MPA - MARINE PROTECTED AREA CAPO TESTA – PUNTA FALCONE

The Capo Testa - Punta Falcone Marine Protected Area, established by Ministerial Decree 17 May 2018 (GU n.206 of 5 September 2018) along the north coast of the Sardegna and managed by the Municipality of Santa Teresa Gallura, is a place that reserves unusual emotions.

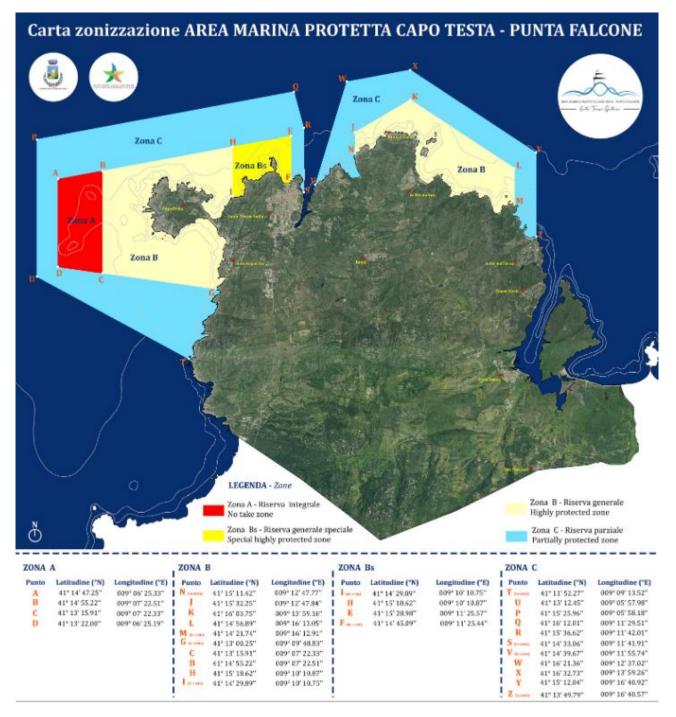
An area that encompasses in its vast perimeter of over 5000 hectares, an important territorial variety characterized by marine, coastal, geological, environmental (flora and fauna) and anthropic landscapes representative of the territory of the historical region of Gallura.

In addition to fulfilling the general conservation purposes, the Marine Protected Area is a candidate to play an important role of territorial orientation, activating processes and paths that are able to demonstrate the economic and social value of environmental protection, also and above all in environments with a strong tourist vocation, such as the coastal one we are talking about.

The goal is to continuously monitor data regarding the biotic and abiotic components of the ecosystem, but also to continuously interact with the social actors of the territory, to allow a management response, as flexible and dynamic as possible, capable of to respond to strictly environmental needs, but also able to promote a growth in awareness of the social context and to foster a gradual consensus with respect to one's work.

The Marine Protected Area is divided into four areas (A, B, Bs and C) integral, general, general, special and partial reserve. Areas that have different access possibilities and limitations in their usability.

The area undergoing protection and conservation measures also includes the Site of Community Interest (S.I.C.) of Capo Testa - ITB010007, designated ZSC with Ministerial Decree 7 April 2017, and for which the management plan approved by the Sardinia Region with Decree no. 15798/24 of 16 July 2015, established pursuant to the Community Habitat Directive and included in the system of areas dedicated to the conservation of biodiversity belonging to the Natura 2000 Ecological Network.



In the MPA, pursuant to Article 5 of the Discipline Regulations approved by Ministerial Decree 17 May 2018 n. 102, published in G.U. n. 206 of 5 September 2018, in compliance with the characteristics of the environment, the following are allowed:

Zone A - integral reserve

- a. rescue and surveillance activities;
- b. the service activities carried out on behalf of the manager;
- c. scientific research activities duly authorized by the managing body of the WAP;

Zone B - general reserve

- a. the activities allowed in Zone A;
- b. bathing;
- c. navigation, exclusively in displacement attitude, at speeds not exceeding 5 knots, within the distance of 300 meters from the coast, and at speeds not exceeding 10 knots, within the sea belt between 300 meters and 600 meters from the coast;
- d. access to sailing, rowing, pedal or electric propulsion units;
- e. access to boats, with the exception of jet skis or jet skis and similar vehicles, and to boats in line with the eco-compatibility requirements referred to in paragraph 2;
- f. access to boats that are not in line with the eco-compatibility requirements referred to in paragraph 2, for twelve months from the date of publication of the Discipline Regulations;
- g. access to nautical units used for passenger transport and guided tours authorized by the managing body;
- h. mooring to boats and boats, in sites identified by the managing body through special buoy fields, positioned compatibly with the need to protect the seabed;
- the. anchoring to boats and boats, outside particularly sensitive areas, identified and reported by the managing body, compatibly with the needs of seabed protection;
- j. guided underwater tours, carried out compatibly with the needs of protection of the seabed, organized by the diving centres authorized by the manager and having their registered office in the municipality of Santa Teresa Gallura on the date of entry into force of the Discipline Regulations;
- k. scuba diving, carried out compatibly with the need to protect the seabed and authorized by the manager;
- L. the observation of marine mammals, according to the code of conduct referred to in paragraph 3 of the Discipline Regulation;
- m. the exercise of small-scale artisanal fishing and the activity of fishing tourism, reserved for fishing companies that carry out the activity both individually and in a cooperative form, having their registered office in the Municipality of Santa Teresa Gallura on the date of entry into force of the Discipline Regulation , and to the members of the aforementioned cooperatives entered on the same date in the register of each cooperative;
- n. sport fishing, with line and rod, authorized by the manager and reserved for residents in the Municipality of Santa Teresa Gallura;

BS zone - special general reserve

a. the activities referred to for Zone B in points a), b), c), d), e), f), g), h), i), j), k), l);

Zone C - special general reserve

ALLOWED ACTIVITIES

- a. the activities allowed in Zone B;
- b. access to pleasure boats in line with the eco-compatibility requirements referred to in paragraph 2 of the Discipline Regulation;
- c. mooring to pleasure craft in line with the eco-compatibility requirements referred to in paragraph 2 of the Discipline Regulations, in sites identified by the managing body through appropriate buoy fields, positioned compatibly with the need to protect the seabed;
- d. sport fishing with line and rod authorized and quoted by the managing body on the basis of the protection needs of the protected marine area, to subjects equivalent to residents in the Municipality of Santa Teresa Gallura on the basis of the disciplines adopted by the managing body with the Discipline Regulations.

In the WAP, all permitted activities are governed by the Provisional Disciplinary approved by City Council resolution no. 22 of 28/08/2020 and available in the Decrees & Regulations section

NOT ALLOWED ACTIVITIES

In the WAP, pursuant to Article 5 of the Ministerial Decree May 17, 2018, (GU n.206 of September 5, 2018), activities that may alter the characteristics of the environment and compromise its founding purposes are not permitted. In particular, consistently with the provisions of art. 19, paragraph 3, of the law 6 December 1991, n. 394, and without prejudice to the provisions of the Regulation pursuant to art. 6, it is not allowed:

- a. any activity that could constitute danger or disturbance of plant and animal species, including bathing, scuba diving, navigation, anchoring, mooring, use of jet skis or jet skis and similar means, the practice water skiing and similar water sports, underwater fishing, the introduction of alien species and active restocking;
- b. any activity involving the capture, collection and damage of specimens of animal and plant species, including hunting and fishing;
- c. any removal activity, even partial, and damage to archaeological finds and geological formations, as well as the removal, removal and trade of sand, gravel and other material coming from underwater rock formations and present in the coastal territories belonging to the maritime state property;
- d. any alteration, even transitory, by any means, direct or indirect, of the geophysical environment and biochemical characteristics of the water, including the introduction of any toxic or polluting substance, the landfill of solid or liquid waste, aquaculture, the introduction of discharges that do not comply with the more restrictive provisions of current legislation;
- e. the introduction of weapons, explosives and of any destructive means or of capture, as well as of substances toxic or pollutant;

OBSERVATION OF MARINE MAMMALS

In the MPA, pursuant to Article 5 of the Discipline Regulations approved by Ministerial Decree 17 May 2018 n. 102, published in G.U. n. 206 of 5 September 2018, for the observation of marine mammals, an observation band is identified, within a distance of 100 meters from the cetaceans sighted, and an approach band within 300 meters from the cetaceans sighted.

In these bands, the following code of conduct applies to cetacean sighting and observation of cetaceans:

- a. it is not allowed to get closer than 100 meters from the animals;
- b. bathing is not allowed in the observation zone and only one pleasure craft or one aircraft may be present, exclusively at an altitude exceeding 150 meters above sea level;
- c. overflight with helicopters is not allowed, except for rescue, surveillance and service activities:
- d. it is not allowed to stay more than 20 minutes in the observation slot;
- e. in the observation and approach bands, navigation is allowed at a maximum speed of 5 knots:
- f. it is not allowed to stay with the pleasure craft within a group of cetaceans, even involuntarily separating individuals or groups of individuals from the main group;
- g. it is not allowed to provide food to animals and throw other material into the water;
- h. frontal approach to animals is not allowed;
- the. it is not allowed to interfere with the normal behavior of animals, especially in the presence of females with puppies;
- j. sudden changes of course and speed of pleasure craft are not permitted;
- k. in the case of voluntary approach of the cetaceans to the pleasure craft, it is compulsory to maintain a constant speed, less than 5 knots, without changing direction;
- L. in the approach zone, no more than three pleasure craft may be present at the same time, waiting to access the observation zone, following the chronological order of arrival in the approach zone;
- m. in the event that the animals show signs of intolerance, it is compulsory to move away with a constant course from the observation and approach bands.