



Ramsar Sites Information Service

Annotated List of Wetlands of International Importance

Germany

35 Ramsar Site(s) covering 868,905 ha

Aland-Elbe-Lowland and Elbe-wetland Jerichow

Site number: 1,307 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Districts: Jerichower Land, Stendal; State: Saxony-Anhalt; Federal Republic of Germany

Area: 8,605 ha | Coordinates: 52°44'28"N 11°50'34"E | Designation dates: 21-02-2003

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

The Site comprises two large lowland areas in the flood zones of the Elbe River, both of them Special Protection Areas (SPA) under the European Union Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds: Aland-Elbe-lowland and Elbe River meadow Jerichow. Both areas are composed of floodplain meadows which remain near-natural despite anthropogenic changes, with dynamic floodplain development and regular flooding occurring at a reduced level. The Site is also part of the Flusslandschaft Elbe Biosphere Reserve. The area is of outstanding importance for breeding, resting and wintering waterbirds, waders and grassland species; it harbours large gatherings of northern pintail (*Anas acuta*), northern shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) and bean goose (*Anser fabalis*). The Site is also an essential migration stopover for the vulnerable common pochard (*Aythya ferina*). The area offers opportunities for research and educational activities. There is some current threat to the ecological character of the Site from agricultural and forestry effluents reaching the floodplains.

Bayerische Wildalm

Site number: 1,723 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Bavaria

Area: 7 ha | Coordinates: 47°34'59"N 11°46'59"E | Designation dates: 09-10-2007

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Bayerische Wildalm. 09/10/07; Bayern; 7 ha; 47°35'N 011°47'E. Flora-Fauna-Habitat, EC Directive SPA. An area of remarkable peatland concentration in the southern state of Bavaria which extends across the frontier to the Austrian Ramsar site of the same name. The site is a karst depression, or polje, with a natural brook that vanishes into one big and several small ponors (swallow hole). The bottom of the polje is covered completely by a fen which is hydrologically controlled both by water coming from the sloping fens along the polje slopes and by periodic floods of the brook. The mires show typical features of mire type representative for the Limestone Alps, with many endangered plant species, which form the chief basis for the site's nomination to the List. Ramsar site no. 1723. Most recent RIS information: 2007.

Bodensee: Wollmatinger Ried - Giehrenmoos & Mindelsee

Site number: 89 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Baden-Württemberg
Area: 1,286 ha | Coordinates: 47°40'59"N 09°07'E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Bodensee: Wollmatinger Ried, Giehrenmoos & Mindelsee. 26/02/76; Baden-Württemberg; 1,286 ha; 47°41'N 09°07'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive, Council of Europe Diploma, Nature Reserves Landscape Reserve. Two separate sectors composed of a shallow embayment of extensive reedbeds, seasonally inundated meadows, and a small nutrient-rich lake. The site is internationally important for numerous species of breeding, staging and wintering waterbirds. Plants include endemic and notable species. Waterbird hunting has been prohibited. Human activities include research and biological monitoring, forestry, extensive fishing, recreation, urban development, agriculture and grazing. Ramsar site no. 89.

Diepholzer Moorniederung

Site number: 86 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Niedersachsen
Area: 15,060 ha | Coordinates: 52°34'N 08°48'E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Diepholzer Moorniederung. 26/02/76; Niedersachsen; 15,060 ha; 52°34'N 08°48'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive, Nature Reserves. A region of moor and peat bog on glacial sands. The raised bog areas are important for breeding and staging waterbirds. Human activities include peat extraction and drainage. Water-level management is being practiced to restore the natural raised bogs, and sheep grazing to aid the conservation of the moorlands. Ramsar site no. 86.

Donauauen & Donaumoos

Site number: 90 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Bayern
Area: 8,000 ha | Coordinates: 48°28'N 10°13'E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Donauauen & Donaumoos. 26/02/76; Bayern; 8,000 ha; 48°28'N 10°13'E. Nature Reserves. Some of the best examples of riverine wooded meadow habitat in Germany, located along the Danube River, the site includes numerous tributaries and peatbogs. The regulated river creates a succession of reservoirs important for wintering, breeding and staging various species of waterbirds. The site is important for orchid (Orchidaceae) and gentian (Gentianaceae) populations. Ongoing activities include gravel extraction, ground water abstraction, waste dumping, recreation, and afforestation. Ramsar site no. 90. Most recent RIS information: 1992.

Dümmer

Site number: 85 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Niedersachsen
Area: 3,600 ha | Coordinates: 52°31'59"N 08°22'59"E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Dümmer. 26/02/76; Niedersachsen; 3,600 ha; 52°32'N 08°23'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive, Nature Reserve. A large lake in a glaciated valley, associated wetlands include peatbogs, inland dunes, dense reedbeds and sedge meadows. An internationally important area for breeding, passage and wintering waterbirds. Human activities have included drainage and cultivation of the peatlands. Currently the lake is used as a reservoir and experiences boat traffic, intensive fishing, and holiday home construction. Restoration measures consist of sediment removal, re-establishment of temporary flooding, and fishing and hunting restrictions. Ramsar site no. 85.

Eastern shore of Lake Müritz

Site number: 172 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: District: Mecklenburgische Seenplatte; State: Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania; Federal Republic of Germany

Area: 4,974 ha | Coordinates: 53°26'34"N 12°46'21"E | Designation dates: 31-07-1978

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

The Site is a complex of lakes, of which some are artificially regulated; it also features marshes, reedbeds, peatland, pasture, woods, thickets and dry pine forest. About 20 % of the area is covered by lakes. The lakes are representative of mesotrophic to eutrophic lakes originating from the Vistula glacial stage in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania. The area is an important resting site for various waterbirds and supports a rich marsh flora and diverse invertebrate fauna. Significant numbers of tufted duck (*Aythya fuligula*), common crane (*Grus grus*) and red-crested pochard (*Netta rufina*) are present. The area offers opportunities for research and educational activities. Several biotopes and species require management measures; succession and overgrowth because of insufficient or inappropriate management are potential threats.

Elbauen, Schnackenburg-Lauenburg

Site number: 84 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Niedersachsen

Area: 7,560 ha | Coordinates: 53°07'59"N 11°04'59"E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Elbauen, Schnackenburg-Lauenburg. 26/02/76; Niedersachsen; 7,560 ha; 53°08'N 011°05'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive; Nature Reserves. Several physically disjunct areas along the middle reach of the Elbe River. An internationally important staging area for waterbirds with a few species using the site for breeding. Human activities include recreation and hunting. Management activities are focused on habitat protection for amphibians and nesting *Grus grus*. Ramsar site no. 84.

Hamburgisches Wattenmeer

Site number: 501 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Hamburg

Area: 11,700 ha | Coordinates: 53°52'59"N 08°16'59"E | Designation dates: 01-08-1990

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Hamburgisches Wattenmeer. 01/08/90; Hamburg; 11,700 ha; 53°53'N 008°17'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive; National Park. An area of the Wadden Sea consisting of sand, mudflats, islands and saltmarshes, situated near the mouth of the Elbe River. The nutrient-rich waters support high biomass production and are important for spawning fish. The site is of international importance for staging and wintering numerous species of waterbirds, and one of the most important breeding areas for several species of terns. Mammals include breeding populations of *Halichoerus grypus* and *Phoca vitulina*. Ramsar site no. 501. Most recent RIS information: 1992.

Helmestausee Berga-Kelbra

Site number: 176 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Thüringen, Sachsen-Anhalt

Area: 1,453 ha | Coordinates: 51°25'59"N 11°00'E | Designation dates: 31-07-1978

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Helmestausee Berga-Kelbra. 31/07/78; Thüringen, Sachsen-Anhalt; 1,453 ha; 51°26'N 011°00'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive; Landscape Protection Areas, Nature Protection Area, Protected Area for Waterfowl. Located in the Helme River floodplain, the site consists of a flood protection reservoir, associated reedbeds and frequently flooded wet meadows. The area includes saline springs and salt meadows surrounded by pasture and agricultural fields. The site is internationally important for wintering and staging several species of waterbirds. A few species of birds breed at the site and use the area for roosting. Human activities include intensive fish-farming, recreation and nature education. A bird observatory is located at the site. Ramsar site no. 176. Most recent RIS information: 2001.

Ismaninger water reservoir with fish ponds

Site number: 92 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: District: Munich, Erding, Ebersberg; State: Bavaria; Federal Republic of Germany

Area: 986 ha | Coordinates: 48°12'49"N 11°44'28"E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

The Site consists of an area of former fishponds which were originally used for carp breeding and are now designed for the biological treatment of wastewater from Munich, and one of the biggest reservoirs in Bavaria which was formed by the damming of the Isar River. The water in the complex is a mixture of river water and wastewater. The Site is surrounded by farmland; the banks of the reservoir are mostly devoid of vegetation, although part of the southern shoreline features a succession from reedbeds to woodland. It supports breeding birds and is internationally important for wintering and staging waterbirds: it is one of the three largest European moulting sites from June to August, including for the globally vulnerable common pochard (*Aythya ferina*), and is one of the most important wintering areas for waterfowl in Southern Germany and extremely important as a breeding area for rare water and reed birds. The Site supports more than 1% of the global population of the tufted duck (*Aythya fuligula*) and the red-crested pochard (*Netta rufina*). Human activities include seasonal hunting and fishing. Long-term monitoring is carried out.

Krakower Obersee

Site number: 171 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

Area: 870 ha | Coordinates: 53°37'N 12°18'E | Designation dates: 31-07-1978

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Krakower Obersee. 31/07/78; Mecklenburg-Vorpommern; 870 ha; 53°37'N 012°18'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive. A lake with fringing reedbeds, tall sedges and scrub, and several islands of natural woodland. The site supports the largest inland colony of *Sterna hirundo* (200 breeding pairs) in northeastern Germany and four other species of breeding birds. Human activities include commercial trout rearing, agriculture, and limited summer tourism. Research into the breeding success of birds is carried out annually. Ramsar site no. 171. Most recent RIS information: 1992.

Lake Ammer

Site number: 93 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: District: Landsberg a. Lech, Weilheim-Schongau, Fürstenfeldbruck; State: Bavaria; Federal Republic of Germany

Area: 6,386 ha | Coordinates: 48°00'21"N 11°07'35"E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

The Site in a glacial valley in the Bavaria region is a large, natural mesotrophic freshwater lake with fluctuating water levels, surrounded by end-moraine hills. The banks feature various types of reeds, moorland areas, scrubs and meadows. Some notable fish species present include the globally critically endangered Ammersee kilch (*Coregonus bavaricus*), the vulnerable char (*Salvelinus evasus*) and the endangered thick-shelled river mussel (*Unio crassus*). The Site is used for recreation, tourism and spiritual, educational, and scientific activities. Invasive species such as the spiny-cheek crayfish (*Orconectes limosus*) and the zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) currently pose a major threat to the ecological character of the Site.

Lake Chiemsee

Site number: 95 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: District: Traunstein, Rosenheim; State: Bavaria; Federal Republic of Germany

Area: 8,231 ha | Coordinates: 47°52'35"N 12°27'15"E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Chiemsee is a natural freshwater lake in south-eastern Bavaria with extensive natural shore vegetation and hydro-seral areas featuring gradual succession from open water to other land types. Many settlements at the lake have leisure facilities, mainly harbours for sailing boats. There is an important delta of the Tiroler Ache river to the south of the Site, with extensive floodplains and periodic mudflats. The Site is internationally important as a resting and wintering area for waterbirds, and it supports various breeding birds and several notable fish and plant species. It supports more than 1% of the global resting and wintering populations of birds such as the tufted duck (*Aythya fuligula*), common merganser (*Mergus merganser*) and red-crested pochard (*Netta rufina*). Notable fish species include the critically endangered whitefish (*Coregonus hoferi*) and the endangered Black Sea roach (*Rutilus meidingeri*). The Site is used for recreation, tourism, and scientific and educational purposes. Despite the fact that access and leisure activities are restricted and fish spawning areas are protected, those activities have increased in recent years and pose a potential threat to the ecological character of the Site.

Lake Galenbeck

Site number: 177 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: District: Mecklenburgische Seenplatte and Vorpommern-Greifswald; State: Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania; Federal Republic of Germany

Area: 1,040 ha | Coordinates: 53°37'44"N 13°43'42"E | Designation dates: 31-07-1978

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

The Site is a shallow lake, up to one metre in depth, with fringing reedbeds adjoining a partly forested peatland. It also includes some adjacent grassland areas and swampy forests on organic soils. The lake provides habitat for several species of breeding and passage birds, various invertebrates, and otters. The Site supports more than 1% of the global population of the gadwall (*Anas strepera*), the bean goose (*Anser fabalis*) and the common crane (*Grus grus*) for breeding or staging. The hydrological system has been severely impacted by human activities related to the drainage and cultivation of the adjacent "Friedländer Große Wiese", a former fen of 12,000 hectares, which is nowadays intensively used for grassland and cropland. In recent times, because of a restoration project realized from 2005 to 2007, the lake has started to recover and the submerged vegetation has expanded again (with 60% to 75% of the lake bed covered with macrophytes from 2008 to 2014). Eutrophication within the Site could threaten its ecological character.

Lech-Donau-Winkel

Site number: 91 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Bayern

Area: 4,014 ha | Coordinates: 48°43'59"N 11°00'E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Lech-Donau-Winkel. 26/02/76; Bayern; 4,014 ha; 48°44'N 011°00'E. Nature Reserves, EC Birds Directive SPA. Two separate reservoirs with sandbanks and mudflats, created by the damming of the Danube and Lech rivers to provide electricity and a water supply, including expanded floodplains and extensive alluvial forests, marsh areas, fens, storage lakes, quarry ponds, backwaters and extensively used greenlands. Artificial banks are devoid of vegetation. The site is an important wintering area for waterbirds, but, it now appears, not to the standard of the Ramsar Criteria. Surrounding areas consist of agricultural land and wooded meadows. There is a regulated fishing season. The site was expanded in 2007 239 ha to 4,014 ha by addition of significant floodplain areas, and the waterbird Criteria (5 and 6) were removed from the site description. Ramsar site no. 91. Most recent RIS information: 2007.

Mühlenberger Loch

Site number: 561 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Hamburg
Area: 675 ha | Coordinates: 53°31'59"N 09°48'E | Designation dates: 09-06-1992

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Mühlenberger Loch. 09/06/92; Hamburg; 675 ha; 53°32'N 009°48'E. Nature Reserve. An embayment of a tidal section of the Elbe River and extensive mudflats exposed at low tide. An internationally important area for wintering and staging several species of waterbirds and the most important staging area in Northern Europe for *Anas clypeata*. The site supports plants endemic to the freshwater tidal areas and is an important breeding area for many native fish species. Human activities include water sports, which are controlled. Ramsar site no. 561. Most recent RIS information: 1992.

Niederelbe, Barnkrug-Otterndorf

Site number: 83 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Niedersachsen
Area: 11,760 ha | Coordinates: 53°46'59"N 09°07'E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Niederelbe, Barnkrug-Otterndorf. 26/02/76; Niedersachsen; 11,760 ha; 53°47'N 009°07'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive; Nature Reserve, Game Protection Area. A section of the Elbe River, featuring riverine marshes, saltmarsh, sandbanks, islands and mudflats interspersed with extensive sedge and reedbeds. The site is internationally important for passage, wintering and breeding waterbirds. Bird hunting regulations are in force. A nature education center has been established and scientific research is carried out by various organizations. Threats include industrialization, pollution, heavy boat traffic, dredging, dyke construction, and cultivation of the riverine marshes. Ramsar site no. 83.

Niederung der Unteren Havel/Gülper See/Schollener See

Site number: 173 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Brandenburg, Sachsen-Anhalt
Area: 8,920 ha | Coordinates: 52°45'N 12°13'E | Designation dates: 31-07-1978

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Niederung der Untere Havel / Gülper See / Schollener See. 31/07/78; Brandenburg, Sachsen-Anhalt; 8,920 ha; 52°45'N 012°13'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive; Landscape Protection Area, Nature Reserves. A section of the Havel River floodplain, two adjacent shallow lakes, seasonally flooded pasture, and small agricultural areas. The site is an important breeding, staging and wintering area for numerous species of waterbirds, and both the river and lakes support fisheries. There are guidelines for water management and for use of the pastures, but tourism and leisure activities are not controlled. A field station is located at the site. Ramsar site no. 173. Most recent RIS information: 2002.

Oberrhein / Rhin Supérieur

Site number: 1,809 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Bade-Wurtemberg
Area: 25,117 ha | Coordinates: 48°25'N 07°45'E | Designation dates: 28-08-2008

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Oberrhein / Rhin supérieur. 28/08/08; Baden-Württemberg; 25,117 ha; TRS centre 48°25' N 007°45' E. IBA, Natura 2000, Nature Reserve. The site includes 190km of the eastern bank of the river Rhine, with a variety of different natural and humanmade habitats and including at least ten zones of protection for birds. This alluvial area is very important for recharging one of the biggest aquifer in Europe. The site supports an outstanding number of relict, endangered and rare flora and fauna species, of which some cannot be observed anywhere else in Germany. An average of 92000 migratory birds stop here every year, and 46 fish species are supported. The site is also the last refuge for some sub-Mediterranean species, such as wild bees (*Andrena chrysopus*, *Andrena marginata* and *Tetralonia salicariae*), dragonflies (*Aeshna affinis*), and butterflies (*Chamaesphecia aerifrons*, *Cucullia caninae*, *Luperina dumerilii*, *Meganola togatalalis* et *Synansphecia affini.*) Navigation, water sports, agriculture, fishing and hunting are only few of the main land uses. Pesticides, fertilizers and mismanagement of the water resources could lead to very negative effects. Ramsar site no. 1809. Most recent RIS information: 2008.

Ostseeboddengewässer Westrügen-Hiddensee-Zingst

Site number: 170 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Mecklenburg-Vorpommern
Area: 25,800 ha | Coordinates: 54°30'N 12°45'E | Designation dates: 31-07-1978

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Ostseeboddengewässer Westrügen-Hiddensee-Zingst. 31/07/78; Mecklenburg-Vorpommern; 25,800 ha; 54°30'N 012°45'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive; National Park, Nature Reserve. A complex of islands, peninsulas, sand-banks, peat swamps, saline pasture and lagoons with shorelines varying from high cliffs to sandy beaches. The offshore waters support extensive mussel beds. The site is an important staging area for waders, a wintering area for Nordic geese and ducks and supports four species of breeding birds. Various rare coastal invertebrates and a halophytic flora are present. Observation hides and interpretive material are available. Human activities include water sports and agriculture. Ramsar site no. 170. Most recent RIS information: 1992.

Peitzer Teichgebiet

Site number: 175 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Brandenburg
Area: 1,060 ha | Coordinates: 51°51'N 14°24'59"E | Designation dates: 31-07-1978

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Peitzer Teichgebiet. 31/07/78; Brandenburg; 1,060 ha; 51°51'N 014°25'E. Nature Reserve. The site consists of numerous fishponds that form an internationally important breeding and staging area for several species of waterbirds. Lignite is mined nearby. Ramsar site no. 175.

Rheinauen zwischen Eltville und Bingen

Site number: 88 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Hessen/Rheinland-Pfalz
Area: 566 ha | Coordinates: 50°00'N 08°00'E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Rheinauen zwischen Eltville und Bingen. 26/02/76; Hessen, Rheinland-Pfalz; 566 ha; 50°00'N 008°00'E. Nature Reserves. Three separate parts of the Rhine River made up of seasonally inundated riverine meadows, shallow water bodies, eroding and evolving islands supporting soft and hardwood vegetation, reedbeds, and sandbanks. The hardwood meadow vegetation is a rare habitat type, occurring in the floodplains of large rivers. The site supports a diverse invertebrate community, is internationally important for breeding, wintering and staging waterbirds, and includes a diverse flora of many rare species. The larger island has been used for agriculture since ancient times because of its fertile alluvial soils and ideal climate. Recreational activities include fishing and seasonally restricted hunting. There is a nature conservation center at the site. Ramsar site no. 88. Most recent RIS information: 1998.

Rieselfelder Münster

Site number: 277 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Nordrhein-Westfalen
Area: 233 ha | Coordinates: 52°01'59"N 07°39'E | Designation dates: 28-10-1983

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Rieselfelder Münster. 28/10/83; Nordrhein-Westfalen; 233 ha; 52°02'N 007°39'E. Numerous shallow water basins, fringed by reedbeds and dissected by a network of mud banks, wet-pasture, arable land, woodland, and scrub. An important site for breeding and staging numerous species of waterbirds with several pairs of raptors wintering here. The site is also very important for butterflies. Birdwatching hides and interpretative materials are available. Human activities include recreational and other traffic. Ramsar site no. 277. Most recent RIS information: 1992.

Rosenheim Basin Bogs

Site number: 2,444 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: District of Rosenheim (Landkreis Rosenheim), Bavaria

Area: 1,039.2 ha | Coordinates: 47°47'54"N 12°02'51"E | Designation dates: 07-12-2020

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

The Rosenheim Basin Bogs make up one of the largest peatland complexes of the Alpine foothills in southern Germany. The Site is comprised of the peatlands Rote Filze, Abgebrannte Filze, Sterntaler Filze, Kollerfilze and Hochrunsilze. They were drained and peat was extracted from the beginning of the 1800s to fuel salt pans and for beer brewing. Today these moors have been largely returned to their natural state, and many habitats have been restored for nationally vulnerable or endangered species including the spotted darter dragonfly (*Sympetrum depressiusculum*), the meadow pipit (*Anthus pratensis*) and the great grey shrike (*Lanius excubitor excubitor*), a bird that winters in the Site. The restoration of these peatlands has also had a positive effect on the local climate, local water cycle, water retention and flood prevention. As part of the restoration project, two visitor centres for extensive public relations work and education on the protection of bogs were opened at the Site.

Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea and adjacent areas

Site number: 537 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Schleswig-Holstein

Area: 454,988 ha | Coordinates: 54°30'N 08°39'59"E | Designation dates: 15-11-1991

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Schleswig-Holstein Wadden Sea and adjacent areas (Schleswig-Holsteinisches Wattenmeer). 15/11/91; Schleswig-Holstein; 454,988 ha; 54°30'N 08°40'E. National Park, Nature Reserves. This site comprises 40% of the Wadden Sea (shared by Denmark, the Netherlands and Germany) and consists of extensive mudflats, rivers, sandbanks, dunes, saltmarshes, heathland and islands. It supports internationally important breeding numbers of several species of birds and more than two million staging waterbirds, including internationally important numbers of 24 species. In particular, approximately 70% of the entire European population of *Tadorna tadorna* (180,000) gather here in molting flocks. The site supports endemic aquatic invertebrates, endangered reptiles and amphibians, and is an important breeding area for *Phoca vitulina*. It is also an important nursery area for several commercially exploited fish species. Human activities include grazing livestock, tourism, hunting, shell fishing, military activities, and boating. Significantly extended in 2002. Ramsar site no. 537. Most recent RIS information: 2002.

Starnberger See

Site number: 94 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Bayern

Area: 5,720 ha | Coordinates: 47°45'N 11°18'E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Starnberger See. 26/02/76; Bayern; 5,720 ha; 47°45'N 11°18'E. Nature Reserve, Landscape Reserve. A large, freshwater lake subject to seasonal fluctuations set in a glaciated valley and surrounded by end-moraine dams. The site supports areas of reedbeds, is important for breeding, staging and wintering waterbirds, and provides protected fish spawning areas. There are three large leisure complexes available, and the lake experiences intensive recreational use and seasonal fishing. Ramsar site no. 94. Most recent RIS information: 1992.

Steinhuder Meer

Site number: 87 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Niedersachsen

Area: 5,730 ha | Coordinates: 52°28'N 09°20'E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Steinhuder Meer. 26/02/76; Niedersachsen; 5,730 ha; 52°28'N 09°20'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive, Nature Reserves. The largest inland lake in northern Germany, including remnants of raised bog and moorland. Situated in a glacial meltwater channel, the lake is thought to be fed by springs in its bed. Fringing vegetation consists of a broad reed belt. The site is internationally important for staging and wintering waterbirds, and is used by small numbers of various species of breeding birds. Human activities include peat extraction, water sports, and holiday home construction. Ramsar site no. 87.

Unterer Inn, Haiming-Neuhaus

Site number: 96 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Bayern
Area: 1,955 ha | Coordinates: 48°19'59"N 13°09'E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Unterer Inn, Haiming-Neuhaus. 26/02/76; Bayern; 1,955 ha; 48°20'N 013°09'E. Nature Reserve. A section of the Inn River bordering Austria, consisting of a shallow reservoir and a series of islands supporting extensive reedbeds. An important breeding, wintering and staging site for various species of waterbirds. Numerous rare aquatic and semi-aquatic plant species are also present. Human activities include boating and angling. Ramsar site no. 96. Most recent RIS information: 1992.

Unterer Niederrhein

Site number: 279 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Nordrhein-Westfalen
Area: 25,000 ha | Coordinates: 51°43'N 06°13'59"E | Designation dates: 28-10-1983

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Unterer Niederrhein. 28/10/83; Nordrhein-Westfalen; 25,000 ha; 51°43'N 006°14'E. Added to the Montreux Record, 16 June 1993, removed from the Record, 8 January 1999. Special Protection Area EEC Directive, Nature Reserves. A section of the lower Rhine floodplain near the border with the Netherlands consisting of pasture, woodland, arable land, meadow dikes and river channels. A large proportion of the West European population of geese overwinter in the area and several species of breeding birds use the site. Due to the extent of human encroachment, the site was included on the Montreux Record in 1993. Subject of a Ramsar Advisory Mission in 1993. Ramsar site no. 279. Most recent RIS information: 1992.

Unteres Odertal, Schwedt

Site number: 174 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Brandenburg
Area: 5,400 ha | Coordinates: 53°04'N 14°18'59"E | Designation dates: 31-07-1978

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Unteres Odertal, Schwedt. 31/07/78; Brandenburg; 5,400 ha; 53°04'N 014°19'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive; National Park, Nature Reserve. A section of empoldered floodplain in the Oder Valley containing numerous permanent pools, creeks and agricultural areas subject to seasonal flooding. The site is an important breeding area for waterbirds and is internationally important for spring staging birds. Ramsar site no. 174.

Wattenmeer, Elbe-Weser-Dreieck

Site number: 80 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Niedersachsen
Area: 38,460 ha | Coordinates: 53°49'59"N 08°24'E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Wattenmeer, Elbe-Weser-Dreieck. 26/02/76; Niedersachsen; 38,460 ha; 53°50'N 008°24'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive; Nature Reserve, National Park. Part of the Wadden Sea, with extensive mudflats, saltmarshes and islands. An internationally important area for numerous species of wintering and staging waterbirds and for breeding by low numbers of several species. Hunting is strictly controlled, and considerable ecological and geological research is carried out in the area. Knechtsand Island is slowly being eroded by the sea. Ramsar site no. 80.

Wattenmeer, Jadebusen & westliche Wesermündung

Site number: 81 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Niedersachsen

Area: 49,490 ha | Coordinates: 53°39'59"N 08°18'59"E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Wattenmeer, Jadebusen & westliche Wesermündung. 26/02/76; Niedersachsen; 49,490 ha; 53°40'N 008°19'E. Special Protection Area EC Directive; National Park; Nature Reserve, Game Protection Area. A large bay of the Wadden Sea and therefore internationally important for numerous species of waterbirds. The site includes extensive sand and mud flats, grading into saltmarsh and dune habitats, and includes Mellum Island. Numerous species of waterbirds winter, stage and breed in the area. Bird hunting is controlled and several field stations exist from which extensive ecological and geological research and monitoring is carried out. Ramsar site no. 81.

Wattenmeer, Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer & Dollart

Site number: 82 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Niedersachsen

Area: 121,620 ha | Coordinates: 53°42'N 07°21'E | Designation dates: 26-02-1976

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Wattenmeer, Ostfriesisches Wattenmeer & Dollart. 26/02/76; Niedersachsen; 121,620 ha; 53°42'N 007°21'E. Added to the Montreux Record, 4 July 1990. Special Protection Area EC Directive; National Park, Nature Reserves. Two sections of the North Sea coast consisting of parts of the East Friesian Islands and the Ems River estuary. Both areas include extensive mudflats and saltmarsh and support vast reedbeds. As part of the Wadden Sea, the site is internationally important for breeding, wintering and staging abundant numbers of waterbirds. Popular as a recreation area, the site is vulnerable to oil spills from nearby shipping lanes and port facilities. In some areas hunting is strictly controlled. The site was placed on the Montreux Record in 1990 for the following reasons: dyke construction, boring for gas, a planned oil pipeline and harbor extension, and low-altitude military overflights. Subject of a Ramsar Advisory Mission in 1990. Ramsar site no. 82.

Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg

Site number: 278 | Country: Germany | Administrative region: Nordrhein-Westfalen

Area: 1,600 ha | Coordinates: 52°27'N 08°58'59"E | Designation dates: 28-10-1983

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Weserstaustufe Schlüsselburg. 28/10/83; Nordrhein-Westfalen; 1,600 ha; 52°27'N 008°59'E. Nature Reserves. A stretch of the Weser River floodplain, adjacent pasture, arable fenland and gravel pits. The site is of international importance for breeding, staging and wintering waterbirds. It is the most important inland wintering site in western Germany for *Bucephala clangula* (max. 1,500), the last remaining breeding site for *Ciconia ciconia* (3 pairs), and the main staging site for *Pluvialis apricaria* (max. 1,000) in Westphalia. Angling and water sports are regulated. Ramsar site no. 278. Most recent RIS information: 1992.