



Ramsar Sites Information Service

Annotated List of Wetlands of International Importance

Ghana

6 Ramsar Site(s) covering 176,134 ha

Densu Delta Ramsar Site

Site number: 564 | Country: Ghana | Administrative region: Greater Accra Region

Area: 5,893 ha | Coordinates: 05°33'N 00°18'W | Designation dates: 14-08-1992

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Densu Delta Ramsar Site is an estuary comprising open lagoon, salt pans, freshwater marsh, scrublands and sand dunes. The wetland is fed mainly by the Densu River, which supplies water to approximately half of the Accra metropolitan area. Scattered stands of mangroves are found in some areas around the lagoon, while the freshwater parts of the wetland support stands of Typha, Imperata grasses, and Cyperus sedges. It is estimated that over 57 water bird species, comprising the little egret Egretta garzetta, common ringed plover Charadrius hiaticula, Curlew sandpiper Calidris ferruginea, and the rare roseate tern Sterna dougallii feed and nest in the area. The entire Delta and its rich mangrove vegetation serves as a major sediment-trapping platform and a shoreline stabilizer for local communities, which depend heavily on the lagoon for commercial fishing, fuelwood harvesting and salt mining.

Keta Lagoon Complex Ramsar Site

Site number: 567 | Country: Ghana | Administrative region: Volta Region

Area: 101,022.7 ha | Coordinates: 05°55'N 00°50'E | Designation dates: 14-08-1992

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Keta Lagoon Complex Ramsar Site covers part of the Volta River estuary. It comprises several small islands and a complex of lagoons with varying salinity. The dominant vegetation includes swamps, scrublands, and mangrove forests, which are heavily exploited by resident communities for fuel woods and commercial fishing. The Site provides safe nesting grounds for the threatened olive ridley sea turtle (Lepidochelys olivacea), leatherback turtle (Dermochelys coriacea) and the green turtle (Chelonia mydas), and it is particularly important for the Nile monitor (Varanus niloticus) and the vulnerable West African Manatee (Trichechus senegalensis). It is considered the most important coastal wetland for birds in Ghana, and supports over 72 resident and migratory bird species estimated to number over 100,000 individuals. The wetland supports the livelihood activities of hundreds of thousands of people. Sea erosion and pollution are the major threats.

Muni-Pomadze Ramsar Site

Site number: 563 | Country: Ghana | Administrative region: Central Region

Area: 9,461.1 ha | Coordinates: 05°21'59"N 00°40'W | Designation dates: 14-08-1992

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Muni-Pomadze Ramsar Site is a coastal lagoon characterized by sand dunes, degraded forest, scrub, farmland and marsh areas subject to tidal and seasonal inundation. Marine turtles nest on the sandy shores, and an estimated population of about 23,000 water birds, including terns, waders, herons, and egrets, feed and breed in the wetland. It also contains a rich and diverse butterfly fauna, with about 75 species recorded. The eastern borders of the lagoon are covered by thick mangrove forests, which are exploited by local communities for commercial fishing and fuel wood. The narrow strip of sand dune which separates the lagoon from the sea is mainly covered by coconut plantations which attract birdwatchers and tourists. Other human activities include grazing, farming and hunting. The main threats to the Site include rapid urbanization and encroachment.

Owabi Wildlife Sanctuary Ramsar Site

Site number: 393 | Country: Ghana | Administrative region: Ashanti Region

Area: 7,260 ha | Coordinates: 06°43'59"N 01°41'W | Designation dates: 22-02-1988

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Owabi Wildlife Sanctuary Ramsar Site is a unique nature reserve comprising a bird sanctuary and a lake formed after the construction of a dam across the Owabi River to supply potable water to the hundreds of thousands of people living in the Kumasi metropolis. It is centred on the reservoir and includes an important plantation of exotic species – mostly *Senna siamea* – and riverine forests and aquatic plants. The wetland serves as a habitat and a food base for a variety of wildlife including monkeys, bushbuck, antelopes, black duikers and hundreds of indigenous and migratory birds including the hornbill, pygmy goose, purple heron, jacanas and herons. The important diversity of butterflies in the Site also makes it significant for conservation. A water treatment plant is on-site to train water company technicians. The Site has a significant appeal for visitors but is also under severe pressure from growing human settlements and intensive farming.

Sakumo Ramsar Site

Site number: 565 | Country: Ghana | Administrative region: Greater Accra Region

Area: 1,364.4 ha | Coordinates: 05°38'25"N 00°02'26"E | Designation dates: 14-08-1992

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Sakumo Ramsar Site comprises a coastal brackish-saline lagoon and the surrounding floodplains, freshwater marsh, coastal savannah grasslands with thicket vegetation, and a narrow sand-dune connection to the sea. Over 70 waterbird species, estimated to number 30,000 individuals, depend on the Site's resources during migratory and reproduction periods. Notable species include waders such as the spotted redshank and common greenshank (*Tringa erythropus* and *Tringa nebularia*), the collared pratincole *Glareola pratincola*, sandpipers, curlew, little stint *Calidris minuta*, the black-tailed godwit *Limosa limosa* and the black-winged stilt *Himantopus himantopus*, as well as terns such as *Sterna albifrons* and *Thalasseus sandvicensis*. The wetland is important for marine and freshwater fish species including the blackchin tilapia *Sarotherodon melanotheron*, which represents about 97% of the fish population. Hundreds of local communities rely on the fishing industries for their livelihoods. The Site is also used for agriculture, industrial development and recreation. The major threats are rapid population growth, urbanization, and the presence of sewage and domestic waste.

Songor Ramsar Site

Site number: 566 | Country: Ghana | Administrative region: Greater Accra Region

Area: 51,133.3 ha | Coordinates: 05°45'N 00°30'E | Designation dates: 14-08-1992

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Songor Ramsar Site is a closed lagoon with inundated mudflats, islands, broad sandy beaches and flood plains associated with the Volta River estuary. It is one of Ghana's wetlands that fall on the boundary of two flyways of water birds, the east Atlantic flyway and the Mediterranean flyway. The main wetland habitats include saline marshes with degraded mangroves, waterlogged grassland, riverine woodland, scattered thickets of shrubs and degraded coastal savannah characterized by farmland, and eroded lands invaded by neem tree, fan palms, silk cotton trees and baobab trees. They serve as ideal feeding and roosting grounds for heron, egret, common greenshank, avocet, stilt, and other small waders and terns estimated at about 50,000 individuals, and as a reproduction site for fish species. The sandy beach plays host to the green sea turtle, leatherback sea turtle and the olive ridley sea turtle commonly found along the shores. Communities within the Site are engaged in fishing, farming and intensive salt extraction for their livelihoods. Tourism is another growing economic activity. Potential threats included coastal erosion and siltation.