



Ramsar Sites Information Service

Annotated List of Wetlands of International Importance

Republic of Korea

24 Ramsar Site(s) covering 20,214 ha

1100 Altitude Wetland

Site number: 1,893 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Jeju Island

Area: 13 ha | Coordinates: 33°21'N 126°28'E | Designation dates: 12-10-2009

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

1100 Altitude Wetland. 12/10/09; Jeju-do (Island); 13 ha; 33°21'N 126°28'E. Within National Park, UNESCO World Heritage site and Biosphere Reserve. A mountainous wetland consisting of a number of unique freshwater marshes and pools, situated on Jeju Island. As the name suggests, the site is located at 1100m asl within the Mt Halla World Heritage site. The wetland is in an area of low gradient enabling the capture and retention of freshwater, to form small permanent lakes and peat bogs that support diverse floristic assemblages and significant endemism. The site supports 3 threatened bird and one plant species within Korea, as well as a number of mammal, reptile and insect species endemic to Jeju Island. The site is culturally and religiously important to the local communities. Visits to the site are increasing, with 900,000 visitors in 2008. Visitation is managed by Mt Halla Visitor Centre. 1100 Altitude Wetland was designated as a Wetland Protected Area in 2009 and is managed under 3 management plans as part of the World Heritage and Biosphere programs. Ramsar site no. 1893. Most recent RIS information: 2009.

Daebudo Tidal Flat

Site number: 2,359 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Ansan City, Gyeonggi Province, RO Korea.

Area: 453 ha | Coordinates: 37°13'30"N 126°34'08"E | Designation dates: 25-10-2018

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Daebudo Tidal Flat comprises two tidal flats, Sangdong and Goraetburi, on Daebu Island in the Yellow Sea. The Site is a key stopover and feeding ground for the migratory waterbirds on the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF). It supports numerous marine species including over 100 macrobenthic species which are notably abundant; this macrobenthic community serves as an important food resource for the migratory waterbirds passing through the Site each year. Of the various species that the Site supports, some are globally or nationally threatened such as the globally endangered black-faced spoonbill (*Platalea minor*), the globally vulnerable Chinese egret (*Egretta eulophotes*) and the nationally vulnerable milky fiddler crab (*Uca lactea*). Owing to its significance in sustaining the migratory waterbirds, the Site was designated as a Wetland Protected Area under the Wetland Conservation Act in 2017. The Ansan City government is committed to implement the protected area management plan to accelerate its protection measures.

Dongbaekdongsan

Site number: 1,947 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Jeju Island
Area: 59 ha | Coordinates: 33°30'59"N 126°43'01"E | Designation dates: 14-03-2011
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Dongbaekdongsan;14/03/2011; Jeju-do Province; 59ha; 33°31'N 126°43'E. Nationally-designated Wetland Conservation Area. Dongbaekdongsan is located on the volcanic island of Jeju, off the southern coast of the Republic of Korea. The site is important for the recharge and conservation of groundwater, as well as for its biodiversity, especially the unique 'Gotjawal' forests. The importance of Dongbaekdongsan is mainly due to the mixture of Aa Lava and Pahoehoe Lava rock types that are present at the site. The Aa Lava rocks have crevices and lava tubes, which allows rainwater to seep through and with the Gotjawal forest cover, contribute to a higher rate of groundwater recharge. The groundwater at Dongbaekdongsan is used as one of the many groundwater sources for the approximately half a million people on Jeju Island. The Pahoehoe Lava rocks have however fewer cracks and so are better able to retain rainwater. This leads to the formation of streams, ponds and vernal pools and unlike many other Gotjawal forests, the surface water found in the Dongbaekdongsan forest areas is able to support a range of wildlife. This includes important species like the critically endangered *Isoetes sinensis* (F: Isoetaceae), the endemic Cheju Salamander (*Hynobius quepartensis*) and *Mankyua chejuense* (F: Ophioglossaceae), a recently discovered genus. It also supports legally protected Natural Monument species, which are identified as having some natural heritage value such as the Mandarin Duck (*Aix galericulata*) and the nationally endangered Boreal Digging Frog (*Kaloula borealis*). Natural Monuments are strongly linked to Korean cultural heritage and are consequently protected under national law. The Department of Environmental Policy and Department of Environmental Management, as part of the Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, is responsible for the management of this site. Ramsar Site no.1948. Most recent RIS information: 2011.

Dongcheon Estuary

Site number: 2,269 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Suncheon City
Area: 539.8 ha | Coordinates: 34°53'22"N 127°30'40"E | Designation dates: 20-01-2016
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Located in the south-eastern part of Suncheon City, the Dongcheon Estuary supports vital wintering and stopover habitats for 238 species of birds, of which at least 13 are globally threatened including the critically endangered spoon-billed sandpiper (*Eurynorhynchus pygmeus*), endangered black-faced spoonbill (*Platalea minor*), and far-eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*). The Site acts as a transition zone between river and marine environments that provide habitat for 848 species of wild flora and fauna, and a rich aquatic biodiversity due to its varying salinity and nutrients and organic detritus in its sediment. Reed and rice fields along both sides of the Dongcheon River provide habitats for a wide range of wild mammals, aquatic insects and amphibians. The rice fields are key for migrating waterbirds such as hooded cranes (*Grus monacha*), and serve as one of the largest wintering grounds for white-naped cranes (*Grus vipio*). The annual number of visitors to the Dongcheon Estuary as well as the adjacent Suncheon Bay Ramsar Site increased from 1.2 million in 2005 to 1.9 million in 2015, about four times the population of Suncheon City. Of the entire area of Dongcheon Estuary, almost 54% is privately owned and the rest of the land is owned by the national government. Only non-commercial fishing activities are allowed and the only commercial activities on the Site are rice production in its paddy fields.

Du-ung Wetland Ramsar Site

Site number: 1,724 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Chungcheongnam-do Province

Area: 6.7 ha | Coordinates: 36°50'11"N 126°11'48"E | Designation dates: 20-12-2007

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

The Du-ung Wetland Ramsar Site is a rare coastal freshwater lagoon on the west coast of the Republic of Korea, which is fed by underground water. The Site is situated between the sand dunes on the coast and a mountainous area. The prolonged process of weathering has led to the formation of thick soil in the mountainous area, making the Site ideal for the proliferation of vegetation. Despite being the smallest Wetland Protection Area Site in the nation, the wetland supports a high diversity of vascular plants, with 264 species from 177 genera and 68 families. The Site also supports a wide variety of animal species, consisting of 11 species of mammals, 53 bird species, 11 species of fish, seven of amphibians, six of reptiles, 246 of terrestrial insects and 60 of benthic invertebrates. Some of these are globally threatened, such as the endangered Japanese eel (*Anguilla japonica*), and the vulnerable wild common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) and pond frog (*Pelophylax chosonicus*). With its high biodiversity, Du-ung Wetland has attracted various projects since 2002 on wetland, natural monument and ecosystem conservation.

Ganghwa Maehwamareum Habitat

Site number: 1,846 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Gilsang-myun

Area: 1 ha | Coordinates: 37°37'59"N 126°31'E | Designation dates: 13-10-2008

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

13/10/08; Incheon Metropolitan City; 1 ha; 37°38'N 126°32'E. A human-made rice paddy wetland near the city of Incheon that was purchased by the Korea National Trust Foundation chiefly for its importance as habitat for the herbaceous water plant Maehwamareum (*Ranunculus katusensis* makino), once common throughout the country but now considered to be endangered and found in only 30 places nationally. Because of eco-friendly rice farming at the site, it also functions as a refuge for aquatic plants and insects and benthic invertebrates and fish, which become food sources for migratory birds. The site is also used for educational purposes, and an educational centre is in preparation. With a real area of 0.3015 hectares (rounded up to 1 ha.), this is the smallest Ramsar site at the time of designation. Ramsar site no. 1846. Most recent RIS information: 2009.

Gochang and Buan Tidal Flats

Site number: 1,937 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Gomso Bay

Area: 4,550 ha | Coordinates: 35°33'N 126°34'59"E | Designation dates: 13-12-2010

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

This Ramsar Site includes two protected areas, the Buan Julpo Bay Wetland Protected Area and the Gochang Tidal Flat Wetland Protected Area. It is located in Gomso Bay and is one of the important tidal flats for migratory waterbirds along the west coast of the Republic of Korea. The site provides roosting sites for globally threatened species such as the endangered Oriental white Stork (*Ciconia boyciana*) and the vulnerable Saunders's gull (*Larus saundersi*). It is also important for supporting populations of shorebirds, such as the Far Eastern Curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*), Kentish plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) and Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*). The Gochang & Buan Tidal Flats are biologically rich with sixty-eight species of macrobenthic fauna, including shellfish crustaceans and polychaetes; twenty-two species of halophytes and seventy-seven species of birds. The site is also important for fish as spawning and nursery grounds. The tidal flat is used for fishing and farming of Manila clam (*Tapes philippinarum*), and Corb shell (*Cyclina sinensis*). In the surrounding areas, there are concerns about seepage of contaminants from a landfill located close to Buan tidal flat. The Gochang-gun (county) office and Buan-gun (county) office share jurisdiction over the site.

Hanbando Wetland Ramsar Site

Site number: 2,226 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Gangwon-do (province)

Area: 191.5 ha | Coordinates: 37°13'16"N 128°20'14"E | Designation dates: 13-05-2015

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

The Hanbando Wetland is representative of natural riverine wetlands in the Republic of Korea. The Site, lying in a sand-gravel bar formed in an incised meander, consists of various types of riffles and pools that maintain a rich biodiversity and provide habitats for numerous species including a number of endemic and nationally threatened species. The Site mostly lies on limestone through which groundwater aquifers are formed and recharged. The water that flows through Hanbando Wetland is collected at a nearby water harvesting plant that supplies the majority of drinking water for locals. The wetland has also long supported local agricultural industry. The name 'Hanbando' signifies that the wetland resembles the shape of the Korean Peninsula, which increases the Site's symbolic value.

Han River-Bamseom Islets

Site number: 2,050 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Yeoido-dong and Danging-dong districts

Area: 27.3 ha | Coordinates: 37°33'20"N 126°55'41"E | Designation dates: 21-06-2012

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Han River-Bamseom Islets. 21/06/12; Seoul; 27 ha; 37°32'21"N 126°55'41"E. A pair of sandy islets of similar size located in the Han River in central Seoul, the only remaining naturally occurring riverine islands in the Han River ecosystem that have not been altered by human settlement. The waters around the islets provide a spawning and nursery ground for a number of Korean indigenous fish species, including the Korean striped bitterling (*Acheilognathus yamatsutae*), the Korean spined bitterling (*Acanthorhodeus gracilis*), and the Korean oily shiner (*Sarcocheilichthys nigripinnus morii*). The site is a centrally located urban wetland that provides a wintering habitat for many common waterfowls, whilst in the summer it provides a breeding ground for a number of species such as Spot-billed Ducks (*Anas poecilorhyncha*) and the Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax*). Invasive species such as Red-eared Sliders (*Trachemys scripta elegans*), hops (*Humulus scandens*), ragweeds (*Ambrosia trifida* fo. *Integrifolia* (Muhl.) Fernald), and one-seeded bur-cucumber (*Sicyos angulatus*) are seen as potential threats. The islets are protected as an 'Ecosystem and Landscape Region for Conservation' under city legislation. Ramsar Site no. 2050. Most recent RIS information: 2012

Jangdo Wetland

Site number: 1,458 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Chollanam-do Province

Area: 9 ha | Coordinates: 34°40'23"N 125°22'15"E | Designation dates: 30-03-2005

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

The Jangdo Wetland is a rare mountainous freshwater marsh situated on Daejangdo island; it is a relatively large wetland given the size of the island. The Site was also designated as a National Wetland Conservation Area in 2004. It is unique and of conservation value as the plant species found there are mostly tropical, even though the island is not located in the tropical climate zone. The Site and the adjacent islands are important stopover sites, mostly during spring and autumn, for 60 migratory bird species on the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. The wetland serves as a major source of drinking water to the population of about 120 people in the island, as well as to its plants and animals. The wetland harbours the largest number of species found in any site on the islands of the Republic of Korea: its 644 species include phytoplankton/zooplankton, benthic invertebrates, insects, amphibians/reptiles, birds, mammals and plants. On the list are the globally vulnerable Chinese egret *Egretta eulophotes* and Styan's grasshopper warbler *Locustella pleskei*, as well as nationally endangered species such as the peregrine falcon *Falco peregrinus* and the Eurasian otter *Lutra lutra*.

Janghang Wetland

Site number: 2,448 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: GyeongGi-Do Province
Area: 595.8 ha | Coordinates: 37°38'01"N 126°45'35"E | Designation dates: 21-05-2021

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

This Site is a typical wetland of the Han river estuary, and forms an intertidal zone featuring woody plants and salt marshes. Located next to heavily populated areas in Goyang City, Gyeonggi Province, Janghang Wetland remains healthy due to its national protection status and ongoing conservation efforts. An important ecological process in the Site is the symbiotic relationship between the woody plants such as Korean willow (*Salix koreensis*) and the benthic organisms such as mud crabs (*Chiromantes dehaani*): the complex root networks of the willows provide shelter, while the benthic communities cultivate and cycle material promoting healthy roots for the willows. The Site hosts threatened species including the critically endangered yellow-breasted bunting (*Emberiza aureola*), and the endangered black-faced spoonbill (*Platalea minor*) and narrow-ridged finless porpoise (*Neophocaena asiaeorientalis*). Two species also meet the requirement for Ramsar Criterion 6, which requires greater than 1% of the waterbird biogeographical population documented within the Site: the white-naped crane (*Grus vipio*) and the black-faced spoonbill.

Jeungdo Tidal Flat

Site number: 1,974 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Jeollanam-do Province
Area: 3,130 ha | Coordinates: 34°57'41"N 126°11'14"E | Designation dates: 01-09-2011

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

The rich ecology and biodiversity of the tidal flats surrounding islands in the southwest of the country provide spawning ground for fish and contribute to macro benthic animal diversity. The site also provides food and resting grounds for waders and migratory birds that pass by this area for breeding and wintering, supporting five internationally endangered species including the Chinese Egret *Egretta eulophotes*, Baikal Teal *Anas Formosa*, Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*, Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia* (App II CMS) and Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrines* (App I CITES). Jeungdo has a long history of fisheries, and fishing in the area holds great cultural, social and traditional importance for the local people. The amphibious air-breather Goggle-eyed Goby or mudskipper (*Boleophthalmus pectinirostris*) has minor commercial uses, and the amphibious Shuttles hopfish (*Periophthalmus modestus*) is also present. This region was part of the 'Marine Silk Road', a seaward passage for trade and cultural exchanges between China and other countries in ancient times. With sandy beaches and beautiful landscape, the site attracts many tourists, as well as students of the tidal environment. Construction of a barge dock and its facilities, along with "Nodoo" Road has hampered the sea flow. The site has a Five Year Management Plan which was established at the end of 2010.

Moojehineup

Site number: 1,725 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Joil-ri
Area: 4 ha | Coordinates: 35°27'N 129°07'59"E | Designation dates: 20-12-2007

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Moojehineup. 20/12/07; Ulsan; 4 ha; 35°27'N 129°08'E. Wetland Conservation Area. A 10,000-year-old high moor, the oldest in Korea, with well-developed peat layers and slightly acidic surface water. Various rare flora and fauna, including locally and nationally endangered species, have been identified, including a high diversity of insects with some 197 species. The name of the site comes from a ritual praying for rain in the Ulsan area. Ramsar site no. 1725. Most recent RIS information: 2007.

Muan Tidal Flat

Site number: 1,732 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Haeje-myeon

Area: 3,589 ha | Coordinates: 35°06'N 126°22'59"E | Designation dates: 14-01-2008

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Muan Tidal Flat. 14/01/08; Joellanam-do; 3,589 ha; 35°06'N 126°23'E. Wetland Protected Area. An intertidal sand- and mudflat ecosystem, free of human disturbance, on the coastline of the Yellow Sea, located in the mouth of semi-enclosed inner bay. Some 49 species of winter waterbirds have been observed, and the site provides habitat to various endangered and rare species such as Saunders's Gull (*Larus saundersi*), Black-faced spoonbill (*Platalea minor*) and Chinese Egret (*Egretta eulophotes*). It is a notable spawning ground for marine organisms, with some 357 species recorded, providing valuable food resources for the migratory birds. A 'reclamation' with small-scale sea dyke constructions was carried out for the development of Woldoo village fishing port, but detrimental effects have not appeared so far. A comprehensive management plan has been in effect since 2002, implemented by the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MOMAF), and a number of monitoring programmes are continuing. Ramsar site no. 1732. Most recent RIS information: 2008.

Muljangori-oreum wetland

Site number: 1,847 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Jeju-si City

Area: 63 ha | Coordinates: 33°24'N 126°37'59"E | Designation dates: 13-10-2008

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

13/10/08; Jeju-do (Island); 63 ha; 33°24'N 126°36'E. Within National Park and UNESCO World Heritage site and Biosphere Reserve. A volcanic crater lake at above 900m altitude on Jeju Island, with a forest of broad-leaved deciduous trees. On the water-scarce island, the crater lakes on such parasitic cones around Mt Hallasan provide an important store of rain water, and this site retains some water even through the dry season. A number of endangered fauna and flora species are present, including Peregrine falcon, Fairy pitta, Black kites, and Black paradise flycatchers, as well as Japanese forest peony (*paeonia obovata*). It is considered to be one of three holy mountains on the island and is associated with legends of the giant goddess Seolmundae. Only limited human access is permitted to the area. Ramsar site no. 1847. Most recent RIS information: 2009.

Mulyeongari-oreum Ramsar Site

Site number: 1,648 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Jeju Special Self-Governing Province

Area: 31 ha | Coordinates: 33°22'07"N 126°41'32"E | Designation dates: 18-11-2006

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Mulyeongari-oreum is a freshwater crater lake on top of an "oreum" (parasitic cone) around Halla Mountain on Jeju Island. The island has a total of 368 parasitic cones, of which 91% are scoria cones which are mostly composed of water-permeable basalt. Unlike other scoria cones, the Site retains a plentiful amount of water as weathering of the slopes has led to the accretion of less-permeable, fine-textured soils at the bottom of the crater. Although it is an isolated environment, the Site plays an important role in maintaining biodiversity, as it provides habitats for over 760 species of plants and animals. Among them are the globally vulnerable fairy pitta *Pitta nympha* and some nationally threatened species such as the nationally endangered golden eagle *Aquila chrysaetos* and peregrine falcon *Falco peregrinus*; and the nationally vulnerable cinereous vulture *Aegypius monachus* and boreal digging frog *Kaloula borealis*. It also provides habitat to the Jeju striped field mouse *Apodemus chejuensis*, which is found only on Jeju Island. The Site is also known as "Su-ryeong-ak" or "Suyeongak" which means a hill with holy water.

Odaesan National Park Wetlands

Site number: 1,848 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Gwangwon Province
Area: 2 ha | Coordinates: 37°46'N 128°40'E | Designation dates: 13-10-2008

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

13/10/08; Gwangwon-do; 2 ha; 37°48'N 128°38'E. National Park. A complex of three small fens at about 1000m altitude on Odaesan mountain, including some of the best conserved peatlands in the country. They are home to a large number of species of flora that are considered to be endangered or at risk, as well as fauna such as Musk deer, Long-tailed goral, and Water deer, all classed by Vulnerable by the IUCN Red List. The site is owned by the state and public access is not permitted. Ramsar site no. 1848. Most recent RIS information: 2009.

Seocheon Tidal Flat

Site number: 1,925 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Country
Area: 1,530 ha | Coordinates: 36°00'N 126°30'E | Designation dates: 09-09-2010

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Seocheon Tidal Flat is an open tidal flat directly linked to the ocean, its ecosystem is composed of a combination of sand and/or muddy sand flats which are very important for migratory birds and as a spawning and nursery ground for fish. Seocheon Tidal Flat supports globally threatened bird species such as the vulnerable Saunders' Gull (*Larus saundersi*), the critically endangered Spoon-billed sandpiper (*Eurynorhynchus pygmeus*) and the endangered Spotted Greenshank (*Tringa guttifer*). This wetland supports 1% of the population of Eurasian Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*), providing an important habitat for over 3,000 individuals as a stopover site during winter and as a breeding area. There are 125 species of fish which include the River Puffer (*Takifugu obscurus*), Korean Rockfish (*Sebastes schlegelii*), and other marine life such as the Japanese eel (*Anguilla japonica*) and ninety-five species of macro benthic animals. Due to its wide expanse, Seocheon Tidal Flat protects the coast from typhoons, waves, and also slows down tidal current which performs an important function of transporting deposits which have been carried down the main river. Through filtration, the sediments are highly effective in flood control and also purify nutrient and metallic pollutants discharged from farms and sewage stations near the site. Locals take advantage of the farming tracts and paddy fields in surrounding areas. Various marine food can be harvested including shellfish such as clams (*Ruditapes philippinarum* and *Dongjuk*, *Macra veneriformis*), octopus (*Octopus membranaceus*) and crustaceans such as the Korean Shrimp (*Penaeus chinensis*). Threats to the area include extraction of living organisms from the tidal flat, and increased pollution in the surrounding areas. The Division of Fisheries and Ocean Division (Chungcheongnam-do province) is directly responsible for managing this diverse and culturally rich wetland

Songdo Tidal Flat

Site number: 2,209 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Incheon Metropolitan City
Area: 611 ha | Coordinates: 37°23'26"N 126°38'58"E | Designation dates: 10-07-2014

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Songdo Tidal Flat. 10/07/2014; Incheon; 611 ha; 37°24'26"N 126°35'58"E. Coastal Wetland Protected Area. The Site includes two sections of a larger area of tidal mud flat along the coast of Incheon Metropolitan City, which has a complicated coastline with about 170 large and small islands. It is an important feeding and roosting ground for threatened waterbirds such as endangered black-face spoonbill (*Platalea minor*) as well as the vulnerable far eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*), great knot (*Calidris tenuirostris*) and Saunders's gull (*Larus saundersi*). It also regularly supports 1% of the population of the Eurasian curlew *Numenius arquata* as well as of the far eastern curlew. Traditionally, the Site has been used by fishermen and clam collectors, who fish with their bare hands. Major species collected are the surf clam (*Macra veneriformis*), corb shell (*Cyclina sinensis*) and Manila clam (*Ruditapes philippinarum*). Threats to the Site include reclamation and the building of facilities at the adjacent Songdo International City. Ramsar Site no. 2209. Most recent RIS information: 2014.

Sumeunmulbaengdui Ramsar Site

Site number: 2,225 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Jeju Special Self-Governing Province

Area: 117.5 ha | Coordinates: 33°21'55"N 126°26'59"E | Designation dates: 13-05-2015

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Sumeunmulbaengdui is a natural mountainous peat wetland on Halla Mountain or 'Hallasan', a shield volcano on Jeju Island and the largest mountain in the Republic of Korea. The Site is unique in the biogeographic region because of its geology and method of formation. It plays an important role in storing and recharging groundwater since Jeju, being a volcanic island, is short of water throughout the year due to irregular precipitation and low infiltration rate. Mostly, water is recharged by groundwater from wetlands, including Sumeunmulbaengdui and the three other Ramsar Sites on the island. The geographic features of these Sites are all different: Sumeunmulbaengdui is situated on the slope of the volcano, surrounded by six parasitic cones. The Site's bedrock has a high water-retaining capacity and functions as a natural filter. The name 'Sumeunmulbaengdui' which means 'a field covered with water and hidden by parasitic volcanoes' in the local dialect, reflects the rarity of the site and surrounding landscape.

Suncheon Bay

Site number: 1,594 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Jeollanam-do

Area: 3,550 ha | Coordinates: 34°48'N 127°24'E | Designation dates: 20-01-2006

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Suncheon Bay. 20/01/06; Jeollanam-do; 3,550 ha; 34°48'N 127°24'E. Wetland Protected Area. A wide estuarine tidal flat and intertidal marshes, creating one of the most diverse and beautiful coastal ecosystems in the country. Two rivers flow through the city and surrounding rice fields at the northern part of the bay, and numerous streams flow through the site, sustaining clean water quality and influx quantity. The tidal flats are largely muddy with shallow salt marshes supporting a wide-range of species, including at least 25 threatened birds, e.g. Black-faced Spoonbill, Nordmann's Greenshank, Spoonbill Sandpiper, and Relict Gull. It is the only wintering site for *Grus Monacha* and supports over 1% of the population of Common Shelduck, Hooded Crane, Eurasian Curlew, Saunders's Gull and Kentish Plover. It has important scenic, tourist, and cultural heritage values, and the annual production of fish, seaweed, and mollusks, mainly harvested using traditional techniques, is substantial. Rapid urban expansion is noted as a potential threat. The Suncheon Bay Natural Eco-park was established in 2004 and a management plan is underway which focuses on protection of biological resources, pollution abatement, institutional improvement, and public awareness. Ramsar site no. 1594. Most recent RIS information: 2006.

The High Moor, Yongneup of Mt. Daeam

Site number: 898 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Kangwon-do

Area: 106 ha | Coordinates: 38°13'N 128°07'E | Designation dates: 28-03-1997

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

The High Moor, Yongneup of Mt. Daeam. 28/03/97; Kangwon-do; 106 ha; 38°13'N 128°07'E. Natural Environment Preservation Area; Natural Ecosystem Conservation Area; Natural Monument Protection Area. Composed of two bogs and surrounded by deciduous broad-leaved forest, the area is the only high moor in the country. Thick layers of peat formed over 4,000 years ago prevent surface water infiltration, creating a specific topography. The site exhibits high species diversity and supports numerous species of rare plants and many newly discovered species of animals. Public access is strictly controlled. Ramsar site no. 898. Most recent RIS information: 1997.

Ungok Wetland

Site number: 1,948 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: North Jeolla Province

Area: 180 ha | Coordinates: 35°27'46"N 126°38'42"E | Designation dates: 06-04-2011

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Ungok Wetland. 07/04/2011; North Jeolla Province; 180 ha; 35°28'N 126°39'E. The whole site is designated as a Wetland Conservation Area and part of the site is an Electric Source Development Area and an Agricultural Conservation Land Area. Ungok Wetland is located in the southwest part of the Republic of Korea and consists of Ungok Lake and Obaygol low-moor (Obaygol wetland). Obaygol low-moor was used for rice paddy cultivation in the past, and overtime the site was completely abandoned. This site supports important species like the vulnerable Chinese Water Deer (*Hydropotes inermis*) and Seoul Frog (*Pelophylax chosonicus*), and Natural Monument species such as the Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) and Chinese Goshawk (*Accipiter soloensis*). Natural Monuments are strongly linked to Korean cultural heritage and are consequently protected under national law. Designated as an Electric Source Development Area, the quantity and quality of water is being managed to supply a nuclear power plant. Ungok Wetland is mostly surrounded by natural forest and a Dolmen World Heritage Site is also located here. This site is thought to be the biggest dolmen community in Asia and is thought to be home to human beings who lived by hunting and gathering during prehistoric times. The Department of Nature Environment, Jeonju Regional Environmental Agency and Department of Environment and Hygiene, Gochang-gun Office, is responsible for the management of this site. Ramsar Site no.1947. Most recent RIS information: 2011.

Upo Wetland

Site number: 934 | Country: Republic of Korea | Administrative region: Kyongsangnam-do

Area: 854 ha | Coordinates: 35°33'N 128°25'E | Designation dates: 02-03-1998

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Upo Wetland. 02/03/98; Kyongsangnam-do; 854 ha; 35°33'N 128°25'E. Nature Conservation Area. A large oxbow lake, small ponds, and marshes comprise the largest undisturbed wetland in the country. Surface water is persistent even in the dry season. The site exhibits high biodiversity, providing important feeding and spawning areas for fish and supporting rare and endangered flora. Many species of birds breed, stage or winter in the area. Human activities include tourism, agriculture, and snail and shellfish harvesting. Ramsar site no. 934. Most recent RIS information: 1997.