

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

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Sweden

3. Name of wetland:

Mossaträsk - Stormyran

4. Geographical coordinates:

63°50'N, 017°19'E

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.) 405 - 450 m

6. Area: (in hectares) 950 ha

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

The site is highly valued for its well-developed string flark fen and its valuable forested fens. Ornithological values are also high.

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 . Q . 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.)

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:

Isabell Olevall, Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, S-106 48 Stockholm, Sweden
Eva Nohlgren, County Administrative Board of Gävleborg, S- 801 70 Gävle, Sweden
Torsten Larsson, Swedish EPA, S-106 48 Stockholm, Sweden

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

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 natural wetland type (non-forested peatland) in the EU Boreal region.
 2. Supports 2 nationally redlisted bird species.
-

13. General location: (include the nearest large town and its administrative region)

The site consists of a large mire complex, situated 74 km north of the town of Sollefteå, in the County of Västernorrland, north-eastern Sweden. Municipality: Örnsköldsvik.

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)

Mossaträsk-Stormyran is one of the largest forest-mire complexes in the County. The landscape is relatively flat. The flarks (flark = seemingly bottomless pool) in the site are at several places very large (up to a few hectares). Bedrock constitutes of granites and soil cover is peat and sandy/gravel moraine.

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

The area is by large unaffected by human activities, which contributes to the maintenance of water quality.

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

The site contains a large, well-developed string flark fen with large flarks and waterlogged areas. There are also valuable forested fens, wetland spruce *Picea abies* forests along the mires and forested, solid ground 'islets'. Vegetation is mainly poor to intermediate.

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

The site is highly valued for its magnitude, diversity and the well-developed string flark mire, rather than for individual species.

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

Ornithological values are high. Among the nesting species are the ruff *Philomachus pugnax* and jack snipe *Limnocyptes minimus*. The bean geese *Anser fabalis* has been observed within the site. The two latter species are nationally redlisted and ruff is included in the EU Birds directive. The broad-billed sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus* is also observed. The site is one of the absolute foremost areas for mire birds in the County.

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

None known

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

- (a) The Government owns the protected area.
 - (b) The forestland is privately and company owned.
-

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

- (a) Nature reserve
 - (b) Forestry
-

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) Within the site, some streams have been partially drained to improve hay production, which used to take place in parts of the mire. In the border area of the site there are some old, overgrown ditches, which today have little impact on the site. There are traces of old time tree felling; stumps are found in the whole area. Modern forestry has occurred locally in some of the border areas of the site, but in general there has been no tree felling within the site. There are remains of burned trees, showing that even wet areas have been subject to forest fires.

(b) Potential factors are forestry and drainage, which may affect the border areas of the site.

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)

Almost the entire site is protected as Mossaträsk-Stormyran Nature Reserve (896 ha) since 1998. Management plan exists. Included in the National Mire Protection Plan.

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

Mossaträsk SE0710144 has been proposed to the Natura 2000 network as both pSCI and SPA site. The area is also a LIFE-object. The site is intended to develop under natural processes (e.g. fires and storms).

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

None known

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

Information-signs for visitors

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

Sparsely used for recreation, e.g. bird-watching and cross-country-skiing, due to remoteness.

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

County Administrative Board of Västernorrland

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

County Administrative Board of Västernorrland

S-871 86 Härnösand

Sweden

30. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

Björkbäck, F. 1970. Skyddsvärda myrar i Västernorrlands län. Stencil vid länsstyrelsen.

Grundström, S & Uppsäll, S. 1994. Skyddsvärda våtmarker i Västernorrlands län. Länsstyrelsen.

Muhr, M. 1985. Mossaträsk - Stormyran. En detaljinventering. Opublicerad, länsstyrelsen.

Naturvårdsverket. 1994. Myrskyddsplan för Sverige. Naturvårdsverket.

Nihlén, P & Uebel, J. 1995. Förslag till kombinerade skogs- myrreservat i Västernorrlands län. Opublicerad, Länsstyrelsen.

Simonsson, P. & Dynesius, M. 1980. Fågelmyrar i Västernorrlands län, en ornitologisk inventering. Länsstyrelsen.

Please return to: **Ramsar Convention Bureau, Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 GLAND, Switzerland**

Telephone: +41 22 999 0170 • Fax: +41 22 999 0169 • e-mail: ramsar@hq.iucn.org