

Ramsar Information Sheet

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SwitzerlandNiederried Stausee



Designation date 9 November 1990
Site number 508
Coordinates 46°59'14"N 07°15'03"E

Area 297,00 ha

https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/508 Created by RSIS V.1.6 on - 8 May 2020

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 "Niederried Stausee" (i.e. the Artifical lake Niederried) dates back to the building of a river dam and the creation of an artificial lake in the year 1913. The Site includes this artificial lake of a length of 2.5 km on the river Aare and natural stretches of the rivers Aare and Sarine with a total surface of 297 ha.

The right shore of the "Niederried Stausee" is characterised by sandstone cliffs, while the left shore is dominated by flat water zones, alluvial forests and periodically flooded alluvial fens. Even though the lake is of anthropogenic origin, the site has evolved to one of the richest alluvial landscapes of the Swiss Plateau. The vegetation includes reedbeds, tall sedge marshland, meadowsweet fen meadows (Calthion), basophile small sedge reed (Caricion), alluvial forest of silver willow, grey alder, and ash tree as well as beech forest. A particularity of the site is the remarkable thermophilous flora on the sandbanks and sandstone cliffs. Niederried Stausee is home to eight plant and 77 animal species figuring on the red lists of endangered species in Switzerland. The site is an important wintering and/or stop over site for waterbirds and other migratory bird species.

Silting up of the artificial lake and massive changes in nutrient loads seem to be a major driver for changes in the waterbird community. Main factors affecting the site are the artificial regulation of water debits (absence of natural dynamism in the alluvial zone) and the water warming due to the nuclear power station in Mühleberg. Human activities such as leisure activities, agriculture and hydroelectricity production also impact the site.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Name	Dr. Reinhard Schnidrig
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2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year 1990

To year 2014

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

Niederried Stausee

Unofficial name (optional)

Originally designated as 'Lac artificial de Niederried'

2.1.4 - Changes to the boundaries and area of the Site since its designation or earlier update

(Update) A Changes to Site boundary Yes O No

(Update) B. Changes to Site area

No change to area

2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS?

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<2 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps 0

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?

Canton of Berne

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

Town: Golaten, Berne

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes O No \odot

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party?

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 297

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries 297.01

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
Freshwater Ecoregions of the World (FEOW)	Central & Western Europe
Other scheme (provide name below)	Swiss plateau (Mittelland)

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

Biogeographic regions of Switzerland. Office Federal for the environment FOEN, 2001.

3 - Why is the Site important?

3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

<no data available>

- ☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities
- ☑ Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

At national level, the river Aare on the site is classified as "watercourse section with high biodiversity and / or national priority species" (FOEN). The area is located in the densely populated region of the central Plateau and provides a high diversity of habitats and natural elements (e.g. watercourses and pond systems with pondweed and duckweed communities, reed beds, sedge meadows, hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities, floodplain forests, stream-alder-ash forests, alder marshes and stocks of White willow). Compared to the surrounding area, there is a high species richness - especially of water and wetland depending species. A relatively high amount of rare and of threatened species (at a national/local level) is occurring.

Some examples:

Justification

The site is part of an «Important Bird Area of Switzerland IBA», object N°004 'Grosses Moos' plain and Niederried reservoir. It is home to nearly 80 species of birds. The fen of Oltigenmatt is particularly favourable to breeding waterbirds and therefore of a high importance. The site harbours five threatened amphibian species and four threatened reptile species. It offers valuable habitat to the European beaver and to several dragonfly and orthoptera species. The cliffs of sandstone on the right bank of the Aare harbour a remarkable thermophilous flora. There are several species of protected orchids occurring in this part of the site.

- ☑ Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions
- ☑ Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population
- 3.2 Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Callitriche brutia hamulata	Intermediate Water Starwort	2					VU (National Red List Ferns and Flowering Plants 2002)	
Carex cuprina	False Fox Sedge	Ø					VU (National Red List Ferns and Flowering Plants 2002)	
Carex riparia	Greater Pond Sedge	Ø			LC Start		VU (National Red List Ferns and Flowering Plants 2002)	
Cortinarius turmalis							EN (National Red List Macrofungi 2007)	
Cypripedium calceolus	Yellow Lady's Slipper Orchid	2					W (National Red List Ferns and Flowering Plants 2002)	
Gyalecta truncigena	Truncated dimple lichen						VU (National Red List Lichens 2002)	
Himantoglossum hircinum	Lizard Orchid	Ø					W (National Red List Ferns and Flowering Plants 2002)	
Orchis purpurea	Lady Orchid	Ø					VU (National Red List Ferns and Flowering Plants 2002)	
Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani	Great Bulrush	Ø			LC Sign		VU (National Red List Ferns and Flowering Plants 2002)	
Spiranthes aestivalis	Summer Lady's-tresses	Ø					VU (National Red List Ferns and Flowering Plants 2002)	
Strigula jamesii							VU (National Red List Lichens 2002)	

Outstanding variety of species present. The area records one of the largest and most important nation of the Aare harbour a remarkable thermophilous flora. There a	nal stock of the White Willow (Salix alba). The cliffs of sandstone on the right bank are several species of endangered / protected orchids.
National Red List Macrofungi 2007: Panus tigrinus VU Trechispora sulphurea VU	

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

		p. 00000 . 0												
Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Speci qualifi unde criteri 2 4 6	ies er ion	contr	erion	Size	Period of pop. Est	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
Birds														
CHORDATA/ AVES	Actitis hypoleucos	Common Sandpiper	V)	2014		LC S語			EN (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Alcedo atthis	Common Kingfisher]			LC S語			VU (national Red List Breeding Birds 2007)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas clypeata	Northern Shoveler)			LC Sign			EN (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterior 2 4 6	s cor	pecies ntribute under riterion 5 7	Size	Period of pop. Est. O	ccurrence		CITES uppendix .	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas crecca	Eurasian Teal							LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Bird 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas querquedula	Garganey					2014		LC Str			EN (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas strepera	Gadwall	I I I			923	1998	1	LC Str			EN (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	Central Europe (AEWA) Wintering species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anthus pratensis	Meadow Pipit					2014		LC Sites			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ardea purpurea	Purple Heron					2014		LC Sign			CR (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Athene noctua	Little Owl					2006		LC Sign			EN (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aythya ferina	Common Pochard	7 70						VU Sign			EN (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	Wintering species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aythya fuligula	Tufted Duck	9						LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds, 2010)	Wintering species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Bucephala clangula	Common Goldeneye							LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Charadrius dubius	Little Ringed Plover					2010		LC Sign			EN (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Chroicocephalus ridibundus	Black-headed Gull					2013					EN (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ciconia ciconia	White Stork					2014		LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Circus aeruginosus	Western Marsh Harrier					2014		LC Star			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Corvus monedula	Western Jackdaw					2013		LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Emberiza calandra	Corn Bunting					2006					VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Emberiza schoeniclus	Common Reed Bunting					2014		LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Gallinago gallinago	Common Snipe					2014		LC Sign			CR (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Hippolais icterina	Icterine Warbler					2000		LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ixobrychus minutus	Little Bittern					2014		LC Sign			EN (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Lanius excubitor	Great Grey Shrike					2013		LC Str			RE (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Larus canus	Mew Gull					2007		LC St Step			EN (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Mergus merganser	Common Merganser					2014		LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Mergus serrator	Red-breasted Merganser					2006		LC Sin			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Spec qualif und criter 2 4	fies er ion	cont u cri	ecies ribute nder terion	Size		% occurrence 1)		CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Numenius arquata	Eurasian Curlew	V					2008		NT ●数 ●翻			CR (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Nycticorax nycticorax	Black-crowned Night Heron	V					2014		LC Sign			EN (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Pandion haliaetus	Osprey						2014		LC ●辭			RE (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Panurus biarmicus	Bearded Reedling	V					2008		LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Phylloscopus sibilatrix	Wood Warbler	2 0			000		2013		LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Phylloscopus trochilus	Willow Warbler	2 0					2014		LC Str			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Picus canus	Grey-headed Woodpecker	V					2014		LC			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Podiceps nigricollis	Black-necked Grebe	2 0					2010		LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Porzana porzana	Spotted Crake	V					2014		LC Str			W (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Remiz pendulinus	Eurasian Penduline Tit						2008		LC ●辭			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Riparia riparia	Sand Martin	V					2013		LC ●数 ●翻			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Saxicola rubetra	Whinchat						2010		LC			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Scolopax rusticola	Eurasian Woodcock						2009		LC			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Somateria mollissima	Common Eider	V					2008		LC ●数 ●解			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Tachybaptus ruficollis	Little Grebe	V					2014		LC Sign			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Tadorna tadorna	Common Shelduck	V					2008		LC Str			W (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Tringa totanus	Common Redshank	V					2004		LC Str			RE (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Turdus pilaris	Fieldfare						2013		LC Str			VU (National Red List Breeding Birds 2010)	
Fish, Mollusc and Cru														
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Alburnoides bipunctatus		V					2000					VU (National Red List Fish and Cyclostomes 2007)	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Anguilla anguilla	Common Eel						2000		CR ●\$* ●\$#			W (National Red List Fish and Cyclostomes 2007)	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Chondrostoma nasus	Common Nase	Z [1998		LC Sign			CR (National Red List Red List of Fish and Cyclostomes, 2007)	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Cyprinus carpio	Common Carp						1998		VU ●\$* ●\$#			VU (National Red List Fish and Cyclostomes 2007)	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	qu u cri	pecies palifie ander iterio 4 6	s n	conti	der erior	Pop Size			CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ CEPHALASPIDOMORPHI	Lampetra planeri	European Brook Lamprey	/						1999	LC OBF			EN (National Red List Fish and Cyclostomes 2007)	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Rhodeus amarus	Bitterling	V						1999	LC			EN (National Red List Fish and Cyclostomes 2007)	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Thymallus thymallus	European Grayling	.						1998	LC Sign			VU (National Red List of Fish and Cyclostomes, 2007)	
Others														
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Agapetus nimbulus		1						2008				VU (Red List Mayflies, Stoneflies and Caddisflies 2012)	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Amara schimperi		4						2009				Vulnerable (National Red List Ground Beetles and Tiger Beetles 1994)	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Badister dilatatus								1988				Vulnerable (National Red List Ground Beetles and Tiger Beetles 1994)	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Bembidion latinum		V						2012				Vulnerable (National Red List Ground Beetles and Tiger Beetles 1994)	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Bembidion litorale		V						2009				Endangered (National Red List Ground Beetles and Tiger Beetles 1994)	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Bembidion stephensii		V						1987				Vulnerable (National Red List Ground Beetles and Tiger Beetles 1994)	
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Bombina variegata	Yellow-bellied Toad	V						2013	LC			EN (National Red List Amphibians 2005)	Reproduction
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Bufo bufo	Common Toad	√						2013	LC St St			VU (National Red List Amphibians 2005)	Reproduction
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Castor fiber	Eurasian Beaver	4						2014	LC Sign			Endangered (National Red List Mammals 1994); High Priority Species (Llst of National Priority Species 2011)	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Ceraclea nigronervosa		2						2008				EN (Red List Mayflies, Stoneflies and Caddisflies 2012)	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Conocephalus fuscus	Long-winged Conehead	2										VU (National Red List Orthoptera, 2007)	
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Coronella austriaca	Smooth Snake	V						2013				W / CR regionally (National Red List Reptiles, 2005)	
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Emys orbicularis	European Pond Turtle	1						2008				CR (National Red List Reptiles 2005)	
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Hyla arborea	Common Tree Frog	1						2014	LC Sign			EN (National Red List Amphibians, 2005)	Reproduction
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Lacerta agilis	Sand Lizard	V						2014	LC St St			VU (National Red List Reptiles 2005)	Reproduction
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Lepus europaeus	European Hare	1						1987	LC Single			Vulnerable (National Red List Mammals 1994)	
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Lissotriton helveticus	Palmate Newt	√ 8	7 0					2013	LC Sign			VU (National Red List Amphibians 2005)	Reproduction
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Lutra lutra	European Otter	4						1972	NT	V		Endangered (National Red List Mammals 1994)	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion	cont ui crit	erion	op. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	Red /	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Mustela putorius	European Polecat					1986		LC OMP			Vulnerable (National Red List Mammals 1994)	
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Natrix natrix helvetica	Grass Snake				2	2013					VU (National Red List Reptiles 2005)	Reproduction
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Oodes helopioides helopioides		2 00				1988					Vulnerable (National Red List Ground Beetles and Tiger Beetles 1994)	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Ophiogomphus cecilia	Green Club-tailed Dragon Fly							LC Sign			EN (National Red List Dragonflies 2002)	
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Salamandra salamandra	Fire Salamander	2 20			2	2013		LC			VU (National Red List Amphibians 2005)	Reproduction
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Silo piceus					2	2008					VU (Red List Mayflies, Stoneflies and Caddisflies 2012)	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Stethophyma grossum		2 00			2	2005					VU (National Red List Orthoptera 2007)	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Strangalia attenuata					2	2009					Vulnerable (National Red List Ground Beetles and Tiger Beetles 1994)	

¹⁾ Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

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
Ponds	Ø	Part of the last remaining Amphibian spawning biotopes in the region composed of different types of ponds and waters with its typical surrounding vegetation harboring many threatened amphibian species.	Site listed in the federal inventory of amphibian spawning areas of national importance.
Fen	Ø	The site includes rare fenland communities like as Phragmition (Reed beds), Magnocaricion (Tall-sedge stands), Filipendulion and Calthion (Meadowsweet fen meadow)	Site listed in the federal inventory of fenlands of national importance. The named communities are listed in the Ordinance on the Protection of Nature and Cultural Heritage as biotope types preserving protection.
alluvial zone	Ø	This site harbors rare alluvial communities like as Salicion albae (Silver willow alluvial forest), Anion incanae (Gray alder alluvial forest) and Fraxinion (Ash tree alluvial forest)	Site listed in the federal inventory of alluvial zones of national importance. The named communities are listed in the Ordinance on the Protection of Nature and Cultural Heritage as biotope types preserving protection.

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

4.1 - Ecological character

At national level, the river Aare on the site is classified as "watercourse section with high biodiversity and / or national priority species". The area is located in the densely populated region of the central Plateau and provides a high diversity of habitats and natural elements (e.g. watercourses and pond systems with pondweed and duckweed communities, reed beds, sedge meadows, hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities, floodplain forests, stream-alder-ash forests, alder marshes and stocks of White willow). Compared to the surrounding area, there is a high species richness - especially of water and wetland depending species. A relatively high amount of rare and of threatened species (at a national/local level) is occurring. The site is home to nearly 80 species of breeding birds. It harbours threatened amphibian and reptile species, offers valuable habitat to the European beaver, and to several species of dragonfiles and of orthoptera.

The area records one of the largest and most important national stock of the White Willow (Salix alba). The cliffs of sandstone on the right bank of the Aare harbour a remarkable thermophilous flora.

4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

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 > Flowing water >> M Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks		4		
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		1		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> W: Shrub- dominated wetlands		3		
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands		2		

Human-made wetlands

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Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
6: Water storage	Stausee Niederried	1		

Other non-wetland habitat

Other non-wetland habitats within the site	Area (ha) if known
Agrichtural land and pastures	
Deciduous Forest	

(ECD) Habitat connectivity The area is classified as a wildlife corridor of regional importance (regionale Verbindungsachse)

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Invasive alien plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
Cyperus esculentus	Tiger Nut Sedge	Actually (major impacts)	unknown
Erigeron annuus	Annual Fleabane	Actually (major impacts)	unknown
Fallopia japonica japonica	Asiatic Knotweed	Actually (major impacts)	unknown
Impatiens glandulifera	Himalayan Balsam	Actually (major impacts)	unknown
Robinia pseudoacacia	Robinia	Actually (major impacts)	unknown
Solidago canadensis	Canadian Goldenrod	Actually (major impacts)	unknown
Solidago gigantea	Giant Goldenrod	Actually (major impacts)	unknown

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/AVES	Acrocephalus arundinaceus	Great Reed Warbler		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Alauda arvensis	Eurasian Skylark		2013		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Apus apus	Common Swift		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/AVES	Apus melba	Alpine Swift		2007		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Asio otus	Long-eared Owl		2008		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Carduelis cannabina	Common Linnet		2007		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Cuculus canorus	Common Cuckoo		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Delichon urbicum	Common House Martin		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Dendrocopos medius	Mddle Spotted Woodpecker		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Falco peregrinus	Peregrine Falcon		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Falco subbuteo	Eurasian Hobby		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Falco tinnunculus	Common Kestrel		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Jynx torquilla	Eurasian Wryneck		2013		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Locustella luscinioides	Savi's Warbler		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Locustella naevia	Common Grasshopper Warbler		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Luscinia megarhynchos	Common Nightingale		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Mivus milvus	Red Kite		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Motacilla flava	Western Yellow Wagtail		2011		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Netta rufina	Red-crested Pochard		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Pernis apivorus	European Honey Buzzard		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Phoenicurus phoenicurus	Common Redstart		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Sterna hirundo	Common Tern		2007		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Streptopelia turtur	European Turtle Dove		2014		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Sylvia borin	Garden Warbler		2'14		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Sylvia communis	Common Whitethroat		2007		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
CHORDATA/AVES	Tyto alba	Bam Owl		2008		High Priority Species (List of National Priority Species 2011)
ARTHROPODA/MALACOSTRACA	Astacus astacus	European crayfish		1993		3 (Appendix 1, VBGF 24. Nov. 1993)

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
C: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with mild winters	Cfb: Marine west coast (Mld with no dry season, warm summer)

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Mnimum elevation above sea level (in metres)
a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres) 580
Entire river basin
Upper part of river basin 🗹
Mddle part of river basin ☐
Lower part of river basin \Box
More than one river basin ☐
Not in river basin \square
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.

The site is located in the Rhine basin. The reservoir is supplied by 2 rivers: The Aare and the Sarine which both originate in the Bernese Alps. The first originates in the crystalline massive of the Aar and the second in the limestone massif of Wildhorn.

4 4 3 - Soil

Mineral 🗹 (Update) Changes at RIS update No change

● Increase

O Decrease

O Unknown

O Organic 🗹 $^{ ext{(Update)}}$ Changes at RIS update No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown \odot No available information

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological Yes O No

Yes O No conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)?

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Usually permanent water present	

Course of water that maintains orial actor of the site				
Presence?	Predominant water source	Changes at RIS update		
Water inputs from rainfall		No change		
Water inputs from surface water	2	No change		

Water destination

Presence?		Changes at RIS update	
	To downstream catchment	No change	

Stability of water regime

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Water levels fluctu (including tidal	

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

The site is characterised by the reservoir (100-150 m wide) which is fed by two rivers, the Aare and the Sarine, the latter flowing into the river Aare in the southern part of the site. Depth, fluctuations and permanence of water: Niederried Lake is shallow and permanent (6-8 m in the main course of the river and 0.5 to 1 m in areas located further back), which is favourable to wintering waterfowl. With the development of a small channel for the flow of water, the lake does not freeze in winter. The water regime of the reservoir is artificial (controlled at the dam Niederried) with higher water level in winter than in summer. The flow of the Sarine is controlled by an upstream dam (Schiffenen). It undergoes large daily variations. The flow of the Aare is rather stable. It is also regulated by an upstream dam (lake of Wohlen).

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site $\ensuremath{\omega}$

Sediment regime unknown

4.4.6 - Water pH Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4) (Update) Changes at RIS update No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ● Akaline (pH>7.4) (Update) Changes at RIS update No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚

Unknown 📝

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

 $^{\text{(Update)}}$ Changes at RIS update No change $oldsymbol{0}$ Increase O Decrease O Unknown O

Unknown

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ○ Increase ○ Decrease ○ Unknown ◎

Mesotrophic □

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ●

Oligotrophic

 $^{\text{(Update)}}$ Changes at RIS update No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown \odot

Dystrophic

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ●

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 i) broadly similar O ii) significantly different \odot site itself:

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 $\ensuremath{\overline{\mathbb{Z}}}$

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Fresh water	Water for energy production (hydro-electricity)	High
Wetland non-food products	Timber	Low
Wetland non-food products	Other	Low
Wetland non-food products	Livestock fodder	Low

Regulating Services

1-9-1-10				
Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance		
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	Medium		
Erosion protection	Soil, sediment and nutrient retention	Low		
Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	Low		

Cultural Services

Cultural Services			
Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance	
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	High	
Recreation and tourism	n and tourism Nature observation and nature-based tourism		
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium	
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	High	
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	Medium	

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Biodiversity	Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganizms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	High
Nutrient cycling	Carbon storage/sequestration	Medium

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

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

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

RIS for Site no. 508, Niederried Stausee, Switzerland

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 welland

<no data available>

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

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Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Provincial/region/state government	>	
Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc.	2	2

Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area	
Commercial (company)	✓		
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	V	V	

Provide further information on the land tenure / ownership regime (optional):

Within Ramsar Site: The Wetlands of Oltigenmatt and of Isleren are property of the Bernese Power Company - BKW-Group (40%). The lake belongs to the Canton of Bern (20%) and slope forests, farmland and cliffs are privately owned (40%). In order of a revision of the Cantonal Protected Area, in 2013 the Canton of Bern acquired the Runtigenfluh and two parcels along the Aare for a long-term conservation. The Surrounding area consists primarily of forest and agricultural land with private ownership.

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

Office of Agriculture and Nature, Berne, Switzerland (LANAT). There are three sections in charge: For the protected area in general it is the nature promotion section, for waterbird protection and hunting the Inspectorate for hunting and for fishing and fish protection the Inspectorate for fishing.

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

Dominique Hindermann

Postal address:

LANAT Amt für Landwirtschaft und Natur, Naturförderung (ANF), Schwand 17, CH- 3110 Münsingen, Switzerland.

E-mail address: info.anf@vol.be.ch

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

5.2.1 - Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site's ecological character

Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Water releases			✓		₽	

Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Annual and perennial non-timber crops	Low impact	Medium impact		No change	2	No change

Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
(Para)military activities			✓			
Recreational and tourism activities	Medium impact	High impact	2	increase		No change

Natural system modifications

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Vegetation clearance/ land conversion			2			
Dams and water management/use			2			

invasive and other problematic species and genes						
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Invasive non-native/ alien species	Medium impact	Medium impact	/	No change	/	No change

Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Agricultural and forestry effluents			>		✓	

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Cantonal Protected Area	Niederried-Oltigenmatt	http://www.vol.be.ch	whole
Federal Inventory of Alluvial Zones of National Importance (1992, RS 451.31)	Niederried-Oltigenmatt	http://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/class ified- compilation/19920277/index.html	whole
Federal Inventory of Landscape and Natural Monuments of National Importance (1977, RS 451.11)	Stausee Niederried	http://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/class ified- compilation/19770168/index.html	partly
Federal Inventory of reserves for Waterbirds and Mgratory Birds of International and National Importance (1991, RS 922.32)	Stausee Niederried	http://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/class ified- compilation/19910014/index.html	whole
Federal inventory of Amphibian Spawning Areas of National Importance (2001, RS 451.34)	Oltigenmatt	http://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/class ified- compilation/20010968/index.html	whole
Federal inventory of Fenlands of National Importance (1994, RS 451.33)	Oltigenmatt	http://www.admin.ch/opc/fr/class ified- compilation/19940213/index.html	whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	IBA 004 Grosses Moos und Stausee Niederried	http://www.birdlife.ch/iba	partly

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

la Strict Nature Reserve □
lb Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
Il National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
√ Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention √
/Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
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
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Partially implemented

opedes	
Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Partially implemented
Control of invasive alien plants	Partially implemented

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Management of water abstraction/takes	Implemented
Livestock management/exclusion (excluding fisheries)	Implemented
Fisheries management/regulation	Implemented
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Implemented
Regulation/management of wastes	Proposed

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? Yes

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes O No •

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

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? Yes, there is a plan

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented
Animal species (please specify)	Proposed
Plant community	Proposed

Monitoring of the European Beaver (Castor fiber) poulation is planned in 2015.

Bird monitoring: Since 1951, waterbirds on the Niederried reservoir along the Aare river near Berne, Switzerland, have been counted once every month from September to April. Report: Niggeler, E. & V. Keller (2007): Wintering waterbirds at the Ramsar site Stausee Niederried (canton of Berne, Switzerland) 1951/52–2005/06. Ornithol. Beob. 104: 279–300

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Reference list (pdf): See 6.1.2. vi.

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

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

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

<5 file(s) uploaded>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<1 file(s) uploaded>

vi. other published literature

<3 file(s) uploaded>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Niederried Stausee (Matthias Sorg, 21-10-2013)



Niederried Stausee. Upper Sorg, 21-09-2013)



Niederried Stausee. Upper part of the site. Still water / side branch. (*Matthias Sorg, 21-09-2013*)



Niederried Stausee. Upper Sorg, 21-09-2013)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 1990-11-09