

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:

25.01.99

For office use only.

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Designation date Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Italy

3. Name of wetland:

Tiber – Farfa Nature Reserve (Lake Nazzano)

4. Geographical coordinates:

42°11' 40" North; 12° 36' 00" East

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.) 29 – 164 ma.s.l.

6. Area: (in hectares) 265 ha

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

A river basin with marshy areas formed by the construction of a dam (for a hydroelectric power project) on the River Tiber near its confluence with the Farfa River (a tributary on the left of the River Tiber).

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:

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:

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:

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

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

Habitat for birds migrating between Africa and Northern Europe.

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

Approximately 30 km north of Rome.

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)

River valley along the middle/lower reaches of the River Tiber, which can be defined geologically as a tectonic valley formed after tensile phases. Temperate climate.

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

Depth 29.4 m, average estimated flow 189 m³/s.

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

Flora: the varied and multiple geomorphological aspects and the Mediterranean climate, also favoured by the thermoregulatory action of the lake, have led to the formation of a variety of environments characterised by different groups of vegetation.

The vegetation is distributed according to the relief of the land and is divided into zones which are directly related to the variation in ecological parameters.

As in all marshy environments, the most widespread vegetation is reed beds which cover the majority of the banks, both on the River Tiber and the Fafa River. It consists mostly of *Phragmites australis*, together with other species typical of wetlands, such as *Juncus effusus*, *Typha latifolia* with its maroon floescence and *Iris pseudacorus*.

The continuous stretch of reeds adjoin cultivated areas or formations of mixed *Typha* inland and typical aquatic vegetation river-side, such as *Potamogeton* sp., *Myriophyllum* sp. and *Lemiza* sp.

Near the banks of the river along the reed thickets and at the edge of cultivated land and the pastures, on which broom and hawthorn are found, a vegetation consisting of *Ajin* sp., *Populus* sp. and *Salix* sp. is found.

The hilly areas of the nature reserve are covered by woody zones with various species of deciduous oak trees such as *Quercus pubescens*, *Q. frainetto* and *Q. petraea*, with a typical Mediterranean scrub vegetation, such as *Pbiilyrea lanola*, *Cleniatis* sp., *Myrtus communis*, *Pistacia letiscur*, *Ruscus aculeatus* and *Smilci aspera* in the undergrowth.

The only species of standard perennial tree is *Quercus lier* which, together with *Cersis siliquastrum*, characterises the hilly slopes during the winter months.

The habitats are reed thickets, marsh woodland, riverine woodland, mixed thermophile deciduous forest and Mediterranean evergreen sclerophyllous forest.

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

Epipactis palustris, *Sagittaria sagittifolia*.

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

Pandion haliaetus, Egretta alba, Ciconia nigra, Ciconia ciconia, Emys orbicularis, Hystrix cristata.

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

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

Privately owned, 22 ha Agricultural University of Nazzano, 300 ha (approx.) Publicly Owned, 8 ha ENEL (Italian electricity utility).

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

60 ha (approx.) mixed cultivation; 10 ha mixed woodland; 300 ha artificial water body.

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 nature reserve environment is severely threatened by progressive silting of the point at which the Farfa River flows into the River Tiber.

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)

Restoration of the abandoned "Meana" quarry and regulation of reed beds and river flows (Life 1996 Project).

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

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

Coypu, Porcupine and Wild Boar. Equipment: Radiculars, binoculars, night viewers and field equipment for census of fauna (water birds).

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

Visitors' Centre (Casale Bussolini in Nazzano and Casale delle Cesa in Torrita Tiberina, Museo delle Notte (Casale della Vedova in Nazzano), information brochures, guide of the flora, guide of the fauna, general guide and video "Il gioiello del Tevere" (The jewel of the Tiber).

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

10,000 – 15,000 visitors annually.

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

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

30. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

- Di Carlo e. a. 1983. *“Il popolamento avifaunistico delle acque interne (laghi, fiumi, bacini artificiali) dell’Italia centrale”*.(The birdlife of the rivers and natural and man-made lakes of Central Italy). Abstract from “Gli ucelli d’Italia”, a. VIII, n.3, Settembre, 1-38.
 - Gallo M.,1983. *“La riserva naturale Nazzano-Tevere-Farfa”* (The Nazzano-Tiber-Farfa Nature Reserve). Il Comune democratico 2, Marzo-Aprile, 73-8, Edizione delle Autonomie.
 - Gallo M., 1983. *“Ricerche di Falconiformi nidificanti e di passo nel territorio della riserva naturale Tevere-Farfa e nelle limitrofe (Roma)”* (Study of breeding and migrating Falconiformi in the Tiber-Farfa Nature Reserve and surrounding areas - Rome). Abstract from “Gli ucelli d’Italia”, a. VIII, n.4, Dicembre, 231-9.
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