



Parte il progetto ReSCWe!

European Commission, finances environmental restoration in the Sentina area.

The project manager, Sergio Trevisani, on behalf of the Municipality of San Benedetto, coordinating beneficiary and lead-partner of the project, is glad to inform about the start up of the operating phase of the ReSCWe project, launching a series of six-monthly newsletters that will report to the citizens about the works in progress and the overall performance of the project.

Re.S.C.We. project, Restoration of Sentina Coastal Wetlands (LIFE09 NAT/IT/000608), has been financed by European commission with Life+2009, Nature and Biodiversity component.

It's a "best practice"- demonstration project, covering Natura 2000 areas corresponding to the site of Community interest "Litorale Porto D'ascoli" (pSCI IT5340001 - SPA IT53400022), and making part of the Regional Natural Reserve "Sentina".

The project schedules works aimed at restoring and conserving the pre-existing wetlands and at protecting the residual dune formations along the coastal area.

The project will last 30 months, activities begin on September 1st and will end on March 30th.

The overall budget is € 1.119.018, CE co-financing covers the 50% equal to € 559.509,50 €.

Sergio Trevisani - Project manager



The project schedules works aimed at restoring and conserving the pre-existing wetlands and at protecting the residual dune formations along the coastal area of the Sentina Natural Reserve.

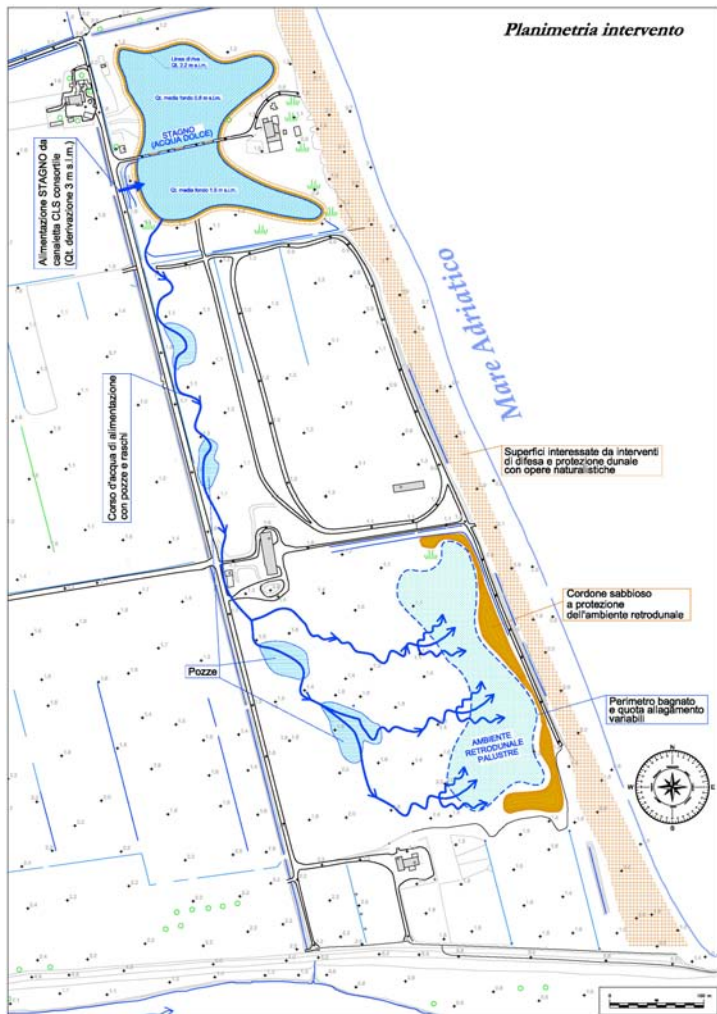
The foreseen actions will address coastal areas characterized by different ecological aspects, partially having reference to the priority habitat 1150 Coastal lagoons. The restoration of coastal wetlands and of the dune system is aimed at the following goals:

- Restoration of plant and animal biodiversity;
- Increase in the naturalistic potential of the Reserve also for the purpose of touristic-naturalistic fruition of the area and of environmental education;
- Improved water quality;
- Mitigation of seawater intrusion;
- Control of marine invasion;
- Improved environmental quality of the area;
- Resilience restoration in the coastal area with relation to the possible risks of sea level rise.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto, Riserva Naturale Regionale della Sentina
- Municipality of Ascoli Piceno
- Cras srl - Centro ricerche applicate per lo sviluppo sostenibile
- Fondazione Univerde
- Centro Ricerche Floristiche delle Marche, Provincia di Pesaro-Urbino

Environmental restoration in the Sentina Wetlands



The ecological restoration project has been designed moving from a former survey, elaborated by ICRAM in 2008, it rests upon the following essential criteria:

- heterogeneous shaping to provide ecologically diverse micro-environments in order to respond to different naturalistic goals
- limited water supply
- limited and balanced earth moving.

The project plans to realise an articulated system of wetlands, to be integrated within the environmental pattern defined by the current habitats, they are in particular:

- a freshwater pond;
- a back-dune salty wetland;
- streams and pools for water supply and ecological connection.

The ecological restoration works will go along with bioengineering works to protect the dune system from erosion, countermeasure against invasive alien species to allow the reintroduction of the autochthonous species that are typical of coastal wetlands, works for the fruition and the naturalistic interpretation such as paths, information panels and bird-watching sheds.

Quick update...

- > all the formal agreement have been signed
- > the administrative procedures to award the subcontractors in charge of the preparatory surveys and executive planning have been activated
- > the project web-site in on -line
- > the monitoring plan has been delivered

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Project activities progress report

Preparatory actions

- Definitive and executive planning
- Topographic detailed surveys
- Geological, hydro-geological and geotechnical surveys
- Formal agreement for the availability of the areas
- Best Practice review

Concrete conservation actions

- Ecological restoration of the wetlands
- Construction of the connection canal
- Restoration of the irrigation network
- Naturalistic conservation works on the dune system
- Countermeasures against invasive alien species
- Works for fauna
- Works for the fruition and the naturalistic interpretation

Communication and dissemination of results

- Communication/ dissemination materials
- Local events for the general public
- Conferences for specialized audiences
- Working table with tour operators
- Didactic activities for children and young people
- Guided tours for adults
- Participation to an eco-tourism trade fair
- On site panels
- Web site and periodical newsletter
- Audiovisual production

Overall coordination and management

- Admin./financial management
- Technical reporting
- Training for the reserve employees
- Monitoring activities



Meeting the Sentina...

Fauna/1



Cattle Egret - *Bubulcus ibis* (photo by Antonio Neroni)

Flora/1



Sea aster - *Aster tripolium* (photo by Patrizia Malizia)