

# 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:

South Funen Archipelago

International No. 156; National No. 17.

## 4. Geographical coordinates: 55°00'N, 10°20'E

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.) 0-25m    6. Area: (in hectares) 38,440

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

Shallow waters with shoals and many, mostly uninhabited islands. Salt marshes and reed swamps. Some islands with cultivated areas and scattered habitation.

This drowned, undulating moraine landscape is unique in Europe.

## 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, E, G.

## 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:

05-01-04

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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):**

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**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, some of which are on the Danish red list, e.g. *Botaurus stellaris*, *Philomachus pugnax*, and *Sterna albifrons*.

Criterion 4: The site is one of the most important moulting areas in Denmark for Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*).

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

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) 5.394 – 2,6% of the NW Mainland and Central Europe population

Whooper Swan (*Cygnus cygnus*) >1,000 – 2,5% of the NW Mainland Europe

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

The archipelago south of Funen between the islands Ærø, Tåsinge and Langeland. Nearest large town is Svendborg. Administrative region is Funen County.

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**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.

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

No specific information.

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

No specific information.

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

No specific information.

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

The site is one of the most important moulting areas in Denmark for Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*).

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

Dark bellied Brent Goose (*Branta b. bernicla*) 105

Wigeon (*Anas poenelope*) 2,622

Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*) 2,007

Eider (*Somateria mollissima*) 2,951

Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) 2,072

Red Breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) 502

Coot (*Fulica atra*) 5,769

Breeding area for aquatic and salt marsh birds including *Phalacrocorax carbo*, *Botaurus stellaris*, *Circus aeruginosus*, *Recurvirostra avosetta*, *Philomachus pugnax*, *Sterna sandvicensis*, *Sterna paradisaea*, *Sterna hirundo*, *Sterna albifrons*.

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

No specific information.

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

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

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

(a) farmland, grazing (b) mainly farmland

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**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

There is a decline in cattle grazing causing overgrowth of small islands; drainage and cultivation schemes have degraded the breeding habitats for waterbirds since the turn of the century.

Negative effect on submerged vegetation due to eutrophication. Increasing eutrophication has resulted in very low oxygen levels in the bottom substrate.

Human disturbance on uninhabited islands is a potential threat

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**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: Vejlen (50 hectares) and Monnet (122 hectares) on Tåsinge. Monnet and some of the small islands are protected against public access in the birds' breeding season.

By a Ministerial Order, hunting from motor boats has been prohibited north of Ærøskøbing (Ærø island) in order to reduce hunting pressure on and disturbance of waterbirds.

The whole area is identical with the EU Bird Protection Area No. 71. The site overlaps partly the EU Habitat Protection Site No. 111.

Part of the Ramsar site is a Wildlife reserve.

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

No specific information.

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

Monitoring of waterbirds is currently undertaken.

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

No specific information.

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

The intensity of recreation and tourism is high, e.g. sailing and day visits to the inhabited islands.

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**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.

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

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

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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.
  - Petersen, I. 1995: Vandfugles antal og fordeling i Det Sydfynske Øhav og Helnæs Bugt 1991-92. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser. Faglig rapport fra DMU nr. 130.
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