

Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

Categories approved by Recommendation 4.7 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.

NOTE: It is important that you read the accompanying *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document before completing this form.

1. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

13-02-1992

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DD	MM	YY
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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Germany

3. Name of wetland:

Unterer Niederrhein

4. Geographical coordinates: 51°30 - 51°54'N 05°47 - 06°43'E

5. Altitude: (average, max., min.) 7 - 27 m

6. Area: 25 000 ha

7. Overview: (general summary, in two or three sentences, of the wetland's principal characteristics)

Part of the Lower Rhine between Duisburg and the German/Dutch border. Mainly wet meadows in the land between the winter dikes and the river, old arms of the Rhine and open riverbanks with sand and pebbles like large sand quarries (Baggerseen). Especially in the most northwestern part of the site there is a large network of farmland that is subdivided in small fields by willows, thickets and ditches. The site is internationally important as resting- and wintering area for waders and waterfowl. Nationally it is important as breeding site for threatened species. About 40% of the area is protected through designation as nature conservation area.

8. Wetland Type (please circle the applicable codes for wetland types as listed in Annex I of the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document.)

marine-coastal: A . B . C . D . E . F . G . H . I . J . K

inland: L . M . N . O . P . Q . R . Sp . Ss . Tp . Ts
. U . Va . Vt . W . Xf . Xp . Y . Zg . Zk

man-made: 1 . 2 . 3 . 4 . 5 . 6 . 7 . 8 . 9

Please now rank these wetland types by listing them from the most to the least dominant:

9. Ramsar Criteria: (please circle the applicable criteria; see point 12, next page.)

1a . 1b . 1c . 1d | 2a . 2b . 2c . 2d | 3a . 3b . 3c | 4a . 4b

Please specify the most significant criterion applicable to the site: _____

10. Map of site included? Please tick *yes* -or- *no*

(Please refer to the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document for information regarding desirable map traits).

11. Name and address of the compiler of this form:

Landesanstalt für Ökologie
Landschaftsentwicklung und Forstplanung
Nordrhein-Westfalen
Leibnizstr. 10
4350 Recklinghausen
tel. 02361 605-1

12. Justification of the criteria selected under point 9, on previous page. (Please refer to Annex II in the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document).

13. General location: (include the nearest large town and its administrative region)
Within the circle between Kleve, Wesel and Duisburg

14. Physical features: (e.g. geology, geomorphology; origins - natural or artificial; hydrology; soil type; water quality; water depth
water permanence; fluctuations in water level; tidal variations; catchment area; downstream area; climate)

The site includes the from the Holocene originating river arms of the Rhine that are no longer used. During high water levels, sand and gravel form a layer of sedimentation on top of the lime sediment in these old river arms.

15. Hydrological values: (groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilisation etc)

16. Ecological features: (main habitats and vegetation types)

17. Noteworthy flora: (indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc)

18. Noteworthy fauna: (indicating, e.g., which species are unique, rare, endangered, abundant or biogeographically important; include count data, etc.)

19. Social and cultural values: (e.g. fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological site etc.)

20. Land tenure/ownership of:

(a) site:

(b) surrounding area:

21. Current land use:

(a) site:

(b) surroundings/catchment:

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

(a) at the site:

(b) around the site:

23. Conservation measures taken: (national category and legal status of protected areas - including any boundary changes which have been made: management practices; whether an officially approved management plan exists and whether it has been implemented)

24. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented: (e.g. management plan in preparation; officially proposed as a protected area etc.)

25. Current scientific research and facilities: (e.g. details of current projects; existence of field station etc.)

26. Current conservation education: (e.g. visitors centre, hides, information booklet, facilities for school visits etc.)

27. Current recreation and tourism: (state if wetland is used for recreation/tourism; indicate type and frequency/intensity)

28. Jurisdiction: (territorial e.g. state/region and functional e.g. Dept of Agriculture/Dept. of Environment etc.)

29. Management authority: (name and address of local body directly responsible for managing the wetland)

30. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

Please return to: **Ramsar Convention Bureau, Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 GLAND, Switzerland**
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