

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 15 May 2019 Update version, previously published on : 1 January 2002

Denmark (Greenland)

Hochstetter Forland



Designation date 27 January 1988 Site number 390

Coordinates 75°28'43"N 19°47'46"W

Area 207 000,00 ha

https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/390 Created by RSIS V.1.6 on - 20 July 2020

Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a 'full' Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

1 - Summary

Summary

This site is an extensive level tundra area, which gently slopes from a mountain range in the northwest across a plateau at about 300 m asl. and towards the sea to the east and south. The site is an important moulting area for geese, especially the Pink-footed Goose (Anser brachyrhynchus) and approx. 3% of the flyway population was present at the most recent survey in 1988.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1	.1	- 1	Name	and	address	of	the	comp	iler	of	this	RIS	ò
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Compiler 1

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2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year 1976

To year 2015

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)
Hochstetter Forland

2.1.4 - Changes to the boundaries and area of the Site since its designation or earlier update

(Update) A Changes to Site boundary Yes No ○
^(Update) The boundary has been delineated more accurately ✓
(Update) The boundary has been extended □
(Update) The boundary has been restricted □
(Update) B. Changes to Site area the area has increased
(Update) The Site area has been calculated more accurately □
(Update) The Site has been delineated more accurately ☑
(Update) The Site area has increased because of a boundary extension
(Update) The Site area has decreased because of a boundary restriction

2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS?

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps 0

Boundaries description

The eastern and southern border follows the coastline approx. 3 km off the coast. The western border is along 20° 20' 30" W longitude. The northern border is not clearly defined, but the eastern corner is at 75° 48' 39" N, and follows to the west the small river from here to just north of point 692 and from here towards westnorthwest to a point at 75° 49' 02" N, 20° 20' 08" W (on the 500 m contour line).

2.2.2 - General location

) In which large administrative region does	Northeast Greenland National Park
the site lie?	
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Ittoqqortoormiit 525 km to the south, Daneborg (military outpost) 92 km to the south

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other Yes O No

Yes O No countries?

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes O No lacktriangle

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 207000

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from 207600.52 GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Diogoograpino rogiono	
Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
Other scheme (provide name below)	Mddle Arctic, continental
WWF Terrestrial Ecoregions	Kalallit Nunaat high Arctic tundra

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

Middle Arctic, continental according to Bay 1997

3 - Why is the Site important?

3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and the	eir justification
☑ Criterion 1: Representative, rare	or unique natural or near-natural wetland types
Other reasons	This area is an example of an extensive and undisturbed level high Arctic tundra with numerous wetlands
☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and th	reatened ecological communities
☑ Criterion 3 : Biological diversity	
Justification	The area supports a high diversity of breeding water birds.
☑ Criterion 4 : Support during critic	al life cycle stage or in adverse conditions
☑ Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird popular	lation
☑ Criterion 7 : Significant and representation	esentative fish
Justification	Arctic char spawn and winter in the two large rivers. There are only three species of freshwater fish in Greenland: Atlantic salmon (only in one river), three-spined stickleback and Arctic char (most populations are anadromous, but as they all spawn in freshwater, Arctic char is considered as a freshwater fish). Moreover, Arctic char is the only freshwater fish of the high Arctic region in which this site is situated. A third of the total freshwater fish fauna (species in Greenland is made up from Arctic char
☑ Criterion 8 : Fish spawning ground	nds, etc.
Justification	Important spawning grounds for Arctic char in the rivers.

3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

<no data available>

3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion 2 4 6 9	criterion	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
Birds												
CHORDATA/ AVES	Acanthis hornemanni	Arctic Redpoll	2 000								national responsibility species	breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anser brachyrhynchus	Pink-footed Goose			6500	1988	1.2	LC			national responsibility species	concentrations of moulting birds

			Species	Spe	cies							
Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	qualifies under criterion 2 4 6 9	un	ibutes der erion	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.		CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Arenaria interpres	RuddyTurnstone						LC				breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Branta leucopsis	Barnacle Goose				230		LC			national responsibility species	moulting birds
CHORDATA/ AVES	Bubo scandiacus	Snowy Owl	V					W				breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Calidris alba	Sanderling										breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Calidris alpina arctica	Dunlin	2 000								endemic subspecies	breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Calidris canutus	Red Knot						NT			national responsibility species	breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Calidris maritima	Purple Sandpiper						LC				breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Charadrius hiaticula	Common Ringed Plover						LC				breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Clangula hyemalis	Oldsquaw; Long- tailed Duck	2 200					W				breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Falco rusticolus	Gyrfalcon						LC	V		NT on national red list	breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Gavia stellata	Red-throated Loon; Red- throated Diver						LC				breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Phalaropus fulicarius	Red Phalarope						LC				breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Somateria mollissima	Common Eider						NT				breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Somateria spectabilis	King Eider						LC				breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Stercorarius Iongicaudus	Long-tailed skua						LC				breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Stercorarius parasiticus	Arctic skua										breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Sterna paradisaea	Arctic Tern						LC			NT on national red list	breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Xema sabini	Sabines gull				20		LC			NT on national red list	breeding
	and Crustacea											
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYG	Salvelinus alpinus	Arctic char			1			 LC				spawning in the rivers
Others												
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Canis lupus arctos											
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Dicrostonyx groenlandicus	Northern Collared Lemming; Nearctic Collared Lemming; Collared Lemming						LC				common in lemming years
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Lepus arcticus	Arctic Hare						LC				breeding
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Monodon monoceros	Narwhal						LC			EN on national red list	visitor in deep waters south of site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion 2 4 6 9	criterion	Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Mustela erminea	Ermine		2 000]			LC				breeding
	Odobenus rosmarus	Walrus	2 000	2 000]			W			NT on national red list	fouraging in coastal waters
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Ursus maritimus	Polar Bear	2 000	2 000]			W			VU on national red list	Visitor throughout the year
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Vulpes lagopus	Arctic Fox		2 000]			LC				common

¹⁾ Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

The East Greenland/lceland/UK flyway population of Anser brachyrhynchus is growing, and so the Site's population may have also increased. It is likely that its population still meets the Criterion 6, with a higher percentage of occurrence, although no recent data can be provided.

3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

<no data available>

4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

4.1 - Ecological character

This Ramsar-site is mainly placed on sedimentary rocks and is generally level, with many depressions and ponds. The surrounding waters are usually ice covered except for the summer (July/August).

The dry parts of the lowlands are covered with dwarf scrub heath, and there are marshes along the rivers and the many ponds. In the northern part, there are two large lakes (only partly included in the Ramsar site), and two large rivers from these lakes cross the lowland on their way to the sea.

4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

Marine or coastal wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
A: Permanent shallow marine waters		2		Representative
E: Sand, shingle or pebble shores		1		Rare

Inland wetlands

ilitaria wettarias				
Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
Fresh water > Flowing water >> M: Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks		3		Representative
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		1		Representative
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		2		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic or peat soils >> Vt: Tundra wetlands		4		Representative

Other non-wetland habitat

Other Horr-wettarid Habitat	
Other non-wetland habitats within the site	Area (ha) if known
dwarf scrub heath	
abrasion flats	

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Optional text box to provide further information

Information on the flora is fragmented. Rare species include: Saxifraga nathorstii, Luzula wahlenbergi and Puccinellia bruggemanni.

4.3.2 - Animal species

<no data available>

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
E: Polar climate with extremely cold winters and summers	ET: Tundra (Polar tundra, no true summer)

The Köppen-Gieger Climate Classification System do really not fit to this site. The site is within the high Arctic climate zone.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

RIS for Site no. 390, H	lochstetter Forland, Dei	ımark (Greenland)	
a) Minimum elevation a	bove sea level (in metres)		
a) Maximum elevation a	1 1000		
	metres)	tire river basin ☑	
		rt of river basin	
		rt of river basin 🗹	
		rt of river basin 🗹	
		one river basin 🗹	
	No	ot in river basin	
		Coastal 🗹	
Please name the river basis	n or basins. If the site lies in a	sub-basin, please also name	the larger river basin. For a coastal/marine site, please name the sea or ocean.
Large river to the nort	h is Langelv. The adjace	nt sea is the Greenland	sea to the east and Ardencaple Fjord to the south.
4.4.3 - Soil			
	a to data.	Mineral	
	(Update) Changes		Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
	A bodet-V	Organic	0
		_	Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
		ole information 🗹	
Are soil types subject to conditi	change as a result of changir ons (e.g., increased salinity or	ng hydrological acidification)?	
	,	,	
4.4.4 - Water regime			
Water permanence	Observed at DIO and date		
Presence? Usually permanent water	Changes at RIS update		
present			
Source of water that maintain			
Presence? Water inputs from rainfall /	Predominant water source	Changes at RIS update	
snowfall	8	No change	
Water destination			
Presence? Marine	Changes at RIS update No change		
Wallio	140 Grango		
Stability of water regime Presence?	Changes at RIS update		
Water levels largely stable	No change		
Places add any comments	on the water regime and its de	starminanta (if ralas not). Llas t	nia havta avalain aitaa viith aamalay hydralagu
The primary water so		terminants (irrelevant). Ose ti	nis box to explain sites with complex hydrology.
, ,			
4.4.5 - Sediment regim	ne		
Signifi	cant erosion of sediments occ		
	(Update) Changes	at RIS update No change O	Increase O Decrease O Unknown ●
Significant accretion of	or deposition of sediments occ		
	(Update) Changes	at RIS update No change O	Increase O Decrease O Unknown ●
Significant transportation	on of sediments occurs on or the		
		_	Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
Sediment regime is highl	ly variable, either seasonally or		
			Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
	Sediment rec	gime unknown 🗹	
AAG Matanali			
4.4.6 - Water pH			
		Acid (pH<5.5)	0
	(Update) Changes	at RIS update. No change O	Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)	
	No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
Alkaline (pH>7.4)	
	No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
Unknown	
4.4.7 - Water salinity	
Fresh (<0.5 g/l)	
	No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
Mxohaline (brackish)/Mxosaline (0.5-30 q/l)	-
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
	No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l)	
	No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
Hyperhaline/Hypersaline (>40 g/l)	
	No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
Unknown	
4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water	
Eutrophic	
(Update) Changes at RIS update	No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
Mesotrophic	
(Update) Changes at RIS update	No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
Oligotrophic	
(Update) Changes at RIS update	No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
Dystrophic	
(Update) Changes at RIS update	No change O Increase O Decrease O Unknown ⊚
Unknown	☑
4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect t	he Site
Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the site itself:	i) broadly similar ○ ii) significantly different ⑨
Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development	
Surrounding area has higher human population density	
Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use	
Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types	
Please describe other ways in which the surrounding area is different:	
The surrounding area is dominated by high mountains and	d open sea.

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	High

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Biodiversity	Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganizms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	Medium

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

	ast as huts from the trapper-era (see Mikkelsen 2008) and there are many tent rings and winter house ruins pers. comm) (cf. also. Greenland National Museum).
Within the site:	10s
Outside the site:	10s
Have studies or assessments been made of ecosystem services prov	ithe economic valuation of Yes O No Unknown O ided by this Ramsar Site?
4.5.2 - Social and cultural values	
i) the site provides a model of wetland wis application of traditional knowledge and met use that maintain the ecological	hods of management and
ii) the site has exceptional cultural trad civilizations that have influenced the ecological	
iii) the ecological character of the wetland with local communiti	depends on its interaction es or indigenous peoples
iv) relevant non-material values such as sac their existence is strongly linked with the main	•

4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

<no data available>

5 - How is the Site managed? (Conservation and management)

5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

Public ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Public land (unspecified)	✓	✓

5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:

Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:

Postal address:

Postal address:

Pinngortitamut Avatangiisinullu Naalakkersuisoqarfik
Departementet for Nature and Environment

Karen Motzfeldt, Head of Department for Nature, Climate and Research

Pinngortitamut Avatangiisinullu Naalakkersuisoqarfik
Departementet for Nature og Miljø
Ministry of Nature and Environment
Postboks 1015
3900 Nuuk

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

E-mail address: pan@nanoq.gl

5.2.1 - Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site's ecological character

Transportation and service corridors

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Aircraft flight paths	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change	✓	No change

Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Recreational and tourism activities	Low impact	Low impact	/	No change	/	No change

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Areas important for wildlife (Anon. 2000)		https://www.govmin.gl/images/sto ries/minerals/rules_for_fieldwor k.pdf	whole
National Park	North and East Greenland National Park	http://lovgivning.gl/lov?rid={1F C9C99F- 1BE0-494A-A663-4CA19ABEAF 62}	whole
Ramsar site	Hochstetter Forland	http://lovgivning.gl/lov?rid={15 CBC689- E3AD-470D-B32A-947A250D70 62}	whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	051 Hochstetter Forland	http://datazone.birdlife.org/sit e/factsheet/50	whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

			_
		_	
la Strict	Natura	Reserve	

Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection

II National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
III Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly of roconservation through management intervention
VProtected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? No

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes O № ●

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning Yes O No

processes with another Contracting Party?

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? No need identified

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Animal community	Proposed

Monitoring is proposed by Egevang & Boertmann 2001.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Anonymous 2000. Rules for fieldwork and reporting regarding mineral resources (excluding hydrocarbons) in Greenland. - Government of Greenland, Bureau of Minerals and Petroleum.

Boertmann, D., Olsen, K. & Nielsen, R.D. 2009. Seabirds and marine mammals in Northeast Greenland. Aerial surveys in spring and summer 2008. - NERI Technical report no.721. http://www2.dmu.dk/Pub/FR721.pdf

Born, E.W., Boertmann, D.M., Heide-Jørgensen, M.P., Dietz, R., Witting. L., Kyhn, L., Riget, F.F., Laidre, K. & Ugarte, F. 2009. Abundance of Atlantic Walrus (Odobenus rosmarus rosmarus) in East Greenland. - NAMMCO SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP ON WALRUS SC/17/WWG/07.

Egevang, C. & Boertmann, D. 2001. The Greenland Ramsar Sites, a status report. – National Environmental Research Institute (NERI), Technical Report No. 346, 96 pp.

Greenland Red List 2007. (Boertmann, D., 2008). Rødliste 2007 over planter og dyr i Grønland. – Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser, Grønlands Hjemmestyre.

Mikkelsen, P.S. 2008. North-east Greenland 1908-60 - The Trapper Era – Scott Polar Research Institute.

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)

ii. a detailed Ecological Character Description (ECD) (in a national format)

iii. a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory

<1 file(s) uploaded>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

v. site management plan

vi. other published literature

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



South coast of the site. (2017)



Central coastal part of the site seen from NW. (David Boertmann, 30-08-2017)



Central interior part of the site. (*David Boertmann, 30-08-2017*)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

Date of Designation 1988-01-27