



7 SE030

Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

As approved by Rec.C.4.7 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, Montreux, Switzerland - July 1990

NOTE: Please read the accompanying guidelines before attempting to complete this form. An example of a completed data sheet is also included.

Completed sheets should be returned to: T.A. Jones, Ramsar Database, IWRB, Slimbridge, Gloucester GL2 7BX, England

1. Country: SWEDEN 2. Date: Dec. 1991 3. Ref: office use only 7SE030
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5. Name of wetland: RIVER UMEÄLV DELTA
6. Date of Ramsar designation: 12 June 1989
7. Geographical coordinates: 63°45'N 20°20'E ✓
8. General location: (e.g. administrative region and nearest large town) In the north of Sweden at the Gulf of Bothnia, approximately 7 km south of the town of Umeå in the county of Västerbotten.
9. Area: (in hectares) 1,040 ha ✓
10. Wetland type: (see attached classification, also approved by Montreux Rec.C.4.7)
L M X
11. Altitude: (average and/or maximum & minimum)
Sea level
12. Overview: (general summary, in two or three sentences, of the wetland's principal characteristics)
The site is a flat delta area, formed by the River Umeälven, surrounded by woodlands and arable land. The area is significant as a stopover site, but it also has an interesting nesting bird population.
13. 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 area consists of a flat delta, that constantly changes and grows from the fine-grained material brought by the River Umeälven and from the land elevation process - Dredging has been done regularly to retain the river's transport function. Water levels in the delta depend on the flow of the river and the sea level. The annual variation reaches about two metres and during the nesting season about one metre. The speed of the river currents is low.
The bedrock consists of sedimentary gneiss which is of greywacke or argillitic origin.
14. Ecological features: (main habitats and vegetation types)
In the area's shallow spots, Elodea canadensis and Lemna trisulca are found. Phragmites is almost totally absent. The outer part of the shore meadows is covered with Equisetum fluviatile and low vegetation of Carex spp, which then shifts to belts of Salix and/or alluvial forest made up of Alnus glutinosa.

15. Land tenure /ownership of:

(a) site *The area is privately owned.*

(b) surrounding area

16. 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 area includes the Stora Tuva Nature Reserve (170 ha, established 16 June 1971).

The area is listed as site of national importance to nature conservation.

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

18. Current land use: principal human activities in:

(a) site *Fishing
Duck-hunting
Nature conservation.*

(b) surroundings/catchment *The surroundings are characterized by mainly woods to the east and agricultures to the west. The town of Umeå with its airport is adjacent to the river.*

19. Disturbances/threats, including changes in land use and major development projects:

(factors which may have a negative impact on the ecological character of the wetland)

(a) at the site *Plans are in progress for the re-routing of Highway E79 between Umeå and Holmsund. In one road alternative certain parts of the river's mouth could be affected. Dredging to facilitate the water flow has been done earlier and may even have to be done again in the future. Isolated dredging to ease access for small boats can have an effect on the delta land. The area's alluvial forests should be left untouched. Limitations to the amount of duck hunting and recreational fishing should be considered if these activities appear to disturb birdlife in the delta area.*

(b) in the surroundings/catchment

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

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

Figures refer to 1988

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

Nesting: *Anas penelope* (10-15 pairs), *A. crecca* (30-50), *A. acuta* (5-10),
Philomachus pugnax (about 5), *Gallinago gallinago* (30-40),
Numenius arquata (about 5), *Larus minutus* (about 10)
 and *Motacilla flava* (40-50).

Internationally significant numbers of resting birds: *Anser fabalis*
 (about 2000 birds), *Anas crecca* (about 2500), *Mergus serrator*
 (about 400), *Mergus merganser* (about 800). All these figures
 represent the highest annual maximum.

Other resting bird: *Anas penelope* (about 3800 birds), *A. acuta* (about 300),
Mergus albellus (about 50), *Calidris temminckii* (about 300),
Tringa erythropus (about 450), *T. nebularia* (about 200),
Larus minutus.

Moultling: *Mergus merganser* (500-700 birds)

outside nesting period: *Haliaeetus albicilla* (regularly).

23. Noteworthy flora: (e.g. unique, rare, endangered, or biogeographically important species/communities etc.)

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

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

There are two observation towers in the area.

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

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

The manager of the Nature Reserve is the Forest Service. Outside the reserve it's the landowner himself who manages the land.

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

Territorial and functional: County Administration of Västerbotten.

29. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

- Grimmett, R.F.A. and Jones, T.A. (1989). Important bird areas of Europe. International Council for Bird Preservation.
- Svenska våtmarker av internationell betydelse (1989). Swedish EPA Information. (English summary).

30. Reasons for inclusion: (state which Ramsar criteria - as adopted by Rec.C.4.15 of the Montreux Conference - are applicable)

1b, 1c, 2c, 3c

31. Map of site (please enclose the most detailed and up-to-date map available - preferably at least 1:25,000 or 1:50,000)

enclosed

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