

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 2 September 2024 Update version, previously published on : 1 January 1992

Germany

Wastewater irrigation fields Münster



Designation date 28 October 1983

Site number 277

Coordinates 52°02'04"N 07°38'42"E

Area 233,00 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

District of Münster, City of Münster, ca. 2 km N of Münster.

Northern part of the former wastewater irrigation fields of the city of Münster, dissected by a network of paths, mostly closed to the public, into units of ca. 1-2 ha. The units consist largely of shallow water basins, less frequently of pasture. Numerous shallow water basins, fringed by reed beds, some of them large, and dissected by a network of mud banks, wet-pasture, woodland and scrub.

The area is of international importance as a staging, wintering, breeding and moulting site for waders (shorebirds), ducks and reedbed birds. The site is also very important for other taxa.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1	.1	-	Name	and	address	of the	compiler	of	this	RIS
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Responsible compiler	
	Landacant für Natur. Limusit und Varhrausbarashutz (LANIIIV)
Institution/agency	Landesamt für Natur, Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz (LANUV)
Postal address	Leibnizstr. 10 45659 Recklinghausen Germany
National Ramsar Administrati	ve Authority
Institution/agency	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection
Postal address	Division N I 4 / International Matters of Biological Diversity Postfach 12 06 29 53048 Bonn Germany
2.1.2 - Period of collection of data an	d information used to compile the RIS
From year	1989
To year	2024
2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site	
Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Wastewater irrigation fields Münster
Unofficial name (optional)	Rieselfelder Muenster
	d area of the Site since its designation or earlier update
	Changes to Site boundary Yes O No O
	te) B. Changes to Site area No change to area
^(Update) For secretariat only: T	his update is an extension \square
2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological cha	rracter of the Site
(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of tapplicable Criteria) change	the Ramsar Site (including Yes (actual) Yes (actual)
	(Update) Are the changes Positive ○ Negative ○ Positive & Negative ●
(Update) Positive %	80
(Update) Negative %	20
(Update	e) No information available
(Update) Optional text box to provide further info	rmation
	untreated waste water into the Ramsar site was replaced by treated and clean water only; consequently, lable for waders (shorebirds) and large reedbeds have developed.
(Update) Changes resulting from causes o	perating within the existing boundaries?
(Update) Changes resulting from causes of	operating beyond the site's boundaries?
(Update) Changes consequent upon site bour the exclusion of some wetland types formerly	yincluded within the site)?
(Update) Changes consequent upon site bou the inclusion of different	ndary increase alone (e.g., wetland types in the site)?
	ecological character of the Ramsar Site, including in the application of the Criteria, since the previous RIS for the site.
In the 1990s, the dispatch of untreate	ed waste water into the Ramsar site was replaced by treated and clean water only; consequently, there has aders (shorebirds) and large reedbeds have developed.
(Update) Is the change in ecological character	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
AND a significant change (above the I	imit of accentable change)

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps 0

Boundaries description

The Ramsar Site comprises the former sewage ponds to the North of the road Coermühle. The boundaries of the Ramsar Site are identical with the boundaries of the nature reserve and the Northern part of the SPA "Rieselfelder Münster".

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does	District: Muenster; State: North Rhine-Westphalia; Federal Republic of Germany
b) What is the nearest town or population	Mueneter
centre?	Muchici

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

- a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries?
- b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes O No \odot

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 233

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

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Diogoograpino rogiono	
Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Atlantic region

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

The site is important for biodiversity as it is a staging, wintering, breeding and moulting site for numerous waders (shorebirds), ducks and reedbed birds.

Justification In the course of a year over 200 different bird species can be found in the site (around 150 wetlandrelated bird species) which consists of a diverse landscape mosaic of mostly shallow, but also some deep water areas, wet meadows, pastures, tree-lined avenues, forest plots, reed beds and scrub areas.

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

<no data available>

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% OCCURRENCE R(L)	ed Ann	CITES pendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
Birds									
CHORDATA AVES	Acrocephalus scirpaceus	300 2	2015-2017	L	С				Important breeding site Art 4(2) Birds Directive
CHORDATA AVES	Anas clypeata	500 2	2015-2017	L	c l				Important staging site Art 4 (2) Birds Directive
CHORDATA AVES	Anas crecca crecca	1500 2	2015-2017	L	c l				Important staging and wintering site Art 4 (2) Birds Directive
CHORDATA AVES	Anas platyrhynchos	2000 2	2015-2017	L	С				Important staging and wintering site Art 4 (2) Birds Directive
CHORDATA AVES	Anas querquedula	50 2	2015-2017	L	c l				Important staging site Art 4 (2) Birds Directive
CHORDATA AVES	Anas strepera	130 2	2015-2017	L	c l				Important breeding site Art 4 (2) Birds Directive
CHORDATA AVES	Botaurus stellaris	1 2	2015-2017	L	С			Appendix I Birds Directive	Important breeding site
CHORDATA AVES	Gallinago gallinago	50 2	2015-2017	L	c l				Important staging site Art 4 (2) Birds Directive
CHORDATA AVES	lxobrychus minutus	1 2	2015-2017	L	c l			Appendix I EU Birds Directive	Important breeding site
CHORDATA AVES	Luscinia svecica	100 2	2015-2017	L	c l			Appendix I EU Birds Directive	Important breeding site
CHORDATA AVES	Panurus biarmicus	10 2	2015-2017	L	c l				Important breeding site Art 4 (2) Birds Directive
CHORDATA AVES	Philomachus pugnax	40 2	2015-2017	L	С			Appendix I EU Birds Directive	Important staging site
CHORDATA AVES	Porzana porzana	5 2	2015-2017	L	c l			Appendix I EU Birds Directive	Important breeding site
CHORDATA AVES	Rallus aquaticus	70 2	2015-2017	L	c l				Important breeding site Art 4 (2) Birds Directive
CHORDATA AVES	Tachybaptus ruficollis	50 2	2015-2017	L	С				Important breeding site Art 4 (2) Birds Directive
CHORDATA AVES	Tringa glareola	40 2	2015-2017	L	c l			Appendix I Birds Directive	Important staging site

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

breeding area for waterbirds including reedbed birds + staging area for migratory waterbird species including waders (shorebirds)

3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

<no data available>

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

4.1 - Ecological character

Shallow-water basins with mud-banks as well as deep-water basin representing an important site for resting and moulting waders and ducks. Vegetation typical for shores of ponds has developed on the edge of the basins. Each basin features reed beds along the shoreline, some of them large, consisting of Phragmites australis. In the South and in the North-East lie moderatly moist to moderately wet pastures, which sometimes flood. Small damp oak- and birch-wood and alder (break)-wood with a few open, hydro-seral water pools (Alnion glutinosae, Salicion cinereae). The irrigated fields are biotopes replacing destroyed natural wetlands.

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 > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		1	70	

Human-made wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type
2: Ponds		1	70
4: Seasonally flooded agricultural land		3	
8: Wastewater treatment areas		2	

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

<no data available>

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	% occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	Natrix natrix	140	2015-2017		

Invasive alien animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Myocastor coypus	Actual (minor impacts)	increase

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
D: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with cold winters	Dfb: Humid continental (Humid with severe winter, no dry season, warm 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 \Box
Upper part of river basin
Middle part of river basin
Lower part of river basin

	More than o	one river basin	
	No	ot in river basin 🗷	
		Coastal	
4.4.3 - Soil			
		Mineral ☑	
	(Update) Changes	at RIS update No change	Increase O Decrease O Unknown O
	No availab	ole information	
Are soil types subject to	o change as a result of changin	ng hydrological	
	ons (e.g., increased salinity or		
1.4.4 - Water regime			
Vater permanence Presence?	Changes at RIS update		
Usually permanent water	No change		
present			
Source of water that maintain			
Presence? Water inputs from surface	Predominant water source	Changes at RIS update	
water	✓	increase	
Stability of water regime			
Presence?	Changes at RIS update		
Water levels largely stable	No change		
Diagon add any commont-	on the water regime and it- d-	aterminante (if relevant) II t	nis box to explain sites with complex hydrology.
1.4.5 - Sediment regin	ie		
	Sediment reg	gime unknown 🗆	
<no available="" data=""></no>			
I.4.6 - Water pH			
		Acid (pH<5.5)	
		Acid (pH<5.5)	Increase O Decrease O Linknown
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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 o 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

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance		
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	High		
Recreation and tourism Nature observation and nature-based tourism High		High		
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	Medium		
Scientific and educational	Educational activities and opportunities	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

Outside the site:	10000s

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

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	
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	

<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

lic owners	

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc.	2	

Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)		₽

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

The site is owned by the City of Münster.		

5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any City of Münster and Bezirksregierung Münster (representing the federal state of North-Rhine agency or organization responsible for Westphalia), in collaboration with the Biologische Station "Rieselfelder Münster" e.V. and Landesamt für managing the site: Natur, Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz (LANUV)

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

Dr. Michael Harengerd

Postal address:

Coermühle 181, 48157 Muenster

E-mail address: info@rieselfelder-muenster.de

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Transportation and service corridors

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Roads and railroads	High impact	High impact	✓	increase	₽	increase

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	Low impact	Low impact		No change	✓	decrease

Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Recreational and tourism activities	Medium impact	Medium impact	/	increase	/	increase

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	Low impact	Low impact	/	increase	₽	increase

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Tregional (international) legal designations			
Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	Vogelschutzgebiet "Rieselfelder Münster" 3911-401	http://natura2000-meldedok.natur schutzinformationen.nrw.de/natur a2000-meldedok/de/start	whole

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Nature reserve	Rieselfelder Münster	http://nsg.naturschutzinformatio nen.nrw.de/nsg/de/start	whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Rieselfelder Münster		whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

la 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	1

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	Implemented
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Implemented
Hydrology management/restoration	Implemented

Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species	Implemented
management programmes	implemented

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Management of water abstraction/takes	Implemented
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Implemented
Research	Implemented
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Implemented

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 ◎ No O

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

processes with another Contracting Party?

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

Biologische Station "Rieselfelder Münster" e.V., Coermuehle 181, 48157 Muenster

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant): http://www.biostation-muenster.org/

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

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Water regime monitoring	Implemented
Water quality	Implemented
Plant species	Implemented
Animal species (please specify)	Implemented
Birds	Implemented

The monitoring of animals extends to birds, amphibians, reptiles, mammals, fish, grasshoppers, dragonflies and damselflies, zoobenthos and spiders.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Landesanstalt für Oekologie, Landschaftsentwicklung und Forstplanung 1989. Expert report on the improvement and long-term conservation of the "Wetland of International Importance" Rieselfelder Münster.

Vauk, G. 1988. Expert report on the ornithological Nature Reserve "Rieselfelder Münster".

BIOLOGISCHE STATION RIESELFELDER MÜNSTER (2012-2016): Jahresberichte 2012 bis 2016 über das das europäische Vogelschutzgebiet und Feuchtgebiet Internationaler Bedeutung (Ramsar) "Rieselfelder Münster". Selbstverlag.

FELDMANN, B., A. KLEIN & M. KLEIN (2007-2016): Jahreszeitliches Auftreten ausgewählter Vogelarten. Jahresberichte der Biologischen Station Bände 9 (2006) bis 18 (2015).

FELDMANN, B. & A. KLEIN (2007-2016): Brutvögel der Rieselfelder. Jahresberichte der Biologischen Station Bände 9 (2006) bis 18 (2015). Biologische Station Rieselfelder Münster (2024): Rieselfelder Münster - Naturerlebnis für alle!

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

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

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



Rieselfelder Münster (Peter Herkenrath, 23-04-2016)



Rieselfelder Münster, view from the south of the SPA towards the Ramsar site (

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 1983-10-28