



169CHA016 - Sebkhet Sidi Masoud

Description

Sebkhet Sidi Masoud is located at the south-east of Chargui island in Kerkennah Archipelago, just outside the village of El Ataya. The whole area was included in the national wetlands' inventory under the code 169 (Hughes et Al, 1997). It is a coastal saltmarsh with an elevation that ranges from 0 to 2.5m above sea level (Topography Map, 1973; Etienne, 2011) which get regularly flooded by the high tides. In the past, it used to be larger and water used to circulate freely up and down the area, but 2 years ago, a dike was built in the middle to stop sea water from reaching the houses located at the edge of the wetland and thus deviding it into 2 smaller systems. The eastern system (by the sea) is well preserved and has more than 95% of its surface covered by salicornia, whereas the other part (on the other side of the wall) is heavily degraded; the vegetation has been entirely removed and the land has been covered by soil making the ground higher. Building the dike stopped the natural flow of water which started to stagnate and therefore creating major problems for neighbouring residents (bad smells and mosquitos). Additionnaly, a lot of garbage, brought from the sea by tides and waves, are scattered along the shoreline.

The dominant flora specie in the wetland is *Sarcocornia fruticosa* (L.) A. J. Scott.

[Field visit: Th. Giannakakis, K. Charfi, I. Rais & M. Ouali 05/2018]

General information

Basic information

Wetland location:	Marine/Coastal
Area (Ha):	18.9
Hydrological interaction with other wetland:	No -
Water salinity:	Salty (> 18.0 g/l)
Fresh water entry:	Catchment area (precipitation)
Hydroperiod:	Temporary/Intermittent

Geographic information

Governorate:	Sfax
Island:	Chargui
Municipality:	Kerkennah
Coordinates (WGS84):	11.299022 E - 34.747037 N

Ramsar wetland types

Ramsar type	Coverage (%)
A -- Permanent shallow marine waters in most cases less than six metres deep at low tide; includes sea bays and straits	< 5
H -- Intertidal marshes; includes salt marshes, salt meadows, saltings, raised salt marshes; includes tidal brackish and freshwater marshes	> 95

Property status

Public

Protection statuses & other designations

Protection status

Protection status category	Protection status subcategory	Site name	Code	Coverage (%)	Legislation
International Protection	Ramsar Site	Kerkennah		100	Ramsar Convention
National Protection	Sensitive areas	Kerkennah		100	L. n° 94-122, 28/11/1994; D. 98-2092, 28/10/1998 (Jort n°88)

Important bird areas

IBA Code	Site name	Coverage (%)
TN026	Kerkennah Islands	100

Ecosystem Services, Activities & Impacts

Ecosystem Services

Type of Ecosystem service	Ecosystem service	Scale of Benefit	Importance
Regulatory services	Erosion regulation		
Regulatory services	Flood hazard regulation		
Regulatory services	Storm hazard regulation		
Supporting services	Provision of habitat		

Activities on wetland

Activities	Intensity
210 = Professional fishing	High
220 = Leisure fishing	Medium
423 = disposal of inert materials	High
501 = paths tracks cycling tracks	High
703 = soil pollution	
871 = sea defense or coast protection works	

Activities on drainage basin

Activities	Intensity
210 = Professional fishing	High
220 = Leisure fishing	Medium
401 = continuous urbanisation	High
421 = disposal of household waste	Medium
423 = disposal of inert materials	Medium
501 = paths tracks cycling tracks	High
502 = roads motorways	High
511 = electricity lines	High

Habitats & Vegetation

Habitat types

Habitat types	Coverage (%)
1440 Salt pans	
1510 * Mediterranean salt steppes (Limonietalia)	

Vegetation types

Vegetation type	Coverage (%)
Halophytic	76 - 95

Species

References

Representative Image & Map
