

Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

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

1. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

1998

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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Australia

3. Name of wetland:

Interlaken Lakeside Reserve, Tasmania

4. Geographical coordinates:

Latitude: (approx) 42° 09'S; Longitude: (approx) 147° 10'E

5. Altitude:

Approximately 800 metres

6. Area:

520ha

7. Overview:

8. Wetland Type:

marine-coastal: A B C D E F G H I J K
inland: L M N **O** 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

9. Ramsar Criteria:

1a 1b 1c 1d **2a** **2b** 2c 2d | 3a 3b 3c | 4a 4b

Please specify the most significant criterion applicable to the site:

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

The map of this site is based on digital data from the Tasmanian 1:25 000 Topographic Map series. The Ramsar boundary has been redefined since original submission of the site, using grid referenced points where previously contour lines of elevation had been used.

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

12. Justification of the criteria selected under point 9, on previous page.

13. General location:

Interlaken Lakeside Reserve lies at the north west corner of Lake Crescent, approximately 20 kilometres west of the town of Tunbridge.

14. Physical features:

The area is underlain by Jurassic dolerite with alluvial deposits common on flats and swampy ground. Average annual rainfall is 750 - 1000 mm.

15. Hydrological values:

Water from the lake is used for irrigation in the Clyde River valley.

16. Ecological features:

This wetland comprises a *Triglochin procera* - *Baumera arthrophylla* marsh, the margins of which are grazed when dry. It is important to ducks as a feeding, resting and breeding area and in dry years as a drought refuge.

17. Noteworthy flora:

The north-western corner of Lake Crescent is one of the three known localities of *Scirpus montivagus* in Tasmania. *Isolepis montivaga* and *Amphibromus neesii* are both considered to be rare. The former is unreserved. The latter is known from only six localities, only one of which is reserved.

18. Noteworthy fauna:

The area is locally important for Black Swan, *Cygnus atratus* and up to five species of ducks, depending on seasonal and climatic conditions.

19. Social and cultural values:

The area is highly regarded as a hunting and fishing area. It is widely known for the large trout that are caught there.

20. Land tenure/ownership:

Crown Land Recreation Area(Interlaken Lakeside Reserve).

21. Current land use:

Sport, fishing, duck shooting and low intensity livestock grazing.

The area formerly had a very low human population but a sub-division of approximately 70 lots has recently been developed along the adjacent shoreline.

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

Housing subdivision on adjacent land may cause pollution of the lake from septic tank runoff.

Lake Crescent and the neighbouring Lake Sorell contain the only known populations of European carp in Tasmania. These may impact on values of the lake.

23. Conservation measures taken:

The area was proclaimed a Crown Land Recreation Area in 1981.

Management of this site is focusing on the manipulation of water levels of Lake Crescent, and the adjoining Lake Sorell, to eradicate carp from this waterway and prevent more widespread infestation of the State's waterways. Ongoing advice on the conservation values and management needs of the Ramsar site has been provided to the carp eradication project.

24. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

Cessation of waterfowl hunting inside the reserve area has been proposed, as has the possible extension of the Ramsar site boundary to include the whole lake if further populations of *Isolepis montivaga* and *Amphibromus neesii* are found.

It is intended to write a management plan for the area. This will address the presence of the European carp and consider ways of controlling or eradicating them.

25. Current scientific research and facilities:

The waterbird population is counted annually and considerable effort is being put into controlling the carp population. A well equipped hut provided by the Department of Environment and Land Management on the shore of Lake Sorell is frequently used for research and management purposes. The Inland Fisheries Commission is considering purchasing a house in the area for use during the carp control program.

26. Current conservation education:

None at present.

27. Current recreation and tourism:

The area is being used increasingly by sport anglers because of improving access and availability of recreational vehicles. Estimated visitor numbers have increased from 700 in 85/86 to 3,450 in 89/90.

28. Jurisdiction:

Territorial: Northern Midlands Municipal Council

Functional: Tasmanian Department of Environment and Land Management.

29. Management authority:

Tasmanian Department of Environment and Land Management, 134 Macquarie Street, Hobart, 7000.

30. Bibliographical references:

Anon. (1995) The European Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) in Lake Crescent. Inland Fisheries Commission, Hobart. pp 15.

Departmental files (DELM, Tas)
