Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS) – 2006-2008 version

Available for download from http://www.ramsar.org/ris/key_ris_index.htm.

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

1. **Dr. Lenka Papáčková-Soukupová** (†), Institute of Botany Czech Academy of Science, 25243 Průhonice,
2. **Vít Tejrovský**, SCHKO Labské pískovce, Chomutovská 120, 431 51 Klášterec nad Ohří +420724188098, vit.tejrovsky@schkocr.cz

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DD MM YY

Designation date | Site Reference Number

2. Date this sheet was completed/updated:
17 November 2006

3. Country:
Czech Republic

4. Name of the Ramsar site:

Krušnohorská rašeliniště (Krusnohorska Mountains mires)

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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 X; or
b) Updated information on an existing Ramsar site ❑

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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 are 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:

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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): yes;

ii**) an electronic format** (e.g. a JPEG or ArcView image) yes;

iii) **a GIS file providing geo-referenced site boundary vectors and attribute tables** yes.

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 a local government jurisdiction, follows physical boundaries such as roads, follows the shoreline of a waterbody, etc.

Most mires in the area are protected as National Nature Reserves and National Nature Monuments, some as Nature Reserves. There are Important Bird Area and pSCI and SPA according to EU Directives too. Large-scale overall protection of the area is presently lacking.
The present boundary delineation copies boundary of declared National Nature Reserves. After declaration of the rest Reserves, marking will be done.

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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.

50°20´ – 50°43´ N, 12°35´ – 13°45´ E

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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.
Krusnohorska Mountains mires is a complex of 8 sub sites (Cinovec a, Cinovec b, Cinovec c, Bozi Dar, Kovarska, Rolava, Svatosebestianska a, Svatosebestianska b) situated near borders between CR and Germany (Saxonia) in Krušné hory (Krušné Mountains) in North-West part of the Czech Republic, administrative regions Ústecký and Karlovarský , 15 km parallel to the West of in-line towns Karlovy Vary-Chomutov-Ústí n. Labem.

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10. Elevation: (in metres: average and/or maximum & minimum) 730 – 1,115 m

11. Area: (in hectares)
11'224ha

12. General overview of the site:
Provide a short paragraph giving a summary description of the principal ecological characteristics and importance of the wetland.

Extensive peatlands characteristic for the summit plains of Central European middle-mountains. The complex comprises 30 mire islands of representative patterned mires and raised–bogs, with neighbouring natural and artificial watercourses, fishponds and reservoir shores. The valuable biodiversity of peatlands insists in occurrence of remarkable lag areas with a mosaic of highly alkaline fens with scattered tree patches, preferred by grouse birds, and of bog expanses occupied by krummholz stands of *Pinus x pseudopumilio* and Central European endemic tree *Pinus rotundata.*

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.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
X	X	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

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 – representative raised–bogs covered by krummholz with transient features to plateaux mires accompanied by valleys with characteristic temperature inversions containing alluvial fens, rare patterned mires at the bottom altitudinal limit of their distribution in Bohemian Massif's mountains, unique lag areas with a mosaic of alkaline fens and tree islets, the deepest mire in the Czech Republic (Habitats of European importance
Criterion 2: according to the National law of Nature and Landscape Protection N:114/1992 (CR) there are: at least 9 critically endangered, 7 endangered, 22 vulnerable species among higher plants, including several glacial relic species; Among vertebrates: 30 critically endangered and endangered species were observed. Among spiders 17 psychrophilous relict species of Ist order were detected.
According to EU Habitat Directive there are follow types of habitats:

- transitional mires
- open raised bogs
- raised bogs with Pinus mugo
- bog hollows
- degraded raised bogs
- bog spruce forests

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: Continental (part Krušné hory – Krusne Mountains)

b) biogeographic regionalisation scheme (include reference citation): NATURA 2000 , CULEK,M.(ed.) (1996): Biogeografické členění České republiky, Angima, Praha.

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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.

Extensive complex, which includes 30 main mire islands on six main summit plains of the Ore Mts., not exceeding 1244 m a.s.l. These Hercynian mountains are noted for their prevalence of acidic crystalline rocks, namely granites and highly metamorphosed schists and gneiss, with nutrient-rich neovolcanic intrusions of basalt. Steep climate gradients, from the rainy, cold and windy summit plains to more sheltered leeward slopes, has predisposed the origin of a variety of mires that developed in the past 9000 years.

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17. Physical features of the catchment area:
Describe the surface area, general geology and geomorphological features, general soil types, and climate (including climate type).

Upland area of The Ore Mountains are formed as a mildly undulated plateau.

Climatic conditions.
Area is a part of climatic district CH4 – CH6 (Quitt 1971), it means long lasting period of snow cover. Year Rate of catch is 900 – 1000 mm, in vegetation period it is 600 – 700 mm.
Average year temperature is about 5°C. West and Southwest winds dominate. Length of vegetation period is 130 – 145 days.

Geologic and pedologic conditions
Most of basement rocks is part of Ore Mountain crystalline complex and it is proterozoic age. It is formed by grey gneiss (doubledazed paragneiss, in places with porfric phenocrysts of feldspar). Grey gneisses are faine – middle grained. Quaternary period's organic bog sediments are situated on gneisses.

Soils are mostly shallow – middle deep. Podzol forest soils with different degree of podzoliation are mostly spreaded. Mineral-poor soils (moderate acid – acid mountain brown soils) arise from rocks weathering. This soils are sand-loamy ones with ingredient gravel.

Hydrological conditions
Whole area is characterized by high level of bottom water. This water creates small pools in a small terrain depressions.

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

Most mires developed in remarkable upland basins, above tectonic faults, on water divides or as patterned mires and are accompanied by valleys with characteristic temperature inversions containing alluvial fens. Remarkable lag areas are supplied by seepage of minerotrophic groundwater, which has resulted in nutrient-rich/alkaline fens of unique biodiversity.

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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)

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

Human-made: 1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6 • 7 • 8 • 9 • Zk(c)

b) dominance: U, Xp, Y, 1, 9

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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.

Extensive peatland complex of the summit plains in the Krušné Hory middle-mountains comprises 30 mire islands with representatives of patterned mires, forested raised–bogs including types with transient features of plateaux mires. Their valuable biodiversity insists of occurrence of remarkable lagg areas with a complicated mosaic of spruce and birch waterlogged woods and wet grasslands, preferred by grouse birds, and of bog expanses occupied by krummholz stands of *Pinus x pseudopumilio* and Central European endemic tree *Pinus rotundata.* Patterned mires are occupied by string–flark mosaic of communities *Sphagno dusenii–Caricetum limosae, Drepanoclado fluitantis–Caricetum limosae, Sphagno cuspidati–Caricetum limosae, Andromedo polifolii-Sphagnetum magellanici, Empetro hermaphroditi–Sphagnetum fusci* and *Pino rotundatae–Sphagnetum.* Raised bogs are marked occurrence namely of *Pino rotundatae–Sphagnetum, Caricetum goodenowii, Carici rostratae-Sphagnetum apiculati, Eleocharitetum pauciflorae, Crepido-Juncetum acutiflori, Scirpo-Juncetum filiformis, Polygono-Cirsietum palustris* and various associations with *Eriophorum angustifolium.*

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21. Noteworthy flora:

critically endangered species -*Hamatocaulis vernicosus,Sedum villosum, Carex chordorrhiza, C. dioica, Scheuchzeria palustris, Drosera anglica, Salix repens, Montia fontana, Listera cordata*

endangered species - *Mnium pseudopunctatum, Paludella squarrosa, Cephalozia loitlesbergeri, C. macrostachya, Pinus rotundata* (endemic tree of Central European bogs), *Rhynchospora alba, Carex limosa, Ledum palustre, Betula nana, Pedicularis palustris, Pinguicula vulgaris, Montia hallii, Swertia perennis, Chrysaspis spadicea, Coeloglossum viride, Dactylorrhiza comosa, Leucorchis albida*

vulnerable species - *Barbilophozia kunzeana, Cephaloziella elachista*, *C. spinigera*, *Odontoschisma sphagni*, *Scapania paludicola, Pseudobryum cinclidioides, Helodium blandowii*, *Splachnum ampullaceum, S. ovatum, Tomenthypnum nitens,*and 31 species of *Sphagnum,* in particular *Sphagnum lindbergii* (glacial relict*), S. fuscum, S. tenellum, S. majus, S. balticum, S. magellanicum, S. subnitens, Pinus x pseudopumilio, Empetrum nigrum, Menyanthes trifoliata, Dactylorhiza longebracteata*

threatened ecological communities: *e.g., Scheuchzerio-Sphagnetum cuspidati, Sphagno lindbergii-Caricetum limosae, Andromedo polifoliae-Sphagnetum magellanici, Pino rotundatae-Sphagnetum*
biogeographically important communities: Drepanoclado fluitantis-Caricetum limosae, *Sphagno cuspidati-Caricetum limosae, Sphagno dusenii-Caricetum limosae.*

References: see 32

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22. Noteworthy fauna: according to law of Natute and Landscape Protection N: 114/1992 (CR)

Invertebrates:
Spiders (with 17 psychrophilous relict species of I[st].order: *Agyneta conigera, Centromerus arcanus, C. pabulator , Diplocephalus permixtus, Gonatium rubens, Lepthyphantes angulatus, Sintula corniger, Meioneta affinis, Drepanotylus uncatus, Araeoncus crassiceps, Walckenaeria vigilax, Alopecosa taeniata, Pirata uliginosus, Hahnia montana, Callilepis nocturna, Talavera westringi, Clubiona kulczynski.*
Beetles: *Carabus menetriesi, Carabus nitens, Patrobus assimilis, Epaphius rivularis, Hydropus ferrugineus, Hydropus longicornis, Hydropus melanocephalus, Agabus affinis, Ilybius aenescens, Ilybius crassus, Rhantus suturellus, Crenitis punctatostriata.*
Butterflies: *Colias palaeno.*
Dragonflies: *Aeshna subartica.*

Vertebrates:
Cyclostomata: *Lampetra planeri* (critically endangered at National level, also included on Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC and in IUCN Red List, LR category)
Amphibians and reptiles: Palmate Newt *Triturus helveticus* (the only occurrence in CR at eastern limit of distribution), Alpine Newt *T. alpestris, Lacerta vivipara* (included on Annex IV of the EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC), *Vipera berus.*
Birds: *Tetrao tetrix*(Annex I of the EU Bird Directive 79/409/EEC), *Tetrao urogallus* (Annex I of the EU Bird Directive 79/409/EEC), *Tetrastes bonasia, Gallinago gallinago, Scolopax rusticola, Picoides tridactylus, Crex crex*(Annex I of the EU Bird Directive 79/409/EEC), *Coturnix coturnix, Pernis apivorus, Circus cyaneus* (Annex I of the EU Bird Directive 79/409/EEC), *Tringa ochropus, Ciconia nigra, Glaucidium passerinum, Aegolius funereus, Turdus torquatus, Carpodacus erythrinus.*
Mammals: *Lynx lynx* (included on Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC)

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23. Social and cultural values:

a) Human settlement in summit plains of Ore Mountains has a long tradition corresponding to the extraction of ores, namely silver and tin. In 16th century, intensive tin-washing proceeded along the brooks in inversion valleys adjacent to mires; as a result many alluvial fens disappeared and numerous spoil mounds arose, which are occupied by dry heaths. In the subsequent centuries, when mining activities retreated, many bogs were affected peat extraction and a few areas as documents of this peat–cutting are included inside Ramsar Site.

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?

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:
Possibilities of menace: drainage, wind power plant farms, forest exploitation, lime treatment, mass tourism

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:

b) in the surrounding area:

Less land is commune, most of it is managed by forestry enterprises owned by state or private. This is valid for both (a) and (b).

25. Current land (including water) use:
a) within the Ramsar site: game keeping, forestry

b) in the surroundings/catchment: forestry, recreation, agriculture

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 and b) in the surrounding area:

In the past, many of the mires had been subject to peat extraction; in the neighbourhood of villages, mires had been affected by grazing and use for animal bedding (litter). During the Communist Period, the overall area of Ore Mts. suffered from its continuing exploitation of its nature resources based on the ideology that the area has been spoiled forever by air pollution as a part of infamous 'Black Triangle'.
At present, Krušnohorská Mires are mostly faced with interference from forestry activities (re-afforestation): intensive management of surrounding seriously-disturbed forests caused by airborne pollution. At present, in the last few localities, peat mining is being brought to an end, though efforts to open new mining sites are still a hot issue. A direct impact on the biota within mires is also imposed due to the high concentration of deer, deer is attracted by quietness of mires and its dense herds cause eutrophication of ombrotrophic sites and trampling disturbance of mire surface. Increasing interest in cross-country skiing, especially from Saxony (Germany), may increasely bring about new problems, particularly related to endangerment of grouse birds in winter. A few sites, situated above drinking-water reservoirs, face problems related to quality of drinking water.

27. Conservation measures taken:

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

Most mires in the area are protected as **National Nature Reserves** (NPRs: Velké jeřábí jezero 30 ha, Velký močál 51 ha, Božídarské rašeliniště 930 ha, Novodomské rašeliniště 378 ha), **Nature Reserves** (PRs: Malé jeřábí jezero 6 ha, Horská louka u Háje 19 ha, Na Loučkách 13 ha, Grunwaldské vřesoviště 40 ha), others as **Nature Monuments** (PPs: Přebuzské vřesoviště 102 ha, Haar 5 ha).
The total area of particularly protected areas is 1,574 ha (15% of the total area). All remaining peatland islets are protected according to § 3 of the Act No. 114/92 Sb. on Nature and the Landscape Protection as Important Landscape Elements (VKPs).
Part of mires is proposed as **(SPA**) according to EU Directives – like Novodomské a polské rašeliniště and Krušnohorské plato and as an **Important Bird Area** (Novodomské rašeliniště – Kovářská).

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 ❑

The Czech Republic is not implementing the system of categorization of PA according to IUCN system

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

Yes, there are official approved management plans. They exist for protected areas with statute of "National natural reserve" in the CR. The management plans for Natura 2000 sites are in preparation or are part of existing management plans for National Natural Reserves.

d) Describe any other current management practices:

- Law of Nature and Landscape Conservation (114/1992)
- Natura 2000 Directives
- Principles of management of forest and unforest biotops (Petricek, V. 2000)
- Conceptions of regional development (Ustecky region, Karlovarsky region)

28. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:
e.g. management plan in preparation; official proposal as a legally protected area, etc.

The large-scale overall protection of the area is presently lacking. To implement this, the enlargement of area adjacent to National Nature Reserves of Rolava is proceeding hand in hand with preparation of management plan. Nature Reserve is being established in the western part of Svatošebestiánská Mires. The agreed plan for 2002 is to include another 1,638 ha of peatlands under special protection. The remaining area outside of the existing and proposed nature reserves are suggested for protection in the framework of Nature 2000.

29. Current scientific research and facilities:
e.g., details of current research projects, including biodiversity monitoring; existence of a field research station, etc.

In spite of the famous tradition of peatland research in the Krušné hory Mts., carried out before the World War II in the town Hora sv.Šebestiána/Sebastianberg, present-day systematic research is poor. Occasional studies in recent years were focussed at the geobotanical description of the Rolava mires, biodiversity inventories and hydrological monitoring are carried out in Božídarské and Novoveské mires, ecology of vertebrates is analysed in the Cínovecké peatlands. Large-scale exploration of nature values is carried out within preparation of Natura 2000.
References: see 32

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.

Nature trail Božidarské rašeliniště, Information Centre in Boží Dar.
It is expected that inclusion of these wetland areas as a Ramsar site will raise public awareness to the locality's natural values.

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

The area is suitable for tourism, there are a lot of marked routes (used mostly from mid-May to September), biking (used moderately in snow-free season) and cross-country skiing.
Other activities in this area are: game keeping and hunting - Game animals – red deer (Cervus elaphus), roe deer (Capreolus capreolus), boar (Sus srofa)

(all around the year, namely in spring and autumn), berry-picking (mid summer)

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

territorial:State/ Regional Offices in Karlovy Vary, Chomutov, Most and Teplice
functional: Ministry of Environment / Regional Offices - Departments of Environment

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.

Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic, Kališnická 4-6, P.O.B. 85, CZ–130 23 Praha 3, Czech Republic;
e-mail: vit.tejrovsky@schkocr.cz

Krajský úřad Ústeckého kraje, Velká hradební 48, P.O. BOX 127, 400 01 Ústí nad Labem
e-mail: m.koren@kr-ustecky.cz

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

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