

Workshop Sustainable Development in Lake Areas:
"Empowering Local Initiatives and Civil Society"

22 - 26 September 2010, Keramoti, Nestos Delta, Greece

# Management of the East Macedonia & Thrace National Park Nestos Delta-Vistonis-Ismaris

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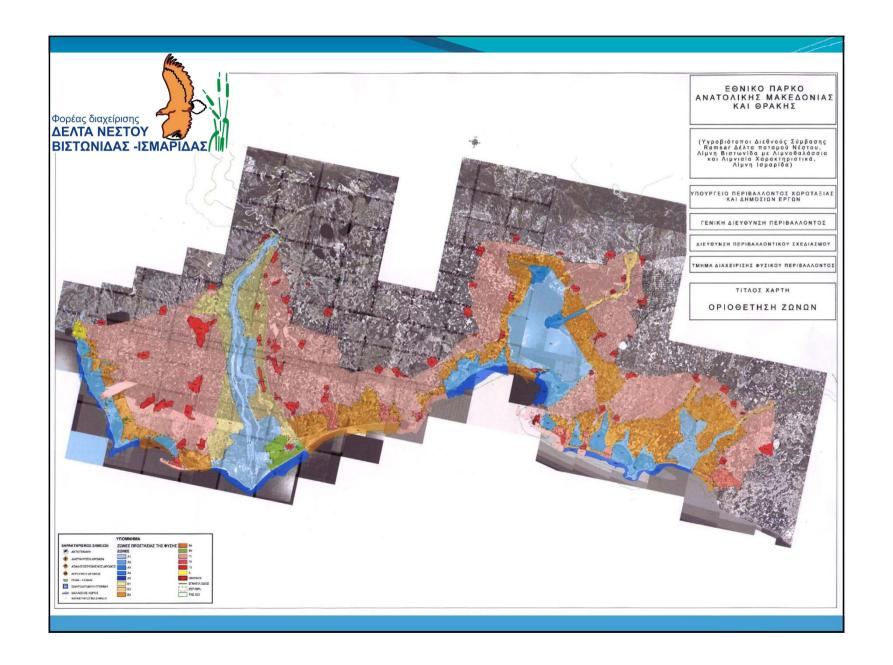
## EAST MACEDONIA & THRACE NATIONAL PARK

The National Park includes the protected areas of Nestos Delta, Lake Vistonis, Lake Ismaris, which are Ramsar sites. The total area covered is 727 km²; it is the largest wetland area in Greece including 3 water basins and estuarine areas and more than 22 lagoons.

The Management Body is a non profit organization established on April 2003, through a common decision by the Ministries of Environment, Agriculture and Development, in order to manage the National Park Protected Area.

#### Main goals of the M.B.:

- Natural resources and biodiversity conservation.
- Restoration and conservation of ecological balance.
- Public awareness on the ecological values of the park.
- Environmental education and the development of ecotourism.
- Social, economic and cultural development.





# M.B. establishing goal (N. 2742/99, article 15) ...administration and management of the protected areas ...

#### **Jurisdictions:**

- a. Management and Operation statutes compilation and responsibility (**Management Plans**) for the protected elements...
- b. **Monitoring** and **assessment** of the implementation of the normative conditions and constrictions...

### Activities:

#### 1. Protected Area Management Plan:

Will be completed at the end of 2010 (in collaboration with the Prefectural Authority of Drama- Kavala-Xanthi).

#### 2. Scientific Monitoring System

Starting: End 2010

- Monitoring of protected species and habitat types that are required to be monitored by Greece in accordance with the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC:
  - 5 sea και 18 land habitat types,
  - 1 mammal (Lutra lutra),
  - 9 amphibians and reptiles (including Caretta caretta),
  - 6 fish species (2 endemic),
  - 3 invertebrates (Lucanus cervus, Ophiogomphus cecilia, Lycaena dispar)
  - 41 bird species.
- Monitoring of the species pointed from the Management Plan





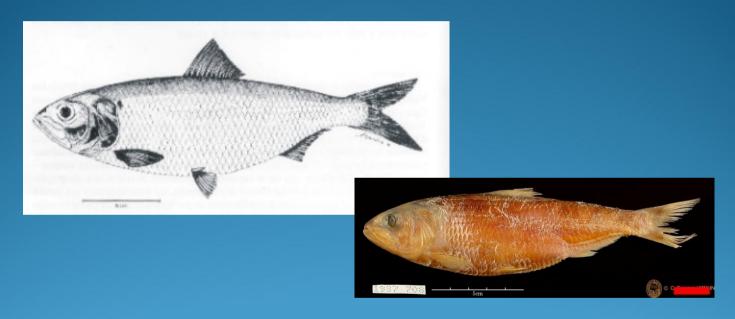
**COOTS IN LAGOS LAGOON** 



**HERONS & FLAMINGOS IN LAGOS LAGOON** 



Alburnus vistonicus (Chalcalburnus chalcoides vistonicus)



Alosa vistonica

### **Jurisdictions:**

c. Providing advice...

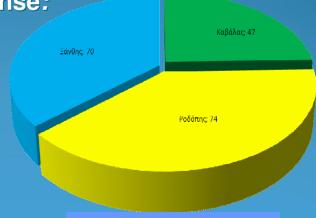
Already in M.B. have been sent from the beginning of the year 53 Environmental Impact Studies for consultation.

The Scientific Committee of the M.B. is also involved in the process

### **Actions:**

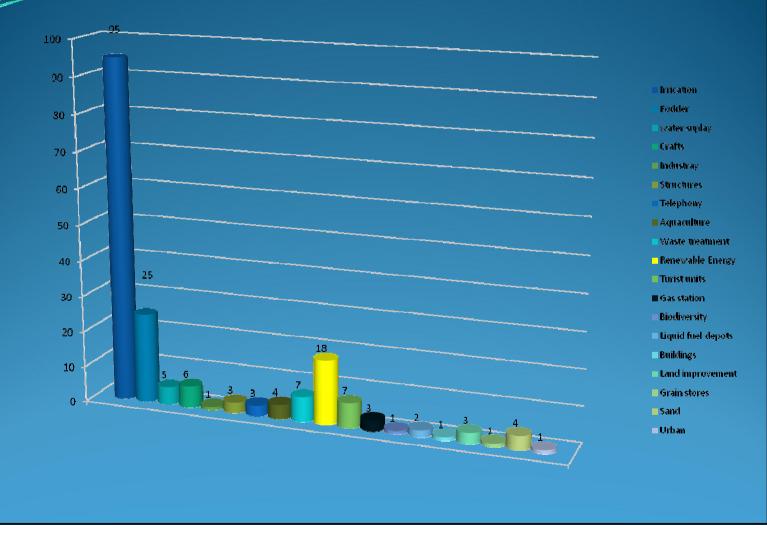
3. The M.B. organizes the coding standards for each major category of consultation response:

- Photovoltaic plants
- Forage plants
- Drilling
- Various facilities



Studies submitted / Prefecture

### **Consultation Advices**



### Jurisdictions:

d. The assistance of competent administrative and judicial authorities in the enforcement of environmental legislation and environmental and urban conditions ....

### **Actions:**

**4.** Participation of the M.B.'s scientific personnel in committees.

#### 5. Patrolling guard program:

- Split into 2 sections: <u>Nestos Delta</u> by staff of the Nestos Delta Information Center and <u>Vistonis – Ismaris</u> by staff of the Vistonis Information Center.
- Cooperation with the Rangers and the Greek Hunters Federation.







Area of uncontrolled waste disposal in villages:
NEA KESSANI and PORTO-LAGOS





Tracking wounded turtle Caretta caretta



DETECTION OF ILLEGAL HUNTING AND COLLECTING DEAD BIRDS



#### Jurisdictions:

e. Preparation of studies, and application of technical or other projects included in the Management Plan... which are necessary for the protection, conservation, restoration and enhancement of the protected object....

The construction, repair and maintenance of necessary infrastructure and...

The supply of necessary scientific and technical equipment to carry out management functions.

#### Actions:

- 6. Under preparation studies such as: ecotourism infrastructure, observatory, nature trails, cycle paths,
- 7. Other projects such as a pilot project for household waste water, the construction of an artificial wetland around Vassova lagoon, etc.
- 7. Development of visitors management plan (including a study on thematic signs, etc).

### Jurisdictions:

f. To undertake the preparation or implementation of National or European research projects and activities that promote or highlight the purposes of managing the protected objects..

### **Actions:**

- 9. Submitting proposals for research projects and by <u>promoting cooperation</u> <u>protocols</u> with scientific and other institutions such as:
- Democritus University of Thrace
- National Agricultural Research Foundation (N.AG.RE.F.) Fisheries Research Institutel (F. R. I.)
- Institutes of the General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT)
- The Greek Biotope Wetland Center G.B.W.C.
- Greek Ornithological Society G.O.S.
- Hellenic Wildlife Hospital
- Hunting Federation of Macedonia and Thrace

# Participation at the Middle Winter Counting for aquatic birds - EOE -2010





# Nursing-Collaboration with Hellenic Wildlife Hospital



### **Jurisdictions:**

g. Information, education and training of the population on issues that are attributed to the functions of the M.B. as well as to the protection of areas of responsibility.

#### **Activities:**

- 10. Improvement of the exhibitions at the <u>two Information Centers</u>, one in Keramoti for the Nestos Delta and one in Porto Lagos for Lakes Vistonis and Ismaris and their lagoon area.
- 11. Preparation of <u>information material</u> (maps, leaflets, DVD), and establishing a <u>network of volunteers</u>.
- 12. <u>Thematic meetings</u> and <u>actions</u> (world wetlands day, Coast day, etc)
- 13. Direction and thematic <u>sign</u>s setting in collaboration with the local authorities.

43.817 visitors at the two Information Centers from 1998 until 2009

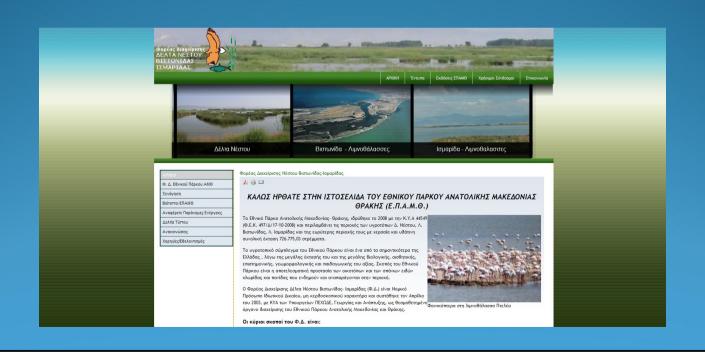




**VISITORS AT THE TWO INFORMATION CENTERS** 

#### 14. National Park Website

### www.fd-nestosvistonis.gr or www.epamath.gr



### **ECOTOURISM & VISITORS MANAGEMENT**

#### **Jurisdictions:**

h. Promoting, organizing, supporting and implementing of ecotouristic programs, provide licenses for guided tours, and licenses of scientific research and technical testing and analysis within the limits of the National Park...

Providing Quality Label and Collaboration Certification to companies operating within the protected area....

### **Actions:**

- **15.** <u>Guided tours</u> and <u>information actions</u> in order to increase M.B.'s income in the form of donations aiming the ecotouristic development of the protected area.
- 16. <u>Provide guided tour licenses</u>, in the framework of the Common Ministries Decision 44549, and <u>Quality Label</u> certification to companies operating within the Nation Park.

### ECOTOURISM & VISITORS MANAGEMENT









### **ECOTOURISM & VISITORS MANAGEMENT**





THANK YOU!!