



Press Office

SARDINIA FOREST AUTHORITY

The Forest Authority: over 200 thousand hectares of woods surface, for an invaluable property made of 180 corporate bodies between forests, forest yards, fauna centres and forest nurseries. An activity which employs nearly 7,000 people every year. These are the figures of the Forest Authority 10 years after its foundation (on June 9th 1999, following the closure of the Sardinian Regional Forest Domain Company), which give it a central role in the work of preservation and sustainable management of Sardinia's natural treasures. An example is the management of forests, a collective asset of outstanding environmental, historical and economic value. The Authority ensures interventions of hydraulic and forestry refurbishment, reforestation and strengthening of the land. The numerous forest nurseries annually produce about 4 million seedlings over 40 different species: an essential aid for reforestation activities aimed at environmental restoration work. Sardinia is the land of biodiversity, rich in endemics of outstanding natural value. To ensure sound management of the island fauna the Authority carries out breeding, care and shelter for wildlife. The flagships are the projects for recovery and reintegration into their habitat of the deer, mouflon and fallow deer, as well as two recovery centres for injured animals of Monastir (Ca) and Bonassai (SS)

A most important activity is the prevention and fight of forest fires. The Sardinia Forest Authority participates with people, structures and terrestrial vehicles thereby effectively constituting, together with the Regional Forest Agency, the backbone of the whole apparatus. Each year over 4,000 employees are involved in shutdown and reclamation operations.

Amongst the Authorities' duties is the promotion of the natural, historical and cultural values of the forest regions. For this reason many activities are targeted to schools and initiatives to raise awareness towards the environment.

This is the Forest Authority in a nutshell: a solid though dynamic structure, ready to face the new challenges which years of poor environmental management are now posing to our society. Environmental education, tourism valorisation, sustainable area management, policies in line with the Kyoto Protocol.

These are the answers of the Sardinia Forest Authority.

www.SardegnaForeste.it

OLBIA - GOLFO ARANCI - PORTO TORRES - PORT AUTHORITIES

Combining the sea and rally, the harbour and motor sport is something unusual, to say the least. But in Olbia and the Gallura region, like a challenge, this marriage has been working for several years. The cooperation between the Automobile Club d'Italia, the Olbia - Golfo Aranci - Porto Torres Port Authorities continues this year for one of the most fascinating sports events scheduled for the spring season. In May, porto Cocciani will open its doors to cars, drivers and technicians of the kermesse on wheels. "We will be there in spring 2009 for a new challenge – says Paolo Piro, Port Authority President – whose only goal is to bring our area under the world's spotlights and rapidly overcome the economic crisis which unfortunately affects us. For the third year we lay a new challenge on the table, making room inside porto Cocciani to host the Service Area of the Rally". An occasion which Sardinia, a heaven for world tourism, and Olbia, arrival and departure port for nearly five million passengers, cannot miss for a start of the summer season in great style.

"I confirm my belief that the Rally may be a perfect starting point to create new tourism channels for our land, one of which is actually the one of motor sport enthusiasts. For what concerns us, we maintain our firm commitment to increase the connections between Sardinia and the mainland and the search for new market shares, such as the cruise industry which, with 126 boats scheduled in 2009, is already giving great satisfaction".

www.porto.olbiagolfoaranci.it

Rally d'Italia Sardegna

Località Porto Cocciani – Porto Industriale – Settore 1 – Edificio B – 07026 Olbia

Tel. +39. 079.5551234 – fax +39.079.5551244

Maria Laura Berlinguer - tel +39 333 1143007 - m.berlinguer@rallyitaliasardegna.com

Luca Bartolini - tel +39.335 7553762 - bartluca@tin.it

Marco Giordo tel +39 333.1220461 - m.giordo@rallyitaliasardegna.com