

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:

1999

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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Italy

3. Name of wetland: Stagno di Sale e' Porcus

4. Geographical coordinates: 40°01'N 008°21'E

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.)

6. Area: 330 hectares

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

It is a representative example of a natural wetland, characteristic of Mediterranean biogeographical region. This wetland is a typical Mediterranean temporary saline pond with one narrow connection to the sea. It includes a reedy dune system and it supports a good assemblage of rare, vulnerable or endangered species of animals and important habitats.

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* -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:

Dr. Ivo Manca - Dipartimento di Zoologia e Antropologia Biologica - Università di Sassari V. Muroni, 25
Sassari, Tel. 079 228663, Fax 079 228665, E-mail zoologia@ssmain.uniss.it -

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).

It supports an important number of rare or endangered species of animals, over 30 endangered bird species, with many specimens, over 7.000 birds. It supports over 3.000 Phoenicopterus ruber and it permitted the nest building to various endangered bird species, e.g. Tadorna tadorna, Grus grus, Porphyrio porphyrio.

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

It is located in the West of Sardinia Region, close to Oristano town. This land belongs to Riola Sardo and San Vero Milis villages.

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

This wetland is a typical Mediterranean temporary saline pond with one narrow connection to the sea and it includes a retry dune system, which exist only in winter or late spring. In the summer the connection to the sea to get filled with earth.

It is originated by a depression of the ground filled up by marine intrusion, by rainwater and by underground water.

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

The natural and artificial control on the of depth water change permitted to avoid the coastal erosion and the flood control.

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

- Embryonic shifting dunes. It represents the first stages of dune construction, constituted by raised sand surfaces of the upper beach. Plants: Agropyrum junceum, Anthemis maritima.
- Annual vegetation of drift lines. This is a formation of representatives of annuals and perennials plants, growing on drift material and gravels rich in nitrogenous organic matter. Plants: Cakile maritima and Salsola kali.
- Coastal lagoons. It is characterised by varying salinity and water volume, partially separated from the sea by sandbanks. Salinity may vary from brackish water to hypersalinity depending on rainfall, evaporation and the addition of fresh seawater. Plants: few brackish but not deep water: Potamogeton crispus Chara sp.; many brackish and temporary water species Ruppia maritima, Lamprolarnax sp.
- Vegetated sea cliffs of the Mediterranean coasts with endemic Limonium sp. It is a vegetated cliffs and rocky shores of the Mediterranean. Plants: Limonium densiflorum.
- Mediterranean salt meadows. It consists of various Mediterranean communities: tall rush saltmarshes dominated by Juncus acutus, Aster tripolium; short rush, sedge and clover saltmarshes characterised by Hordeum marinum, and humid meadows behind littoral with Ranunculus aquatilis.
- Mediterranean halophilous scrubs. It is characterised by perennial vegetation of marine saline muds mainly composed of scrubs. Plants: Salicornia europaea, Suaeda maritima, Arthrocnemum glaucum, Hordeum marinum.

- Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria*. It is characterised by a mobile dunes forming the cordons of dune system of the coast of the Mediterranean. Plants: *Ammophilion arenariae*.
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17. Noteworthy flora: (indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc)

Polygonum scoparium, schizoendemism produced by *P. equeisetiforme* cycle.

Stachys glutinosa, paleoendemism.

Limonium densiflorum, Corsica-Sicily-Algeria e Sardinia subendemism.

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

Hyla sarda: endemic specie.

Emys orbicularis: endangered specie.

Testudo hermanni: endemic specie.

Egretta garzetta: endangered specie, over 20 specimens.

Egretta alba: endangered specie, over 10 specimens.

Ardea cinerea: endangered specie, over 200 specimens.

Plegadis falcinellus: endangered specie, few specimens.

Platalea leucorodia: endangered specie, few specimens.

Phoenicopterus ruber: very endangered specie (site very important for the migration of this), over 3000 specimens

Anser anser: few specimens (site important for the migration).

Tadorna tadorna: very endangered specie, over 50 specimens (site important site for nest building).

Anas penelope: endangered specie, over 1500 specimens.

Anas strepera: endangered specie, over 300 specimens.

Anas crecca: endangered specie, over 50 specimens.

Anas platyrhynchos: over 20 specimens (site important for the migration).

Anas acuta: endangered specie, over 200 specimens.

Anas querquedula: rare and very endangered specie, few specimens.

Anas clypeata: endangered specie, over 3.000 specimens.

Aythya ferina: rare and very endangered specie, over 30 specimens.

Circus aeruginosus: endangered specie, over 5 specimens.

Rallus aquaticus: endangered specie, few specimens.

Gallinula chloropus: endangered specie, over 20 specimens.

Porphyrio porphyrio: rare in Europe, very endangered specie, few specimens (site important for nest building).

Fulica atra: abundant specie, over 1000 specimens.

Gru gru: endangered specie, few specimens.

Himantopus himantopus: very endangered specie, over 100 specimens, (important site for nest building).

Recurvirostra avosetta: rare in Europe, very endangered specie, over 100 specimens (site important for nest building).

Charadrius dubius: endangered specie, few specimens.

Charadrius alexandrinus: endangered specie, over 20 specimens.

Calidris minuta: endangered specie, over 50

Calidris alpina: endangered specie, over 20

Tringa totanus: very endangered specie, over 400 specimens (site important for nest-building)

Larus ridibundus: abundant specie, over 20 specimens.

Larus genei: endangered specie, few specimens.

Larus fuscus: very endangered specie, few specimens.

Larus cachinnans: abundant species, over 30 specimens.

Alcedo atthis: endangered specie, few specimens.

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

The site is important for the naturalistic tourism (bird watching) and as archaeological site.

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

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

a) The principal human activities in this wetland are: outdoor recreation, education and scientific research.

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

a) The principal problems affecting the site's ecological character are: an excessive human disturbance, an increment of the not naturalistic tourism, the construction of the new buildings or the new road, the water supply for agriculture use.

b) The principal problems that affecting the ecological character of the area around the site are: an increment of the agriculture, the construction of the new road, the used of chemical pollutants in agriculture.

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 government of Sardinia Region granted in used to LIPU (Italian Association for the Protection of the Birds) this wetland. This Association built a good management plan of protection for the wetland.

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

This wetland is considered by government of the Sardinian Region as a protected area for animals. It is inspected by the "Ispettorato forestale" of Sardinia Region administration's.

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

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

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

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

"Ispettorato forestale" of Sardinia Region administration's.

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

30. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

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Please return to: **Ramsar Convention Bureau, Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 GLAND, Switzerland**
Telephone: +41 22 999 0170 • Fax: +41 22 999 0169 • e-mail: ramsar@hq.iucn.org