

Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS) – 2009-2012 version

1. Name and address of the compiler of this form:

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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

September 2013

3. Country:

the Netherlands

4. Name of the Ramsar site:

Deurnsche Peel en Mariapeel (see 7b)

5. Designation of new Ramsar site or update of existing site:

This RIS is for:

- a) Designation of a new Ramsar site ; or
b) Updated information on an existing Ramsar site

6. For RIS updates only, changes to the site since its designation or earlier update:

a) Site boundary and area

The Ramsar site boundary and site area are unchanged:

or

If the site boundary has changed:

- i) the boundary has been delineated more accurately ; or
ii) the boundary has been extended ; or
iii) the boundary has been restricted**

and/or

If the site area has changed:

- i) the area has been measured more accurately ; or
ii) the area has been extended ; or
iii) the area has been reduced**

** **Important note:** If the boundary and/or area of the designated site is being restricted/reduced, the Contracting Party should have followed the procedures established by the

Conference of the Parties in the Annex to COP9 Resolution IX.6 and provided a report in line with paragraph 28 of that Annex, prior to the submission of an updated RIS.

b) Describe briefly any major changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar site, including in the application of the Criteria, since the previous RIS for the site:

- During the past ten years there has been a substantial increase of Sphagnum.
- During the counting period of 1999-2003 (previous RIS-version) the site qualified for criterion 6 for the Tundra Bean Goose *Anser fabalis rossicus*, though not anymore in the period 2006-2010.

7. Map of site:

a) A map of the site, with clearly delineated boundaries, is included as:

- i) a hard copy (required for inclusion of site in the Ramsar List):
- ii) an electronic format (e.g. a JPEG or ArcView image)
- iii) a GIS file providing geo-referenced site boundary vectors and attribute tables

b) Describe briefly the type of boundary delineation applied:

Ramsar site Deurnese Peel has also been designated as the European Natura 2000-site Deurnsche Peel & Mariapeel. For this RIS-version, the Ramsar site boundary has therefore been adjusted to the Natura 2000-boundary, and the name for the Natura 2000-site has been adopted. Some nature development area has been added, while agricultural area has been excluded from the Ramsar site. In total this new boundary resulted in an increase of +136,1 ha.

8. Geographical coordinates (latitude/longitude, in degrees and minutes):

51°25'N - 05°54'E

9. General location:

Province of Brabant and Province of Limburg, ca. 10 km south-east of Deurne (population 31.733 per 1-1-2013; source CBS, Netherlands Statistics).

10. Elevation: (in metres: average and/or maximum & minimum)

NAP +32 / +33 m

11. Area:

2734,3 ha

12. General overview of the site:

The area is located between the cities of Helmond and Venlo. It consists of three parts: Deurnsche Peel, Mariapeel and Grauwveen. The Deurnsche Peel is located in the province of Noord-Brabant. Besides a core of raised bog that is adjacent to Mariapeel, it consists of three smaller parts: De Bult in the north and Grauwveen and Het Zinkske in the south. In the Deurnsche Peel peat was excavated until the 1970's. The traces are still visible. Mariapeel is located in the province of Limburg and it also consists of three parts: Griendtsveen, De Driehonderd Bunders and Mariaveen.

Together with the close by Groote Peel these are remnants of what once was a vast landscape with raised bogs (ca 30,000 ha in extent). Most of these Peel bogs were excavated till the sandy subsoil. Due to the differences in peat excavation in different parts of the site, there is a big and small scaled variation in vegetation and landscape, with gradients to a little more mineral environment. In the oldest peat pits raised bog is regenerating on a very small scale. The bog is still thick in areas where the excavation was limited. Here regeneration projects are being carried out successfully. Sphagnum species like *Sphagnum cuspidatum* and to a lesser extent *Spagnum fallax* substantially increased past ten years.

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13. Ramsar Criteria:

1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6 • 7 • 8 9

14. Justification for the application of each Criterion listed in 13 above:

The Ramsar site Deurnsche Peel en Mariapeel, has been designated under Natura 2000 as well. Natura 2000 is the centrepiece of EU nature & biodiversity policy. It is an EU wide network of nature protection areas which aims to assure the long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats. It is comprised of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated by Member States under the Habitats Directive, and also incorporates Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Birds Directive. Natura 2000 applies to SACs and SPAs which are divided into biogeographical regions. The Ramsar site Deurnsche Peel en Mariapeel applies to both and the justification for the application of each Ramsar criterion below, greatly refers to its designation as a SAC and SPA.

Justification criterion 2

The table below shows Annex I species (BD) for which the site has been designated as a SPA, as well as their current status on the National Red List. Some other threatened species of the National Red Lists have also been added to the table.

Species of Annex I of the European Bird Directive for which the site has been designated as a SPA, as well as some threatened species of the National Red Lists (- = Not Applicable). Year of adoption of the National Red List in parentheses.

Species(group)	Species code	BD Annex	National RL category
Vascular plants			(2004)
Bog Rosemary <i>Andromeda polifolia</i>	-	-	VU
Common Cranberry <i>Oxycoccus palustris</i>	-	-	VU
Spoon-leaf Sundew <i>Drosera intermedia</i>	-	-	NT
Moss species			(2004)
<i>Calliergon giganteum</i>	-	-	EN
Mushrooms			(2004)
<i>Tricholoma fulvum</i>	-	-	VU
<i>Entoloma elodes</i>	-	-	EN
<i>Mycena megaspora</i>	-	-	VU
<i>Psilocybe turficola</i>	-	-	NT
Non-breeding birds			
Common Crane <i>Grus grus</i>	A127	I	-
Breeding birds			(2004)
Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	A224	I	VU
Bluethroat <i>Luscinia svecica</i>	A272	I	LC
Reptiles			(2004)
Smooth Snake <i>Coronella austriaca</i>	-	-	EN

Justification criterion 3

The Deurnsche Peel en Mariapeel 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. See the tables below.

Habitat types (according to interpretation manual of EU-Habitat Directive) for which the site has been designated as a SAC. (= priority habitat type).*

Habitat code	Habitat type
H4030	European dry heaths
H7110	*Active raised bogs
H7120	Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration

Bird species (not on Annex I of the BD) for which the site has been designated as a SPA as well as their status on the National Red List (2004).

Species	Species code	National RL category
Non-breeding birds		
Tundra Bean Goose <i>Anser fabalis ssp. Rossicus</i>	A039	-
White-fronted Goose <i>Anser albifrons</i>	A041	-
Breeding birds		
Little Grebe <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	A004	LC
Stonechat <i>Saxicola torquata</i>	A276	LC

Justification criterion 4

The site is of particular importance for several breeding and non-breeding bird species (see criterion 2 and 3), of which several species gather in relatively high population numbers in small areas during the breeding, migration or wintering periods. The site is especially known as a resting place for migrating Common Cranes *Grus grus* and Tundra Bean Goose *Anser fabalis ssp. Rossicus*.

15. Biogeography

a) biogeographic region:

The Ramsar site belongs to the Atlantic biogeographic region.

b) biogeographic regionalisation scheme (include reference citation):

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)

16. Physical features of the site:

The site is a former raised bog. The site is fed only by rainwater, surface water as well as groundwater flow from the site to the surrounding areas. Many channels that were once used for peat excavations have been embanked in order to improve the hydrology of the site. Besides that, compartments have been constructed to better retain the water and to minimize water level fluctuations.

17. Physical features of the catchment area:

The catchment area is the wetland itself. Geologically and geomorphologically it consists of Quarternary sediments. The soil type is Alluvial. The climate according to Köppen is rainy (Cbf).

18. Hydrological values:

The hydrological values of the site include groundwater replenishment.

19. Wetland Types

a) presence:

Marine/coastal: A • B • C • D • E • F • G • H • I • J • K • Zk(a)

Inland: L • M • N • O • P • Q • R • Sp • Ss • Tp Ts • U •
Va •
Vt • W • Xf • Xp • Y • Zg • Zk(b)

Human-made: 1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6 • 7 • 8 • 9 • Zk(c)

b) dominance:

U 50%; Xp 4%; 9; Heathland and fens 9%

20. General ecological features:

Together with the nearby Groote Peel these are remnants of what once was a vast landscape with raised bogs (ca 30,000 ha in extent). Most of these Peel bogs were excavated till the sandy subsoil, though black peat partly still remains. The Deurnsche Peel en Mariapeel is a complex of fragments of active raised bog, starting regenerating raised bog, wet heathlands on resting bog and dry heaths on mineral soils, deciduous and coniferous forests, grasslands and cultivated areas en open water (ditches, channels, ponds). In some older peat pits there are well developed raised bog vegetations.

Mariapeel is characterised by a diversity of higher, dry heaths and lower wet heaths with marshy parts, open and closed forests, peat pits, channels, fens and open water. Mariaveen is an open heath landscape with some sand ridges. Restoration measures resulted in the regeneration of raised bogs again. Grauwveen is a complex of fragment of active raised bog, starting regenerating raised bog, wet and dry heathlands, marshes and forests.

Plant communities of European interest that occur are:

- *Stratiotetum*
- *Eriophoro-Caricetum lasiocarpae*
- *Erico-Sphagnetum magellanicum*
- *Erico-Betuletum pubescentis*

The site changed in the last decades from a relatively dry area with a lot of disturbance due to peat excavations to a wet and fairly tranquil area. The became important for all kinds of birds. About 125 different bird species have been recorded of which ca. 90 are breeding birds. It is an important breeding area for species of heath lands (Nighthawk, Stonechat), small scaled open water with marshes (Little Grebe) and marshes (Bittern, Blue Throat). It is also important for migrating birds: in winter bean goose use it as sleeping place, many migrating waders rest and forage in the shallow fens with their bold, muddy banks and in autumn Common cranes roost here.

Only Mariapeel is suitable for recreation (hiking, bird watching). Hiking is also possible in the Deurnsche Peel, though larger parts are physically not accessible.

21. Noteworthy flora:

Most noteworthy flora is listed under no. 14. Below are some other noteworthy species.

Noteworthy flora. (Year of adoption of the National Red List between brackets).

Species(group)	National RL category
Vascular plants	(2004)
Spoon-leaf Sundew <i>Drosera intermedia</i>	NT
Mush rooms	(2004)
<i>Psilocybe turficola</i>	NT

22. Noteworthy fauna:

Most noteworthy fauna is listed under no. 14.

23. Social and cultural values:

a) Describe if the site has any general social and/or cultural values e.g., fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological sites, social relations with the wetland, etc. Distinguish between historical/archaeological/religious significance and current socio-economic values:

See 25. Current land use.

b) Is the site considered of international importance for holding, in addition to relevant ecological values, examples of significant cultural values, whether material or non-material, linked to its origin, conservation and/or ecological functioning?

No

24. Land tenure/ownership:

a) within the Ramsar site:

The site is owned by Staatsbosbeheer.

b) in the surrounding area:

Surrounding area: several private owners.

25. Current land (including water) use:

a) within the Ramsar site:

Diary farming <5%, Residential (scattered) <5%, Leisure and tourism 35 - 65%, Water management >95%.

b) in the surroundings/catchment:

Agriculture, atmospheric deposition of nutrients from bio-industry.

26. Factors (past, present or potential) adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land (including water) use and development projects:

a) within the Ramsar site: (A = serious threat covering large part of the area; B = moderate threat or local threat; C = minor threat):

Agricultural intensification/ expansion (B - acidification, overgrazing); Drainage (B - sprinkling (WW 1996)); Infrastructure (B - construction of roads, cycle paths, bridges, tracks etc.); Natural events (B - scrub encroachment in northern part not fully suppressed); Recreation/ tourism (B - see also infrastructure).

b) in the surrounding area:

Drainage

27. Conservation measures taken:

a) List national and/or international category and legal status of protected areas, including boundary relationships with the Ramsar site:

- Special Protection Area 'Deurnsche Peel en Mariapeel' (Birds Directive 79/409/EEC).
- Special Area of Conservation 'Deurnsche Peel en Mariapeel' (Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC).
- Natura2000 site.

b) If appropriate, list the IUCN (1994) protected areas category/ies which apply to the site:

Ia ; Ib ; II ; III ; IV ; V ; VI

c) Does an officially approved management plan exist; and is it being implemented?:

The Ramsar site matches 100% with the designation for Natura 2000.
The process for the Natura 2000-management plan has been started.

d) Describe any other current management practices:

Nothing particular

28. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

Nothing particular

29. Current scientific research and facilities:

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 others the Deurnsche Peel en Mariapeel).

30. Current communications, education and public awareness (CEPA) activities related to or benefiting the site:

Excursions.

31. Current recreation and tourism:

See 25. Current land use. Number of visitors not known

32. Jurisdiction:

Municipalities Deurne, Horst aan de Maas and Sevenum; Functional jurisdiction (conservation purposes): Ministry of Economic Affairs.

33. Management authority:

Management authorities:

- Staatsbosbeheer, P.O. Box 1300, 3970 BH Driebergen, the Netherlands, tel. +31 (0)30-6926111
- Natuurmonumenten, P.O. Box 9955, 1243 ZS 's-Graveland, tel. +31 (0)35 655 99 33.

34. Bibliographical references:

- 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. Hoog Nederland Natura 2000-gebieden. KNNV-Uitgeverij. 360p.
- Ministerie van LNV, 2009. Besluit Natura 2000-gebied Deurnsche Peel en Mariapeel.
- Van Roomen M.W.J, Boele A., van der Weide M.J.T., van Winden E.A.J, Zoetebier D. 2000. Belangrijke vogelgebieden in Nederland, 1993-97. Actueel overzicht van Europese vogelwaarden in aangewezen en aan te wijzen speciale beschermingszones en andere belangrijke gebieden. SOVON-informatierapport 2000/01. SOVON Vogelonderzoek Nederland, Beek-Ubbergen.

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