



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 2 April 2015

Netherlands

Duinen Ameland



Designation date	29 August 2000
Site number	2212
Coordinates	53°27'20"N 5°45'6"E
Area	2 054,50 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

Extensive area of dunes adjacent to salt meadows (Neerlands Reid) and sand flats (De Hon), and intertidal mud flats of Ramsar site Waddensea. The site does not include the villages, extensive touristic facilities, and the grassland polders which are used for dairy farming. Total length is approximately 22 km, while the width varies between 100 m (near main village) and 1.5 km.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Name	Ms. A. Pel-Roest
Institution/agency	Ministry of Economic Affairs, Department of Nature and Biodiversity
Postal address	Prins Clauslaan 8 P.O. Box 20401 2500 EK The Hague, the Netherlands
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Phone	+31 70 378 6868

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

To year

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Boundaries description (optional)

The Ramsar site 'Duinen Ameland' was formerly an integral part of the Ramsarsite 'Waddeneilanden en Noordzeekustzone'. The Ramsar site 'Waddeneilanden en Noordzeekustzone' has also been designated as six separate European Natura 2000-sites, one named Noordzeekustzone and the others named after the respective islands 'Duinen en Lage land Texel', 'Duinen Vlieland', 'Duinen Terschelling', 'Duinen Ameland' and 'Duinen Schiermonnikoog'. A logical step as the ecosystems of the Noordzeekustzone and the islands are quite different, and all islands have their own nature management plan.

For this RIS-version, the new Ramsar site boundaries have therefore been adjusted to the Natura 2000- boundaries, while the respective names for the Natura 2000-sites have been adopted.

For the Ramsar Site 'Duinen Ameland' this results in a size of 2054,5 ha.

2.2.2 - General location

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

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

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

idem No

d) Transboundary Ramsar Site name:

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 ecosystem services provided

The Dutch coastal dunes system stretching from the north-eastern border with Germany and the south-western border with Belgium is actually one big nature reserve. Within the Netherlands but also within the Atlantic biogeographic region it may be regarded as one of the most biodiverse ecosystems. The over 2000 ha of the Duinen Ameland represent a vast and unique natural or near-natural dune-system containing a large variety of species and (priority) habitat types of European importance (see among others the habitat types listed under criterion 3).

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

The Duinen Ameland 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) and SPA for a number of bird species that are not on Annex I of the BD.

Please refer to Section 3.4 > Ecological Communities for a list of Habitat types (according to the interpretation manual of EU-Habitat Directive) for which the site has been designated as a SAC.

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

- Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

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

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
 <i>Anagallis minima</i>	Chaffweed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
 <i>Blysmus compressus</i>	Flat-sedge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
 <i>Epipactis palustris</i>	Marsh Helleborine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
 <i>Liparis loeselii loeselii</i>	Fen Orchid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN HD Annex II, IV	
 <i>Parnassia palustris</i>	Grass-of-parmassus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
 <i>Radiola linoides</i>	Allseed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
 <i>Sagina nodosa</i>	Knotted Pearlwort	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
 <i>Schoenus ferrugineus</i>	Black Bog-rush	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	

Noteworthy flora:

Vascular plants (not in the IUCN Red List but in the Catalogue of Life):

- *Gentiana pneumonanthe* (Marsh Gentian): National Red List (2004) - NT

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i> 	Sedge Warbler	<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"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - LC	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Asio flammeus</i> 	Short-eared Owl	<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 - CR ; Annex 1 of BD	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i> 	Bittern	<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 - EN ; Annex 1 of BD	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Lanius collurio</i> 	Red-backed Shrike	<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 - EN ; Annex 1 of BD	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i> 	Northern Wheatear	<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"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i> 	Eurasian Spoonbill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	240	2006-2010	2.2	LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is of particular importance for many breeding bird species, of which several species gather in relatively small areas like the breeding colony of the Eurasian Spoonbill <i>Platalea leucorodia</i> .
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Porzana porzana</i> 	Spotted Crake	<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 - VU ; Annex 1 of BD	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Somateria mollissima</i> 	Common Eider	<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"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - LC	

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
Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ('white dunes')	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ('grey dunes')	<input type="checkbox"/>	Priority habitat types	
Decalcified fixed dunes with <i>Empetrum nigrum</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Priority habitat types	
Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (<i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Priority habitat types	
Dunes with <i>Hippophaë rhamnoides</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>Argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Humid dune slacks	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grassland, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in continental Europe)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Priority habitat types	

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

4.1 - Ecological character

Due to the harsh climatic circumstances natural woodland in the Wadden area is generally low and dominated by oak (*Quercus robur*); this type of woodland has only developed on the five largest dune islands, among which the Duinen Ameland.

In the 20th century many conifers have been planted to stabilise shifting sand dunes, partly as an employment project in the 1930-ies. The dunes encompass many habitat types of European importance.

Main ecosystem services of the site are:

- The chain of Wadden islands and dune systems creates shelter from the North Sea which protects and sustains the highly productive Wadden Sea (a.o. in terms of fisheries);
- The Wadden islands dunes protect the islands hinterland from the North Sea;
- The dunes are a catchment area for rainwater which provides high quality drinking (ground)water;
- The sunny climate and the scenic and natural beauty of the Wadden islands has turned the islands into one of the main tourism destinations in the Netherlands.

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
E: Sand, shingle or pebble shores		1		Unique
H: Intertidal marshes		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)

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

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 Wadden island represents its own catchment area. The islands basically consist of dune sands and silt polders claimed from the sea. The land surface of the island ranges approx. 40 km².

Ameland is one of the smaller Wadden Sea islands.

4.4.3 - Soil

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

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

The landscape is characterised by a vast dune area and polders. The dry dunes are decalcified which results in diverse lichen communities. The dunes encompass dune slacks and reed marshes. Measures are taken in order to counteract water shortage due to low groundwater level.

The dune area forms the natural coastal defence of the island against the North Sea. Furthermore the dunes play an important role for fresh (drinking) water extraction.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

<no data available>

4.4.6 - Water pH

<no data available>

4.4.7 - Water salinity

<no data available>

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

<no data available>

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

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Fresh water	Drinking water for humans and/or livestock	Medium

Regulating Services

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

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	High

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

A primary indicator of the extent of tourism and recreation in the Wadden Sea region (here all five islands and mainland municipalities) is the number of overnight stays in commercial enterprises (nine beds or more). These are approx. 12 million overnight stays per year (data 1996).

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

<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

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

a) within the Ramsar site:
Staatsbosbeheer, Domeinen, Rijkswaterstaat, It Fryske Gea and private owners.

b) in the surrounding area:
The water (Wadden Sea and North Sea) 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:

Main management authorities:

- Staatsbosbeheer, PO Box 1300, 3970 BH Driebergen, the Netherlands, tel. +31 (0)30-6926111
- Rijkswaterstaat Noord-Nederland, Zuidersingel 3, 8911 AV Leeuwarden, P.O. Box 2301, 8901 JH Leeuwarden, tel. +31 (0)58 234 43 44
- It Fryske Gea, P.O. Box 3, 9244 ZN Beetsterzwaag, tel. +31 (0)512 38 14 48

Postal address:

See above

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
Tourism and recreation areas	Medium impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Water abstraction	High impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Energy production and mining

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Oil and gas drilling	Low impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe any other threats (optional):

a) within the Ramsar site: (A = serious threat covering large part of the area; B = moderate threat or local threat; C = minor threat): Lowering of ground water table due to extraction of drinking water and drainage for agriculture (A); Disturbance of birds by recreation/ tourism (B); Gas extraction under the Natura 2000-site since 1986 (C).

b) in the surrounding area:
The surrounding area is the further North Sea and Wadden Sea.
No particular factors involved.

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	Duinen Ameland		whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

<no data available>

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

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

A wide variety of hides, excursions, information booklets etc.
The area has one visitor centre in the village of Nes: Natuurcentrum Ameland, Strandweg 38, 9163 GN.
Information on excursions can be obtained through the visitor centre and Tourist Office (VVV) of Ameland.

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

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

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Ongoing biodiversity monitoring is one of the obligatory activities in relation to the designated Natura 2000-habitat types and species. Numerous scientific research projects are ongoing in the Wadden Sea, North Sea Coastal area and the Wadden Islands. Main responsible executors are:

- NIOZ: Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research;
- Wageningen IMARES: The Institute for Marine Resources and Ecosystem Studies (which joins same facilities with NIOZ);
- Wageningen Alterra: research institute for our green living environment (mainly terrestrial and fresh water research);
- University of Groningen (offering an MSc in Marine Biology);
- SOVON, the Dutch Bird Research Organisation, coordinates 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;
- TNO: Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research (Den Helder);
- NIOO: Netherlands Institute of Ecology;
- RIKZ: The National Institute for Coastal and Marine Management.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

The number of scientific/technical references is too extended to list here. For a complete list please surf to the publication lists of the research institutes on the internet. For an arbitrary selection see below:

- BirdLife International, 2004. Birds in Europe, population estimates, trends and conservation status. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International. (BirdLife Conservation Series No. 12).

- Hornman, M., Hustings, F., Koffijberg, K., Kleefstra, R., Klaassen, O., van Winden, E., SOVON Ganzen- en Zwanenwerkgroep & L. Soldaat, 2012. Watervogels in Nederland 2009/2010. SOVON-rapport 2012/02, Waterdienst-rapport 12.06. SOVON Vogelonderzoek Nederland, Nijmegen.

- Janssen, John, A.M. & Joop, H.J. Schaminée, 2009. Europese Natuur in Nederland. Zee en kust Natura 2000-gebieden. KNNV-Uitgeverij. 296p.

- Ministerie van LNV, 2008. Aanwijzingsbesluit Natura-2000 gebied Duinen Ameland.

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

<1 file(s) uploaded>

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:

<no data available>

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<2 file(s) uploaded>

Transboundary Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation