

Summary

Five (5) out of twenty three (23) MTPs in Greece are encountered in Chania Prefecture and are part of the NATURA 2000 network. The habitat type of Mediterranean Temporary Ponds with code 3170* has been recorded in these areas. In particular these regions are the following:

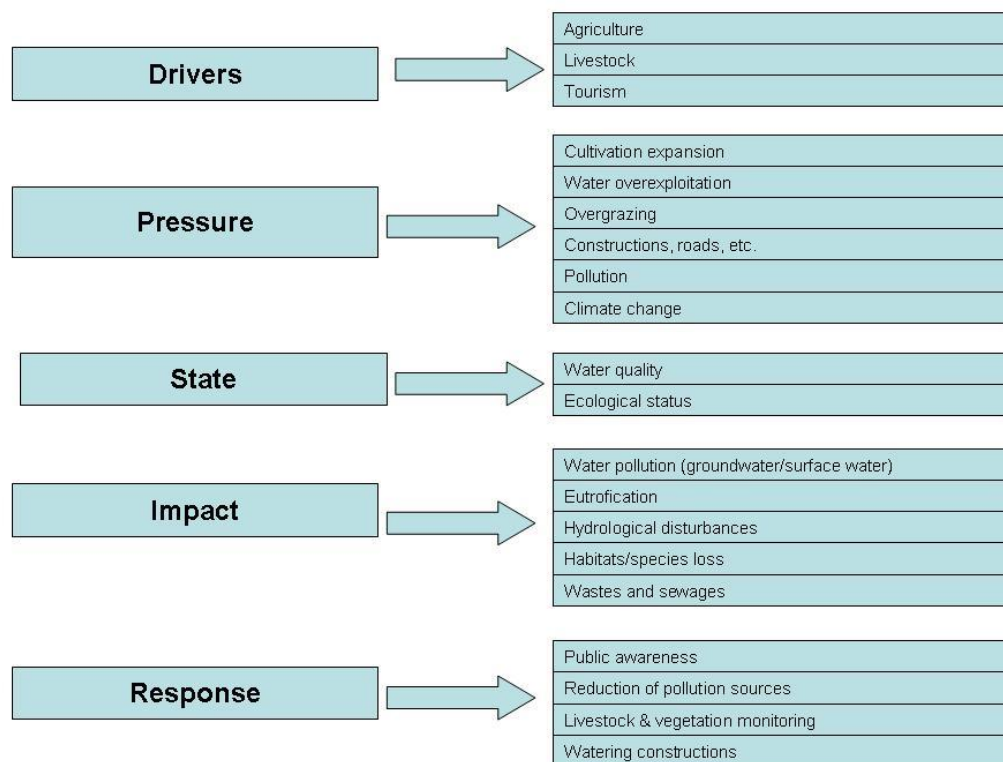
1. Imeri and Agria Gramvoussa – Tigani and Falasarna - Pontikonisi (area code: GR4340001)
2. Elafonisos Island - Nearby Beach (starting from Chrysoskalitissa to cape Krios) (area code: GR4340002)
3. Drapano] (Northeast coast) - Georgioupolis Beach - Lake Kourna of (area code: GR4340010)
4. Gavdos and Gavdopoula Islands (area code: GR4340013)
5. Lefka Ori (area code: GR4340008)

Regarding the precipitation in the study areas, this presents significant fluctuations with annual maximum values being recorded in Omalos (1600 mm) and minimum in Gavdos (310 mm), causing important fluctuation in the hydrological regime of each study area, resulting in considerably different hydroperiods at the MTPs.

With regard to the water quality, and as far as it concerns the nutrients, there is spatial variation from place to place. Regarding ammonia, in particular, water is characterised of medium quality, while nitrate and nitrite concentrations fluctuate between normal and high levels.

It is evident from the evaluation of the survey mapping results of the different types of habitats, that apart from the Mediterranean Temporary Ponds of Gavdos, in which the conservation state was exceptional (A), Falasarna ponds and part of the ponds in Elafonisos/Chrysoskalitissa have been characterised as having been found in good conservation condition (B), with the main tendency, however, being towards degradation of the the ponds' structure and processes, while in Lake Kourna the state appears to be constantly degraded without presenting signs of further degradation.

Summarizing the Drivers-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) analyses conducted for each MTP site a generalized conceptual model has been concluded for the Cretan MTPs showing the various components affecting and interacting with the MTPs.



DPSIR model for Cretan MTPs

Finally the last section of the particular guide presents the most important threats in each of the MTPs that were studied which resulted after these were recorded and evaluated, but also from various measures for the protection and the conservation of the ponds. Also emphasis is given to certain important actions that should be carried out with regard to the monitoring and management of the habitat 3170* - Mediterranean Temporary Ponds.

Activities that should be done in the project MTP areas.

Conservation need	Actor responsible	Possible Funding Sources	Comments
	(actual or foreseen)		
Core management activities			
Continuation of water quality monitoring	Prefecture of Chania and	SF, State budget	Legal binding with the Water Framework Directive

	Regional authority of Crete		(2000/60/EC)
Implementation of the habitat management plan at each site	Municipalities, management authorities, Forest agency of Chania	SF, Ministry of Environment, State budget, LIFE+	Inclusion of the habitat management guidebook in the Special Environmental Studies of Gavdos, Omalos and Elafonisi
Continuation of hydrologic monitoring	Regional authority of Crete	SF, State budget	Legal binding with the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)
Implementation of sustainable water management plans	Regional authority of Crete	SF, State budget	Legal binding with the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)
Advanced” management activities			
Continuation of livestock watering network operation in Omalos	Municipality of Anatoliko Selino	SF, Ministry of Internal Affairs	
Use and maintenance of the project's eco-touristic infrastructure	Municipalities	SF, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Tourism, LIFE+	In Kissamos (Falasarna) a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with HCMR for the continuation of this action and negotiations are about to finish for signing an MOU with Gavdos Community. All the project informational material (brochures, stickers, posters, signs, etc) has been sent to each Municipality in order to reproduce them if necessary.

SF*: structural funds, **: this is a EC legislative obligation