

**Ramsar Information Sheet** 

Published on 12 September 2017

# **Italy** Massaciuccoli lake and marsh

Designation date 22 June 2017 Site number 2311 Coordinates 43°45'46"N 10°18'10"E Area 11 135,00 ha

https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/2311 Created by RSIS V.1.6 on - 18 May 2020

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# Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a 'full' Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

# 1 - Summary

# Summary

The Ramsar site "Massaciuccoli lake and marsh" belongs to a large ecological and diversified wetland "Lake and Marshland of Massaciuccoli – Forest of Migliarino - Estate of San Rossore" surrounded by the rich economic area of northern Tuscany coast.

The characteristic of the site is the flat, mixed open-closed (forest) ecosystem, where soils arise from a continuous and dynamic sedimentation/erosion balance increased by winds and hydrological movements of the system Arno-Serchio rivers / Ligurian sea. The main ecological systems are represented by the two final parts of Arno and Serchio rivers, with the wetland of the old river Arno delta in the inland (named "Lame di Fuori"), by the wetland of the old back-dune with the Lake of Massaciuccoli, which is surrounded by the fen beds (Cladium sp.) mixed with reed beds (Phragmites sp.) and Sphagnum spp. peatland that floats on root mats islands, and by an extensive hosted paleo-dune system that alternates with dry forests (dune top) and flooded forests (interdunal lowlands), up to the newly formed dunes and the beaches.

The vegetation has great variability of communities and richness of species; large areas are flooded by rains in autumn-winter-spring. The site is an important migratory and wintering area for hundreds species of birds and bird-watching observatories are placed near the marshlands. The site is also an important area for recreation as e.g. swimming, boat trips and trekking.

Open and closed wetlands of this size are extremely rare in coastal plains of the Mediterranean area. Sphagnum spp. community, the coexistence of tertiary and quaternary (atlantic and boreal) relict entities and numerous endemisms attest a peculiar biogeographical history and microclimate.

This importance has been recognized at European level in the Natura 2000 network: 3 SPAs Wild Bird Conservation Directive (2009/147/EEC) and 4 SACs (with perimeters coinciding) according to the Directive on the conservation of natural and semi-natural habitat (92/43/EEC); it has been recognized also by the Council of Europe (European Diploma of Protected Areas) and at the world level (Biosphere Reserve).

# 2 - Data & location

- 2.1 Formal data
- 2.1.1 Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

# Compiler 1

Name	Antonio Perfetti
Institution/agency	Regional park authority Migliarino San Rossore Massaciuccoli
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2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year	2009
To year	2015

# 2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Massaciuccoli lake and marsh

Unofficial name (optional) Lago e palude di Massaciuccoli

# 2.2 - Site location

## 2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

#### b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps 0

#### Boundaries description

The area occupies 11,135 hectares and includes the territory of all five municipalities that are already part of the Regional Park of Migliarino San Rossore community. The site extends in the north from the Massaciuccoli Lake and continuing southward through the San Rossore estate. Further south it includes also the Cornacchiaia Reserve, which is part of the Tombolo Estate.

Most of Ramsar site corresponds to four Natura 2000 Network sites, as reported in section 5.2.2.

It should be noted, anyway, that there is no a total compliance of the Ramsar site boundaries with the four Natura 2000 Network sites boundaries, since these confines were defined by the presence or absence of wet habitats complying with the Ramsar criteria. Indeed, the portion of the site located at south of Arno river, inside SIC Selva Pisana, is excluded from Ramsar area, because it is mostly characterized by woods and tickets dominated by Pinus pinea and Mediterranean xerophile vegetation on well drained soils, mixed with smaller areas of mesophile forests with dominance of common oak, Quercus robur, common alder, Alnus glutinosa and poplars, Populus spp. Whereas, proceeding even further south towards the Channel Scolmatore (the Arno floodway), the last portion, Cornacchiaia Reserve, has been included in the proposed Ramsar area because humid environments prevail here, characterized by a rich vegetation of fresh and brackish waters wetlands (Saliconia spp., Artrochneum sp., Phragmites australis, Juncus spp., Limonium spp., Quercus robur, Fraxinus sp., Ulmus minor, Alnus glutinosa) and, also, it is crossed by reclamation channels (as the Navigable Channel of the Navicelli that crosses it in NE-SW direction).

Furthermore, in the central and northern area of Ramsar site, there is no a total match of the perimeter of Natura 2000 Network sites with the perimeter of Ramsar area: indeed, there are agricultural areas and small wetlands that retain important aspects, e.g. concerning the wintering of water birds, which make them fall within the RAMSAR criteria, even though they are not part of the Natura 2000 Network.

# 2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Tuscany Region
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	
centre?	
2.2.3 - For wetlands on national bound	Jaries only
a) Does the wetland extend onto the ter	ritory of one or more other Ves O No 🔍

countries?

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party?

# 2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha):	11135
Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries	11141.05

# 2.2.5 - Biogeography

E	Biogeographic regions											
	Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region										
	EU biogeographic regionalization	Mediterranean										

# 3 - Why is the Site important?

# 3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

## ☑ Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

Hydrological services provided	The Site is a plain with mixed open-closed (forest) ecosystems, where soils arise from a continuous and dynamic sedimentation/erosion balance increased by winds and hydrological movements of the system Arno-Serchio rivers / Ligurian sea. This dunal system has a great importance for the coast stability (resilence to erosion). Furthermore, in the mediterranean dry summer season, it has a great importance for the ground fresh water recharge. Its soils, with high primary permeability, give a strong contribution to water quality.
Other ecosystem services provided	These high productive wetlands contribute to carbon retention.
Other reasons	Main ecological system of the plain of the final part of the rivers Arno and Serchio is a mosaic of brackish and fresh water wetlands. First of all is the wetland of the old river Arno delta in the inland named Lame di Fuori. Moreover, the alkaline waters of the lake of Massaciuccoli is surrounded by hundreds of hectars with fen beds (Cladium sp.) and with reed beds (Phragmites sp.); here, on root-mats floating on the water, there is acid mesotrophic water with Sphagnum spp. Furthermore, an extensive paleo-dune system hosts an alternation of dry forests (dune top), flooded forests and elophytes ecosystems (interdunal lowlands) up to the newly formed dunes and to the beaches. In the plain, large areas are flooded by the autumn-winter-spring rains. All the main types of marshes of Mediterranean Basin bioregion are present in this territory: Annual vegetation of drift lines, Alluvial forests, Riparian mixed forests, Salix and Populus galleries, Mediterranean salt meadows, Coastal lagoons, Mediterranean salt steppes, Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp., Natural euthrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition-type vegetation, Mediterranean tall humid herb grasslands of the Molinio-Holoschoenion, Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae, Transition mires and quaking bogs, Mediterranean temporary ponds and Reedbeds. Open and closed wetlands of this big size are extremely rare in the coastal plains of the Mediterranean. The site is an important area for agriculture and recreation as e.g. swimming, boat trips and trekking.

## Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification The site supports species typical for the wetlands (for example river in natural state, flooded fen beds and reed beds, mediterranean salt medows, open water and forested rich wetlands), in the EU Mediterranean bioregion.

# Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions

# 3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Anacamptis palustris		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>				EN Italian red list	Few populations in coastal lowlands in Mediterranenan bioregion.

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Anagallis tenella	Bog pimpernel	Ø	Ø		LC Strainer Strainer		CR Italian red list (Conti et al 1997)	Linked to Sphagnum bogs at sea level. Probabily this is a unique example in Mediterranean bioregion
Artemisia caerulescens cretacea			Ø				Endemism	Endemism in central Italy
Baldellia ranunculoides	Lesser water-plantain		Ø		NT Str			Few populations in Mediterranenan bioregion.
Centaurea aplolepa subciliata			Ø				Endemism	Endemism of tyrrenic coasts, few populations known
Cladium mariscus	Sawgrass		Ø		LC Strainer Strainer			Rare in other italian territory and characteristic species of habitat 7210*
Drosera rotundifolia	Round-leaved sundew		Ø		LC Strainer Strainer			Linked to Sphagnum bogs at sea level. Probabily this is a unique example in Mediterranean bioregion
Epipactis palustris	Marsh Helleborine	<b>X</b>	V		LC Stress		VU in Tuscany (Conti et al., 1997)	Rare species
Euphorbia palustris	Bog Spurge	Ø			LC		VU in Tuscany (Conti et al., 1997)	Species at risk in all the Italian region where it is reported
Hibiscus moscheutos moscheutos	Pink rosemallow		Ø		LC Stress Stress			Few populations in Mediterranean bioregion, American-Atlantic entity.
Hydrocotyle ranunculoides	Water Pennywort	Ø	Ø		LC Straight Straight		EN in Italy and CR in Tuscany (Conti et al., 1997)	Species at risk in many italian region
Hypericum elodes	Marsh St John's-wort	Ø	Ø		LC Strainer		CR Italian red list	Few populations in Mediterranean bioregion, the only one in Italy, Atlantic entity, quaternary relict in Italy.
Leucojum aestivum	Summer Snowflake		V				LR in Tuscany (Conti et al., 1997)	Rare species
Marsilea quadrifolia	Four leaf clover	V	V		LC Str		EN Italian red list	Few populations in Mediterranean bioregion.
Nymphaea alba	White water rose		V		LC			Few populations in Mediterranean bioregion.
Nymphoides peltata	Yellow Floatingheart	Ø	V		LC		EN in Italy and Tuscany (Conti et al., 1997)	Veryrare species
Osmunda regalis	Royal fern				LC Str			Few populations in western Mediterranean bioregion, tertiary relict populations
Periploca graeca	Silkvine	Ø	X		VU •** •			Few populations in Mediterranean bioregion, tertiary relict populations
Rhynchospora alba	White beak-sedge		Ø		LC ●≌			Linked to Sphagnum bogs at sea level. Probably this is a unique example in Mediterranean bioregion.
Sagittaria sagittifolia	Arrowhead	Ø	<b>X</b>		LC		EN Italian red list VU in Tuscany (Conti et al., 1997)	Endangered species at Italian level
Solidago litoralis		Ø	Ø		EN ●₿ ◎₩		EN Italian red list	Endemism of high tyrrenic coasts, few populations known

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Sphagnum palustre	Peatmoss		Ø				DD Italian red list	In this site lives sphagnum bogs at sea level. Probably this is a unique example in Mediterranean bioregion of this northem entity/vegetation.
Sphagnum subnitens	Peat moss		Ø				DD Italian red list	Probably this is a unique example in Mediterranean bioregion of this northern
Spirodela polyrhiza	Common Duckweed	Ø	Ø				VU in Tuscany (Conti et al., 1997)	Rare species
Symphytum tanaicense		Ø	Ø		LC Strip		CR Italian red list	Mcrotherm relict entity of Ponto-pannonian bioregion. The site guest one of the few Mediterranean bioregion populations, the only one in Italy.
Thelypteris palustris	Marsh fern		Ø		LC			Rare in Mediterranean bioregion.
Utricularia australis		Ø	Ø		LC		EN in Italyand VU in Tuscany (Conti et al., 1997)	Rare species
Utricularia vulgaris	Greater bladderwort		V		LC			Few populations in Mediterranean bioregion.

In the column "Other status" we put: 1) National data, Italian red list, concern from AA.VV. 2013. Lista Rossa della Flora Italiana. Ministero Ambiente, Federparchi e IUCN, 2) the old Italian Red List from Conti et al. 1997, Liste Rosse Regionali delle Piante d'Italia. In the last case we have cited the reference.

# 3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion2469	Species contribute under criterior 3 5 7	es Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix / I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
Birds												
CHORDATA/ AVES	Acrocephalus melanopogon	Moustached Warbler	ØØOO	ØOO				LC			VU Italian red list	The area provides food resources for individuals moving along an important migratory route
CHORDATA/ AVES	Acrocephalus paludicola	Aquatic Warbler	ØØOO					VU Signal Signal		<b>X</b>	NT Italian red list	The area provides food resources for individuals moving along an important migratory route
CHORDATA/ AVES		Common Kingfisher	ØOOO					VU Step				
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas clypeata	Northern Shoveler	2200					LC			W Italian red list	The area provides food resources for individuals moving along an important migratory route
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas crecca	Eurasian Teal; Green-winged Teal	ØØOO					LC			EN Italian red list	Endangered in Italy. Wintering in the area
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas querquedula	Garganey	9900					LC			VU Italian red list	Vulnerable in Italy. The site is important for migration
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas strepera	Gadwall						LC Strainer			VU Italian red list	Vulnerable in Italy. Wintering in the area
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anthus campestris	Tawny Pipit	ØOOO	200				LC Str			EC Birds Directive Annex I.	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	qualifies cont under u	terion	op. Period of pop. Est. 9		CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aquila clanga	Greater Spotted Eagle	ggoooc						EU Birds Directive Annex I. CITES Appendix II, CMS Appendix I and II	Wintering (rare) in the area.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ardea purpurea	Purple Heron	geooge			LC Str			EC Birds Directive Annex I. LC Italian red list	Nesting population of national importance link to extensive reedbeds / fenbeds
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ardeola ralloides	Squacco Heron	ØDDDØC						EC Birds Directive Annex I.	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Asio flammeus	Short-eared Owl	20002C			LC Straight Straight			EC Birds Directive Annex I.	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aythya ferina 🛃 💁 💫	Common Pochard	gyooyo						EN Italian red list	The area provides food resources for individuals moving along an important migratory route
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aythya nyroca	Ferruginous Duck	goooo			NT •** •**			EN Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Botaurus stellaris 🕌 💁 🔗	Eurasian Bittern	geooge			LC Str			EN Italian red list	Breeding populations at risk in all Italy. Linked to extensive reedbeds/fenbeds
CHORDATA/ AVES	Burhinus oedicnemus	Eurasian thick- knee	ØOOOOC			LC Str Str			VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Charadrius alexandrinus	Kentish Plover; Snowy Plover	ØØOOOC						EN Italian red list	Wintering (rare) in the area
CHORDATA/ AVES	Chlidonias hybrida	Whiskered tern	Ødddd						W Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Chlidonias niger	Black tern	Roooo			LC Str			EN Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ciconia ciconia	White Stork	ecce						EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ciconia nigra 🛃 🛄 💫	Black Stork	ØCOCOC			LC Str Str			VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Circaetus gallicus	Short-toed Snake Eagle	ØOOOOC			LC Star			VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Circus aeruginosus	Western Marsh Harrier	geooge						VU Italian red list	Wintering (rare) in the area
CHORDATA/ AVES	Circus cyaneus	Northern Harrier	ecoe			LC Stress Stress			EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Circus pygargus	Montagu's Harrier	ØOOOOO			LC C			VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Clamator glandarius	Great Spotted Cuckoo	goooo						EN Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Columba oenas	Stock Dove	ØØO OØC			LC			VU Italian red list	The site is important for migration
CHORDATA/ AVES	Coracias garrulus	European Roller	ØOOOOO			LC Stress Stress			VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Dendrocopos minor	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker							LC Italian red list	Nesting population of this species is isolated and linked to the rare mature and extensive broadleaf forest of the site.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Falco biarmicus	Lanner Falcon	ØDDDDC			LC Street			VU Italian red list	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	qu u cri	becies Ialifies Inder Iterio 4 6	s c n	Specie ontribu unde criterie	ntes Po Siz	<sup>p.</sup> Period of pop. Es	% t. occurrence 1)	e Red /	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Falco peregrinus	Peregrine Falcon	Ø			900					×		EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Falco vespertinus	Red-footed Falcon											W Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Gavia arctica	Arctic Loon; Black- throated Loon	Ø							LC Str			EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Gavia stellata	Red-throated Diver; Red- throated Loon	Ø							LC Step			EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Gelochelidon nilotica	Gull-billed Tern	Ø										EN Italian red list, EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Glareola pratincola 📲 💁 💫	Collared Pratincole	Ø							LC Str Str			EN Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Grus grus	Common Crane			DØ					LC			RE Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES		White-tailed Eagle	Ø		DØ		סנ			LC Star	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Himantopus himantopus	Black-winged Stilt	Ø										EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Hydroprogne caspia	Caspian Tern	Ø										EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ichthyaetus audouinii	Audouin's Gull	Ø		DØ								EC Birds Directive Annex I, EN Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ichthyaetus melanocephalus	Mediterranean Gull	20		DØ	900							EC Birds Directive Annex I, VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ixobrychus minutus	Little Bittern	Ø							LC			W Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Lanius collurio	Red-backed Shrike	Ø										W Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Lanius minor	Lesser Grey Shrike	Ø										W Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Lanius senator	Woodchat Shrike	Ø							LC			EN Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Limosa lapponica	Bar-tailed Godwit	Ø										EU Birds Directive Annex I and II. CMS Appendix II	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Limosa limosa 🛃 💁 🔎	Black-tailed Godwit	26	20						NT Str			EN Italian red list	Stop-over site during migration.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Luscinia svecica		Ø										EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Melanitta fusca	Velvet Scoter; White-winged Scoter		20										Wintering and migrating site of national importance.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Milvus migrans	Black Kite	Ø							LC Str			EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Milvus milvus	Red Kite	26	20						NT Str			VU Italian red list	Wintering and migration site.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Numenius arquata	Eurasian Curlew		20						NT Ster			EC Birds Directive Annex II	Studies show a declines of populations

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	un	ifies der erion	co	Specie ntribu under riteric 5 7	n Po	P. Period of pop. Est. C		CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Nycticorax nycticorax	Black-crowned Night Heron; Black-crowned Night-Heron	ØD						LC Str Str			VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Pandion haliaetus	Osprey, Western Osprey	ØO		J							EC Birds Directive Annex I	Corsican, German and tuscany (new nesting pairs) individuals live in the site all the year. Mediterranean population near extinction in '70 now in increasing trend from Corsica (F).
CHORDATA/ AVES	Panurus biarmicus	Bearded Reedling	ØO						LC			EN Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Pernis apivorus	European Honey Buzzard	ØO						LC •			EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Philomachus pugnax	Ruff	ØO						LC ••* • T\$P			EC Birds Directive Annex I, II	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Phoenicopterus ruber	Greater Flamingo	ØO									EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Platalea leucorodia	Eurasian Spoonbill	ØO						LC •\$ •			VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Plegadis falcinellus	Glossylbis	ØO									EN Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Pluvialis apricaria	European Golden Plover; European Golden-Plover	ØO						LC Start			EC Habitat Directive Annex I, II, III	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Podiceps auritus	Horned Grebe	ZZ										Mgratory in the area
CHORDATA/ AVES	Porzana parva	Little Crake	ØO						LC Signature Sig			EC Birds Directive Annex1	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Porzana porzana	Spotted Crake	ØO						LC Str			EC Birds Directive Annex1	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Recurvirostra avosetta	Pied Avocet	ØO		J							EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Sterna hirundo	Common Tern	ØO						LC Stress			EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Sternula albifrons	Little Tern	20						LC Stress			EN Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Sylvia undata	Dartford Warbler	ØO						NT Str			VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Tadorna tadorna	Common Shelduck	ØD									VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Thalasseus sandvicensis	Sandwich Tern	ØO									VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Tringa glareola	Wood Sandpiper	Ø0						LC Stress Stress			EC Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Vanellus vanellus	Northern Lapwing							NT Si			EC Birds Directive Annex II	The overall population trend is decreasing
CHORDATA/ AVES	Xenus cinereus	Terek Sandpiper	ØO						LC •			EC Birds Directive Annex I. Bern Convention Appendix II	

Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Spec qualif undo criter	ies er ion	Species contribut under criterior 3 5 7	es Pop Size	% occurrence 1)		CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Alosa fallax	Twaite shad	ØŌ								W Italian red list	
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	Anisus vorticulus	Lesser ramshorn snail										EN for the Tuscany
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Aphanius fasciatus		ØO		200			LC			EC Habitat Directive Annex II. VU in the red list of fishes of fresh water	Very rare in Tuscany (see data base RENATO*).
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Epinephelus fasciatus	Dusky grouper	ØO					EN Ster				
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	marginatus	Dusky grouper; Dusky perch; Dusky sea perch	200					EN ●詳 ◎瞭				
MOLLUSCA/ BIVALVIA	Lithophaga lithophaga	date mussel	ØO		200						EC Habitat Directive Annex IV.	
CHORDATA/ CEPHALASPIDOMORPH	Petromyzon marinus	Lampreyeel	200					LC Star			CR Italian red list	
MOLLUSCA/ BIVALVIA	Pinna nobilis	noble pen shell	ØO								EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	Vertigo angustior	marsh snail	200					VU Star				
Others												
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Agabus striolatus											Central-northern european entity, at the border of its range this site is the only italian known population.
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Bidessus pumilus											Central-western mediterranean entity, few populations in Italy.
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Caretta caretta	Loggerhead Turtle	ØO								EN Italian red list	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA		Cerambyx longicorn	ØO								LC Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Coronella girondica		ØO								Annex II Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA		Eurasian pond turtle	ØO					NT			EN Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA		serotine; Common Serotine	ØO		200			LC			EC Habitat Directive Annex IV.	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Eptesicus serotinus serotinus	Serotine	ØO					LC			EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Graphoderus austriacus				200							Central-northern european and siberian species, rare and localized in Italy.
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Gyrinus parcus				200							Northern european and siberian species, extremely rare and localized in Italy
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Hydroporus distinguendus				200							Tyrrenic species, very few populations in freshwater habitats.
ARTHROPODA/ ARACHNIDA	Hygrobates excilis				200							European and north african species, very localized in italian marshlands.

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	qual un crite	cies ifies der erion 6 9	Specie contribu under criterie 3 5 7	Pop. Size Period of pop. E	st. occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Cother Status	Justification
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Hygrotus decoratus											European and siberian species, in Italy is very localized in central Italy freshwater wetlands.
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Hyla arborea	European tree frog	20								EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Hyphydrus anatolicus											Eastern mediterranean species, is very localized in Italy. It lives in lentic water channels and swamps
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Hystrix cristata	Crested Porcupine									EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Keroplatus tipuloides											Central-northern europe entity, at the border of its range this site has one of the few italian known populations.
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Lacerta bilineata		ØO								Appendix II of the Bern Convention, EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Lindenia tetraphylla	Bladetail	ØO					LC Str			EC Habitat Directive Annex II and IV	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Lucanus cervus	Stag beetle	ØO								EC Habitat Directive Annex II	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Lycaena dispar	Large copper	ØO					NT			EC Habitat Directive Annex II and IV	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Myotis blythii	lesser mouse- eared bat; Lesser Mouse-eared Myotis	ØD					LC Sime			VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Myotis daubentonii	Daubenton's Myotis	ØO					LC Star			EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Myotis emarginatus	Geoffroy's bat; Geoffroy's Myotis	20					LC			EC Habitat Directive Annex II	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Myotis myotis	Myotis						LC			VU Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	and a second	whiskered myotis; whiskered bat	ØO								W Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Natrix tessellata	Tessellated water snake						LC			EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Nyctalus leisleri	Leisler's Noctule; lesser noctule						LC Str			EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Nyctalus noctula	noctule									W Italian red list	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Plecotus auritus	brown big-eared bat; Brown Long- eared Bat	ØO								EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Pseudepidalea viridis		ØO					LC			EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Rhantus suturellus											Central-northern european and north-american entity, at the border of its range. This site is the one of the few tuscany known populations. It lives in freshwater wetlands
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Rhinolophus ferrumequinum	greater horseshoe bat	ØO					LC Str Str			VU Italian red list. EU Habitats Directive Annex II.	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Spec qualif undo criter 2 4	fies c er fion	01100110	n Pop	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Rhinolophus hipposideros	lesser horseshoe bat	20(						LC			EN Italian red list. EU Habitats Directive Annex II.	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA		European Free- tailed Bat	ØO						LC Star			EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	2 C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	Italian crested newt	ØO						LC Star			EC Habitat Directive Annex IV	

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

# 3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
1410 - Mediterranean salt meadows (Juncetalia maritimi)	V	Various Mediterranean communities of the Juncetalia maritimi. The association of tall rush saltmarshes is dominated by Juncus maritimus and/or J. acutus is common in the area.	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
6420 - Mediterranean tall humid herb grasslands of the Molinio-Holoschoenion	Ø	Mediterranean humid grasslands of tall grasses and rushes, widespread in clay- sand soils, in particular in dunal systems.	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
3150 - Natural euthrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition-type vegetation	Ø	Lakes and ponds with mostly dirty grey to blue-green, more or less turbid, waters, particularly richin dissolved bases (pH usually>7), with free-floating surface communities of the Hydrocharitionor, in deep, open waters, with vegetation of Magnopotamion	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
7210* - Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae		Cladium mariscus beds of the emergent- plant zones of lakes, interdune wetlands often closely Phragmition species.	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
7140 - Transition mires and quaking bogs		Peat-forming communities developed at the surface of oligotrophic to mesotrophic waters, with characteristics intermediate between soligenous and ombrogenous types	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
3170* - Mediterranean temporary ponds	Ø	Very shallow temporary ponds (a few centimetres deep) which exist only in winter or late spring, with a flora mainly composed of Mediterranean therophytic and geophytic species	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
1510 - Mediterranean salt steppes (Limonietalia)		Associations rich in perennial, rosette- forming (Limonium spp.), occupying, along central and south site coasts, soils temporarily permeated (not inundated) by saline water and subject to extreme summer drying, with formation of salt efflorescence.	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
Reedbeds	V	Elophyte dominant landscape (Phragmites australis) around Massaciuccoli lake, interdune wetlands, lowland meadows and along channels.	Their extension, from few meter square to 700 ha (together with Cladium habitat), of tens of reedbeds make this wetland archipelago an ecological rare ecosystem in Mediterranean biographic zone.
1110 - Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time		Sandbanks permanently submerged by waters whose level rarely exceeds 20 m. They may form an underwater prolongation of sandy coasts.	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
1130 - Estuaries		Downstream part of a river valley, subject to the tide and extending from the limit of brackish waters	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
1210 - Annual vegetation of drift lines	Ø	Communities of annuals or representatives of annuals and perennials, occupying accumulations of drift material rich in nitrogenous organic matter (Cakiletea maritimae)	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
91E0* - Alluvial forests with Anus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Ano-Padion, Anion incanae, Salicion albae)	Ø	Alluvial forests, riparian and swamp Alnus spp., Fraxinus excelsior and Salix spp. in mountain and hill traits	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
92A0 - Salix alba and Populus alba galleries	Ø	Riparian forests of the Mediterranean basin dominated by Salix alba, Salix fragilis or their relatives	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
1150* - Coastal lagoons	Ø	These lagoons are bodies of shallow coastal salt water, of varying salinity and water volume, whollyor partially separated from the sea by sand banks. Salinity may vary from brackish water to hypersalinity depending on rain, evaporation and temperature	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
3140 - Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.	Ø	Lakes and pools with waters fairly rich in dissolved bases (pH often 6-7) or with mostly blue to greenish, very clear, waters poor (to moderate) in nutrients, base-rich. The bottom of these unpolluted water bodies are covered with charophyte, Chara spp.	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive
91F0 - Riparian mixed forests of Quercus robur, Ulmus laevis and Ulmus minor, Fraxinus excelsior or Fraxinus angustifolia, along the great rivers (Ulmenion minoris)	Ø	Forests of hardwood trees, liable to flooding following the regular rising of the water table. These forests develop on recent alluvial deposits. The soil may be well drained between inundations or remain wet.	Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive

#### Optional text box to provide further information

In the habitat 1510, characteristic syntaxa are Limonietalia, Arthrocnemetalia, Thero-Salicornietalia and Saginetalia maritimae. In the habitat 91F0, following the hydric regime, the woody dominated species belong to Fraxinus, Ulmus or Quercus genus. The undergrowth is well developed if not overgrazed.

The reedbeds habitat is fundamental for wintering, breeding and stop-over in the site along birds route migration, before or after Appenine-Alps system.

# 4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

# 4.1 - Ecological character

The site is a large ecological and diversified wetland plain. It is a mixed open-closed (forest) ecosystems, where soils arise from a continuous and dynamic sedimentation/erosion balance increased by winds and hydrological movements of the system Arno-Serchio rivers / Ligurian sea. Large areas are flooded by autumn-winter-spring rains and the vegetation is rich of species and formations. Wetlands of this size are extremely rare in coastal plains of the Mediterranean area.

The main ecological systems are represented by the two final parts of Arno and Serchio rivers, with the wetland of the old river Arno delta in the inland (named "Lame di Fuori"), by the wetland of the old back-dune with the Lake of Massaciuccoli, which is surrounded by the fen beds (Cladium sp.) mixed with reed beds (Phragmites sp.) and Sphagnum spp. peatland that floats on root mats islands, and by an extensive hosted paleo-dune system that alternates with dry forests (dune top) and flooded forests (interdunal lowlands), up to the newly formed dunes and to the beaches.

The occurrence of relict species such as Sphagnum spp. (Quaternary), Osmunda regalis, Hibiscus palustris (Hibiscus moscheutos moscheutos), and Drosera rotundifolia, are linked to the past climatic events and to the richness of the current microclimate. In the wet plain forests there are big trees of Quercus robur, Fraxinus angustifolia, Quercus ilex etc. These formations are witnesses of ancient wet forests that dominated the coastal plain until the XVIII century (before the great land reclamation and the planting of pines). The open spaces between the wet forests are strategic for birds and turtles (Emys orbicularis).

Massaciuccoli and Lame di Fuori swamps are a very important site for migratory routes to / from Africa and in winter these areas are important crossroads for a large number of birds from all over Europe, Siberia and Africa (ducks, birds of prey, herons, flamingos, tadorne, curlews, avocets and other waders).

In the south part of the site, "Bosco della Cornacchiaia" and the more flooded area "Bosco dell'Ulivo" are dominated by green oak trees typical of the Mediterranean area (with monumental specimens) and other sclerophyllous (Phyllirea latifolia, Myrtus communis), but also by Quercus suber and huge specimens of Pinus pinea residues of old plantations.

The undergrowth is dense: there are Crataegus monogyna, Prunus spinosa, etc., but also the very rare Periploca graeca, a Tertiary relict. Along these woods there are brackish wetlands with typical Mediterranean salt marshes vegetation (Salicornia sp. and Limonium sp.): the most north "Maremma" in Italy.

# 4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

# Marine or coastal wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
A: Permanent shallow marine waters		2		Representative
E: Sand, shingle or pebble shores		4		Representative
F: Estuarine waters		4		Representative
J: Coastal brackish / saline lagoons		0		Representative
K: Coastal freshwater lagoons		4		Rare

#### Inland wetlands

Inland wetlands				
Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
Fresh water > Flowing water >> M Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks		4		Representative
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		3		Representative
Saline, brackish or alkaline water > Marshes & pools >> Sp: Permanent saline/ brackish/ alkaline marshes/ pools		0		Rare
Saline, brackish or alkaline water > Marshes & pools >> S: Seasonal/ intermittent saline/ brackish/ alkaline marshes/ pools		4		Rare
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		4		Rare
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Ts: Seasonal/ intermittent freshwater marshes/ pools on inorganic soils		0		Rare
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> W: Shrub- dominated wetlands		3		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands		1		Rare

Human-made wetlands				
Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
1: Aquaculture ponds		0		
2: Ponds		4		
7: Excavations		0		
9: Canals and drainage channels or ditches		3		

# Other non-wetland habitat

Other non-wetland habitats within the site	Area (ha) if known
2110 - Embryonic shifting dunes	
2120 - Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes)	
2210 - Crucianellion maritimae fixed beach dunes	
2230 - Malcolmietalia dune grasslands	
2240 - Brachypodietalia dune grasslands with annuals	
2250 - Coastal dunes with Juniperus spp.	
2260 - Cisto-Lavanduletalia dune sclerophyllous scrubs	
2270 - Wooded dunes with Pinus pinea and/or Pinus pinaster	
9340 - Quercus ilex and Quercus rotundifolia forests	

# 4.3 - Biological components

# 4.3.1 - Plant species

# Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
Cirsium palustre		rare
Eleocharis uniglumis		rare
Polygonatum odoratum		rare
Salvinia natans		rare

# Invasive alien plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Impacts
Ailanthus altissima		Actually (minor impacts)
Amorpha fruticosa		Actually (major impacts)
Arundo donax		Actually (minor impacts)
Baccharis halimifolia		Potentially
Myriophyllum aquaticum		Actually (major impacts)
Paspalum botterii		Actually (minor impacts)
Robinia pseudoacacia		Actually (minor impacts)
Yucca gloriosa		Actually (minor impacts)

# 4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/AVES	Anas acuta	Northern Pintail				EC Birds Directive Annex II and III.
CHORDATA/AVES	Anas penelope	Eurasian Wigeon				EC Birds Directive Annex II and III.
CHORDATA/AVES	Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard				DD for italian populations. EC Birds Directive Annex II and III.
CHORDATA/AVES	Anser anser	Greylag Goose				EC Birds Directive Annex II and III.
CHORDATA/AVES	Lymnocryptes minimus	Jack Snipe				EC Birds Directive Annex II and III.
CHORDATA/AVES	Melanitta nigra	Common scoter				EC Birds Directive Annex II and III.
CHORDATAAVES	Numenius phaeopus	Whimbrel				EC Birds Directive Annex II.
CHORDATAMAMMALIA	Martes martes	European Pine Marten				EC Habitat Directive Annex V.
CHORDATAMAMMALIA	Mustela putorius	Western Polecat				EC Habitat Directive Annex V.

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Impacts
CHORDATA/AVES	Amandava amandava		No impacts
CHORDATAAVES	Cygnus olor		No impacts
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Ameiurus melas		No impacts
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Carassius auratus		Actually (major impacts)
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Cyprinus carpio		Actually (major impacts)
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Gambusia holbrooki		Actually (major impacts)
CHORDATAACTINOPTERYGII	Micropterus floridanus		Actually (major impacts)
ARTHROPODA/MALACOSTRACA	Procambarus clarkii		Actually (major impacts)
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Pseudorasbora parva		Actually (major impacts)
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Scardinius erythrophthalmus		Actually (major impacts)
CHORDATAACTINOPTERYGII	Silurus glanis		Potentially
MOLLUSCA/BIVALVIA	Sinanodonta woodiana		Potentially
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	Graptemys pulchra		Actually (minor impacts)
ARTHROPODA/INSECTA	Ips sexdentatus		Potentially
ARTHROPODA/INSECTA	Leptoglossus occidentalis		Actually (major impacts)
ARTHROPODA/INSECTA	Matsucoccus feytaudi		Actually (major impacts)
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Myocastor coypus coypus		Actually (major impacts)
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Rattus norvegicus		Actually (major impacts)
ARTHROPODAIINSECTA	Tomicus spinifer		Potentially
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	Trachemys scripta scripta		Actually (minor impacts)

# 4.4 - Physical components

# 4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
C: Moist Mid-Latitude	Csb: Mediterranean (MId
climate with mild winters	with dry, warm summer)

# 4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres) -5

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)
Entire river basin
Upper part of river basin
Mddle part of river basin
Lower part of river basin 🗹
More than one river basin 🗹
Not in river basin
Coastal 🗹

Please name the river basin or basins. If the site lies in a sub-basin, please also name the larger river basin. For a coastal/marine site, please name the sea or ocean. Tuscany coast in Ligurian Sea, lower part of Arno and Serchio rivers.

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral 🗹

Organic 🗹

No available information  $\square$ 

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)? Yes O No (

# 4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence		
Presence?		
Usually permanent water present		
Usually seasonal, ephemeral or intermittent water present		

#### Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source
Water inputs from rainfall	
Water inputs from groundwater	×
Marine water	

## Water destination

Presence?	
Feeds groundwater	
Marine	

Stability of water regime		
Presence?		
Water levels fluctuating		
(including tidal)		

#### 4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant erosion of sediments occurs on the site 🗹 Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site 🗹

Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site  $\Box$ 

Sediment regime is highly variable, either seasonally or inter-annually  $\Box$ 

Sediment regime unknown

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

There is a transport of sediments in the Arno and Serchio rivers and along the sea coast by the longshore drift. The budget is negative in south part and positive in northern site coast.

The inland wetlands have also the sediments transport through the flow from surronding lands, through soil or reclamation channels.

# 4.4.6 - Water pH

	Acid (pH<5.5)
Circum	neutral (pH: 5.5-7.4 ) 🗵
	Alkaline (pH>7.4) 🗵

Unknown 🛛

#### 4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

Mxohaline (brackish)/Mxosaline (0.5-30 g/l)

Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l) 🗹

Hyperhaline/Hypersaline (>40 g/l)

#### Unknown 🗆

#### 4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic	
Mesotrophic	
Oligotrophic	
Dystrophic	
Unknown	

#### Please provide further information on dissolved or suspended nutrients (optional):

Massaciuccoli Lake water flows through over-nourished agricultural land where fertilizers and oxidation of organic matter in agricultural peat soils carry high levels of the dissolved or suspended nutrients in the water. Also Arno river, and part of reclamation channels, have high nutrient level. To the other side Serchio river and ombrothrophic wetlands (thousands of hectares) still have low nutrient level. This is fundamental for biodiversity conservation purposes of the site.

#### 4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the i) broadly similar O ii) significantly different ③

site itself.

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development  $\ensuremath{\mathbb{M}}$ 

Surrounding area has higher human population density 🖉

Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use  ${\color{black} \blacksquare}$ 

#### Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types $\begin{subarray}{c} \end{subarray}$

Please describe other ways in which the surrounding area is different:

The site is surrounded to the west by coastal villages: Marina di Pisa, Tirrenia and Calambrone. There are also large agricultural horticultural areas, cereals, sunflowers and other traditional crops.

Big cities outside the site are just a few kilometers from it: to the North, there is Viareggio (63,447 inhabitants), East, Lucca (89,204

inhabitants) and Pisa (88,627 inhabitants) and South Livorno (160,512 inhabitants) - Census 2013. There are other small cities surrounding the Ramsar site: Massarosa (22,541 inhabitants), Vecchiano (12,302 inhabitants), and San Giuliano Terme (31,315 inhabitants).

#### 4.5 - Ecosystem services

#### 4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

#### Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Food for humans	Sustenance for humans (e.g., fish, molluscs, grains)	Medium
Fresh water	Drinking water for humans and/or livestock	Low
Fresh water	Water for irrigated agriculture	High
Wetland non-food products	Timber	High
Wetland non-food products	Fuel wood/fibre	High
Wetland non-food products	Livestock fodder	Medium

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	High
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Storage and delivery of water as part of water supply systems for agriculture and industry	High
Erosion protection	Soil, sediment and nutrient retention	High
Pollution control and detoxification	Water purification/waste treatment or dilution	High
Climate regulation	Local climate regulation/buffering of change	Medium
Biological control of pests and disease	Support of predators of agricultural pests (e.g., birds feeding on locusts)	Medium
Hazard reduction	Coastal shoreline and river bank stabilization and storm protection	High

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	High
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	High
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium
Spiritual and inspirational	Inspiration	High
Spiritual and inspirational	Contemporary cultural significance, including for arts and creative inspiration, and including existence values	Low
Spiritual and inspirational	Aesthetic and sense of place values	High
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	Medium
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	High
Scientific and educational Educational activities		Medium
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	High
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	High
Scientific and educational	Type location for a taxon	High

#### Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance	
Biodiversity	Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganizms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	High	
Soil formation	Sediment retention	High	
Soil formation	Accumulation of organic matter	High	
Nutrient cycling	Storage, recycling, processing and acquisition of nutrients	High	
Nutrient cycling	Carbon storage/sequestration	Medium	
Pollination	Support for pollinators	Medium	

Within the site: 10000

Outside the site: 1000000

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site?

#### 4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

i) the site provides a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and  $\boldsymbol{\mathnormal{M}}$ 

use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland

#### Description if applicable

The great geological, natural and historical importance of the site encouraged the creation of numerous associations of young environmental guides and cultural associations for the promotion of the area that organize excursions and that have created a network of well-marked trails. The Regional Park "Migliarino San Rossore Massaciuccoli" has been engaging for years

with farmers and agronomists of the University of Pisa for the promotion of local products, the respect of the natural elements of the plains (wetlands, hedgerows, ditches) and their ecological connection function.

ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former  $\square$ civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland

#### Description if applicable

The diversity of landscape is also the result of a long history of human activities: reclamation of flood plain for agriculture and urbanization, system of ditches, pumping station, and hedges; cultivated forests (as the pine forests of Pinus pinea, the "Italic" pine, typical in coast landscapes since XIX century A.D.) and, then, the great estates with The use of earth products. This story has contribuited to shape and preserve through the centuries, fen and reed beds, salt marshes and old-growth broadleaf mixed forests in areas that flood for 4-6 months each vear.

iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction  $\hfill \square$ with local communities or indigenous peoples

iv) relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological  ${\ensuremath{\overline{\textit{W}}}}$ character of the wetland

#### Description if applicable

After year 1000 the area experienced a boom of ecclesiastical and religious population thanks to the emergence of several monasteries, dedicated to Santa Maddalena, San Bartolo and San Luxorio. The latter was a Christian soldier who was martyred under Diocletian in Sardinia, in the early fourth century. In year 1080 his remains were moved to the church of the monastery that once stood at the current San Rossore Estate. Since that time the area was called San Luxorio, transformed over time in "San Rossore". It is currently planning the archaeological excavation for San Luxorio monastery remains.

In the 10th century, monasteries performed an important economic role. Indeed, they were real production centers capable to nourish not only the monks, but a great deal of needy too. Therefore, the monasteries did not lack the functions related to agricultural activities: their fields and their farms paid well so much that a small part could be destined for commerce and slowly became important farms.

This situation leaded to a territory government that, in wetland it is implemented the effect by the central institution due to the peculiarities of its environment. The activities of the monastery are joined by other areas connected to the wetlands: fishing, gathering of vegetable fibers, hunting, Furthermore, the woods' government, both the wetlands' guercines and sweet wood plantations, provided acorn for the lumber and pigs breeding.

# 4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

# 5 - How is the Site managed? (Conservation and management)

# 5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

# 5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

Public ownership		
Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Provincial/region/state government	V	V
Local authority, municipality, (sub)distric etc.	, 🖉	Ø

#### Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	×.	V
Commercial (company)	×	×

# 5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:	Regional park authority "Migliarino San Rossore Massaciuccoli"
Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:	Dr. Andrea Gennai - Director of Regional park authority
Postal address:	Director of Regional park authority Tenuta di San Rossore, Loc. Cascine Vecchie 56122 Pisa (PI) ITALY
E-mail address:	direttore@sanrossore.toscana.it

# 5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

# 5.2.1 - Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site's ecological character

# Human settlements (non agricultural)

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Tourism and recreation areas	High impact	High impact	×	V

#### Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Drainage	High impact	High impact		<b>X</b>
Water abstraction	High impact	High impact		s and a second s
Salinisation	High impact	High impact	s.	s.
Canalisation and river regulation	High impact	High impact	×	V

Agriculture and aquaculture				
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Annual and perennial non- timber crops	High impact	High impact		V

#### Transportation and service corridors

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Roads and railroads	High impact	High impact	s.	<b>V</b>
Utility and service lines (e.g., pipelines)	High impact	High impact		V
Shipping lanes	High impact	High impact		s and a second s
Aircraft flight paths	Medium impact	Medium impact	×	×

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	Medium impact	High impact	×	V
Logging and wood harvesting	Medium impact	High impact	×	V
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	Medium impact	High impact	×	V

Human intrusions and distur	bance			
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Recreational and tourism activities	High impact	High impact	×	V
(Para)military activities	Medium impact		×	×

Natural system modifications				
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Fire and fire suppression	Medium impact	High impact	1	×
Dams and water management/use	Medium impact	High impact		V

Invasive and other problematic species and genes				
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Invasive non-native/ alien species	High impact	High impact	×	V
Problematic native species	Medium impact	High impact	×	×

Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Household sewage, urban waste water	High impact	High impact		V
Agricultural and forestry effluents	High impact	High impact	×	V
Garbage and solid waste	Medium impact	High impact		×
Excess heat, sound, light	High impact	High impact		×
Air-borne pollutants	High impact	High impact		×

#### Climate change and severe weather

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Storms and flooding	Low impact	Medium impact	×	V

#### Please describe any other threats (optional):

Fresh water environments have suffered the most severe changes in the last decades and are still continuing to decline due to the erosion of the coasts and to water supplies for agricultural and urban/industrial uses, processes that favour the flow of salted water in the inland. Aquatic environments are also subjected to eutrophication processes due to the organic oxidation of organic matter in agricultural peatlands and the use of fertilizers, and also to the inefficient treatment of urban waste waters.

The fresh water environments changes are here linked also to the strong subsidence of agricultural lands external to the site. This brought e.g. the Lake of Massaciuccoli to be a wetland raised (2-5 meters) above the surrounding lands. Thus the fauna and the hydrophytes habitats linked to freshwater are increasingly threatened.

# 5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Global legal designations	N. C.		
Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
UNESCO Biosphere Reserve	Selve costiere di Toscana	http://www.unesco.org/mabdb/br/b rdir/directory/biores.asp?code=I TA+08&mode=all	

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	Dune litoranee di Torre del Lago IT5170001	http://natura2000.eea.europa.eu/ Natura2000/SDF.aspx?site=IT51700 01	whole
EU Natura 2000	Lago e Palude di Massaciuccoli IT5120017	http://natura2000.eea.europa.eu/ Natura2000/SDF.aspx?site=IT51200 17	whole
EU Natura 2000	Macchia Lucchese IT5120016	http://natura2000.eea.europa.eu/ Natura2000/SDF.aspx?site=IT51200 16	whole
EU Natura 2000	Selva Pisana IT5170002	http://natura2000.eea.europa.eu/ Natura2000/SDF.aspx?site=IT51700 02	whole
Other international designation	Parco naturale Mgliarino San Rossore Massaciuccoli	http://www.coe.int/en/web/bern-c onvention/italy	

#### National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
National decree for designating Ramsar site (DM21.10.2013)	Lago e Padule di Massaciuccoli	http://www.minambiente.it/sites/ default/files/archivio/normativa /ramsar/tos_dm_21_10_2013_Massac iuccoli.pdf	whole
Protected Area	Parco regionale Mgliarino San Rossore Massaciuccoli	http://www.parcosanrossore.org/	partly

#### Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Lake Massaciuccoli	http://datazone.birdlife.org/sit e/factsheet/lake-massaciuccoli-i ba-italy	partly
Important Plant Area	Lago di Massaciuccoli e Selva Pisana – TOS 4		partly

# 5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

la Strict Nature Reserve			
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- Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
  - Il National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
- III Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
- IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention
- V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
- VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

# 5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

# Habitat

Measures	Status
Catchment management initiatives/controls	Partially implemented
Improvement of water quality	Partially implemented
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Partially implemented
Hydrology management/restoration	Partially implemented
Re-vegetation	Partially implemented
Faunal corridors/passage	Partially implemented

#### Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Partially implemented
Reintroductions	Partially implemented
Control of invasive alien plants	Partially implemented
Control of invasive alien animals	Partially implemented

#### Human Activities

Measures	Status
Management of water abstraction/takes	Partially implemented
Regulation/management of wastes	Partially implemented
Livestock management/exclusion (excluding fisheries)	Implemented
Harvest controls/poaching enforcement	Partially implemented
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Implemented
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Implemented
Research	Implemented

# 5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? Yes

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes O No

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning Yes O No processes with another Contracting Party?

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant): http://www.parcosanrossore.org/pagina.php?id=124

# 5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? No, but restoration is needed

# 5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Water regime monitoring	Implemented
Water quality	Implemented
Animal species (please specify)	Implemented
Birds	Implemented

Monitoring programmes are taken on specific projects: ungulate management, waterbirds, dunal and wetland restoration, reintroduction activities. In Deliberation 1223/2015 the Tuscany region has planned the needs of monitoring Natura 2000 sites for their management.

# 6 - Additional material

# 6.1 - Additional reports and documents

# 6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Blasi C. et al. (eds.) 2010. Italian interpretation Manual of the habitats (92/43/EEC Directive) su http://vnr.unipg.it/habitat/ Blasi C. et al. (eds.) 2010. Le aree importanti per le piante nelle regioni d'Italia: il presente e il futuro della conservazione del nostro patrimonio botanico. Ministero dell'Ambiente, Roma.

Perfetti A. (ed.) 2010. La conservazione degli ecosistemi costieri della toscana settentrionale: 2005-2009. Ente parco regionale MSRM, Pisa. (En/lt version).

Petraglia A. 2013. Analisi della vegetazione delle principali zone umide del parco di Migliarino San Rossore Massaciuccoli. Ente parco regionale MSRM, Pisa (Not published technical report).

Puglisi L. and E. Arcamone (eds.) 2010. Atlante degli uccelli nidificanti e svernanti nel Parco Naturale regionale Migliarino San Rossore Massaciuccoli. Ente parco regionale MSRM, Pisa (Not published technical report).

RENATO (Naturalistic Tuscany Repertory) http://www.regione.toscana.it/-/repertorio-naturalistico-toscano-re-na-to Sforzi A., L. Bartolozzi (eds.). 2001. Libro rosso degli insetti della Toscana. ARSIA-Regione Toscana.

#### 6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)

ii. a detailed Ecological Character Description (ECD) (in a national format)

iii, a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory <no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

v. site management plan

vi. other published literature

## 6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Lame di Fuori Natural Reserve – Massaciuccoli Ramsar Site ( Archive-Park-MSRW/LGorreri, 01-01Wintering ducks -Massaciuccoli Ramsar Site ( Archive-Park-MSRWRA.MI., 01-01-2005)



Massaciuccoli lake and marshland – Massaciuccoli Ramsar Site ( Archive-Park MSRW/LGorreri, 01-01-2009 )



Flooded forest -Massaciuccoli Ramsar Site ( Archive-Park-MSRWLGorreri, 01-03-2011)

#### 6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

2008 )

#### **Designation letter**

Date of Designation 2017-06-22