

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.

DD	MM	YY

Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Denmark

3. Name of wetland:

Vejlerne and Løgstør Bredning

International No. 145; National No. 6

4. Geographical coordinates: 57°01'N, 09°00'E

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.) 1-8 m 6. Area: (in hectares) 41,743 hectares

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

The site is a shallow, brackish fjord with shoals and islands. Coastal areas with saltmarshes. Vejlerne and Lønnerup Fjord: partly drained fjords with dams to the Limfjord, lakes, reed swamps and saltmarshes.

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:

A, B, H, G, 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: A number of plant species on the national red list occur in the area e.g. *Dactylorhiza purpurella* spp. *purpurella*, *Dryopteris affinis*, *Selaginella selaginoides*, *Gentianella uliginosa*, *Pilularia globilifera*, *Ficaria verna* spp. *Fertilis* and *Alchemilla filicaulis*.

The site is a breeding area for aquatic and salt marsh birds including species from the Danish red list e.g. *Podiceps nigricollis*, *Botaurus stellaris*, *Platalea leucorodia*, *Porzana porzana*, *Philomachus pugnax*, *Sterna albifrons*, *Chlidonias niger*, *Anas acuta*, *Anas penelope*, *Anas querquedula* and *Calidris alpina*.

Criterion 4: The site is an important moulting refuge for ducks and geese, and the fjord area includes a haunt for seals.

Criterion 6: The site regularly supports more than 1% of the populations of the following species (count data from 1999):

Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*) 998 – 2,5% of the NW Mainland Europe population

Bewick's Swan (*Cygnus columbianus bewickii*) 301 – 1,8% of the W Siberia/NE & NW Europe population

Grey Lag Goose (*Anser anser*) 5,467 – 2,7% of the NW Europe/SW Europe population

Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*) 12,735 – 37,5% of the Svalbard/NW Europe population

Teal (*Anas crecca*) 10,354 – 2,6% of the Northwestern Europe population

Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) 639 – 1,6% of the NW/Central Europe population

Red breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) 4,979 – 4% of the NW/Central Europe population

Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) 4,355 – 1,5% of the NW/Central Europe population

Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) 18,956 – 1,2% of the Northwestern Europe (breeding) population

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

The site is a part of the Limfjord sound in North Jutland. The locality is situated west of the town of Løgstør, where the Limfjord broadens. The administrative regions are Viborg County and Nordjylland 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)

Vejlerne are former parts of the Limfjord. More than 100 years ago they were separated from the fjord by dams.

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

No specific information.

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

No specific information.

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

A number of species on the national red list occur in the area, including *Dactylorhiza purpurella* spp. *Purpurella*, *Dryopteris affinis*, *Selaginella selaginoides*, *Gentianella uliginosa*, *Pilularia globilifera*, *Ficaria verna* spp. *Fertilis* and *Alchemilla filicaulis*.

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

Vejlerne is one of the most important strongholds for breeding and migrating waterbirds in Denmark. The best breeding locality in Denmark for Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*), Bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*) and Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*). Very important also for Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*) and Spotted Crake (*Porzana porzana*).

The fjord area is an important moulting refuge for diving ducks and a haul-out for seals.

Resting and feeding area for the following species, among others, count data from 1999:

Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*) 19
Bean Goose (*Anser fabalis*) 190
Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) 5,682
Pintail (*Anas acuta*) 479
Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) 11,483
Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*) 390
Pochard (*Aythya ferina*) 3,079
Coot (*Fulica atra*) 6,178
Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) 5,050
Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) 4,296
Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) 408

Breeding area for aquatic and salt marsh birds including *Podiceps nigricollis*, *Botaurus stellaris*, *Platalea leucorodia*, *Circus aeruginosus*, *Pandion haliaetus*, *Porzana porzana*, *Recurvirostra avosetta*, *Philomachus pugnax*, *Sterna albifrons*, *Chlidonias niger*, *Sterna paradisaea*, *Sterna hirundo*, *Sterna albifrons*, *Anas acuta*, *Anas penelope*, *Anas querquedula* and *Calidris alpina*.

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

Fisheries, hay production, grazing with cattle, production of reeds.

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

Territorial waters, municipal authorities, private, the State represented by the Ministry of Environment.

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

(a) cattle grazing, reed harvesting, fishery (b) agriculture

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) As a result of less water depth, the flora and fauna of Vejlerne are changing gradually. (b)

Eutrophication due to discharge of nutrients from adjacent agricultural areas. Cultivation of grassed meadows bordering the wetlands.

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)

Nature conservation: Vejlerne, Skårup-Holm Tange, Livø, Løgstør (6,800 ha) and Bygholm Vejle (695 ha). Vejlerne was acquired by a private fund in 1992 and a ban on hunting for waterbirds has been implemented.

The whole area is included in the EU Bird Protection sites No. 8, 12, 13, 19 and 20 and designated EU 19-12-03

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Habitat Protection area No. 16.

Parts of the Ramsar site are Wildlife and Nature reserves.

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

The overriding aim of the activities in the Vejlerne scientific sanctuary is to re-establish a higher water level especially in the eastern section of the area.

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

Monitoring of e.g. waterbirds is currently carried out from the field station at the area. The field station is run by the Ministry of Environment.

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

A new visitors center was opened in 2001 and several observations towers and hides have been established. A brochure and several books and reports about the area have been published.

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

Many tourists visit the bird hides and the new visitors center.

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: Viborg County and Nordjylland County.

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

Viborg County

Amtsgården

Skottenborg 26

Postboks 21

8800 Viborg

Telefon: 87 27 17 00

Telefax: 86 62 39 33

Nordjylland County

Amtsgården

Niels Bohrsvej 30

Postboks 8300

9220 Aalborg Ø

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Thy State Forest District

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Hanherred State Forest

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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.
 - Laursen, K. (ed.) 2001: Overvågning af fugle, sæler, og planter 1999-2000, med resultater fra feltstationerne. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser. 103 pp. Faglig rapport fra DMU nr. 350.
 - 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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