

# 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:

Date of designation: 11/05/99 (date of announcement at COP7)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.

4th March, 1999

DD	MM	YY
11	05	99

Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Bermuda (U.K.O.T.)

3. Name of wetland: SOMERSET LONG BAY POND

4. Geographical coordinates: 32°17'50"N 64°51'50"W

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.) 0-2m

6. Area: (in hectares) 1.1 hectares

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

A former tidal swamp that was filled in as a garbage dump and then restored into a brackish to freshwater pond with mangrove islets, separated from the sea by a beach dune.

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:

9. Ramsar Criteria: (please circle the applicable criteria; see point 12, next page.)

1a · 1b · 1c · **(1d)** | 2a · 2b · 2c · 2d | 3a · 3b · 3c | 4a · 4b

Please specify the most significant criterion applicable to the site: 1d

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):*

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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).
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- 13. General location:** (include the nearest large town and its administrative region)
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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)
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- 15. Hydrological values:** (groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilisation etc)
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- 16. Ecological features:** (main habitats and vegetation types)
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- 17. Noteworthy flora:** (indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc)
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- 18. Noteworthy fauna:** (indicating, e.g., which species are unique, rare, endangered, abundant or biogeographically important; include count data, etc.)
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- 19. Social and cultural values:** (e.g. fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological site etc.)
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- 20. Land tenure/ownership of:** (a) site (b) surrounding area
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- 21. Current land use:** (a) site (b) surroundings/catchment
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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
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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)
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- 24. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:** (e.g. management plan in preparation; officially proposed as a protected area etc.)
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- 25. Current scientific research and facilities:** (e.g. details of current projects; existence of field station etc.)
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- 26. Current conservation education:** (e.g. visitors centre, hides, information booklet, facilities for school visits etc.)
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- 27. Current recreation and tourism:** (state if wetland is used for recreation/tourism; indicate type and frequency/intensity)
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- 28. Jurisdiction:** (territorial e.g. state/region and functional e.g. Dept of Agriculture/Dept. of Environment etc.)
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- 29. Management authority:** (name and address of local body directly responsible for managing the wetland)
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- 30. Bibliographical references:** (scientific/technical only)

Please return to: Ramsar Convention Bureau, Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 GLAND, Switzerland  
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12. Although small, this is an unusually fine example of a fresh/brackish pond with islets behind a beach, in which American Coot, Moorhen and Pied-billed Grebe nest with regularity.
13. A back-beach pond on the edge of a shallow marine bay on Somerset Island, Bermuda.
14. Low-lying sandy/peaty back-beach area.
15. an unusual example of a freshwater lens immediately adjacent to a marine environment.
16. Open Pond with beds of Ruppia maritima and mangrove islets.
17. Red Mangrove Rhizophora mangle, Black Mangrove Avicennia germinans and Widgeon grass Ruppia maritima.
18. Top-minnows Gambusia holbrooki are present in the pond. Moorhen Gallinula chloropus, American Coot Fulica americana and Pied-billed Grebe Podilymbus podiceps breed in the pond.
19. The beach front of the reserve is available to the public for swimming and recreation.
20. Bermuda Audubon Society
21. Nature Reserve and adjacent public beach (recreation).
22. Previously had been filled in as a garbage dump site. Domestic Mallard Ducks (Anas sp.) are fed by the public and overpopulate.
23. The pond was restored by a re-excavation of the fill and the area was re-landscaped to create nesting islets for waterfowl. Chain link fencing was placed around the perimeter.
24. -
25. N/A
26. Neighbourhood schools use the site for environmental education on wetlands.
27. The local population and tourists utilize the beach area while there are occasional ecotourist visits to the pond.
28. i) Territorial - Government of Bermuda  
ii) Functional - Bermuda Audubon Society
29. Conservation Section  
Division of Parks  
Government of Bermuda
30. Referred to in occasional newsletters published by the Bermuda Audubon Society.

