

# Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS)

*Categories approved by Recommendation 4.7 (1990), as amended by Resolution VIII.13 of the 8<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Contracting Parties (2002) and Resolutions IX.1 Annex B, IX.6, IX.21 and IX. 22 of the 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Contracting Parties (2005).*

This Ramsar Information Sheet has been converted to meet the 2009 – 2012 format, but the RIS content has not been updated in this conversion. The new format seeks some additional information which could not yet be included. This information will be added when future updates of this Ramsar Information Sheet are completed. Until then, notes on any changes in the ecological character of the Ramsar site may be obtained from the Ecological Character Description (if completed) and other relevant sources.

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## 1. Name and address of the compiler of this form:

Division of Environmental Planning  
Environmental Protection Agency  
PO Box 155  
BRISBANE ALBERT STREET QLD 4002  
Ph: (07) 3227 6938  
Fax: (07)3227 7237

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.

DD MM YY

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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

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## 2. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

June 1999

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## 3. Country:

Australia

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## 4. Name of the Ramsar site:

The precise name of the designated site in one of the three official languages (English, French or Spanish) of the Convention. Alternative names, including in local language(s), should be given in parentheses after the precise name.

Currawinya Lakes (Currawinya National Park)

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## 5. Designation of new Ramsar site or update of existing site:

Currawinya Lakes was designated on 11 March 1996

This RIS is for (tick one box only):

- a) Designation of a new Ramsar site ; or  
b) Updated information on an existing Ramsar site

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## 6. For RIS updates only, changes to the site since its designation or earlier update:

### a) Site boundary and area

The Ramsar site boundary and site area are unchanged:

or

If the site boundary has changed:

- i) the boundary has been delineated more accurately ; or  
ii) the boundary has been extended ; or  
iii) the boundary has been restricted\*\*

and/or

**If the site area has changed:**

- i) the area has been measured more accurately ; or
- ii) the area has been extended ; or
- iii) the area has been reduced\*\*

\*\* **Important note:** If the boundary and/or area of the designated site is being restricted/reduced, the Contracting Party should have followed the procedures established by the Conference of the Parties in the Annex to COP9 Resolution IX.6 and provided a report in line with paragraph 28 of that Annex, prior to the submission of an updated RIS.

**b) Describe briefly any major changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar site, including in the application of the Criteria, since the previous RIS for the site:**

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**7. Map of site:**

Refer to Annex III of the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines*, for detailed guidance on provision of suitable maps, including digital maps.

**a) A map of the site, with clearly delineated boundaries, is included as:**

- i) a **hard copy** (required for inclusion of site in the Ramsar List): ;
- ii) an **electronic format** (e.g. a JPEG or ArcView image) ;
- iii) a **GIS file providing geo-referenced site boundary vectors and attribute tables** .

**b) Describe briefly the type of boundary delineation applied:**

e.g. the boundary is the same as an existing protected area (nature reserve, national park, etc.), or follows a catchment boundary, or follows a geopolitical boundary such as a local government jurisdiction, follows physical boundaries such as roads, follows the shoreline of a waterbody, etc.

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**8. Geographical coordinates** (latitude/longitude, in degrees and minutes):

Provide the coordinates of the approximate centre of the site and/or the limits of the site. If the site is composed of more than one separate area, provide coordinates for each of these areas.

Latitude: 28° 45' S; Longitude: 144° 19' E (major lakes).

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**9. General location:**

Include in which part of the country and which large administrative region(s) the site lies and the location of the nearest large town.

Queensland. Wetlands within the area approximately bounded by latitude 28° 40' and 29° and longitude 144° and 145°, the southern most boundary being the Queensland/New South Wales border. Nearest town is Hungerford, 36 kilometres to the south east.

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**10. Elevation:** (in metres: average and/or maximum & minimum)

Major lakes: 119-132 m.

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**11. Area:** (in hectares)

About 151 300 hectares

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**12. General overview of the site:**

Provide a short paragraph giving a summary description of the principal ecological characteristics and importance of the wetland.

The Currawinya National Park consists of a mosaic of low dunefields, lakes, claypans and saltpans. These occupy a central strip between rugged hills and scarps to the north and west which rise 50 m or more above the surrounding sand plains. Although the numerous lakes and swamps are scattered across alluvial areas of uniform relief and similar geological age, some are freshwater and others, often quite close and divided by only low levees, are salt or strongly brackish.

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### 13. Ramsar Criteria:

Tick the box under each Criterion applied to the designation of the Ramsar site. See Annex II of the *Explanatory Notes and Guidelines* for the Criteria and guidelines for their application (adopted by Resolution VII.11). All Criteria which apply should be ticked.

1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6 • 7 • 8 • 9

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### 14. Justification for the application of each Criterion listed in 13 above:

Provide justification for each Criterion in turn, clearly identifying to which Criterion the justification applies (see Annex II for guidance on acceptable forms of justification).

Information to support the following criteria will be provided in the next RIS update.

***Criterion 1: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it contains a representative, rare, or unique example of a natural or near-natural wetland type found within the appropriate biogeographic region.***

[Listed against former **Criterion 1(a)** and **Criterion 1(b)** under the Pre-1999 Criteria]

***Criterion 2: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities.***

[Listed against former **Criterion 2(a)** under the Pre-1999 Criteria]

***Criterion 3: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it supports populations of plant and/or animal species important for maintaining the biological diversity of a particular biogeographic region.***

[Listed against former **Criterion 2(b)** and **Criterion 3(b)** under the Pre-1999 Criteria]

***Criterion 4: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it supports plant and/or animal species at a critical stage in their life cycles, or provides refuge during adverse conditions.***

[Listed against former **Criterion 2(c)** under the Pre-1999 Criteria]

***Criterion 5: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds.***

[Listed against former **Criterion 3(a)** under the Pre-1999 Criteria]

***Criterion 6: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of waterbird.***

[Listed against former **Criterion 3(c)** under the Pre-1999 Criteria]

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### 15. Biogeography (required when Criteria 1 and/or 3 and /or certain applications of Criterion 2 are applied to the designation):

Name the relevant biogeographic region that includes the Ramsar site, and identify the biogeographic regionalisation system that has been applied.

**a) biogeographic region:**

Mulga Lands

**b) biogeographic regionalisation scheme (include reference citation):**

## IBRA

**16. Physical features of the site:**

Describe, as appropriate, the geology, geomorphology; origins - natural or artificial; hydrology; soil type; water quality; water depth, water permanence; fluctuations in water level; tidal variations; downstream area; general climate, etc.

The rugged hills and scarps on the north of the Park represent the southern extension of the Hoods Range. This range mostly consists of deeply weathered sediments of the Cretaceous Winton Formation which, in some places, are overlain by remnants of the Tertiary Glendower Formation quartz sandstones. Associated with these are fresh sediments of the Winton Formation with a thin silcrete cover (Dawson and Boyland, 1974). A small area of granite, of Middle Devonian age, is present at the foot of the Range.

Dissected tablelands and low hills occur to the east, south and west of Lakes Wyara and Numalla, rising 50 m or more above the surrounding sand plains. An extensive dissected tableland, with steep escarpments, rubble slopes and occasional isolated mesas, occurs to the west of Lake Wyara, with associated low hills to the west and south of the Lake. The area consists of Tertiary Glendower sediments, frequently silicified, overlying fresh or chemically altered Cretaceous Winton Formation sediments which are often exposed.

The undulating plains and low hills associated with the tablelands consist of the remnants of the Tertiary Glendower Formation sediments, interspersed with superficial Quaternary silcrete gravel deposits (Dawson and Boyland, 1974). Soils associated with the ranges and hills are predominantly lithosols and very shallow red earths which often have a surface cover of silcrete stones and boulders. The soils on the associated plains are predominantly shallow to moderately deep, red earths and loamy red earths, with silcrete frequently present on the surface and through the profile.

A mosaic of low dunefields, lakes, claypans and salt pans occupies a wide central strip of the area between Hoods Range and the western tablelands while extensive sand plains occupy much of the remaining area to the south and east. The sand plains and dunefields are mostly composed of aeolian sands, derived from Tertiary and Cretaceous sandstones, which overlie Quaternary alluvial deposits. The latter mostly consist of clay and are exposed in the pans and lakes, and in the drainage lines which traverse the sand plains.

The soils on the plains are predominantly shallow to moderately deep, sandy red earths in which hard pans are common. The low dunes consist of very deep, red sandy earths, with grey and brown clays in the associated claypans and salt pans.

The two major lakes in the area are separated by only three kilometres of Quaternary sand deposits, but have completely different catchments. The saline Lake Wyara receives water from Werewilka Creek, whose tributaries drain the Willies Range (about 50 km NNE of Lake Wyara) and the western slopes of Walters Range (NNW of Boorara Homestead). The freshwater Lake Numalla in contrast, receives water from Boorara Creek, which drains the eastern slopes of Willies Range and the western slopes of the Hoods Range (N and NE of Boorara homestead respectively) and from Carwarra Creek which drains the southern and eastern slopes of the Hoods Range. The lakes are permanent water bodies except during extreme drought. They are the focus of drainage from the surrounding areas for most of the time, although in extremely wet periods surplus water from Lake Numalla may flow south and into the Paroo River Channels.

Other smaller semi-permanent lakes within this system include Lake Kaponyee (north and south), Lake Yumberarra and Lake Karetta. The first is fresh while the latter two are brackish.

The soils of the lakes are mostly grey clays which frequently have a crusted surface. On the eastern sides of Lake Wyara and larger salt pans, fringing crescentic dunes are present. They are composed of recent sand blown from the exposed lake beds and have soils of deep, gypseous and calcareous sand. The flatter areas fringing the dunes have strongly alkaline grey clay soils.

The remaining lands of the National Park consist of alluvial plains mostly associated with the Paroo River and its local tributaries. These are derived from Quaternary alluvial deposits, mostly of clay, and consist of steep-sided, braided channels interspersed with flat plains, with minor areas of poorly drained swamps. The gradients of the Paroo flood plain are low, with a drop of about 15 m from the north of old Caiwarra homestead to Hungerford, a distance of about 60 km. The soils associated with the flood plains are predominantly alluvial grey clays frequently subject to scalding, and minor areas of texture contrast soils.

A few springs and numerous permanent waterholes also occur mostly associated with the Paroo River channels. Remnants of mound springs occur in the Hoods Range area to the east of Lake Numalla, on alluvial plains or old alluvial areas now covered with sand. Generally all that remains of the springs are dry circular depressions often with a raised lip.

*Climate:* The general area has a very dry hot climate with a marked summer maximum rainfall. The average rainfall at Currawinya is 276 mm per annum, rising to 292 mm at Hungerford in the southeast and 282 mm at Thargomindah in the northwest. Daily average temperatures in January at Thargomindah, the nearest centre where detailed records are available, are 36.4°C (maximum) and 23.3°C (minimum), while in July they are 18.9°C (maximum) and 5.6°C (minimum).

#### 17. Physical features of the catchment area:

Describe the surface area, general geology and geomorphological features, general soil types, and climate (including climate type).

#### 18. Hydrological values:

Describe the functions and values of the wetland in groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilization, etc.

The area has a combination of terminal lakes and flowthrough areas (Paroo River channels). It acts as a flood control mechanism for the area and a drought refuge for wildlife. The area contains one of the richest and most diverse samples of wetlands in inland Australia.

#### 19. Wetland Types

##### a) presence:

Circle or underline the applicable codes for the wetland types of the Ramsar "Classification System for Wetland Type" present in the Ramsar site. Descriptions of each wetland type code are provided in Annex I of the *Explanatory Notes & Guidelines*.

Marine/coastal: A • B • C • D • E • F • G • H • I • J • K • Zk(a)

Inland: L • M • N • O • P • Q • R • Sp • Ss • Tp • Ts • U • Va •  
Vt • W • Xf • Xp • Y • Zg • Zk(b)

Human-made: 1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6 • 7 • 8 • 9 • Zk(c)

##### b) dominance:

List the wetland types identified in a) above in order of their dominance (by area) in the Ramsar site, starting with the wetland type with the largest area.

#### 20. General ecological features:

Provide further description, as appropriate, of the main habitats, vegetation types, plant and animal communities present in the Ramsar site, and the ecosystem services of the site and the benefits derived from them.

Currawinya National Park contains excellent examples of the typical vegetation of the south western part of Queensland, such as mulga (*Acacia aneura*) communities on the tablelands, low hills and associated plains, mulga-poplar box (*Eucalyptus populnea*) communities on the sand plains, and gidgee (*Acacia cambagei*) communities on the alluvial flood plains (Purdie, 1985). Shrubland and woodland communities dominated by yapunyah (*Eucalyptus ochrophloia*) or turpentine mulga (*Acacia brachystachya*) which are restricted in their distribution in south-western Queensland (though more common further south) also occur, on the alluvial plains and the tablelands and low hills respectively. Other communities contain species that are at the extremes of their natural distribution, such as lancewood (*Acacia petrea*) and black box (*Eucalyptus largiflorens*). A number of plant communities are important because they are uncommon, for example samphire low shrublands and sedgeland dominated by *Cyperus gymnocaulos*. These occur mainly in the area of dunefields and associated lakes and claypans. Rare species such as *Melaleuca densispicata* and *Maireana pyramidata* also occur in the area.

Lake Numalla is variously fringed by black box low woodlands, belalie (*Acacia stenophylla*) open shrublands and sedgeland dominated by *Cyperus gymnocaulos*. Areas of saline flats on the edge of the lake support samphire low open shrublands. Boobialla (*Myoporum acuminatum*) shrubs are commonly associated with all the lake communities, in areas upslope of the most recent water level.

The vegetation surrounding the saline Lake Wyara is a complete contrast to that associated with Lake Numalla. The muddy flats and lower slopes of the fringing dunes support dense samphire low shrublands in which *Lawrenzia glomerata* and pig face *Sarcozona praecox* may be common. On the eastern side of the lake, various samphires form distinct bands progressively upslope from and running parallel with the shore. At the northern end of Lake Wyara an open woodland of large river red gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) trees is present at the foot of the fringing dune on what is probably a very old, exposed shoreline.

The alluvial flats and drainage channels associated with the dunefields and sand plains, and with the Paroo River, generally support yapunyah and/or gidgee woodlands and open woodlands. A low shrub layer of lignum (*Muehlenbeckia cunninghamii*), some swamp canegrass and scattered creek wilga (*Eremophila bignoniiflora*) and belalie shrubs are often present with yapunyah in swampy areas, while lignum fuchsia (*Eremophila polyclada*) may be present in areas flooded less frequently. River red gum woodland or open woodland may fringe the main channels of the Paroo, particularly along permanent water holes.

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## 21. Noteworthy flora:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in 14, Justification for the application of the Criteria) indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the RIS.*

The area contains excellent examples of plant communities which, although dominated by species widespread throughout the Mulga Biogeographic Region, are most typical of, and common in, the south-western part of the region. These include mulga, bastard mulga, and western dead finish communities on the tablelands, low hills and associated plains, mulga-poplar box communities on the sand plains, and gidgee communities on the alluvial flood plains.

Two species which have a more restricted distribution within the Mulga Region, but which are widespread outside it in other States, reach the peak of their development in the Currawinya area. These are yapunyah and turpentine mulga. In Currawinya, excellent examples of scrubland and

woodland communities dominated by yapunyah or turpentine mulga occur on the alluvial plains and the tablelands respectively.

The area also contains representatives of a number of vegetation types which are of special biogeographical value because their dominant species are at the extremes of the natural ranges of distribution. Thus poplar box and leopardwood are at the western and south-western limits of their ranges respectively. Lancewood which is restricted to the Mulga Biogeographic Region is at the southwestern limits of its range on Currawinya. Communities dominated by black box represent the northern inland limits of its range in Australia.

A number of communities in the key area are important because they are uncommon in the mulga region and Queensland due to their habitat requirements.

They mostly occur in the area of dunefields and associated lakes and claypans and include the samphire low shrublands to low open or sparse shrublands, the budda shrublands and the sedgeland dominated by *Cyperus gymnocaulos*.

Rare species and communities include the shrub *Melaleuca densispicata*, which forms groves which are locally common on the lower slopes of dunes near saltpans and claypans. Black bluebush (*Maireana pyramidata*) is a low shrub which is extremely rare in Queensland, and the low shrublands which occur on the western side of Lake Numalla are far to the north-east of its main range, and are the most easterly populations in Queensland. Inland belah (*Casuarina pauper*) also just extends into Queensland where it is relatively rare. The tall shrublands and low open woodlands on the western slopes of the Hoods Range represent the most eastern occurrence of the species in Queensland. In contrast the scattered wilga (*Geijera parviflora*) plants which are associated with the inland belah, are at the western extremes of the species' range in Queensland. The black bluebush and inland belah in the Currawinya National Park may represent relict populations, or a rare occurrence in Queensland of suitable habitats.

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## 22. Noteworthy fauna:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in 14. Justification for the application of the Criteria) indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc., including count data. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the RIS.*

Lakes Wyara and Numalla are very important sites for waterbirds in Australia. No other wetlands in arid or southern Australia are thought to consistently support such high numbers of waterbirds, while only the wetlands of the Northern Territory in the dry season, Lake Eyre North (South Australia), Lake Galilee (Queensland) and Lake Gregory (Western Australia) have comparable numbers. Estimates of over 100,000 waterbirds from 41 species have been recorded at particular times (Kingsford and Porter, 1994).

Though more species have been recorded at Lake Numalla (39) than Lake Wyara (31), numbers on Lake Wyara greatly exceed those on Lake Numalla.

The lakes are thought to be the most important dry refuge habitat in Australia for the freckled duck, (*Stictonetta naevosa*). Of an estimated total population of 19,000, mean estimates of 2,400 +/- 1,000 (0-9,700) and 1,200 +/- 500 (05,500) have been recorded for Lakes Numalla and Wyara respectively (Kingsford and Porter, 1994).

In common with Lake Bindegolly to the north, these lakes are significant breeding sites for some waterbird species. Australian pelicans (*Pelicanus conspicillatus*), black swans (*Cygnus atratus*), red-necked avocets (*Recurvirostris novaehollandiae*), Caspian terns (*Hydroprogne caspia*), cormorants (*Phalacrocorax* spp.) and silver gulls (*Larus novaehollandiae*) have been recorded breeding on

islands of Lake Wyara, while pied cormorants (*Phalacrocorax varius*), Pacific herons (*Ardea pacifica*), Australian white ibis (*Threskiornis molucca*), royal spoonbills (*Platalea regia*), yellow-billed spoonbills (*Platalea flavipes*) and Pacific black ducks (*Anas superciliosa*) have been recorded breeding around Lake Numalla, where extensive reedbeds in some areas provide excellent protected sites (Gasteen. 1985).

The area is comparatively rich in wildlife due to the wide variety of habitats present and generally permanent waterbodies. The periodically inundated alluvial flats and drainage channels which support lignum, swamp canegrass and *Cyperus gymnocaulos*, provide suitable habitat for Australian crakes (*Porzana fluminea*) and other fauna. Over 180 species of birds have been recorded (Purdie, 1985; Geeves and Thomas, 1992), as well as 15 species of frogs, five species of fish (Leggett, 1992), Kreffts river tortoise (*Emydura krefftii*) and other mammals and reptiles

The Currawinya lakes system, in conjunction with other permanent and semipermanent waters in south-western Queensland such as Lakes Bullawarra, Bindegolly and Toomaroo, also form part of an inland route to southern Australia for migratory waders. At least ten species, Great egret (*Ardea alba*), Glossy ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*), Black-tailed godwit (*Limosa limosa*), Common greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*), Red-necked stint (*Calidris ruficollis*), Sharp-tailed sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*), Curlew sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*), Caspian tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*), White-winged black tern (*Chlidonias leucopterus*) and rainbow bee-eater (*Merops ornatus*), listed in the Japan Australia and China Australia Migratory Bird Agreements have been recorded from the area (Ley and Davie 1995).

### 23. Social and cultural values:

a) Describe if the site has any general social and/or cultural values e.g., fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological sites, social relations with the wetland, etc. Distinguish between historical/archaeological/religious significance and current socio-economic values:

Principal social values are tourism and outdoor recreation. These values are consistent with maintenance of natural wetland processes.

An important series of aboriginal sites occur in the area. Two sites have been dated, one at 400 years Before Present and the other at 1600 years Before Present. Stone arrangements, native wells and dams, trees with areas of bark removed (for canoes, shields etc.), evidence of huts, stone artifacts, quarries and burial grounds are evident. Artifact scatters are ubiquitous, and around streams and springs their density dramatically increases. Around Lake Numalla and to the east artifact scatters appear clumped around claypans and some mound springs.

b) Is the site considered of international importance for holding, in addition to relevant ecological values, examples of significant cultural values, whether material or non-material, linked to its origin, conservation and/or ecological functioning?

If Yes, tick the box  and describe this importance under one or more of the following categories:

- i) sites which provide 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) sites which have exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland:
- iii) sites where the ecological character of the wetland depends on the interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples:



- iv) sites where 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:

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**24. Land tenure/ownership:**

**a) within the Ramsar site:**

The site is owned by the Queensland Government. Surrounding areas are occupied by private individuals and pastoral companies under grazing leases.

**b) in the surrounding area:**

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**25. Current land (including water) use:**

**a) within the Ramsar site:**

Current uses on the site are conservation management, recreation, scientific study. Surrounding areas and the catchment are used for extensive grazing. Human population of the area is low and currently only low level use is made of the Park..

**b) in the surroundings/catchment:**

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**26. Factors (past, present or potential) adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land (including water) use and development projects:**

**a) within the Ramsar site:**

Since the area was only declared a National Park five years ago, there is still a legacy of disturbance from its previous use as a pastoral lease. However it was in relatively good condition when it was purchased. Management as a National Park will gradually allow the area to revert to its natural state.

Feral pigs and other feral animals cause minor disturbance, but control measures are taken to mitigate this. Excess numbers of natural wildlife are expected to be lowered by reducing the number of artificial watering points that are a historical relict of the time when the area was a pastoral holding.

**b) in the surrounding area:**

The major threat in the catchment is overgrazing and soil erosion which may lead to sedimentation of the lakes.

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**27. Conservation measures taken:**

**a) List national and/or international category and legal status of protected areas, including boundary relationships with the Ramsar site:**

In particular, if the site is partly or wholly a World Heritage Site and/or a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, please give the names of the site under these designations.

The entire area was proclaimed Currawinya National Park in 1991, and is protected under the provisions of the Queensland *Nature Conservation Act 1992*. This status affords the highest level of protection for conservation of wildlife habitat values that the Queensland Government is able to bestow on an area.

**b) If appropriate, list the IUCN (1994) protected areas category/ies which apply to the site (tick the box or boxes as appropriate):**

Ia ; Ib ; II ; III ; IV ; V ; VI

**c) Does an officially approved management plan exist; and is it being implemented?:**

**d) Describe any other current management practices:**

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**28. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:**

e.g. management plan in preparation; official proposal as a legally protected area, etc.

The site was as officially placed on the List of Wetlands of International Importance on 8 March 1996. A management plan is being prepared for the Park and it is envisaged that Ramsar values will be incorporated.

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**29. Current scientific research and facilities:**

e.g., details of current research projects, including biodiversity monitoring; existence of a field research station, etc.

The Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union is conducting bird surveys, of species numbers and abundance in the area. There are no special facilities for research.

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**30. Current communications, education, participation and awareness (CEPA) activities related to or benefiting the site:**

e.g. visitors' centre, observation hides and nature trails, information booklets, facilities for school visits, etc.

Nothing known.

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**31. Current recreation and tourism:**

State if the wetland is used for recreation/tourism; indicate type(s) and their frequency/intensity.

A low level of recreational and tourist activity is currently undertaken on the Park, due to the previous lack of tourist infrastructure. Because there is good road access to the Park, nature based tourism could become significant as the area is ideal for water-based activities such as camping, swimming and canoeing; semiwilderness activities such as walking, birdwatching, observing other wildlife, and natural history photography.

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**32. Jurisdiction:**

Include territorial, e.g. state/region, and functional/sectoral, e.g. Dept of Agriculture/Dept. of Environment, etc.

**Territorial jurisdiction:** Queensland Government.

**Functional jurisdiction:** Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service.

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**33. Management authority:**

Provide the name and address of the local office(s) of the agency(ies) or organisation(s) directly responsible for managing the wetland. Wherever possible provide also the title and/or name of the person or persons in this office with responsibility for the wetland.

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service,  
PO Box 155  
BRISBANE QLD 4002  
AUSTRALIA

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**34. Bibliographical references:**

Scientific/technical references only. If biogeographic regionalisation scheme applied (see 15 above), list full reference citation for the scheme.

Gasteen, W.J. (1985). *The Currawinya Lakes National Parks Proposal*. Unpublished Report to the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Geeves, J. and Thomas, M. (1992). Bird Observations for Lake Numalla and Lake Wyara - Currawinya National Park, south-west Queensland. *The Queensland Naturalist* 31 (5-6): 114-118.

Kingsford, R.T. and Porter, J.L. (1994). Waterbirds on an adjacent freshwater lake and salt lake in arid Australia. *Biological Conservation* 69: 219-228.

Leggett, R. (1992). A report of freshwater fish and water quality at Eulo and other sites in south-west Queensland. *The Queensland Naturalist* 31 (5-6): 119-122.

Ley, A.J. and Davie P. (1995). Birds of Currawinya National Park, South-west Queensland. *Sunbird* 25(2): 31-43.

Purdie, R.W. (1985). *Currawinya Key Area, Mulga Lands Biogeographic Region*. Unpublished Report, Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service.

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Please return to: **Ramsar Convention Secretariat, Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 Gland, Switzerland**  
Telephone: +41 22 999 0170 • Fax: +41 22 999 0169 • e-mail: [ramsar@ramsar.org](mailto:ramsar@ramsar.org)