



# Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 27 March 2017

Update version, previously published on : 1 January 2008

## Sweden Sjaunja



Designation date	5 December 1974
Site number	32
Coordinates	67°23'24"N 19°26'27"E
Area	181 333,00 ha

## Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a 'full' Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

## 1 - Summary

### Summary

The site is situated in the mountainous area of northern Sweden. Sjaunja which is also a nature reserve is part of the Laponian World heritage area. The site has a virgin wilderness containing a wide range of habitats. The central parts are dominated by one of the largest mire complexes in Europe, dominated by string mires but also containing palsa mires. There are also large areas of primeval western taiga and mountain birch woodland, alpine heaths, grasslands, open marshes and shallow freshwater lakes.

More than 150 species of birds have been observed, of them around 100 species breed in the area (about 50 of them are wetland species), including many birds of prey. The area supports at least 25 mammal species including regularly occurring brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), lynx (*Lynx lynx*), wolverine (*Gulo gulo*) and otter (*Lutra lutra*).

## 2 - Data & location

### 2.1 - Formal data

#### 2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

##### Compiler 1

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#### 2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year	2008
To year	2015

#### 2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Sjaunja
Unofficial name (optional)	Sjaunja (peatland); originally designated as Sjaunja-Kaitum

#### 2.1.4 - Changes to the boundaries and area of the Site since its designation or earlier update

(Update) A. Changes to Site boundary	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>
(Update) The boundary has been delineated more accurately	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(Update) The boundary has been extended	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Update) The boundary has been restricted	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Update) B. Changes to Site area	the area has decreased
(Update) The Site area has been calculated more accurately	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(Update) The Site has been delineated more accurately	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(Update) The Site area has increased because of a boundary extension	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Update) The Site area has decreased because of a boundary restriction	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS?	Yes (likely)
(Update) Are the changes	Positive <input type="radio"/> Negative <input type="radio"/> Positive & Negative <input checked="" type="radio"/>
(Update) No information available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(Update) Changes resulting from causes operating within the existing boundaries?	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Update) Changes resulting from causes operating beyond the site's boundaries?	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Update) Changes consequent upon site boundary reduction alone (e.g., the exclusion of some wetland types formerly included within the site)?

(Update) Changes consequent upon site boundary increase alone (e.g., the inclusion of different wetland types in the site)?

(Update) Please describe any changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar Site, including in the application of the Criteria, since the previous RIS for the site.

The boundary has been slightly changed. Now it's the old GIS-boundary that has been made the formal boundary. The changes are not visible when comparing with the map in the last report (which was based upon the GIS-boundary and not on the decided boundary on paper). But there are changes between the new boundary and the old original paper map.

(Update) Is the change in ecological character negative, human-induced AND a significant change (above the limit of acceptable change) Yes

## 2.2 - Site location

### 2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

#### b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps

#### Boundaries description

The Ramsar Site corresponds to the Natura 2000 site.

### 2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

### 2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes  No

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes  No

### 2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha):

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries

### 2.2.5 - Biogeography

#### Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
WWF Terrestrial Ecoregions	Scandinavian-Russian taiga
Bailey's Ecoregions	130 Subarctic Division
Other scheme (provide name below)	Scandinavian montane birch forest and grasslands
Udvardy's Biogeographical Provinces	West Eurasian Taiga
Other scheme (provide name below)	Scandinavian-Russian taiga
Freshwater Ecoregions of the World (FEOW)	Ecoregion 406 Northern Baltic drainages
EU biogeographic regionalization	Alpine

#### Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

EEA, 2002. Digital Map of the European Ecoregions (DMEER) - "Scandinavian montane birch forest and grasslands" and "Scandinavian-Russian taiga"  
TEOW: "Scandinavian montane birch forest and grasslands" and "Scandinavian-Russian taiga"

### 3 - Why is the Site important?

#### 3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

- Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

Other reasons

The central parts of the site are dominated by one of the largest mire complex in Europe, including watercourses, lakes and virgin forests. The wetlands are dominated by aapa mires, but there are also palsamires, contributed with diverse geomorphological elements such as glaciofluvial gullies and tundra polygons. There are also mineral rich and alkaline fens at the site. The wetlands are representative for the TEOW ecoregions: "Scandinavian montane birch forest and grasslands" and "Scandinavian-Russian taiga". The mixed forests of pine or spruce are replaced by mountain birch forest on higher altitudes. In the south exposed areas with easy weathered bedrocks of limestone the vegetation gets very lush and rich of species. Herb rich meadows and herb rich birch forests are widely dispersed. The great variation among the higher fauna lacks corresponding areas in Sweden.

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities







- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

Sjaunja is best known for the wetlands with their abundant bird life. More than 150 bird species are observed, (100 breeding). 50 of those are wetland species. There are many species of birds of prey present. Around 25 mammals including large predators have been observed. The site also contains rare types of vegetation, for example mineral rich fens. The flora and fauna at the site is a good example of Alpine and Boreal species within the EU.





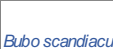

















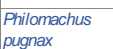









- Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions



#### 3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
<i>Carex heleonastes</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (EN)	See text box below the table and under 3.1.
<i>Carex tenuiflora</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See text box below the table and under 3.1.
<i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT). EC Habitats Directive Annex II.	See text box below the table and under 3.1.
<i>Ranunculus lapponicus</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See text box below the table and under 3.1.
<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	EC Habitats Directive Annex II.	See text box below the table and under 3.1.
<i>Viola selkirkii</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT)	See text box below the table and under 3.1.

Criterion 2 and 3: For all species, their status in the Swedish Red List and general information for that classification etc can be found at <http://artfakta.artdatabanken.se/>. Observations can be found in [www.artportalen.se](http://www.artportalen.se).

## 3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
<b>Birds</b>																		
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Arthus cervinus</i>	Red-throated Pipit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU). EC Birds Directive, Annex I.	Breeding site. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Apus apus</i>	Common Swift	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 vulnerable (VU).	Breeding site. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Bubo scandiacus</i>	Snowy Owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (CR). EC Birds Directive, Annex I. Experts are now evaluating the risk that the world population of snowy owl is much smaller than expected, it may change from LC in the global Red List in a near future.	Breeding site, suitable during years with lot of prey. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>	Lapland Longspur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU).	Breeding site. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Emberiza pusilla</i>	Little Bunting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU). EC Birds Directive, Annex I.	Breeding site. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Emberiza rustica</i>	Rustic Bunting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish red list (VU).	Breeding. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Falco rusticolus</i>	Gyr Falcon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU). EC Birds Directive, Annex I.	Breeding. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Gallinago media</i>	Great Snipe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT). EC Birds Directive, Annex I.	Breeding, mating display. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	White-tailed Eagle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT). EC Birds Directive, Annex I.	Foraging site. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Bar-tailed Godwit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU). EC Birds Directive, Annex I.	Breeding site. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Ruff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4900			LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU). EC Birds Directive, Annex I.	Breeding site. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Picoides tridactylus</i>	Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker; Three-toed Woodpecker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT). EC Birds Directive, Annex I.	See text box below the table and under 3.1 and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Strix nebulosa</i>	Great Gray Owl; Great Grey Owl	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT). EC Birds Directive, Annex I.	Breeding site. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
<b>Others</b>																		
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	 <i>Gulo gulo</i>	Wolverine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU). EC Habitats Directive, Annex II	See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	 <i>Lutra lutra</i>	European Otter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT). EC Habitats Directive, Annex II	Regular observations. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	 <i>Lynx lynx</i>	Eurasian Lynx	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU). EC Habitats Directive, Annex II	Regular observations. See text box below the table and in 3.1.	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence <sup>1)</sup>	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	<i>Ursus arctos</i> 	Brown Bear	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT). EC Habitats Directive, Annex II	Regular observations. See text box below the table and in 3.1.

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

Criterion 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8: For all species, their status in the Swedish Red List and general information for that classification etc can be found at <http://artfakta.artdatabanken.se/>. Observations can be found in [www.artportalen.se](http://www.artportalen.se).

### 3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
Palsa mires (EU 7320)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The mires are mainly minerotrophic, excluding the palsas, which are peat mounds with sporadic permafrost. The palsas are usually 2-4 metres high, but up to 7 metres high palsas.	Habitat in the EU Habitats Directive, Annex I. The habitat type has a bad conservation status in Sweden.
Alkaline fens (EU 7230)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wetlands mostly or largely occupied by peat- or tufa-producing small sedge and brown moss communities developed on soils permanently waterlogged, with a soligenous or topogenous base rich, often calcareous water supply	Habitat in the EU Habitats Directive, Annex I. The habitat type has an unfavourable conservation status in the boreal part of Sweden.
Fennoscandian mineral-rich springs and spring fens (EU 7160)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Springs and spring fens are characterized by continuous flow of ground-water. The water is cold, of even temperature, and rich in oxygen and minerals, due to the rapid percolation.	Habitat in the EU Habitats Directive, Annex I. The habitat type has an unfavourable conservation status in the boreal part of Sweden.

## 4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

### 4.1 - Ecological character

The site comprises landscape features as open water, mire moraine ridges, mountain slopes, glacio-fluvial channels and tundra polygons. The central part of Sjaunja is dominated by one of the largest mire complex in Europe. The wetlands in the central parts of Sjaunja are dominated by aapa mires with large string mires but there are also palsa mires, mineral rich and alkaline fens at the site. In the west, the highest mountains reach an altitude of 1700 meters above the sea level. Alpine heaths and grassland dominates at higher altitudes in the west and mountain birch forests at lower altitudes. In some south exposed areas with easy weathered bedrock of limestone the vegetation gets very lush with a high diversity of species. The central and eastern parts of Sjaunja have large areas of primeval western taiga.

The great variation among the higher fauna life lacks corresponding areas in Sweden. More than 150 different species of birds have been observed, (100 breeding). About 25 different mammals have been noted in Sjaunja and bear, lynx, wolverine and otter are regularly seen in the area.

### 4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

#### Inland wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
Fresh water > Flowing water >> M: Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks		3	202	Representative
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		2	3688	Representative
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		0		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non-forested peatlands		1	33878	Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic or peat soils >> Va: Montane wetlands		0		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands		0		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> Xp: Permanent Forested peatlands		0		Representative

### 4.3 - Biological components

#### 4.3.1 - Plant species

<no data available>

#### 4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species



Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aegolius funereus</i>	Boreal Owl				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anser fabalis</i>	Bean Goose				Swedish Red List 2015 (NT).
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Golden Eagle				Swedish Red List 2015 (NT), EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Short-eared Owl				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Charadrius morinellus</i>	Eurasian Dotterel				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	Whooper Swan				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker				Swedish Red List 2015 (NT).
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	Merlin				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	Arctic Loon;Black-throated Loon				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Red-throated Diver;Red-throated Loon				Swedish Red List 2015 (NT), EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Glaucidium passerinum</i>	Eurasian Pygmy Owl				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Grus grus</i>	Common Crane				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	Bluethroat				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey;Western Osprey				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	Red-necked Phalarope				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	European Golden Plover;European Golden-Plover				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Bank Swallow;Sand Martin				Swedish Red List 2015 (NT).
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Arctic Tern				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Strix uralensis</i>	Ural Owl				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Sumia ulula</i>	Northern Hawk Owl;Northern Hawk-Owl				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	Wood Sandpiper				EC Birds Directive, Annex I.

## 4.4 - Physical components

### 4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
D: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with cold winters	Dfc: Subarctic (Severe winter, no dry season, cool summer)

Sjaunja is situated partly in the alpine region with relatively harsh conditions during the winter season.

### 4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

- Entire river basin  
 Upper part of river basin  
 Middle part of river basin  
 Lower part of river basin  
 More than one river basin  
 Not in river basin  
 Coastal

Please name the river basin or basins. If the site lies in a sub-basin, please also name the larger river basin. For a coastal/marine site, please name the sea or ocean.

Sjaunja is rich in lakes and streams: the site has over 150 lakes. The northwest drains into Kaitum river, a tributary to the river Kalix river. The middle and eastern part drains into river Lina river that enters the river Ångesån that finally enters the Kalix river. The southern part drains to the Lule river. Both the major rivers (Kalix river and Lule river) have their outlet in the Bothnian bay (Baltic Sea).

#### 4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Organic

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

No available information

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)? Yes  No

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

The bedrock in the area is mainly acid. Some parts consist of alkaline bedrock with a high diversity of vascular plants. Moraine and sand dominates in the area and open bedrock exists in the western parts in the mountains with peaks reaching about 1700 meters above the sea level. In the area one can find geomorphological elements such as glacio-fluvial gullies and tundra polygons.

#### 4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Usually permanent water present	

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source	Changes at RIS update
Water inputs from rainfall	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Water inputs from groundwater	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Water inputs from surface water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Water destination

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
To downstream catchment	unknown

Stability of water regime

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Water levels largely stable	No change
Water levels fluctuating (including tidal)	No change

Please add any comments on the water regime and its determinants (if relevant). Use this box to explain sites with complex hydrology.

Because the Ramsar site and the Nature reserve borders the river Lule älv, some of the closest lying lakes and streams may be affected by the water regulation due to hydropower plants. The same goes for the water reservoir Satihaure and the upper part of Teusadalen which is affected by the regulation of Sitasjaure.

#### 4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant erosion of sediments occurs on the site

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Sediment regime is highly variable, either seasonally or inter-annually

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Sediment regime unknown

#### 4.4.6 - Water pH

Acid (pH<5.5)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Alkaline (pH>7.4)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Unknown

Please provide further information on pH (optional):

For more information on Sjaunja and the linked waters, visit URL: <http://www.viss.lansstyrelsen.se/ProtectedAreas.aspx?protectedAreaEUID=SE0820216&showallwaters=true>  
 Sjaunja including the nature reserve has 133 linked waters connected to the area and pH for each one of these waters give an assembled picture of the water quality of the site.

#### 4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (0.5-30 g/l)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Hyperhaline/Hypersaline (>40 g/l)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Unknown

Please provide further information on salinity (optional):

For more information on Sjaunja and the linked Waters, please visit URL:  
<http://www.viss.lansstyrelsen.se/ProtectedAreas.aspx?protectedAreaEUID=SE0820216&showallwaters=true>  
 Sjaunja including the nature reserve has 133 linked waters connected to the area and salinity for each one of these waters give an assembled picture of the water quality of the site.

#### 4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Mesotrophic

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Oligotrophic

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Dystrophic

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Unknown

Please provide further information on dissolved or suspended nutrients (optional):

For more information on Sjaunja and the linked Waters, please visit URL:  
<http://www.viss.lansstyrelsen.se/ProtectedAreas.aspx?protectedAreaEUID=SE0820216&showallwaters=true>  
 Sjaunja including the nature reserve has 133 linked waters connected to the area and facts on dissolved or suspended nutrients for each one of these waters give an assembled picture of the water quality of the site.

#### 4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the i) broadly similar  ii) significantly different  site itself:

- Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development
- Surrounding area has higher human population density
- Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use
- Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types

Please describe other ways in which the surrounding area is different:

Sjaunja spans over a vast area and the surroundings are therefore sometimes broadly similar and sometimes more different. The site is mainly surrounded by alpine habitats, forests and mires of which several are protected. Muddus national park and Stubba nature reserve are merely extensions of the wetlands in Sjaunja. To the east there are some forest affected by forestry. The city of Gällivare is situated east of Sjaunja.

### 4.5 - Ecosystem services

#### 4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

##### Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Food for humans	Sustenance for humans (e.g., fish, molluscs, grains)	Low
Wetland non-food products	Livestock fodder	Low

##### Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Erosion protection	Soil, sediment and nutrient retention	High
Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	High

##### Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	High
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	High
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	High
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	High

Within the site: 100s

Outside the site: 1000s

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site? Yes  No  Unknown

#### 4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

i) the site provides a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland

ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland

##### Description if applicable

It is an inaccessible area, despite that there are tracks from settlers. Several former settlers' homes lie in Sjaunja (Akkavaara and Måsskejávrr) in the Eastern parts where they mowed the wetlands. The farms are used as holiday homes today. Reindeer management has been present in the area for a long time. The reserve is an important reindeer foraging area belonging to the reindeer herding districts Unna Cearus and Báste Cearru (Sörkaitum).

In this vast area, archaeological surveys have only been performed in the eastern part. The archaeological sites are remains from hunting and gathering societies as well as reindeer husbandry. There are also remains connected to forestry

iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples

iv) relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland

##### Description if applicable

There is a place of sacrifice of sami origin close to the lake Leáffasáiva.

There are also 318 registered ancient remains in Sjaunja Nature Reserve, which is larger than the Ramsar site.

#### 4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

## 5 - How is the Site managed? (Conservation and management)

### 5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

#### 5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

##### Public ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
National/Federal government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

##### Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### 5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:

The organisation Laponiatjuottjudus is responsible for the management of Sjaunja. It is not an authority, all permits and regulations etc are handled by the County Administrative Board of Norrbotten. For more info on Lapponia visit: <http://lapponia.nu/>

Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:

Naturvårdsenheten, County Administrative Board of Norrbotten

Postal address: Stationsgatan 5  
971 86 Luleå  
Sweden

E-mail address: [norrbotten@lansstyrelsen.se](mailto:norrbotten@lansstyrelsen.se)

### 5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

#### 5.2.1 - Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site's ecological character

##### Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Canalisation and river regulation	High impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

##### Energy production and mining

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Mining and quarrying		High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

##### Transportation and service corridors

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Unspecified			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

##### Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Unspecified/others	Low impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	unknown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	unknown

##### Natural system modifications

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Dams and water management/use	Medium impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	unknown

##### Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Air-borne pollutants	Medium impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	unknown

Please describe any other threats (optional):

In winter, there is some disturbance from the use of snowmobiles. During the snow-free season there is disturbance from terrain vehicles eg four-wheelers.

The use of terrain vehicles is prohibited except for those with permits issued by the County Administrative Board of Norrbotten. Snow mobiles may only travel on authorised routes on snow-covered ground.

There are reports from rangers that poaching occurs, mainly elk, predators and birds are targets for poachers.

## 5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

### Global legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
World Heritage site	Laponia	<a href="http://laponia.nu/">http://laponia.nu/</a>	partly

### Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	See national legislation below.		partly

### National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000 SAC (1)	Sjaunja		partly
EU Natura 2000 SAC (2)	Stubba	<a href="http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norr-botten/SiteCollectionDocuments/Sv/djur-och-natur/skyddad-natur/Naturreservat/Gallivare/Beslut%20och%20BP/Stubba_BP_2007.pdf">http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norr-botten/SiteCollectionDocuments/Sv/djur-och-natur/skyddad-natur/Naturreservat/Gallivare/Beslut%20och%20BP/Stubba_BP_2007.pdf</a>	partly
EU Natura 2000 SPA	Sjaunja		partly
Nature reserve (1)	Sjaunja	<a href="http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norr-botten/Sv/djur-och-natur/skyddad-natur/naturreservat/gallivare/Pages/sjaunja.aspx">http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norr-botten/Sv/djur-och-natur/skyddad-natur/naturreservat/gallivare/Pages/sjaunja.aspx</a>	partly
Nature reserve (2)	Stubba	<a href="http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norr-botten/Sv/djur-och-natur/skyddad-natur/naturreservat/gallivare/Pages/stubba.aspx">http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norr-botten/Sv/djur-och-natur/skyddad-natur/naturreservat/gallivare/Pages/stubba.aspx</a>	partly
site of national importance for nature conservation (1)	Sjaunja		partly
site of national importance for nature conservation (2)	Muddus		partly

### Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Sjaunja	<a href="http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/sjaunja-iba-sweden">http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/sjaunja-iba-sweden</a>	partly

## 5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

Ia Strict Nature Reserve

Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection

II National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation

III Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features

IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention

V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation

VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

## 5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

## Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

## Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Implemented

## 5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? Yes

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes  No

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning processes with another Contracting Party? Yes  No

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

Sjaunja is also a part of the World heritage area Laponia. There are information booklets describing the area and a visitors' centre, Naturum, in Stora Sjöfallet opened in 2014.

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant):

## 5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? No need identified

## 5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented
Water quality	Implemented
Animal species (please specify)	Implemented

Animal species like Gulo gulo, Ursus Arctos, Lynx Lynx, Falco rusticolus and Aquila chrysaetos has national action plans or is part of the national and regional management of predators.

Natura 2000 sites are linked to a monitoring program of which the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency are responsible for. Habitats, species, plausible threats are examples of what is being monitored. For more info visit URL: [http://www.naturvardsverket.se/Stod-i-miljoarbetet/Vagledning/Miljoovervakning/Uppfoljning-i-skyddade-omraden/](http://www.naturvardsverket.se/Stod-i-miljoarbetet/Vagledning/Miljoovervakning/Uppfoljning-i-skyddade-omraden/Manualer-for-uppfoljning-i-skyddade-omraden/).

Two of the palsa mires (Nujare och Tjirjam) in the reserve are being monitored in a National surveillance program called Klimatrelaterad övervakning (Regionalt miljöövervakningsprogram Övervakning av palsmyrar). For reports visit URL: <http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrboten/Sv/miljo-och-klimat/tillstandet-i-miljon/vatmark/miljoovervakning/overvakning-av-palsmyrar/Pages/default.aspx>.

Also some standard routes from the National surveillance program for birds called Svensk fågeltaxering (Regionalt miljöövervakningsdelprogram Häckande fåglar) are within Sjaunja. For reports visit URL: <http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrboten/Sv/miljo-och-klimat/tillstandet-i-miljon/landskap-strander/miljoovervakning/hackande-faglar/Pages/default.aspx>.

## 6 - Additional material

### 6.1 - Additional reports and documents

#### 6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

European Environment Agency. 2003. Europe's environment: the third assessment, p 231. Environmental assessment report No 10. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities.

Gärdefors, U. (remissversion) 2015. Rödlistade arter i Sverige 2015 - The 2015 Red List of Swedish Species. Artdatabanken, SLU, Uppsala.

Länsstyrelsen <http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrboten/Sv/djur-och-natur/skyddad-natur/naturresevat/gallivare/Pages/sjaunja.aspx>

VISS <http://www.viss.lansstyrelsen.se/ProtectedAreas.aspx?protectedAreaEUID=SE0820216&showallwaters=true> <br> Naturvårdsverket, 2011. Åtgärdsprogram för kungsörn 2011-2015. <http://naturvardsverket.se/sv/Om-Naturvardsverket/Publikationer/ISBN/6400/978-91-620-6430-3/>

#### 6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)

<no file available>

ii. a detailed Ecological Character Description (ECD) (in a national format)

<no file available>

iii. a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

<no data available>

#### 6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Landscape view over the east parts of Sjaunja ( Länsstyrelsen i Norrbottens län, 20030821 )



Landscape view over the east parts of Sjaunja ( Länsstyrelsen i Norrbottens län, 20030821 )



Landscape view over the east parts of Sjaunja ( Länsstyrelsen i Norrbottens län, 20030821 )



Landscape view over the east parts of Sjaunja ( Länsstyrelsen i Norrbottens län, 20030821 )



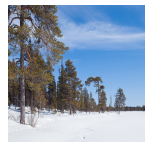
Landscape view over the east parts of Sjaunja ( Länsstyrelsen i Norrbottens län, 20030821 )



Landscape view from bicycle path. ( Länsstyrelsen i Norrbottens län, 09-09-2015 )



Sjaunja, landscape view ( Länsstyrelsen i Norrbottens län, 02-04-2013 )



Old forest in Sjaunja ( Länsstyrelsen i Norrbottens län, 02-04-2013 )

#### 6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 1974-12-05