

Additional Material

Ecosystem services

Current recreation and tourism:

The site is one of the most visited Greek wetlands during the summer due to the beauty of the landscape and the fine beaches. Tourist activities have increased significantly in the last years mainly at the coast line and there are a few hotels and rooms to let around the site, with about 500 beds available.

Social and cultural values: (e.g. fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological site etc.)

Agriculture constitutes the primary activity in the area. Grazing is a supplementary activity. The cattle rearing is famous with high quality of beef. Fishing at sea and in the traditional lagoon systems is an important source of income, with a considerable production of best quality fish, part of which is exported. Hunting is also a social and cultural value but it is regulated.

The Strofylia forest has a significant ecological and aesthetic value. The seashore sand dunes attract a big number of visitors in the summer. There are interesting archaeological sites in proximity of the site including the Ancient Olympia..

Since 1993, local society has started attributing value to the site as a protected area, and consequently eco-tourism, environmental education and bird watching, despite that relevant facilities are relative poor. Moreover the area is of great scientific value in the fields of biology, ecology, hydrology and geology.