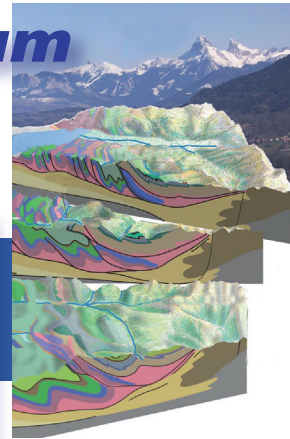


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ABSTRACT BOOKLET

LIVRET DES RÉSUMÉS



GEOSITE ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS OF CAPE MONDEGO NATURAL MONUMENT (WESTERN PORTUGAL)

ROCHA J.¹, BRILHA J.², HENRIQUES MH.³

¹Geosciences Centre, University of Coimbra, Portugal (joaorocha@uc.pt)

²Geology Centre of the University of Porto and Earth Sciences Centre of the University of Minho, Portugal (jbrilha@dct.uminho.pt)

³Group of Sedimentary Geology and Fossil Record; Geosciences Centre; Faculty of Sciences and Technology; University of Coimbra, Portugal (hhenriq@dct.uc.pt)

ROCHA João Nuno Correia , R. Feliciano Castilho It 3 4º A, 3030-325 Coimbra, Portugal

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Cape Mondego is located in the western coast of Portugal at approximately half distance between Lisbon and Oporto. The remarkable geodiversity of the Jurassic outcrops justifies the implementation of strategies in order to conserve and promote the geosites of Cape Mondego.

Based on the exceptional quality of the geological record, on its international importance and on its high scientific and educational values, this area is included in the National Network of Protected Areas under the designation of Natural Monument (Decree No. 82/2007). This protected area was created aiming the promotion of the geological heritage conservation, scientific research and environmental education. The Cape Mondego Natural Monument is well-known worldwide due to its international stratigraphical relevance given by the occurrence of two stratotypes: the Global Boundary Stratotype Section and Point (GSSP) for base of the Bajocian Stage and the Auxiliary Section and Point (ASSP) for the base of the Bathonian Stage.

Despite this protection, no systematic geosites inventory was ever done in the area. Therefore, the natural monument was subjected to an identification, characterisation and assessment of geosites. Based on the potential for educational and tourist uses, a set of 12 geosites was defined with values related with various geosciences domains (stratigraphy, paleontology, etc.). The eventual educational and tourist use of the geosites must be supported on territorial management plans. So, this work presents some contributions to the creation of a development plan expressed by “Planta de Condicionantes”, which defines all restrictions and limitations onto land use and anthropogenic activities. On the other hand, the evaluation of legal restrictions and geosites vulnerability substantiates the definition of partial protection areas and priority areas for geoconservation, expressed in the “Planta de Síntese”.

Finally, in order to promote environmental education, the sustainable use of this area and its geodiversity and geosites, some documents for educational purposes were created: a Teaching Guidebook, a Geosites Map, and an Informative Panel. These educational resources are seen as essential in implementing a geoconservation strategy in Cape Mondego Natural Monument and to promote its sustainable management.