
Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

(RIS) – 2009-2012 version

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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:

Westerschelde en Saeftinghe (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:

The Netherlands have a treaty with Belgium which obliges to keep Antwerp harbour in Belgium accessible for shipping. This means that the shipping lane to Antwerp (combined with sludge disposal elsewhere in the estuary) needs to be deepened as larger ships are built. This affects geo-morphological processes like erosion and sedimentation causing silting up of side channels. This erosion of mud flats and sand flats in the intertidal area results in the loss of many hectares of forage area, for birds mainly. Without management action this would eventually have a significant negative impact on the bird numbers. Compensation is sought in the inundation of polders inland.

No major changes though, in the application of criteria since last RIS Update. The average peak number (criterion 5) is lower, though the number of species meeting the 1% threshold (criterion 6) is more or less equal. (see 14).

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:

The two Ramsar sites ‘Westerschelde’ and ‘Verdronken Land van Saeftinghe’ have also been designated as one European Natura2000 site named ‘Westerschelde & Saeftinghe’. A logical step as both sites are actually one big site. For this RIS-version, the Ramsar site boundary has therefore been adjusted to the Natura 2000-boundary, meaning that both Ramsar sites are now combined in one site. Also the name for the Natura 2000-site has been adopted.

Some small areas like the dike and harbour near the town of Breskens have been excluded from the site, while a vast area of open water especially to the west has been included within the Ramsar site.

The site has doubled in size. The new boundary resulted in an increase of +24.349,5 ha.

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

51°22’N - 03°48’E

9. General location:

Province of Zeeland. The larger cities of Vlissingen (population 44.451 per 1-1-2013; source CBS, Netherlands Statistics) and Terneuzen (population 54.729 per 1-1-2013; source CBS) in the west (Netherlands) and the city of Antwerp (Belgium; population 502.604 per 1-1-2012; source NIS, Statistics Belgium) are bordering the site.

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

NAP approx. -30 – 3 m

11. Area:

43.647,4 ha

12. General overview of the site:

The Westerschelde is the Southern branch in the original mouth of the Schelde river. At the moment it's the only estuary of the Delta with an open connection to the North Sea. It's a very dynamic area and the funnel shape causes substantial tidal variations. The estuary has shallow and deep waters, emerging sandbanks and mudflats at low tide and salt marshes. To the east one can find the largest salt (brackish) marsh of the Netherlands, the 3500ha of the Verdrongen Land van Saeftinghe. Due to the high tidal differences this salt marsh has high shores and wide gullies. To the west lies the sea inlet of the Zwarte Polder. In the mouth of the river one can also find embryonic dunes. The site is especially important for many breeding and non-breeding water birds.

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 Westerschelde en Saeftinge 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 Westerschelde en Saeftinge 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 1

The almost 44.000 ha Schelde estuary is one of the largest estuaries in Europe, while its approx. 3500 ha "Verdrongen Land van Saeftinghe" is one of the largest and most intact examples of Atlantic salt marshes in Europe. The estuary still has an open connection with the sea and its infundibular shape towards the east causes tidal variations of up to 6 meters in height. The site is located in one of the main migratory flyways and its tidal flats support many bird species in substantial numbers.

Justification criterion 2

The table below shows Annex II species (HD) and Annex I species (BD) for which the site has been designated as a SAC and SPA respectively, 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 II of the European Habitat Directive (HD) and Annex I of the European Bird Directive for which the site has been designated as a SAC and SPA respectively, as well as species of annex IV, V (HD) and some threatened species of the National Red Lists (- = Not Applicable). Year of adoption of the National Red List between brackets.

Species(group)	Species code	HD Annex	BD Annex	National RL category
Vascular plants				(2004)
Fen Orchid <i>Liparis loeselii</i>	H1903	II, IV	-	EN
Parsley water-dropwort <i>Oenanthe lachenalii</i>	-	-	-	VU
Common Scurvygrass <i>Cochlearia officinalis</i>	-	-	-	VU
Mammals				(2004)

Common or Harbour Seal <i>Phoca vitulina</i>	H1365	II, IV	-	VU
Non-breeding birds				
Little Egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	A026	-	I	-
Eurasian Spoonbill <i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	A034	-	I	-
Peregrine Falcon <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	A103	-	I	-
Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	A132	-	I	-
Kentish Plover <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	A138	-	I	-
Eurasian Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	A140	-	I	-
Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i>	A157	-	I	-
Breeding birds				
Western Marsh Harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	A081	-	I	LC
Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	A132	-	I	LC
Kentish Plover <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	A138	-	I	EN
Mediterranean Gull <i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	A176	-	I	LC
Sandwich Tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	A191	-	I	EN
Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i>	A193	-	I	VU
Little Tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i>	A195	-	I	VU
Bluethroat <i>Luscinia svecica</i>	A272	-	I	LC
Fish				
Sea Lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	H1095	II	-	LC
River Lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>	H1099	II, V	-	LC
Twaite Shad <i>Alosa fallax</i>	H1103	II, V	-	LC
Insects				
¹ <i>Epeolus tarsalis</i> ssp. <i>rozenburgensis</i>	-	-	-	VU
Molluscs				
Dun Sentinel <i>Assiminea grayana</i>	-	-	-	EN
Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail <i>Vertigo angustior</i>	H1014	II	-	EN

Justification criterion 3

The Westerschelde en Saeftinge 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; * = priority habitat type) for which the site has been designated as a SAC.

Habitat code	Habitat type
H1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time
H1130	Estuaries
H1310	<i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonizing mud and sand
H1320	<i>Spartina</i> swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>)
H1330	Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)
H2110	Embryonic shifting dunes
H2120	Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ('white dunes')
H2160	Dunes with <i>Hippophaë rhamnoides</i>
H2190	Humid dune slacks

¹ Subspecies endemic to the Province of Zeeland (and therefore also to the Netherlands).

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		
Great Crested Grebe <i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	A005	-
White-fronted Goose <i>Anser albifrons</i>	A041	-
Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i>	A043	-
Common Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	A048	-
Eurasian Wigeon <i>Anas [Mareca] penelope</i>	A050	-
Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i>	A051	-
Common Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	A052	-
Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	A053	-
Northern Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>	A054	-
Northern Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i>	A056	-
Red-breasted Merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i>	A069	-
Sea Eagle <i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	A075	-
Eurasian Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	A130	-
Common Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	A137	-
Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> ,	A141	-
Northern Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	A142	-
Knot <i>Calidris canutus islandica</i>	A143	-
Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i>	A144	-
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>	A149	-
Eurasian Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>	A160	-
Spotted Redshank <i>Tringa erythropus</i>	A161	-
Common Redshank <i>Tringa totanus totanus</i>	A162	-
Common Greenshank <i>Tringa nebularia</i>	A164	-
Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i>	A169	-
Breeding birds		
Common Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	A137	(2004) VU

Justification criterion 4

The site is of particular importance for many breeding and non-breeding bird species (see criterion 2, 3 and 6), of which several species gather in relatively small areas like breeding colonies of Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*, Little Tern *Sterna albifrons* and Sandwich Tern *Sterna andvicensis*. The site is of particular important for waterbird species of which many gather at the salt marshes of the “Verdronken Land van Saeftinge” during the migration and wintering periods.

Justification criterion 5

The site regularly supports more than 20,000 wintering waterbirds: the average peak number was 158.780 for the period 2005/2006-2009/2010, which is less than the average peak number of 211,773 for the period 1999/2000-2003/2004 (Source: Sovon, Dutch Centre for Field Ornithology).

Justification criterion 6

Species meeting the 1% threshold (WPE-4, Wetlands International 2006; Source: Sovon, Dutch Centre for Field Ornithology). (NB = nonbreeding, BR = breeding period 2006-2010 unless stated otherwise).

Species (UK)	Species	NB/ BR	Biogeographic population	1% threshold	Average number of birds between 2006-2010	% at site
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	NB	NW. Europe	600	2453	4.1
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	NB	W. Siberia/ NW-NE. Europe	15000	25896	1.7
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	NB	NW. Europe/ SW. Europe	5000	46800	9.4
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	NB	Russia/ Germany/ Netherlands	4200	4285	1.0
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	NB	East Atlantic/ W&S. Africa (win)	1200	3184	2.7
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>	NB	N. Siberia/ Europe/ West Africa	13300	41174	3.1
Knot	<i>Calidris canutus canutus</i>	NB	Western/Southern Africa (win)	3400	3438	1.0
Knot	<i>Calidris canutus islandica</i>	NB	NE-Canada/NW-Europe	4500	4613	1.0
Sandwich Tern	<i>Chlidonias sandvicensis</i>	BR	W.Europe	1700	9279	5.5
Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	NB	Europe and N/ W. Africa	10200	16036	1.6
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	NB		5900	7254	1.2
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	NB	Southwestern Africa (win)	1200	1359	1.1
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	NB	Eastern Atlantic	110	333	3.0
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	NB	Eastern Atlantic (wintering)	2500	5246	2.1
Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	NB	West Europe/ W. Med (breeding)	730	1256	1.7
Little Tern	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>	BR	W-Europe	490	582	1.2
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	BR	SW.Europe	1900	4158	2.2
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	NB	NW. Europe	3000	18670	6.2

Compared to the period of 1992-98 (previous updated version) the species *Anas acuta*, *Branta leucopsis*, *Calidris canutus canutus*, *Larus argentatus* and *Platalea leucorodia* now also meet the 1% standard, while the following species do not meet the 1%-standard anymore: *Numenius arquata*, *Tringa tetanus robusta*, *Charadrius hiaticula* and *Anas platyrhynchos*. The number of species meeting the 1% standard therefore remained more or less stable.

Justification criterion 8

The Westerschelde has among others been designated as an SAC for migratory fish species like Sea Lamprey *Petromyzon marinus*, River Lamprey *Lampetra fluviatilis* and Twaite Shad *Alosa fallax*.

15. Biogeography

a) biogeographic region:

The Ramsar site belongs to the Atlantic biogeographical region.

b) 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)

16. Physical features of the site:

The Westerschelde is the Southern branch in the original mouth of the Schelde river. The estuary is 60 km long from the Belgian border till the North Sea, close to the Voordelta in the northwest. It's 2 to 8 km wide and measures more than 40.000 ha.

At the moment it's the only estuary of the Delta with an open connection to the North Sea. It's a very dynamic area and the funnel shape causes substantial tidal variations.

With the tidal flow saline sea water enters the site. This water mixes with the freshwater, the salinity of the water decreases upstream. The eastern part of the Westerschelde is one of the most polluted areas in the Netherlands, though the water quality is improving due to measures that have been taken under the European Water Framework Directive. Recent sediments are obviously cleaner than the older ones. The pollution is imported with the Schelde-water from Belgium and also (still) originates from polluted sediments from the past. Deepening of the shipping lane to Antwerp (combined with sludge disposal elsewhere in the estuary) has affected geo-morphological processes like erosion and sedimentation causing silting up of side channels.

17. Physical features of the catchment area:

The surface area of the Schelde catchment is 21.900 km². Geologically and geomorphologically it consists mainly of Quaternary and Tertiary sediments. The general soil types are Alluvial and Podzol soils. The general land use is arable and pasture farming. The climate according to Köppen is rainy (Cbf).

18. Hydrological values:

The relatively well maintained estuarine system of the Westerschelde forms the connection between the river Schelde in Belgium and the North Sea.

The Westerschelde also receives 200 million m³ drainage water a year from adjacent polders.

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:

F G H

20. General ecological features:

From an ecological point of view, the Scheldt estuary is a unique estuary. The high dynamics (with a tidal difference up to 6m) and the presence of a fresh and salt water gradient, including a 60 km long fresh water tidal area, makes the Scheldt estuary an exceptional ecosystem in Europe.

Plant communities of European interest that occur are:

- *Salicornietum brachystachyae*
- *Salicornietum dolichostachyae*
- *Puccinellietum maritimae*
- *Plantagini-Limonietum*
- *Halimionetum portulacoidis*
- *Puccinellietum distantis*

The ecosystem services mainly refer to:

- Ability for transport to the sea harbors of Vlissingen and Antwerp;
- The ability to drain off water;
- The wetlands potential for recreation both on the water and on land.
- Fisheries

21. Noteworthy flora:

Most noteworthy flora is listed under no. 14.

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 salt marshes are partly owned by Staatsbosbeheer, Natuurmonumenten and Zeeuws Landschap. The water area of the estuary is state owned.

b) in the surrounding area:

The water (North Sea) is state owned, on land several private owners.

25. Current land (including water) use:

a) within the Ramsar site:

Dairy farming 5%, Boating 50%, Tourism and leisure 30%, Extractive operations 25%, Commercial fisheries 50%, Shipping traffic 25%, Conservation and research 11%.

b) in the surroundings/catchment:

The land-use in the immediate surrounding is dominated by farming with three medium to large industrial areas. On the broader scale of the catchment area of the Schelde river the general land-use is arable and pasture farming.

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):

- Aquaculture/ fisheries (C);
- Industrialization and urbanization (B)
- Construction: (B - development of Westerschelde Container Terminal (WCT) at Vlissingen harbour);
- Infrastructure (B - tunnel construction);
- Dredging and canalization (A – continued deepening of the channel to guarantee accessibility of the Antwerp Sea Harbour);
- Construction (B - Increase of recreational capacity of harbours);
- Pollution (not Industrial discharge) (A - eutrophication);
- Construction (B - wind mills);
- Construction (B - construction of cycle paths at the Westerschelde dikes).

b) in the surrounding area:

- Polluted Schelde water coming from Belgium (B);
- Nature compensation (C mainly for natural values lost from dredging and canalisation of the channel) by 'giving back' or connecting claimed inland polders to the tidal system of the Westerschelde (in order to create salt marshes and increase the surface area of the estuary).
- Construction (B - Increase of recreational capacity of harbours in the region and potential increase of boating).

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 Westerschelde & Saeftinge (Birds Directive 79/409/EEC, 2/4/2000)
- Special Area of Conservation Westerschelde & Saeftinge (Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC)
- Natura 2000-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 Natura2000.
The process for the Natura2000 management plan has been started.

d) Describe any other current management practices:

Nothing particular.

28. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

In order to compensate for the erosion of tidal flats in the Westerschelde there are plans to “un-polder” and connect the Hertogin Hedwige polder (approx. 300 ha in the Netherlands and Belgium) to the Verdrongen land van Saeftinghe. However, there is strong resistance against this plan from the local community as well as national politics. Other similar projects are at stake as well like Perkpolder and Waterdunen.

29. Current scientific research and facilities:

Most of the topics studied at in the Wadden Sea (ecology of seals, birds (numbers, distribution, foraging, breeding), fish, invertebrates, seagrass, sediment) are also studied and monitored in the Delta by Rijkswaterstaat (www.rws.nl), the Center for Marine and Estuarine Ecology (NIOO/CEMO, www.nioo.nl), Deltares (www.deltares.nl) and IMARES (part of the Wageningen University and Research Centre; www.imares.wur.nl) in Yerseke. One of the projects, named Moneos, monitors the effects of the deepening of the shipping lane on the morphology and ecology of the system.

Besides that, ongoing biodiversity monitoring is one of the obligatory activities in relation to the designated Natura2000 habitat types and species.

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

Observation hikes and excursions are organised in the salt marsh of the Verdrongen land van Saeftinghe. This area also has a visitor centre. The Zeeuws Landschap and Vogelbescherming Nederland regularly report about nature facts and findings.

31. Current recreation and tourism:

The Zeeuws Landschap organises some 600 excursions annually in Saeftinghe, thereby hosting some 12.000 visitors. For other visitor numbers at the site please see the recent study of Waterrecreatieadvies (2009). Water recreation at the Westerschelde is limited compared to the other sites in the Delta, mainly due to the strong tidal currents, the sites function for shipping to Antwerp and the limited number of recreational harbours. The Verdrongen land van Saeftinghe has a visitor centre and a function for excursions, bird watching etc.

32. Jurisdiction:

Territorial: Municipalities of Hulst, Sluis, Terneuzen, Borsele; Kapelle, Reimerswaal; Functional jurisdiction (conservation purposes): Ministry of Economic Affairs.

33. Management authority:

Main management authorities:

- Rijkswaterstaat (Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment), Dienst Zeeland, P.O. Box 5014, 4330 KA Middelburg, the Netherlands, +31 118 672200
- Stichting het Zeeuwse Landschap P.O. Box 25, 4450 AA Heinkenszand, the Netherlands, tel. +31 113 569110.
- 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:

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 of fairly recent publications 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 EL&I, 2009. Aanwijzingsbesluit Natura-2000 gebied Westerschelde en Saeftinghe.
- 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.
- Waterrecreatieadvies, 2009. Onderzoek vaargedrag Deltagebied.
- Wijsman, J.W.M., Sonnevile, B. de & Craeymeersch, J.A.M., 2007. Overzicht van de lopende monitoringsprojecten met betrekking tot veiligheid en natuurlijkheid in het Nederlandse gedeelte van de Schelde (Westerschelde en haar voordelta). Rapport IMARES C051/07; 65p.

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