

Project Update: May 2010

From 2004, Ulcinj Salina was the first private nature park in Montenegro. Hunting on Salina is permanently prohibited by the owner and management team. However, as this is an area of 15 km², it has many entrances which are hard to control during the winter months when it's hunting season. Poachers continue to enter Salina but their number is smaller every year. For some time "For hunters entrance prohibited" was written on the entrance. The complete guardsmen crew was replaced in Salina, so that entrance through the gate to non-employees is now strictly controlled and prohibited. Unfortunately, the proclamations of official (from state level) protection of Salina are continued from the high positions although this is not present in the field as the protectors of nature would like it.

Ada Bojana has still kept its "virgin" habitats. The pressure of tourists is still limited to a smaller section of the beach, which is far from the nesting sites of sea turtle. Unfortunately erosion of these semi-island shores, which is a result of dam construction upstream and which doesn't allow sand sedimentation, has been extreme in the past few years. Several dozens of square metres of shore are lost every year and there is a real danger of disappearance of this semi-island. Sea turtles appear every year but nesting has not been recorded since 2002. Erosion or tourist pressure could be the reason. Little sea turtles appear in the waters in front Ada Bojana. The good news is that Ada Bojana has entered the protection program based on a proposal for trans-boundary Nature Park between Montenegro and Albania. In this proposal, Ada is marked for strict protection, and nesting of sea turtles is one of the main reasons for the protection of this area. See this article from a newspaper in Montenegro: <http://www.visit-montenegro.com/article1010.htm>