



IDENTIFYING, ADVANCING AND REPORTING OECMs

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PRE-WORKSHOP CASE STUDY OF A POTENTIAL OECM

The Case of Bahiret El Bibane Wetland of International Importance (Tunisia)





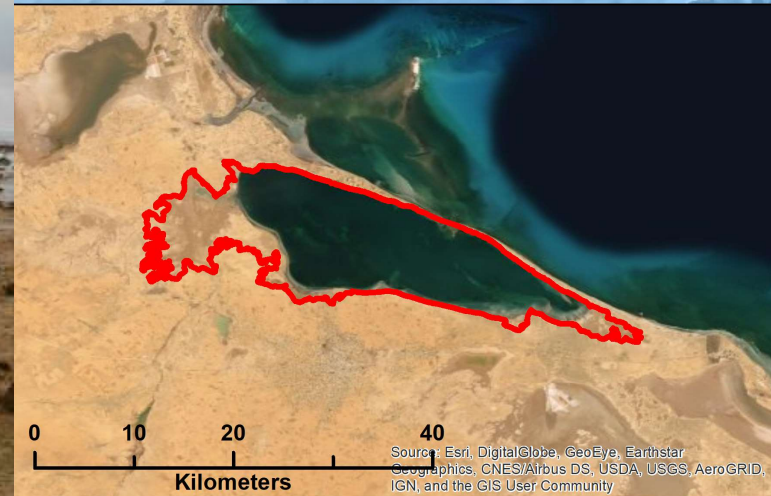
SITE DETAILS

What is the name and location of the ‘potential OECM’?

- **Name:** Bahiret El Bibane Wetland of International Importance
- **Location:** SE Tunisia
- **Governance authority:** Tunisian Government: Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development; Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fishing; & Ministry of Equipment, Housing and Spatial Planning



SITE DETAILS



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Biological Diversity





Criterion A: NOT A PROTECTED AREA

Is the area recognized as a protected area?

- Unclear:
 - Ramsar sites are not included in the Tunisian law on PAs.
 - El Bibane is included in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance since 2007.
 - It is also considered a WII (international designation) in the Protected Planet website.
 - However, it is also reported as a “Designated” Wetland of National Importance since 1948 to the WDPA.

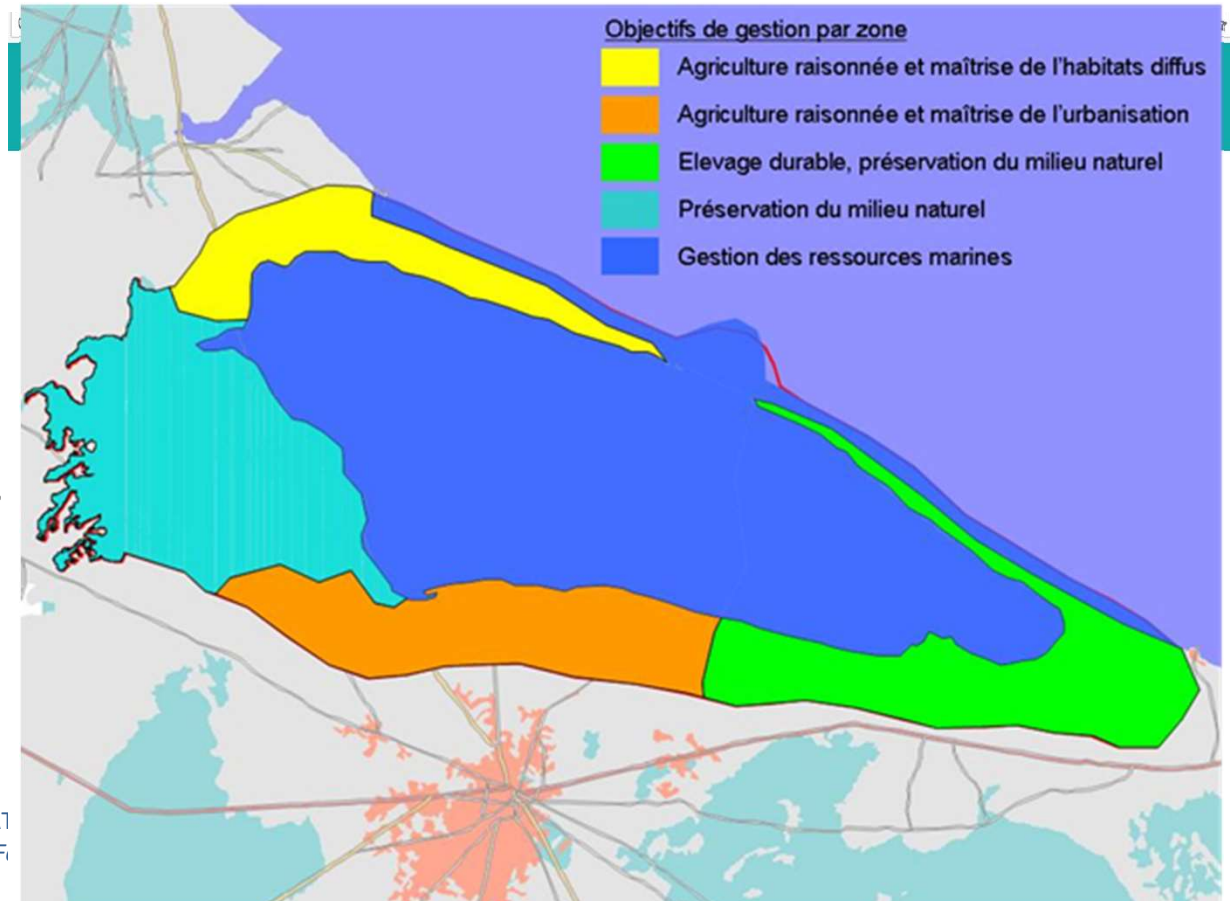


Criterion B: Governance and Management

B1. GEOGRAPHICALLY DEFINED

*What are the area's boundaries, or
How will you ascertain the area's boundaries?*

- Geographically defined boundaries reported to the Ramsar Secretariat and the WDPA; Zoned + 500m radius perimeter in the MP





Criterion B: Governance and Management

B2. GOVERNED

Who are the governance authorities? Are they government, private or Indigenous peoples/local communities?

- The Tunisian Government at different administrative scales through the: 1) Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development; 2) Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fishing; & 3) Ministry of Equipment, Housing and Spatial Planning.
- Managing authorities include the Coastal Protection and Planning Agency (APAL), and the Directorate General of Fisheries and Aquaculture, the Médenine Governorate, the concerned municipalities and rural councils.

Do they have rights to govern the area, or are the governance, land and/or natural resource rights contested?

- Yes. Contestation?

Is the area equitably managed? Are any rightful governance authorities being marginalized?

- Yes? Rural councils are participatory structures that represent local populations' interests.

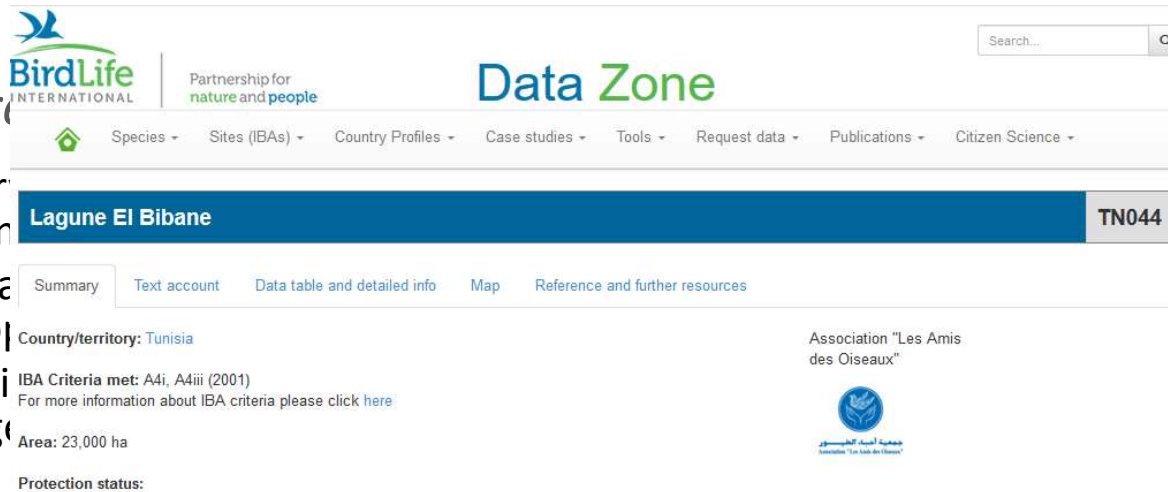


Criterion B: Governance and Management

B3. MANAGED

What are

- Conservation
- Conversion
- A managed development
- *Sustainable management



BirdLife INTERNATIONAL Partnership for nature and people **Data Zone**

Search...

Species - Sites (IBAs) - Country Profiles - Case studies - Tools - Request data - Publications - Citizen Science

Lagune El Bibane TN044

Summary | Text account | Data table and detailed info | Map | Reference and further resources

Country/territory: Tunisia

IBA Criteria met: A4i, A4iii (2001)
For more information about IBA criteria please click here

Area: 23,000 ha

Protection status:

Association "Les Amis des Oiseaux"
جمعية الأصدقاء المحييين
Association "Les Amis des Oiseaux"

terfowl (Ramsar
are being
participation in
AL)

How are
of biodiv

- TBA?
- Theoretical (Ministry of Environment and Planning) in (INST)
- Monitoring

Most recent IBA monitoring assessment			
Year of assessment	Threat score (pressure)	Condition score (state)	Action score (response)
2009	medium	favourable	medium

For more information about IBA monitoring please click here

conservation



authority
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Criterion C: Effective and sustained conservation

C1. BIODIVERSITY VALUES

How will you assess the biodiversity values of the area?

- TBA?

What ki

- 60 fish specie



The screenshot shows the IUCN Red List search results for the Slender-billed Curlew. The search bar at the top contains the text "Names - common, scientific, regions etc...". Below the search bar, the species name "Slender-billed Curlew" is displayed in large, bold black text, followed by the scientific name "Numenius tenuirostris" in a smaller font. To the left of the text is a photograph of the bird. Below the species name, there is a citation: "BirdLife International 2018. *Numenius tenuirostris*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2018: e.T22693185A131111201. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2018-2.RLTS.T22693185A131111201.en>. Downloaded on 06 February 2020." Below the citation is a conservation status indicator showing a red circle with the text "CRITICALLY ENDANGERED" and "CR" below it. To the right of the bird's name, the text "32 bird" is visible.



Criterion C: Effective and sustained conservation C2,3,4. Effective Conservation

How are internal threats addressed? How are external threats addressed?

- A number of threats have been identified in recent studies: fish overexploitation; illegal, unreported and fishing, invasive species (blue crab: *Portunus segnis*); extreme climate events; low regulation compliance.

Is the management regime intended to sustained over the long-term, or subject to change?

- TBA? Ramsar sites are intended at long-term.
- Validity of management plans under preparation still unknown.



Criterion C: Effective and sustained conservation C2,3,4. Effective Conservation

Is the area large enough on its own, or as part of an established and integrated conservation network, to conserve biodiversity in-situ over the long term?

- 39,266 ha.

Is the management regime in place year-round, or on another basis?

- TBA? Planned active management seems not to exist yet. Fishing MP and Sustainable MP under preparation.

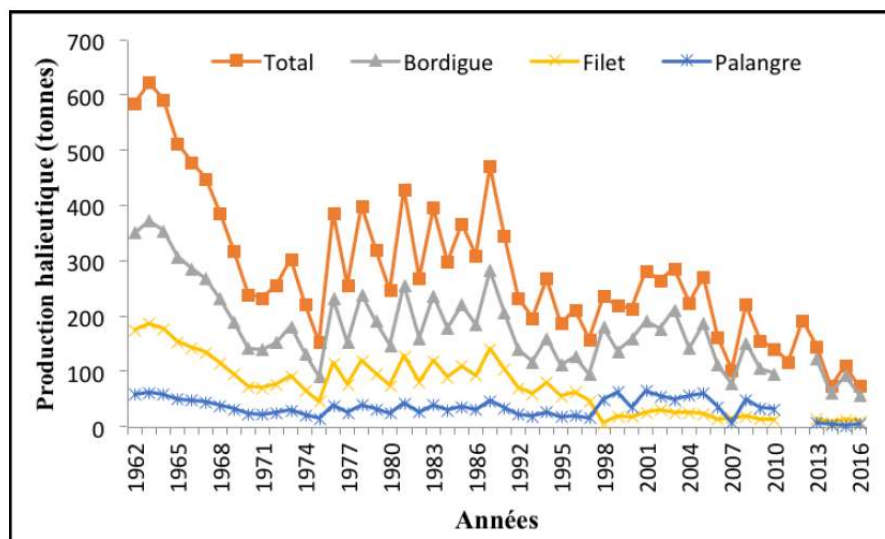


Criterion C: Effective and sustained conservation C2,3,4. Effective Conservation

Is the biodiversity outcome being monitored?

- Monitoring information on fisheries (1962-2016: Declining).
- Biodiversity monitoring info compiled from 2007-2014 for the Descriptive Ramsar Profile (birds).

Figure 3: Evolution annuelle de la production halieutique de la lagune El Bibane par type de pêche durant la période (1962-2016) (Anonyme, 1962-2016)





Criterion D: Effective and sustained conservation

D1. Associated Functions

Are there any associated ecosystem functions and services?

- Fish biomass.
- Other? The ascidean species *Ecteinascidia turbinata* was collected for pharmacological uses in the early 2000s.

Are there any spiritual, socio-economic or other values associated with the area?

- Agriculture, farming, tourism.





WCPA
WORLD COMMISSION
ON PROTECTED AREAS
1960 - 2020

Thank you

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PART B

CONSENT

WORKSHOP ON OTHER EFFECTIVE AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES IN NORTH AFRICA AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. *Tunis, 10 and 11 February 2020*

with the support of:



Convention on
Biological Diversity





CONSENT TO BECOME A CANDIDATE OECM

If the area meets the criteria of a ‘potential OECM’, how will you engage with the legitimate governance authority/ies to discuss OECMs and whether they would like to be involved in an assessment of their area?

TO BE DISCUSSED IN THE WORKING GROUPS