

6. Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

Categories approved by Recommendation 4.7 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.

NOTE: It is important that you read the accompanying *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document before completing this form.

1. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

June 1997

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.

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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Country: Russian Federation

3. Name of wetland: Kama-Bakaldino

Mires

4. Geographical coordinates: 56°10'-56°38'N, 44°43'-45°58'E

5. Altitude: 63-140 m a.s.l.

6. Area: 226,500 ha

7. Overview: Extensive natural and relatively intact peatland complex, including mires, lakes and surrounding forests. The wetland plays an important role in regulating hydrological regime of adjacent areas and provides breeding habitats for many waterbirds, including rare species.

8. Wetland Type (please circle the applicable codes for wetland types as listed in Annex I of the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document.)

marine-coastal: A · B · C · D · E · F · G · H · I · J · K

inland: L · M · N · O · P · Q · R · Sp · Ss · Tp · Ts
 U · Va · Vt · W · Xf · Xp · Y · Zg · Zk

man-made: 1 · 2 · 3 · 4 · 5 · 6 · 7 · 8 · 9

Please now rank these wetland types by listing them from the most to the least dominant: U, Xp, O.

9. Ramsar Criteria: (please circle the applicable criteria; see point 12, next page.)

1a 1b 1c · 1d ³ 2a · 2b · 2c · 2d ³ 3a · 3b · 3c ³ 4a · 4b

Please specify the most significant criterion applicable to the site: 1b

10. Map of site included? Please tick *yes* ✓ -or- *no*

(Please refer to the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document for information regarding desirable map traits).

11. Name and address of the compiler of this form: Sergei V.Bakka, Angelina I.Bakka.
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12. Justification of the criteria selected under point 9, on previous page: 1b - the site represents the largest peatland complex to the south of the northern taiga zone in Europe.

13. General location: Nizhni Novgorod Region (central part of European Russia, at the confluence of the Volga and the Oka rivers).

14. Physical features: Mires are represented by raised bogs, fens and various transitional types. There are 27 lakes, primarily eolian and karst ones. Pine forests cover *c.* 50,000 ha. The rest of the area is occupied by birch and aspen forests.

15. Hydrological values: Wetlands of the area act as natural filters for waters that discharge into ground water supplies and reach the Volga River and the smaller rivers: the Vetluga, Kerzhents, *etc.* They play an important role in regulating hydrological regime of adjacent areas.

16. Ecological features: Mire habitats include cotton grass swamps, peat moss bogs, sedge fens, reed fens and various transitional sedge-sphagnum, pine-birch-sphagnum, pine-birch-sedge, *etc.* mires.

Lakes are overgrown with various emergent and submerged plant associations, including reeds *Phragmites communis*, sedges *Carex*, *Nuphar*, *Sparganium* sp., *etc.*

The pine forests are primarily 30-60-years old and are represented by the following types: pine forest with *Hylocomium*, *Dicranum*, *Rhytidiadelphus* species; lichen pine forest; reedgrass forest; bog moss forest and pine forest with brake fern. There are small sites covered by 100-120-years old pine forests, with trees 15 to 25 m high.

17. Noteworthy flora: Rare plants include *Isoetes lacustris* and *I.echinospora*.

18. Noteworthy fauna: The area provides important habitats for breeding populations of waterbirds. The total number of waterbirds in the beginning of the nesting season is about 15,000 individuals; in the end of the season, this number reaches 50,000. It is also an important stop-over site for migrating birds.

The following bird species have been registered:

Peregrine falcon *Falco peregrinus*: 1 pair;

Golden eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*: 1-2 pairs;

Osprey *Pandion haliaeetus*: 3-4 pairs;

White-tailed eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla*: 1 pair;

Black-throated diver *Gavia arctica*: 2 pairs;

Ferruginous duck *Aythya nyroca*: 1 pair;

Crane *Grus grus*: *c.* 150 pairs;

Grey heron *Ardea cinerea*: 300 pairs;

Curlew *Numenius arquatus*: 400 pairs;

Gallinago media, *Tringa stagnatilis*, *T.glareola*, *Sterna hirundo*, *Haematopus ostralegus*, *Bucephala clangula*, *etc.*

19. Social and cultural values: Highly productive wild cranberry habitats covering 6,700 ha are of high value for local communities, as well as other food plants and game animals.

20. Land tenure/ownership of: State ownership

21. Current land use:

(a) site: forest cutting, planting, anti-fire activities, peat mining at an area of 200 ha, grazing, commercial and sport fishing and hunting, harvesting of berries and mushrooms.

(b) surroundings/catchment: no data.

22. Factors (past, present or potential) adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land use and development projects: No data

23. Conservation measures taken: Most wetlands within the area are protected in a number of protected areas, including the 47,000 ha Kerzhensky Zapovednik (strict nature reserve) and local nature monuments with a total area of 47,665 ha.

24. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented: The whole area is to be included in the projected 280,000 ha Kerzhensky Biosphere Reserve.

25. Current scientific research and facilities: No data

26. Current conservation education: No data

27. Current recreation and tourism: Important for recreation of the local population. There is a popular tourist route along the Kerzhents River.

28. Jurisdiction:

Territorial: Administration of the Nizhni Novgorod Region (Kremlin-2, Nizhni Novgorod 603082, Russia).

Functional: State Committee for Environmental Protection of the Russian Federation (4/6 Bolshaya Gruzinskaya Street, Moscow 123812, Russia).

29. Management authority: Department of Nature Conservation and Nature Resource Management of the Administration of the Nizhni Novgorod Region (Kremlin-2, Nizhni Novgorod 603082, Russia); Regional Committee of Environment Protection (30 Garshina Street, Nizhni Novgorod 603001, Russia).

30. Bibliographical references:
