

# Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

Categories approved by Recommendation 4.7 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.

NOTE: It is important that you read the accompanying *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document before completing this form.

**1. Date this sheet was completed/updated:**

18.11.98

For office use only.

dd mm yy

**14/12/76**

**7IT015**

Designation date

Site Reference Number

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**2. Country:**

Italy

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**3. Name of wetland:**

Lake Barrea

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**4. Geographical coordinates:**

13° 58' 30" East; 41° 45' 40" North

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**5. Altitude:** (average and/or max. & min.) 973 m a.s.l.

**6. Area:** (in hectares) 150 ha

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**7. Overview:** (general summary, in two or three sentences, of the wetland's principal characteristics)

Lake Barrea is a man-made lake formed in 1952 by the construction of a hydroelectric power plant. The lake is fed by the Sangro River and small tributaries.

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**8. Wetland Type:** (please circle the applicable codes for wetland types as listed in Annex I of the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document)

**marine-coastal:** A - B - C - D - E - F - G - H - I - J - K

**inland:** L - M - N - O - P - Q - R - Sp - Ss - Tp

Ts - U - Va - Vt - W - Xf - Xp - Y - Zg - Zk

**man-made:** 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 9

Please now rank these wetland types by listing them from the most to the least dominant:

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**9. Ramsar Criteria:** (please circle the applicable criteria; see point 12, next page.)

1a - 1b - 1c - 1d / 2a - 2b - 2c - 2d / 3a - 3b - 3c / 4a - 4b

Please specify the most significant criterion applicable to the site:

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**10. Map of site included? Please tick *yes* *X* - or - *no***

(Please refer to the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document for information regarding desirable map traits)

**11. Name and address of the compiler of this form:**

Cinzia Sulli,  
Abruzzo National Park,  
67032 Pescasseroli,  
Italy.

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**Please provide additional information on each of the following categories by attaching extra pages (please limit extra pages to no more than 10):**

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**12. Justification of the criteria selected under point 9, on previous page.** (Please refer to Annex II in the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document)

This area is important for migratory birds that find refuge in the protected area.

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**13. General location:** (include the nearest large town and its administrative region)

The lake is less than 200 km from both Rome and Naples. It is located in the Abruzzo Region and falls within the Province of L'Aquila.

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**14. Physical features:** (e.g. geology, geomorphology; origins - natural or artificial; hydrology; soil type; water quality; water depth; water permanence; fluctuation in water level; tidal variations; catchment area; downstream area; climate)

The maximum depth of the lake is 25m. The water level fluctuates as a result of the requirements of the hydro power plant.

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**15. Hydrological values:** (groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilisation etc.)

No information is available.

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**16. Ecological features:** (main habitats and vegetation types)

Willow trees (*Salix sp.*) and *Populus alba* grow along the muddy shoreline, this being the only site within the Abruzzo National Park in which they are found.

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**17. Noteworthy flora:** (indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc.)

No species of particular importance are found.

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**18. Noteworthy fauna:** (indicating, e.g., which species are unique, rare, endangered, abundant or biogeographically important; include count data, etc.)

Several species of fish are found in the lake and it is a potential habitat for otters (*Lutra lutra*). Amongst the most interesting birds are: *Oriolus oriolos*, *Ficedula albicollis*, *Anas platyrhynchos*, *Anas crecca*, *Actitis hypoleucos*, *Gallinula chloropus*.

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**19. Social and cultural values:** (e.g. fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological site etc.)

Local residents have the right to fish in the lake. There are many archaeological sites nearby.

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**20. Land tenure/ownership of:** (a) site (b) surrounding area

The lake and surrounding areas are the property of ENEL (The Italian electricity utility).

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**21. Current land use:** (a) site (b) surroundings/catchment

The surroundings are used mainly for sheep farming and tourism.

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**22. Factors (past, present or potential) adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land use and development projects:** (a) at the site (b) around the site  
The excessive development of tourist infrastructure could disturb the fauna.

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**23. Conservation measures taken:** (national category and legal status of protected areas - including any boundary changes which have been made: management practices; whether an officially approved management plan exists and whether it has been implemented)

The lake is located in the protected area of the Abruzzo National Park.

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**24. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:** ( e.g. management plan in preparation; officially proposed as a protected area etc.)

None.

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**25. Current scientific research and facilities:** (e.g. details of current projects; existence of field station etc.)

There is research in progress into the various species of fish found in the lake and their population structure.

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**26. Current conservation education:** (e.g. visitors centre, hides, information booklet, facilities for school visits etc.)

There are several footpaths around the lake, some of which are illustrated in leaflets, and many group educational activities are carried out.

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**27. Current recreation and tourism:** (state if wetland is used for recreation/tourism; indicate type and frequency/intensity)

The lake is used by many tourists, especially during the summer, as a site for picnics, swimming and walking.

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**28. Jurisdiction:** (territorial e.g. state/region and functional e.g. Dept of Agriculture/Dept. of Environment etc.)

The lake is state property managed by ENEL. All lakes and rivers are subject to the jurisdiction of a special provincial authority.

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**29. Management authority:** (name and address of local body directly responsible for managing the wetland)

ENEL and Abruzzo National Park (Viale Santa Lucia – 67032 Pescasseroli, Italy).

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**30. Bibliographical references:** (scientific/technical only)

- Regione Abruzzo, Comunità Montana Alto Sangro e Altopiano Cinquemiglia – Castel di Sangro: *Indagine sulla qualità delle acqua del bacino dell'Alto Sangro* (Studies on the water quality in the catchment area of Alto Sangro). Progetto speciale regionale Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo. Intervento: disinquinamento e difesa dei corpi idrici. Sottoprogetto n.10, 1984, Roma.
  - Giorgio Bazzichelli & Silvia Alfinito: *Il Fitoplancton del Lago di Barrea* (Phytoplankton in Lake Barrea). Contributi scientifici alla conoscenza del Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo, 1985, Roma.
  - Mauro Bernoni: *L'avifauna nidificante nel fondovalle del Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo* (Breeding birdlife in the valley of the Abruzzo National Park). Contributi scientifici alla conoscenza del Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo, 1987, Pavia.
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