

# 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:**

April 2002

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.

DD	MM	YY

Designation date

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Site Reference Number

**2. Country:**

Sweden

**3. Name of wetland:**

Lundåkra Bay

**4. Geographical coordinates:**

55°49'N, 012°55'E

**5. Altitude:** (average and/or max. & min.) 0 – 3.5 m

**6. Area:** (in hectares) 1 980 ha

**7. Overview:** (general summary, in two or three sentences, of the wetland's principal characteristics)

A shallow bay including adjacent shoreline and a small rivermouth, which supports significant numbers of wetland birds and constitutes an important area for fish production.

**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: A, E, 4, H, M

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

1 . 2 . 3 . 4 . 5 . 6 . 7 . 8

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

**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:**

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**Please provide additional information on each of the following categories by attaching extra pages (please limit extra pages to no more than 10):**

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**12. Justification of the criteria selected under point 9, on previous page.** (Please refer to Annex II in the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document).

1. A representative example of a near-natural wetland type (shallow marine water) in the EU Continental region
  2. >10 nationally redlisted bird species
  3. Supports particular elements of biological diversity that are characteristic of the EU Continental region
  8. Important spawning ground, nursery and feeding area, especially for flatfish and classified as nationally important for commercial fishing
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**13. General location:** (include the nearest large town and its administrative region)

The site consists of a marine coastal bay including its shoreline and a rivermouth. It is situated 16 km south-east of the town of Landskrona, in the County of Skåne, south-western Sweden. Municipalities: Kävlinge, Landskrona.

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**14. 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)

The terrestrial part of the site consists mostly of a large flat seashore meadow area, often flooded by the sea in the inner parts and partly waterlogged. The meadows within the northern part of the site (a nature reserve) are wet and more intensively grazed compared to the rest of the meadows. Some meadows in the central part of the area have been cultivated. The mouth of river Saxån divides the northern and southern parts of the site. The trampling and grazing of animals have created shallow depressions along the shoreline and the river mouth, typical for marshland areas in this province and provides suitable habitats for many species of animals including birds and amphibians. Some parts of the meadows are overgrown with reeds.

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

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**16. Ecological features:** (main habitats and vegetation types)

The *Juncus gerardii-Festuca rubra* vegetation type dominates large parts of the seashore meadows, which are devoid of trees. Closer to the shoreline *Puccinellia retroflexa*, *Scirpus maritimus* and *Phragmites australis* are more common.

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

The plant communities in the site support rare species like *Melilotus dentatus* and *Hordeum nodosum*, one of a very few localities in Sweden.

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

The northern part of the site offers very good breeding habitats for waders. Some nationally redlisted bird species nest regularly in the site such as the avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* (EU Birds directive species), dunlin *Calidris alpina schinzii* and little tern *Sterna albifrons* (EU Birds directive species). The area is a stopover site for a large number of migratory waterbirds, including several nationally redlisted species such as the bean goose *Anser fabalis*, red-breasted diver *Gavia stellata* (EU Birds directive species), bar-tailed godwit *Limosa lapponica* (EU Birds directive species), and sandwich tern *Sterna sandvicensis* (EU Birds directive species). Other migrating birds using this site include greylag goose *Anser anser* (1 000 individuals), Canada goose *Branta canadensis* (2 500), mute swan *Cygnus olor* (1 000), coot *Fulica atra*

(several hundreds) and great crested grebe *Podiceps cristatus* (several hundreds).

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

A nature reserve, partly within the site, encircles well-developed ancient seashore (formed during the Ice Age) some five meters above current sea level. The reserve is one of the least exploited coastal areas in the County and has – particularly in the south and in the river mouth - a value for recreation and tourism.

The area is classified as being of national interest for commercial fishing (flatfish, *Belone belone*, *Clupea harangus*, *Anguilla anguilla*, *Salmo trutta*, *Gadus morhua*).

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**20. Land tenure/ownership of:** (a) site (b) surrounding area

(a) Protected areas are owned privately, by the municipality and by a foundation. The rest of the site is owned privately, by the municipalities and by the state.

(b) The surrounding area is mainly owned privately and by municipalities.

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**21. Current land use:** (a) site (b) surroundings/catchment

(a) Grazing of seashore meadows

(b) Agriculture and a golf-course

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**22. Factors (past, present or potential) adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land use and development projects:** (a) at the site (b) around the site

(a) If grazing would cease, the character of the area would change and most rare elements in flora and fauna would no longer be able to survive. Any changes in the area would result in deteriorated conditions for wading birds. A motorway, running along the entire coastline, may act as a disturbance to the area, but gives passing travellers an attractive and impressive view of the flat seashore.

(b) None known

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**23. 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)

There is one nature reserve fully within the site:

Saxåns mynning Nature reserve – 28 ha. Protected since 1950. Owned privately and by municipality. No management plan.

There is one nature reserve partly within the site:

Järavallen Nature Reserve – 410 ha (some of which is outside the site). Protected since 1972. The area expanded in 1991. Owned privately and by the Foundation for Recreational Areas in Skåne. Management plan exists.

The area is classified as being of national interest for nature conservation.

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

The ambition is to turn the entire Ramsar site into a nature reserve. For the northern half of the site, in Landskrona municipality, this goal is to be reached within a near future and a management plan is also in progress. Landskrona municipality has proposed the water area as a possible marine reserve. The entire Ramsar site has been proposed as a SPA site by the government in 2000 (SE0430138 Lundåkrabukten). The County Administrative Board proposed the shallow waters as a pSCI site in 2001 (SE0430162). In the near future the County Administrative Board has the ambition to protect the whole area as a nature reserve.

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

None known

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

None known

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

The river mouth is a popular place for angling. The main part of the site is appreciated for its scenic beauty.

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

County Administrative Board of Skåne

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

County Administrative Board of Skåne

S-205 15 Malmö

Sweden

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

Knutsson, L., Larsson, A. & Tynelius, S. 1975. Saxåns utlopp. - Biologisk inventering samt förslag till skötselplan. Statens Naturvårdsverk, PM 586 (in Swedish).

Jönsson, P.-E. & Kananen, P. 1993. Flygeltofta ängar – Saxåns mynning. Häckfågelinventering 1991 och 1992. Skånes Ornitologiska Förening (in Swedish).

Green, M. 1999. Bar-tailed Godwits *Limosa lapponica* on south Swedish shores in spring – emergency stopovers or a regular occurrence? *Ornis Svecica* Vol. 9, No. 3, pp. 133-142.

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