



Sentina News

semestral bulletin from RescWe Project, for more information:
<http://www.life-rescwe.it>, info@life-rescwe.it



Ponds have been completed

...and they look to be very appreciated by birdlife!

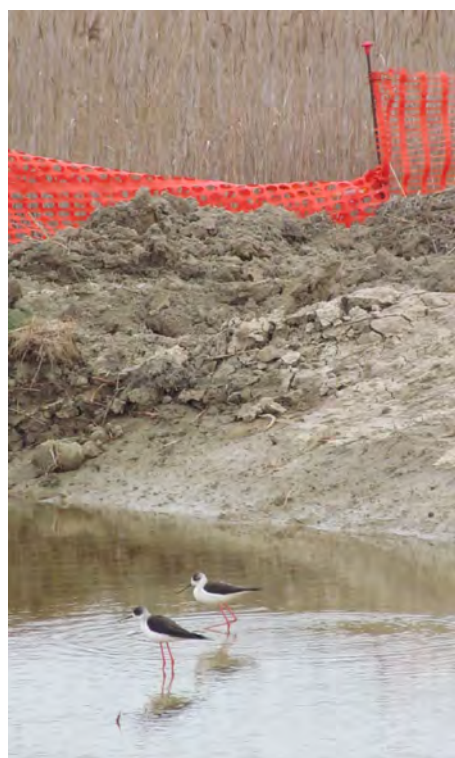
The restoration works in the Sentina Reserve continue rapidly, despite the cold of last winter. The snow had indeed filled the ponds just dug, giving a little taste of the future arrangement of the area: due to the new basins, but certainly also because of the cold, in February, a record number of birdlife presences was registered: some 47 cranes and 78 fronted geese standing near the mouth of the Tronto river!

Nevertheless the February snow has also caused some delays: it was necessary to wait for the emptying of the reservoirs in order to complete the pond bed with



clay. Currently the nursery propagation of the 4 species of seedlings for the re-colonization of the area is going on despite the sudden changes in temperature, while the reintroduction of the pond turtle is still lacking the necessary authorization from the Ministry of Environment, which is expected soon.

Furthermore the work on the dunes are in progress, with the placement of beached trunks and other plant material, the tracking of some visiting paths and the production of the on-site panels, to be placed along the itineraries.



Two black-winged stilts standing in the ponds filled by the snow melt

The eco-tourism package linking the Sentina and the Sibillini National Park is ready.

While the restoration works are proceeding, the Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto, together with the Tourist Consortium "Riviera delle Palme" is conducting an interesting initiative to enrich the local tourist offer, towards greater sustainability. The initiative, in cooperation with the National Park of Monti Sibillini, aims to launch a new "eco-tourism package": a range of holiday proposals between San Benedetto and the National Park, including services and outdoor activities, such as bird watching, kayaking and nature walks. The package, including proposal for "active holiday" and suitable combinations for school trips, has been submitted to national and local tour operators who are checking for the offer regarding meals, accommodation and integrated transport.



Working table on Eco-tourism package



Other on-going activities ...

Guided tours in the Reserve organized by the Centre for Environmental Education "Torre sul Porto" are going on fully and the range of activities has recently improved thanks to a funding received from the Marche Region to support a new educational program focused on water. The ReSCWe project supports these activities: beyond a new didactic brochure for kids, new routes and new locations for bird-watching will be soon available!



03/30/2012 - After participating in last fall as a guest at the meeting of the MedPAN Network (<http://www.medpan.org>) the coordinating body of the Mediterranean marine and coastal protected areas, the Sentina Reserve and the Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto has finally become an official partner, amongst the most appreciated initiatives there are the ones concerning the conservation of sea turtles, the environmental education activities, and obviously the ReSCWe project with the restoration of coastal wetlands!

04/27-29/2012 - Sentina Reserve has participated with its own stand to the International Po Delta birdwatching and eco-tourism Fair, which was held in Comacchio from 27th to 29th of April 2012. During the fair days a large amount of communication materials was disseminated, raising a good interest from the public. RescWe Project was presented in the course of a conference on Saturday 28th.



04/20/2012 - The management of wetlands requires a multidisciplinary ecosystem approach. Giving to the complex issues related to their protection and to promote integrated strategies to combine community development, environmental protection and water safety, on 20th of April 2012 Sentina Reserve and ReSCWe project took part to the conference titled "Wetlands in territorial planning: the way forward" which was held in Ancona with the collaboration of Marche Region, ISPRA, the Universities of Ancona and Urbino and the CIRF.

Quick update...

- > Digging works have been completed: the freshwater pond, the large temporary one and the small pools in the backdune
- > In April Re.S.C.We took part to the Ancona conference on wetlands an to the International Po Delta birdwatching Fair
- > The working table to define the eco-tourism package in collaboration with Sibillini National Park has been concluded

Contacts | www.life-rescwe.it, info@life-rescwe.it

Also available through Facebook, add as a friend:  **Riserva Naturale Sentina**

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/3



Black winged stilt - *Himantopus Himantopus* (photo by A. Neroni)

Flora/3



Purple spurge- *Euphorbia peplis* (photo by P. Malizia)