

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.

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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Denmark

3. Name of wetland:

Lillebælt

International No. 154; National No. 15

4. Geographical coordinates: 55°21'N, 09°43'E

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.) 0-40 m **6. Area:** (in hectares) 35,058 hectares.

7. Overview:

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

A narrow strait containing islands and peninsulas on which cultivated land and some scattered habitations are found. Also coves, lagoons, salt marsh areas and reed swamps adjacent to the strait are characteristic landscape elements.

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, H, B, E, J.

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:

Sten Asbirk, Danish Forest and Nature Agency, Haraldsgade 53, 2100 Copenhagen, Denmark.
Tel. +45 39 47 20 00, fax: +45 39 27 98 99, e-mail: sta@sns.dk
Inge Thaulow, Kaare Duhn, and Palle Uhd Jepsen, Danish National Forest and Nature Agency.

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 a breeding area for aquatic and salt marsh birds including species on the Danish red list, e.g. *Calidris alpina*, and *Sterna albifrons*.

Criterion 6: The site regularly supports more than 1% of the individuals in the population of Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*) 3,058 – 1,5% of the NW Europe/SW Europe population (count data 1998-99)

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

The strait separating Funen (between the towns of Middelfart and Assens) and Jutland (between Kolding Fjord and the town of Haderslev). The administrative regions are Fyn, Vejle and South Jutland Counties.

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 landscape is formed by glacial deposits. The average water depth of the strait is 20 meters but depths up to 40 meters are not unusual. The residence time of water in the strait is highly dependant on the water currents in the adjacent water bodies and varies from a few days to several weeks. As to tidal variation the amplitude is about 0.4 meters. The catchment area is around 1,200 km² on the Jutland side of the strait. The water in the strait is eutrophicated and dominated by phytoplankton blooms. As a result of high outlets of nitrogen and phosphorous from the catchment area, oxygen deficits often occur in the deeper parts of the strait.

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

The shorelines of the strait are fairly stable and generally not eroded.

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

Marine/coastal ecosystems. Salt marsh, reed swamps, cultivated land.

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

No specific information.

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

The site is a resting and feeding area for waterbirds (count data from 1998-99):

Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*) 26
Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*) 300
Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) 100
Eider (*Somateria mollissima*) 10,430
Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) 844
Coot (*Fulica atra*) 1,355
Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) 1,750

Breeding area for aquatic and salt marsh birds including *Phalacrocorax carbo*, *Circus aeruginosus*, *Recurvirostra avosetta*, *Calidris alpina*, *Sterna paradisaea*, *Sterna sandvicensis* and *Sterna albifrons*.

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

Near Seljum at Sønder Stenderup there is a historical interesting place with old earthwork.

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

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

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

(a) farmland, forestry, grazing (b) mainly 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

Intervention and sanctions have diminished industrial pollution (CaSO₄) and discharge of oxygen-consuming materials affecting the ecological balance in the Little Belt by environmental authorities.

Potential threats are pollution, eutrophication and hunting.

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: Stenderup Hage 30 hectares.

The whole area is identical with the EU Bird Protection Area No. 47 and the EU Habitat Protection Site No. 96 is inside the area.

Parts of the Ramsar site are Wildlife reserves. At the islands of Bastholm, Linderum and Årø Kalv there is no public access during the breeding season of the waterbirds.

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

No specific information.

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

Monitoring of waterbirds is currently undertaken.

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

No specific information.

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

There are some tourism activities on the larger inhabited islands.

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: Vejle, Funen and South Jutland County.

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

Vejle County
Damhaven 12

7100 Vejle
Tel: 75 83 53 33

15-11-16

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Fax: 75 83 16 75

Fyn County
Ørbækvej 100
5220 Odense SØ
Tel: 65 56 10 00
Fax: 65 56 10 56

Sønderjylland County
Skelbækvej 2
6200 Aabenraa
Tel: 74 33 50 50
Fax: 74 33 51 51

Haderslev State Forest District
Christiansfeld Landevej 69
6100 Haderslev
Tel: 74 52 21 05
Fax: 74 52 53 68

Fyn State Forest District
Sollerupvej 22
5600 Fåborg
Tel: 62 65 17 77
Fax: 62 65 17 22

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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Please return to: **Ramsar Convention Bureau, Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 GLAND, Switzerland**
Telephone: +41 22 999 0170 • Fax: +41 22 999 0169 • e-mail: ramsar@hq.iucn.org