L’Albufera de València: present and future

Sergi Campillo Fernández
Local councillor for the Conservation of Natural Areas and Devesa-Albufera
Main Characteristics

Lake: 2,100 hectares and 1.5 m depth. Freshwater coming from surrounding rice fields which in turn are fed by the Jucar and Turia rivers. Connected with sea by Golas. Hypertrophic state.

Marsh: rice fields. 14,100 hectares (70% of the Natural Park). It rules the hydrological regime of the entire Park, including the lake. High biodiversity.

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HIGH COMPLEXITY MANAGEMENT

Central Government: hydrological management through the Júcar Hydrological Confederation (CHJ).

Generalitat Valenciana (regional government): responsible administration of environmental management. It declared l’Albufera the first Valencian Natural Park in 1986.

Ajuntament de València (local government): owner of the lake and Devesa for more than 100 years. From the 80’s, highly involved in management both in lake and forest.
The environmental collapse in the 70’s

On the left, it can be observed a lake with massive presence of macrophytes. On the right, the lake nowadays. The green colour predominates due to excessive growth of microalgae (hypertrophic state).
The cause of the decline
A hypertrophic lake
Signs of recovery
Signs of recovery
Thank you!