



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 1 November 2022

Update version, previously published on : 10 January 2017

Netherlands Zoommeer



Designation date	29 August 2000
Site number	1253
Coordinates	51°29'51"N 04°13'04"E
Area	1 171,00 ha

Color codes

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

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

1 - Summary

Summary

The Zoommeer (1171 ha) is a "closed inlet" which has an open connection with the Volkerak via the Eendracht canal. This body of water was created in April 1987 when the Philips Dam was completed. The Zoommeer was already separated from the Oosterschelde by the Markiezaatskade (1983) and the Oesterdam (1986). Within a few months the water became fresh and the level was fixed at 0 cm NAP (New Amsterdam Level). As a result, approximately 220 hectares of the former intertidal area permanently emerged. The succession of the vegetation is still ongoing. Developments of breeding and migratory birds highly reflect the vegetation succession, with temporary emergence of pioneer species (like plovers and terns) and grass and seed eating species.

Preservation of current bird populations depends on the choices with regard to a possible restoration of the fresh-marine water gradient in the Volkerak-Zoom Lake. In addition, the area is an important resting area for birds that forage in the adjacent Oosterschelde during low tide. The potential reintroduction of salt water has been presented as one of the options to combat the annual algal blooms, while flushing to the Westerschelde & Saefinghe Ramsar Site is recommended due to possible problems with marine algae.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Responsible compiler

Institution/agency	Wageningen Environmental Research
Postal address	PO Box 47 6700 AA Wageningen The Netherlands

National Ramsar Administrative Authority

Institution/agency	Ministry of Agriculture Nature and Food Quality
Postal address	Bezuidenhoutseweg 73 P.O. Box 20401 2500 EK The Hague The Netherlands

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

From year	2015
To year	2020

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Zoommeer
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2.1.4 - Changes to the boundaries and area of the Site since its designation or earlier update

(Update) A. Changes to Site boundary	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
(Update) B. Changes to Site area	No change to area
(Update) For secretariat only. This update is an extension	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS?	No
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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	0
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Boundaries description

The boundary of the Ramsar site is 146 ha larger than the Natura 2000-site with the same name, as it also includes the area named Molenplaat.

In 2014 the Ramsar Site boundary was aligned with the Natura 2000 boundaries, some recreational land and a dike were excluded. The Molenplaat area, although not part of Natura 2000 is also part of the Ramsar Site. In total the area decreased by 20 ha.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Provinces of Noord-Brabant and Zeeland
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Bergen op Zoom with a population of 67.514 in 2021 (Source: CBS, Netherlands Statistics).

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries?	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
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b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes No

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha):

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

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Atlantic

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

The bio-geographic regions dataset used, contains the official delineations used in the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and for the EMERALD Network set up under the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention).

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

The Zoommeer is designated as a Natura 2000 site and can therefore be considered important for maintaining the biodiversity of the Atlantic biogeographic region. Besides the species mentioned under criterion 2, the site has also been designated as a SPA for a number of bird species that are not on Annex I of the Birds Directive.

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

Optional text box to provide further information

The Ramsar site is also part of the Natura 2000 network in the European Union. It is designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for the functions that it provides to specific breeding and non-breeding bird species (e.g. migratory, hibernating, sleeping, resting, foraging).
For detailed information please see Natura 2000 data sheet:
<https://www.natura2000.nl/gebieden/noord-brabant/zoommeer>
<https://natura2000.eea.europa.eu/Natura2000/SDF.aspx?site=NL9902010>

Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

Optional text box to provide further information

The 1% waterbird population thresholds are based on the 7th Edition of the Conservation Status Report (CSR7).

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

<no data available>

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
		2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
Birds																	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anas acuta</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	36	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	Reference population: North-west Europe. The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	277	2015/16-2019/20	0.4		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	Reference population: North-west & Central Europe (win). The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.

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>Anas crecca</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	489	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	Reference population: crecca, North-west Europe. The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anas penelope</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	37	2015/16-2019/20	0		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	Reference population: Western Siberia & NE Europe/NW Europe. The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anas strepera</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1259	2015/16-2019/20	1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: strepera, North-west Europe. The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anser anser</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1057	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: anser, NW Europe/South-west Europe. The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	893	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: North-west Europe (win). The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	180	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: bernicla, Western Siberia/Western Europe. The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	678	2015/16-2019/20	0.1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: Russia/Germany & Netherlands. foraging, resting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	2015/16-2019/20	0	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	Reference population: alexandrinus, West Europe & West Mediterranean/West Africa. The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	67	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: hiaticula, Northern Europe/Europe & North Africa.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	246	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: North-west Mainland & Central Europe. foraging, resting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Fulica atra</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4209	2015/16-2019/20	0.3	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: atra, North-west Europe (win). The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Ichthyophaga melanocephalus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	2015/16-2019/20	0		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: W Europe, Mediterranean & NW Africa. The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	119	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: North-west & Central Europe (win). foraging, resting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	795	2015/16-2019/20	0.1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: sinensis, Northern & Central Europe. foraging, resting

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	67	2015/16-2019/20	0.4	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: leucorodia, West Europe/West Mediterranean & West Africa. foraging, resting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	240	2015/16-2019/20	0	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: cristatus, North-west & Western Europe. The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	70	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: Western Europe & North-west Africa (bre). The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6	2015/16-2019/20	0	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	Reference population: hirundo, Northern & Eastern Europe (bre). The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	339	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Reference population: North-west Europe. The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

Bird data are provided by SOVON, Dutch Centre for Field Ornithology.

The 1% waterbird population thresholds are based on the 7th Edition of the Conservation Status Report (CSR7).

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

The area consists of permanent freshwater (approx. 82%) and vegetated land area (approx. 18%). The vegetation succession is an ongoing process. The development of breeding and migratory bird communities like geese reflects the vegetation succession. This results in temporary pioneer breeders like terns, Pied Avocet and plovers and grass and seed eating birds like Smew and Pintail. The succession in the water phase strongly depends on increasing nutrient rates.

The feasibility for conservation of the present flora- and fauna communities depends on the decision to restore the salt and fresh water gradient in the Volkerak-Zoommeer. Besides that, the area has a function as resting place for tidal birds which forage in the Oosterschelde at low tide.

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

Inland wetlands

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

Human-made wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type
4: Seasonally flooded agricultural land		1	

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

<no data available>

4.3.2 - Animal species

<no data available>

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
C: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with mild winters	Cfb: Marine west coast (Mild with no dry season, warm summer)

Schelde catchment : The climate according to Köppen is rainy (Cbf).
 Meuse catchment: The climate according to Köppen is rainy (Cbf).
 Rhine catchment: The climates according to Köppen are rainy (Cbf) and montane (EH).

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.

The Zoommeer is connected with the Volkerakmeer through the Rhine/Schelde canal and can be considered to be part of the catchment area of the Schelde, Rhine and Meuse.

- The surface area of the Schelde catchment is 21.900 km². Geologically and geomorphologically it consists mainly of Quarternary and Tertiary sediments.

- The surface area of the Meuse catchment is 33.000 km². Geologically and geomorphologically it consists mainly of Quarternary and Mesozoic sediments and Paleozoic (eroded) mountains.

- The surface area of the Rhine catchment is 185.000 km². Geologically and geomorphologically it consists mainly of Quarternary, Paleozoic and Mesozoic sediments and Tertiary mountains.

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral

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

No available information

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

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

Schelde catchment: The general soil types are Alluvial and Podzol soils.
 Meuse catchment: The general soil types are: Alluvial, Brown forest soils and montane soils.
 Rhine catchment: The general soil types are: Alluvial, Brown forest soils and montane soils.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Usually permanent water present	

Source of water that maintains character of the site

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

Water destination

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
To downstream catchment	No change

Stability of water regime

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
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:

The Zoommeer has an average depth of 6 m and a maximum depth of 20 m. Lake Zoommeer forms a hydrological unit with Ramsar site Lake Volkerakmeer through connection by the Rhine/Schelde canal. Due the building of the Oesterdam in 1986 and the Philipsdam in 1987 the Zoommeer no longer had tidal variations. The stagnant water level caused erosion of the sand banks. Large scale protection measures have been carried out to stop the erosion. Since 1996 the water level variations are more natural. The level fluctuates with rain, river discharges and evaporation (summer NAP - 0,10 m, winter NAP + 0,15 m), but is also coming from some small rivers. The influx of water however causes pollution and eutrofication which again threatens the site. Surplus water is sluiced into the Westerschelde via the Schelde-Rhine canal.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Sediment regime unknown

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

No data available at the time of completing this database but probably no significant erosion, accretion, deposition or transportation of sediments.

4.4.6 - Water pH

Unknown

Please provide further information on pH (optional):

No data available at the time of completing this database but probably no change.

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

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

Unknown

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic

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

Unknown

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

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

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	High

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Water sports and activities	High
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	Low
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	Low
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	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

Optional text box to provide further information

The ecosystem services mainly refer to:
 - the wetlands potential for recreation both on the water and on land;
 - the ability for agriculture to take fresh water in (for irrigation or livestock drinking water) or drain it off;
 - flood control;
 - easier navigation through a non-tidal system.

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

Within the Ramsar site:

Dairy farming 5%, Boating 70%, Tourism and leisure 10%, Commercial fisheries 70%, Shipping traffic 20%, Conservation and research 24%, Water management 100%.

A bird hide is also located at the Site.

Hydrological value:

Part of the water from the river Rhine and Maas flows into the former sea arms of the hydrological unit Volkerak and Zoommeer. The fresh water is drained of via the Schelde-Rhine canal to the Westerschelde. Discussions are ongoing if and to what extent the former tidal system of all dammed arms of the sea in this part of the Netherlands should be restored. This would have a positive impact on the water quality of both the Ramsar site Zoommeer as well as the Ramsar site Volkerakmeer.

The Volkerakmeer and Zoommeer are intended to have an important (future) function in in flood control.

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

4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

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

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

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

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

<no data available>

4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

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

5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

Public ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
National/Federal 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):

Within the Ramsar site:

The site is partly owned by Staatsbosbeheer (187 ha); the remainder is state ownership (Dienst der Domeinen, Ministerie van Financiën).

In the surrounding area:

The water (Markiezaat and Oosterschelde) is state owned, on land several private owners.

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

(1) Rijkswaterstaat (Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment)
(2) Staatsbosbeheer, see: <https://www.staatsbosbeheer.nl/natuurgebieden/krammer-volkerak>

Postal address:

(1) Rijkswaterstaat, Directie Zeeland, PO Box 5014, 4330 KA Middelburg, the Netherlands, +31 118 672200

(2) Head office: Staatsbosbeheer, P.O. Box 2, 3800 AA Amersfoort, the Netherlands, tel. +31 (0)30-6926111

E-mail address:

info@staatsbosbeheer.nl

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	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Tourism and recreation areas	Low impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Livestock farming and ranching	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

Transportation and service corridors

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Shipping lanes	Low impact	Low impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Recreational and tourism activities	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Agricultural and forestry effluents	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	Zoommeer	https://www.natura2000.nl/gebieden/noord-brabant/zoommeer	whole

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
National Ecological Network (NEN)	Zoommeer	https://www.government.nl/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/national-ecological-network-nen	whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Zoommeer	http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/1207	whole
Other non-statutory designation	KBA Zoommeer	http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/1207	whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

- Ia Strict Nature Reserve
- Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
- II National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
- III Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
- IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention
- V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
- VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

Habitat

Measures	Status
Hydrology management/restoration	Proposed

Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Proposed

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? In preparation

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, but a plan is being prepared

Further information

Any restoration measures will be part of the management plan.

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented

Ongoing biodiversity monitoring is one of the obligatory activities in relation to the designation as a Natura 2000-site. Rijkswaterstaat (www.rws.nl), Deltares (www.Deltares.nl), the Center for Marine and Estuarine Ecology (NIOO/CEMO, www.nioo.nl) and IMARES (part of the Wageningen University and Research Centre; www.imares.wur.nl) in Yerseke are the main research institutes in the Delta, among which the Zoommeer

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

The site equals the Natura 2000-boundaries (except for an additional polder). For up-to-date information and references about the site see <https://www.natura2000.nl/gebieden/noord-brabant/zoommeer>.

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

<no data available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



- (Mark van Veen, -)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<2 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2000-08-29