



Wild urban woodlands: inappropriate occupier of abandoned spaces?

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Summary

- Novel urban ecosystems and green infrastructures (GI)
- Ecosystem services of Wild Urban Woodlands (WUW)
- The role of WUW within urban plans: the Italian case study
- Conclusion and new perspectives



Types of urban nature

Nature 1



Remnants of
pristine landscapes

Nature 2



Patches of
agrarian landscapes

Nature 3

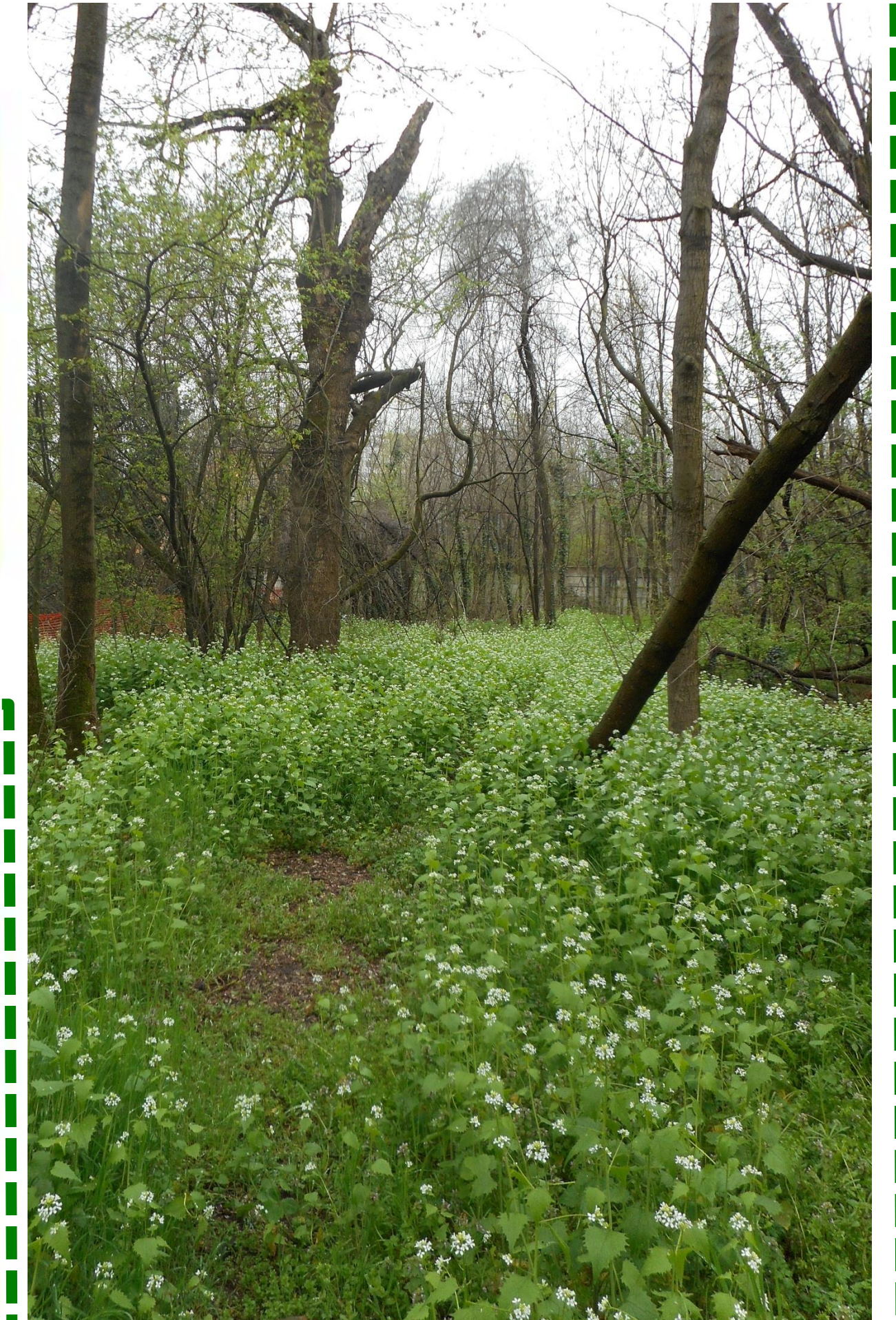


Designed urban
green spaces

Nature 4



Novel urban
ecosystems



Similarity to historical natural conditions
Occurrence of native species

Ecological novelty
Occurrence of nonnative species

Delivery of ecosystem services



“Thematic Strategy on the Urban Environment” [COM/2005/0718 final]

“Green Infrastructure (GI) - Enhancing Europe’s Natural Capital” [COM (2013) 249 final]

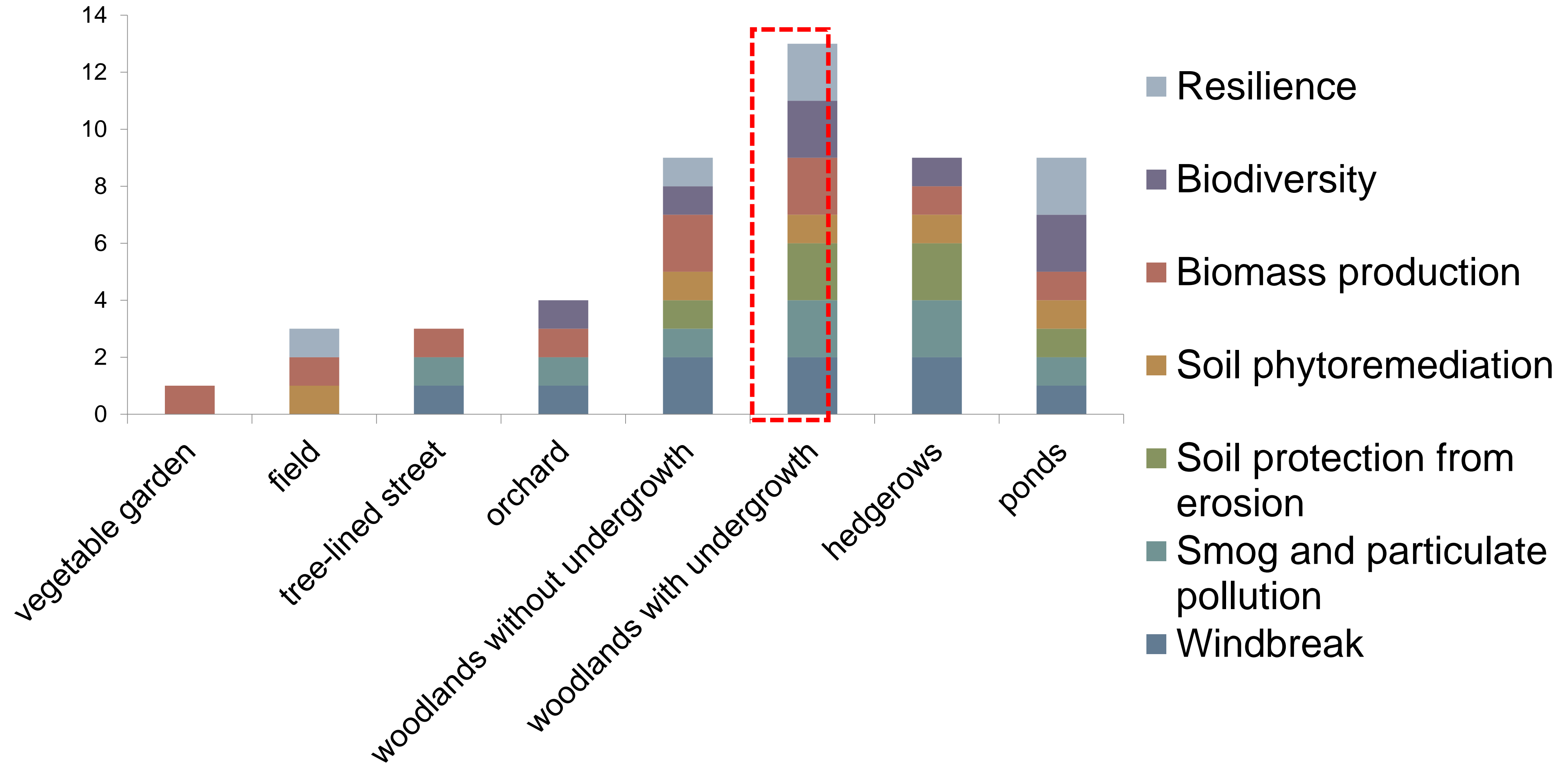
“7th Environment Action Programme” [Decision N° 1386/2013/EU]

Science for Environment Policy (2016) No net land take by 2050? Future Brief 14.
European Commission - Science Communication Unit, UWE, Bristol.

BROWNFIELD REGENERATION
(UE Science for Environmental Policy 2013)



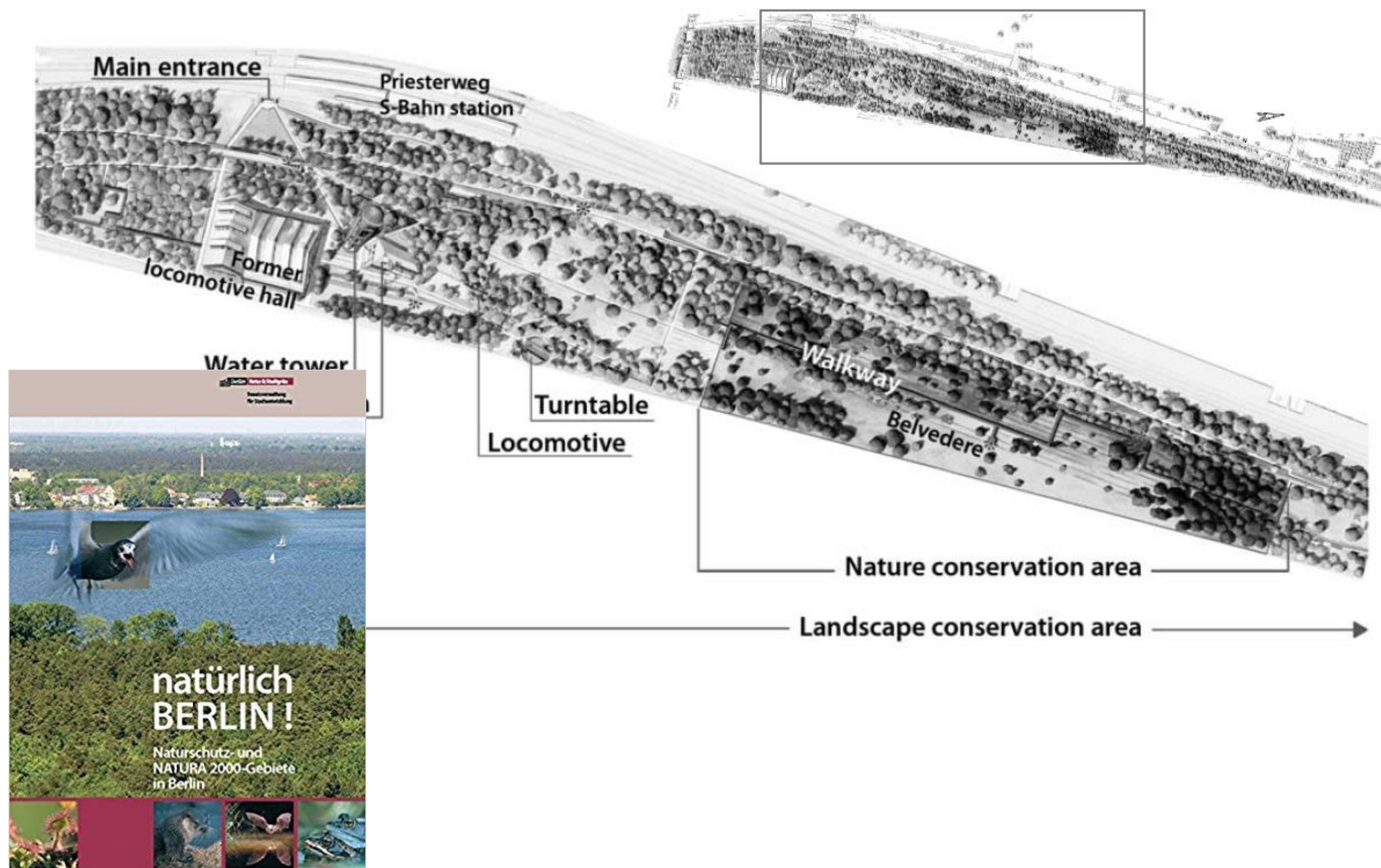
Ecosystems services of WUW



WUW and urban planning (European background)

Brownfields As an Element of Green Infrastructure for Implementing Ecosystem Services into Urban Areas

Juliane Mathey¹; Stefanie Röblier²; Juliane Banse³; Iris Lehmann⁴; and Anne Bräuer⁵



Living in the Urban Wildwoods: A Case Study of Birchwood, Warrington New Town, UK

Authors

Authors and affiliations

Anna Jorgensen, James Hitchmough, Nigel Dunnett

Italian case studies

GENERAL POINTS

new wilderness as
recent topic in urban
planning

different former land
uses

heterogeneous drivers
and consequences

N	Town	Land use	Surface (ha)
1	Padova (PD)	arable land	1.35
2	Milano (MI)	extractive area/building site	5.45
3	Bologna (BO)	military area	20

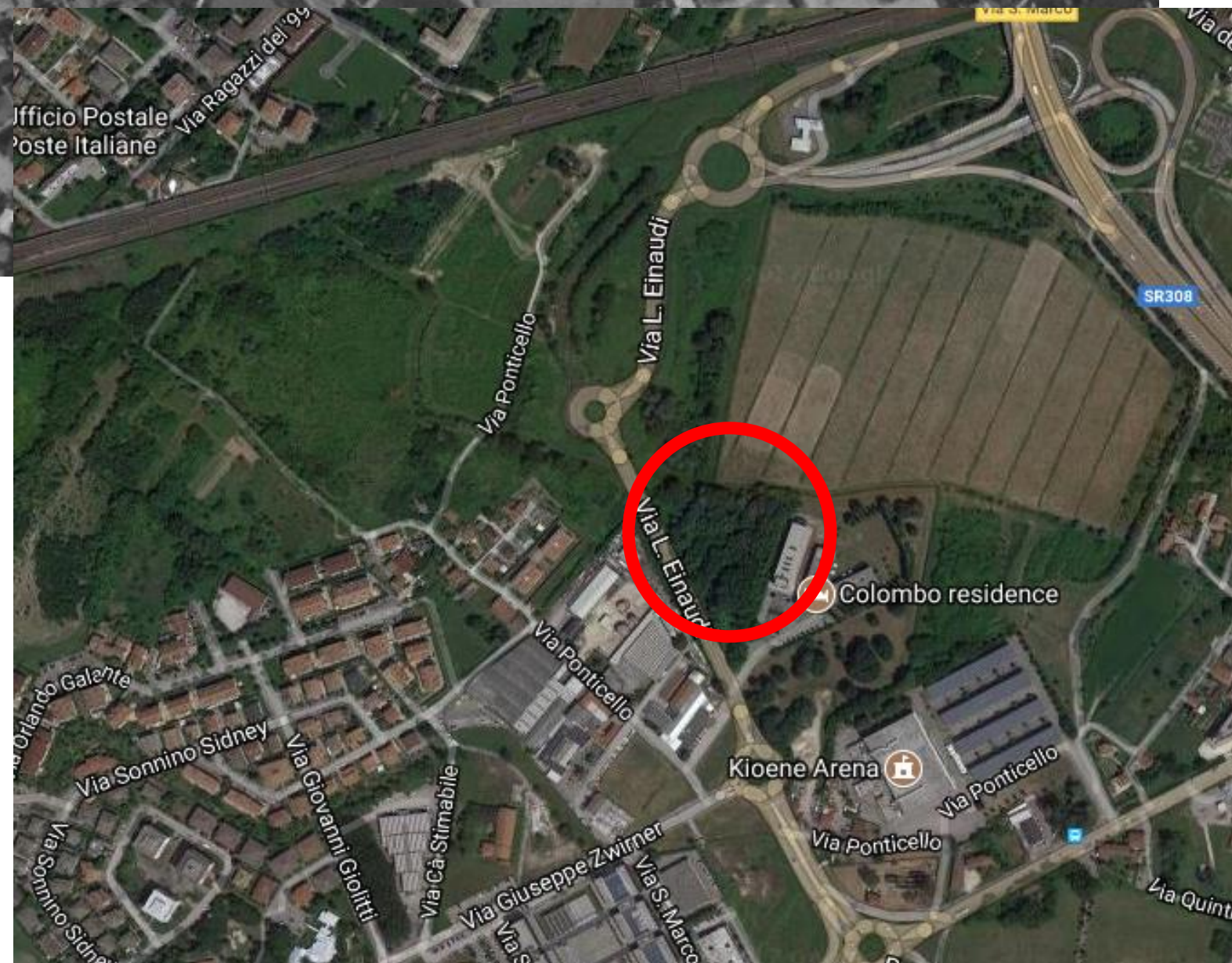




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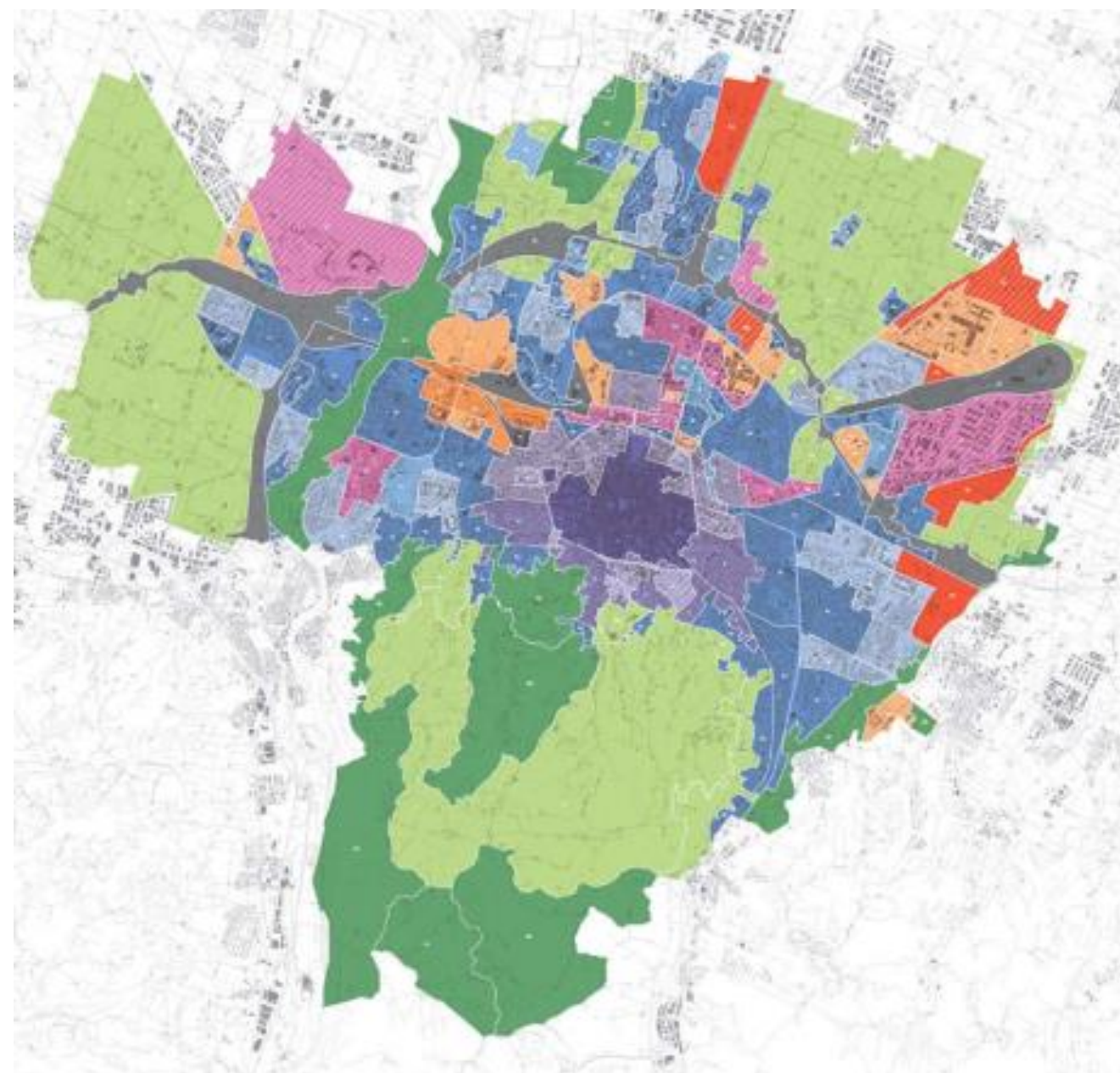
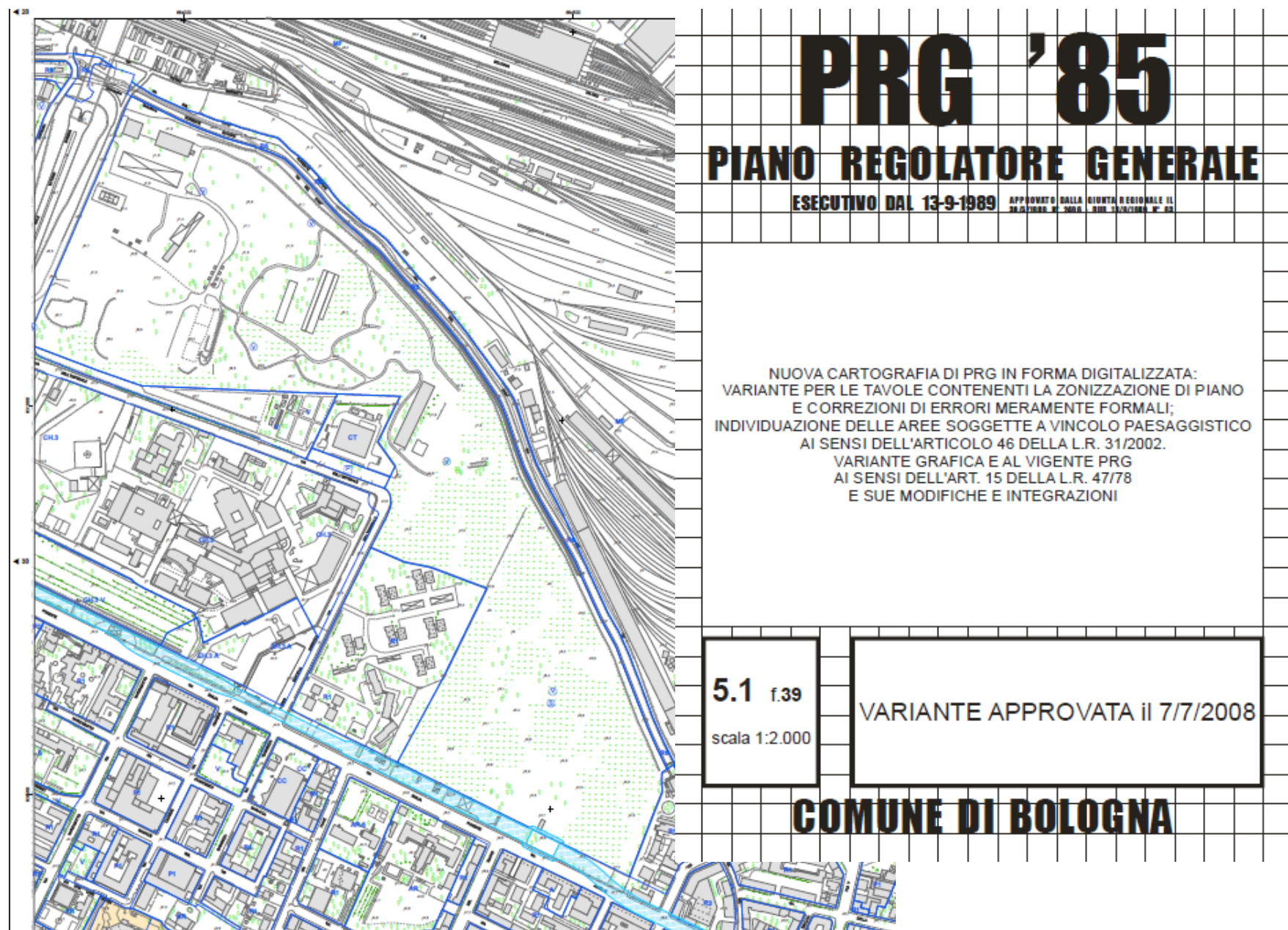


Padova



Milano





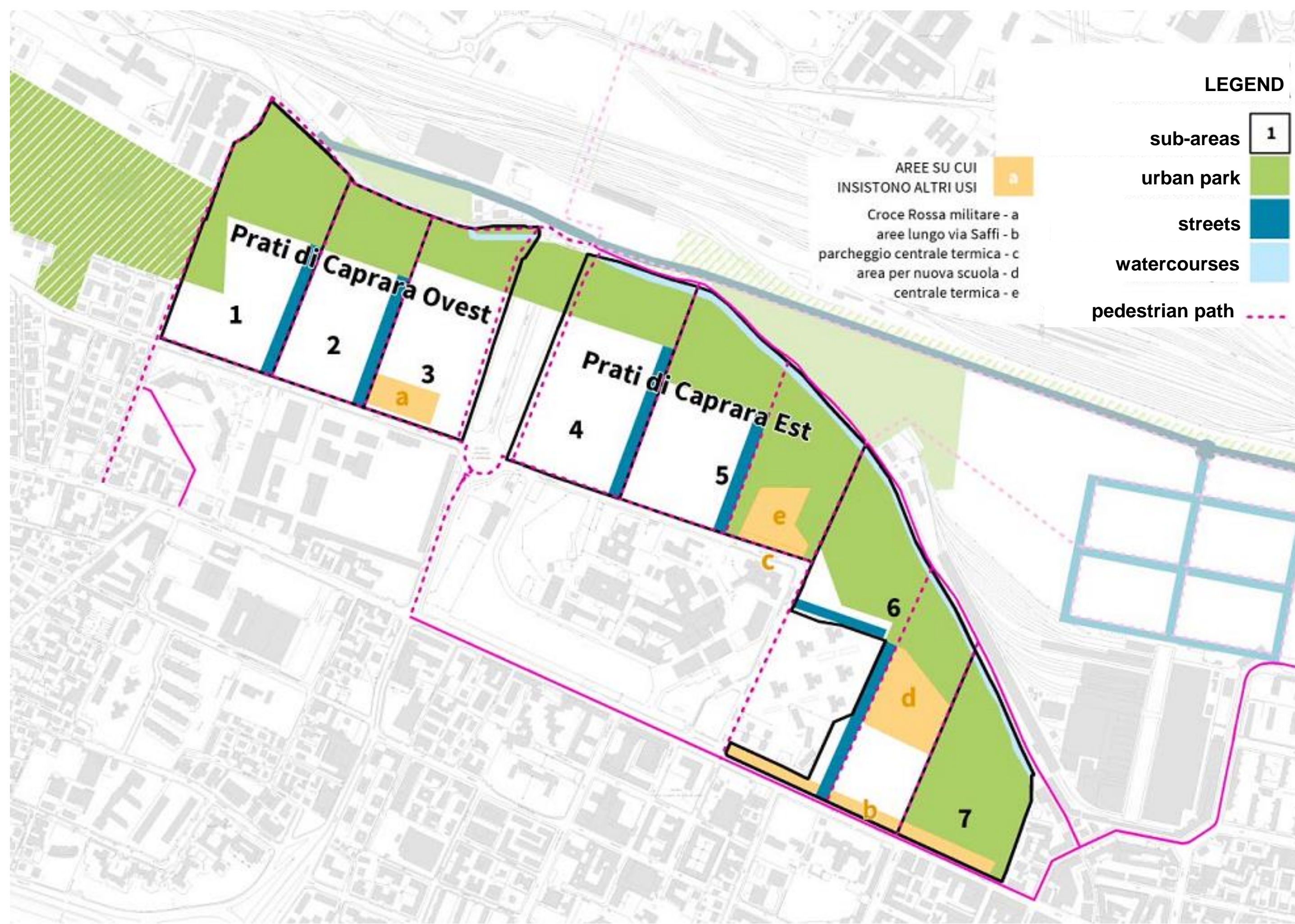
Bologna current strategic plan
(Regional law 20/2000)



	1985		1990		2008	
	Urban zone	Urban plan	Urban zone	Urban plan	Urban zone	Urban plan
	Military area	PRG regional law 47/1978	Green and sport area	PRG variance regional law 47/1978	Mixed replacement area <i>Regeneration of public areas</i>	PSC (2008) POC (2016)



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Conclusions

- Wild woodlands represents an opportunity for the urban ecosystem, even for the cost-effectiveness in regeneration process of abandoned areas;
- Need for an integration of these areas within the urban planning process in Italy as additional green areas;
- Lack of novel urban ecosystems mapping activity within the urban plans;
- Planning tools are required to manage these dynamic wild areas maximising their ecosystem services.