



Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

As approved by Rec.C.4.7 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Montreux, Switzerland - July 1990

NOTE: Please read the accompanying guidelines before attempting to complete this form. An example of a completed data sheet is also included.

Completed sheets should be returned to: T.A. Jones, Ramsar Database, IWRB, Slimbridge, Gloucester GL2 7BX, England

3 December 1992

1. Country: Japan

2. Date:

3. Ref:

2JP002
office use only

4. Name and address of compiler:

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Environment Agency

5. Name of wetland: Izu-numa and Uchi-numa

6. Date of Ramsar designation: 13 September 1985

7. Geographical coordinates: 38° 43'N 141° 06'E

8. General location: (e.g. administrative region and nearest large town)

In the northern part of Honshu, approximately 50km north-east of Sendai city, the north of Miyagi Prefecture.

9. Area: (in hectares)

559 ha

10. Wetland type: (see attached classification, also approved by Montreux Rec.C.4.7)

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11. Altitude: (average and/or maximum & minimum)

The entire area lies approximately 7m (above sea level).

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

The site contains two lakes which are connected by a channel and is surrounded by rice fields.

The lakes are enclosed with reed and wild-rice swamp all around.

13. I The central area of the lakes are dotted with lotus and trapa communities.

water The site is one of the most important wintering places for wild goose, wild duck and swan.

13. Physical features: (e.g. geology; geomorphology; origins - natural or artificial; hydrology; soil type; water quality;

^{water} The hillsides which are 40 - 50m above sea level extend in the northern, western and southern areas of the lakes and the alluvial plain is the eastern area.

Sand and gravel drifted through the water, forming piles at the river and the lakes established about 20,000 years ago.

One river flows into Izu-numa and three rivers flow into Uchi-numa but only one river flows out of Izu-numa and these catchment areas are 5,185 ha.

The peat soil which consists of reed, wild-rice and sedge is piled at the swamp area.

Biological oxygen demand and chemical oxygen demand of the water in Izu-numa indicates higher level than rivers'.

14. There is a floodgate at the outlet of Izu-numa.

Miyagi Prefecture belongs to the temperate zone, the average temperature of the year is 11.6°C and the average precipitation of the year is 1,192mm.

14. Ecological features: (main habitats and vegetation types)

Plant communities of the swamp are characterized in *Zizania latifolia*, *Phragmites australis*, *Phalaris arundinacea*, *Carex cinerascens* and *Scirpus radicans*.

Waterplant communities of the lakes consist of *Trapa japonica*, *Nelumbo nucifera* and *Potamogeton distinctus*.

15. Land tenure /ownership of:

(a) site	Local government owned land	65 ha
	Private owned land	43 ha
	Non-private owned lake	451 ha

(b) surrounding area

16. Conservation measures taken: (national category and legal status of protected areas - including any boundary changes

which Special Protection Area of National Wildlife Protection Area

Miyagi Prefecture Nature Conservation Area

In this area, construction, modification of land, mining, reclamation, changing of the water level, tree felling, taking of wildlife are prohibited without the permission of the Environment Agency or Miyagi Prefecture Government.

17. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented: (e.g. management plan in preparation; officially proposed as a protected area etc.)

None

18. Current land use: principal human activities in:

(a) site Fishing (fish and shellfish)

(b) surroundings/catchment Ricefields, pasture lands and residential section of town locate the catchment area of the lake.

The water of the lake is utilized for these agriculture.

19. Disturbances/threats, including changes in land use and major development projects:

(factors which may have a negative impact on the ecological character of the wetland)

(a) at the site

None

(b) in the surroundings/catchment

A part of drainage of living flows into the lakes.
The water of down river flows backward the lake after rain.
The water of lakes goes on shallow.
Wild-rice community which is good food for swan in winter is decreasing.

20. Hydrological and physical values: (groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilisation etc.)

Flood control in the lakes and the down river for agriculture area.

21. Social and cultural values: (e.g. fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological site etc.)

Water supply for agriculture and living.

Observation of wild goose, wild duck, swan and other wild birds in the year is useful for conservation education.

22. Noteworthy fauna: (e.g. unique, rare, endangered, abundant or biogeographically important species; include count data etc.)

Approximately 80% of *Anser fabalis*, and *A. albifrons* in Japan visit this site every winter and approximately 20% of *Cygnus cygnus*, and *C. columbianus* visit there also.

23. Noteworthy flora: (e.g. unique, rare, endangered, or biogeographically important species/communities etc.)

One of the important habitat of *Zizania latifolia* community which is a few in Japan.

24. **Current scientific research and facilities:** (e.g. details of current projects; existence of field station etc.)

Research on annual change of the number of wild goose, wild duck and swan every winter.

Research on habitat condition of wild-rice community which is important food for swan in winter.

25. Project of planting wild-rice to re-establish the community which is useful food for swan in winter and purifies the water of the lakes. Feeding swan to supplement natural food during winter.

Management office of National Wildlife Protection Area

Wildbird Observatory center (research)

Izu-numa Uchi-numa Sanctuary Center (data base, research, education)

26. **Current recreation and tourism:** (note if method used for recreation/tourism indicates type of focus reflected)

25. **Current conservation education:** (e.g. visitors centre, hides, information booklet, facilities for school visits etc.)

Nature observation by Izu-numa, Uchi-numa Sanctuary Center Foundation

26. **Current recreation and tourism:** (state if wetland used for recreation/tourism; indicate type & frequency/intensity)

Nature hike around the Izu-numa, Uchi-numa by the Sanctuary Center Foundation

27. **Management authority:** (name and address of body responsible for managing the wetland)

Miyagi Prefecture Izu-numa, Uchi-numa Environmental Conservation

Sanctuary Center Foundation

17-2 Shikimi

Kamihataoka, Wakayanagi-cho

28. Kurihara-county, Miyagi Prefecture

989-55 Japan

Wetland Conservation Jurisdiction:

Wetland Conservation Jurisdiction: _____

28. Jurisdiction: (territorial e.g. state/region and functional e.g. Dept of Agriculture/Dept of Environment etc.)

Territorial conservation jurisdiction:

Wildlife Protection Section
Environment Conservation Department
Health Environment Division
Miyagi Prefecture Government

Functional conservation jurisdiction:

Wildlife Protection Division
Nature Conservation Bureau
Environment Agency
Japan

29. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

Miyagi Prefecture Government 1978 Report on basic research in ecology of wild goose and the rice field damaged by grazing of wild goose and swan

Miyagi Prefecture Government 1981 Report on research in wildbird and management plan to reserve the habitat of wildbird

Yamashina Institute for Ornithology 1983 Report on survey of the environmental condition of wild goose in winter

30.1

Miyagi Prefecture Government 1988 Report on Scientific survey in the environmental conservation at Izu-numa, Uchi-numa

(c)

30. Reasons for inclusion: (state which Ramsar criteria - as adopted by Rec.C.4.15 of the Montreux Conference - are applicable)

2(a)

3(b)

31. Map of site (please enclose the most detailed and up-to-date map available - preferably at least 1:25,000 or 1:50,000)

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