

MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION OF ETANG MASSE WITH BENEFIT TO NATURE & LOCAL VISITORS

LOCAL CONTEXT :

Property status : private (owner : Mr H. Goetgheluck)

Surface : 76ha out of which 27ha is the lake

Human activities : fisheries, grazing

Management : protection, conservation, public information, and management of "site protégé de l'étang Massé" are based on 3 conventions

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES :

Protection & conservation of remarkable Brenne species (mostly aquatic species) in a site where fisheries and cattle grazing are still conducted in a traditional manner.

SPECIFIC AND WELL-DEFINED ROLES BETWEEN PARTNERS :

Mr H. Goetgheluck : owner

Mr E. Goetgheluck : user of the fishery and surrounding land

Departmental Federation of Hunters of Indre (FDCI) : pays the rent of the "right of no hunt" to the owner, guides visits, carries out bird counts...

Parc Naturel Régional de Brenne : gives financial compensation to partners affected by the fisheries management constraints, search for public equipment budgets (observatories, car parc, signposting...), carries out some of the scientific surveys, carries out some of communication tasks on the project

LPO : pays a Site Manager, organises coordination & day to day management (chosen in agreement of all partners), participates to scientific surveys, guides visits, carries out some of communication tasks on the project

WWF-France : finances part of the cost of the Site Manager & carries out some of communication tasks on the project

Conseil Général de l'Indre : financed the new bird observatory and car park

3 CONVENTIONS FOR A COORDINATED MANAGEMENT

Protection, conservation, public information, and management of "site protégé de l'étang Massé" are based on 3 conventions :

- Convention FDCI / owner (Mr H. Goetgheluck)

Since 1995, year of the 1st hunting right renting by the DFCI (lasting till June 2002), the site (76ha) benefited from the « Hunting Reserve » Status.

A new agreement was signed between the owner and FDCI for a 5 years period (1-07-02 to 30-06-07), this time at the demand of the owner, but without the « Hunting reserve » status, and for the same surface.

FDCI will therefore pay a yearly « no hunting » fee for the whole surface concerned. The agreement will allow however the possibility to organise Wild Boar hunts in agreement with all partners.

- Convention PNR Brenne / user (Mr E. Goetgheluck)

This convention aims at insuring a proper ecological lake management, and mostly fishery techniques compatible with the protection of all wild species depending on it. It aims also to allow a specific

zone of public access for birds and nature observation. The User receives a yearly financial compensation for this.

The convention has a duration of 5 years (21-08-02 au 20-08-07).

- « Multi-partner » Convention between all partners of the site

This 3rd convention (5 years : 21-08-02 to 20-08-07, same dates as convention with PNR) relates all the partners concerned with the site management : FDCI, PNR Brenne, LPO, WWF-France.

The global management is decided by all 4 partners, and the day to day management is carried out by the site manager (Tony Williams) for 1,5 days of work /week.

AN ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT

This is the aim of the PNR - User convention

PUBLIC ACCESS

A communal path runs along the lake. A bird's observatory (20 seats) is permanently opened, and offers a view on the lake and heronry. It is accessible through a short pathway within the private property (easy access to wheelchairs). Guided visits (with the site manager or the person from the FDCI) are organised year round. Best period is April to July.