

Additional information to **4CA030**

The area of this site is 24,440 ha, as was stated on the first RIS, and is mentioned in the list that is with the 1999 series of RIS.

Besides the wetland types mentioned at the RIS, type **J**, coastal brackish lagoons, is applicable, and type **B**, subtidal aquatic beds (seagrass), too. Both are applicable according to the category “physical features” and the map.

Land use at the site: commercial shellfish catching must be practised at the site, since the Malpeque Oyster is famous world-wide (Social Values).

The peat cutting that is listed under “threats in the catchment area” is a very serious threat! See also additional information (a few letters) in the sitefile.

Criteria: 1a, 1c, 2a, 2c, 3a, 3b, 3c

Justification of some of the criteria:

2a: Malpeque Bay is a nesting site for the globally threatened wader *Charadrius melodus*.

2c/3b: The site is an important staging area for geese and ducks.

3c: At peak times the site hosts over 1% of the *Branta canadensis* population.

The site falls under IUCN category IV.

(Taken from the WCMC web database at:

<http://www.wcmc.org.uk/cgi-bin/padb.p>)

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