Question for written answer P-003714/2017
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Lake Bracciano

Lake Bracciano, in Lazio, is part of the Natura 2000 network of protected areas. It is a water catchment area (currently producing 1500 litres per second) for Rome and surrounding municipalities.

The water management company, ACEA, has announced that there is inevitably going to be an increase in the catchment (which will double, according to news reports), due to the water crisis in Rome, but the mayors of the lakeside municipalities are calling for the water emergency of the lake[1] to be dealt with, as its level is descending by two centimetres per day. It is currently at 1.40 metres below the gauge datum (zero point), which is having an impact on the ecosystem. According to the CNR (National Research Council), the tolerable fluctuation is of 1.50 metres, beyond which the ecosystem is seriously likely to collapse[2].

Human activities, including summer tourism, increase the nitrogen load[3]; the lowering of the water level leads to the disappearance of the layer in which denitrification takes place, resulting in eutrophication.

Can the Commission say whether Italy:

- has adopted the appropriate measures to prevent the degradation of natural habitats;

- has adopted the necessary measures to prevent the deterioration of the state of the lake?

If it has, can it justify its reply? If it has not, can it say what measures it intends to take – and when – to remedy the situation?

Supporter[4]

1 http://www.trevignanoromano.gov.it/comunicato-congiunto-comuni-di-anguillara-sabazia-bracciano-e-trevignano-romano-sulla-criticita-dellabbassamento-dei-livelli-idrometrici-del-lago-di-bracciano
2 https://braccianosmart.wordpress.com/2017/02/01/lago-cnr-con-oscillazioni-troppo-ampie-ecosistema-a-rischio
3 http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1470160X17301826
4 This question is supported by a Member other than the author(s): Eleonora Evi (EFDD).