

2014 NATIONAL REPORT OF PARTIES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS

The deadline for submission of the reports is 1 May 2014. The reporting period is 15 June 2011 to 1 May 2014.

Parties are encouraged to respond to all questions. Parties are also requested to provide comprehensive answers, including, where appropriate, a summary of activities, information on factors limiting action and details of any assistance required.

Reporting format agreed by the Standing Committee at its 40th Meeting (Bonn, November 2012) for mandatory use by Parties, for reports submitted to the Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP11) 2014.

The questions below combine elements of Resolution 4.1 (Party Reports) adopted by the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Nairobi, June 1994) and Resolution 6.4 (Strategic Plan for the Convention on Migratory Species 2000-2005), adopted by the Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Cape Town, November 1999), the COP8 Strategic Plan 2006-2011 and Resolution 8.24 adopted by the Conference of the Parties (Nairobi 2005), as well as commitments arising from other operational Resolutions and Recommendations of the Conference of the Parties.

COP Resolution 9.4 adopted at Rome called upon the Secretariats and Parties of CMS Agreements to collaborate in the implementation and harmonization of online reporting implementation. The CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS) has been successfully implemented and used by AEWA in their last Meeting of the Parties (MOP 5, 2012) reporting cycle. CMS now offers the Convention's Parties to use the ORS for submitting their national reports for the COP11 (2014) reporting cycle.

Please enter here the name of your country
> Italy

Which agency has been primarily responsible for the preparation of this report?
> Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

Ministero Ambiente

Please list any other agencies that have provided input
> ISPRA - Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

ISPRA

I(a). General Information

Please enter the required information in the table below:

Party

Date of entry into force of the Convention in your country
> 1 November 1982

Period covered
> 2011-2013

Territories to which the Convention applies
> Italy

Designated National Focal Point

Full name of the institution
> General Directorate for Nature and Sea Protection (Division II - Biodiversity) - Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (MATTM)

Name and title of designated Focal Point
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Appointment to the Scientific Council

Full name of the institution
> Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale (ISPRA)

Name and title of contact officer
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Submission

Name and Signature of officer responsible for submitting national report

Name:
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Implementation

Competent Authority:

> Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea ,Via Cristoforo Colombo 44 - 00147 Roma

Relevant implemented legislation:

> L. 25.1.1983 n.42 (ratification of Bonn Convention);

Other relevant Conventions/ Agreements (apart from CMS) to which your country is a Party:

> CBD Convention, Berna Convention, Ramsar Convention, Barcelona Convention, Alps Convention, Bird Directive (EU), Habitats Directive (EU)

National policy instruments (e.g. national biodiversity conservation strategy, etc.):

> L. 19.12.1975 n.874 (ratification of Washington Convention);

DPR 13.3.1976 n.448 and DPR 11.2.1987 n. 184 (ratification of Ramsar Convention);

L. 5.8.1981 n.503 (ratification of Berna Convention);

L. 31.12.1982 n.979 (protection of marine environments);

L. 25.1.1983 n.42 (ratification of Bonn Convention);

L. 25.8.1988 n.381 (fishing and protected species);

L. 6.12.1991 n.394 (protected areas);

L.150/92 (Implementaton of CITES)

L. 11.2.1992 n.157 + subseq. modifications (protection of wild fauna and hunting regulation);

L. 14.2.1994 n.124 (CBD ratification);

DPR 8.9.1997 n.357 (92/43/CEE ratification);

L. 9.12.1998 n.426 (environmental protection);

L. 27.5.1999 n.175 (ratification of Barcelona Convention);

L. 14.10.1999 n.403 (Alps protection) ;

D.M. 3.4.2000 (SPA and pCIS designation)

D.M. 17.10.2007 Criteria to establish conservation measures related to SPA (Special Protected Area)

CMS Agreements/MoU

Please indicate whether your country is part of the following Agreements/MoU. If so, please indicate the competent national institution

Wadden Sea Seals (1991)

Wadden Sea Seals (1991)

Non Range State

EUROBATS (1994)

EUROBATS (1994)

Party

Appointed member of the Advisory Committee

Name

> Dr. Danilo Russo

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ASCOBANS (1994)

ASCOBANS (1994)

Non Range State

AEWA (1999)

AEWA (1999)

Party

National Focal Point

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Appointed member of the Technical Committee

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ACAP (2001)

ACAP (2001)

Non Range State

Gorilla Agreement (2008)

Gorilla Agreement (2008)

Non Range State

ACCOBAMS (2001)

ACCOBAMS (2001)

Party

National Focal Point

Name

> Dr. Oliviero Montanaro

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Slender-billed Curlew MoU (1994)

Slender-billed Curlew MoU (1994)

Signatory

Competent authority**Name**

> Directorate-General for Nature and Sea Protection – Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection

Address

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Contact point**Name**

> Not yet appointed. In the meanwhile the CMS FP acts as MoU's CP.

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Birds of Prey (Raptors) MoU (2008)

Birds of Prey (Raptors) MoU (2008)

Signatory

Competent authority**Name**

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> Mr. Alessandro Andreotti

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Sharks MoU (2010)

Sharks MoU (2010)

Signatory

Competent authority**Name**

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Contact point

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> Not yet appointed. In the meanwhile the CMS FP acts as MoU's CP.

E-mail

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Involvement of other government departments/NGOs/private sector

1. Which other government departments are involved in activities/initiatives for the conservation of migratory species in your country? (Please list.)

> ISPRA - Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale
CFS (Corpo Forestale dello Stato - National Forestry Corp)

2. If more than one government department is involved, describe the interaction/relationship between these government departments:

> ISPRA is responsible for technical and scientific advice to Ministry. CFS is the enforcing body and also managing authority of some protected areas in which conservation activities are carried out.

3. Has a national liaison system or committee been established in your country?

Yes

4. List the main non-governmental organizations actively involved in activities/initiatives for the conservation of migratory species in your country, and describe their involvement:

> LIPU (Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli - Italian Society for the Protection of Birds, BirdLife Italy). It is a non-profit organization for the protection of birds and of their habitats, for the education of young people and for public awareness; Italian partner of Birdlife International.

WWF Italia is a charity and non Governmental Organization (NGO). It addresses global threats to people and nature such as climate change, threats to endangered species and habitats and unsustainable use of natural resources.

Legambiente (League for the Environment) is a widespread environmental organization in Italy, with 20 Regional branches and over 115,000 members. It is acknowledged as "association of environmental interest" by the Ministry of the Environment.

Centro Studi Cetacei is a non-profit organization for the study of marine mammals and reptiles.

CTS (Centro Turistico Studentesco) is a non-profit organization for environmental protection and for the promotion of sustainable values, particularly for schools and tourism.

Marevivo is a non-profit organization for the protection of the marine environment.

Tethys Research Institute is a private non-profit organization for the study and conservation of the marine environment, specialised in cetacean research.

GIRC (Gruppo Italiano Ricerca Chiroteri): founded by bat specialists, it aims at encouraging and coordinating studies and conservation actions on Italian bats.

4a. Please provide detail on any devolved government/overseas territory authorities involved.

> Not relevant

I(b). Information about involved Authorities

Identify the ministry, agency/department or organization that is responsible for leading actions relating to Appendix I species

1- Birds

> Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea Protection

2- Aquatic Mammals

> Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea Protection

3- Reptiles

> Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea Protection

4- Terrestrial Mammals

> Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea Protection

5- Fish

> Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea Protection

II. Appendix I species

1. BIRDS

1.1 General questions on Appendix I bird species

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I bird species prohibited by the national implementing legislation cited in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

1a. If the taking of Appendix I bird species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

No

2. Identify any obstacles to migration that exist in relation to Appendix I bird species:

By-catch

Electrocutation

Habitat destruction

Wind turbines

Other (please provide details):

> Habitat loss, unsuitable environmental conditions in stopover sites, illegal taking, disturbance due to direct/indirect human activities, killing of "look alike species" (especially for Ferruginous Duck and Marbled Teal), predation by alien species, bycatch from fishing devices.

2a. What actions are being undertaken to overcome these obstacles?

> The network of protected areas provides important opportunities for staging migrants safe from human-related threats. Critical sites like small islands in the Mediterranean and high passes across the Alps have been identified as important bottleneck sites for migrants through regular monitoring based on coordinated ringing projects. Further efforts have been made for habitat restoration in crucial areas for staging and wintering migrants like the network of wetlands in southern Sicily. Rat eradication has been successfully carried out on over ten Italian islands based on traditional techniques and aerial treatments. These actions, that are presently being undertaken according to a priority approach, are aimed at increasing the breeding success of seabirds (notably shearwaters and Audouin's Gull *Larus audouinii*) and have already achieved important results such as the recovery of productivity in functionally extinct shearwater colonies. Treated islands are in the Tuscan Archipelago (National Park), Circeo National Park and Sardinian MPAs. The national population of Audouin's Gull, a mobile breeder, is regularly monitored and appropriate conservation actions are taken every year as soon as the colony location has been determined. Anti-poaching activities are carried out by the National Forestry Corps, with the support of some NGOs, at key-sites mass illegal killings of migrating songbirds and raptors (e.g. Straits of Messina, South-western Sardinia, Pontian Archipelago, Central Alps).

2b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Rat eradication is currently on-going in the largest island so far treated in the Mediterranean (Montecristo island). The above mentioned anti-poaching activities have led to most significant reduction of illegal killing.

2c. What assistance, if any, does your country require in order to overcome these obstacles?

> General guidelines provided by CMS are valuable instruments to support on the assessment of potential impacts of human infrastructures (e.g. wind turbines) on migratory birds, including standardised protocols for data collection (e.g. field methods, radar studies), as well as evaluation models on critical levels of impact. In 2008, the Italian Ministry of Environment, in collaboration with ISPRA, published the "Guidelines for Mitigation of Impact of Power Lines on Birds" (by Andrea Pirovano and Roberto Cocchi). These Guidelines provide technical protocols useful to make mitigation actions and suggest practical solutions to reduce power lines mortality risk. In particular, useful tools for mitigating collisions and electrocution risk in operation lines (safe pilons, insulators and cables to be used especially in new lines) are suggested and some procedures to reduce casualties in operation/planned lines are indicated.

3. What are the major pressures to Appendix I bird species (transcending mere obstacles to migration)?

Poaching

3a. What actions have been taken to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger bird species beyond actions to prevent disruption to migrating behaviour?

> Some initiatives have been taken by both national and local NGOs to protect important wetlands in SE Sicily from hunting disturbance.

3c. Describe any factors that may limit action being taken in this regard:

> Difficulties in reaching an effective local enforcement of relevant legislation.

1.2 Questions on specific Appendix I bird species

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I bird species for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: *Aythya nyroca*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Melega L. (a cura di), 2007 - Piano d'azione nazionale per la Moretta tabaccata (*Aythya nyroca*). Quad. Cons. Natura, 25, Min. Ambiente - Ist. Naz. Fauna Selvatica.

Baccetti N., Dall'Antonia P., Magagnoli P., Melega L., Serra L., Soldatini C. & Zenatello M. 2002 - Risultati dei censimenti degli uccelli acquatici svernanti in Italia: distribuzione, stima e trend delle popolazioni nel 1991-2000. Biol. Cons. Fauna, vol. 111: 1-240.

Gustin M., Brambilla M. & Celada C. 2009. Valutazione dello stato di conservazione dell'avifauna italiana. Specie in Allegato I della Direttiva Uccelli. Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli (LIPU)

Brichetti P & Fracasso G. 2013. Ornitologia italiana. Vol.1/2: Anatidae. Oasi Alberto Perdisa, Bologna

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

increasing

> The Italian breeding population estimate in 2013 is 62-88 pairs. In 2007-2009 the wintering population was estimated at 369-506 individuals.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

increasing

decreasing

> The distribution of the population concerns three key-areas: Eastern Po Plain (approximately between Bologna and Ravenna); Capitanata wetlands (Northern Apulia region); Eastern and Southern Sicily. Boitani L., Falcucci A., Maiorano L. e Montemaggiori A. 2002 - Rete Ecologica Nazionale: il ruolo delle aree protette nella conservazione dei vertebrati. Dip. B.A.U. - Università di Roma "La Sapienza", Dir. Conservazione della Natura - Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio, Istituto di Ecologia Applicata. Roma. Autori Vari, 2008. Atlante della Biodiversità della Sicilia: Vertebrati terrestri. Studi e Ricerche, 6, Arpa Sicilia, Palermo.

La Gioia G. (a cura di), 2009 - Atlante degli uccelli nidificanti in provincia di Lecce (2000-2007). Edizioni Del Grifo (LE): 1-176.

Vigorita V., Cucè L. (a cura di), 2008. La fauna selvatica in Lombardia. Rapporto 2008 su distribuzione, abbondanza e stato di conservazione di uccelli e mammiferi. Regione Lombardia.

Melega L., (a cura di), 2007. Piano d'azione nazionale per la Moretta tabaccata (*Aythya nyroca*). Quad. Cons. Natura, 25, Min. Ambiente - Ist. Naz. Fauna Selvatica.

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

> The species is regularly monitored in winter, along with other waterbirds.

Education/awareness rising

> The National Action Plan (published in 2007) was printed in 2000 copies and mailed to parks, public administration, ranger stations, wildlife protection and hunting associations.

Melega L. (a cura di), 2007 - Piano d'azione nazionale per la Moretta tabaccata (*Aythya nyroca*). Quad. Cons. Natura, 25, Min. Ambiente - Ist. Naz. Fauna Selvatica.

link of Italian publication of action plan:

Species protection

> Species is protected under Law 157/92 that rules hunting activities

Control hunting / poaching

> To prevent accidental killing some Regional Administrations have banned the hunting on look-alike Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*). The Decree 17 October 2007 bans the hunting on Tufted Duck in all wetlands included

in SPAs.

Species restoration

> Some local reintroduction programmes were launched over the past decade but most of them without success.

Habitat protection

> A large proportion of wetlands of importance for the species, like breeding and wintering sites, have already some form of protection, in particular in the key-sites of Sicily and the Regional Delta Park. Research has been carried out on the problem of lead accumulation in the environment due to hunting; a specific publication is planned with the aim of awareness of the public and local Administrations responsible for the enforcement of hunting legislation.

Other

> Control of IAS: Some local administrations in North-eastern Italy are controlling Coypu (*Myocastor coypus*) populations.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[Ferruginous duck action plan](#)

Species name: *Oxyura leucocephala*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Brichetti P. & G. Fracasso, 2003 - Ornitologia italiana. Vol. 1 - Gaviidae-Falconidae. Alberto Perdisa Editore, Bologna.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

stable

unclear

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

> The species is regularly monitored in winter, along with other waterbirds.

Species restoration

> A re-introduction project is being reconsidered and updated; a workshop took place in June 2010, financially supported by WWF Italy and with the involvement of WWT has been carried out.

Species name: *Neophron percnopterus*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

>

Brichetti P & Fracasso G. 2013. Ornitologia italiana. Vol. 1/3: Pandionidae-Falconidae. Oasi Alberto Perdisa, Bologna

Di Vittorio M, Scuderi A, Cortone P, Pers com.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

> 2011-2012, 8-10 breeding pairs

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> Studies on captive breeding ongoing in Tuscany; satellite tracking of released birds.

Species protection

> Captive breeding, experimental releases of captive-bred juveniles, feeding stations. Some cases of active watching and protection of breeding territories by National and local NGOs. has been carried out on the problem of lead accumulation in the environment due to hunting; a specific publication is planned with the aim of awareness of the public and local Administrations responsible for the enforcement of hunting legislation.

Control hunting / poaching

> Activities to prevent nest poaching in Sicily carried out by Regional Forestry Commission.

Species restoration

> Captive breeding.

 Habitat protection

> Conservation of steppes have positive effects for the species. A general conservation problem for raptors in Italy is represented by the threats from collision both with power lines and wind turbines. This is particularly true for Egyptian Vulture, which is reported in Spain as one of the species most at risk from these threats. A further major problem is referred to poisoning by poisoned carcasses for fox control, lead and chemicals used in agriculture. This is true both on the breeding areas and migratory flyways; illegal shooting and disturbance from hunting is a threat in bottleneck areas

 Other

> Andreotti A., Leonardi G., 2009 – Piano d'azione nazionale per il Capovaccaio *Neophron percnopterus*. Quad. Cons. Natura, 30. MAATM-ISPR.

Species name: Falco naumanni

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> - Bellini F., Cillo N., Giacca V., Gustin M., 2007 - L'avifauna di interesse comunitario delle gravine ioniche.

Risultati di ricerche e monitoraggi effettuati nelle ZPS e SIC "Area delle gravine" dal 2004 al 2007. Pubblicità & Stampa, Bari: 1-95.

- Palumbo G., 1997 – Il Grillaio. Altrimedia.

- Palumbo G., Rizzi V., Malacarne G., 1997 – Contributo alla conoscenza di biologia riproduttiva, distribuzione e consistenza della popolazione di Grillaio (*Falco naumanni*) dell'Italiano peninsulare. *Avocetta* 21(2): 206-212.

- Brichetti P. & G. Fracasso, 2003 - *Ornitologia italiana*. Vol. 1 – Gaviidae-Falconidae. Alberto Perdisa Editore, Bologna. - Spina F., Volponi S., 2008 – *Atlante della migrazione degli uccelli in Italia*. Non-Passeriformes: 1-628. INFS-MATM.

Brichetti P & Fracasso G. 2013. *Ornitologia italiana*. Vol. 1/3: Pandionidae-Falconidae. Oasi Alberto Perdisa, Bologna

Sarà M. 2008. Breeding abundance of threatened raptors as estimated from occurrence data. *Ibis*, 150: 766-778.

Mascara R., Sarà M. 2007. Censimento di specie d'uccelli steppico-cerealicole d'interesse comunitario nella Piana di Gela (Sicilia sud-orientale) (Aves). *Naturalista sicil.*, S. IV, XXXI (1-2): 27-39.

La Gioia G. (a cura di), 2009 - *Atlante degli uccelli nidificanti in provincia di Lecce (2000-2007)*. Edizioni Del Grifo (LE): 1-176.

Sigismondi A. (2012) unpublished data.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

 increasing

> in 2005-2012 5500-6700 breeding pairs

 stable

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

 increasing

> Increasing distribution; few breeding pairs have been found also in the North of Italy, within the Po Plain.

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

 Research

> Researches on breeding success and distribution and occurrence of the species are ongoing, based also on ringing and colour marking, both in Sicily, Apulia and Basilicata. A total population of 3640-3840 pairs at the national scale as for 2001 (3140 in Basilicata and Apulia, 100-200 in Sardinia, 400-500 in Sicily). Monitoring activities carried on by LIPU-BirdLife Italy in Apulia (Bellini et al., 2007) reached an estimate of 1239-1414 pairs in the study area. Projects based on colour ringing in Sicily provide data to estimate survival, site fidelity and natal/breeding dispersal.

 Monitoring

> Monitoring programs have been carried on in Apulia, Basilicata and Sicily. Programs still ongoing in Apulia and Sicily. Funds by local Authorities. LIFE Projects allowed setting up some hundreds of nest boxes, also through the involvement of schools and the public, in Matera in Basilicata, where a very large colony is well known since centuries. LIFE Projects also led to active monitoring in Northern Italy (Parma). In the Capitanata area a new colony has been created by hacking juveniles from rehab centres.

 Education/awareness rising

> Active conservation initiatives in Apulia led to increased awareness, stimulated also by education programmes on largest colonies.

 Species protection

> The species is protected at the national scale. Intense efforts have been devoted to improving rehabilitation techniques for young birds falling from nests.

Control hunting / poaching

> Illegal shooting of raptors still continues in Italy, but at a rapidly decreasing scale; migratory habits of the species helps decreasing risk of illegal taking. Poaching on the breeding pairs uncommon; the largest colonies are traditionally situated on buildings in old cities, where the falcon has always been accepted by local communities.

Species restoration

Habitat protection

> A total of 8 large colonies host an estimated 95% of the national population, out of which 4 have more than 200 pairs each. Ongoing and increasing restoration of old buildings pose a serious threat through loss of nesting opportunities. Active conservation measures taken in Gravina and Altamura by LIPU-BirdLife Italy by setting further nesting boxes. Increasing frequency of occupancy positively suggests the efficiency of this conservation tool.

Habitat restoration

> Deep concern for changes in agriculture practices which might affect hunting grounds and carrying capacity; monitoring and restoration projects on steppes in Apulia carried on by LIPU BirdLife Italy.

Other

> maintenance of buildings with colonies; artificial nesting sites in buildings;

Species name: *Falco vespertinus*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Brichetti P & Fracasso G. 2013. Ornitologia italiana. Vol. 1/3: Pandionidae-Falconidae. Oasi Alberto Perdisa, Bologna

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

stable

unclear

> Fluctuating in period 2010-2012. in 2013 50-70 breeding pairs

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

increasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

> Gustin M, Balestrieri G, Calabrese L, Fior E, Gaibani G, Mendi M, Mucciolo A, Pedrelli M, Salvarani M, Valle N, Vegetti A, Zanichelli A. In press. Indagine sulla popolazione nidificante di Falco Cuculo Falco vespertinus in Provincia di Parma. Atti II Conv. ital. Rapaci diurni e notturni. Treviso

contact details of responsible organisations:

ISPRA: Dr. Alessandro Andreotti

LIPU: Marco Gustin

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

Other

> Palatitz, P., P. Fehérvári, S. Solt and B. Barov (2009) European Species Action Plan for the Red-footed Falcon Falco vespertinus. 49 p

Species name: *Numenius tenuirostris*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Zenatello M. & N. Baccetti (a cura di), 2001 - Piano d'azione nazionale per il Chiurlottello (*Numenius tenuirostris*). Quad. Cons. Natura, 7, Min. Ambiente - Ist. Naz. Fauna Selvatica. SERRA L., N. BACCETTI, M. ZENATELLO - Slender-billed Curlews wintering in Italy in 1995. Birding World 8 (8): 295-299

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

stable

not known

> Last single (probable) observation in Italy on 23.12.2000.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> Following the recommendations of the first International Action Plan, studies aimed at identifying the key-sites and the distribution of suitable habitats were carried out within an ACNAT/CE project in 1994; some eco-ethological data were collected in 1995, the last year of proved occurrence of this species in Italy, and will be continued whenever Slender-billed Curlew were to be found again.

Monitoring

> Coordinated searches for the species are carried out during mid-winter waterbird counts (IWC); some of the key-sites are irregularly monitored in a non-coordinated way by birdwatchers during migration and winter season.

Education/awareness rising

> The National Action Plan (published in 2001) was printed in 2000 copies and mailed to parks, public administration, ranger stations, wildlife protection and hunting associations. It is also available from the web.

Species protection

> In some sites of South-eastern Sicily, potentially important for the species, restrictions in the land use and farming practices have been introduced but are not completely enforced. Within the LIFE „Improvement of the habitats of species of Community interest through restoration and/or transformation of electrical plants existing and under construction“ (LIFE00/NAT/IT/7142) in the Po Delta Regional Park, where there are some important sites for the species, 110 km of power lines have been buried or modified (e.g. using Elicord protected cables). A previous LIFE project had been addressed to this species in particular at the Orbetello Lagoon, where roosting sites for waders were created or managed

Control hunting / poaching

> The national hunting law bans the hunting of some look-alike species: Curlew (*Numenius arquata*), Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) and Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*) to prevent accidental killing. Since the hunting season 2000-2001, most Regional Administrations have also removed the Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) from the list of game species.

Habitat restoration

> In 2002-2004 a coastal marsh of about 80 ha (Cape Feto, IBA 162, SPA code ITA010006) was partly restored by the district administration of Trapani, but no sights of the species are known after 2004 in this site. Efforts are being made to raise funds for the restoration of a total of 160 ha “Oasi del Simeto” (IBA 163, SPA code ITA070029, Eastern Sicily, 120 ha) and in the nature reserve “Biviere di Gela” (IBA 166, SPA code ITA050001, Southern Sicily, 40 ha). Other

4 If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being

Species name: *Larus audouinii*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Serra G., L. Melega & N. Baccetti (a cura di), 2001 - Piano d'azione nazionale per il Gabbiano corso (*Larus audouinii*). Quad. Cons. Natura, 6, Min. Ambiente - Ist. Naz. Fauna Selvatica.

ORO D., N. BACCETTI, D. BOUKHALFA, G. EKEN, A. EL HILI, V. GOUTNER, S. KARAUZ, C. PAPAConstantinou, B. RECORBET, X. RUIZ 2000 - Current breeding distribution and status of Audouin's gulls *Larus audouinii* in the Mediterranean. In: Yésou P. & Sultana J. (eds), Monitoring and Conservation of Birds, Mammals and sea Turtles in the Mediterranean and Black seas, Environment Conservation Dept., Floriana (Malta): 69-80.

Corbi F., Corsetti L., Pinos F., Cavaliere V., Baccetti N. 2008. Espansione del Gabbiano corso *Larus audouinii* nel Tirreno centro-meridionale, con nuovi siti riproduttivi in Lazio e Campania. Alula XV (1-2): 147-152

Baccetti & Zenatello, pers. comm. Baccetti 2012, com pers, in Peronace V., Cecere J.G., Gustin M., Rondinini C., 2012. Lista Rossa 2011 degli Uccelli Nidificanti in Italia. Avocetta 36: 1-48.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

increasing

stable

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

increasing

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> Researches on distribution and occurrence of the species, breeding success, food availability, survival and migration routes are ongoing. Baccetti N., L. Dall'Antonia, A. Magnani & L. Serra 2000. Foraging routes of Audouin's Gulls *Larus audouinii* from two Sardinian colonies. Proceedings V Mediterranean Seabirds Symposium. Malta: 150-158.

Identification and establishment of protected areas

> Some range islands were recently identified as SPAs.

Monitoring

> Regular monitoring for the species is carried out under direct ISPRA coordination during breeding season and data is collected in a national database. Individual marking of juveniles is performed in order to gather info on non breeding distribution and natal philopatry. All colonies are regularly checked for the presence of marked breeders.

Education/awareness rising

> Activities to increase public awareness provided for by the LIFEs „Biodiversity conservation of Capraia and Tuscan islands“(LIFE-Natura B4-3200/97/271) and „Tuscan Islands: new protection actions for waterbirds and habitat“ (LIFE04/Natura/000172). The National Action Plan (published in 2001) was printed in 2000 copies and mailed to parks, public administration, ranger stations, wildlife protection and hunting associations. It is also available from the web. A national workshop on this species was held in December 2009 at the Parco Nazionale del Cilento Conferences on seabirds were held at Porto Conte (Sardinia) in June 2008 and at Cagliari in November 2007.

Species protection

> At some colonies, every year the authorities responsible for the breeding sites (local municipalities or park staff) limit human access and boat berth to the colonies during the tourist season. Since 2001 the shipping of hydrocarbons through the Bonifacio Strait has been banned for avoiding sea pollution owing to ship accidents. A number of regulations, including shipping of hydrocarbons, are being introduced by Sardinia Region for the surroundings of seabird breeding colonies (cf. deliberation no. 9/17 of 7.3.2007).

Habitat protection

> About 50 % of the islands and archipelagos in Sardinia where the species breeds is included in protected areas and SPAs. All the sites frequented in Tuscany and Puglia are already protected by regional or national parks and are designated as SPAs. The site occupied at present in Campania (Ischia, 12 pairs in 2007) is unprotected, whereas the former site (Capo Palinuro) is. MPAs designation of waters adjacent to colonies is at a very initial stage of implementation.

Other

> Audoin Gull Action Plan

Serra G., L. Melega e N. Baccetti (a cura di), 2001 - Piano d'azione nazionale per il Gabbiano corso

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[Audoin gull action plan](#)

Species name: *Acrocephalus paludicola*

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> The only available information on the species originate from ringing activities. A total of 16 birds have been ringed between 1982-2005, mostly during autumn migration, with some very interesting evidences of direct crossing of the Tyrrhenian Sea with one bird ringed on the small island of Ventotene (Latina), ca. 50 Kms. offshore western Italy.

Monitoring

> No specific monitoring programs on the species, but intensive ringing in reed-bed habitats across mainland Italy and on several islands

Species protection

> The species is protected at the national scale.

Control hunting / poaching

> No threat from deliberate taking.

Habitat protection

> Data gathered through ringing to be used for a more detailed habitat description during both autumn and spring movements. Known stopover sites to be protected when not already so. Data on the presence of staging individuals have been efficiently used to list sites as SPAs under the EU Wild Birds Directive 70/409.

2. AQUATIC MAMMALS

2.1 General questions on Appendix I aquatic mammals

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I aquatic mammals species prohibited by the national implementing legislation cited in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

If other legislation is relevant, please provide details:

> The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies - the 10th January 2007 Circular 004/2007 "Onboard possession of forbidden fishing nets of gear": on the illegal status of the presence on board and even in the harbour

The National Law 61/2006 (Official Gazette no 52 of the 03-03-2006), establishing the Ecological Protection Zone according to the principles of UNCLOS, entered into force in March 2006. Through the implementation of this Law, Italy is extending his jurisdiction beyond the limits of its territorial sea on matters like: a) protection of marine mammals, b) protection of marine environment against pollution, c) regulation of maritime traffic, d) exploration and exploitation marine resources and e) archaeological and cultural heritage. The Ecological Protection Zone does not apply to fishery.

1a. If the taking of Appendix I aquatic mammals species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

Yes

2. Identify any obstacles to migration that exist in relation to Appendix I aquatic mammals:

By-catch

Collision with fishing traffic

Pollution

Other threats to migration (please provide details)

> Illegal fishing (driftnets);

loopholes in mediterranean fishing regulation as an attempt to disguise driftnets fishing under another name;

collision with ships and boats

Disturbance from unregulated, disrespectful whale-watching

Acoustic pollution

2a. What actions are being undertaken to overcome these obstacles?

> Since 1996 the Italian Coast Guard provide to notify the Ministry of Environment about any sighting and stranding along the whole italian coastline of the specimens of cetacean regularly present in the Mediterranean sea .

Since January 2008, is operative the official national stranding database granted by the Italian Ministry of the Environment, within the frame of the ACCOBAMS protocol to monitor cetacean populations.

Project to monitor the presence/circulation of morbilliviruses throughout years among wild cetaceans found stranded along the Italian coastline was funded by the Italian Ministry for the Environment; detailed immunohistochemical (IHC) and biomolecular (RT-PCR) investigations against Morbillivirus were carried out from the lung, brain (whenever available), lymph node and spleen tissues from all stranded striped dolphins, bottlenose dolphins and sperm whales under study. Moreover, the following activities are still in force: I) The Mediterranean Marine Mammals Tissue Bank (Department of Experimental Veterinary Science at the University of Padua - is a recognized CITES Institution (IT 020), II) The task force for necropsies on stranded large cetaceans which was established in 2006, thanks to the funding of the Ministry of Environment at the Department of Public Health, Comparative Pathology and Veterinary Hygiene, University of Padua.

Public Awareness, environmental education for stakeholders

Establishment of Marine protected Areas

Strengthening patrol of illegal fishing practices

3. What are the major pressures to Appendix I aquatic mammals species (transcending mere obstacles to migration)?

By-catch

3a. What actions have been taken to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger aquatic mammals species beyond actions to prevent disruption to migrating behaviour?

> In cooperation with ACCOBAMS and the IWC, a series of initiatives - funded by the Italian Ministry of the

Environment - to investigate and suggest mitigation measures for the risk of collision in the Mediterranean, particularly in the Pelagos Sanctuary has been developed. One of the first aims of this initiative is to improve and increase the dataset for the Mediterranean basin and raise public and institutional awareness. A dedicated web site (www.tethys.org/collision/) presents latest updated information about ship strikes, helps disseminate public awareness materials to inform ship crews and the general public and includes reporting forms. This regional database is compatible with the global IWC database and the Mediterranean data will form an integral part of it. An important component is also the collaboration among shipping companies, port authorities and scientists, along with the provision of public information on reporting. The available information for the Mediterranean Sea is sparse. Reliable estimates of fatality rates and associated information are essential to assess impacts at the population level and design effective mitigation measures. Preliminary qualitative maps to assess areas where ship strike risk may be high in the Mediterranean Sea have been produced, overlapping naval traffic - obtained from AIS data and from ferry routes - and large whales' known preferred habitats.

- In all waters belonging to Pelagos sanctuary, fast speed motorboat and jet sky competitions have been banned, also through Municipalities partnership;

- Establishment of CERT - Cetaceans Emergency Response Team at Padua University - National intervention Unit for stranded live cetaceans, mass stranding and for dead specimens weighing more than 1 ton;

Establishment of National database of cetacean's stranding at Padua University (BDS) and Natural History Museum in Milan;

Enhancement of Tissue bank of marine Mammals at Padua (MMMTB);

- Drafting and adoption of national Guidelines on cetacean stranding's management;

- Establishment of National network on cetacean's stranding, together with Health Ministry and Scientific Institutions (Re.Na.S.M.M.);

- Implementation of several monitoring projects on cetacean species and on anthropic pressure as below indicated:

3b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

- > - Joint management (with Health Ministry) on mass death of striped dolphins in period January-April 2013 in Tyrrhenian sea;

- Project "Emerging problem of microplastic in the Mediterranean: potential impact on finwhale as environmental impact model: First year. Siena University;

- Project Progetto "Emerging problem of microplastic in the Mediterranean: potential impact on finwhale as environmental impact model: First year. Siena University; Second year. These two projects have demonstrated a microplastic concentration similar to the Atlantic gyre;

- Project "Collision between big cetaceans and vessels in the Mediterranean: problem assessment and definition of mitigation measures and conservation actions" - Tethys Research Institute

- Project "New Aerial Surveys in the Central and Southern Tyrrhenian Sea" (following mass death of striped dolphins);

- Progetto "Contaminanti Ambientali e relativi effetti sul sistema nervoso centrale e sul sistema immunitario nei Cetacei spiaggiati, le Sentinelle del Mare" - Università di Teramo (a seguito della morte di stenelle, primo progetto al mondo su Morbillivirus, Toxoplasma e Brucella nei delfini)

- Project "Distribution analysis, absolute abundance and abundance ratio of Sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*), Risso's dolphin (*Grampus griseus*) and Cuvier's beaked whale (*Ziphius cavirostris*) in Pelagos sanctuary considering environmental changes deriving from human activities" - Politecnico di Milano (first project ever in the Mediterranean for these species)

- Project "Enhancement and integration of operational structures linked to the establishment of Network for stranded cetaceans" - Padua University

2.2 Questions on specific Appendix I aquatic mammals

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I aquatic mammals species for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as

appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: *Physeter macrocephalus*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Notarbartolo di Sciarra G., Frantzis A., Bearzi G., Reeves R.R. 2006. Sperm whale *Physeter macrocephalus* (Mediterranean subpopulation). Pp. 48-56 in Reeves R., Notarbartolo di Sciarra G. (compilers and editors). The status and distribution of cetaceans in the Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea. IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, Malaga, Spain.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

stable

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Identification and establishment of protected areas
- Monitoring
- Education / awareness rising
- Habitat restoration

Species name: *Delphinus delphis* (Mediterranean population)

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Bearzi G. 2006. Short-beaked common dolphin *Delphinus delphis* (Mediterranean subpopulation). 2003 Assessment. Pp. 130-136 in Reeves R., Notarbartolo di Sciarra G. (compilers and editors). The status and distribution of cetaceans in the Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea. IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, Malaga, Spain.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Monitoring
- Education / awareness rising

Species name: *Balaenoptera physalus*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Notarbartolo di Sciarra G., Panigada S. 2006. Fin whale *Balaenoptera physalus* (Mediterranean subpopulation). Pp. 11-15 in Reeves R.R., Notarbartolo di Sciarra G. (compilers and editors). The status and distribution of cetaceans in the Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea. IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, Malaga, Spain.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

unclear

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

stable

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Monitoring
- Education / awareness rising

Species name: *Monachus monachus*

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

> Single sightings are reported sporadically along Sardinian coasts, the lesser Sicilian islands and southeastern Italy. There is no information on reproductive activity along Italian coasts

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

> Single sightings are reported sporadically along Sardinian coasts, the lesser Sicilian islands and southeastern Italy. There is no information on reproductive activity along Italian coasts

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Education / awareness rising

3. REPTILES

3.1 General questions on Appendix I reptiles

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I reptiles species prohibited by the national implementing legislation cited in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

1a. If the taking of Appendix I reptiles species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (Include the date on which the exception was notified to the CMS Secretariat pursuant to CMS Article III(7):

> According to Habitat Directive, the exceptions have been granted by the competent authority for: relevant damages prevention; flora or other fauna protection; public health and safety; scientific research; environmental education.

2. Identify any obstacles to migration that exist in relation to Appendix I reptiles species:

By-catch

Pollution

3. What are the major pressures to Appendix I reptiles species (transcending mere obstacles to migration)?

Destruction of nesting beaches

3a. What actions have been taken to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger reptiles species beyond actions to prevent disruption to migrating behaviour?

> -Environmental education to aware tourists and fishermen;

-Monitoring and management of the nesting sites;

3c. Describe any factors that may limit action being taken in this regard:

> Lacking of collaboration among stakeholders involved into conservation and management of marine turtles.

3.2 Questions on specific Appendix I reptiles

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I reptiles species for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: *Chelonia mydas*

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

unclear

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

unclear

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

> WWF Italy, project: Monitoring of marine Turtles at national scale.

Other

> CTS, project: Marine turtles conservation by means of CTS rescue centres

Species name: Caretta caretta

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

- > Bentivegna F., Paglialonga A. 1998 Status of the sea turtles in the Gulf of Naples and preliminary study of migration. Proceedings of the Seventeenth Annual Sea Turtle Symposium. NOAA Tech Memo. NMFS-SEFCS-415:141-144.
- Carreras C., Pont S., Maffucci F., Pascual M., Barcelo ´A., Bentivegna F., Cardona L., Alegre F., SanFelix M., Fernandez G., Aguilar A. 2006 Genetic structuring of immature loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) in the Mediterranean Sea reflects water circulation patterns. *Marine Biology* 149: 1269-1279
- Casale P., Nicolosi P., Freggi D., Turchetto M., Argano R. 2003. Leatherback turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*) in Italy and in the Mediterranean basin. *Herpetological Journal* 13:135-139
- Casale P., Laurent L., De Metrio G. 2004. Incidental capture of marine turtles by the Italian trawl fishery in the north Adriatic Sea. *Biological Conservation* 119(3):287-295. 235
- Casale P., Cattarino L., Freggi D., Rocco M., Argano R. 2007. Incidental catch of marine turtles by Italian trawlers and longliners in the central Mediterranean. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems* 17: 686-701
- Casale P. 2008 Incidental catch of marine turtles in the Mediterranean Sea: captures, mortality, priorities. WWF Italy, Rome.
- Casale P., Freggi D., Gratton P., Argano R., Oliverio M. 2008a Mitochondrial DNA reveals regional and interregional importance of the central Mediterranean African shelf for loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*). *Scientia Marina*, 72(3):541-548
- Casale P., Freggi D., Rocco M. 2008b. Mortality induced by drifting longline hooks and branchlines in loggerhead sea turtles, estimated through observation in captivity. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems* 18: 945-954
- Casale, Affronte M., et al. 2010. Sea turtle strandings reveal high anthropogenic mortality in Italian waters. *Aquatic Conservation: marine and freshwater ecosystems*. 20:611-620.
- Casale P., Margaritoulis D. 2010 Sea turtles in the Mediterranean: distribution, threats and conservation priorities. Gland, Switzerland, IUCN. 294 pp.
- Casale P. 2011 Sea turtle by-catch in the Mediterranean. *Fish and Fisheries* 12: 299-316.
- Fortuna et al. 2010 By-catch of cetaceans and other species of conservation concern during pair trawl fishing operations in the Adriatic Sea (Italy).
- Fortuna, C.M., Filidei, E. jr. 2011a. Annual Report on the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) 812/2004 - 2010. Rapporto tecnico preparato per il Ministero delle politiche agricole, alimentari e forestali, 10 pagine.
- Fortuna, C.M., Holcer, D., Filidei, E. jr, Tunesi, L., 2011b Relazione finale del progetto "Valutazione dell'impatto della mortalità causata da attività di pesca su Cetacei e tartarughe marine in Adriatico: primo survey per la stima dell'abbondanza" (Prot. MIPAAF DG PEMAC n. 1690 del 10/02/2010 e al Prot. MATTM DPN n. 27623 del 23/12/2009), 51 pagine + Allegati.
- Garofalo L., Mingozi T., Micò A., Novelletto A. 2009 Loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) matriline in the Mediterranean: further evidence of genetic diversity and connectivity. *Mar Biol.* 156: 2085–2095
- Garofalo L., Mingozi T., Urso S., Novelletto A. 2010 Nesting activity of the loggerhead turtle *Caretta caretta* in Calabria (southern Italy): nest assignment by means of a genetic "flipper-print". *Atti VIII Congresso Nazionale Societas Herpetologica Italica*, pp. 531-536
- Gaspari S. 2011 Conservazione e genetica di *Caretta caretta* nel Mar Adriatico. Relazione Finale presentata all'ISPRA. Università degli Studi di Firenze, Dipartimento di Biologia Evoluzionistica. 17 pp.
- Guglielmi P., Di Natale, A. & Pelusi, P. 2000. Effetti della pesca col palangaro derivante sui grandi pelagici e sulle specie accessorie nel Mediterraneo centrale. Rapporto al Ministero per le Politiche Agricole e Forestali. DGPA Roma.
- Lauriano, G., Panigada, S Casale, P., Pierantonio, N G. P. Donovan. 2011. Aerial survey abundance estimates of the loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) in the Pelagos Sanctuary, Northwestern Mediterranean Sea. *Mar Ecol Prog Ser* 437:291-302.
- Maffucci F., Kooistra W.H.C.F., Bentivegna 2006 Natal origin of loggerhead turtles, *Caretta caretta*, in the neritic habitat off the Italian coasts, Central Mediterranean. *Biological Conservation*, 127:183-189.
- Mingozi T. 2010 Nidificazione della Tartaruga marina *Caretta caretta* in Italia: sintesi dei dati 2005-2009. *Atti VIII Congresso Nazionale Societas Herpetologica Italica*, pp. 525-530
- Mingozi T., Masciari G., Paolillo G., Pisani B., Russo M., Massolo A. 2007. Discovery of a regular nesting area of loggerhead turtle *Caretta caretta* in southern Italy: a new perspective for national conservation. *Biodivers. Conserv.*16:3519-3541
- Orsi Relini L., Palandri G., Garibaldi F., Cima C. 1999 Longline swordfish fishery in the Ligurian Sea: eight years of observvation on target and bycatch species. *Collective Volume of Scientific Papers ICCAT* 49: 146-150
- STECF 2005 Commission Staff working paper. Report of the scientific, technical and economic committee for fisheries. STECF opinion on the Report of the First Meeting of the Subgroup on By-catches of turtles in the EU Longline Fisheries (SGRST/SGFEN 05-01) November, 2005
- SWOT Database Online. DiMatteo, A., Fujioka, E., Wallace, B., Hutchinson, B., Cleary, J., Halpin, P. Data provided by the SWOT Team. 2009 See individual records for citations for particular nesting sites. World Wide Web electronic publication. <http://seamap.env.duke.edu/swot>
- Tomas J., Formia A., Fernandez M., Raga J.A. 2003 Occurrence and genetic analysis of a Kemp's Ridley sea

turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*) in the Mediterranean Sea. *Sci. Mar.*, 67 (3): 367-369.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> a) Università di Roma "La Sapienza", project: Biology, ecology and conservation of *Caretta caretta* in central Mediterranean. b) Università degli Studi di Torino, projects: 1. Relationships between bycatch and feed behaviour in *Caretta caretta*. 2. Fishing effects on Mediterranean population of *Caretta caretta*. 3. Hormonal methods for the sex determination of *Caretta caretta*.

Monitoring

> a) University of Calabria, project TARTACare Calabria". b) WWF Italy, project: Monitoring of marine turtles at national scale. c) Soc. Coop. Monitoraggio delle Risorse Naturali, project: Monitoring of *Caretta caretta* in Eolian Islands. c) Università degli Studi di Torino, project: Monitoring of *Caretta caretta*'s nesting in Lampedusa Island (Sicily).

Other

> CTS; project: Marine turtles conservation by means of CTS rescue centres

Species name: *Lepidochelys kempii*

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

unclear

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

unclear

Species name: *Dermochelys coriacea*

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

unclear

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

unclear

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

> WWF Italy, project: Monitoring of marine Turtles at national scale.

Other

> CTS, project: Marine turtles conservation by means of CTS rescue centres

5. FISH

5.1 General questions on Appendix I fish species

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I fish species prohibited by the national legislation listed as being implementing legislation in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

5.2 Questions on specific Appendix I fish species

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I fish species, for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: *Cetorhinus maximus*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> ICRAM 2007 Guidelines to compile a National Action Plan to protect Cartilaginous Fishes

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

unclear

> Young specimens have been reported in the Ligurian Sea and north Tyrrhenian Sea

Species name: Carcharodon carcharias

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> ICRAM 2007 Guidelines to compile a National Action Plan to protect Cartilaginous Fishes

Nursery area in the Sicily channel Once common in Adriatic sea now the species is considered rare

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

6. LISTING OF OTHER ENDANGERED MIGRATORY SPECIES IN APPENDIX I

1. Is your country a Range State for any other endangered migratory species currently listed in Appendix I?

(according to the latest IUCN red data list). N.B.: States in which a species occurs as a vagrant (i.e. not "on its normal migration route") should not be treated as Range States. Please refer to Article 1 of the Convention for clarification.

Yes

If Yes, please provide details:

> Balaenoptera physalus, Pelecanus onocrotalus, Marmaronetta angustirostris,

1a. Is your country taking any steps to propose listing any of these species?

No

III. Appendix II Species

1. INFORMATION ON APPENDIX II SPECIES

Information pertaining to the conservation of Appendix II species that are the object of CMS Agreements will have been provided in periodic Party reports to those instruments. It will suffice therefore to reference (below), and preferably append, a copy of the latest report that has been submitted to the Secretariat of each of the Agreement/MoUs to which your country is a Party.

EUROBATS (1994)

Date of last report:
> November 2013

Period covered:
> 2011-2013

AEWA (1999)

Date of last report:
> 2012

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[AEWA Report ITALY](#)

Period covered
> 2009-2011

ACCOBAMS (2001)

Date of last report:
> 2010

Period covered:
> 2008-2010

2. QUESTIONS ON CMS AGREEMENTS

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Bird Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Bird Species ?

No

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Marine Mammal Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Marine Mammal Species ?

No

4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Marine Mammal Species, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?

No

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Bat Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Bat Species ?

No

2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Bat Species ?

No

4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Bat Species, including Memoranda of Understanding,

planned by your country in the foreseeable future?

No

IV. National and Regional Priorities

1. What priority does your country assign to the conservation and, where applicable, sustainable use of migratory species in comparison to other biodiversity-related issues

Medium

2. Are migratory species and their habitats addressed by your country's national biodiversity strategy or action plan?

Yes

3. Does the conservation of migratory species currently feature in any other national or regional policies/plans (apart from CMS Agreements)

Yes

3.1. If Yes, please provide details:

> CBD; Habitat and Birds Directives; Barcellona Conv; Law 157/92; Pelagos Sanctuary Agreement; International Whaling Commission

3a. Do these policies/plans cover the following areas?

Exploitation of natural resources (e.g. fisheries, hunting, etc.)

Yes

Economic development

Yes

Land-use planning

Yes

Pollution control

Yes

If Yes, please provide details

> Monitoring of debris and microplastic effect on cetaceans

Designation and development of protected areas

Yes

Development of ecological networks

Yes

If Yes, please provide details

> Pelagos Municipalities Partnership

Planning of power lines

Yes

V. Protected Areas

1. Are migratory species taken into account in the selection, establishment and management of protected areas in your country?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details:

> Italian Marine Protected Areas are mostly coastal (with the exception of the International Sanctuary for Mediterranean Cetaceans). Establishment and management of these areas with regards to migratory species therefore usually envisages strictly coastal habitat protection such as marine turtle nesting grounds. Some areas have been recognized or proposed as Sites of Community Importance (92/43/EEC Directive) because of their importance for mammals conservation (e.g. presence of important bats roosting sites). Some areas have been classified as Special Protection Areas (79/409/EEC Directive) because of their importance as stopover sites for migratory birds. A specific project funded by the Ministry of Environment to LIPU BirdLife Italy has been carried on to assess the importance of offshore areas as special sites for the conservation of pelagic bird species (e.g., Shearwaters, Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*).

1b. Do these protected areas cover the following areas?

Terrestrial

Yes

If Yes, please provide details and include the amount of protected areas coverage and the number of protected areas

> Area coverage 3,162,591 ha

Aquatic

Yes

Marine

Yes

If Yes, please provide details and include the amount of protected areas coverage and the number of protected areas

> Area coverage 2,853,034 ha

Pelagos Sactuary surface approximately 9,000,000 ha, shared with France and Monaco

1c. Identify the agency, department or organization responsible for leading on this action in your country:

> Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea, Regions and limited to Pelagos also Municipalities

VI. Policies on Satellite Telemetry

1. In the current reporting period, has your country undertaken conservation/research projects that use satellite telemetry?

Yes

If yes what is the state of those projects

completed

Please provide details

- > • Project "Satellite telemetry applied to finwhale in the Mediterranean in Pelagos sanctuary (new data on presence during winter). Tethys Institute
 - Project "Satellite Telemetry applied to finwhale in the Mediterranean: finwhale tagging in winter-spring 2013 in Sicily Straits and in Orosei Gulf - IWC
 - "Future": second tagging campaign in summer in Pelagos sanctuary - IWC
- Several bird species have been studied with satellite telemetry, e.g.: Egyptian Vulture, Short-toed eagle, Woodcock, Red Kite, Spoonbill, Cory's Shearwater, Yelkoun Shearwater, Audouin's Gull, Yellow-legged Gull.

2. Are any future conservation/research projects planned that will use satellite telemetry?

Yes

VII. Membership

1. Have actions been taken by your country to encourage non- Parties to join CMS and its related Agreements?

No

1a. Identify the agency, department or organization responsible for leading on this action in your country:

> Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea Protection

VIII. Global and National Importance of CMS

1. Have actions been taken by your country to increase national, regional and/or global awareness of the relevance of CMS and its global importance in the context of biodiversity conservation?

No

IX. Mobilization of Resources

1. Has your country made financial resources available for conservation activities having direct benefits for migratory species in your country?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (Indicate the migratory species that have benefited from these activities):

> Surveys on bats funded by MATTM to University of Naples Federico II, Department of Agricultural Science

2. Has your country made voluntary contributions to the CMS Trust Fund to support requests from developing countries and countries with economies in transition?

No

3. Has your country made other voluntary financial contributions to support conservation activities having direct benefits for migratory species in other countries (particularly developing countries)?

No

4. Has your country provided technical and/or scientific assistance to developing countries to facilitate initiatives for the benefit of migratory species?

No

5. Has your country received financial assistance/support from the CMS Trust Fund, via the CMS Secretariat, for national conservation activities having direct benefits for migratory species in your country?

No

6. Has your country received financial assistance/support from sources other than the CMS Secretariat for conservation activities having direct benefit for migratory species in your country?

No

X. Implementation of COP Resolutions and Recommendations

Please provide information about measures undertaken by your country relating to recent Resolutions and Recommendations since the last Report. For your convenience please refer to the list of COP Resolutions and Recommendations listed below:

Resolutions

Marine Debris (10.4)

> Marine Debris and microplastic project

Annex: Updating Data on Appendix II Species

1. The drop-down lists below contain the list of all species listed in Appendix II. New Parties which have acceded since COP10 in 2011 and Parties which did not submit a National Report in time in 2011 are requested to complete the entire form.

Parties that did submit a timely report in 2011 are requested to review and update the data (e.g. new published distribution references and details concerning species added to Appendix II at COP9 and COP10).

Chiroptera

Vespertilionidae spp (European populations)

Please choose the one that applies.

Range State

Published distribution reference

> "AGGIORNAMENTO DELLA DISTRIBUZIONE E DELLO STATO DI CONSERVAZIONE DEI CHIROTTERI ITALIANI E IDENTIFICAZIONE DELLE STRATEGIE DI MONITORAGGIO" CIG N. 464598541B

Update of distribution and conservations status of Italian Chiroptera, and identifcation of monitorign strategy. Wildlife Research Unit, Laboratorio di Ecologia Applicata, Dipartimento di Agraria, Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, via Università 100, 80055 Portici

Cetacea

Physter macrocephalus

Please choose the one that applies.

Range State

Grampus griseus (Mediterranean population)

Please choose the one that applies.

Range State