Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

1. Country: Czech Republic

2. Date: 10 September 1993

3. Ref: 3CZ009

4. Name and address of compiler:
Jiri Janda
Czech Ramsar Committee
Valy 121
CZ-37901
Trebon
Czech Republic

5. Name of wetlands: Poodří

6. Date of Ramsar designation: 1 October 1993

7. Geographical coordinates: 49° 36' - 49° 48'N; 17° 52' - 18° 14'E

8. General location: Ostrava, Jistebník (North Moravia)

9. Area: about 1,500 ha

10. Wetland type:
Naturally meandering river with floodplain forests and other wetland biotopes, fishponds and wet meadows

11. Altitude: 214-2832m, maximum 298m

12. Overview:
The floodplain of the Odra River between the towns of Ostrava and Mankovice in the centre of the Moravian Gate (Moravská brána), with well preserved communities in the naturally meandering water course. The biotopes include a system of lakes, backwaters and pools with a fluctuating water level, floodplain forests, wetlands, a large area of alluvial meadows with scattered trees, shrubs and several fishpond systems. The river terrace has forest communities which are dominated by oak and hornbeam or by lime-tree and maple. Arable land prevails outside the inundation area, and there are human settlements near the boundaries of the area.

13. Physical features:
The climate is moderately warm. The average annual temperature of the southern part (to the confluence of the Odra with the Jicínka) and of the northern part is 8oC and 9oC respectively. The annual precipitation is 800mm. Phytogeographical unit: Carpathian Mesophyticum.
The main geomorphological units include: Moravská brána, Ostravská pánev. Geological unites: Neogene of the Carpathian fore-deep (Vnekarpatská predhluben).
Geobotanical reconstruction: alder and willow carrs (Alno-Padion, *Alnetea glutinosae*, *Salicetea purpureae*), waterlogged oak and beech woodland (Cavici-Queretum prov.) and oak and hornbeam woodland (*Carpinion betuli*). Underlying rocks: Miocene Lower Tortonian sediments (left bank), Cretaceous formation of sandstone and claystone (with argillaceous iron ore), Paleogene formations of clay and claystone, partly calcareous. Cretaceous layers of claystone and clay, mostly calcareous. Quaternary cover consists of up to 10 m thick loess. Soils: predominantly alluvial. Clay soils prevail in the southern part, clay silty soils cover most of the other area.

14. Ecological features:
The flooded and waterlogged biotopes are predominantly covered by climax floodplain forests, and the drier sites have deciduous woodland communities dominated by oak and hornbeam or by oak and lime tree. The steep slopes (with loose rocks) have woodland communities dominated by maple and lime-

tree (Tilio-Acerion).

15. Land tenure/ownership of:
Most land is presently held by co-operative farms, the State Fisheries, the State Forestry, partly Povodí Odry (the Odra river authorities) and Ceský rybárský svaz (the Czech Angling Association). Private ownership is still rare. Privatisation of agricultural land and of fishponds is under preparation. Restitution of land nationalised after 1948 is under way.

16. Conservation measures taken:
The consistent pressure to canalise the Odra river and the related threat to the whole floodplain ecosystem have been overcome. Conservation regimes for nature reserves (the elimination of introduced trees and shrubs, prevention of fish feeding and fishpond fertilisation) have been drawn up and implemented. In accordance with the declaration of the Protected Landscape Area, rules for the wise use of land have been drawn up for each zone of the Protected Landscape Area and also discussed with all interested parties. The subject documents include a proposal for the ecological restoration of the landscape (plantations of new bio-corridors have started). The floodplain forests have been included among areas to be exempt from economic use.

17. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:
Management plan is being prepared.

18. Current land use:
(a) site: Floodplain forest communities are largely unused, agricultural land is partly used as meadows. The fishponds are used for intensive fish production. The land surrounding wetlands is used for agriculture, mostly as meadows, parts are ploughed up.
(b) surroundings/catchment:

19. Disturbances/threats, including changes in land use and major development projects:
(a) at the site: The main negative factors include unsuitable agricultural management, mainly of meadows (ploughing, over-fertilisation, draining, destruction of scattered trees and shrubs) and intensive fishpond management, even in the core zone of the Protected Landscape Area (sediment dredging, fish feeding, fertilisation). These considerably enhance eutrophication and reduce the species diversity of both plant and animal communities. The forests are downgraded by plantations of spruce instead of more suitable species. The floodplain forest is also endangered by changes in the ground water level and by immission.
(b) in the surroundings/catchment:

20. Hydrological and physical values:
The upper part of the Odra river is very important for water management. Though only 4% of the catchment is situated in the Czech Republic, it drains 10% of the flow). No water works controlling flow have yet been constructed on the Odra river. Therefore, the Odra has preserved its natural hydrology and the Odra floodplain still has its regime of seasonal fluctuations of both groundwater table and of stagnant surface waters in response to precipitation. The pollution coming from the catchment is tremendous (Bílovec, Nový Jicín, Frenštát, Koprivnice, Príbor, intensive agricultural production units), yet the river is able to cope with it still fairly well owing to its great self-purification capacity. The water flow represents a fairly well poised system from both ecological and hydrological point of view, which acts as a natural purification system. Numerous springs, found mainly on the right river terrace, are used as water resources.

21. Social and cultural values:
In spite of considerable deforestation, the landscape has still preserved great diversity of biotopes, including numerous meadows, backwaters, fishponds and pools, with scattered groups of trees and shrubs and solitary trees, and with species-rich riparian vegetation along the Odra.

22. Noteworthy fauna:
The are is situated in an important bird migration route across Central Europe. According to the international waterfowl counts, the approximately 550 ha fishpond area is host to, during migration, an average of a 1,000-1,500 individuals of *Fulica atra*, 1,500-2,000 individuals of *Vanellus vanellus*, 1,500-3,000 individuals of *Larus ridibundus*, 50-100 individuals of *Podiceps*, 50-80 individuals of *Ardea*

cinerea. Breeding species include *Bucephala clangula*, *Podiceps grisegena*, *Botaurus stellaris*, *Limosa limosa*, *Tringa totanus*. As for the mammals, there is a regular occurrence of *Lutra lutra* (almost extinct in other parts of Moravia).

23. Noteworthy flora:
Plant communities include the following alliances: *Lemnion minoris*, *Utricularion vulgaris*, *Nymphaeion albae*, *Batrachion aquatilis*, *Phragmites communis*, *Oenanthion aquaticae*, *Phalaridion arundinaceae*, *Caricion gracilis*, *Arrhenatherion*, *Alopecurion pratensis*, *Calthion*, *Salicion triandrae*, *Alno-Ulmion, Carpinion*, *Tilio-Acerion*, etc. Plant species include *Epipactis albensis*, *Listera ovata*, *Matteucia struthiopteris*, *Nuphar lutea*, *Ornithogallum kochii*, *Petasites albus*, *Salvinia natans*, *Trapa natans*, *Ulmus laevis*, *U. minor*, *Veratrum lobelianum*.

24. Current scientific research and facilities:
The basic botanical and zoological research of the area has been carried out: avifauna has been monitored over a long time. Further research has been focused on mollusc zoology and hydrobiology. Long term monitoring of soil and water quality has been started.

25. Current conservation education:
A nature trail "Kotvice" has been opened, a proposal for another nature trail is under preparation.

26. Current recreation and tourism:
Canoeing, hiking. Further proposals concern new tourist tracks and the use of weirs for bathing. A system of water service (with the aim to prevent damage to the biotopes by tourists) is being prepared.

27. Management authority:
Protected Landscape Area Poodrí Administration, Ostrava

28. Jurisdiction: Ministry of the Environment, Praha

29. Bibliographical references:
Kolektiv-Oborový dokument CHKO Poodrí, unpublished msc. Terplan Praha (1990).
Ungerman, J. *et al.* Prípravná dokumentace pro vyhlášení CHKO Poodrí, msc. (1987).
Vanícek V. *et al.* Základní ekologické zhodnocinÍ území navrhované CHKO Poodrí, msc., (1985).

30. Reasons for inclusion:
The site is unique in character in the whole Baltic catchment and meets Criteria 1c, 2b, 3b.

Zoning of the Ramsar site:
There are 7 “Core” sites identified inside the Poodri Ramsar site:

Number	Name	Area	Lat	Long
RC2.01	Pustejovske louky	250 ha	4941	1803
RC2.02	Bernarticky les	190 ha	4937	1758
RC2.03	Cerny les a Valcha	190 ha	4943	1758
RC2.04	Kotvice	107.4 ha	4942	1805
RC2.05	Bazantnice	225 ha	4942	1806
RC2.06	Polansky les	85 ha	4947	1813
RC2.07	Jistebnické rybníky	500 ha	4943	1811