

WORKSHOP

HISTORICAL WRITTEN SOURCES FOR ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION: OPPORTUNITIES, PITFALLS AND THE WAY FORWARD

Reserva Biológica de Doñana, Huelva, Spain
November 21st - 25th 2016



The aim of the workshop is to produce a review/concept paper on the potential of historical written sources for ecological research and biodiversity conservation. We will meet at the Doñana Biological Station, at the core of the Doñana National Park ([here](#)), to put ideas together and start working directly on the manuscript, which we hope to have fully sketched and quite advanced by the end of the workshop.

The provisional schedule includes two and a half working days during which we will be able to present and discuss ideas with the whole group as well to work individually or in small groups. We will also devote half a day to make a complete visit to the Biological Reserve. Monday 21st and Friday 25th will be reserved for accommodation and departures, respectively.

Manuscript skeleton... to rebuild, destroy or modify in any way:

- 1. *Historical written sources containing biodiversity data:*** structured information compilations (e.g. geographical dictionaries, forest inventories), natural sciences monographies, commercial exploitation accounts (e.g. fisheries), newspapers and other publications, travel reports and other literature sources... Opportunities, limitations and complementariness among sources
- 2. *Pitfalls of historical records:*** issues related to identification problems, information biases, spatial scale, errors transmitted across sources...
- 3. *Uses of historical written sources in biodiversity research:*** long-term views to understand the functioning of natural systems and tune their management, establishment of reference conditions and conservation targets, global change impacts (climate and others), conservation planning (reserve selection, reintroductions...), biological invasions... but also **connections with other disciplines** (human geography, anthropology or history).
- 4. *Future pathways for past biodiversity data***

Participants

Invited

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