

## Ramsar Information Sheet

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**1. Date this sheet was completed:** 01.06.1997

**2. Country:** Estonia

**3. Name of wetland:** Endla Nature Reserve

**4. Geographical co-ordinates:** 58°53N 26°08'E

**5. Altitude:** 70-80 m above sea level

**6. Area:** 8,050 ha

### 7. Overview

Peat bogs, freshwater lakes and rivers, swamp forests; in general an important freshwater ecosystem in Estonia.

**8. Wetland type:** M O Tp Ts U W Xf Xp Y

**9. Ramsar Criteria:** 1a, 1c, 2a

**10. Map of site included:** Yes

### 11. Name and address of compiler:

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### 12. Justification of criteria selected under point 9:

1a - it is a particularly good representative example of a natural or near-natural wetland, characteristic of the appropriate biogeographical region

1c - it is a particularly good representative example of a wetland which plays a substantial hydrological, biological or ecological role in the natural functioning of a major river basin

2a - it supports an appreciable assemblage of rare, vulnerable or endangered species or subspecies of plant or animal, or an appreciable number of individuals of any one or more of these species

### 13. General location:

Jõgeva, Järva and Lääne-Viru counties in eastern Estonia, 15 km Northwest from Jõgeva town (6700 inhabitants).

### 14. Physical features:

Natural origin. Ordovician limestone and dolomite bedrock, covered by moraine gravel and sand, lake sediments and peat deposition (maximum of thickness of peat deposit up to 7.3 m); mean annual temperature 4.2°C, precipitation about 650mm, night frost-free period 170 days.

### 15. Hydrological values:

Important role in the recharge and discharge of ground water as well as in the maintenance of water quality.

### 16. Ecological features:

Pine dwarf-shrub, pine pool-ridge and grassy treeless peatland (*Pinus sylvestris*, *Ledum palustre*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Eriophorum* spp., *Carex* spp., *Sphagnum* spp., etc.); swamp forest (*Pinus sylvestris*, *Betula pubescens*); mixed forest and reedbed.

### 17. Noteworthy flora:

Rare and endangered orchid species - *Cypripedium calceolus*, *Malaxis monophyllos* etc. and *Rubus arcticus*, *Hyperzia selago* and *Najas intermedia*; good examples of native *Sphagnum* communities and species.

**18. Noteworthy fauna:**

Birds: breeding area for *Botaurus stellaris*, *Ciconia nigra*, *Circus aeruginosus*, *Circus pygargus*, *Haliaeetus albicilla* (1 pair), *Aquila chrysaetos* (1 pair), *Aquila pomarina* (1 pair), *Pandion haliaetus* (1 pair), *Bonasia bonasia*, *Tetrao tetrix*, *Tetrao urogallus*, *Grus grus*, *Porzana porzana*, *Pluvialis apricaria*, *Tringa glareola*, *Bubo bubo*, *Caprimulgus europaeus*, *Alcedo atthis*, etc.

Mammals: Important for *Canis lupus*, *Lutra lutra*.

**19. Social and cultural values:**

Important area for water supply, education and scientific research.

**20. Land tenure/ownership of:**

a) site: Mostly state-owned land, small areas also in private ownership.

b) surrounding area: State, provincial and private lands.

**21. Current land use/principal human activities:**

a) site: About 100 inhabitants; limited forest use, agriculture and sport fishing.

b) Surroundings/catchment: About 500 inhabitants; intensive agriculture and forestry.

**22. Factors adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land use and development projects:**

a) site: Agricultural pollution, waste waters, drainage, forestry, hunting and fishing.

b) Surroundings/catchment: Agricultural pollution, waste waters, drainage, forestry, hunting and fishing.

**23. Conservation measures taken:**

Endla Nature Reserve, established in 1985, covers the entire wetland are. Officially approved and controlled fishing and visiting. The new Protection Rules were approved by the Estonian Government on 13 May 1997.

**24. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:**

According to Estonian Governmental Regulation No. 48 of 4 March 1997 the management plan has to be completed by 2002.

**25. Current scientific and research facilities:**

Long-term hydrometeorological monitoring of peat bogs; plant and bird monitoring; no field stations.

**26. Current conservation education:**

One information booklet. The centre of the reserve is also a visitor's centre.

**27. Current recreation and tourism:**

No recreation, regulated ecotourism and visiting of the Nature Reserve.

**28. Jurisdiction:**

Jõgeva Commune, Jõgeva, Jõgeva County, EE2350

Koeru Commune, Paide tee 5, Koeru, Järva County, EE2824

Rakke Commune, Faehlmanni 18, Rakke, Lääne-Viru County, EE2330

Ministry of Environment, Department of Nature Conservation, Tompuiestee 24, EE0100, Tallinn, Estonia

**29. Management authority:**

Endla Nature Reserve, EE2350 Kurista, Jõgeva County, Estonia

**30. Bibliographical references:**

- Ilomets, M. 1988. Vertical distribution and spatial pattern of Sphagnum communities in two Estonian treeless bogs. In: M. Zobel (ed.) Dynamics and ecology of Wetlands and Lakes in Estonia. Tallinn, pp.24-39.
- Leito, A., Tammur, E. 1991. On the bird fauna of Endla State Nature Reserve and its changes. Loodusevaatlusi, 1989,1, pp. 27-42 (in Estonian with English summary).
- Valk, U. (ed.). 1988 Estonian Peatlands. Tallinn. pp. 241-246 (in Estonian, Russian and English summary).