



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 2 November 2022

Update version, previously published on : 15 December 2014

Netherlands

Weerribben



Designation date	23 May 1980
Site number	193
Coordinates	52°47'51"N 05°56'49"E
Area	3 325,00 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 Ramsar site Weerribben (3325 ha) consists of partly excavated peat land in the north western corner of the province of Overijssel, to the west of the city of Steenwijk. The site is situated close to the Ramsar site Rottige Meenthe, and lies adjacent to the Ramsar site Wieden.

The landscape is characteristic for the peat excavations. It consists of a complex of channels ("petgaten" or "weren") with ridges in between ("ribben"). When the extraction of peat was no longer profitable around 1920, the local people started reed cutting. In 1919 the pumping station Stroink near Blokzijl was built to control the water levels in north western Overijssel. Because of this the reed lands became drier which accelerated the succession to land, after which the reed lands became overgrown with weeds.

Nowadays, the site is an area of ponds and canals, separated by strokes of land of varying sizes, fens, reed beds, swampy woodland and wet meadows. All the stages of succession between open water and swamp forest occur. The site is particularly important for the conservation of several habitat types and many species among which fish, dragonflies and breeding birds.

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)	Weerribben
Unofficial name (optional)	originally designated as: De Weerribben

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 equal to the Natura 2000-site with the same name.
In 2013 the boundary of the Ramsar Site has been adjusted to the Natura 2000 site, resulting in an increase of 790 ha.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Overijssel
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Steenwijkerland with a population of 44.341 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
Other scheme (provide name below)	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

- Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

Other reasons

The Weerribben has been awarded a European Diploma of Protected Areas by the Council of Europe in 1996. This award is a prestigious international award granted since 1965 by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to natural and semi-natural areas and landscapes of exceptional European importance for the preservation of biological, geological and landscape diversity and managed in an exemplary way. The Weerribben and the adjoining Wieden (which received the same award in 2010) form the largest peat swamp of its kind in Western-Europe.

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

Optional text box to provide further information

The Weerribben is among others designated as a SAC for the endemic butterfly subspecies Large Copper *Lycaena dispar* ssp. *batavia*. The site is crucial for its conservation as it is the only site in the Netherlands (and the world!) where a viable population of this subspecies exists. The only other (smaller) populations in the adjacent Ramsar sites of the Wieden and 'Rottige Meenthe en Brandemeer' can only sustain with the migration of individuals from the Weerribben (Janssen & Schaminée 2009, Alterra 2008).

- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

The Weerribben is designated as a Natura 2000 site (both SAC and SPA) 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 SAC for a range of habitat types (Annex I of HD, see section 3.4) and SPA for a number of bird species that are not on Annex I of the BD.

The site has not (yet) been designated as an SAC for the European Otter (*Lutra lutra*). However, after extinction from the Netherlands, the species was reintroduced at this site in 2002. The population is increasing since and the Otter is slightly extending its distribution across the Netherlands.

- 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 bird species. The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for specific non-bird species (and habitat types, section 3.4). See also Natura2000 - Standard data form <https://natura2000.eea.europa.eu/>

- Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.

Justification

The site has among others been designated as a SAC for the following fish species: Bitterling *Rhodeus sericeus amarus*, Weatherfish *Misgurnus fossilis* and Spined Loach *Cobitis taenia*

- Criterion 9 : >1% non-avian animal population

Optional text box to provide further information

Large Copper *Lycaena dispar* occurs in the Netherlands as the subspecies *L. d. batava* and is an extremely rare resident. Since its first sighting in 1915, *L. dispar* has only been found in the north-eastern part of the country. It has been declining since about 1950, and is confined to three fenland nature reserves: De Weerribben, De Wieden and De Rottige Meente.

These reserves, each of which has an area exceeding 500 hectares, harbour together between 50 and 400 individuals; numbers are difficult to estimate, and moreover, fluctuate from year to year. The species is categorized as 'critically endangered' at the Red List (Bos et al. 2006). The Weerribben is among others designated as a SAC for this subspecies. The site is crucial for its conservation as it is the only site in the Netherlands (and the world!) where a viable population of this subspecies exists. The only other (smaller) populations in the adjacent Ramsar sites of the Wieden and 'Rottige Meente en Brandemeer' can only sustain with the migration of individuals from the Weerribben (Janssen & Schaminée 2009, Alterra 2008).

Reference: Bos, F., M. Bosveld, D. Groenendijk, C. van Swaay, I. Wynhoff, De Vlinderstichting, 2006. Grote Vuurvlieder *Lycaena dispar*. In: De dagvlinders van Nederland, verspreiding en bescherming (Lepidoptera: Hesperioidea, Papilionoidea. – Nederlandse Fauna 7. Leiden. Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum Naturalis, knv Uitgeverij & European Invertebrate Survey - Nederland. p. 38-142.

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Plantae								
BRYOPHYTA/ BRYOPSIDA	<i>Calliergon giganteum</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
BRYOPHYTA/ BRYOPSIDA	<i>Campyliadelphus elodes</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Euphorbia palustris</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
BRYOPHYTA/ BRYOPSIDA	<i>Fissidens adianthoides</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	<i>Liparis loeselii</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Pedicularis palustris</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
BRYOPHYTA/ MARCHANTIOPSIDA	<i>Preissia quadrata</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
BRYOPHYTA/ BRYOPSIDA	<i>Rhizomnium pseudopunctatum</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
BRYOPHYTA/ JUNGERMANNIOPSIDA	<i>Riccardia multifida</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
BRYOPHYTA/ BRYOPSIDA	<i>Scorpidium scorpioides</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
Fungi								
BASIDIOMYCOTA/ AGARICOMYCETES	<i>Armillaria ectypa</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	

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								
Others																	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Aeshna viridis</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Boloria selene</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Brachytron pratense</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Graphoderus bilineatus</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"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Leucorrhinia pectoralis</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"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Libellula fulva</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Lycæna dispar batavus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	400		90		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species, endemic subspecies. Population size 400 (Bos et al. 2006) and occurrence 90% is just a rough guess. See text box crit. 9	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Myotis dasycneme</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"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea																	
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	<i>Anisus vorticulus</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"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Cobitis taenia</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Cottus gobio</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	<i>Gyraulus riparius</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	<i>Marstoniopsis insubrica</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Misgurnus fossilis</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	<i>Myxas glutinosa</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Rhodeus amarus</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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) 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								
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</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"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Birds																	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</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"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	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>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</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"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	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>Ardea purpurea</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"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	Reference population: purpurea, 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>Botaurus stellaris</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"/>	29	2015/16-2019/20	0.4	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	Reference population: stellaris, W Europe, NW 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>Chlidonias niger</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"/>	70	2015/16-2019/20	0	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	Reference population: niger, Europe & Western Asia/Atlantic coast of 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>Gallinago gallinago</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"/>	255	2016/17-2017/18	0	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	Reference population: gallinago, Europe/South & West Europe & 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>Locustella luscinioides</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"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	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>Porzana porzana</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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: Europe/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.

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

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
Bog woodland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Priority habitat type	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Priority habitat type	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Transition mires and quaking bogs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.

[Optional text box to provide further information](#)

The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for the habitat types listed above and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.

4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

4.1 - Ecological character

It is an area of ponds and canals (former peat-workings: "petgaten"), separated by strokes of land of varying sizes where the peat was laid to dry ("legakkers"), fens, reedbeds, swampy woodland and wet meadows.

Plant communities of European interest that occur are:

- Scirpidio-Caricetum diandrae
- Sphagno palustris-Ericetum
- Carici elongatae alnetum
- Thelypterido-Alnetum
- Carici cutrae-Betuletum pubescentis

Together with the adjacent site Wieden it is the most extensive and important area of peat bog landscape in Northwest Europe. All the stages of succession between open waters, marsh heaths and swamp forests occur. Because the peat excavations occurred relatively recent, the original characteristic of the site is still visible. In comparison with the coastal plain bog of Noord-Holland, this site is less brackish, but more freshwater and limy. Many plants and animals of the coastal plain bog survive in viable populations, among which the most important population of the endemic butterfly (sub) species *Lyceana dispar batava*.

It has always been an important breeding area for birds of marshes, both from reed marshes and from more open marshes and open water with floating vegetations and quacking bogs. In total it concerns some 90 bird species.

When about 1920 the extraction of peat was no longer profitable, the local community gradually switched to reed-cutting practices. Water and littoral plants had started to grow again in and along the shallow turf ponds, from which reed-land developed. Reed-cutting became a major source of income. The quality of the reed that grows in Overijssel (and which is used for roofing) was so good that it was renowned throughout Europe.

In 1919 the pumping station Stroink near the town of Blokzijl was built to control the water levels in north western Overijssel. As a result the reedlands became drier and the succession to land accelerated and the reed lands got overgrown with weeds. The reed harvesting became less and less important. However, still some people substantially depend on reed-cutting for a living. For that, and also in view of the scenic and natural value of the reed-land, a piece of land of twelve hundred hectares is preserved for reed-cutting.

Recreation activities are mainly aimed at nature. There is a visitors centre and a boat rental. Motorboats are subject to certain rules in order to control the tranquillity of the area. Rowing boats and canoes are allowed in the area, as well as electric boats. Due to the amount of water the opportunities for walking and cycling are limited. There are various guided tours in the area: including boat trips and cycling excursions, visits to the duck decoy, and outings especially for children.

The ecosystem services mainly refer to:

- the wetlands potential for water recreation;
- provision of reed;
- the ability to store fresh water (especially i.r.t. potential impacts from climate change);
- the ability for agriculture to take fresh water in (for irrigation or livestock drinking water) or drain it off.

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		4	133	Representative
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/pools		1	1398	Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> Xp: Permanent Forested peatlands		3	1132	Rare

Human-made wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type
9: Canals and drainage channels or ditches		2	

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)

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.

river Rhine

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral

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

Organic

(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)

Geologically and geomorphologically it consists mainly of Quarternary, Paleozoic and Mesozoic sediments and Tertiary mountains. 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 precipitation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change
Water inputs from surface water	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

Water destination

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Feeds groundwater	No change

Stability of water regime

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Water levels largely stable	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 Hydrological values of the Weerribben include flood control and groundwater replenishment.

The water level is stabilised at 0,7 m - NAP in summer and at 0,8 m - NAP during winter.

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):

Probably no change although the pH of the water was not exactly known at the time of completing this database.

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

Please provide further information on dissolved or suspended nutrients (optional):

Although water quality is improving, the high phosphate content remains an important bottleneck.

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)	Medium
Fresh water	Drinking water for humans and/or livestock	Medium
Wetland non-food products	Reeds and fibre	Medium

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	Medium
Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	Medium

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Water sports and activities	Medium
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	Medium
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
Nutrient cycling	Carbon storage/sequestration	High

Optional text box to provide further information

Diary farming 5 - 35%, Reed cutting 5 - 35%, Commercial fisheries 5 - 35%, Angling <5%, Residential (conurbation) <5%, Residential (scattered) <5%, Leisure and tourism 5 - 35%, Nautical sports <5%, Water management >95%.

Ongoing biodiversity monitoring is one of the obligatory activities in relation to the designated Natura 2000 habitat types and/or species. SOVON, the Dutch Bird Research Organisation, coordinates for instance a continues national bird monitoring program in which it cooperates with 7000 volunteers, research institutes and organisations in the monitoring of birds throughout the Netherlands (among which the Weerribben).

The University of Amsterdam and Nijmegen do several studies in the site a.o. concerning the impacts of flexible water level management and phosphorous.

Number of persons visiting the site by boat are an estimated 150,000 a year.

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 type="checkbox"/>

Private ownership

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

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

within the Ramsar site:

The site is mainly owned by Staatsbosbeheer, also some private ownership.

in the surrounding area:

Surrounding area: several private owners

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

See <https://www.staatsbosbeheer.nl/Natuurgebieden/weerribben>

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

See <https://www.staatsbosbeheer.nl/Natuurgebieden/weerribben>

Postal address: Head office: Staatsbosbeheer, P.O. Box 2, 3800 AA Amersfoort, the Netherlands, tel. 030-6926111

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

Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Drainage	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Water abstraction	High impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change
Water releases	Medium 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	Low impact	Low impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Logging and wood harvesting	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Gathering terrestrial plants	Medium impact	Medium 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

Invasive and other problematic species and genes

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Problematic native species	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
Air-borne pollutants	High impact	High 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	Weerribben	https://www.natura2000.nl/gebieden/overijssel/weerribben	whole

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
National Ecological Network (NEN)	Weerribben	https://www.government.nl/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/national-ecological-network-nen	whole
National Park	Weerribben-Wieden	https://www.nationaalpark.nl/8745/nationale-parken/overzicht/np-weerribbenwieden	whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Weerribben	http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/1242	whole
Important Plant Area	Weerribben-Wieden	https://atlas.natuurlijkkapitaal.nl/important-plant-areas	partly
Other non-statutory designation	KBA Weerribben	http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/1242	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
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Implemented
Improvement of water quality	Implemented
Hydrology management/restoration	Implemented
Soil management	Implemented
Faunal corridors/passage	Implemented

Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Implemented

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Harvest controls/poaching enforcement	Implemented
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Implemented
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Implemented
Research	Implemented

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

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

There is a visitor's centre and a boat rental. In order to ensure as much peace and quiet in the area, motorboats are subject to certain rules. Rowing boats and canoes are allowed in the area, as well as battery operated boats that make little noise. The possibilities for walking and cycling are few, because of the amount of water. There are various guided tours in the area: including boat trips and cycling excursions, visits to the duck decoy, and outings especially for children.

Visitors centre, excursions, hide, information booklet. Websites on the area are available like the website of Dutch National Parks.

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant):

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? Yes, there is a plan

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented
Water regime monitoring	Implemented
Water quality	Implemented
Soil quality	Implemented
Plant community	Implemented
Plant species	Implemented
Animal species (please specify)	Implemented

Ongoing biodiversity monitoring is one of the obligatory activities in relation to the designated Natura 2000 habitat types and/or species. SOVON, the Dutch Bird Research Organisation, coordinates for instance a continues national bird monitoring program in which it cooperates with 7000 volunteers, research institutes and organisations in the monitoring of birds throughout the Netherlands (among which the Weerribben).

The University of Amsterdam and Nijmegen do several studies in the site a.o. concerning the impacts of flexible water level management and phosphorous.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Bos, F., M. Bosveld, D. Groenendijk, C. van Swaay, I. Wynhoff, De Vlinderstichting, 2006. De dagvlinders van Nederland, verspreiding en bescherming (Lepidoptera: Hesperioidea, Papilionoidea. – Nederlandse Fauna 7. Leiden. Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum Naturalis, knnv Uitgeverij & European Invertebrate Survey - Nederland.

The site equals the Natura 2000-boundaries. For up-to-date information and references about the site see <https://www.natura2000.nl/gebieden/overijssel/weerribben>.

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

<no file available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



- (Fabrice Ottburg, -)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<2 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation