



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 27 April 2023

Update version, previously published on : 1 January 2005

Finland Lake Sysmäjärvi



Designation date	2 February 2004
Site number	1517
Coordinates	62°41'12"N 29°03'22"E
Area	734,00 ha

Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a 'full' Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

1 - Summary

Summary

Lake Sysmäjärvi is the most valuable of the North Karelian bird-lakes and among the ten most important wetlands in Finland. The high conservational value is due to the high diversity of breeding and migrating wetland bird species. The lake is characterized by extensive growths of Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) and Water Horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*). The area includes ca. 690 ha of water and 22 small islands. Alluvial meadows and bush zones occur narrowly on shores. The lake is surrounded by a narrow forest zone and agricultural land. On the shores of Lake Sysmäjärvi there are also Stone Age dwelling sites, housepits, and pitfall traps.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Responsible compiler

Institution/agency

Postal address

National Ramsar Administrative Authority

Institution/agency

Postal address

2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year

To year

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

Unofficial name (optional)

2.1.4 - Changes to the boundaries and area of the Site since its designation or earlier update

(Update) A. Changes to Site boundary Yes No

(Update) B. Changes to Site area No change to area

(Update) For secretariat only: This update is an extension

2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS? No

(Update) Optional text box to provide further information

Wetland types and species, and ecosystem services have been reassessed according to current knowledge, but there are no changes to the ecological character.

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<2 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps

Boundaries description

The site follows the boundaries of the Natura 2000 site FI0700001 Sysmäjärvi SPA.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

RIS for Site no. 1517, Lake Sysmäjärvi, Finland

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes No

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes No

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha):

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Boreal region
Other scheme (provide name below)	Southern boreal forest vegetation zone

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

3 - Why is the Site important?

3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

Other reasons

Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions

Optional text box to provide further information

3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

<no data available>

3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
		2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
Birds																	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aegolius funereus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas acuta</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas penelope</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anser fabalis</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aythya marila</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The Site supports this species during migratory and breeding period.

Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
		2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU; EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory and breeding period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Circus macrourus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN; EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN; EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Emberiza rustica</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory and breeding period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU; EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The Site supports this species during migratory and breeding period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Fulica atra</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Gallinago media</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR; EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU; EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.

Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
		2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Mergellus albellus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN; EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory and breeding period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU; EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR; EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The Site supports this species during migratory period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR; EU Birds Directive - Annex I	The Site supports this species during migratory period.

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

<no data available>

4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

4.1 - Ecological character

Sysmäjärvi is a lake characterized by extensive growths of Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) and Water Horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*). The area includes ca. 690 ha of water and 22 small islands and narrow strips of alluvial meadows and bush zones on the shoreline. The lake is surrounded by a narrow forest zone and agricultural land. The high conservational value of the site is especially due to the high diversity of breeding and migrating wetland bird species.

4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

Inland wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		1		Representative

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

<no data available>

4.3.2 - Animal species

Invasive alien animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Neovison vison</i>	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Nyctereutes procyonoides</i>	Actual (minor impacts)	No change

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
D: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with cold winters	Dfc: Subarctic (Severe winter, no dry season, cool summer)

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

Entire river basin

Upper part of river basin

Middle part of river basin

Lower part of river basin

More than one river basin

Not in river basin

Coastal

Please name the river basin or basins. If the site lies in a sub-basin, please also name the larger river basin. For a coastal/marine site, please name the sea or ocean.

Sysmäjärvi is located in the middle part of the Vuoksi River Basin.

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change Increase Decrease Unknown

Organic

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change Increase Decrease Unknown

No available information

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)? Yes No

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

Mainly silt and clay with littoral and glacial fluvial gravel and sand and peat.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Usually permanent water present	
Usually seasonal, ephemeral or intermittent water present	

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source	Changes at RIS update
Water inputs from surface water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Please add any comments on the water regime and its determinants (if relevant). Use this box to explain sites with complex hydrology.

Depth of water: 1.65 m on average, maximum 5 m. Water-level high in spring because of melting snow.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Sediment regime unknown

4.4.6 - Water pH

Unknown

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change Increase Decrease Unknown

Unknown

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change Increase Decrease Unknown

Unknown

Please provide further information on dissolved or suspended nutrients (optional):

General water quality poor. Eutrophic.

4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the site itself: i) broadly similar ii) significantly different

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development

Surrounding area has higher human population density

Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use

Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types

Please describe other ways in which the surrounding area is different:

Mainly agricultural landscape, the town of Outokumpu lies less than 2 km from the site.

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Food for humans	Sustenance for humans (e.g., fish, molluscs, grains)	Medium

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Storage and delivery of water as part of water supply systems for agriculture and industry	Low

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Biodiversity	Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganisms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	Low

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

Significant values include birdwatching.

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site? Yes No Unknown

4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

i) the site provides a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland

ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland

iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples

iv) relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland

<no data available>

4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

5 - How is the Site managed? (Conservation and management)

5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

Public ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other public ownership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Provide further information on the land tenure / ownership regime (optional):

The site is mostly privately owned, some very small estates of state-owned land are found on the islands and shoreline.

5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:

North Karelia Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment

Provide the name and/or title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:

Mr. Mika Pirinen, Nature conservation expert

Postal address:

P.O. box 69
80101 Joensuu
Finland

E-mail address:

mika.pirinen@ely-keskus.fi

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

5.2.1 - Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site's ecological character

Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Salinisation			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

Energy production and mining

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Mining and quarrying			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Unspecified/others			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

Natural system modifications

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Dams and water management/use			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Vegetation clearance/land conversion			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Unspecified/others			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

Invasive and other problematic species and genes

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Invasive non-native/alien species			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Household sewage, urban waste water			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Industrial and military effluents			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Agricultural and forestry effluents			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Unspecified			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Please describe any other threats (optional):

Hunting of waterfowl is intensive in autumn. The persecution of gulls has affected negatively on the bird populations since the 1980s. Fishing in spring affects negatively on breeding of waterfowl. Regulation of water-level in spring disturb breeding of birds. The lake is continuously overgrowing and the populations of breeding waterfowl have declined by 40 % in 1983–99. The amount of heavy metals and salt has still increased in the 1990s. Some plant species favoring unpolluted waters have disappeared during the last ten years. Discharges from sewage plants, mining industries and agricultural land pollute the waters. Especially the waters of River Lahdenjoki contain high loads of nutrients. American Mink (*Mustela vison*) and Raccoon Dog (*Nyctereutes procyonoides*) may cause damage to the breeding of birds.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	Sysmäjärvi SPA	http://natura2000.eea.europa.eu/Natura2000/SDF.aspx?site=FI07000 01	whole

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Private Protected Area			partly
Waterfowl Habitat Conservation Programme			whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Outokumpu wetlands	http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/outokumpu-wetlands-i-ba-finland	whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

Ia Strict Nature Reserve

Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection

II National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation

III Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features

IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention

V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation

VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

Habitat

Measures	Status
Catchment management initiatives/controls	Proposed
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Partially implemented

Species

Measures	Status
Control of invasive alien animals	Partially implemented

Other:

The lake is included in the Natura 2000 Network, designated as SPA and in the Waterfowl Habitats Conservation Programme. Private protected areas cover 690 ha.
 Clearing of thickets was carried out in a small area in 1998.
 Management in an EU Life project has been done at Lake Sysmäjärvi in 2005–06. The project included restoration of meadows, removing of aquatic plants and intensifying the removal of predatory mammals (Raccoon Dog and American Mink).
 The conservation of the Natura 2000 site will be carried out under the Nature Conservation Act and Water Act.
 A preliminary restoration plan was drafted in 1991 and 1994. Plans include dredging, raising the median water-level to reduce the effects of rank growth and restoring the meadows in some areas.
 Additional information:
 Also the possibility to raise water-level is under examination. Dredging is not included since the sediments contain heavy metals. The management and land use plan was published in 2009.

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? Yes

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes No

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning processes with another Contracting Party? Yes No

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

Two birdwatching towers have been constructed.

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? Yes, there is a plan

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented
Water quality	Implemented
Plant species	Implemented

The breeding bird fauna was surveyed in the 1970s, 1984, 1990 and 1999. The aquatic vegetation was surveyed in 1983 and 1992. The water quality is monitored.

The breeding bird fauna is under examination in 2005. The preliminary results show increase of some species of the EU Birds Directive Annex I, such as Whooper Swan (1 pair in the 1990s, 6 pairs in 2005) and Bittern (1 pair in the 1990s, 7 pairs in 2005) and also the population of Marsh Harrier (4 pairs) is comparatively strong. On the other hand the population of Black-backed Gull has nearly vanished. The lake has become more important to staging (spring) Whooper Swans, totaling 200 individuals on a single count in 2005.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Hottola, P. 1993. Lintuvesiohjelma puntarissa – Linnustoseelvityksiä Pohjois-Karjalan lintujärvillä. Vesi- ja ympäristöhallituksen julkaisuja A 158. (English summary: Wetland Conservation Programme Evaluated – Breeding Bird Surveys in North Karelian Wetlands).

Hottola, P. & Ratilainen, M. 1994. Outokummun Sysmäjärven kunnostussuunnitelma. Pohjois-Karjalan vesi- ja ympäristöpiiri.

Hyvärinen, E., Juslén, A., Kempainen, E., Uddström, A. & Liukko, U.-M. (eds.) 2019. The 2019 Red List of Finnish Species. Ympäristöministeriö & Suomen ympäristökeskus. Helsinki. 704 p.

Leivo, M. 2000. Suomen kansainvälisesti tärkeät lintualueet. Linnut-vuosikirja 1999. (English summary: Important Bird Areas in Finland).

Leivo, M., Asanti, T., Koskimies, P., Lammi, E., Lampolahti, J., Mikkola-Roos, M. & Virolainen, E. 2002. Suomen tärkeät lintualueet FINIBA. BirdLife Suomen julkaisuja 4, Suomen graafiset palvelut, Kuopio.

Venetvaara, J. 1992. Sysmäjärven vesikasvillisuus kesällä 1992. Pohjois-Karjalan vesi- ja ympäristöpiiri.

Working group on the need for forest protection in southern Finland and Ostrobothnia. Chairman Ruuhijärvi, R., Secretaries Kuusinen, M., Raunio, A. and Eisto, K. 2000. Forest protection in southern Finland and Ostrobothnia. The Finnish Environment 437. Ministry of the Environment.

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)

<no file available>

ii. a detailed Ecological Character Description (ECD) (in a national format)

<no file available>

iii. a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

<no data available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



An aerial view over the Sysmäjärvi lake. (Hannu Vallas, 10-09-2012)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2004-02-02