

REGULATIONS (RULES AND SANCTIONS)

TITLE I – GENERAL RULES AND GUIDELINES

Art. 1 – Reference laws

1. These Regulations, an integral part of the Territorial Management Plan of Mont Avic Natural Park, are the implementation of the following European Union, National and Regional regulations, which must be fully obeyed within the Park territory: Directive 92/43/EEC, on the conservation of natural and semi-natural habitats, and of wild flora and fauna, and the corresponding national and regional implementation rules; Directive 2009/147/EC, concerning the conservation of wild birds, and the corresponding national and regional implementation rules; Decree of the Ministry of the Environment and of the Protection of the Territory and the Sea of 7 February 2013 “Designation of the Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) of the Alpine biogeography zone in the territory of the Autonomous Region of Valle d’Aosta, pursuant to Article 3(2) of Presidential Decree 357 of 8 September 1997”; Law 394 of 6 December 1991 “Framework law on protected areas” as amended and supplemented; Regional law 30 of 30 July 1991 “Rules for the establishment of protected natural areas” as amended and supplemented; Regional law 16 of 10 August 2004 “New provisions on Mont Avic Natural Park management and operation. Repeal of regional laws 66 of 19 October 1999, 31 of 30 July 1991 and 16 of 16 August 2001” as amended and supplemented.
2. As regards the species of European interest, the identification and mapping of habitats by the Directive and the corresponding conservation measures have been specifically referred to the Deliberation 3061 of the Regional Council of 16 December 2011 “Approval of the technical document concerning conservation measures for sites of Community importance of the European ecological network Natura 2000, pursuant to Article 4 of Regional Law 8/2007 and of the Ministerial Decree of 17 October 2007 and for the purpose of designating the special areas of conservation (SAC)”.

Art. 2 – General prohibitions

1. Activities and works that may compromise the safeguarding of the landscape and protected natural environments, with particular regard to protected fauna and flora and their habitats, are prohibited in the Park territory. Specifically, the following are prohibited:
 - a) the capture, killing, harming and disturbance of animal species;
 - b) the gathering and harming of wild plant species, lichens and fungi;
 - c) the introduction of non-native (allochthonous) species, plants or animals, which can alter the natural balance;
 - d) the opening and operating of quarries, mines and landfills, as well as the removal of minerals;
 - e) modification to the regime of waterways;
 - f) the issue of permits or authorisations for operations, systems and constructions within the Park without the prior favourable opinion/permission of the Park Authority;
 - g) the carrying out of advertising actions not authorised by the Park Authority, outside the built-up areas;
 - h) the introduction and use of any means that can destroy or alter biogeochemical cycles;
 - i) the introduction, by private individuals, of weapons, explosives and any devices for destruction or capture, if not authorised;
 - j) lighting of fires in the open;
 - k) unauthorised flights by aircraft over the territory, except as defined by the laws on flight regulations;
 - l) the exercise of hunting activity.
2. Normal agricultural and forestry operations are permitted within the Park territory, provided that they are compatible with the conservation of biodiversity. The real rights and civil customs

of the local communities remain unaffected, which are exercised according to local traditions, with the exception of possible exclusive hunting rights or other forms of collecting wildlife.

3. In application of paragraph 4, Article 11 of Law 394/1991, specific exceptions are made to some of the general prohibitions of paragraph 1 in this article, for hypotheses of lesser environmental impact, better specified in the following Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 21 and 22.

Art. 3 – Sanctions

1. Violations of the provisions of the Territorial Management Plan (hereinafter the “PGT”) are subject to penalty, for the conduct regulated therein, in accordance with the national and regional legislation in force. In particular, without prejudice to the application of the penal sanctions provided for by Article 30(1, 8) of Law 394/1991, also applying without limitation are the provisions in Legislative Decree 152 of 3 April 2006 “Environmental regulations” as amended and supplemented, and in the Regional Laws 29 of 5 May 1983 “Powers and duties of surveillance agents and administrative sanctions regarding fishing” as amended and supplemented; 17 of 22 April 1985 “Police regulations for the movement of motor vehicles on the territory of the Region” as amended and supplemented; 22 of 1 April 1987 “Rules for the protection of reptiles and amphibians” as amended and supplemented; 15 of 4 March 1988 “Regulation of alpine flight activities for environmental protection purposes” as amended and supplemented; 50 of 21 August 1990 “Protection of veteran trees” as amended and supplemented; 64 of 27 August 1994 “Rules for the protection and management of wild fauna and for regulating hunting” as amended and supplemented; 8 of 24 June 2002 “Regulation of outdoor accommodation complexes and rules on travelling tourism. Repeal of Regional Law 34 of 22 July 1980”; 20 of 30 June 2009 “New provisions on the prevention and reduction of noise pollution. Repeal of Regional Law 9 of 29 March 2006” as amended and supplemented; 45 of 7 December 2009 “Provisions for the protection and conservation of alpine flora. Repeal of Regional Law 17 of 31 March 1977” as amended and supplemented; 37 of 22 November 2010 “New provisions for the protection and correct treatment of pets. Repeal of Regional Law 14 of 28 April 1994” as amended and supplemented.
2. For violations of the prohibitions and requirements concerning the environments and species referred to in Directives 79/409/EEC concerning the conservation of wild birds and 92/43/EEC relating to the conservation of natural and semi-natural habitats, as well as of wild flora and fauna, within the Park is applied Article 10 of Regional Law 8 of 21 May 2007 “Provisions for the fulfilment of the obligations of the Autonomous Region of Valle d’Aosta deriving from Italy’s membership of the European Community. Implementation of Directives 79/409/EEC concerning the conservation of wild birds, and 92/43/EEC, relating to the conservation of natural and semi-natural habitats, as well as wild flora and fauna. Community Law 2007” as amended and supplemented.
3. Pursuant to Articles 14(1) of Regional Law 16/2004 and 29(1) of Regional Law 30/1991, the administrative penalties provided for by regional laws, including those referred to in paragraph 1, for the violation of prohibitions or requirements put in place to safeguard the Park’s mission of protection, the minimum and maximum limits are doubled for violations within the Park’s area. In any case, pursuant to Article 29(4) of Regional Law 30/1991, in addition to any administrative and criminal penalties already in force under other laws of the State and the Region, in the case of unauthorised work carried out inside the Park, an administrative penalty of between €4131.00 and €9296.00 is applied for non-compliance, even partial, with the measures aimed at the reinstatement of places and environmental recovery in the area.
4. For violations that are not specifically subject to penalties under Regional or National laws the administrative penalty referred to in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991 is applied based on the explicit provisions in the PGT.

Art. 4 – Reinstatement measures

1. Pursuant to the provisions of Article 29 of Law 394/1991, if an activity is carried out that is inconsistent with the PGT or the opinion-permission received, the legal representative of the management body of the protected natural area shall demand the immediate suspension of

the activity and shall furthermore order the reinstatement or re-establishment of plant or animal species at the expense of the offender with the joint and several liability of the client, the owner of the company and the works manager in case of construction and transformation of constructions.

2. In the event of non-compliance with the order to reinstate or re-establish the plant or animal species within a reasonable period, the legal representative of the protected area management body shall execute the same at the expense of the offenders according to the procedures established by national and regional laws in force.
3. If events that threaten or cause damage to the environment occur within the protected area, the Park Authority, according to the regulations in force on the matter, will intervene so that all prevention and reinstatement actions are taken and will initiate proceedings for potential compensation.

Art. 5 – Supervision, administrative procedures and litigation

1. To ascertain and give notice of administrative violations and apply the corresponding penalties, the rules and principles set forth in Law 689 of 24 November 1981 “Changes to the penal system” shall be applied.
2. Supervision of compliance with the prohibitions and requirements contained in the PGT is the responsibility of the Park Guards of the Park Authority and the Forestry Corps of Valle d'Aosta, pursuant to Article 15 of Regional Law 16/2004. One of the functions carried out by the Park Authority, by means of the Park Guard Service, is surveillance of the protected territory primarily to safeguard the natural environment. To fulfil his duties, the chief park guard has the status of a Criminal Investigation Police Inspector and a Law Enforcement Officer, and the park guards have the status of a Criminal Investigation and Law Enforcement Police Officers.
3. The proceeds deriving from the administrative penalties referred to in the PGT are entered in a specific section of the balance sheet of the Valle d'Aosta Regional Administration or of the Municipal Administrations, as appropriate.
4. Possible oppositions can be proposed to the President of the Autonomous Region of Valle d'Aosta or to the Mayor of the Municipality concerned, as appropriate.

TITLE II – PROTECTION OF FAUNA, FLORA, MUSHROOMS AND GEOLOGICAL COMPONENT

Art. 6 – Homeothermic and heterothermic fauna

1. Homeothermic fauna:
 - a) the capture, killing and harm to homeothermic fauna are prohibited and constitute a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991. This excludes: any removal of wildlife and selective culling managed by the Park Authority and necessary to restore ecological imbalances revealed and documented by specific studies and research; capture for scientific research authorised by the competent bodies;
 - b) hunting activity is forbidden, as set out in Law 157 of 11 February 1992 “Rules for the protection of homeothermic wildlife and for hunting” and by Regional Law 30/1991;
 - c) it is forbidden to collect and keep the remains or anatomical parts of mammals and birds. Penalties for violating the aforementioned prohibition are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991. The following are permitted: collecting and keeping for scientific purposes authorised by the Park Authority; collecting for management and monitoring purposes carried out by the staff of the Park Authority surveillance service and the Valle d'Aosta Forestry Corps;
 - d) it is forbidden to feed wildlife of any kind. Penalties for violating this prohibition are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991. The Park Authority may be excluded from this prohibition in special environmental, management and scientific circumstances.
2. Heterothermic fauna:
 - a) the capture, killing and harm to amphibians, reptiles and invertebrate fauna are prohibited.

- Pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991, it is a criminal offence to capture, kill and harm: more than 5 animals from heterothermic species included in Annexes II and IV of the European "Habitats" Directive and in the list of species of regional interest present in the PGT; more than 20 individuals from other heterothermic fauna species. The capture, killing and harm to a lower number of animals constitute an administrative offence and are sanctioned as follows: as regards amphibians and reptiles pursuant to Regional Law 22/1987; as regards invertebrate fauna, by the administrative sanction provided for by Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991;
- b) the capture of fish species is permitted in the manner prescribed by the PGT;
 - c) the Park Authority may authorise the capture of heterothermal fauna for scientific purposes.
3. In all the territory of the Park it is also forbidden to:
- a) disturb or harass species of mammals and birds in any way. Violators are punished according to Regional Law 64/1994;
 - b) disturb other animal species. Penalties for violating the aforementioned prohibition are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
 - c) damage, move or remove unoccupied nests and burrows. Penalties for violating the aforementioned prohibition are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
4. The introduction of non-native (allochthonous) animal species, which may alter the natural balance, constitutes a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991.
5. The mammals and birds included in the Annexes of the European Habitats and Birds Directives are given special protection. For these animals it is also forbidden to:
- a) carry out work involving the use of noisy instruments in the breeding period (March-July) in the areas of the Park where the Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*) and the Eurasian Pigmy-owl (*Glaucidium passerinum*) are present;
 - b) cause disturbance in the areas of presence of the Black Woodpecker (*Dryocopus martius*) in the breeding period (March-July) and in the areas of presence of the Rock Partridge (*Alectoris graeca*), the Black Grouse (*Tetrao tetrix tetrix*) and the Rock Ptarmigan (*Lagopus muta helvetica*) in the pre-breeding, breeding and winter period (December-July);
 - c) cause disturbance near the nesting sites of the following species, including any form of close observation of the nest, even for photographic and/or filming purposes: Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), Bearded Vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*); Short-toed Snake-eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*), European Honey-buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*), Eurasian Eagle-owl (*Bubo bubo*), Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*);
 - d) activate construction sites resulting in human disturbance and the use of machines in the areas surrounding the nesting sites occupied during the breeding period of the following species: Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) from March to August; Bearded Vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*) from January to August; European Honey-buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*) from May to August, and Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) from March to July;
 - e) construct cableway installations and power lines with overhead cables near the nesting sites of the Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*);
 - f) construct cableway installations and power lines with overhead cables near the ascertained nesting sites of the Eurasian Eagle-owl (*Bubo bubo*) and for a radius of 5 kilometres around them;
 - g) practice any form of climbing (free or equipped) on walls where there are habitual nests or perches of Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), Bearded Vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*), Red-billed Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*), Eurasian Eagle-owl (*Bubo bubo*) and Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*);
 - h) cut trees in woods near the nesting sites of the Short-toed Snake-eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*) in the period March-September;
 - i) cut trees containing nests of European Honey-buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*);
 - j) build roads and paths in the immediate vicinity of the breeding sites of the Black Woodpecker (*Dryocopus martius*);

- k) carry out off-piste skiing in the wintering sites of the Black Grouse (*Tetrao tetrix tetrix*) and the Rock Ptarmigan (*Lagopus muta helvetica*).

Penalties for violating the above prohibitions are set forth in Article 10 of Regional Law 8/2007, unless such violations constitute a crime and without prejudice to the penalties in National and Regional laws in force.

Art. 7 – Flora, ferns, mosses and lichens

1. In the territory of the Park it is forbidden to gather, damage and uproot any plant species, including the fruit of the undergrowth such as strawberries, raspberries and blueberries which may only be consumed on the spot. Collecting for scientific research authorised by the Park Authority is allowed.
2. It is a criminal offence, pursuant to Article 30(1) Law 394/1991, to gather, damage or uproot: more than 20 specimens of the plant species included in Annex A of Regional Law 45/2009; more than 200 specimens of the other plant species.
The gathering, damaging or uprooting of a smaller number of specimens than the limits stated above is an administrative offence with the following penalties: for plant species included in Annex A of Regional Law 45/2009, pursuant to the same regional law; for other plant species, pursuant to Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
3. To protect the plant species and the environments referred to in the European Habitats Directive, the following are also prohibited:
 - a) grazing, trampling by livestock and people, as well as mowing, in the sphagnum acid bogs (codes 7110 and 7140), in the low calcareous fens (code 7230) and in the bog woodland (code 91D0);
 - b) damaging and/or cutting aquatic and waterside vegetation in standing waters (code 3130);
 - c) any type of rock climbing (free and equipped) on walls where *Asplenium adulterinum* is growing;
 - d) any other activity that could damage *Asplenium adulterinum* sites;
 - e) Penalties for violating the above prohibitions are set forth in Article 10 of Regional Law 8/2007, unless such violations constitute a crime and without prejudice to the penalties in National and Regional laws in force.
4. The introduction of non-native (allochthonous) plant species, which may alter the natural balance, constitutes a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991. Ornamental plants grown in pots in or near the buildings are allowed.

Art. 8 – Mushrooms

1. The park protects the biodiversity and maintains the ecological balance of the forest ecosystem. To this end, the gathering, damaging, uprooting and trampling of mushrooms is prohibited.
2. Gathering a quantity of mushrooms greater than 5 kilograms constitutes a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991.
Gathering a quantity of mushrooms less than 5 kilograms constitutes an administrative offence with penalties pursuant to Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
3. Penalties for violating the prohibition on damaging, uprooting and trampling are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
4. The owners and tenants of the land, as well as their family members, may gather mushrooms solely within their lands.
5. However, the subjects referred to in paragraph 4 are forbidden from using rakes, hooks and any other means that could cause damage to the humiferous state of the soil or to uproot, trample and destroy any mushrooms not gathered. Penalties for violating the aforementioned prohibitions are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.

Art. 9 – Rocks, minerals and fossils

1. The removal of rocks, minerals and fossils is prohibited.
2. The removal of fossils and an amount of rocks or minerals greater than 5 kilograms constitutes a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991.

The removal of a quantity of rocks or minerals less than 5 kilograms constitutes an administrative offence with penalties pursuant to Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.

3. It is forbidden to destroy and damage rocks, minerals, fossils and geological features. Penalties for violating the aforementioned prohibition are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
4. The Park Authority may authorise the removal of rocks, minerals and fossils for scientific research.

TITLE III – RULES FOR ACTIVITIES AND FRUITION

Art. 10 – Alpine farming and livestock breeding

1. In order to harmonise traditional alpine agriculture with the needs to protect wildlife and benefit from the natural environment, owners and/or custodians and/or keepers of livestock must:

- a) ensure constant control of livestock through the presence of workers or mobile fences able to effectively contain the daily movements of the animals at pasture and rest;
- b) provide devices able to ensure ease of access to those who pass on the trails, in the event that the fences referred to in point A go across sections of a marked trail;
- c) ensure the control of herds and flocks in transit in order to avoid damaging trails and other artefacts or goods;
- d) if any livestock animals are lost or escape control of the owner and/or custodian and/or keeper of the herds or flocks, promptly inform the Park Authority and ensure their recovery within 72 hours;
- e) compulsorily equip all sheepdogs with a bell and ensure they are constantly kept under control to avoid harm to wildlife;
- f) prepare suitable fences for small poultry farms, which may only be kept in the Park area within an enclosed space next to the buildings;
- g) ensure the descent from alpine pastures of all the livestock by no later than 31 October;
- h) request the Park Authority's permission to use seeds for artificial grassing of lands left bare by works or exceptional events.

Penalties for violating the aforementioned requirements are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.

2. The obligations of the owners, custodians and keepers of the animals regarding the minimum animal protection measures to be observed in farms are governed by Legislative Decree 146 of 26 March 2001 "Implementation of Directive 98/58/EC relating to the protection of animals on farms" and regional legislation on the subject.

3. Grazing and holding livestock are forbidden:

- a) in rock areas and those with high-altitude, snowline plant species;
- b) in wooded areas; with the exception of cattle pasturage after 15 July in the wooded areas around mountain pastures and in sparse Larch woods with mainly grassy undergrowth;
- c) in wetlands and near springs.

Penalties for violating the aforementioned prohibitions are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.

4. In addition to the requirements and prohibitions provided for by national and regional legislation on zootechnical waste, the use of slurry and solid fertilizers, whether by direct spreading or through the waste water of deposits in neighbouring areas, is prohibited in the following environments of the Park territory referred to in the "Habitats" Directive and of regional interest: sphagnum acid bogs (codes 7110 and 7140), low calcareous fens (codes 7220 and 7230), bog woodland (code 91D0), fens of small acidophilic sedges *Caricion fuscae* (Corine Biotopes 54.4) and vegetation of soft springs *Cardamino montion* (Corine Biotopes 54.11).

Penalties for violating the above prohibitions are set forth in Article 10 of Regional Law 8/2007, unless such violations constitute a crime and without prejudice to the penalties in National and Regional laws in force.

5. The use of fungicides and pesticides and the use for alpine farming and livestock breeding of chemical substances constituting a serious danger for environmental values, as set forth by

Article 10(3f) of Regional Law 16/2004, are prohibited and constitute a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991 as they violate the prohibition pursuant to Article 11(3e) of the same law.

Art. 11 – Forestry

1. Any forest cutting, for using the wood or for any other purpose, is subject to the issue of the authorisation of the Park Authority and must comply with the requirements indicated in the PGT.
2. As an exception to paragraph 1, the following operations are permitted without the need for authorisation, provided that they do not conflict with the requirements indicated in the PGT and with current legislation on the subject:
 - logging regarding quantities of wood no greater than 5 cubic metres;
 - gathering firewood to meet the needs of mountain pasture buildings;
 - use of moderate quantities of construction timber to meet local needs.
3. However, in order to protect the species and environments referred to in the European “Habitats” and “Birds” Directives, and the wildlife and natural features, it is prohibited to:
 - a) cut any tree forming part of the plant community typical of bog woodland (code 91D0), even if twisted and malformed;
 - b) cut specimens relating to the European Yew and to the Holly in the Beech forests (code 9110);
 - c) cut trees with natural cavities sheltered from water and/or with holes made by woodpeckers in coniferous forests (codes 9410 and 9420), in mixed deciduous and coniferous woods and in beech forests (code 9110) to protect the presence of the Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*);
 - d) cut trees with natural cavities and/or with holes made by woodpeckers in the Larch and Arolla Pine forests (code 9420) and in the subalpine and mountain woods of Mountain Pine (code 9430) to protect the presence of the Eurasian Pigmy-owl (*Glaucidium passerinum*);
 - e) cut trees close to clearings with a diameter of 38-40 centimetres or more and with no branches in the first 5-10 metres in height in the thermophilic pine forests, in the Spruce forest (code 9410), in the Mountain Pine forests (code 9430), in the beech forests (code 9110), in Larch and Arolla Pine forests (code 9420) and in mixed deciduous and coniferous woods, to protect the presence of the Black Woodpecker (*Dryocopus martius*);
 - f) cut trees of medium and large size (diameter greater than 30 centimetres) alive, dead and/or rotting in the Spruce forest (code 9410), in the thermophilic pine forests, in mixed deciduous and coniferous woods, in the mountain hay meadows (code 6520) and in the environments of stagnant waters (code 3150) to protect the presence of Chiroptera.

Penalties for violating the above prohibitions are set forth in Article 10 of Regional Law 8/2007, unless such violations constitute a crime and without prejudice to the penalties in National and Regional laws in force.
4. In the area of the Park it is also forbidden to:
 - a) cut trees with nests of birds of prey. The penalty for violating this prohibition is set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991;
 - b) cut veteran trees, reduce their crown or cause damage to them, even of a small entity, as governed by Regional Law 50/1990. The penalty for violating this prohibition is set forth in Regional Law 50/1990.
5. The use of fungicides and pesticides and the use for forestry purposes of chemical substances constituting a serious danger for environmental values, as set forth by Article 10(3f) of Regional Law 16/2004, are prohibited and constitute a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991 as they violate the prohibition pursuant to Article 11(3e) of the same law.

Art. 12 – Fishing

1. In the Park territory fishing is allowed only in the following streams and lakes: Torrente Chalamy, solely in “no kill” mode (downstream from Magazzino, fishing with capture and taking of the catch is not allowed along the right bank within the Park); Torrente Ayasse, solely with capture and taking of the catch; Gran Lac and Lac Cornu (Municipality of Champdepraz) and

Lac Miserin (Municipality of Champorcher) solely with capture and taking of catch. Penalties for violating this requirement are set forth in the Regional Fishing Calendar.

2. Fishing with capture and taking of the catch is subject to the following limitations:
 - a) capture of a maximum of 6 specimens per day per fisherman;
 - b) use of hooks without barb or with pinched barb;
 - c) use of hooks of size 5 or smaller number;
 - d) ban on fishing on national holidays and Sundays.Penalties for violating the above provisions are set forth in the Regional Fishing Calendar.
3. Fish may only be introduced into the waters within the Park in Torrente Chalamy, they are subject to an Impact Assessment and must follow the requirements contained in the PGT. The authorisation for fish introduction operations must contain the following requirement: the implementing entity must notify, at least 48 hours in advance, the management of the Park Authority, the competent Forestry Station and the Regional Department responsible for fish and fauna.
4. In the remaining territory of the Park, the introduction of fish species is prohibited and constitutes a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991, since it is the introduction of non-native animal species (allochthonous) that may alter the natural balance.
5. The organising of fishing competitions is prohibited within the Park and in the stretches of stream that run along the border of the protected area.
6. The provisions contained in this article shall apply from 1 January 2019.

Art. 13 – Overflight

1. Flying over, taking off from or landing anywhere in the territory of the Park by any type of aircraft is prohibited unless authorised. All craft heavier than air are considered aircraft.
2. As an exception to paragraph 1, the following are permitted without being subject to prior authorisation:
 - a) flights by the armed forces, law enforcement agencies, as well as those for helicopter rescue and for extinguishing fires;
 - b) flights by aircraft at a height greater than 500 metres from the ground; near peaks, crests, slopes and rock walls this distance must be maintained both as a height from the ground and as a minimum distance from the aforementioned mountain elements.
3. Overflight may be authorised in the Park for the following reasons:
 - a) use of aircraft for scientific research, environmental monitoring, management and data acquisition activities managed directly by the Park Authority or carried out in collaboration with or on behalf of the Authority;
 - b) helicopter flights for the disposal of waste, transport of materials, agricultural products, operators for actions of public interest such as maintenance of large systems, management of construction sites and technical tasks commissioned by public bodies;
 - c) use of aircraft for scientific research, environmental monitoring and data acquisition of interest to the Park Authority, managed by third parties.
4. The flights referred to in paragraph 3 above shall be permitted under the following conditions:
 - a) issue of compulsory prior authorisation from the Park Authority, without prejudice to receiving the authorisation referred to in Regional Law 15/1988 as amended and supplemented;
 - b) overflight during rotations at a height of not less than three hundred metres above the ground, with the exception of the areas immediately surrounding the take-off and landing points, for the flights referred to in letter B of paragraph 3 of this article;
 - c) notification of the start of flight activities shall be sent to the management of the Park Authority and to the competent Forestry Station at least five hours before the start of operations.
5. Without prejudice to receiving the authorisation pursuant to Regional Law 15/1988 as amended and supplemented, the application for the Park to issue authorisation, referred to in paragraph 4, letter A of this article, must be submitted to the management of the Park Authority and contain the following elements: applicant and reason for the overflight, type of aircraft used, flight route, estimated number of overflights, times of overflights, dates of

overflights and substitute dates in case of bad weather, possible copy of the authorisation referred to in Regional Law 15/1988.

6. In any case, in the Park the following are prohibited:
 - a) heli-skiing, heli-biking and more generally the transport of people at high altitude for leisure or recreational-sporting purposes;
 - b) landing, take-off and overflight for amateur purposes with motorised aircraft, including drones, and with other devices such as gliders, hang gliders, paragliders, parachutes and other similar means;
 - c) overflight within 500 metres of the rock walls where there are habitual nests or perches of the Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) and overflight within 1 kilometre of the rock walls where there are Bearded Vulture nests (*Gypaetus barbatus*).
7. Unauthorised overflight of the protected area, with any type of aircraft, with or without engine, constitutes a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991. Penalties for violating the prohibitions in paragraph 6, letter C of this article are set forth in Article 10 of Regional Law 8/2007, unless such violations constitute a crime and without prejudice to the penalties in National and Regional laws in force.

Art. 14 – Motor vehicles and other forms of transport

1. No motor vehicles may circulate or park within the territory of the Park. Violation of this prohibition is an administrative offence subject to penalty in accordance with Regional Law 17/1985.
2. Notwithstanding the prohibition referred to in paragraph 1, the following are allowed:
 - a) driving and parking along the roads that connect the locations in the following list, limited to the categories of users referred in Article 2 of Regional Law 17/1985: Magazzino-Servaz désot (Municipality of Champdepraz); Torrente Chalamy-Fussy (Municipality of Champdepraz), including the turnoffs for Perrot and Pian di For; crossroads for Dondena-Chapy (Municipality of Champorcher), Dondena-Giasset (Municipality of Champorcher); Dondena-Sanctuary of Miserin (Municipality of Champorcher);
 - b) the use of agricultural vehicles in the mountain pastures for farming and to transport materials, provided that they do not cause damage to the plants that could result in erosion processes or the fragmentation of the turf;
 - c) the use of mechanical machinery within construction site areas, without prejudice to any provisions included in the authorisations;
 - d) driving and parking for service needs of vehicles of the Park Authority, the Forestry Corps of Valle d'Aosta, law enforcement agencies, the Municipalities of Champdepraz and Champorcher and fire-fighting or first aid vehicles.
3. The use of snowmobiles, tracked and similar vehicles is forbidden throughout the Park, with the exception of those used for service reasons by the surveillance officers of the Park Authority and the Forestry Corps of Valle d'Aosta and by public safety and rescue workers. Penalties for violating this prohibition are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
4. Notwithstanding paragraph 3 of this article:
 - a) it is allowed to beat down tracks in winter within the protected area on the Ponte di Biantset – Fussy road in the Municipality of Champdepraz;
 - b) it is possible to request a temporary authorisation from the Park Authority for documented work activities, provided that they do not conflict with the requirements of environmental and wildlife protection; this authorisation must include the time period and the route in which transit is allowed.

Art. 15 – Pedestrian access and mobility

1. In order to ensure that the presence of a large flow of tourists is compatible with environmental protection, it is forbidden to leave the network of marked trails (a network that includes the direct appurtenances of the facilities open to the public and access to marked observation and stopping points taken care of by the Park Authority). The marked trail network is indicated in the annexes to the PGT. Penalties for violating this prohibition are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.

2. As an exception from paragraph 1 of this article, the following are allowed:
 - a) access on foot, wearing snowshoes and skiing outside the marked trails if the snow cover hides all or part of the road markings; this access is allowed only outside the wooded areas, both along the 40m wide strips whose centre is the marked trail, and within free access areas duly identified in the annexes to the PGT. Access outside the 40m tolerance range (20m to the right and 20m to the left of the trail) and outside the free access areas is an administrative offence pursuant to Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991;
 - b) access to the summits of Mont Avic, Bec Costazza, Roèse di Bantse and Mont Torretta, which is only allowed along mountaineering routes duly identified in the annexes to the PGT. Access outside the mountaineering routes identified is an administrative offence pursuant to Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.

The corridors referred to in point A and the routes referred to in point B are practicable at the risk and peril of users.

3. The following exceptions are allowed to the prohibitions and requirements referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2:
 - a) the owners, usufructuaries and tenants of lands included in the Park and their accompanying persons as regards access to the properties of their competence and the free transit within those lands;
 - b) people who need to reach, for documented work reasons, areas of the Park outside the free access areas, limited to the duration of their professional activity;
 - c) fishermen authorised to carry out fishing activities, on the appropriate days and times, solely along the itineraries for reaching and following waterways and bodies of water where fishing is allowed;
 - d) hikers for the temporary erecting of overnight bivouacs, at the permitted times and places and provided that the distance is not more than 50 metres from the marked trails.
4. Individual or group visitors, both independent and guided by adequately trained professional figures, may ask the Park Management, in writing and with reasons, for exceptions to the prohibitions on transit referred to in the preceding paragraphs.
5. The beneficiaries, referred to in paragraph 4, must, at the request of the surveillance staff, produce a copy of the authorisation from the Park Authority. Penalties for violating this requirement are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.

Art. 16 – Mobility on saddle animals and bicycles

1. Transit on mountain bikes or other types of bicycles is forbidden throughout the Park, except on the itineraries identified in the annexes to the PGT where it is allowed in the sections declared as cycle paths by the competent subjects. Outside the aforementioned routes, bicycles must be pushed by hand. Cyclists must in any case give priority to pedestrians.
2. Transit with saddle animals is prohibited throughout the Park, except on the routes identified in the annexes to the PGT. On these itineraries, riders and drivers must, however, guarantee precedence for pedestrians.
3. Penalties for violating the prohibitions referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.

Art. 17 – Pets

1. The only pets allowed in the Park are dogs. It is possible to ask the Park Authority, in writing and giving reasons, for authorisation to keep other pets, as long as they are kept in the immediate vicinity of residential or temporary dwelling buildings. Penalties for violating this prohibition are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
2. Dogs may only enter the Park if on a leash and only along the network of marked trails. If the snow cover hides all or part of the road markings, access with the dog on a leash is allowed along the corridors referred to in Article 15(2a) of these Regulations. Penalties for violating this prohibition are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
3. The following are excluded from the provision referred to in paragraph 2:
 - a) sheepdogs used for controlling livestock, provided they are equipped with a bell, as required by Article 10(1e) of these Regulations;

- b) dogs used for public service, for rescue operations, for the Park Guard service of the Park Authority and for the activities of the Valle d'Aosta Forestry Corps.
- 4. The capture, harming, killing and disturbance to homeothermic and heterothermic fauna by a dog or other pets are subject to penalties imposed on the persons in their charge, pursuant to Article 6 of these Regulations.
- 5. The owners and/or keepers of the pets, as provided for and governed by Regional Law 37/2010, must take care of their custody and guarantee their safety, avoiding situations that could be a source of fear or anguish for the animal, and at the same time, the control of the animal to protect the safety of people and other animals with which they may come into contact. Penalties for violating these requirements are set forth in Regional Law 37/2010.
- 6. In case of loss of the dog or other pet inside the park, the owners and/or keepers must report it within 4 hours from the occurrence of the event to the Park Management. Failure to do so will result in the penalty set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991
- 7. Owners of dogs or other pets are required to comply with current health provisions.

Art. 18 – Tents and camping

- 1. Camping and the use of tents are prohibited throughout the Park. Bivouac shelters of tents are permitted at an altitude of 2500m and above. The term “bivouac” means an occasional overnight stop, starting from sunset to one hour after sunrise. Penalties for violating the aforementioned prohibitions are set forth in Regional Law 8/2002.
- 2. The prohibition in paragraph 1 above does not apply to the needs connected to the work of the Park Authority, as long as authorised by the same.
- 3. The parking of motor homes, camper vans and the like is prohibited when it constitutes camping pursuant to Article 185(2) of Legislative Decree 285 of 30 April 1992 “New highway code” as amended and supplemented. Penalties for violating the aforementioned prohibitions are set forth in Legislative Decree 285/1992 as amended and supplemented.
- 4. Within the Park, it is forbidden to wash dishes or perform other types of washing in spring water, still bodies of water or waterways. Penalties for violating this prohibition are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.

Art. 19 – Leisure activities, sporting events and public events

- 1. Sports activities and events compatible with the conservation of the natural environment, the purposes of the Park Authority and the requirements and prohibitions of the PGT are allowed in the Park area.
- 2. It is forbidden to open new climbing routes equipped with bolts except on the rock walls identified in the annexes to the PGT, served by return and access paths. However it is possible to equip normal routes giving access to the peaks of Mont Avic, Bec Costazza, Roèse di Bantse and Mont Torretta using non-invasive safety devices (short sections of rope, metal cable or chain; small anchors or steps). In all other places, climbing must be carried out without the aid of fixed ropes, chains, bolts and other permanent artificial aids and it is necessary to obtain the authorisation referred to in Article 15(4) of these Regulations. It is forbidden to abandon materials along the climbing routes. Penalties for violating the prohibitions and requirement in this paragraph are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
- 3. Ice climbing is prohibited, except up the waterfall of Torrente Leser in the Municipality of Champdepraz, as identified in the annexes to the PGT. Penalties for violating this prohibition are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
- 4. The use of boats, watercraft and any other means of floating on surface waters is forbidden, as are bathing, canyoning, rafting and similar activities. Penalties for violating these prohibitions are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991. The Park Authority may authorise the use of boats or watercraft for scientific research purposes or for maintenance on surface water works.
- 5. Sporting events and public events must be previously authorised by the Park Authority. However, events clearly in conflict with the needs of environmental protection and the development of nature tourism are excluded, such as motorised activities (rally, motocross, enduro and the like) and activities akin to simulated war games.

Art. 20 – Pollution, emissions and discarding of waste

1. The Park Authority aims to safeguard all the environmental components of the protected area from pollution. Pursuant to Article 10(3e) of Regional Law 16/2004 the discharge and release of harmful solid, liquid or gaseous substances into the soil, waterways and air are prohibited, even if in quantities lower than those permitted by current legislation.
The introduction and use of any means that can destroy or alter biogeochemical cycles constitutes a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991.
2. Protecting water, soil and air from pollution is governed by Legislative Decree 152/2006, as well as by regional implementation rules, with the limitations placed on safeguarding the protected area by Law 394/91 and Regional Law 16/2004.
3. The even temporary abandoning or uncontrolled deposit of waste on or in the ground, as well as the release of solid or liquid waste into surface or underground waters is prohibited, as regulated by Legislative Decree 152/2006. Penalties for violating this prohibition are set forth in Part Four of the aforementioned legislative decree.
4. In the territory of the Park, discharges into water and land are regulated in accordance with Legislative Decree 152/2006 as amended and supplemented, as well as by the regional implementation regulations, with the limitations placed on safeguarding the protected area by Article 11(3) of Law 394/1991 and by Article 10(3) of Regional Law 16/2004. Waste management must also follow the requirements contained in the PGT.

Art. 21 – Introduction of weapons

1. The introduction, by private individuals, of weapons, explosives and any means of destruction or capture is prohibited and constitutes a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991.
2. The following are excluded from the ban: weapons and means of capture used for activities of interest to the Park Authority and managed by it, such as the management and monitoring of fauna and scientific research; the weapons carried for service reasons by law enforcement agencies and by the staff of the surveillance service of the Park Authority and the Valle d'Aosta Forestry Corps.

Art. 22 – Lighting fires and controlled burn

1. The lighting of outdoor fires, including stubble burning of farms, the use of open flames and the practice of flame weeding are prohibited throughout the Park.
The following constitute a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991: the lighting of fires in the open, including agricultural stubble burning and the use of open flames, inside the woods and in the surrounding areas, up to a distance of 50 metres from the woods and uncultivated land; the practice of flame weeding.
It is an administrative offence, sanctioned pursuant to Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991, to light fires in the open, including agricultural stubble burning and the use of open flames, at a distance greater than 50 meters from woods and uncultivated land.
2. Notwithstanding the prohibitions provided for in paragraph 1, the following are allowed:
 - a) the lighting of fires in the open in the immediate vicinity of buildings, provided that it is carried out under the constant control of the owner or tenant of said building, within structures able to contain the flames and able to avoid accidentally igniting fires even in the event of sudden changes in the surrounding environmental conditions;
 - b) the use, in safe conditions, of camping stoves and the like at overnight bivouacs, provided that they are in the immediate vicinity of the shelter and only in the places where bivouacs are allowed.
3. The exceptions referred to in the preceding paragraphs of this article are rescinded in the periods at risk of forest fire, made known by the Autonomous Region of Valle d'Aosta in accordance with current legislation on forest fires.

Art. 23 – Sound and light emissions

1. The use of sound diffusion devices (radios, televisions, CD players and the like) and lighting must not disturb the peace of the natural environment, people and fauna.
Penalties for violating this provision are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.
2. This does not apply to the use of equipment for rescue services, for surveillance and monitoring by the Park Authority, the Valle d'Aosta Forestry Corps and law enforcement agencies, or in other activities authorised by the Park Authority.
3. In order to protect the natural sounds of the environment, considered as a resource and an integral part of the landscape, the limits set by the acoustic classification plans pursuant to Regional Law 20/2009 must be met, as well as the obligations and requirements regarding prevention and reduction of noise pollution. Penalties for violating the aforementioned limits are set forth in Regional Law 20/2009.

Art. 24 – Photographic, cinematographic and video activities

1. Taking photographs or videos-filming must be carried out in compliance with the PGT, without disturbing or damaging the fauna and other components of the natural environment.
2. The shooting of images intended for cinema or television, multimedia products and advertisements requires prior authorisation from the Park Authority.

TITLE IV – REGULATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTIONS, SYSTEMS AND OPERATIONS

Art. 25 – Opinion-permission

1. Opinion-permission ensures that all the objectives of protection, conservation and sustainable development of the protected area are pursued. It is an independent document with respect to other types of assessment, and concerns the environmental compatibility of operations, systems and constructions with regard to all the components of the “park environment” and not to individual aspects of the protected ecosystem like other types of authorising documents.
2. As set forth in Article 13 of Law 394/1991 and in Article 11 of Regional Law 16/2004:
 - a) the issue of concessions or authorisations relating to operations, systems and constructions within the Park requires the prior and properly motivated opinion-permission of the Park Authority;
 - b) the opinion-permission is subject to verification of compliance of the operation or construction with the provisions of the PGT and is issued within sixty days of the request. As stated in Article 13(4) of Law 394/1991, within the sixty day period from the request, the Park Authority may write to the applicant to postpone the deadline for expressing its opinion-permission by an additional thirty days. A postponement can take place only once.
 - c) if the opinion-permission is negative, it is posted simultaneously on the notice board of the Municipality concerned and on the notice board of the Park Authority, for a period of seven days.
3. Whether positive or negative, the opinion-permission decision is always issued by the Park Authority in writing giving reasons.
4. A favourable opinion-permission as in paragraph 2 is particularly necessary for all operations, systems and constructions that involve a modification, albeit temporary, which is significant in terms of environment and landscape or which could undermine the protection of the landscape, natural environments, flora and fauna. The request for an opinion-permission must come with all useful documentation, including the Impact Assessment when required, and be addressed to the Park Authority Management.
5. The examination of requests for opinion-permission is entrusted to a specific Technical Commission established by resolution of the Board of Directors of the Park Authority. The opinions of the Commission are subject to subsequent ratification by the Park's Board of Directors.
6. It is a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991 to issue concessions or authorisations for operations, systems and constructions in the absence of the prior favourable opinion-permission.

7. For routine maintenance on buildings, which does not require any type of concession, authorisation or declaration, an opinion-permission is not required, provided that the operation is in accordance with the provisions of the PGT.

Art. 26 – Documentation

1. The request for an opinion-permission must be sent to the Park Authority complete with the applicant's general information and all the project documentation necessary for precisely identifying and evaluating the proposed operation, construction or system. In the case of incomplete documentation, the Authority may request additions.
2. In general, the documentation must contain information to be able to evaluate:
 - a) compliance with the PGT and current laws;
 - b) the condition of the places before and after the execution of the proposed project;
 - c) compatibility with the various environmental components of the Park.
3. For operations, constructions and systems relating to building, the documentation must include:
 - a) a descriptive technical report;
 - b) photographic documentation;
 - c) graphical drawings of the current condition and the draft project;
 - d) survey drawings of the context and of the project on the context;
 - e) project drawings.Particular attention is to be paid to documenting the sources of energy supply, the discharges and disposal of waste water, the disposal of waste, the supply and use of drinking water, also in relation to the provisions of the PGT.
4. If the documentation is incomplete, the Park Authority shall grant the applicant a period of fifteen days for supplementing the documentation. The deadline for concluding the procedure will begin again from the receipt of the supplementary documentation. In the case of non-fulfilment by the applicant, the procedure ends negatively and is closed.

Art. 27 – Impact assessment and protection of the landscape

1. The impact assessment is a preventive measure to protect the sites of the Natura 2000 network. Any plan, project and operation that has significant environmental effects and can negatively interfere with the protected area, contrasting with the conservation measures of the area, must be subject to a prior impact assessment.
2. As regards identifying which plans, projects and operations are to be subjected to the impact assessment procedure and its methods, reference is made to the Resolution of the Regional Council no. 970 of 11 May 2012 "Approval of the rules for the application of the impact assessment procedure, pursuant to Article 7 of Regional Law 8/2007, concerning provisions on the conservation of natural and semi-natural habitats, wild flora and fauna, pursuant to EEC Directives 92/43 and 79/409. Revocation of Regional Council Resolution 1815/2007".
3. Information on how to submit applications and on the guidelines for drafting the impact reports must be requested directly from the Park Authority Management.
4. The Park territory is an area of specific landscape interest. The execution of works of any kind on landscape assets requires a "landscape authorisation". The procedures for the issue of the landscape authorisation, as well as the penalties for violating the prohibitions and requirements for the protection of the landscape, are governed by national and regional legislation in force on the protection of cultural heritage and the landscape.

Art. 28 – Notice of start of works

1. Before embarking on operations, constructions and systems that require an opinion-permission, the owner of the action must provide written notice to the Park Authority management, specifying the start date, the expected duration of the works and, where applicable, the details of the qualification obtained pursuant to Regional Law 11 of 6 April 1998 "Urban and territorial planning legislation of Valle d'Aosta" as amended and supplemented. This procedure is a mandatory requirement and must be contained in the opinion-permission.

Art. 29 - Prohibitions and requirements

1. The operations, systems and constructions carried out within the Park must comply with the requirements and prohibitions stated in the PGT. In any case it is forbidden to:
 - a) create roads, tracks or paths and to transform them, unless allowed by the Park Authority for operations with negligible environmental impact and functional to a better use of the protected area;
 - b) build new cableway installations, without prejudice to:
 - the permanent systems solely for transporting goods, provided that they do not alter the landscape, are equipped with devices to mitigate the risk of collision with birds and their noise level is appropriately limited;
 - temporary systems for construction site activities, provided they are equipped with the above devices and are retained only for the period necessary for the transport operations envisaged;
 - c) place signs or create permanent road and vertical signs, with the exception of signs prepared by the Park Authority, by the Regional Administration and by the Municipalities of Champdepraz and Champorcher;
 - d) place the signs of public establishments and place posters or other advertising media without authorisation from the Park Authority;
 - e) create permanent fences, with the exception of the following cases and without prejudice to the works for protecting drinking water catchments: the immediate appurtenances of buildings; protection of sites of naturalistic interest to prevent livestock from entering; short sections of a trail where it is appropriate to unequivocally define the route; fences for small poultry farms, subject to authorisation from the Park Authority;
 - f) create permanent electrified fences to prevent damage caused by fauna without authorisation from the Park Authority. The erecting of temporary fences, also electrified, as normal practice in pastoral activities is allowed in accordance with the provisions of Article 10(1a and b) of these Regulations;
 - g) create lighting systems for external areas, with the exception of the immediate vicinity of buildings where, however, shielded and properly directed light sources shall be used to minimise light pollution;
 - h) build wind power plants;
 - i) build walls at the edges of plots;
 - j) build technological networks with overhead cables;
 - k) create landfills for any type of waste;
 - l) place publicly accessible waste containers;
 - m) eliminate the natural and semi-natural elements characteristic of the agricultural landscape of high ecological value, such as existing terraces, bordered below by a dry stone wall or by a grassy escarpment, ponds, watering ponds, dry stone walls, accumulations of removed stones and springs, with the exception of authorised operations;
 - n) build photovoltaic systems, even for self-production, as defined by the Regional Council Resolution no. 9 of 5 January 2011 "Identification of areas and sites in the regional territory unsuitable for the installation of photovoltaic and wind plants and adaptation of the regional energy and environmental regulations by defining criteria for the construction of the same systems, in accordance with paragraphs 17 and 18 of the Interdepartmental Decree of 10 September 2010 (Guidelines for the authorisation of systems powered by renewable sources)". Exceptions are: photovoltaic systems placed on buildings; photovoltaic systems of less than 5kW power (only if the use of existing roofing is not feasible); mobile photovoltaic systems (when the normal productivity of the lands is not compromised), therefore involving structures removable at any time and without being anchored to the ground.

Penalties for violating the prohibitions in letters M and N are set forth in Article 10 of Regional Law 8/2007, unless such violations constitute a crime and without prejudice to the penalties in National and Regional laws in force.
2. The opening and operating of quarries, mines and landfills are prohibited and constitute a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991.

Art. 30 – Use and protection of water and wetlands

1. The waters and wetlands characterise the Park from a naturalistic point of view; they contain numerous habitats mentioned in the Directive and therefore enjoy special protection.
2. Operations or activities that involve the use of water for hydroelectric production purposes are prohibited, without prejudice to the Region's competence in the matter and without prejudice to the production for self-consumption and the devices combined with public drinking water supply.
3. Drinking water catchments are allowed only if residual outflows compatible with the protection of habitats and species of conservation interest are guaranteed and if the water requirement refers to local users that cannot otherwise be met.
4. Modifying the flow of water is a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991.
5. To protect the environments referred to in the European Habitats Directive and the environments of regional interest, the following are also prohibited:
 - a) the alteration of the water regime in standing waters (code 3130) and the uptake, drainage, canalization and all operations that entail a simplification of the hydrographic network in the following habitats: sphagnum acid bogs (codes 7110 and 7140), bog woodland (code 91D0), low calcareous fens (codes 7220 and 7230), fens of small acidophilic sedges *Caricion fuscae* (Corine Biotopes 54.4) and vegetation of soft springs *Cardamino montion* (Corino Biotopes 54.11);
 - b) tampering with and transformation of the banks of standing waters (code 3130) and in running waters (code 3220) except, in the second case, for the hydraulic works aimed at ensuring conditions of public safety;
 - c) the modification of the natural flow of running waters (code 3220) by barriers, dams or movement of soil, excepting agro-forestry-pastoral, hydrogeological, fire-defence uses and activities, operations aimed at public safety needs and those of significant public interest;
 - d) withdrawals of sand and gravel from running waters (code 3220), without prejudice to withdrawals related to work aimed at hydraulic safety;
 - e) the catchment of surface and underground running waters (code 3220), with the exception of withdrawals intended for self-consumption, for drinking and agro-forestry-pastoral use;
 - f) the emission of pollutants into standing waters (code 3130) and running waters (code 3220).Penalties for violating the prohibitions in paragraph 5 are set forth in Article 10 of Regional Law 8/2007, unless such violations constitute a crime and without prejudice to the penalties in National and Regional laws in force.
6. Protecting waters from pollution is governed by Legislative Decree 152/2006, as well as by regional implementation rules, with the limitations placed on safeguarding the protected area by Article 11(3) Law 394/91 and Article 10(3) of Regional Law 16/2004.
7. The introduction and use of any means that can destroy or alter biogeochemical cycles, including those of waters and humid environments, constitutes a criminal offence pursuant to Article 30(1) of Law 394/1991.

TITLE V – CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

Art. 31 – Authorisations, exceptions

1. The exemption authorisations provided for in the PGT shall be granted by the Director within thirty days of receiving the application.
2. Authorisation requests must be sent in writing to the Park Management and be duly justified, attaching any necessary documentation. If the documentation is incomplete, the Park Authority shall grant the applicant a period of fifteen days for supplementing the documentation. The deadline for concluding the procedure will begin again from the receipt of the supplementary documentation. In the case of non-fulfilment by the applicant, the procedure ends negatively and is closed. Within the deadlines, the Park Authority shall respond to the request, whether for its refusal or its acceptance.
3. Authorisations are issued exclusively in writing and are specific, nominative and for a fixed period. The authorisation shall be revoked if the beneficiary does not comply with what is prescribed, and the appropriate penalties will be applied. The beneficiary has the obligation

to produce the authorisation at the request of the surveillance staff. Penalties for violating this requirement are set forth in Article 29(3) of Regional Law 30/1991.

4. The Park Authority surveillance staff may only act in exception to the provisions of the PGT for service reasons and according to the work instructions provided by the Park Authority.

Art. 32 – Amendments and final notes

1. The PGT will come into force from the date of publication in the Official Bulletin of the Autonomous Region of Valle d'Aosta. Changes can be made to the PGT in the manner provided for in paragraphs 5 and 6 of Article 10 of Regional Law 16/2004.