Annotated List of Wetlands of International Importance

Andorra

3 Ramsar Site(s) covering 6,870 ha

Parc naturel de la vallée de Sorteny

Site number: 2,071  |  Country: Andorra  |  Administrative region: Ordino
Area: 1,080 ha  |  Coordinates: 42°37'09"N 01°34'47"E  |  Designation dates: 23-07-2012

View Site details in RSIS

Parc naturel de la vallée de Sorteny (Parc natural de la vall de Sorteny), 23/07/12; Ordino; 1,080 ha; 42°37'08"N 001°34'48"E. Natural Park, National Hunting Reserve. A high mountainous site in the Pyrenees (up to 2,915m altitude), consisting of humid meadows, alkaline fens, bog woodland, several pools and a small alpine lake. The site offers habitat to several rare species of flora and fauna including Common Saw-wort Saussurea alpina and several species of amphibians and reptiles. It is also the most Eastern site known for Aurelio's rock lizard Iberolacerta aurelioi which has a very restricted distribution range and is endemic to the Pyrenees. The site is used by several invertebrates, especially by butterflies such as Parnassius apollo. It is important for the provision and purification of water as well as for the general hydrological balance of the area. In terms of cultural heritage the site contains remains of constructions related to traditional activities of iron mining and livestock breeding, the latter still practiced today. The site is also increasingly used for tourism and recreation as well as for research. The park contains a visitor's centre, a botanic garden and interpretational trails, and has a very illustrative website. Ramsar Site number: 2071. Most recent RIS information: 2012.

Parque Natural Comunal de los Valles del Comapedrosa

Site number: 2,204  |  Country: Andorra  |  Administrative region: La Massana
Area: 1,543 ha  |  Coordinates: 42°35'15"N 01°27'52"E  |  Designation dates: 15-04-2014

View Site details in RSIS

Parque Natural Comunal de los Valles del Comapedrosa (Parc Natural Comunal de les Valls del Comapedrosa), 15/04/2014; La Massana; 1,543 ha; 42°35'26"N 001°28'03"E. Natural Park, Habitat/Species Management Area, Protected Landscape. The Site comprises 74 high mountain wetlands, including permanent rivers and streams, freshwater springs, small glacial lakes and non-forested peatlands, in a well-preserved landscape. These wetlands provide an important concentration of biodiversity and water reservoir within the Alpine biogeographic region. They support numerous endemic Pyrenean species, as well as threatened flora and fauna. Given its location at the headwaters of the Arinsal basin, the site regulates and prevents floods and ensures drinking water supply to the parish of La Massana. The main human activities affecting the Site are related to tourism, and include hiking, hunting and fishing. The park has visitor facilities such as a viewpoint at Roc de la Sabina, interpretative trails and an extensive network of footpaths. A management plan was updated in 2013, which sets the conservation objectives and regulates the activities within the park. Ramsar Site No. 2204. Most recent RIS information: 2014.

Vall de Madriu-Perafita-Claror

Site number: 2,183  |  Country: Andorra  |  Administrative region: Encamp, Andorra la Vella, Sant Julià de Lòria, Escaldes-Engordany
Area: 4,247 ha  |  Coordinates: 42°29'01"N 01°36'22"E  |  Designation dates: 28-08-2013

View Site details in RSIS

Vall de Madriu-Perafita-Claror. 28/08/2013; Encamp, Andorra la Vella, Sant Julià de Lòria, Escaldes-Engordany; 4,247 ha; 42°29'01"N 01°36'22"E. Cultural Landscape, UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Madriu-Perafita-Claror valley, encompassing nearly 10% of the national territory, comprises 350 high mountain wetlands which support endangered species of flora and fauna as well as habitats of cultural and ecological interest. These wetlands are all well preserved due to reduced anthropogenic influence on the site. One of the most representative examples is the glacier lake estany de filla covering an area of 12.5 ha. The wetland complex offers a very good representation of the biodiversity characteristic of the Pyrenean acid water wetlands. Moreover, it plays a vital role in flood mitigation and is very important freshwater reserves. The whole Vall de Madriu watershed is located within the boundaries of the drinking water supply for the population of Escaldes-Engordany in the lower part of the river catchment. The main activities within the site are related to tourism, mainly hiking from April to November, fishing, hunting and cattle raising during summer. The management plan for the valley was approved in December 2011. Ramsar Site no. 2183. Most recent RIS information: 2013.