



Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

As approved by Rec.C.4.7 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Montreux, Switzerland - July 1990

NOTE: Please read the accompanying guidelines before attempting to complete this form. An example of a completed data sheet is also included.

Completed sheets should be returned to: T.A. Jones, Ramsar Database, IWRB, Slimbridge, Gloucester GL2 7BX, England

1. Country: NORWAY 2. Date: 24/6-92 3. Ref: office use only N0014

4. Name and address of compiler: STEINAR ELDBY
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NORWAY
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5. Name of wetland: GÅSEYANE Bird Sanctuary

6. Date of Ramsar designation: 24 July 1985

7. Geographical coordinates: 78° 20' N, 11° 36' E

8. General location: (e.g. administrative region and nearest large town) situated at the western side of Spitsbergen, on three islands in the Billefjord area

9. Area: (in hectares) 100 ha

10. Wetland type: (see attached classification, also approved by Montreux Rec.C.4.7)
VA

11. Altitude: (average and/or maximum & minimum)

12. Overview: (general summary, in two or three sentences, of the wetland's principal characteristics)
Gåseyane consist of three small islands, partly vegetated and with a few freshwater ponds. Parts of the shoreline have cliffs suitable for nesting seabirds. The sanctuary has large breeding populations of Barnacle Goose, Common Eider and Arctic Tern.

13. Physical features: (e.g. geology; geomorphology; origins - natural or artificial; hydrology; soil type; water quality; water depth; water permanence; fluctuations in water level; tidal variations; catchment area; downstream area; climate)

14. Ecological features: (main habitats and vegetation types)

15. Land tenure/ownership of:

(a) site *State owned*

(b) surrounding area *state owned*

16. Conservation measures taken: (national category and legal status of protected areas - including any boundary changes which have been made; management practices; whether an officially approved management plan exists and whether it has been implemented)

Established as a bird sanctuary in June 1973 (1. 6. 73)

17. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented: (e.g. management plan in preparation; officially proposed as a protected area etc.)

None

18. Current land use: principal human activities in:

(a) site *None*

(b) surroundings/catchment *None*

19. Disturbances/threats, including changes in land use and major development projects:

(factors which may have a negative impact on the ecological character of the wetland)

(a) at the site *None*

(b) in the surroundings/catchment *None*

20. **Hydrological and physical values:** (groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilisation etc.)

21. **Social and cultural values:** (e.g. fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological site etc.)

22. **Noteworthy fauna:** (e.g. unique, rare, endangered, abundant or biogeographically important species; include count data etc.)

Important breeding area for Somateria mollissima (650 pairs 1970). Other breeding species: Sterna paradisica (400 pairs), Gavia stellata, Clangula hyemalis, Somateria spectabilis, Anser brachyrhynchos, Arenaria interpres, Phalaropus fulcarius.

23. **Noteworthy flora:** (e.g. unique, rare, endangered, or biogeographically important species/communities etc.)

24. **Current scientific research and facilities:** (e.g. details of current projects; existence of field station etc.)

Some zoological research has been carried out in the sanctuary. No facilities are available

25. **Current conservation education:** (e.g. visitors centre, hides, information booklet, facilities for school visits etc.)

None

26. **Current recreation and tourism:** (state if wetland used for recreation/tourism; indicate type & frequency/intensity)

None

27. **Management authority:** (name and address of body responsible for managing the wetland)

Sysselmannen på Svalbard (The Governor of Svalbard)
N-9170 Longyearbyen
SVALBARD, NORWAY

28. **Jurisdiction:** (territorial e.g. state/region and functional e.g. Dept of Agriculture/Dept of Environment etc.)

29. **Bibliographical references:** (scientific/technical only)

30. **Reasons for inclusion:** (state which Ramsar criteria - as adopted by Rec.C.4.15 of the Montreux Conference - are applicable)

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31. **Map of site** (please enclose the most detailed and up-to-date map available - preferably at least 1:25,000 or 1:50,000)

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