

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:

January 2002

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DD	MM	YY

Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Denmark

3. Name of wetland:

Stadil and Veststadil Fjords

International No. 142, National No. 3

4. Geographical co-ordinates: 56°11'N, 08°09'E

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.) -1/1 m

6. Area: (in hectares) 6,913 ha

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

Four shallow lakes surrounded by reed swamp, meadows, fields and dunes. The area at Veststadil Fjord includes a larger inlet, formerly drained and cultivated but now restored to wetland 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:

Q, O, 4, E

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

1 · **2** · 3 · 4 · 5 · **6** · 7 · 8

Please specify the most significant criterion applicable to the site: 6

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:

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Please provide additional information on each of the following categories by attaching extra pages (please limit extra pages to no more than 10):

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

Criterion 2: The site is an important habitat for the globally and nationally red listed plant species *Luronium natans*.

Breeding area for the rare bird species *Botaurus stellaris* which is on the Danish red list.

Criterion 6: The site regularly supports more than 1% of the individuals in the populations of the following species:

Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*) 27,000 (1998) – 79,4% of the Svalbard/NE Europe population

Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*) 4,100 (1999) – 2,1% of the NW Europe/SW Europe population

Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*) 950 (1999) – 2,4% of the NW Mainland Europe population

Bewick's Swan (*Cygnus columbianus bewickii*) 960 (1999) – 5,7% of the W Sibiria/NE & NW Europe population

Pintail (*Anas acuta*) 810 (1998) – 1,4% of the Northwestern Europe population

Teal (*Anas crecca*) 9,520 (1999) – 2,4% of the Northwestern Europe population

13. General location: (include the nearest large town and its administrative region)

The site is located 1-5 km from the North Sea on the migratory route along the West Coast of Jutland just between Rinkøbing Fjord (Ramsar site No.141) and Nissum Fjord (Ramsar site No. 143). The area is situated 5-20 km north of Ringkøbing City, Ringkøbing County.

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)

Natural lakes, water residence time about 40 days, secchi depth 0.3-1.0 meter, mean phosphorous level 0.08-0.19 mg P/l, mean depth 0.5-1.5 meter, catchment area about 460 km².

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

No specific information.

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

The features of the site are shallow fjord areas surrounded by reed swamp, meadows, pasture, agricultural land and dunes. See also point 7 and 8.

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

Luronium natans is both on the national and the global red list.

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.)

Recreational fishing and hunting areas.

20. Land tenure/ownership of: (a) site (b) surrounding area

Territorial waters, private, the State represented by the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture.

21. Current land use: (a) site (b) surroundings/catchment

(a) 1535 hectares bird sanctuary, lakes, meadows, farmland (b) farmland

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

(a) Eutrophication

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)

Sønderdyb (part of Veststadil Fjord) and adjacent areas about 1,300 ha has been protected according to the Nature Conservation Act in 1969.

The whole area is identical with the EU Bird Protection Area No. 41

The whole area is identical with the EU Habitat Protection area No. 59

Veststadil Fjord is a wildlife reserve.

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

The main part of the former reclaimed area and the fresh-water lake have been acquired by the Government in order to implement a nature restoration project and a nature management programme including the extension of the area of natural and seminatural pasture and the regulation of hunting. The restoration project has been realised in 1996-99. On an area of 680 hectares the water level has been raised from -1.4 meter below sea level to -0.5 meter. As a consequence most of the former agricultural fields are now meadows grazed by cattle, and the areas with reed-beds and lakes have increased.

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

The National Environmental Research Institute is conducting a research programme on pink-footed goose and waterbird monitoring as well as a monitoring programme on the effects of the restoration project on the water quality in Vest Stadil Fjord.

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

A visitors centre and hides for bird observations have been established in 2000, and an excursion brochure has been published.

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

Popular area for bird-watching.

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

Nature Conservation and administration of the Ramsar Convention and EU Bird and Habitat Directives: Ministry of Environment.

The legislation on Agriculture and Fisheries: Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Nature Conservation Scheme: Ringkøbing County.

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

Ringkøbing County
Østergade 41
Postboks 152
DK-6950 Ringkøbing
Telephone: 96 75 30 00
Telex: 96 75 30 80

Ulborg State Forest District
Ulborggård
Paradisvej 4
DK-6990 Ulfborg
Tlf. 97 49 14 00
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30. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

- Clausen, P. et al. 2001: Jagt- og forstyrrelsesfrie kerneområder for vandfugle: Status 1999. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser. 84 pp. Arbejdsrapport fra DMU nr. 146.
 - Miljø- og Energiministeriet, Skov- og Naturstyrelsen 1996: EF-fuglebeskyttelsesområder og Ramsarområder. Kort og områdebeskrivelser, status 1995. [With an English summary]. 273 pp.
 - Miljø- og Energiministeriet, Skov- og Naturstyrelsen 1999: Birds of Danish SPAs – trends in occurrence. 119 pp.
 - Ministry of Environment and Energy, The National Forest and Nature Agency 1996: Danish Report 1996 on the Ramsar Convention, Denmark and Greenland. 105 pp. + 4 appendices.
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