



Cliffs at Orgoño
Jon Maguregi

Declaration date: 7 December 1984

Surface area: 22,041 ha (core: 11 per cent; buffer: 25 per cent; transition: 64 per cent)

Administrative division: 22 Municipalities have their territory in the Biosphere Reserve

Human activities:

Agro-environmental tourism, scientific research, environmental education and forest and livestock uses.



Kingfisher
Jon Maguregi

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Ecological characteristics:

The Biosphere Reserve is located in a river basin draining into an estuary of the Cantabrian Sea, forming marshlands with a wide, inter-tidal area, in a region with a temperate ocean climate. The mean annual rainfall and temperature are 1,400 mm and 14°C respectively. Natural vegetation is formed by a mosaic of lush forests, scrublands and moorlands, together with anthropic conifer vegetation, meadows and croplands. It includes a varied zoological community, associated with the different environments. Urdubai, which means “River of the Boars” in Euskera, reflects the abundance of this animal. The marshlands are critical for birdlife, both as a nesting area and as a stopping or wintering site. The coastal wetlands are also a natural nursery of great importance for many marine species that spend their first years in this area.



The River Nafarrola
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Protection classifications:

- Specially Protected Bird Area (SPBA)
- Internationally Important Wetland (Ramsar Convention)



Urdubai marshes
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