



CH-3003 Berne, FOEN, SC, 11 March 2011

Comments to Swiss CDDA data delivery for 2011

Note: It should be possible to produce all changes in the CDDA database without the following explanations. Those explanations give light on some details behind the changes.

1. General comments

The reporting in the context of CDDA has been started in 2007. At that time, we have also been using only tabular data. Since then, a couple of decisions have been taken, a couple of new inventories and legal instruments and some new information on protected sites have been defined, created or adapted.

This means under other that we are now fully basing our reflections, policy making and reporting on existing georeferenced information which brings with it that certain older information in the CDDA database are not according to this new national guidelines.

2. TABLE DESIGNATIONS

A couple of existing/new types of protected areas have been added to the database:

Designations (only new/modified categories):

DESIG _ABBR	Cat .	DESIGNATION	CDDA_sites	Comments
CH06	A	Dry Grasslands	Yes	Adpoted by Swiss parliament in 2010
CH09	A	Reserves for Waterbirds and Migrants of International and National Importance	Yes	Revision and new sites
CH10	A	Federal Hunting Reserves	Yes	Revision
CH12	B	UNESCO World natural heritage	No	Existing, but not added, as no legal base for protection
CH13	A	RAMSAR Sites	Yes	Existing, decision in 2010 to add (although often similar/identical perimeter as CH09 or others)
CH14	A	Emerald sites	Yes	Submitted to Council of Europe end 2009
CH15	B	Sites for compensation of losses during use of use of hydropower	Yes	Decision to include in CDDA in 2010

3 cases occur for the above changes in sites:

- New sites due to different reasons (e.g. CH06: new type of protected areas adopted in 2010 by Swiss parliament, CH14, often same/similar perimeter as existing protected sites)
- Changes in perimeters due to different reasons (CH09 and CH10)
- Sites which will be removed from CDDA, because they changed the protection status

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(certain areas in CH06 and CH09)

Two codes in CDDA are not in line with the initially mentioned new national guidelines basing everything on geographic information:

- **CH52** (forest reserves) where two sites have been reported without spatial information could or rather should be deleted, as we are currently collection all regional data on forest reserves and should probably be able to report fully and completely on this type of protected area in 2012. We didn't remove the data though (you may, if you find this more consistent).
- Also the privately protected areas (**CH34**, we changed the respective code in table site_boundaries) can be treated that way, as we have been informed that this spatial data is currently been collected for all this areas which will be available in the coming years. So we also leave it open to you whether you would prefer to delete those 18 sites or leave them until we have new, more accurate data.

Additionally, the designation CH90 (Private protected areas) can be removed from the data base (marked accordingly in the table), as code CH34 is referring to the same designation type. Also the code CH00 can be deleted, as it is of no use for reporting protected areas.

3. TABLE DESIGNATION_BOUNDARIES

This table is not relevant for Switzerland.

4. TABLE SITES

IUCN Categories:

Designation Type	DEsignAbbr	IUCN
Emeralds	CH14	IV
Federal Hunting Reserves	CH10	IV
Ramsar	CH13	IV
Dry meadows & pastures	CH06	IV
Sites for compensation of losses during use of use of hydropower	CH15	IV
Reserves for Waterbirds and Migrants of International and National Importance	CH09	IV

NUTS

Although Switzerland as a federal country relies on the regions to implement nature conservation laws. The NUTS system is organised in a way that the regions (cantons) correspond to level 3. As the information can be gathered by generic calculations, it can be retrieved in a much more efficient way on the whole CDDA dataset and therefore we don't deliver this information.

Errors contained in the table have been indicated to resolve which means in most cases to delete the dataset.

5. TABLE SITE_BOUNDARIES

Site boundaries have been updated according to the relation between records in the table SITES and the GIS data delivered

6. FUTURE of Swiss reporting

Switzerland started reporting in the context of EIONET in 2007. Since then weaknesses and problems in reporting Swiss data have become evident. Foremost, this refers to the absence of a national database for protected areas.

In 2009, the INSPIRE conform law and ordinance on geographic information, data models and reporting was adopted by the Swiss parliament. We started developing data models since then which lead for the first time to a coordinated and consistent picture on Swiss protected areas. Currently, we have several types of protected sites (cp. Table DESIGNATIONS) which are often overlapping.

In the light of Nagayo and the 17% objective, the discussion was restarted on coming up with some possible ideas for a national database on protected areas. To plan, implement and revise all existing protected areas, several years will be needed.

This means for the CDDA data flow that in the coming years, more or less substantial changes may occur in the Swiss data. You keep you updated ...

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Schlatter', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christian Schlatter