

INFORMATION SHEET ON RAMSAR WETLANDS

Country: Germany

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Name of wetland: Ammersee

Date of Ramsar designation: 25 02.1976

Geographical coordinates: 48°01'N 11°08'E

General location: Bundesland Bayern, ca. 20 km SW of Munich

Area: 6,517 ha

Wetland type: 0

Altitude: 533-545 m above sea level

Overview: Large natural freshwater lake (16.2 km long, 2.5 to 3.5 km wide). There are narrow gravel beaches (surrounded by end-moraine-dams) on the western and eastern shore. There are large areas in hydro-seral succession, grading into moorland on the northern and southern shores.

Physical features: The lake lies in a former glacial valley. Water is brought to the lake from the river Ammer to the south, and taken away by the river Amper to the north. Maximum water depth is 82.5 m, mean depth 36.9 m. The water level fluctuates by 150 cm during the year (rain, snow melt in the Alps). Precipitation 750 to 1000 mm/m². The banks and bays of the lake regularly freeze during the winter; in some years the lake is completely frozen. Average temperature in July 15.6°C; in January -1.9°C.

Ecological features: Large areas of water devoid of vegetation; large hydro-sere in the south, shallow-water bays, surrounded by large reed beds, including *Phragmites communis*, *Typha latifolia*, *Scirpus lacustris*. Aquatic plants: *Nuphar luteum*, *Potamogeton pectinatus* and *P. densus*, *Elodea canadensis*.
Area of tall sedges: *Carex elata*, *C. vesicaria*
Alder and willow shrubs: *Alnus glutinosa*, *Salix purpurea*, *S. alba*, *S. triandra*. Meadows: *Schoenus nigricans*, *S. ferrugineus*, *Molinia caerulea*.

Land tenure/ownership of

a) site: Water area: government owned; hydro-seral areas, shore areas: government owned, partially privately owned; meadows, agricultural land: privately owned, partially by "Conservation Society Ammersee-Süd" (Schutzgemeinschaft Ammersee-Süd), and by "National Trust for Bird Protection" (Landesbund für Vogelschutz) (both nature conservation organisations).

b) surrounding area: Government and private ownership

Conservation measures taken:

Nature Reserve "Vogelfreistätte Ammersee Südufer", 499 ha, since 29.08.1979;

Nature Reserve "Ampermoos", 525 ha, since 05.08.82.

The "Conservation Society Ammersee-Süd" bought valuable areas and enabled the establishment of biotope-management measures as well as the protection and guarding of bird breeding sites.

Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented: none

Current land use: principal human activities in

a) site: Leisure activities, mainly sailing, surfing and swimming; most activities take place outside the protected areas. Fishing (professional and hobby fishing), agriculture.

b) surroundings/catchment: agriculture, tourism.

Disturbances/threats, including changes in land use and major development projects

a) at the site:

- Sailing, surfing, and sport fishing, unauthorised camping. Sailors and surfers enter protected areas; private wardening (Nature conservation organisation) is attempting to prevent this.
- Changes in agricultural practices (Drainage, conversion of pasture to arable land).

b) in the surroundings/catchment: no information.

Hydrological and physical values: not applicable.

Social and cultural values: Important water body for fishery. Also important local and inter-regional leisure area.

Noteworthy fauna: Waterbirds: Internationally important resting and wintering area; examples of maximum day-counts (1986 to 1990):

<u>Total Waterbirds:</u>	20.751 (15.12.90)
<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	10.186 (15.12.90)
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	1.837 (21.10.90)
<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	1.440 (13.10.90)
<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	1.306 (14.01.89)
<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	450 (12.08.87)
<i>Netta rufina</i>	201 (21.10.90)
<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	50 (17.09.88)
<i>Gavia arctica</i>	19 (15.04.89)

Important breeding site for numerous waterbirds: *Podiceps cristatus*, *Sterna hirundo*, various ducks, *Phalacrocorax carbo*

(since 1990).

Noteworthy flora: There are no specific data available.

Current scientific research and facilities: International waterfowl counts; collection and analysis of data collected by numerous birdwatchers.

Current conservation education: not applicable

Current recreation and tourism: leisure and recreational area of local and regional importance (sailing, surfing, swimming).

Management authority: no information supplied

Jurisdiction: no information supplied

Bibliographical references:

- Strehlow, J. (1985). Erste erfolgreiche Brut der Schwarzkopfmöwe *Larus melanocephalus* in Bayern 1982 am Ammersee. Anz. orn. Ges. Bayern 24: 91-92.
(First successful breeding of *Larus melanocephalus* in Bayern 1982 on the Ammersee.)
- Strehlow, J. (1987). Die Vogelwelt des Ammersee-Gebietes. 3. Ergänzungsbericht 1981-1985. Anz. orn. Ges. Bayern 26: 53-113.
(Bird world in the Ammersee Area. 3rd supplementary report).
- Strehlow, J. (1992). Die Vogelwelt des Ammersee-Gebietes. 4. Ergänzungsbericht 1986-1990. Anz. orn. Ges. Bayern 31: 1-41.
(Bird world in the Ammersee Area. 4th supplementary report).

Reasons for inclusion: 1a); 3a), 3b), 3c).

Map of site: 1:50,000 enclosed.