



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 13 January 2026

Italy

Padule di Scarlino



Designation date	21 October 2013
Site number	2585
Coordinates	42°54'09"N 10°47'40"E
Area	206,00 ha

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 Padule di Scarlino wetland is a relict area and represents a remnant of an ancient and more extensive marshland, linked to the combined action of marine tides and the alluvial deposits of the Pecora River, reclaimed in the 19th century.

The site is characterized by the co-presence of a brackish wetland area closer to the coast, dominated by glasswort beds, with *Tamarix gallica* and *T. africana*, and a more inland freshwater one, with a still well-developed marsh reedbed and expanses of tall marsh grasslands (sedges, rushes, etc.), relict stands of *Fraxinus oxycarpa* and *Ulmus minor*, *Prunus spinosa*, and *Paliurus spina-christi*.

The wetland is part of the network of coastal marshlands of central-southern Tuscany, in ecological connection with other coastal wetlands (from north to south respectively: Lago e Padule di Massaciuccoli-Macchia di Migliarino-Tenuta San Rossore, Padule di Bolgheri, Padule Orti Bottagone, Padule della Diaccia Botrona, Padule della Trappola-Foce dell'Ombrone, Laguna di Orbetello, Lago di Burano), along the Mediterranean flyway.

This wetland area represents a valuable reference point primarily for avifauna and for plant species that are becoming rare (e.g., *Euphorbia palustris* L. VU on the Italian Red List), which are dependent on wetland areas.

The wetland is a reference point for the "target" species *Phoenicopterus roseus* and for important numbers of Anatidae (e.g., *Anas crecca*) during the winter season; furthermore, it hosts breeding species of conservation interest (*Acrocephalus melanopogon*, *Ardea purpurea*, *Circus aeruginosus*, *Emberiza schoeniclus*, *Ixobrychus minutus*, *Remiz pendulinus*), it is regularly frequented as a stopover or wintering site by *Aythya nyroca*, *Botaurus stellaris*, *Falco peregrinus*, *Pandion haliaetus*, *Zapornia parva*, *Zapornia porzana*, hosting winter roosts and a heronry of Ardeidae. Other significant reported species: *Aphanius fasciatus*, *Emys orbicularis*, *Chalcolestes parvidens*, *Coenagrion castellani*.

The wetland, recognized as a Special Area of Conservation, pursuant to the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, plays a fundamental role in the long-term conservation of fauna, flora and habitats within the network of coastal wetlands, both for the co-presence of differentiated habitats capable of supporting a high degree of biodiversity, and for its strategic location, as it constitutes the only local reference point between urban, industrial settlements and the tourist coast.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Responsible compiler

Institution/agency	Tuscany Region – Department for the Protection of Nature and the Sea
Postal address	Via di Novoli 26 50127 Firenze (Italy)

National Ramsar Administrative Authority

Institution/agency	Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security
Postal address	Via Cristoforo Colombo, 44 00147 Roma (Italy)

2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year	2000
To year	2024

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Padule di Scarlino
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2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps	0
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Boundaries description

The Padule di Scarlino is bounded, in the north-eastern area, between the Pecora River and the Fosso Allaoppa and, in the south-western area, between the Pecora River and the Canale Argine di Recinto, and is located in the immediate vicinity of the settlement of Puntone, near the coast.
The extent of the Ramsar site is larger than that of the homonymous SAC (206 ha compared to the 148 ha of the SAC), from which it differs in some polygons.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Tuscany Region, Province of Grosseto, Municipality of Scarlino
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b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Municipality of Scarlino
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2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes ☐ No ☒

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes ☐ No ☒

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha):	206
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Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries	206.202
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2.2.5 - Biogeography

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 Padule di Scarlino is a relictual wetland, recognized as a Special Area of Conservation under the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, and has been the subject of studies by the Italian Botanical Society as a biotope of vegetational interest worthy of conservation (AA.VV., 1971; Corti, 1971). The wetland plays a fundamental role in fulfilling the mission of the Ramsar Convention by preserving flora, fauna, and habitats over time, owing to its specific character as a coastal wetland composed of both a brackish and a freshwater area. This situation gives rise to an interesting mosaic of diverse habitats (wet meadows with freshwater species and reed beds, alongside saltwater grasslands with glasswort beds) capable of supporting a high degree of biodiversity. The wetland also contributes to the hydrological balance of the local territory during periods of heavy rainfall and floods of the Pecora River and the main canals (Canale Allacciante and Fosso Allaoppa), serving the function of a natural expansion basin. References AA.VV. (1971). Censimento dei biotopi di rilevante interesse vegetazionale meritevoli di conservazione in Italia [Census of biotopes of relevant vegetational interest worthy of conservation in Italy]. Gruppo di lavoro per la Conservazione della natura della Soc. Bot. Ital. [Working Group for Nature Conservation of the Italian Botanical Society], Camerino, 1. Corti, R. (1971). Padule di Scarlino. In: Censimento dei biotopi di rilevante interesse vegetazionale meritevoli di conservazione in Italia [Census of biotopes of relevant vegetational interest worthy of conservation in Italy], Vol. I, entry 9-21. Società Botanica Italiana, Camerino.
Other ecosystem services provided	The wetland is vital for the preservation of ecological and genetic diversity within the Mediterranean region, owing to its co-occurrence of brackish and freshwater environments. It conserves key habitats, plant species, and animal species in connection with the other wetlands of the coastal Maremma. The strategic positioning of the site along the Mediterranean flyway, located between the Padule Orti-Bottagone Ramsar site to the north and the Padule Diaccia Botrona Ramsar site to the south, assigns it a central role, particularly for waterbirds. It serves as the sole natural refuge in a zone surrounded by urban development, industrial areas, and a tourist-focused coastline.
Other reasons	Sustainable access to the area is provided by a wooden boardwalk that runs through the marsh's reed bed, beginning at the former Puntone pumping station. Visitors can also use two dedicated hides for birdwatching and nature photography. Also in Puntone, the Archaeological Museum of Portus Scabris is located within a historic water control building from the early 1900s. Furthermore, the site undergoes regular scientific monitoring, including the IWC (International Waterbird Census) for wintering waterbirds, coordinated by ISPRA.

☒ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

Optional text box to provide further information

The site supports flora and fauna species of conservation interest at international, Community [EU], national, and regional levels, as well as Habitats Directive habitats

☒ Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

The wetland supports all animal classes (avifauna, mammal fauna, herpetofauna, ichthyofauna, and entomofauna), with species of conservation concern. It also serves as a refuge for plant species that are associated with wetlands, included in Red Lists, becoming increasingly rare, uncommon in the reference area, or of phytogeographical interest.

Furthermore, the site contains habitats listed in the Habitats Directive, including some designated as priority habitats.

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

Optional text box to provide further information

The site is a vital hub for many waterbird species of conservation concern, supporting them at all stages of their life cycle, including migration, wintering, and breeding. It also provides a crucial stopover point for feeding and roosting, even for species that are more common elsewhere. Its role is especially critical as the area's only natural sanctuary, nestled between urban, industrial, and tourist-heavy coastlines. It acts as a key link in the network of wetlands between the Ramsar sites of Padule Orti-Bottagone to the north and Padule Diaccia Botrona to the south.

The wetland's importance extends to other wildlife as well. It provides habitat for amphibians and reptiles like the European pond turtle (*Emys orbicularis*) and the grass snake (*Natrix natrix*), and for threatened fish such as the Mediterranean killifish (*Aphanius fasciatus*). The area is also rich in dragonfly and damselfly species, some of which are on the Red List.

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Plantae								
TRACHEOPHYTA / MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Artemisia caerulescens</i>	☐	☒	☐		☐		Species considered rare in Tuscany.
TRACHEOPHYTA / MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Euphorbia palustris</i>	☒	☒	☐	LC	☐	VU - IUCN Red List of Italian Flora	
TRACHEOPHYTA / MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Fraxinus angustifolia oxycarpa</i>	☐	☒	☐		☐		Hygrophilous tree species with a limited local distribution
TRACHEOPHYTA / MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Halimione portulacoides</i>	☐	☒	☐		☐		A species that forms large grasslands in the backdunes.
TRACHEOPHYTA / LILIOPSIDA	<i>Juncus subulatus</i>	☐	☐	☐	LC	☐		Of phytogeographical interest
TRACHEOPHYTA / MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Oenanthe peucedanifolia</i>	☐	☐	☐		☐		Of phytogeographical interest
TRACHEOPHYTA / LILIOPSIDA	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	☐	☒	☐	LC	☐		Species that characterises riparian habitats in structural terms.
TRACHEOPHYTA / LILIOPSIDA	<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	☐	☒	☐	LC	☐		Species that characterises riparian habitats in structural terms.
TRACHEOPHYTA / MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Tamarix africana</i>	☐	☒	☐	LC	☐		Species that characterises riparian habitats in structural terms.
TRACHEOPHYTA / LILIOPSIDA	<i>Triglochin barleri</i>	☐	☒	☐		☐		Of phytogeographical interest
TRACHEOPHYTA / LILIOPSIDA	<i>Typha latifolia</i>	☐	☒	☐	LC	☐		Species that characterises riparian habitats in structural terms

Rossi G., Orsenigo S., Gargano D., Montagnani C., Peruzzi L., Fenu G., Abeli T., Alessandrini A., Astuti G., Bacchetta G., Bartolucci F., Bernardo L., Bovio M., Brullo S., Carta A., Castello M., Cogoni D., Conti F., Domina G., Foggi B., Gennai M., Gigante D., Iberite M., Lasen C., Magrini S., Nicoletta G., Pinna M.S., Poggio L., Prosser F., Santangelo A., Selvaggi A., Stinca A., Tartaglioni N., Troia A., Villani M.C., Wagensommer R.P., Wilhalm T., Blasi C., 2020 - "Lista Rossa della Flora Italiana. 2 Endemiti e altre specie minacciate". Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
		2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
Others																	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Aphanius fasciatus</i>	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention Habitats Directive, Annex II	Rare species in Tuscany
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Chalcolestes parvidens</i>	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐		Uncommon species Critical life cycle stage: entire life cycle
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Coenagrion castellani</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				VU	☐	☐		Critical life cycle stage: entire life cycle
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	<i>Elaphe quatuorlineata</i>	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention Habitats Directive, Annex II and IV	
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				NT	☐	☐	EN Italian Red List Appendix II, Bern Convention Habitats Directive, Annex II and IV	Critical life cycle stage: entire life cycle
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	<i>Triturus carnifex</i>	☒	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				VU	☐	☐	VU Italian Red List Appendix II, Bern Convention Habitats Directive, Annex II and IV	
Birds																	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Acrocephalus melanopogon</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	VU - Italian IUCN Red List Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: nesting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	VU - Italian IUCN Red List	Critical life cycle stage: nesting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anas crecca</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	EN - Italian IUCN Red List	Critical life cycle stage: migration, wintering
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	VU - Italian IUCN Red List, Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: migration,
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Ardea alba</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention, Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage:wintwring
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention, Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: migration
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				VU	☐	☐	VU - Italian IUCN Red List	Critical life cycle stage:wintering
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				NT	☐	☒	VU - Italian IUCN Red List Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: migration,
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	EN - Italian IUCN Red List. Appendix II, Bern Convention, Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: Year-round
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	VU - Italian IUCN Red List, Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: nesting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage:wintwring
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	VU - Italian IUCN Red List, Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: nesting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention, Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: Year-round
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	CR -Italian IUCN Red List, Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: nesting

Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
		2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☒	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: migration,, wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention	Critical life cycle stage: nesting
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention, Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage:wintwring
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	VU Italian Red List	Critical life cycle stage: migration,, nesting
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	EN - Italian IUCN Red List	Critical life cycle stage: nesting
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: migration,
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	VU - Italian IUCN Red List	Critical life cycle stage:wintwring
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Microcarbo pygmaeus</i>	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention Annex I, Birds Directiv	Critical life cycle stage: migration
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention, Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: migration,
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	CR Italian Red List Annex I, Birds Directiv	Critical life cycle stage: migration,, wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Phoenicopteropus roseus</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Bern Convention, Appendix II Annex II of the SPA/BIO Protocol to the Barcelona Convention Bonn Convention, Appendix II Birds Directive, Annex I	Critical life cycle stage: wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	VU - Italian IUCN Red List Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: migration,
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention	Critical life cycle stage:wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Porzana parva</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐					☐	☐	CR Italian Red List Appendix II, Bern Convention Annex I, Birds Directiv	Critical life cycle stage: migration
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Porzana porzana</i>	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	CR Italian Red List Appendix II, Bern Convention, Annex I, Birds Directive	Critical life cycle stage: migration
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	VU - Italian IUCN Red List	Critical life cycle stage: nesting
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	VU - Italian IUCN Red List	Critical life cycle stage: migration,
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II, Bern Convention	Critical life cycle stage: migration,

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

Italian Red List: Rondinini, C., Battistoni, A., Teofili, C. (compilatori) - 2022 "Lista Rossa IUCN dei vertebrati italiani 2022". Comitato Italiano IUCN e Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica
 Riservato E., Fabbri R., Festi A., Grieco C., Hardersen S., Landi F., Utzeri C., Rondinini C., Battistoni A., Teofili C. (compilatori) 2014. Lista Rossa IUCN delle libellule Italiane. Comitato Italiano IUCN e Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, Roma

Italian Red List: Rondinini, C., Battistoni, A., Teofili, C. (compilers) - 2022. "IUCN Red List of Italian Vertebrates 2022". Italian IUCN Committee and Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security.
 Riservato E., Fabbri R., Festi A., Grieco C., Hardersen S., Landi F., Utzeri C., Rondinini C., Battistoni A., Teofili C. (compilers) 2014. IUCN Red List of Italian Dragonflies. Italian IUCN Committee and Ministry of the Environment and of the Protection of the Territory and the Sea, Rome.

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 Flooded Grasslands (<i>Juncetalia maritimi</i>)	☒	Mediterranean communities of halophyte and subhalophyte plants belonging to the order <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> , which consist of coastal and subcoastal formations resembling grasslands and generally dominated by rushes or other hydrophilic species.	Ann. I Habitats Directive
1420 Mediterranean halophytic prairies and shrublands (<i>Sarcocorniea fruticosae</i>).	☒	Perennial halophyte vegetation, mainly comprising succulent <i>Sarcocornia</i> and <i>Arthrocnemum</i> (<i>Sarcocorniea fruticosae</i>), forms low-diversity communities on flooded clay soils with variable salinity and drying, serving as bird nesting sites.	Ann. I Habitats Directive
92a0 Riparian woodlands dominated by <i>Salix alba</i> and/or <i>Populus alba</i> and/or <i>P. nigra</i> and/or <i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> .	☒	Mediterranean riparian woodlands dominated by <i>Salix</i> and <i>Populus</i> , typical of the <i>Populion albae</i> and <i>Salicion albae</i> alliances, found in meso-, thermo-, and sub-Mediterranean climatic zones.	Ann. I Habitats Directive
3280 Constantly flowing Mediterranean rivers with <i>Paspalo-Agrostidion</i> species and hanging curtains of <i>Salix</i> and <i>Populus alba</i>	☒	Halophytic vegetation along Mediterranean watercourses on moist soils; a dense, nearly monospecific sward dominated by <i>Paspalum</i> with <i>C. dactylon</i> and <i>P. viridis</i> , colonizing fine-grained eutrophic fluvial deposits	Ann. I Habitats Directive
6420 Mediterranean wet prairies with tall herbaceous plants of the <i>Molinio-Holoschoenion</i> .	☒	Tall Mediterranean rushes and hydrophilic herbaceous communities (<i>Molinio-Holoschoenion</i>) mainly occur on coastal dunes with sandy-clay soils and occasionally in inland moist habitats that can tolerate brief dry periods.	Ann. I Habitats Directive
1310 <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	☒	Dominant annual halophytes (<i>Salicornia</i> , <i>Chenopodiaceae</i>) in muddy brackish marshes form grasslands in flooded areas or openings within perennial stands (<i>Sarcocornia</i> , <i>Arthrocnemum</i> , <i>Halocnemum</i>).	Ann. I Habitats Directive
1150 Coastal lagoons*	☒	Coastal aquatic environments with shallow, lentic, saline or brackish waters, characterized by significant seasonal variations in both salinity and depth, driven by the balance of water inputs (marine or freshwater), precipitation, and temperature-control	*Listed as a priority habitat in Annex I of the Habitats Directive.

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

4.1 - Ecological character

The site is characterized by diverse habitats, due to the co-presence of coastal saltwater marsh areas and inland freshwater wetlands. The marsh is connected to the sea through drainage channels.

The dominant plant formation is the *Phragmites australis* reed bed, with *Juncus* spp. and, more rarely, *Typha latifolia*, *Iris pseudacorus*, and *Scirpus maritimus*. From the center of the marshy area to Puntone, the vegetation cover is dominated by *Juncus gerardii* and *Puccinellia festuciformis*. Near the Canale Allacciante, vegetation belonging to the *Limonium narbrodensis*-*Puccinellietum festuciformis* plant community is present, with species such as: *Sarcocornia perennis*, *Limonium narbrodensis*, *Puccinellia festuciformis*, and *Atriplex portulacoides*. Near the western pond, the vegetation appears to belong to the *Paspalo paspaloidis*-*Polygonetum viridis* plant community. Inland, Mediterranean trees and shrubs are also present (formations of *Pistacia lentiscus*, *Phillyrea angustifolia*, *Rhamnus alaternus*, *Ulmus minor*, and *Paliurus spina-christi*).

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
J: Coastal brackish / saline lagoons		2		Representative

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 > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		2		Representative

Other non-wetland habitat

Other non-wetland habitats within the site	Area (ha) if known
5330: Thermo-Mediterranean and Pre-Desert Shrublands	

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Phylum	Scientific name	Position in range / endemism / other
TRACHEOPHYTALILIOPSIDA	<i>Bolboschoenus maritimus</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTALILIOPSIDA	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Limonium narbonense</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Paliurus spina-christi</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTALILIOPSIDA	<i>Puccinellia festuciformis</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	

Invasive alien plant species

Phylum	Scientific name	Impacts
TRACHEOPHYTALILIOPSIDA	<i>Arundo donax</i>	Potential

4.3.2 - Animal species

Invasive alien animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Impacts
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Myocastor coypus bonariensis</i>	Actual (major impacts)
ARTHROPODA/MALACOSTRACA	<i>Procambarus clarkii</i>	Actual (minor impacts)
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	Actual (minor impacts)
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	<i>Trachemys scripta</i>	Actual (major impacts)

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
C: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with mild winters	Csa: Mediterranean (Mild with dry, hot summer)

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

Entire river basin ☐

Upper part of river basin ☐

Middle 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.

Numerous channels connect the wetlands to the Tyrrhenian Sea, the most important being: the Fiumara Puntone di Scarlino on the eastern border with the Allacciante canal, and the Pecora River, which flows through the Marsh.

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral ☐

Organic ☐

No available information ☒

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

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

Geologically, the area is a recent Holocene formation. The sand dunes are characterized by a high percentage of iron

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	
Usually seasonal, ephemeral or intermittent water present	No change

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source	
Water inputs from precipitation	☒	No change

Water destination

Presence?	
Feeds groundwater	No change
Marine	No change

Stability of water regime

Presence?	
Water levels fluctuating (including tidal)	No change

Please add any comments on the water regime and its determinants (if relevant). Use this box to explain sites with complex hydrology:

The Padule environment is a plain featuring alternating emerged and submerged areas, the extent of which varies with precipitation and season.
In the area nearest the coast, the site is characterized by brackish environments resulting from saltwater infiltration from the groundwater and via channels and ditches directly or indirectly connected to the sea. Moving further inland, freshwater environments become prevalent.

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 ☐

Sediment regime is highly variable, either seasonally or inter-annually ☐

Sediment regime unknown ☒

4.4.6 - Water pH

Acid (pH<5.5) ☐Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4) ☐Alkaline (pH>7.4) ☐Unknown ☒

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l) ☐Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (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 ☒

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 site itself:

i) broadly similar ☐ ii) significantly different ☒

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development ☐Surrounding area has higher human population density ☐Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use ☐Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types ☒

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)	Low

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	Medium
Erosion protection	Soil, sediment and nutrient retention	Medium
Climate regulation	Local climate regulation/buffering of change	Medium
Hazard reduction	Coastal shoreline and river bank stabilization and storm protection	Medium

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Low
Scientific and educational	Educational activities and opportunities	Medium
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	Medium

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Biodiversity	Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganisms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	High

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site? Yes ☐ No ☒ Unknown ☐

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 use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland ☐

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

Description if applicable

Evidence of marshland fishing and the weaving of marsh plants (common reed and rushes). The Archaeological Museum of Portus Scabris (a gateway to the Park of the Metalliferous Hills), is housed in an early 20th-century waterworks building that once overlooked the ancient Lake Scarlino (now the Padule). Portus Scabris was a renowned port of call, mentioned in ancient sources, with merchant ship traffic dating as far back as the 3rd century BC. This is attested by the museum's archaeological findings, which include objects accidentally dropped into the sea during the loading and unloading of ships, as well as amphorae and pottery damaged during voyages and thrown into the sea to clear the holds.

iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction 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 character of the wetland ☐

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
Public land (unspecified)	☒	☐

5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:

Tuscany Region – Department of Nature Conservation and the Sea

Provide the name and/or title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:

Ing. Gilda Ruberti

Postal address:

Via di Novoli 26 – 50127 Firenze Italy

E-mail address:

gilda.ruberti@regione.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
Housing and urban areas	Medium impact	High impact	☐	☒
Commercial and industrial areas	High impact	High impact	☐	☒
Tourism and recreation areas	High impact	High impact	☐	☒

Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Drainage	Medium impact	Medium impact	☐	☒
Water abstraction	Medium impact	Medium impact	☐	☒
Salinisation	Medium impact	Medium impact	☒	☒
Water releases	High impact	High impact	☒	☒
Canalisation and river regulation	High impact	High impact	☒	☒

Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Annual and perennial non-timber crops	Medium impact	Medium impact	☒	☒
Livestock farming and ranching	Low impact	Low impact	☒	☒

Energy production and mining

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Renewable energy	Medium impact	High impact	☐	☒

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	☐	☒
Utility and service lines (e.g., pipelines)	High impact	High impact	☒	☒

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	High impact	High impact	☐	☒
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	Low impact	Low impact	☐	☒

Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Recreational and tourism activities	unknown impact	unknown impact	☐	☒

Natural system modifications

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Fire and fire suppression	High impact	High impact	☒	☒

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	Low impact	Low impact	☒	☒

Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Household sewage, urban waste water	Medium impact	Medium impact	☐	☒
Industrial and military effluents	High impact	High impact	☐	☒
Agricultural and forestry effluents	Medium impact	High impact	☒	☒
Garbage and solid waste	High impact	High impact	☒	☒
Air-borne pollutants	Medium impact	Medium impact	☐	☒

Climate change and severe weather

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Habitat shifting and alteration	High impact	High impact	☒	☒
Droughts	Medium impact	Medium impact	☒	☒
Storms and flooding	Medium impact	Medium impact	☒	☒

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	ZSC Padule di Scarlino IT51A0006		partly

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

- Ia Strict Nature Reserve ☐
- Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection ☐
- II 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	Proposed
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Proposed
Hydrology management/restoration	Proposed
Land conversion controls	Proposed
Faunal corridors/passage	Proposed
Improvement of water quality	Proposed
Soil management	Proposed

Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Proposed
Control of invasive alien plants	Proposed
Control of invasive alien animals	Proposed

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Harvest controls/poaching enforcement	Proposed
Management of water abstraction/takes	Proposed
Regulation/management of wastes	Proposed
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Partially implemented
Research	Partially implemented

Other:

Current protection measures:

D.G.R. (Regional Council Resolution) no. 1009/2025: "Direttiva 92/43/CE "Habitat" - art. 4 e 6 - approvazione obiettivi e misure di conservazione di 139 siti Natura 2000 (SIC, ZSC, ZSC/ZPS) della Regione Toscana" [Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC - Articles 4 and 6 - approval of conservation objectives and measures for 139 Natura 2000 sites (SCI, SAC, SAC/SPA) of the Tuscany Region].

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? No

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

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

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant): <https://www.regione.toscana.it/siti-natura-2000> <https://www.regione.toscana.it/-/aree-ramsar>

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	Proposed
Animal community	Proposed
Animal species (please specify)	Proposed
Plant community	Proposed

Wintering Waterbird Censuses (IWC ISPRA)

Animal species:

Elaphe quatuorlineata, Emys orbicularis, Triturus carnifex, Trachemys scripta

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

AA.VV. (1971) - Censimento dei biotopi di rilevante interesse vegetazionale meritevoli di conservazione in Italia. Gruppo di lavoro per la Conservazione della natura della Soc. Bot.Ital., Camerino, 1.

Corti R. (1971) - Padule di Scarlino. In: Censimento dei biotopi di rilevante interesse vegetazionale meritevoli di conservazione in Italia. Società Botanica Italiana, Camerino Vol. I, scheda 9-21.

Riservato E., Fabbri R., Festi A., Grieco C., Hardersen S., Landi F., Utzeri C., Rondinini C., Battistoni A., Teofili C. (compilatori), 2014 - Lista Rossa IUCN delle libellule Italiane. Comitato Italiano IUCN e Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, Roma

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Rossi G., Montagnani C., Gargano D., Peruzzi L., Abeli T., Ravera S., Cogoni A., Fenu G., Magrini S., Gennai M., Foggi B., Wagensommer R.P., Venturella G., Blasi C., Raimondo F.M., Orsenigo S. (Eds.), 2013 - Lista Rossa della Flora Italiana. 1. Policy Species e altre specie minacciate. Comitato Italiano IUCN e Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare

Rossi G., Orsenigo S., Gargano D., Montagnani C., Peruzzi L., Fenu G., Abeli T., Alessandrini A., Astuti G., Bacchetta G., Bartolucci F., Bernardo L., Bovio M., Brullo S., Carta A., Castello M., Cogoni D., Conti F., Domina G., Foggi B., Gennai M., Gigante D., Iberite M., Lasen C., Magrini S., Nicoletta G., Pinna M.S., Poggio L., Prosser F., Santangelo A., Selvaggi A., Stinca A., Tartaglini N., Troia A., Villani M.C., Wagensommer R.P., Wilhalm T., Blasi C., 2020 - Lista Rossa della Flora Italiana. 2 Endemiti e altre specie minacciate. Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare

Viciani D., Gabellini A., Biagini P. (2001) - La vegetazione del Padule di Scarlino (con note illustrative della Carta della Vegetazione, scala 1:12.000). Regione Toscana, Provincia di Grosseto, Bandite di Scarlino. S.EL.CA srl – Firenze

Zenatello M., Baccetti N., Borghesi F., 2014 - Risultati dei censimenti degli uccelli acquatici svernanti in Italia. Distribuzione, stima e trend delle popolazioni nel 2001-2010. ISPRA, Serie Rapporti, 206/2014

Websites

<https://www.regione.toscana.it/siti-natura-2000>

<https://www.regione.toscana.it/-/aree-ramsar>

<https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

<https://www.iucn.it/liste-rosse-italiane.php>

<https://www.mase.gov.it/pagina/liste-rosse-nazionali>

<https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

<https://cms.int/en/species/appendix-i-ii-cms>

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/bern-convention>

<https://www.mase.gov.it/pagina/direttiva-uccelli>

<https://www.mase.gov.it/pagina/direttiva-habitat>

<https://raccoltanormativa.consiglio.regione.toscana.it/articolo?urndoc=urn:nir:regione.toscana:legge:2015-03-19;30>

<http://vnr.unipg.it/habitat/index.jsp>

<https://dryades.units.it/floritaly/index.php>

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

iii. a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

<no data available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Winter landscape of the Padule di Scarlino. (Marco Porciani, 30-12-2013)



Grey lag Geese (Anser anser) on the wet meadows in front of the small lake at the end of the footpath. (Marco Porciani, 30-12-2013)



The pond at the end of the boardwalk path (Marco Porciani, 15-02-2025)



View of the marsh's reed bed from the east side. (Marco Porciani, 18-02-2021)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation	2013-10-21
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