

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:

Nærrå Coast and Æbelø area.

International No. 155; National No. 16.

4. Geographical co-ordinates: 55°36'N, 10°13'E

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.) 0-25 m

6. Area: (in hectares) 13,060 hectares

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

Shallow, coastal waters with islands and islets of which Æbelø is forested and the only inhabited island. Drained areas, salt marshes, cultivated areas with scattered habitation.

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, G, J, H, E, 9.

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: 2

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 breeding area for waterbirds including species on the Danish red list, e.g. *Calidris alpina*, and *Sterna albifrons*.

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

Coastal area east and west and water territory north of the town of Bogense on the north coast of Funen. Administrative region is Funen 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)

No specific information.

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)

The flora on Æbelø is very rich.

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

One of the few staging areas for White fronted Goose in Denmark is to be found in this area (on the meadows of Gyldensteen estate).

The site is a resting and feeding area for waterbirds (count data 1999):

White fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) 84

Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*) 34

Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) 1,248

Eider (*Somateria mollissima*) 132

Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) 3,600

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) 7,000

Breeding area for aquatic and salt marsh birds including *Somateria mollissima*, *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.)

Several archaeological sites are situated inside the area, e.g. stone age settlements and burial mounds.

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 Food, Agriculture and Fisheries.

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

(a) farmland, 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

Planting and overgrowing of meadows is increasing.

Potential threats are cultivation and overgrowing of fields used by geese.

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: About 300 hectares on Æbelø, Kisselbjerg – Nørreby Hals, Flyvesandet – Fuglsanggård.

Mågeøerne is a wildlife reserve with no public access in the breeding season.

The whole area is identical with the EU Bird Protection Area No. 76 and some of the EU Habitat Protection Site No. 92 is inside the area.

Parts of the Ramsar site are Wildlife reserves.

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

By a Ministerial Order, hunting from motor boats has been prohibited in the Nærå Coast area in order to reduce hunting pressure on and disturbance of waterbirds.

In accordance with the Game and Wildlife Management Act, White-fronted Geese are fully protected throughout their stay in this Ramsar Site.

25. Current scientific research and facilities: (e.g. details of current projects; existence of field station etc.) The private foundation Aage V. Jensens Fonde has research facilities on Æbelø.

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

Information booklet on Æbelø.

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

The intensity of recreational activities such as sailing and walking tours is relatively low.

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: Funen County.

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

Fyn County

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Ørbækvej 100

5220 Odense SØ

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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.
- Pihl, S. et al. 2001: Landsdækkende optælling af vandfugle, vinteren 1999/2000. [With an English summary]. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser. 46 pp. Faglig rapport fra DMU nr. 356.

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