

# Ramsar Information Sheet

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

# **Germany**Weser barrage



Designation date 28 October 1983

Site number 278

Coordinates 52°27'09"N 09°01'53"E

Area 1 612,00 ha

# Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a 'full' Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

# 1 - Summary

#### Summary

The Ramsar Site extends along the river Weser from the Weser Barrage in the North to Windheim in the southwest. It includes the river bed and the floodplain area as well as adjacent agricultural land.

The site is one of the most important staging and wintering sites for waterbirds such as Cygnus cygnus, Anser albifrons, Bucephala clangula in the federal state of North-Rhine - Westphalia. There have been changes in the farming of the agricultural land, with increased cultivation of maize and a general increase in farming intensity.

# 2 - Data & location

#### 2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this	s RIS
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Responsible compiler

Institution/agency Landesamt für Natur, Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz NRW

Postal address LANUV, Leibnizstr. 10, 45659 Recklinghausen

National Ramsar Administrative Authority

Institution/agency Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection

Division N I 4 / International Matters of Biological Diversity
Postfach 12 06 29
53048 Bonn
Germany

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

To year 2019

#### 2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

Unofficial name (optional)

Weser barrage

Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg

# 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 O

(Update) B. Changes to Site area

(Update) For secretariat only: This update is an extension □

# 2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including No applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS?

# 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 extends along the river Weser from the Weser Barrage in the North to Windheim in the southwest. It includes the river bed and the floodplain area as well as adjacent agricultural land. It is identical with the northern part of the SPA Weseraue and contains parts of the nature reserves Häverner Marsch, Weseraue and Staustufe Schlüsselburg.

#### 2.2.2 - General location

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

District: Minden-Lübbecke; State: North Rhine-Westphalia; Federal Republic of Germany

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

Petershagen

#### 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?

# 2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 1612

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries 1655.846

# 2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

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

# 3 - Why is the Site important?

# 3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

At the time of the canalisation of the Mittelweser, the Staustufe Schlüsselburg was built, and the canal was constructed to circumnavigate the river bend (= Weserschleife). The weir caused an increase in water depth in the Oberwasser from originally 1.5 m (mean water level) to 3.8 m at the top of the dammed water Hydrological services provided to 5.6 m at the weir. The river Weser only floods at very high waters. A network of deep drainage channels was built parallel to the Weser in order to protect the agricultural fields adjacent to the weir; these drainage channels flow into the Unterwasser. Under normal water conditions the groundwater flow goes towards the Weser.

- ☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities
- ☑ 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	Species qualifies unde criterion 2 4 6 9	Species contributes under criterion 3 5 7 8	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
Birds											
CHORDATA / AVES	Anser albifrons			5000	2015-2017	0.4	LC				Important staging and wintering site
AVES	Aytnya terina			200	2015-2017	0.06	VU				Important staging and wintering site
CHORDATA / AVES	Aythya fuligula			500	2015-2017	0.08	LC				Important staging and wintering site
CHORDATA / AVES	Bucephala clangula			150	2015-2017	0.01	LC				Important staging and wintering site
CHORDATA / AVES	Cygnus cygnus			200	2015-2017	0.3	LC			Appendix I EU Birds Directive	Important staging and wintering site
CHORDATA / AVES	Haliaeetus albicilla			3	2015-2017		LC	✓	✓	Appendix I EU Birds Directive	
CHORDATA / AVES	Mergus merganser			90	2015-2017	0.03	LC				Important staging and wintering site
CHORDATA / AVES	Vanellus vanellus			2000	2015-2017	0.003	NT				Important staging and wintering site

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

breeding area for waterbirds + staging area for migratory waterbird species + waterbird wintering/non-breeding area

<no data available>

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

# 4.1 - Ecological character

Lowland river with overgrown shoreline and adjacent agricultural land, mostly arable. The gravel pits of the Häverner Marsch, Grube Baltus and Grube Mittelweser support a vertebrate fauna, which is typical for central European gravel pits. The site is one of the most important staging and wintering sites for waterbirds such as Cygnus cygnus, Anser albifrons, Bucephala clangula in the federal state of North-Rhine - Westphalia. There have been changes in the farming of the agricultural land, with increased cultivation of maize and a general increase in farming intensity.

# 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	Weseraue bei Petershagen	1	800	Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Ts: Seasonal/ intermittent freshwater marshes/ pools on inorganic soils		2		Representative

#### Human-made wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type
7: Excavations	Kiesgruben	1	200

#### Other non-wetland habitat

Other non-wetland habitats within the site	Area (ha) if known
Agricultural land	600

# 4.3 - Biological components

#### 4.3.1 - Plant species

<no data available>

#### 4.3.2 - Animal species

Invasive alien animal species

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

#### Optional text box to provide further information

Common Raccoon has become a predator at Cormorant breeding colonies

#### 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 8 2 1 2 1 2 1 1 2 1 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	
a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)	22
metres)	32
modos)	

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

Entire river basin

Upper part of river basin

Middle part of river basin

4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Unknown 🗹

i) broadly similar $\circ$ ii) significantly different $^{oldsymbol{G}}$	Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the site itself:
<b>✓</b>	Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development
$\checkmark$	Surrounding area has higher human population density
$\checkmark$	Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use
✓	Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types

# 4.5 - Ecosystem services

# 4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Food for humans	Sustenance for humans (e.g., fish, molluscs, grains)	Medium

Reg	Julating Services		
	Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Mai	intenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	High
	Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	High

#### **Cultural Services**

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

Within the site:	100s
Outside the site:	100s

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 C 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

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Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Provincial/region/state government	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

#### Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

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

The river Weser itself is owned by Germany (federal ownership, 'Bundeswasserstraße'). Other areas belong to the federal state of North-Rhine -Westphalia, to a state-wide foundation (Nordrhein-Westfalen-Stiftung) and to private owners.

#### 5.1.2 - Management authority

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

Postal address:

LANUV, Postfach 101052, 45659 Recklinghausen

E-mail address: poststelle@lanuv.nrw.de

# 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
Drainage	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Dredging	High impact	High impact	<b>✓</b>	No change	<b>✓</b>	No change
Salinisation	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	decrease		No change
Canalisation and river regulation	Medium impact	Medium impact	<b>2</b>	No change		No change

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	High impact	High impact	<b>⊘</b>	increase	✓	increase
Wood and pulp plantations	Low impact	Low impact	<b>2</b>	No change		No change

Energy production and mining

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Mining and quarrying	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change		No change
Renewable energy	Low impact	Low impact		No change	<b>✓</b>	increase

transportation and service corndors						
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Roads and railroads	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Utility and service lines (e.g., pipelines)	High impact	High impact	✓	No change	<b>&gt;</b>	No change
Shipping lanes	High impact	High impact	<b>2</b>	No change	<b>✓</b>	No change
Aircraft flight paths	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change

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	High impact	High impact	<b>/</b>	No change	<b>/</b>	No change
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	No change		No change

#### 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	<b>/</b>	No change	<b>/</b>	No change
(Para)military activities	Medium impact	Medium impact	<b>✓</b>	No change	<b>✓</b>	No change

Natural system modifications

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Dams and water management/use	High impact	High impact	<b>&gt;</b>	increase	<b>2</b>	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	High impact	High impact	<b>&gt;</b>	increase	<b>/</b>	increase
Problematic native species	Medium impact	Medium impact	<b>2</b>	increase	<b>2</b>	increase

#### Pollution

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

Climate change and severe weather

Olimate Glange and Severe weather						
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Habitat shifting and alteration	Medium impact	Medium impact	<b>/</b>	increase	<b>&gt;</b>	increase
Storms and flooding	Low impact	Low impact	✓	increase	✓	increase

#### Please describe any other threats (optional):

Intense agriculture; disturbance by recreational activities, hunting, fishing and military training; intense shipping on river Weser

# 5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	Weseraue 3519-401	http://natura2000-meldedok.natur schutzinformationen.nrw.de/natur a2000-meldedok/de/start	partly

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
nature reserve	Staustufe Schlüsselburg	http://nsg.naturschutzinformatio nen.nrw.de/nsg/de/start	whole
nature reserve	Häverner Marsch	http://nsg.naturschutzinformatio nen.nrw.de/nsg/de/start	whole
nature reserve	Grube Baltus	http://nsg.naturschutzinformatio nen.nrw.de/nsg/de/start	whole
nature reserve	Mittelweser	http://nsg.naturschutzinformatio nen.nrw.de/nsg/de/start	whole
nature reserve	Weseraue	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	Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg		whole

# 5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

la Strict Nature Reserve	la	Strict	Nature	Reserve	
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Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection

nal Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation	
ument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features	III N
sies Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention	IVH
ndscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation	V Pr
source Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems	VI M

# 5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

#### Legal protection

Logar protoction	
Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

#### Habitat

Measures	Status
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Implemented
Faunal corridors/passage	Implemented

#### Species

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

#### Human Activities

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

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  $\odot$ processes with another Contracting Party?

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant): http://natura2000-meldedok.naturschutzinformationen.nrw.de/natura2000-meldedok/de/start

# 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
Water quality	Implemented
Birds	Implemented

# 6 - Additional material

#### 6.1 - Additional reports and documents

#### 6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Ziegler, G. 1981. Durchzug und Ueberwinterungsvorkommen der Entenvögel im Bereich der "Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg". Charadriuas 17: 1-22. (Migratory and wintering ducks in the area of "Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg").

Woike, M. & Penselin, U. 1980. Biotopmanagementplan für das geplante NSG "Häverner Marsch". - im Auftrag der Landesanstalt für Oekologie, Landschaftsentwicklung und Forstplanung. (Biotope-management plan for the planned Nature Reserve "Häverner Marsch"). Erfassung von "Important Bird Areas" der Bundesrepublik Deutschland. Ber. Dtsch. Sekt. Int. Rat Vogelschutz 27 (1987), 13-58. (Counts on IBAs in FR Germany).

Ziegler, G. et al. 1989. Pflege- und Entwicklungsplan für das NSG "Staustufe Schlüsselburg". -im Auftrag des Regierungspräsdenten Detmold. (Management- and Development Plan for the Nature Reserve "Staustufe Schlüsselburg").

BIOLOGISCHE STATION MINDEN-LÜBBECKE E.V. (2010): Wiederholungskartierung des Grünlandes im Vogelschutzgebiet Weseraue. Unveröffentl. Gutachten im Auftrag des Landes NRW. 36 S., Minden.

BIOLOGISCHE STATION MINDEN-LÜBBECKE E.V. (2011): Erfassung der gebietstypischen Vogelarten im EU-Vogelschutzgebiet "Weseraue" im Zeitraum April 2009 bis März 2011. Minden.

BIOLOGISCHE STATION MINDEN-LÜBBECKE E.V. (2011): Rohrsängerkartierung im EU-Vogelschutzgebiet "Weseraue". Minden. BIOLOGISCHE STATION MINDEN-LÜBBECKE E.V. (2011): Erfassung der gebietstypischen Vogelarten im EU-Vogelschutzgebiet "Weseraue" im Zeitraum April 2009 bis März 2011. Minden

BIOLOGISCHE STATION MINDEN-LÜBBECKE E.V. (2011A): Rohrsängerkartierung im EU-Vogelschutzgebiet "Weseraue". Gutachten im Auftrag der Bezirksregierung Detmold. Unveröffentl.11 S. Minden.

BIOLOGISCHE STATION MINDEN-LÜBBECKE E.V. (2013): Erfassung der gebietstypischen Vogelarten im EU-Vogelschutzgebiet "Weseraue" im Zeitraum April 2011 bis März 2013. Bearbeitung: J. Nie-mann, Minden.

BIOLOGISCHE STATION MINDEN-LÜBBECKE E.V. (2014): Erfassung der gebietstypischen Vogelarten im EU-Vogelschutzgebiet "Weseraue" im Zeitraum April 2013 bis März 2014. Bearbeitung: J. Nie-mann, Minden.

BIOLOGISCHE STATION MINDEN-LÜBBECKE E. V. (2013): Erfassung der gebietstypischen Vogelarten im EU-Vogelschutzgebiet "Weseraue" im Zeitraum April 2011 bis März 2013. Minden.

LAND NORDRHEIN-WESTFALEN / BEZIRKSREGIERUNG DETMOLD (2000): Koopeerationsvereinbarung für das Vogelschutzgebiet "Weseraue" in der Stadt Petershagen, Kreis Minden-Lübbecke. 16 S., Minden, 15.08.2000.

ZIEGLER, G. (2014): 50 Jahre Naturschutz in Nordrhein-Westfalen zwischen Anspruch und Wirklichkeit am Beispiel des international bedeutsamen EU-Vogelschutzgebietes "Weseraue". Münster.

LANUV (2019): Vogelschutz-Maßnahmenplan für das Vogelschutzgebiet "Weseraue" DE-3519-401. Recklinghausen

# 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

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

v. site management plan

vi. other published literature

# 6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site



Häv ern/Windheim ( Dirk Esplör, 2016



Hävern/Windheim ( Dirk Esplör, 2016 )

# 6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

Date of Designation 1983-10-28