

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 22 April 2016

Sweden Sikåsvågarna



Designation date 29 January 2015 Site number 2260 Coordinates 63°38'4"N 15°16'47"E Area 2 305,00 ha

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

The site Sikåsvågarna is a large wetland. Characteristic for the site is the flat, open and very large topogenous fens, surrounding the meandering stream Sikåsån. There is an inland delta where Sikåsån enters the lake Hammerdalssjön.

The site is a representative example of a natural wetland complex, with large topogenous rich fens, shore, wooded mires, wetland forest, delta formation, meandering streams and pools.

The vegetation is rich with clear influence of lime. There are numbers of small lakes and pools at the site. There are also a lot of wetland forests. Large areas are flooded from the snow melting in the spring.

The site Sikåsvågarna is an important resting area for several birds, and a bird watch tower is placed near the stream Sikåsån. The site is also an important area for hunting and fishing and other recreation as e.g. picking cloudberry.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Name Per-Olof Nystrand, (AA Jenny Lonnstad)

Institution/agency Länsstyrelsen i Jämtlands län, (AA Naturvårdsverket)

SE-831 86 Östersund
SWEDEN

Postal address (AA SE-106 48 Stockholm, Sweden)
(AA registrator@naturvardsverket.se, jenny.lonnstad@naturvardsverket.se)

E-mail jamtland@lansstyrelsen.se

Phone +46 10 225 30 00

Fax +46 10 22530 10

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

From year 2014

To year 2015

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

Sikåsvågarna

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Boundaries description (optional)

The boundary is drawn to follow the boundary of the site "Sikåvågarna" in the Swedish Mire Protection Plan. There are two exemptions, the first is in the southern part of the site where the Ramsar boundary is drawn to include to whole delta area, the second is a small clear cut area in the northern part of the MSP-site, it's about 5 hectares and hasn't been included in the Ramsar site.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?

Jämtland county

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

Hammerdal, about 3 km SSE

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries?

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party?

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 2305

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries 2306.87

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
Freshwater Ecoregions of the World (FEOW)	406 Northern Baltic drainages
WWF Terrestrial Ecoregions	Scandinavian-Russian taiga
Udvardy's Biogeographical Provinces	03 West Eurasian taiga
Bailey's Ecoregions	130 Subarctic division
EU biogeographic regionalization	Boreal region

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

Nordiska ministerrådet 1984. Naturgeografisk indelning av Norden. Boreal zone. EEA, 2002. Digital Map of European Ecoregions (DMEER) - Scandinavian-Russian taiga.

3 - Why is the Site important?

3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

1	Criterion 1:	Representative.	rare or unique	natural d	or near-natural	wetland types

The river has a natural flow and water regime without dams. The site catches sediments in the delta. Hydrological services provided The site is an important area for hunting, fishing and picking cloudberry. Other ecosystem services provided The site supports for the EU Boreal region a representative example of a natural wetland complex. The wetland consists of large topogenous rich fens, shores, wooded mires, wetland forest, meandering Other reasons streams and pools. There is an inland delta where Sikåsån enters the lake Hammerdalssjön. Large areas are flooded from the snow melting in the spring. The vegetation is rich with clear influence of lime.

- ☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities
- ☑ Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

The site supports species typical for the wetlands (for example river in natural state, flooded fens, rich fens, forested rich wetlands), in the EU boreal region.

- ☑ Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions
- ☑ Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.

The river with its natural water regime is an important habitat for several fish species. Some species Justification spend their whole life at the site. There are good habitats for leks at the site. Others use the site only for migration, nursery and/or foraging. The river is quite species rich for the EU boreal regions.

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

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Gymnadenia conopsea	fragrant orchid		V				Preserved from collecting in national legislation.	See text box below the table.

Observation of the species can be found in the Swedish database for observations http://www.artportalen.se/ and in the wetland survey (VMI) for the county.

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	Species contributes under criterion 3 5 7 8	Pop. Size	% occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
(:H()R()A(A/	Carpodacus erythrinus	Common Rosefinch	2 000)		LC ●部			The Swedish Red List 2015 (VU).	See text box below the table.

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Speci qualifi unde criteri 2 4 6	ies d er ion	Species contributes under criterion	Size Period of pop. Est	% occurrence	IUCN Red List		CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Circus aeruginosus	Western Marsh Harrier			2 000			LC © SS			EC Birds Directive Annex I.	Breeding site. See text box below the table.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Circus cyaneus	Northern Harrier						LC ©			The Swedish Red List 2015 (NT). EC Bird Directive Annex I.	Breeding site. See text box below the table.
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Coregonus maraena					2						The site is important for migration, nursery and foraging. See textbox under the table and under 3.1 .
CHORDATA/ AVES	Cygnus cygnus	Whooper Swan						LC Str			EC Birds Directive Annex I.	See text box below the table.
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Esox lucius	Northern pike		عمد		2		LC ©				There are good habitats for leks at the site. See textbox under the table and under 3.1 .
CHORDATA/ AVES	Gavia stellata	Red-throated Diver;Red- throated Loon			2 000			LC ©			The Swedish Red List 2015 (NT). EC Birds Directive Annex I.	Breeding site. See text box below the table.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Grus grus	Common Crane						LC Sign			EC Birds Directive Annex I.	Breeding site. See text box below the table.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Hydrocoloeus minutus	Little Gull			2 000			LC ©			EC Birds Directive Annex I.	See text box below the table.
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Leuciscus idus	null				2		LC ©#				There are good habitats for leks at the site. See textbox under the table and under 3.1 .
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Lota lota	Burbot		عصد		2		LC ©				See textbox under the table and under 3.1.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Pandion haliaetus	Osprey;Western Osprey			Z000			LC			EC Birds Directive Annex I.	Breeding site. See text box below the table.
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Perca fluviatilis	Perch				ē		LC Sign				There are good habitats for leks at the site. See textbox under the table and under 3.1 .
CHORDATA/	Podiceps auritus	Horned Grebe			2 000			LC	П		The Swedish Red List (NT) EC Birds Directive Annex I.	Breeding site. See text box below the table.

LC

LC ©#

LC ©#

LC

EC Birds Directive Annex I.

EC Birds Directive Annex I.

the table and under 3.1.

under the table and under 3.1.

See text box below the table.

See text box below the table.

textbox under the table and under 3.1.

There are good habitats for leks at the site. See textbox under

The site is important for migration and foraging. See textbox

The site is important for migration, nursery and foraging. See

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Sterna paradisaea

CHORDATA/ Rutilus rutilus

CHORDATA/ Salmo trutta

ACTINOPTERYGII

ACTINOPTERYGII 🕌 🟪 CHORDATA/ Sterna hirundo

AVES

AVES

CHORDATA/

AVES

CHORDATA/

CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII

Common Tern

Arctic Tern

Grayling

Roach

Trout

Criterion 2: For all species, their status in the Swedish Red List and general information for that classification as well as their distribution etc can be found at http://artfakta.artdatabanken.se/.

Observation of the species can be found in the Swedish database for observations http://www.artportalen.se/. (Observations from the bird tower in Sikås between 2005-2015).

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

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
Fennoscandian natural rivers (EU-code 3210)	Ø	Boreal and hemiboreal natural and near- natural river systems or parts of such systems containing nutrient-poor water. The water level shows great amplitude, up to 6 m during the year. Especially during the spring, the water level is high.	According to the latest assessment (2013) the community have an unfavourable conservation status in the Swedish part of the EU Boreal region. Few rivers are unaffected by hydro-electric dams
Alkaline fens (EU-code 7230)		Wetlands mostly or largely occupied by peat- or tufa-producing small sedge and brown moss communities, developed on soils permanently waterlogged, with a soligenous or topogenous base rich, often calcareous water supply.	According to the latest assessment (2013) the community have an unfavourable conservation status in the Swedish part of the EU Boreal region.

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

4.1 - Ecological character

The site is located in the cambro-silurian area with a limestone bedrock and high lime influence in the moraine. Sikåsvågama is a large wetland complex with topogenous calcareous fens and shores. There are some plants and mosses who indicate high content of lime in the soil as e.g. Schoenus ferrugineus, Carex jemtlandica, Gymnadenia conopsea, Scorpidium cossoni, Paludella squarrosa and Tomentypnum nitens. Other wetland types are wooded mires, wet forest, meandering streams and pools. There is a recent inland delta where the river Sikåsån enters the lake Hammerdalssjön. Large areas of the shore and the flat fens are flooded from the snow melting in the spring. The site Sikåsvågarna is also an important staging area for several birds, many of them are listed species in EC's Bird Directive. The site is also an important area for hunting and other recreation as e.g. picking cloudberry.

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

Inland wetlands

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 >> L: Permanent inland deltas		4	40	Representative
Fresh water > Flowing water >> M Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks		2	460	Representative
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		4	100	Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		4	15	
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non- forested peatlands		1	590	Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> W: Shrub- dominated wetlands		4	30	Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands		3	120	Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> Xp: Permanent Forested peatlands		3	120	Representative

Other non-wetland habitat

Other Hori-wettarid Habitat	
Other non-wetland habitats within the site	Area (ha) if known
coniferous forest on dry ground	

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
Carex lepidocarpa jemtlandica	null	
Myrica gale		Biogeographical interest, not common in this part of the EU boreal region.
Paludella squarrosa	null	
Schoenus ferrugineus	null	
Scorpidium cossonii	null	
Sphagnum wulfianum	null	
Tomentypnum nitens	null	

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylun	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA	MES Alauda arvensis	Eurasian Skylark;Sky Lark				The Swedish Red List 2015 (NT). EC Birds Directive Annex IIB.

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
D: Moist Md-Latitude climate with cold winters	Dfc: Subarctic (Severe winter, no dry season, cool summer)

	4.4.2	 Geomorp 	ohic	setting
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a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)	300
a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)	315

Upper part of river basin 🗹

Please name the river basin 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.

The site is part of the Indalsälven catchment area. The river Sikån is the main tributary to the river Ammerån which is one of many tributaries to the river Indalsälven. The catchment are has it's outlet in the Baltic sea.

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral 🗹

Organic 🗹

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)?

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?
Usually permanent water
present

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source
Water inputs from rainfall	
Water inputs from groundwater	

Water destination

Presence?
Feeds groundwater
To downstream catchment

Stability of water regime

	Presence?	
Wate	er levels fluctua	iting
(including tidal)	١

Please add any comments on the water regime and its determinants (if relevant). Use this box to explain sites with complex hydrology.

The meandering stream Sikåsån is a dominating feature in the site which are flooded in snow melt in spring. There is a inland delta where Sikåsån enters the lake Hammerdalssjön.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site 🗹

Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site $\ensuremath{\checkmark}$

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

There is transport of sediment in the meandring stream, the erosion is in the meandring bows and the deposition of the sediment is in the recent delta in Hammerdalssjön.

4.4.6 - Water pH

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Oligotrophic 🗷

Please provide further information on dissolved or suspended nutrients (optional):

Storås-Sikåsån does not flow through over-nourished agricultural land so the dissolved or suspended nutrients in the water is low.

4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the i) broadly similar ii) significantly different O site itself:

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Low

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Soil formation	Sediment retention	Medium

Within the site:	100	
Outside the site:	100	

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site?

4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

<no data available>

4.6 - Ecological processes

<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

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Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
National/Federal government	>	>
Provincial/region/state government	/	>

Private ownership

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Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	2	/

5.1.2 - Management authority

agency or organization responsible for	Länsstyrelsen i Jämtlands län (County Administration Board of Jämtland)
managing the site:	
Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:	Ramsar contact person, Nature conservation administrator
people with responsibility for the wettand.	
Postal address:	S-831 86 Östersund, Sweden
E-mail address:	jamtland@lansstyrelsen.se
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5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site Act	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Drainage		Low impact	✓	✓

Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Wood and pulp plantations		Low impact	✓	✓

Energy production and mining

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Mining and guarrying		High impact	4	

Transportation and service corridors

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Roads and railroads	Low impact		✓	

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Logging and wood harvesting		Medium impact	✓	V

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	Ammerån SE0720359	http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/jamt land/SiteCollectionDocuments/sv/ djur- och-natur/skyddad-natur/nat ura- 2000/AmmerånSE0720359.pdf	partly

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Protected against building hydro-electric dams	Ammerån		partly

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

<no data available>

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Logar protoctor.				
Measures	Status			
Legal protection	Partially implemented			

Other:

The site is included in the Swedish Mire Protection Plan and the site will probably be protected as a nature reserve in the future, but that work hasn't started yet.

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? Yes

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site?

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

<no data available>

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

County administration board of Jämtland 1977, Mires with botanical value in Hammerdal area

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

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

County administration board of Jämtland. 2000. Wetlands in Jämtland county (report 2002:2).

Swedish environmental protection agency. 2007. Mire Protection Plan of Sweden (report 5669).

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available?

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

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

vi. other published literature

<no data available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



The meandring stream Sikåsvågama (P-O Nystrand, County administration board of Jäntland, 26-08-1992)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2015-01-29