Towards the implementation of the EU BD Strategy for 2030

A perspective from a National Park

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What's interesting in our experience?

- One of the oldest PA in Europe
- PA in highly human-dominated landscape
- 5 Natura 2000 sites
- 22 habitats and 81 species in habitats directive
- Enlargement of the PA over years
- Policy on strict protection
- Tourism management
All kinds of stakeholders: breeders, farmers, hunters, local institutions, tourist agencies etc.

Without the involvement of each of them no conservation action is effective.
ENLARGEMENT OF THE BOUNDARIES

From 18,000 ha to 50,000 ha
Buffer area: 80,000 ha

IT WASN'T EASY!

- Easier when the request came from the bottom
- Easier when no major economic interests were at stake (e.g. ski shore; usually more marginal areas)
- 25 years to define the buffer area
- Essential is to start participatory processes since the very beginning
- Effective participatory processes are accomplished only with clear and complete guidelines and well trained professionals
ADMINISTRATIVE FRAGMENTATION

PROBABLY THE BIGGEST DIFFICULTY WE FACED
- 3 different Region administered in different ways
- More than 24 municipalities

It makes participatory processes particularly difficult and it's something to take seriously into account in contexts similar to ours.
THE DEGREE OF PROTECTION IN THE BUFFER AREA IS LESS THAN THAT IN NATURA 2000 SITES EVEN IF THE AREA FULLY MEET ALL THE CRITERIA TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NETWORK

- Environments in substantial continuity with those within the Park
- Species and habitats under directive
- Management of hunting activities and compensation for damage from wildlife. No incidence assessments are made
- Meet all the ecological criteria to enter a more rigorous protection regime.
MONITORING THE SPATIAL BEHAVIOR OF APENNINE BROWN BEARS HELPED A LOT TO IDENTIFY IMPORTANT AREAS WHICH ARE NOT PROTECTED.
OUR CONTEXT

8000 ha under strict protection
5 old growth forests (UNESCO).

OUR STRATEGY

Every year we pay a rent to the municipalities in which these areas fall.

EVEN IF CONTROVERSIAL, IN OUR CASE THIS STRATEGY CAN BE CONSIDERED SUCCESSFUL SINCE IT HAS SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED CONFLICTS AND DIFFICULTIES.
AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF MANAGEMENT

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

Tourism is the fastest growing industry in the world.

Tourism sector that is growing fastest is ecotourism.

Visits to PA have grown exponentially in recent years

Need to manage it! Establish clear objectives and guidelines to ensure that tourism is truly sustainable.
THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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