

Designation date: 11/01/2002

Ramsar Site no. 1148

Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS)

2006-2008 version

Categories approved by Recommendation 4.7 (1990), as amended by Resolution VIII.13 of the 8th Conference of the Contracting Parties (2002) and Resolutions IX.1 Annex B, IX.6, IX.21 and IX.22 of the 9th Conference of the Contracting Parties (2005).

Notes for compilers:

1. The RIS should be completed in accordance with the attached *Explanatory Notes and Guidelines for completing the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*. Compilers are strongly advised to read this guidance before filling in the RIS.
2. Further information and guidance in support of Ramsar site designations are provided in the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the Wetlands of International Importance* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 7, 2nd edition, as amended by COP9 Resolution IX.1 Annex B). A 3rd edition of the Handbook, incorporating these amendments, is in preparation and will be available in 2006.
3. Once completed, the RIS (and accompanying map(s)) should be submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat. Compilers should provide an electronic (MS Word) copy of the RIS and, where possible, digital copies of all maps.

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DD MM YY

Designation date Site Reference Number

1. Name and address of the compiler of this form:

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2. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

October 10, 2007

3. Country:

The People's Republic of China

4. Name of the Ramsar site:

Eerduosi National Nature Reserve

5. Designation of new Ramsar site or update of existing site:

This RIS is for (tick one box only):

a) Designation of a new Ramsar site; or

b) Updated information on an existing Ramsar site ✓

6. For RIS updates only, changes to the site since its designation or earlier update:

a) Site boundary and area

The Ramsar site boundary and site area unchanged: ✓

or

If the site boundary has changed:

i) the boundary has been delineated more accurately; or

ii) the boundary has been extended; or

iii) the boundary has been restricted**

and/or

If the site area has changed:

i) the area has been measured more accurately; or

ii) the area has been extended; or

iii) the area has been reduced**

**** Important note:** If the boundary and/or area of the designated site is being restricted/reduced, the Contracting Party should have followed the procedures established by the Conference of the Parties in the Annex to COP9 Resolution IX.6 and provided a report in line with paragraph 28 of that Annex, prior to the submission of an updated RIS.

b) Describe briefly any major changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar site, including in the application of the Criteria, since the previous RIS for the site:

There is no obvious change in the ecological characters. The Ramsar Criterion remains unchanged.

7. Map of site:

Refer to Annex III of the Explanatory Note and Guidelines, for detailed guidance on provision of suitable maps, including digital maps.

a) A map of the site, with clearly delineated boundaries, is included as:

- i) a **hard copy** (required for inclusion of site in the Ramsar List):
- ii) an **electronic format** (e.g. a JPEG or ArcView image)";
- iii) a **GIS file providing geo-referenced site boundary vectors and attribute tables.** ✓

b) Describe briefly the type of boundary delineation applied:

e.g. the boundary is the same as an existing protected area (nature reserve, national park, etc.), or follows a catchment boundary, or follows a geopolitical boundary such as local government jurisdiction, follows physical boundaries such as roads, follows the shoreline of waterbody, etc.

The wetland is located within the protected area in Boerjiang Lake, Manlai and Subuergasumu of Ejinhollo Banner, in Dongsheng District of Eerduosi City, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The north boundary is the National Highway 109. There are four rivers in the site, including Wuertu River, Tao Trench, Hai Trench and Jigou River.

8. Geographical coordinates (latitude/longitude, in degrees and minutes):

Provide the coordinates of the approximate centre of the site and/or the limits of the site. If the site is composed of more than one separate area, provide coordinates for each of these areas.

Centre: 39°48'N 109°35'E

Extent: 39°45'-39°50'N ; 109°15'-109°40'E

9. General location:

Include in which part of the country and which large administrative region(s) the site lies and the location of the nearest large town.

The wetland is located in the central Eerduosi, the central and western areas of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, North China. It is 65 km away from Eerduosi City, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

10. Elevation: (in metres: average and/or maximum & minimum)

Average elevation: 1 440 m

Highest elevation: 1 520 m

Lowest elevation: 1 360 m

11. Area: (in hectares)

7,680 ha

12. General overview of the site:

Provide a short paragraph giving a summary description of the principal ecological characteristics and importance of the wetland.

The wetland is located in the central Eerduosi of the central and western areas of Inner Mongolia. It is the transition zone from typical grassland to desertified grassland of Eerduosi plateau, and belongs to Eurasian grassland areas and Asian desert areas. The habitats of wetland are complex, including inland desert-type lakes, floodplains, river wetlands, dunes and sand-eroded hills.

Because of differences of habitats, non-uniform distribution of species and great differences of plant species composition and vegetation coverage in different habitats, the vegetation types are complex and diverse, dominated by desert vegetations, mainly by the xeric and super-xeric desert shrubs or semi-shrubs. The major communities consist of *Artemisia Erdosica* and *Caragana intermedia*.

The major lakes in the wetland include the Taolimiao-Alashan Lake, Houjia Lake and Sujiagebo Lake. The Taolimiao-Alashan Lake is the largest one, which is located in the central part of the nature reserve. Around the lake, there are some forest belts of *Salix psammophila* and *Caragana Korshinskii* for sand fixation. The lake area is hump-shaped and has charming scenery. The typical plateau desert and semi-desert wetland ecosystem provide a good habitat and breeding conditions for *Larus relictus* and numerous migratory birds. Within the region, the bird resource is rich with 83 species of birds. Besides, a variety of typical grassland mammals and reptiles are found here.

The Eerduosi *Larus relictus* National Nature Reserve is the most concentrated area and most important breeding place in the world for the Relict Gulls (*Larus relictus*). They come here in spring and leave in autumn annually, constructing nests one by one in summer to produce offspring on the islands in the lake. Overlooking towards north from south shore, islands in the lake are shown snow-white color dyed by the gulls. It looks like a rather spectacular landscape painting with pale blue sky, dark blue water and numerous water birds.

13. Ramsar Criteria:

Tick the box under each Criterion applied to the designation of the Ramsar site. See Annex II of the *Explanatory Notes and Guidelines* for the Criteria and guidelines for their application (adopted by Resolution VII.11). All Criteria which apply should be ticked.

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14. Justification for the application of each Criterion listed in 13 above:

Provide justification for each Criterion in turn, clearly identifying to which Criterion the justification applies (see Annex II for guidance on acceptable forms of justification).

Criterion 1:

The wetland is located in the transition zone from typical grassland to desert grassland of Eerduosi plateau, where geographical condition is unique, belonging to typical grassland desert wetland ecosystem, with many salt water lakes, islands in lakes, sands, valleys and meadows in it. It is also rather rare wetland ecosystem. The flora, fauna and structure of this area are representative. The bird resource is rich. It is the most densely distributed area and most important breeding place for the Relict Gulls (*Larus relictus*).

Criterion 2:

There are two vulnerable species of birds are living in this area recorded in the IUCN Red List (2007). They are *L. relictus* (VU) and *Ciconia boyciana* (VU).

L. relictus is also listed in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and in the Convention on Migrate Species.

Criterion 3:

In the arid and semi-arid area, the Eerduosi wetland is of unique geographical conditions , the complex and diverse habitats support 81 species of wetland birds and is a hotspot area of biodiversity of this special biogeographic area.

Criterion 5:

The wetland is the important stopover for migratory waterfowls. The investigation in September 2007 showed that there were 81 species and more than 20 000 individuals of waterfowls in the site.

Criterion 6:

There are 4 species of waterfows reached the 1% criterion:

Scientific name	Number	1% criterion
<i>Larus relictus</i>	8000	120
<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	10000	210
<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	7000	750
<i>Podiceps ruficollis</i>	5000	2200

15. Biogeography (required when Criteria 1 and/or 3 and /or certain applications of Criterion 2 are applied to the designation):

Name the relevant biogeographic region that includes the Ramsar site, and identify the biogeographic regionalisation system that has been applied.

a) biogeographic region:

Eastern prairie subregion, Inner Mongolia--Xinjiang region, Palaearctic realm

b) biogeographic regionalization scheme (include reference citation):

Zoogeography of China, Zhang Rongzu, 1999.

16. Physical features of the site:

Describe, as appropriate, the geology, geomorphology; origins - natural or artificial; hydrology; soil type; water quality; water depth, water permanence; fluctuations in water level; tidal variations; downstream area; general climate, etc.

Geology and geomorphology: The wetland is located in the undulant area of Eerduosi Plateau, where the geological structure is relatively simple. The large-scale zones of fracture and bends with archaean metamorphic rocks lurks under Yanshan layers. The apex of the site is the Bayanaobao Peak with the altitude of 1520m. In turn, the lowest area goes to the basin of T-A Lake of 1360m, the difference of altitudes in the basin is small.

Soil types: The main soil types are chestnut soil, moisture soil and aeolian sandy soil. The chestnut soil is mainly distributed in the northern region and is rich in humus (average thickness 20-30cm), the content of the organic matter is usually 0.5-1.1%, pH 8.0-8.5. The moisture soil is mainly distributed around the lakes and loblollies with impeded drainage. The aeolian soil area is very large and mainly distributed in the southeast and southwest of the site.

Water supply: The water of wetland comes from the seeping groundwater and natural rainfall which confluence forms seasonal rivers flowing into the catchment basins.

Hydrology: The T-A Lake is a permanent inland lake because of the supply of some springs and its deep water, but its water area varies greatly. As for Houjia Lake (area 40 ha, in northwest of the site) and Sujiagebo Lake (area 70 ha), there are no obvious rivers running into them. However, the rainfall during the rainy season enters them. Their water areas vary remarkably.

In addition, there are about 10 smaller alkaliescent lakes in the region. Some of them could dry up because of excessive evaporation in drought years.

The shallow groundwater is affected by rainfall, varying with the annual and seasonal changes of rainfall, whereas the deep groundwater is affected by the geological structure, geomorphological condition and climate, etc.

Water quality: The water quality of T-A Lake tends to be alkaline with the water pH ranging from 8.4 to 8.6. The water quality of Houjia Lake and Sujiagebo Lake are also alkaline and the water pH is 8.5. The shallow groundwater has a total dissolved mineral contents >1g/L and the water pH ranges from 7.0 to 8.5

Water depth: The average water depth of T-A Lake is 2.5m and the maximum depth is over 9m. However, the average water depth of Houjia Lake and Sujiagebo Lake are 3m, the water area varies remarkably. The groundwater level is about 10m.

Climate: The site is in the temperate continental climate zone. Due to the influence of the northwest air circumfluence and the cold air from the polar region, climate is dry in spring, hot in summer, dry and cool in autumn and chill in winter. The shift of seasons is quite obvious with a long winter and a short summer. It is very rich in sunlight with 3 200 hours annually and the annual average temperature is 5.2 °C, the extreme high temperature 35.8 °C and the extreme low temperature -32.6 °C. The average annual accumulated temperature ≥ 10 °C is 2580.3 °C. The rainfall mainly occurs in July and August, accounting for 65% of the annual total amount, the average annual amount is 324.8 mm. However, the annual evaporation reaches as high as 2501 mm, particularly in spring and summer.

17. Physical features of the catchment area:

Describe the surface area, general geology and geomorphological features, general soil types, and climate (including climate type).

The wetland catchments are located in the transition zone from typical grassland to desert grassland of Eerduosi plateau, most of which were formed by the impacts of seasonal rivers of rainfall. The soil types are chestnut soil and aeolian soil. It belongs to temperate continental climate. Annual average temperature is 5.2 °C. The precipitation mainly occurs in July and August with the annual average 324.8 mm. The vegetation is mainly composed of *Artemisia Erdosica*, *Caragana Korshinskii* and *Salix psammophila*.

The catchments cover an area of 58870 ha. There are four rivers, including Wuertu River, Tao Trench, Hai Trench and Jigou River. Jigou River is the main water source. Apart from wetland region, the valleys are mainly used as agricultural and forestry lands. According to census in 2007, there are 3904 persons living within the catchments and owning irrigated lands of 820.67 ha, and dry lands of 1397.56 ha.

18. Hydrological values:

Describe the functions and values of the wetland in groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilization, etc.

Eerduosi plateau is the transition zone from typical grassland to desert grassland, where natural condition is harsh with less precipitation. With regard to soil, the sand soil makes condition for the potential desertification. And with regard to the vegetation, due to the poor soil conditions, the vegetation is sparse and the biodiversity is relatively low, and the ecological environment is fragile. Because of these reasons, the area is vulnerable to lose its species diversity. So the wetlands play important roles in the conservation of bird diversity in desert grassland (especially desert or semi-desert areas), supplement of groundwater, regulation of local climate, and the improvement of the ecological environment.

19. Wetland Types

a) presence:

Circle or underline the applicable codes for the wetland types of the Ramsar "Classification

System for Wetland Type" present in the Ramsar site. Descriptions of each wetland type code are provided in Annex I of the *Explanatory Notes & Guidelines*.

Marine/coastal:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	Zk(a)
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Inland:

L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	Sp	Ss	Tp	Ts	U	Va	Vt	W	Xf	Xp	Y	Zg	Zk(b)
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Human-made:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Zk(c)
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b) dominance:

List the wetland types identified in a) above in order of their dominance (by area) in the Ramsar site, starting with the wetland type with the largest area.

Wetland Category	Wetland type in the site	Area	Percentage of extent in the Ramsar site
W	Sedge wetland	5500 ha	71%
N	seasonal river	1500 ha	20%
Q	permanent saltwater lake	400ha	5%

20. General ecological features:

Provide further description, as appropriate, of the main habitats, vegetation types, plant and animal communities present in the Ramsar site, and the ecosystem services of the site and the benefits derived from them.

Because of unique conditions of hydrology, soil and climate etc, the wetland ecosystem created unique ecological conditions to provide complex and comprehensive habitats for the rich and varied plant communities. Also there are many bottomlands and lakes located in the low-lying sand dune lands.

There are lots of species of plants living in the wetland, including arbors, shrubs, perennial and annual herbaceous vegetation. The differences of substrates and the interleaving of low wet bottomlands cause various plant community types and their combination. The major communities are *Thymus serpyllum* var. *mongolicus* grassland, *C. intermedia*--*Artemisia erdosica* shrub, *Agriophyllum squarrosum* and *A. sphaerocephala* as pioneer plants on the quicksands, *Carex duriuscula* meadows, woods of *S. psammophyla* and the salinized bottomlands dominated by *Achnatherum splendens*, *Suaeda glauca*, and *Tamrix ramosissima*, etc.

Animal communities include mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles, etc. The dominant species are wetland birds, reptiles and typical grassland mammals.

21. Noteworthy flora:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in 14, Justification for the application of the Criteria) indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc. ***Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present - these may be supplied as supplementary information to the RIS.***

The region is a very complex and multi-level transition zone, with the vegetation of extremely high diversity in shrubs. Various types of shrubs are the most dominant plants in the region, most of them are psammophytic and xeric species. A wide variety of shrubs assemble here. Thus, it becomes a natural distribution strip with high unique shrub diversity, basically representing the shrub types and characteristics of the arid, semi-arid, temperate grasslands of our country, and also is a key area for the biodiversity conservation of shrub resources in our country. The major shrub and semi-shrub plants are *Artemisia sphaerocephala*, *Caragana korshinskii*, *S. cheilophila*, *Salix matsudana*, and *S. microstachya*, etc.

The different vegetations in wetland are represented by different types of communities, moreover, the main plant species of different communities show some differences. In the zonal vegetation, *Thymus serpyllum* var. *mongolicus* community is the typical grassland community and the major plant species are *Stipa bungeana*, *Cleistogenes squarrosa*, *Artemisia argyi*, *A. frigida*, *Potentilla bifurca*, and *P. anserina*, etc, and the vegetation coverage is over 35%. In the non-zonal vegetation, there are mainly psammophytic vegetations such as *Artemisia Erdosica* shrub and *C. intermedia* shrub, the common species within the communities are *Stipa glareosa*, *Pennisetum centrasiaticum*, *Agropyron glareosa*, *Agropyron mongolicum*, *Scorzonera mongolica*, and *Scorzonera divaricata*, etc. In the low-lying wet bottomland between sand dunes, there are some communities with relatively high coverage of vegetation and diversity, such as *Carex duriuscula* and *Achnatherum splendens* populations. The population coverage is as high as over 70%, however, the biodiversity is relatively low in the psammophytic semi-shrub population with *Tamrix ramosissima* and *S. psammophyla* as constructive species. In the sandy habitats with loose substrate and low moisture, some pioneer shrub species spread, such as *Artemisia sieversiana* and *H. leave*, which are resistant to the burying of sand.

The aquatic plant species in the lakes mainly include *Potamogeton pectinatus*, *Cladophora*, *Chlorophyceae*, etc. and emerged plants, such as *Typha arrugustifolia* and *Phragmites communis*, etc. The artificial vegetation is mainly in the northern part of nature reserve and the main tree species is hybrid poplars.

22. Noteworthy fauna:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in 12, Justification for the application of the Criteria) indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc., including count data. ***Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present - these may be supplied as supplementary information to the RIS.***

According to the present survey, there live 83 bird species of 19 orders and 42 families in the protected area, including 18 species of breeding birds, 12 species of summer birds, and 53 species of migrant birds, accounting for more than 90% of the wetland birds in Eerduosi. The

Passeriformes contains the most families (17 families) and the family *Anatidae* contains the most species (18 species). Some species are the national first-grade protected birds, such as *Haliaeetus albicilla*. More than 10 are national second-grade protected species, such as *Platalea leucorodia*, *Milvus korschun*, *Buteo hemilasius*, *Falco vespertinu*, *Anthropoides virgo*, *Ardea cinerea* and *Chlidonias niger*, etc. The typical grassland mammals and reptiles mainly include some dominant species, such as *Lepus tolai*, *Mustela eversmannii*, *Mustela sibirica*, *Vulpes vulpes*, *Erinaceus amurensis*, *Allacaga siribica* and *Microtus*, etc.

In 1998, there were more than 7000 gulls of *Larus relictus* in the Eerduosi wetland, accounting for more than 60% of the total number of the species. The nest number reached 3600, supporting over 90% individuals of the breeding population. At present time, the natural wetland areas reduced markedly due to the change of climate and human activity. *Larus relictus* and some other waterbirds lost original habitat conditions, thus the number has declined markedly. The number of *Larus relictus* is about 1200 in 2007, some of them are in nidation.

23. Social and cultural values:

a) Describe if the site has any general social and/or cultural values e.g., fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological sites, social relations with the wetland, etc. Distinguish between historical/archaeological/religious significance and current socio-economic values:

Larus relictus is one of the bird species latest recognized by human beings. The grassland desert wetland ecosystems provide the main habitat and breeding place for *Larus relictus*. The site is also an ideal base to study bird biology, bird ecology and the structure and energy flow in lake ecosystem on plateau. The wetlands are of very high aesthetic and cultural values since the unique beautiful natural scenery with thousands of waterfowls and the special location in the area of minor nationalities. It is an ideal place to study and understand the cultures and customs of different nationalities. In addition, the wetland is an important biological species gene pool.

b) Is the site considered of international importance for holding, in addition to relevant ecological values, examples of significant cultural values, whether material or non-material, linked to its origin, conservation and/or ecological functioning?

No.

If Yes, tick the box and describe this importance under one or more of the following categories:

- i) sites which provide a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland:
- ii) sites which have exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland:

iii) sites where the ecological character of the wetland depends on the interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples:

iv) sites where relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland:

24. Land tenure/ownership:

a) within the Ramsar site:

State ownership. The nature reserve has the right to use the land.

b) in the surrounding area:

State ownership. The local government has the right to use the land.

25. Current land (including water) use:

a) within the Ramsar site:

The whole wetland is under the protection of the national nature reserve.

Core area: About 4753 ha. The artificial disturbance is less since there are no resident people, filth and human activities are strictly restricted here.

Buffer area: About 1627 ha, around two core regions. There are some gulls of *Larus relictus* and other waterfowls still feeding in part of the region.

Experiment area: The region is mainly used for farmlands, woodlands and residential spots and settlements. Some places are desert lands.

b) in the surroundings/catchment:

The farmlands, artificial woodlands and sandlands are the 3 main landuse types in the surroundings. According to the investigation in 2007, there are about 3904 persons and 1282 families living in the region. All of them are engaged in primitive farming, most of them vitally rely on agriculture on drylands and small part of them on irrigated lands. The main crops are *Zea mays*, *Solanum tuberosum*, *Fagopyrum esculentum*, and *Helianthus annuus*, etc. The stockbreeding, forestry and fishery are relatively undeveloped.

26. Factors (past, present or potential) adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land (including water) use and development projects:

a) within the Ramsar site:

The decline of mean annual precipitation and the rising of mean annual temperature caused by global climate change could produce impacts on this wetland which is located in the semi-arid region.

b) in the surrounding area:

The agricultural and residential use of water in the upstream areas could influence the water recharge of the wetland in drought seasons.

27. Conservation measures taken:

a) List national and/or international category and legal status of protected areas, including boundary relationships with the Ramsar site:

In particular, if the site is partly or wholly a World Heritage Site and/or a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, please give the names of the site under these designations.

The T-A lake, other lakes and swamp wetlands in the surroundings were officially approved as the provincial nature reserve in 1998 by the government of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, promoted as the national nature reserve in 2001 by the State Council, and designated as a wetland of international importance in 2002.

The wetland is located in the reserve, with a protected area of 7680 ha.

b) If appropriate, list the IUCN (1994) protected areas category/ies which apply to the site (tick the box or boxes as appropriate):

Ia; Ib; II; III; IV; V; VI

c) Does an officially approved management plan exist; and is it being implemented?:

No

d) Describe any other current management practices:

According to Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Wildlife (1988), an announcement of hunting-banning was issued and some protection stations were established, including Boerjiang-Lake Management Administration Station, Houjia-Lake Management Administration Station, Taoli Temple-Alxa Bay-Lake Management Administration Station and Zhangjia Village Management Administration Station. The stations take charge of patrolling and protecting the wetland. The systematic monitoring of the wetland and its different resources is being carried out actively, which provide firm foundation for the efficient management. In dry years, the projects of water supplement to the wetland were carried out but no long-termed projects were done.

The site is not included in the Montreux record.

28. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

e.g. management plan in preparation; official proposal as a legally protected area, etc.

None

29. Current scientific research and facilities:

e.g., details of current research projects, including biodiversity monitoring; existence of a field research station, etc.

Research programs:

Some research programs from the province or city government have been carried out since the reserve was set up. Seventeen papers have been published.

Completed research programs:

“Study on the Population Ecological Biology and Protection Countermeasures of the gulls (*Larus relictus*) in Eerduosi”, by Administration Bureau of Eerduosi Larus relictus National Nature Reserve (2000, third grade prize awarded by The People's Government of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

“Study on the relations between diversity characteristics of macrobenthos and foraging behavior of gulls (*Larus relictus*) in breeding season in the salt marsh of Eerduosi plateau”, by Administration Bureau of Eerduosi Larus relictus National Nature Reserve (2000).

“Study on the key ecological points about protection of habitats of gulls (*Larus relictus*) in the salt marshes of Eerduosi plateau”, by Administration Bureau of Eerduosi Larus relictus National Nature Reserve (2000).

Current research programs:

“Ecological study on wetlands of Eerduosi plateau and restoration of wetlands in the protection area of the Relict Gulls (*Larus relictus*)” by Administration Bureau of Eerduosi Larus relictus National Nature Reserve and Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources (2007).

Scientific research facilities:

Institute of the Relict Gulls *Larus relictus*: including archives, labs, hatcheries, computer labs and analysis labs, etc.

Bird Banding and Observation Station: 2 observation towers and a simple observation shed. For the shortage of funds, there are only some simple equipments such as telescopes. The research facilities are expected to be further improved.

30. Current communications, education and public awareness (CEPA) activities related to or benefiting the site:

e.g. visitors' centre, observation hides and nature trails, information booklets, facilities for school visits, etc.

In order to intensify publicity and education, the specimen rooms of animals and plants were set up in the office building. A bird observation station with 2 towers and a simple shed were built

up in the field. Every year, students were organized to visit the reserve and participate in various educational activities about protection of nature and wildlife. The summer camps were annually organized on the conservation of nature and wildlife for the students in primary and middle schools. The specialists were invited to make lectures for local communities. Some introduction booklets were printed and distributed.

31. Current recreation and tourism:

State if the wetland is used for recreation/tourism; indicate type(s) and their frequency/intensity.

The wetland isn't used for entertainment and tourism.

32. Jurisdiction:

Include territorial, e.g. state/region, and functional/sectoral, e.g. Dept of Agriculture/Dept. of Environment, etc.

The territorial jurisdiction belongs to Boerjiang Lake Country of Dongsheng City and Subuergasumu of Ejinhollo Banner.

The functional jurisdiction belongs to the Forestry Bureau of Eerduosi City

33. Management authority:

Provide the name and address of the local office(s) of the agency(ies) or organisation(s) directly responsible for managing the wetland. Wherever possible provide also the title and/or name of the person or persons in this office with responsibility for the wetland.

Administration Bureau of Eerduosi *Larus relictus* National Nature Reserve

Principal: Xing Xiaojun

Address: 16 Linyin Road, Eerduosi City, Inner Mongolia

34. Bibliographical references:

Scientific/technical references only. If biogeographic regionalisation scheme applied (see 15 above), list full reference citation for the scheme.

- [1] Xing Xiaojun. Study on Taolimiao-Alashan Lake wetland conservation and reasonable utilization. in *The Memoir of Excellent Papers (2005)*, Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region Natural Science Society, 2005, 94-96
- [2] Zhang Rongzu. China Animal geography. Science Press, Beijing, 1999
- [3] He Fenqi. The latest report about the study on populations of the Relict Gulls in Eerduosi. *Chinese Biodiversity*, 1994, 2(2): 88-90
- [4] He Fenqi. Study on the wetland bird community and assessment on wetland habitats of the Taolimiao-Alashan Lake in Eerduosi of Inner Mongolia. *Chinese Biodiversity*, 1996 , 4(4): 187-193
- [5] Huang Yongmei. Characteristics of the temporal and spatial changes in diversity of plant community on the Eerduosi Plateau. *Chinese Biodiversity*, 2006, 14 (1): 13-20
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