

18.53 Conservation of Doñana National Park, Spain

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that wetlands are one of the most threatened ecosystems of the world and that, in spite of the existing efforts to preserve them, it has been impossible to stop their regression in many regions;

RECOGNIZING that the Doñana National Park and its surrounding area is one of the most valuable wetlands in the Western Palearctic, because of its crucial stopover role in the migration of birds between Europe and Africa and because of the species and ecosystems it harbours;

ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts made by the Spanish authorities to safeguard the area;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT, however, that there remain some elements of previous development

practices and attitudes, especially those related to intensive agriculture and mass tourism, that may threaten Doñana's future;

The General Assembly of IUCN—The World Conservation Union, at its 18th Session in Perth, Australia, 28 November-5 December 1990:

1. REQUESTS the Spanish authorities to intensify further their efforts to preserve the Doñana National Park by seeking the sustainable development of the surrounding area in accordance with the principles of the draft World Conservation Strategy for the 1990s;
2. RECOMMENDS that this socio-economic model takes into account:
 - a. that the agricultural activities of the neighbouring territory must not threaten the quantity and quality of water flow through the Park;
 - b. that tourist activities must be based on and accommodated to the intrinsic values of the area so as to ensure conservation of the area and its outstanding values as a guarantee of sustainable progress in the area and of the well-being of its people;
 - c. that the infrastructures that may be created take into account the requirements of sustainable development and do not interfere in the effective protection of the Park and its surrounding area.