

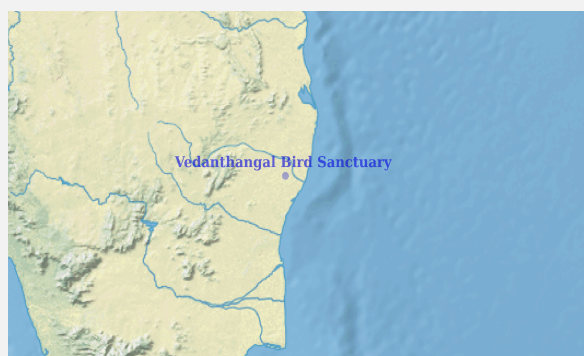


Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 3 August 2022

India

Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary



Designation date	8 April 2022
Site number	2477
Coordinates	12°32'47"N 79°51'21"E
Area	40,35 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

Vedanthangal wetland and surrounding 5km zone are notified as Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary. This bird sanctuary is one of the oldest bird-protected areas in the country as well as in the State of Tamil Nadu. The sanctuary is located in Maduranthagam Taluk of Chengalpattu District (erstwhile Kancheepuram). It is located at 12o28' 54" N and 79o 51' 6" E. The wetland is 122 m above Mean Sea Level and situated 48 km inland from the Bay of Bengal. The sanctuary comprises a small irrigation tank with an area of 40.348 ha in Vedanthangal village and the surrounding 5 km zone around the lake. The longer axis of the lake is 600 m, oriented towards the east-west direction and a 4 m high earthen bund lies along the western boundary to a distance of 935 m. Initially, Vedanthangal wetland was declared as Reserve Land as per Section 26 of Madras Forest Act, 1882 vide G.O.No.1961, Forest & Agriculture dated 4.6.1962. Rules for protection of the Vedanthangal wetland were framed as per Section 26(c), (e) & (f) of Madras Forest Act vide G.O.Ms.No.1961, Food & Agriculture Department dated 03.03.1962. Subsequently, the wetland and the surrounding 5 km zone were declared as Vedanthangal Birds Sanctuary as per Section 18 of Wildlife Protection Act in 1996, and further, final notification of Sanctuary under section 26A of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 was issued vide G.O.Ms.No.199, Environment & Forest Department (FRV) dated 08.07.1998. In section 18 as well as section 26A notification of the Vedanthangal Sanctuary, area and boundary description of the Lake is only mentioned but not of the surrounding 5 km zone. The Sanctuary consists of distinctive species of flora viz., *Barringtonia acutangula*, *Acacia nilotia*, and *Terminalia arjuna*. This freshwater wetland is a people-protected water bird area, the history of which goes back to centuries where local people have been protecting this heronry and in return, have been benefited by the manure-rich water from the lake that increases the agriculture yield multifold–Liquid Guano Effect. This site is also recognized internationally, as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) with a code IN284, Criteria A1, A4iii. It belongs to the Coromandel Coast biotic province.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Responsible compiler

Institution/agency	Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority
Postal address	O/o Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Member Secretary No.1, Jeenis Road, Panagal Building, VIII Floor, Saidapet, Chennai 600 015 Tamil Nadu, INDIA

National Ramsar Administrative Authority

Institution/agency	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Postal address	Office of the Secretary Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jorbagh Road New Delhi - 110 003 INDIA

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

From year	<input type="text" value="2008"/>
To year	<input type="text" value="2021"/>

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	<input type="text" value="Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary"/>
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2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps	<input type="text" value="0"/>
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Boundaries description

Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary is a 40-hectare protected area located in the Madurantakam taluk of the Chengalpattu District in the state of Tamil Nadu, India. The sanctuary is about 75 kilometers from Chennai on National Highway 45. Boundaries in the North, starts from the trijunction of S.F.No.215, 213 & 220 of Vedanthangal Village. Thence it runs towards the East along the Northern boundary of S.F.Nos.213, 234, 232, 231, 228, 229 & 271. In the East, it runs towards the South along the Eastern boundary of S.F.Nos.274, 227, and 226. In the South, it runs North-west along the Southern boundary of S.F.Nos.138, 152, 153, and 178 western boundary of S.F. Nos. 184 and 218. In the West, it runs towards the North along the Western boundary of S.F.Nos.219 and 215 until it meets the starting.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	<input type="text" value="Maduranthagam Taluk of Chengalpattu District"/>
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b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	<input type="text" value="Maduranthagam and the nearest city is Chennai"/>
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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):

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

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
WWF Terrestrial Ecoregions	Falls broadly under Tropical &Sub-tropical Dry Braodleaf Forest, belonging to S.Asia:Southern India; specifically East Deccan Dry Evergreen Forests [IM0204]; represents SE coast distinct dry evergreen forest; subject to heavy deforestation &grazing

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

Like most of the other ecoregions in the Indian Subcontinent, this ecoregion is also subjected to heavy deforestation and grazing pressure from domestic livestock. The stunted scrub vegetation present throughout most of the ecoregion is indicative of long years of grazing practices.

As per the biogeographic classification of India, it falls under the Deccan Peninsula. Vedanthangal bird Sanctuary is one of the oldest Bird Protected Areas of the country and is noted for the same globally. The 29.56 ha. of the Bird Sanctuary comprises the following distinctive species of flora viz., Barringtonia acutangula, Acacia nilotia and Terminalia arjuna . The fresh water lake is a people protected water birds area, the history of which goes back to centuries where local people have been protecting this heronry and in return, have been benefited by the manure-rich water from the lake which increases the agriculture yield multifold – Liquid Guano Effect. This has also been declared as Protected Area and also recognized Internationally, as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) with a code IN284, Criteria A1, A4iii.It belongs to the Coromandel Coast biotic province.

3 - Why is the Site important?

3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

<no data available>

Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

There are two distinct types of vegetation seen in Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary, inside the tank and on the bund. The tank mainly has Barringtonia acutangula and Acacia nilotica tree species, most of which have been raised as plantations by the Forest Department. These are the main nesting-support species. There is also a large number of Terminalia arjuna trees inside the tank, near the bund, and along the periphery of the tank. However, birds do not nest on these trees. The partly submerged scrub around provides adequate reserves of thorny twigs for nest building, and the Barringtonia trees at the tank offer not only nesting sites for the breeding birds but also roosts for the non-breeding birds early in the season and safe perches for the growing young ones. On the bund, a number of other species such as Barringtonia acutangula, Acacia nilotica, Alangium salvifolium, Albizzia lebbek,, Azadirachta indica, Calamus spp, Morinda tinctoria, Terminalia arjuna, Borassus flabellifer, Cassia fistula, Streblus, etc are found along with a dense growth of Calamus, and Solanum trilobatum.

The main fauna in Vedanthangal are the different species of waterbirds- indigenous and migratory which congregates during the winter season making the lake, a paradise. About 30,000 – 40000 birds are seen in Vedanthangal Tank during the breeding season in a good monsoon year. Nesting birds return with their young ones which brings the figures to over 70000 birds during a good birding year. The prime migratory and nesting species are the spot billed pelicans, Asian open bill stork, painted stork, Indian cormorant, little cormorant, darter, black-crowned night- heron, little egret, intermediate egret, grey heron, glossy ibis, black-headed ibis, Eurasian spoonbill, and Indian pond heron. Large numbers of migratory waterbirds too are seen in winter, particularly the Northern pintail, garganey, Northern shoveller, black-winged stilt, and many shorebirds and terns, particularly whiskered tern. Local cattle egret are found nesting in the lake area. The Lake is also an important roosting site for little cormorant, outside the breeding season too. Terrestrial birds like parakeets, babblers, mynas, barbets, bee-eaters, kingfishers, rollers, cuckoos, orioles, drongos etc., and raptors such as black winged kite, brahminy kite, short-toed eagle, pariah kite etc., have been observed in Vedanthangal. Mammals seen in the Lake area include jackal, jungle cat, wild boar, black-naped hare, bonnet macaque, mongoose, Indian mole rat, palm civet, flying fox, and fox. Reptiles and amphibians such as water snakes, cobra, sand boa, terrapin, tortoise, lizards, frogs, etc., are also seen. A large congregation of fruit-eating bats is noted in the bamboo trees of Vedanthangal wetland, which is an added attraction to visitors.

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

Optional text box to provide further information

Pelicans breed occasionally in Vedanthangal, mainly on Barringtonia trees. The wetland is also an important roosting site for 71 avian species. The site also has occasional breeding of Spot-billed Pelican. Large number of migratory waterbirds use this wetland as habitat particularly the Northern Pintail, Garganey, Northern Shoveller, Black-winged Stilt and several terns, particularly Whiskered Tern (mentioned in section 3.2).

Criterion 5 : >20,000 waterbirds

Overall waterbird numbers

Start year

Source of data:

Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

Optional text box to provide further information

Criterion 7 : Significant and representative fish

Justification

Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.

Justification

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								
Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea																	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Cirrhinus cirrhosus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				WU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The wetland serves as a spawning ground for this species.
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Crystallaria asprella</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	391			WU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Birds																	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	985	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	985	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.

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>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	28	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas acuta</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	110	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	218	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas crecca</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas penelope</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	534	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha zonorhyncha</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	129	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	452	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	17358	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Ardea alba</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1303	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1226	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Bubulcus coromandus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12711	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Centropus menbeki</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	21	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Columba livia</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	22	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	227	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.

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>Cuculus varius</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	20	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Cypsiurus balasienis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	63	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	25	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	116	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	135	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Dupetor flavicollis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5647	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	133	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Eremopterix griseus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Eudynamis scolopaceus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	31	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Fulica atra</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1609	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	72	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.

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>Himantopus himantopus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	143	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	95	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Lanius vittatus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Merops philippinus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	74	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Microcarbo niger</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9991	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Microcarbo niger fuscicollis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	357	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Muscicapa latirostris</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5339	2020-2022	1.5	NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	52	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3125	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	18	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Pastor roseus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1201	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8640	2020-2022	2.5	NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	700	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Pitta brachyura</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.

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>Platalea leucorodia</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4081	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10023	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	16	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio poliocephalus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Prinia socialis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	23	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	20	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Sturnia pagodarum</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	247	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13874	2020-2022	3	NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	281	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	2020-2022		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Turdoides affinis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	113	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Upupa epops</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12	2020-2022			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Uses the wetland for nesting and foraging. Contributes to more than 20000 waterbird population.

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

Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary (12o28' 54" N and 79o 51' 6"E) is one of the oldest bird protected areas in the country as well as in the State of Tamil Nadu. The sanctuary is located in Maduranthagam Taluk of Chengalpattu District (erstwhile Kancheepuram). The topography of the Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary is undulating with a gentle slope in few parts. The landscape surrounding the tank is flat, comprising primarily of rocky plains. There are frequent low ridged, denuded small hillocks. Soil in the wetland is mostly clay with a fertile guano layer. Maximum depth of the tank is 5 m near the bund on the Western boundary of the wetland. The wetland is having a 950 meters long bund on the entrance side to control soil erosion. The terrain is flat and slope is gentle from east to west direction. Kancheepuram/ Chengalpattu district generally experience hot and humid climatic conditions. The climate is typically tropical, as in most parts of Tamil Nadu. Temperature is uniformly high throughout the year.

The water area in the wetland, grassy banks and islands, burrows and crevices etc., forms the habitat of the birds and other fauna. Trees outside the lake, especially on the bund and surrounding area, form the roosting habitat for aquatic and land birds too. These trees are preferred for nesting by spot-billed pelican, Asian open bill stork and black-headed/ white ibis. As the tank gets filled up, the Barringtonia grove in the middle of the tank becomes well insulated and nesting begins on these trees. Barringtonia and Acacia nilotica trees in the tank serve not only as nesting sites for breeding birds and young ones but also as roosts for the non-breeding birds early in the season. They attract diving water birds such as coots, cormorants, grebes and some ducks which dive for bottom-dwelling animals or aquatic vegetation. Grasses growing naturally on these mounds and mud patches provide suitable habitat for ducks like teals and pintails. The raised mounds have been created at Vedanthangal to ensure better survival of planted seedlings during the long inundation periods, and these patches also attract many wading birds. Ducks, moorhens and coots also use open water for feeding in emergent vegetation and grassy bank areas. Ibis, herons and swamphens are also attracted to fringing sedges as feeding areas. Flooded, live and dead timber is used for nesting, perching and roosting. Cormorants use these structures to dry their wet wings. This sanctuary displays one of the most concentrated populations of different species of birds in a compact area. Along with waterbirds, the wetland also supports diverse insects, butterflies and fish species. The wetland is an important source of water for the local communities. Vedanthangal is a well-known nature tourism spot and tourism leads to considerable revenue generation. The Sanctuary also provides an excellent educational opportunity to students and research opportunity to scientists. Along with provisioning, and tourism value, the wetland also plays a vital role in nutrient cycling and groundwater recharge, which influences the irrigation activities in the immediate vicinity. It is a major source of groundwater recharge. The local people have been protecting the sanctuary for centuries because they have realized that the bird droppings falling into the tank create a liquid guano effect.

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

Marine or coastal wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
I: Intertidal forested wetlands	Vedanthangal	1	40.348	

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Phylum	Scientific name	Position in range / endemism / other
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Alangium salviifolium</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Albizia lebbek</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Barringtonia acutangula</i>	Endemic according to national records
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	<i>Borassus flabellifer</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Coldenia procumbens</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	<i>Echinochloa colonum</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Euphorbia serpens</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Glinus oppositifolius</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Heliotropium indicum</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	<i>Lemna perpusilla</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/POLYPODIOPSIDA	<i>Marsilea minuta</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Morinda coreia</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	<i>Panicum repens</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Streblus asper</i>	
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i>	Endemic according to national records
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Vachellia nilotica</i>	

Invasive alien plant species

Phylum	Scientific name	Impacts
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Ipomoea carnea fistulosa</i>	Potential
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Prosopis juliflora</i>	Potential

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	% occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Canis aureus</i>				
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	<i>Chamaeleo zeylanicus</i>				
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	<i>Daboia russelii</i>				
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Etroplus suratensis</i>				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Felis chaus</i>				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Funambulus palmarum</i>				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Macaca radiata</i>				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Mus booduga</i>				
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	<i>Naja naja</i>				
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	<i>Ptyas mucosa</i>				
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	<i>Varanus salvator</i>				

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
A: Tropical humid climate	Am: Tropical monsoonal (Short dry season; heavy monsoonal rains in other months)

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.

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

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	
Usually seasonal, ephemeral or intermittent water present	No change

Source of water that maintains character of the site

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

Water destination

Presence?	
Feeds groundwater	No change

Stability of water regime

Presence?	
Water levels fluctuating (including tidal)	No change

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

Chengalpet district is part of the Palar River Basin, of which the Maduranthakam taluk is considered part of the Palar – Cheyyar sub-basin. Soil in the Lake is mostly clay with a fertile guano layer. Maximum depth of the tank is 5 m near the bund on the Western boundary of the Lake. The outflow is controlled through sluices in the bund. The terrain is flat and slope is gentle from East to West direction. The outflow is controlled through sluices in the bund. Northeast and Southwest monsoons contribute 54% and 36% respectively to the total annual rainfall. The southwest monsoon rainfall is highly erratic and summer rains are negligible. The rainfall fluctuates greatly from year to year varying from about 400 mm to almost 1700 mm.

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

(ECD) Water turbidity and colour	Turbidity is high due to high suspended solid like sulphate. It ranges from 9-15 NTU and the colour is greenish brown
(ECD) Light - reaching wetland	Partially reaches the Euphotic and Benthic zones

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

Mesotrophic

Oligotrophic

Dystrophic

Unknown

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:

There are paddy fields, patta area, poramboke land in the surrounding 5 km which creates problem in the course of implementation of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 & Forest Conservation Act, 1980 in the 5 km area resulting in conflict between forest department and people which is likely to have a negative effect on the protection of birds in the Vedanthangal tank which has a history of active participation of public in protection of birds.

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)	High
Fresh water	Drinking water for humans and/or livestock	High
Fresh water	Water for irrigated agriculture	High

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	High
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Storage and delivery of water as part of water supply systems for agriculture and industry	High
Erosion protection	Soil, sediment and nutrient retention	High
Climate regulation	Local climate regulation/buffering of change	High
Climate regulation	Regulation of greenhouse gases, temperature, precipitation and other climactic processes	High
Biological control of pests and disease	Support of predators of agricultural pests (e.g., birds feeding on locusts)	High
Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	High
Hazard reduction	Coastal shoreline and river bank stabilization and storm protection	High

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	High
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	High
Spiritual and inspirational	Spiritual and religious values	High

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	High
Soil formation	Sediment retention	High
Soil formation	Accumulation of organic matter	High
Nutrient cycling	Storage, recycling, processing and acquisition of nutrients	High
Nutrient cycling	Carbon storage/sequestration	High
Pollination	Support for pollinators	High

Within the site:

Outside the site:

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

Description if applicable

About 175 acres is under cultivation, where rice is grown twice a year. Groundnut is also grown. About 80 acres receives water from the tank. For the rest of the area motor pumps and wells are used for irrigation. At present, more irrigation water at the right time is the first demand of the villagers and this is possible from Valayaputhur tank. Few early documents recognise the villagers' right to protect the nesting birds on a claim of immemorial custom; hence, Vedanthangal has been, in effect, a sanctuary for water birds for at least 200 years.

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

Description if applicable

The Vedanthangal region has a history of people actively participating in the protection of birds coming to the Lake since time immemorial, is one of the oldest water bird protected areas in India with history that goes back prior to 1790. At the end of the 18th century the local villagers of Vedanthangal obtained a "Cowle" from Mr. Lionel Place, the first Collector of Chengalpet recognising their right to safeguard the nesting colony in their tank from those seeking to shoot the birds. In 1936, the Collector of Chengalpet officially recognised the place as a protected area.

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

Description if applicable

Vedanthangal is a people protected water birds area, the history of which goes back to centuries where local birds have been protecting this heronry and in return, have been benefited by the manure-rich water from the lake which increases the agriculture yield multifold – Liquid Guano Effect.

- 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

Description if applicable

Within the immediate periphery of the sanctuary, there is an old Amman temple which attracts a number of devotees. The festivities of the temple are celebrated on a rotational basis amongst the various caste groups. Within the sanctuary on the left side of the entrance there is small place of worship.

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
Provincial/region/state government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Private ownership

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

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

The wetland comes under the jurisdiction of Tamil Nadu Forest Department, Wildlife Division, Chennai.

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

Tamil Nadu Forest Department, Wildlife Division, Chennai

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

Wildlife Warden, Chennai Wildlife Division, Tamil Nadu Forest Department

Postal address:

O/o The Wildlife Warden,
Chennai Wildlife Division,
Guindy Children's Park,
Rajbhavan post, Guindy,
Chennai- 600022
Tamil Nadu
INDIA

E-mail address:

wlwchennai@yahoo.com.in

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)

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Commercial and industrial areas	Medium impact		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Housing and urban areas	Medium impact		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Annual and perennial non-timber crops	Medium impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	Medium impact		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Final notification of Sanctuary under section 26A of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 was issued vide G.O.Ms.No.199, Environment & Forest Department (FRV) dated 08.07.1998.	Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary		whole
Vedanthangal Lake were framed as per Section 26(c), (e)&(f) of Madras Forest Act vide G.O.Ms.No.1961, Food & Agriculture Dept. dtd. 03.03.1962. Subsequently, the lake& surrounding 5km zone was declared as Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary as per Section 18, 1996	Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary		whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary	http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/vedanthangal-and-karikkil-bird-sanctuary-iba-india/map	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

Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Proposed
Control of invasive alien plants	Proposed
Control of invasive alien animals	Proposed

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

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? No need identified

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

1. Spillett, J. J. 1969: A report on wild life surveys in south and west India, November-December 1966, J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc., 65(3): 633-663.
2. Subramanya S. 2005. Heronries of Tamil Nadu. Indian Birds Vol. 1 No. 6:126-140.
3. Sanjeeva Raj, P. J. (1956) Occurrence of the Spot billed Pelican, *Pelecanus philippensis* Gmelin, in the Vedanthangal heronry. J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. 53: 703-704.
4. Paulraj S. 1998. Impact of guano deposition in Vedanthangal Water- Bird Sanctuary (Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu) Journal. BNHS 85:319-32)
5. Paulraj, S. and Gunasekaran, G. 1988. The Vedanthangal Water-bird Sanctuary: a new breeding ground for Pelicans and Painted Storks. J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. 85 (2): 414-415.
6. Venkatraman, C. (1996a) Studies on the colonial waterbirds and the characteristics of the lake of the Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary, Madras, Tamil Nadu. Ph.D. thesis submitted to University of Madras.
7. Venkatraman, C. and Muthukrishnan, S. (1993) Density of water birds at Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu. Pp. 55-60. In: Bird conservation, strategies for the nineties and beyond. Bangalore: Ornithological Society of India. (Eds. Verghese, A., Sridhar, S. and Chakravarthy, A.K.). Bangalore: Ornithological Society of India.
8. Venkataraman, C., Thiyaesan, K., Nagarajan, R, and Jyothinayagam, J.T. 2008. Factors influencing water bird population at Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu, India. In Wildlife Biodiversity Conservation, ed. Reddy, M.V. ISBN: 81-7035-529-X.

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

<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:



Panoramic view of the Vedanthangal (Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority, 10-01-2022)



Nesting grounds in Vedanthangal (Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority, 10-01-2022)



Foraging ground in Vedanthangal (Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority, 10-01-2022)



Panoramic view of the Vedanthangal (Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority, 10-01-2022)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2022-04-08