

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:

Hovran area (river)

4. Geographical coordinates:

60°20'N, 016°03'E

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.) 90 m

6. Area: (in hectares) 4 860 ha

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

The site includes part of the Dalälven river and a number of associated freshwater lakes; Hovran, Trollbosjön, Flinssjön, Svinssjön, Aspan and part of Amungen.

The site was classified as a Ramsar site in 1988 (4 750 ha) and slightly expanded in 2001.

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: M, W, O, 4

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:

Eddie von Wachenfeldt and Torsten Larsson, Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, 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 near-natural wetland type (a river system) in the EU Boreal region
 2. 1 globally redlisted bird species, >15 nationally redlisted species, mainly birds
 3. Support particular elements of biological diversity that are particularly characteristic of the EU Boreal region
 6. Supports about 4 % (1 500 individuals) of the north-west mainland European population of *Cygnus cygnus*
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13. General location: (include the nearest large town and its administrative region)

The site is located immediately adjacent to the town of Hedemora, in the County of Dalarna, in south-east Sweden. Municipality: Hedemora.

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)

Water levels in the river and the lakes vary naturally to a certain extent, but are also subject to artificial regulation. The river plays a certain role in flood control.

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

Sedimentary plains have developed along stretches of the river Dalälven.

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

The lakes are surrounded by meadows of *Carex* spp. and grasses. All lakes except Hovran and Trollbosjön support reedbeds of *Phragmites australis*.

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

Shallow and particularly grazed shores offer suitable conditions for Isoetide plants and a rare plant society characterised by *Limosella aquatica*, as well as nationally redlisted species such as *Scirpus radicans*. The rare *Salix triandra* is characteristic for many shores.

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

The site is internationally important for staging wetland birds such as the black-throated diver *Gavia arctica* (EU Birds directive species), whooper swan *Cygnus cygnus* (peak number about 1 500 birds in the autumn, EU Birds directive species), canada goose *Branta canadensis*, and teal *Anas crecca*. Breeding species include the slavonian grebe *Podiceps auritus*, great crested grebe *P. cristatus*, osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (EU Birds directive species), curlew *Numenius arquata*, crane *Grus grus* (EU Birds directive species), greylag goose *Anser anser*, grasshopper warbler *Locustella naevia* and scarlet rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*.

The marsh harrier *Circus aeruginosus* (EU Birds directive species), corncrake *Crex crex* (globally and nationally redlisted, EU Birds directive species), quail *Coturnix coturnix* (nationally redlisted), bittern *Botaurus stellaris* (nationally redlisted, EU Birds directive species), river warbler *Locustella fluviatilis* (nationally redlisted) and marsh warbler *Acrocephalus palustris* are annual visitors and possible breeding species.

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

The Hovran area is used for nature conservation, fishing, agriculture, hay-making and livestock grazing.

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

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

- (a) The protected area is used for nature conservation, fishing, agriculture, hay-making and livestock grazing.
 - (b) The surroundings are used for agriculture and forestry.
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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) The shore meadows are gradually becoming overgrown owing to the decline of hay-making. The natural extent of flooding has decreased due to regulation of River Dalälven.
 - (b) Eutrophic watercourses affect the Hovran area by carrying nutrients from farmland and wastewater treatment plants in the surrounding. Due to energy forest cultivation and decreasing livestock farming the surrounding agricultural landscape is trivialised from a bird conservation perspective.
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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)

The site is of national interest for nature conservation and there are two nature reserves within the site; Klosters Nature Reserve - 182 ha. Protected since 1992 and owned privately. Management plan exists. Stackharen Nature Reserve - 33 ha. Protected since 1959 and owned privately. Management plan exists. Lilla Älvångens Nature Reserve - 63 ha, Protected since 1998 and owned privately. Management plan exists.

The former lake Aspan has been subject to restoration measures. Several shore meadows have been restored and grazing has been taken up again.

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

The Nature Reserve Stadssjön is currently being established.

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

Bird ringing has been carried out in the area for a long time.

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

There are four observation towers in the area.

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

The area is part of the well-visited tourist route "Husbyringen" with information regarding the nature and nature values of the area.

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

County Administrative Board of Dalarna.

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

County Administrative Board of Dalarna
S-791 84 Falun
Sweden

30. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

Hovran – en utredning om CW-området. 1994. Länsstyrelsen Dalarna, Miljövårdsenheten. 1994: 2.

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