

INFORMATION SHEET ON RAMSAR WETLANDS

Country: SWEDEN

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Name of wetland: KLINGAVÄLSÅN - KRANKESJÖN

Date of Ramsar designation: 5 December 1974

Geographical coordinates: 55°37'N 13°38'E

General location: in the county of Malmöhus, about 40 km east of Malmö, in the extreme south of Sweden.

Area: 3,970 ha

Wetland type: M Q S U

Altitude: 19-50 m above sea level

Overview: The site includes the areas around the River Klingavälsån and Lake Krankesjön. The area consists of shallow eutrophic lakes, meandering streams, marshes, *Alnus forests* and *salix* thickets. The site is most important as a resting and wintering area for birds.

Physical features: The level of Lake Krankesjön was lowered 0.5-0.6 m in 1892, and today the average depth of the lake is about 0.8 m. The river floods annually, thus creating marshy meadows. Soil is mainly made up by sand and shallow layers of peat. Much of the meadow area was drained in 1938-43.

Ecological features: The meadows along the river are flooded annually and consist of hummocky pasture of *Deschamsia aspitosa*, tall herbs and *carex* sedges. In some places stands of *Alnus* and old peat layers overgrown with *Betula* and *Salix* dominate. The Silvåkra marsh and the shores of Lake Krankesjön are overgrown with *Phragmites*, *Typha latifolia* and tall *carex*. Occasionally, *cladium mariscus* occurs around the lake. Lake Sördesjön is mainly surrounded by grazed meadows and small areas of *Phragmites*.

Land tenure/ownership of:

a) site: Ownership is partly private and partly the municipality. Land surrounding Lake Krankesjön is state-owned.

b) surrounding area:

Conservation measures taken: Klingavälsån - Krankesjön is listed as 'site of national importance for nature conservation. The site includes three Nature Reserves 1) Vomb Meadowland (194 ha) has been protected since 21 March 1923; 2) The whole valley of the River Klingavälsån (2127.5 ha) has been protected since 14 June 1968; and 3) Navröd (6 ha) has been protected since 24 August 1972. Navröd Nature Reserve has a management plan. Flush irrigation has been resumed experimentally at Vomb meadows over a limited area.

Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

Current land use: principal human activities in

a) site: nature conservation; livestock grazing (cattle); hay cutting; Lakes Sövdesjön and Vombsjön are used for fishing and swimming.

b) surroundings/catchment: Large areas around Lake Krankesjön are used for military training.

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

a) at the site: The lake level of Krankesjön was lowered in 1892. The Vomb meadowlands were formerly used as flush meadows, and had a very diverse fauna and flora. However, since a drainage project in 1938-43, the meadows have become much drier with greatly impoverished fauna and flora. During the last decade a significant reduction in the waterfowl populations has occurred in Krankesjön due to a widespread disappearance in submerged plants. The underwater vegetation is gradually increasing again. The meadows are threatened by overgrowth. Grazing should be intensified.

b) in the surroundings/catchment:

Hydrological and physical values: Significant parts of the River Klingavälsån still follow its natural, meandering course.

Social and cultural values: Lake Vombsjön is one of the most productive lakes in Sweden from the Fisheries' point of view.

Noteworthy fauna: Breeding: *Vanellus vanellus*, *Numerius arquata*, *Tringa totanus*, *Gallinago gallinago*, *Anthus pratensis*, *Motcilla flava*, *Limosa limosa*, *Calidris alpina*, *Tadorna tadorna*, *Botaunes stellaris* (occasionally). Species which have expanded in the area: *Circus aeniginosus*, *Anser anser*, *Locustella naeria*, *Acrocephalus palustris*, and *Remiz pendulinus*.

Resting: Ducks, geese, swans and *Fulica atra*.

Wintering: *Anser fabalis*, *Haliaeetus albicella*, *Aquila chysaetos*, *Buteo buteo*, *B. lagopus*, *Milvus milvus*, *Circus cyaneus*.

Other fauna: *Cervus elaphus*.

Noteworthy flora:

Current scientific research and facilities: At Lake Krankesjön there is a field station, belonging to the University of Lund, which is the base for ecological research on the area. At River Klingavälsån there is a station for captive breeding of *Ciconia*

ciconia.

Current conservation education: The site has two observation towers.

Current recreation and tourism: A well-known site for raptors during winter-time, large numbers of ornithologists visit the area.

Management authority: The managers of the Nature Reserves are:

- 1) Vomb Meadowland N.R. - County Forestry Board
- 2) River Klingavälsån N.R. - County Administration, Municipality
- 3) Navröd N.R. - County Forestry Board

Other areas are managed by the landowner himself.

Jurisdiction: Territorial and functional: County Administration of Malmöhus.

Bibliographical references:

- Grimmet, R.F.A. & Jones, T.A. (1989). Important bird areas of Europe. ICBP.
- Svenska våtmarker av internationell betydelse (1989). Swedish E.P.A. Information. (English Summary).
- Various inventories on bird fauna and vegetation.

Reasons for inclusion: 1a, 1d, 2a, 3b

Map of site: enclosed