

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

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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Sweden

3. Name of wetland:

Oldflån - Flån

4. Geographical coordinates:

63°48'N, 013°48'E

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.)

490 - 780 m

6. Area: (in hectares)

10 100 ha

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

The site is of national interest for nature conservation because of its large, unexploited area holding very high ornithological values. It is highly valued for its representative wetland types, its birdlife and its valuable mosaic of wetlands and forests.

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: Xp, U, O

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: 1

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 natural wetland type (forested peatland) in the EU Alpine region
 3. Supports particular elements of biological diversity that are characteristic of the EU Alpine region
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13. General location: (include the nearest large town and its administrative region)

The site consists of two large mire complexes between the city of Östersund and the Norwegian border. They are situated 78 km north-west of the city of Östersund, in the County of Jämtland, north-western Sweden. Municipality: Krokoms.

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)

Bedrock and moraine are visible through the thin soil cover in several places. The Oldflån area is a low mountain plateau, whereas the Flån area is a more wetland complex following the terrain. The site contains a large well-developed system of flarks (seemingly bottomless pools).

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

By large unaffected by human activities which contributes to the maintenance of water quality.

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

The site is located in the pre-alpine area, with hilly moraine landscape and a wide variety of nature and wetland types. The Oldflån area is a highly differentiated mire landscape with several different kinds of mire complexes, such as soligenous fens and marsh forests. It is dominated and characterised by a highly valued mixed string mire, rich in cloudberry *Rubus chamaemorus*. Solid ground 'islets' are common, some with virgin spruce forest *Picea abies*. The Flån area is a mosaic complex with fens, small lakes and solid ground 'islets'. There are also topogenous soft ground fens, mixed mosaic mires, string-flark-fens with flark pools and marsh forests.

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

The rare bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum* is found within the Oldflån area. Large parts of the forests within the site are old and almost undisturbed. Large fens like the ones in the Flån area are unusual for this region, and are therefore of great importance in the biogeographic region concerned.

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

The large amount of wet mires and the virgin forests support a rich fauna, especially a large number of waders. The diversified bird fauna contains species like the golden plover *Pluvialis apricaria*, whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*, red-necked phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*, merlin *Falco columbarius* and crane *Grus grus*, all included in the EU Birds directive. Other bird species include the redshank *Tringa totanus* and rough-legged buzzard *Buteo lagopus*.

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

Like large parts of northern Sweden, the area and its surroundings are subject to reindeer husbandry by the local Sami population.

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

(a) Mostly privately and by state

(b) Mostly privately and by state

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

(a) Reindeer husbandry

(b) Reindeer husbandry

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) The Oldflån area is unexploited. The Flån area is also hydrologically unexploited, although terrain vehicles have damaged parts of the fens. Potential factors negatively affecting the high values of the whole site are drainage, peat extraction, road construction and clear-cutting of the forest.

(b) One potential factor is drainage of water systems related to the site.

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)

The area is included in the National Mire Protection Plan.

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

The area is currently subject to nature reserve designation

The 17 380 ha large Oldflån-Ansätten (SE0720160) area has been proposed to the Natura 2000 network as both pSCI and SPA site.

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

None known

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)

There are hiking trails within the area, which implies that some parts are used for recreation. The scenery of the area is appealing in several places.

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

County Administrative Board of Jämtland

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

County Administrative Board of Jämtland

S-831 86 Östersund

Sweden

30. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

Swedish environmental protection agency. 1994. Mire Protection Plan of Sweden.

Johansson, R. 1981. County administration of Jämtland. Compilation of areas with high nature values.

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