India
Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary

Designation date: 2 December 2019
Site number: 2416
Coordinates: 26°56'09"N 82°09'45"E
Area: 722,00 ha

https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/2416
Created by RSIS V.1.6 on 1 February 2020
1 - Summary

Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary is situated in Gonda District of Uttar Pradesh. Comprising of two horseshoe shaped ox bow lakes, it is one of the largest natural floodplain wetland in the state. Formed in Terai region of Gangetic plains and covering a vast area of 722.8 hectares, the sanctuary harbours a rich floral and faunal diversity. Providing roosting and breeding site to many rare avifauna such as greater spotted eagle (Aquila clanga), sarus crane (Grus antigone), Asian woolly-neck (Ciconia episcopus), ferruginous duck (Aythya nyroca), river tern (Sterna aurantia) and oriental darter (Anhinga melanogaster). The wetland sustains around 37 Species from 7 families of flora and 64 species from 7 families of fauna. Besides, the wetland is an important wintering site for several migratory bird species of the Central Asian flyway, notably northern shoveler (Anas clypeata), common teal (Anas crecca), gadwall (Anas strepera), common pochard (Aythya ferina) and ferruginous duck (Aythya nyroca). The site comes under the category A4iii of the IBA Criteria which states that ‘Site known or thought to hold, on a regular basis, >= 20,000 water birds or >= 10,000 pairs of seabirds of one or more species. These wetlands also support a variety of fish population including that of roho labeo (Labeo rohita), mud eel (Monopterus cuchia), mrigal carp (Cirrhinus mrigala) and Indian mottled eel (Anguilla bengalensis). The site also has religious significance for local communities.
2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Name: Divisional Forest Officer
Institution/agency: Department of Forests, Wildlife and Climate Change, Uttar Pradesh, India
Postal address: Divisional Forest Officer, Sohelwa Wildlife Division Balrampur, Near DM Residence, Bahadurapur
E-mail: dmusohelwa@gmail.com
Phone: +91-5263-233842
Fax: +91-5263-233842

Compiler 2

Name: Member Secretary
Institution/agency: Uttar Pradesh State Wetlands Authority
Postal address: Uttar Pradesh State Wetland Authority, 17, Rana Pratap Marg, Lucknow-226001 Uttar Pradesh
E-mail: upstatewetlandauthority2018@gmail.com
Phone: +91 9454323308

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

From year: 2013
To year: 2014

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish): Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image
<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps: 0

Boundaries description

Parvati Lake -
North - Southern boundary of revenue Villages-Vajeerganj, Pooreadhu and Kotha.
South - Revenue village boundary of Harthapur, Subhagpur and Parsapur.
East - Revenue boundary of village Bahadura & Parvati.
West - Revenue boundary Chandapur and PWD Road.

Arga Lake -
North - Revenue boundary of village Tikharia and Lakshmanpur.
South - Revenue village of Bahadura.
East - Revenue village of Gauriya and Madhwapur.
West - Revenue Village of Kotha.

The site overlaps with boundaries of Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary

2.2.2 - General location

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

The Sanctuary is located in the state of Uttar Pradesh, Tarabganj Tehsil, at a distance of about 40 km from Gonda District at Mankapur-Nawabganj Road.

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

Wajeerganj, Gonda
2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

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): 722

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries: 722.872

2.2.5 - Biogeography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biogeographic regions</th>
<th>Biogeographic region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other scheme (provide name below)</td>
<td>Upper Gangetic Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshwater Ecoregions of the World (FEOW)</td>
<td>Upper Gangetic Plain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

Upper Gangetic Plain
3 - Why is the Site important?

3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

- **Criterion 2**: Rare species and threatened ecological communities

- **Criterion 3**: Biological diversity
  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The diverse habitat supports a variety of flora and fauna. Around 37 Species from seven families of flora and 64 species from seven families of fauna have been recorded from the sanctuary. The site provides habitat to a large number of resident and migratory avifauna, including many species of ducks and waders and comes under the category A4iii of the Important Bird Areas (IBA) Criteria which states that ‘Site known or thought to hold, on a regular basis, &gt;= 20,000 water birds or &gt;= 10,000 pairs of seabirds of one or more species. The site is known to support more than 200 sarus cranes. The wetland is also known to provide habitat to a number of aquatic plant species like Ceratophyllum demersum, Ipomoea aquatica, Nelumbo nucifera, Nymphaea nouchali etc. Besides, many animal species endemic to Indian subcontinent like blue bull (Boselaphus tragocamelus) and chital (Axis axis) are supported by the site.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- **Criterion 5**: >20,000 waterbirds
  
  | Overall waterbird numbers | 104660 |
  | Start year | 2013 |
  | Source of data | Departmental Census |

- **Criterion 8**: Fish spawning grounds, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The wetland is a breeding and spawning ground for several riverine fish species, including roho labeo (Labeo rohita), mud eel (Monopterus cuchia), red swamp crayfish (Procambarus clarkii), mrigal carp (Cirrhinus mrigala) and Indian mottled eel (Anguilla bengalensis). These floodplain wetlands play an important role in supporting and maintaining fish diversity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phylum</th>
<th>Scientific name</th>
<th>Common name</th>
<th>Species qualifies under criterion</th>
<th>Species contributes under criterion</th>
<th>Pop. Size</th>
<th>Period of pop. Est.</th>
<th>% occurrence</th>
<th>IUCN Red List</th>
<th>CITES Appendix</th>
<th>CMS Appendix</th>
<th>Other Status</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chordata/ Aves</td>
<td>Anas clypeata</td>
<td>Northern Shoveler</td>
<td>☑☑☑☑☑</td>
<td>☑☒</td>
<td>2000-2014</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>wetland is a wintering site for the species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phylum</td>
<td>Scientific name</td>
<td>Common name</td>
<td>Species qualifies under criterion</td>
<td>Species contributes under criterion</td>
<td>Pop. Size</td>
<td>Period of pop. Est.</td>
<td>% occurrence</td>
<td>IUCN Red List</td>
<td>CITES Appendix I</td>
<td>CMS Appendix I</td>
<td>Other Status</td>
<td>Justification</td>
</tr>
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<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Anas crecca</td>
<td>Green-winged Teal; Eurasian Teal</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wetland is a wintering site for the species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Anas strepera</td>
<td>Gadwall</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wetland is a wintering site for the species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Anhinga melanogaster</td>
<td>Oriental Darter; Darter</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>NT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Uses wetland as a habitat and contributes to its biodiversity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Aquila clanga</td>
<td>Greater Spotted Eagle</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>VU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wetland is used by the species as habitat. It also contributes to biodiversity of the site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Aythya ferina</td>
<td>Common Pochard</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>VU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wetland is a wintering site for the species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Aythya fuligula</td>
<td>Tufted Duck</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wetland is a wintering site for the species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Aythya nyroca</td>
<td>Ferruginous Duck</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>NT</td>
<td>100 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wetland is a wintering site for the species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Ciconia episcopus</td>
<td>Woolly-necked Stork</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>VU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Uses wetland as a habitat and contributes to biodiversity of the site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Ephippiorhynchus asians</td>
<td>Black-necked Stork</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>NT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Uses wetland as Habitat. It also contributes to biodiversity of the site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Grus antigone</td>
<td>Sarus Crane</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>VU</td>
<td>100 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>vulnerable-IBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Gyps bengalensis</td>
<td>White-rumped Vulture</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>CR</td>
<td>100 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Uses wetland as habitat, contributes to biodiversity of the site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Gyps indicus</td>
<td>Indian Vulture</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>CR</td>
<td>100 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wetland provides habitat to species that also contributes to biodiversity of the site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Mycteria leucocephala</td>
<td>Painted Stork</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>NT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wetland provides habitat for the species that also contributes to its biodiversity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Neophron percnopterus</td>
<td>Egyptian Vulture</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>EN</td>
<td>100 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wetland provides habitat to the species which contributes to biodiversity of the site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Phalacrocorax fuscicolli</td>
<td>Indian Cormorant</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wetland provides habitat for the species which contributes to it’s biodiversity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Porphyrio martinica</td>
<td>Purple Gallinule</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>uses wetland as a habitat and contributes to biodiversity of the site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Sterna aurantia</td>
<td>River Tern</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>NT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wetland provide habitat to the species that contributes to it’s biodiversity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / AVES</td>
<td>Threskiornis melanocephalus</td>
<td>Black-headed Ibis</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>NT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Uses wetland as habitat and contributes to it’s biodiversity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phylum</th>
<th>Scientific name</th>
<th>Common name</th>
<th>Species qualifies under criterion</th>
<th>Species contributes under criterion</th>
<th>Pop. Size</th>
<th>Period of pop. Est.</th>
<th>% occurrence</th>
<th>IUCN Red List</th>
<th>CITES Appendix I</th>
<th>CMS Appendix I</th>
<th>Other Status</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGI</td>
<td>Anguilla bengalensis</td>
<td>Indian mottled eel</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>NT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Uses wetland as a habitat and contributes to it’s biodiversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGI</td>
<td>Catfishes nigrala</td>
<td>Migal carp</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>✓✓✓✓✓✓</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Carp species endemic to Indo-Gangetic riverine system. Species spawns all the site and contributes to it’s biodiversity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Why is the Site important?, S3 - Page 2
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phylum</th>
<th>Scientific name</th>
<th>Common name</th>
<th>Species qualifies under criterion</th>
<th>Species contributes under criterion</th>
<th>Pop. Size</th>
<th>Period of pop. Est.</th>
<th>% occurrence 1)</th>
<th>IUCN Red List</th>
<th>CITES Appendix</th>
<th>CMS Appendix</th>
<th>Other Status</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII</td>
<td>Labeo rohita</td>
<td>Roho labeo; Roho laboe</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>Indo-Gangetic riverine species that is also used in carp polyculture systems. It contributes to biodiversity of the site and spawns there.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII</td>
<td>Monopterus cuchia</td>
<td>Mud eel; Rice eel</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>Uses wetland as a habitat, contributes to biodiversity of the site and spawns at the site.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTHROPODA / MALACOSTRACA</td>
<td>Procambarus clarkii</td>
<td>red swamp crayfish; red swamp crawfish</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
<td>Uses wetland as a habitat, contributes to biodiversity and spawns at the site.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary comprises one of the largest natural floodplain wetlands in Uttar Pradesh. It consists of two rain-fed, horseshoe shaped Ox-bow lakes formed in deep natural depressions in the Gangetic plains. Covering a vast area of 722.8 hectares, the sanctuary harbours a rich floral and faunal diversity and is the home for many rare and migratory avifauna. It provides wintering and breeding grounds to a number of migratory and local aquatic bird species such as Oriental darter (Anhinga melanogaster), black headed ibis (Threskiornis melanocephalus), black necked stork (Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus), sarus crane (Antigone antigone), Indian cormorant (Phalacrocorax fuscicollias) as well as different species of heron, eagles, jacanas, pigeons, barbets and wagtails. The site comes under the category A4iii of the Important Bird Areas (IBA) Criteria. Around 135 species belonging to 33 families of avifauna reside here. A variety of fishes (Rohu, Baam, Kochya, Nain), reptiles (Brahminy Skink (Mabuyacarinata), garden lizard (Varanus bengalensis) krait (Bangarus caeruleus)), insects (Butterflies: plain tiger, common mormon) and mammals (Nilgai (Boselaphus tragocamelus)) are also sighted in the sanctuary. Similarly, the sanctuary sustains rich floral diversity that make the site ideal for roosting and breeding of avifauna.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wetland types (code and name)</th>
<th>Local name</th>
<th>Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)</th>
<th>Area (ha) of wetland type</th>
<th>Justification of Criterion 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresh water Lakes and pools &gt;&gt; O: Permanent freshwater lakes</td>
<td>Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1084.47</td>
<td>Representative</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other non-wetland habitat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other non-wetland habitats within the site</th>
<th>Area (ha) if known</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue Land within Bird Sanctuary</td>
<td>124.47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific name</th>
<th>Common name</th>
<th>Impacts</th>
<th>Justification of Criterion 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cannabis sativa</td>
<td>Actually (minor impacts)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eichhornia crassipes</td>
<td>Actually (major impacts)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phylum</th>
<th>Scientific name</th>
<th>Common name</th>
<th>Pop. size</th>
<th>Period of pop. est.</th>
<th>% occurrence</th>
<th>Position in range</th>
<th>Endemism/other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA/MAMMALIA</td>
<td>Axis axis</td>
<td>chital</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Species is native to Indian subcontinent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA/MAMMALIA</td>
<td>Boselaphus tragocamelus</td>
<td>nilgai/blue bull</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Largest Asian antelope that is endemic to Indian subcontinent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA/REPTILIA</td>
<td>Naja naja</td>
<td>Indian Cobra</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Species is protected under Indian Wildlife Protection Act</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHORDATA/REPTILIA</td>
<td>Python molurus</td>
<td>Indian python</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Species is native to tropical and sub-tropical regions of Indian subcontinent and south east Asia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Climatic region</th>
<th>Subregion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with mild winters</td>
<td>Cwa: Humid subtropical (Mid with dry winter, hot summer)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The average rainfall is around 1240 mm and temperature ranges from 4°C to 48°C.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres) 93
4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral □
Organic □
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)

Soil is sandy loam. Parvati Arga Wetland is a part of the Gangetic Plains whose soil comprises of serially compacted layers of sand, silt and clay. There are no significant rocky formations in area. The soil is of the region is alluvium found in the flood plains of the Ganga River. The depth of the alluvium is good and in certain locations it can be excavated to a depth of 100m without finding any evidence of bedrocks. Areas of sandy alluvium surround the jheel (local name of shallow wetland) and the substrate of the jheel bed is high humus content.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Usually permanent water present □
No change □

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Water inputs from rainfall □
No change □

Water destination

Feeds groundwater □
No change □

Stability of water regime

Water levels largely stable □
No change □

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant erosion of sediments occurs on the site □
Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site □
Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site □
Sediment regime is highly variable, either seasonally or inter-annually □
Sediment regime unknown □

Water turbidity and colour

1.5 NTU

4.4.6 - Water pH

Acid (pH<5.5) □
Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4) □
Alkaline (pH>7.4) □
Unknown □

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l) □
Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (0.5-30 g/l) □
Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l) □
Hyperhaline/Hypersaline (>40 g/l) □
Unknown □

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

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:

- 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

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ecosystem service</th>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Importance/Extent/Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Provisioning Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresh water</td>
<td>Water for irrigated agriculture</td>
<td>not relevant for site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Regulating Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of hydrological regimes</td>
<td>Groundwater recharge and discharge</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cultural Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific and educational</td>
<td>Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Within the site: 2000
Outside the site: 10000

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

- 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
- The site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland
- The ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples
- 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description if applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There are ancient temples of Lord Shiva and Parvati in many places on the outskirts of the lake, Goddess Parvati’s ancient temple is situated in Parvati village on the eastern outskirts of the lake. The name of Arga is the ablation of Lord Shiva’s Argha (bed of Shiva Linga). Situated on the banks of the lakes, Shiva and Parvati temples are a place for religious significance and tourism. A fair is held every year in the month of Sawan in the temple, where thousands of devotees come to visit. Due to the proximity of the religious city Ayodhya, people consider it auspicious to visit Goddess Parvati temple here.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Within the Ramsar Site</th>
<th>In the surrounding area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provincial/region/state government</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

1. Range Forest Officer, Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary, Gonda, Uttar Pradesh
2. Divisional Forest Officer, Sohelwa Wildlife Division, Balrampur, Uttar Pradesh
3. Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife, Eastern, Gonda, Uttar Pradesh

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

Mr. Rajanikant Mittal, Divisional Forest Officer

Postal address: Office of Divisional Forest Officer, Sohelwa Wildlife Division, Balrampur behind DM Residence, Bahadurapur, Balrampur, Uttar Pradesh - 271201

E-mail address: dmusohelwa@gmail.com

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Human settlements (non agricultural)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors adversely affecting site</th>
<th>Actual threat</th>
<th>Potential threat</th>
<th>Within the site</th>
<th>In the surrounding area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unspecified development</td>
<td>unknown impact</td>
<td>unknown impact</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Water regulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors adversely affecting site</th>
<th>Actual threat</th>
<th>Potential threat</th>
<th>Within the site</th>
<th>In the surrounding area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salinisation</td>
<td>unknown impact</td>
<td>unknown impact</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transportation and service corridors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors adversely affecting site</th>
<th>Actual threat</th>
<th>Potential threat</th>
<th>Within the site</th>
<th>In the surrounding area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roads and railroads</td>
<td>High impact</td>
<td>High impact</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Human intrusions and disturbance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors adversely affecting site</th>
<th>Actual threat</th>
<th>Potential threat</th>
<th>Within the site</th>
<th>In the surrounding area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recreational and tourism activities</td>
<td>Low impact</td>
<td>High impact</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Invasive and other problematic species and genes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors adversely affecting site</th>
<th>Actual threat</th>
<th>Potential threat</th>
<th>Within the site</th>
<th>In the surrounding area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Invasive non-native/ alien species</td>
<td>High impact</td>
<td>High impact</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pollution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors adversely affecting site</th>
<th>Actual threat</th>
<th>Potential threat</th>
<th>Within the site</th>
<th>In the surrounding area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Household sewage, urban waste water</td>
<td>Low impact</td>
<td>Low impact</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Climate change and severe weather

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors adversely affecting site</th>
<th>Actual threat</th>
<th>Potential threat</th>
<th>Within the site</th>
<th>In the surrounding area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temperature extremes</td>
<td>Low impact</td>
<td>Low impact</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

National legal designations

RIS for Site no. 2416, Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary, India
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SANCTUARY</th>
<th>Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary</th>
<th>Online information url</th>
<th>whole</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Non-statutory designations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation type</th>
<th>Name of area</th>
<th>Online information url</th>
<th>Overlap with Ramsar Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Important Bird Area</td>
<td>Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal protection</td>
<td>Implemented</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Habitat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Habitat manipulation/enhancement</td>
<td>Implemented</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Species

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Threatened/hare species management programmes</td>
<td>Implemented</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Human Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities</td>
<td>Implemented</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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
- **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

### 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monitoring</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water quality</td>
<td>Implemented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birds</td>
<td>Implemented</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Departmental Management Plan of a tenure of 10 years.

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)
<2 file(s) uploaded>

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
<1 file(s) uploaded>

vi. other published literature
<1 file(s) uploaded>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:

- Congregation of water birds at Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary (DFO BILAWAPUR, 07-01-2020)
- Panoramic view of Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary (DFO BILAWAPUR, 07-01-2020)
- Congregation of Lesser Whistling Duck at Parvati Arga Bird Sanctuary (Gurmeet Singh, 10-05-2008)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter
<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation | 2019-12-02