

Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

Categories approved by Recommendation 4.7 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.

NOTE: It is important that you read the accompanying *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document before completing this form.

1. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

April 2002

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.

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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Sweden

3. Name of wetland:

Dättern

4. Geographical coordinates:

58°23'N, 012°37'E

5. **Altitude:** (average and/or max. & min.) 44 – 50 m

6. **Area:** (in hectares) 4 010 ha

7. Overview:

 (general summary, in two or three sentences, of the wetland's principal characteristics)

Dättern bay is a shallow, eutrophic freshwater bay connected to Lake Vänern and Brandsfjord by the narrow Frugårdssund channel. Part of Brandsfjord is included in the site. The site is regarded as one of the most important spawning areas in Sweden for pike-perch *Lucioperca lucioperca*. The site has been expanded to include part of the river Nossan, an important river for spawning asp *Aspius aspius*. Dättern is an important breeding and resting place for birds. It is of national importance for nature conservation.

The site was classified as a Ramsar site in 1974 and was extended in 2001.

8. Wetland Type

 (please circle the applicable codes for wetland types as listed in Annex I of the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document.)

marine-coastal: A . B . C . D . E . F . G . H . I . J . K

inland: L . M . N . Q . P . Q . R . Sp . Ss . Tp . Ts
. U . Va . Vt . W . Xf . Xp . Y . Zg . Zk

man-made: 1 . 2 . 3 . 4 . 5 . 6 . 7 . 8 . 9

Please now rank these wetland types by listing them from the most to the least dominant: O, W, M, 4

9. Ramsar Criteria:

 (please circle the applicable criteria; see point 12, next page.)

1 . 2 . 3 . 4 . 5 . 6 . 7 . 8

Please specify the most significant criterion applicable to the site: 3

10. Map of site included? Please tick *yes* -or- *no*

(Please refer to the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document for information regarding desirable map traits).

11. Name and address of the compiler of this form:

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Please provide additional information on each of the following categories by attaching extra pages (please limit extra pages to no more than 10):

12. Justification of the criteria selected under point 9, on previous page. (Please refer to Annex II in the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document).

1. A representative example of a near-natural wetland type (shallow freshwater lake) in EU Boreal region
 2. 1 globally redlisted bird species, 1 globally redlisted fish species, >30 nationally redlisted bird species
 3. Supports particular elements of biological diversity characteristic of the EU Boreal region
 8. The area contains important spawning, nursery and feeding grounds and is important for commercial fishing.
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13. General location: (include the nearest large town and its administrative region)

The site is situated in the south-western corner of Lake Vänern, Sweden's largest lake, about 15 km east of the town of Vänersborg, in the County of Västra Götaland. Municipalities: Grästorp, Lidköping, Vänersborg.

14. 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 site is part of the hydrological system of Lake Vänern, which is regulated. The normal amplitude of the water level is between +43.5 and +45.5 m.

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

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16. Ecological features: (main habitats and vegetation types)

The nutrient-rich waters support abundant plankton, but submerged vegetation is sparse because turbidity inhibits light penetration. The shoreline vegetation is dominated by *Phragmites*, giving way to *Glyceria maxima*, *Carex* stands or grazed meadows.

17. Noteworthy flora: (indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc)

The area's grazed pastures and shorelines support a rich annual flora, which include the *Crassula aquatica*, *Cardamine parviflora* (both nationally redlisted), *Elatine triandria*, *E. hydropiper*, *Persicaria minor*, *P. hydropiper* and *P. lapathifolia*.

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

A great variety of migratory duck species such as the smew *Mergus albellus*, shoveler *Anas clypeata*, and pochard *Aythya ferina* use the site as a resting place. Several wader species are recorded, like the jack snipe *Lymnocryptes minimus*, bar-tailed godwit *Limosa lapponica* and Temminck's stint *Calidris temminckii*. All birds mentioned are nationally redlisted, several are included in EU Birds directive.

Nesting species include the marsh harrier *Circus aeruginosus*, spotted crane *Porzana porzana* (nationally redlisted), bearded tit *Panurus biarmicus* (nationally redlisted) and penduline tit *Remiz pendulina* (nationally redlisted). The white-tailed eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* (globally redlisted) is a regular visitor to the site. The corncrake *Crex crex* (globally and redlisted, EU Birds directive species) is an occasional visitor. Several fish species including the asp *Aspius aspius* (globally redlisted), pike (*Esox lucius*) and zander *Stizostedion lucioperca* spawns in the area.

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

Fishing and grazing of livestock.

20. Land tenure/ownership of: (a) site (b) surroundings

(a) The area is privately owned.

(b) The surrounding area is mainly privately owned.

21. Current land use: (a) site (b) surroundings/catchment

(a) Fishing and grazing of livestock.

(b) Mainly agriculture.

22. Factors (past, present or potential) adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land use and development projects: (a) at the site (b) around the site

(a) Maintenance of the traditional grazing regime is essential for maintaining the ecological character of the associated meadows. Inadequate reed-cutting might damage submergent vegetation and destroy sensitive breeding biotopes. Therefore cutting of reed should be limited in areas that are ornithologically important and restricted to shallow water holding only reed-swamp.

(b) None known.

23. 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)

1998 it was decided to create a nature reserve, covering 1482 ha in the Dättern area. A management plan exists.

The nature reserve is also part of the Natura 2000 network.

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

No conservation measures proposed.

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

No activities.

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

None known.

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

None known.

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

County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland

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

County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland

S-403 40 Gothenburg

Sweden

30. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

Länsstyrelsen Älvsborgs län. 1985. Fåglar och fågelbiotoper i Vänern. 1985: 3.

Länsstyrelsen Älvsborgs län. 1987. Dättern, Ornitologisk inventering 1987: 5.
