		2578,09		A	C			B	B	FV	U1	U1			U1	U1↓			4	E
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	H	9130		10,79		C	C			C	C	FV	U1	U1			U1	U1↓			4	E
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	H	9180		10,79		D						U1	U1	U1			U1	U1→			4	
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	H	91E0		10,79		D						U1	U2	U2			U2	U2↓			2	
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	H	9260		129,44		D						U1	U1	U1			U1	U1→			4	
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	I	1080	Carabus olympiae					A	C	B	C	U1			U1	FV	U1	U1→	•	•	3	EE
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	F	1107	Salmo marmoratus					B	C	B	B	U1			U1	FV	FV	U1→			1	M
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	F	1163	Cottus gobio					C	C	B	C	FV			FV	FV	FV	FV↑			2	M
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	P	4066	Asplenium adulterinum					C	C	A	B	FV			FV	FV	FV	FV→	•	•	5	
Piemonte	ALP	B	IT1130002	Val Sessera	I	6199	Euplagia quadripunctaria					C	C	B	B	FV			FV	FV	FV	FV→			6	E

- All data available at national level useful to define the conservation objectives
- Filled in by MASE

Section 1 – Basic data
Second part

PRESSURES		THREATS		HABITAT	SPECIES	OBJECTIVES			
Code	Description	Code	Description	Condition	Habitat quality	Type	Description	Priority (yes, no)	Priority Motivation

➤ The second part requires a specific knowledge of the site and has to be filled in by the compiler

OBJECTIVES are eventually defined on the basis of a comprehensive evaluation of Section 1 data, so that **each site can give its best contribution to the favourable conservation status at biogeographical/national/EU level**

MANDATORY RULES FOR THE OBJECTIVES:

Types of objectives:  **MAINTENANCE**
 **IMPROVEMENT**
 Other (only for «D» habitats/species)



	Objective: IMPROVEMENT	Objective: MAINTENANCE
HABITATS		
Area	enlargement, re-creation	maintenance
Structure and functions	improvement/restoration	maintenance
SPECIES		
Population	increase	maintenance
Habitat for the species	Enlargement of the area or improvement of structure and functions (or both)	maintenance

In case of improvement, the **time-span** in which it is intended to reach the objective must be declared

Objectives must be coherent with attributes and targets (Section 2) and with measures (Section 3)!

Section 2 – Objectives, Attributes and Targets

Attributes, sub-attributes and targets express the so-called “desired condition”

9320 *Olea* and *Ceratonia* forests

Link with the SDF

Objective	Parameters Art.17	Attributes	Sub-attributes	Targets	UM Target	Notes
Maintenance or improvement	Area	1. Occupied area within the site	//	To be filled in by the compiler	hectares	Target must be coherent with the objective
	Structure and functions	1. Vertical structure	1.01. Layers	≥ 3	layers	
		2. Cover	2.01. Cover of tree layers	≥ 50	%	
		3. Floristic composition	3.01. Cover of typical species	≥ 60	%	<i>Olea europaea subsp. sylvestris</i> , <i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>
			3.02. Cover of species associated to disturbance or to regressive dynamics	≤ 5	%	Alien, ruderal, synanthropic species
			3.03. Cover of species associated to progressive dynamics	≤ 20	%	e.g. <i>Quercus ilex</i>
		4. Age classes	4.01. Age of tree layer	≥ 2	age classes	Referred to <i>Olea europaea subsp. Sylvestris</i> and <i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>
			4.02. Cover of seedlings and young specimen of tree typical species	≥ 5	%	up to three years of age
		5. Other indicators of biotic quality (ancillary information)	5.01. Important fauna	Occurrence		
	Parameters Art.17	Pressures	Description	Target	UM Target	Note
Future prospects	To be filled in by the compiler					

Same pressures reported in Section 1

- ✓ Attributes and sub-attributes are all established *a priori*. Replaced by site-specific pressures in «future prospects»
- ✓ Targets: thresholds values, quantitative in most cases. They make the objective measurable and enable the verification of its achievement
- ✓ Some targets define a favourable condition that can be satisfied in the same way throughout the territory, and for this reason they are established *a priori* and pre-filled in section 2. Others are site-specific and must be filled in by the editor

➤ The analysis and compilation of Section 2 may lead to a review of the objective set out in Section 1

Section 2 – Objectives, Attributes and Targets

1083 *Lucanus cervus*

Link with SDF in case macro-habitat is a HD habitat type

Objective	Parameters Art. 17	Attributes	Sub-attributes	Targets	UM Target	Notes
Maintenance or improvement	Population	1. Population size	//	To be filled in by the compiler	Individuals, n. or % of occupied trees, n. of localities, grid 1x1	the target must be coherent with the objective
	Habitat for the species	1. Habitat area	//	To be filled in by the compiler	Hectares	Referred to the macro-habitat. Size of habitat to be maintained or reached.
		2. Habitat quality	2.01. Degree of conservation of DH habitat types referable to the macro-habitat of the species	≥ Good	Excellent Good Scarce	
			2.02. Dead or decaying big trees ($\Phi > 20$ cm in xeric woods; $\Phi > 50$ cm in thermophilic woods; $\Phi > 80$ cm in lowland forests)	≥ 5	tree/hectare	
			2.03. Big trees exposed to the sun (positioned at the edge of the forest or clearings)	No decrease		
			2.04. (in case of rural and/or peri-urban areas) Row of big trees ($\Phi > 50$ cm) or isolated big trees (urban parks)	No decrease		
	Parameters Art. 17	Pressures	Description	Target	UM Target	Note
	Future prospects	To be filled in by the compiler				


Section 3 – Measures

species/ habitat	Objective	Priority	Pressure	Measure type	Measure	TARGET OF THE MEASURE		INFORMATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION					IMPLEMENTING MEANS			FINANCING					
						Value	UM (Ha, number, %...)	Responsible bodies	Enforcement (for statutory measures)	State of implement ation	Descriptio n	Useful links	Actions	Implement ing body	Means	Cost	Financing 2014-2020	PAF 2021- 2027	PAF Category	Fund PAF 2021-2027	Other funds not reported in PAF
						-	-														

Much information is required, in order to clarify if a measure is operational or, if not, that the necessary steps have been taken to make it operational.

Need to answer to questions such as: *Who? Where? When? What is the cost?*

Measures should be:

Established  Sufficiently defined, adopted, scheduled

Implemented  Under way or finished

➤ The coherence between the objectives and the set of measures is a key element!!

➤ The so-called **OBJECTIVES AND MEASURES STANDARD FORM** follows a logical framework that holds together all the relevant components involved in the conservation of habitats and species and ensures their consistency

The form is the result of an **iterative process** carried out by the team of Mettiamoci in Riga in collaboration with the Ministry and the regions, with a final supervision of attributes and targets by ISPRA (National Institute for Environmental Research). The ultimate aim was to set out a methodology coherent with the expectations of the EC in order to resolve the infringement procedure.

✓ A very demanding task! → The design as well as the compilation of the form

Current challenges:

- completion of all the forms (more than 2000 SACs in Italy)
- availability of sound scientific data for all the sites (section 2 difficult to tackle – detailed knowledge required to detect the distance between the actual and the desired condition)

➤ To support the regions, the Ministry of environment has provided a **national dedicated fund** for monitoring and management of Natura 2000 sites, compilation of the form and implementation of restoration measures included

Future prospects

The “Objectives and measures standard form” is a useful instrument beyond its original purpose

Once completed it will:

- ✓ provide a clear view of the efforts needed to improve or maintain the conservation status of habitats and species
- ✓ provide a realistic picture of the commitments that regions can actually afford (the forms report actual intentions and possibilities)



The whole set of objectives and measure will contribute on a realistic basis to the final selection of habitats and species to be included in the 4 lists for the conservation target

and

- ✓ significantly facilitate the compilation of the upcoming **new Standard Data Form** (most new fields in the SDF are already contained in the “Objectives and measures standard form”)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

An aerial photograph of a rugged, rocky coastline. The land is covered in sparse, low-lying vegetation and is characterized by light-colored, layered rock formations. A small, crescent-shaped bay is nestled between the rocks, filled with exceptionally clear, turquoise water. The water's clarity reveals the dark, rocky seabed beneath. In the distance, the blue sea meets a clear sky, with a few small islands visible on the horizon.

Further information at:

<https://www.mase.gov.it/pagina/documenti-di-riferimento-lindividuazione-di-obiettivi-e-misure-di-conservazione>

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