

Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

Categories approved by Recommendation 4.7 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties.

NOTE: It is important that you read the accompanying *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document before completing this form.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.

DD MM YY

Designation date

Site Reference Number

1. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

May 2002

2. Country:

Denmark (Greenland)

3. Name of wetland:

Kilen

International No. 391

National No. 11

4. Geographical coordinates:

81°10'N, 13°24'W

5. Altitude: (min. & max.) 0-300 m

6. Area: 51.280 hectares

7. Overview:

 (general summary, in two or three sentences, of the wetland's principal characteristics)

Terrestrial/marine habitat area: 72/28%

Extreme high-arctic area, which comprises large flat gravel plains, surrounded by glaciers.

By far the most important moulting area for the Light-bellied brent goose (*Branta bernicla hrota*) in Greenland.

8. Wetland Type

 (please circle the applicable codes for wetland types as listed in Annex I of the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document.)

marine-coastal: A ! B ! C ! D ! E ! F ! G ! H ! I ! J ! K

inland: L ! M ! N ! O ! P ! Q ! R ! Sp ! Ss ! Tp ! Ts

!U ! Va ! Vt ! W ! Xf ! Xp ! Y ! Zg !Zk

man made: 1 ! 2 ! 3 ! 4 ! 5 ! 6 ! 7 ! 8 ! 9

Please now rank these wetland types by listing them from the most to the least dominant:

D Va M

9. **Ramsar Criteria:** (please circle the applicable criteria; see point 12 below)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Please specify the most significant criterion applicable to the site:

4

10. **Map of site included?** Please tick *yes* *-or-* *no*

(Please refer to the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document for information regarding desirable map traits).

As print and Word file on CD-rom.

11. **Name and address of the compiler of this form:**

Inge Thaulow, Ministry of Environment and Nature, Greenland Home Rule Government, P.O. Box 1614, DK-3900 Nuuk, Greenland. Ph.: + 299 34 67 18, fax + 299 32 52 86, e-mail: inth@gh.gl

12. **Justification of the criteria selected under point 9, on previous page.**

(Please refer to Annex II in the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document).

1. For the extreme habitats on the coast of the important North East Water polynya
3. For the relatively high diversity of breeding waterbirds.
4. For the moulting Light-bellied brent geese (*Branta bernicla hrota*)
6. For the number of Light-bellied brent geese (*Branta bernicla hrota*) (e.g. up to 1100 specimens which constitutes 5,5% of the Canada/Greenland/Ireland population) utilising the area

13. **General location:** (include the nearest large town and its administrative region)

Within the North and Northeast Greenland National Park. Located on the east coast.

14. **Physical features:** (e.g. geology, geomorphology; origins - natural or artificial; hydrology; soil type; water quality; water depth. Water permanence; fluctuations in water level; tidal variations; catchment area; downstream area; climate)

High-arctic area surrounded by galciars on three sides and the Greenland Sea on the fourth. A barren landscape characterised as a coastal polar desert. The waters of Kilen are part of the polynya "The Northeast Water".

15. **Hydrological values:** (groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilisation etc)

No information available.

16. **Ecological features:** (main habitats and vegetation types)

As described in points 7 and 14. No further details available.

17. **Noteworthy flora:** (indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc)

As described in points 7 and 14. No further details available.

18. Noteworthy fauna: (indicating, e.g., which species are unique, rare, endangered, abundant or biogeographically important; include count data, etc.)

By far the most important moulting area for the Ligh-bellied brent goose (*Branta bernicla hrota*) (e.g. up to 1100 specimens in 1988 which constitutes 5,5% of the Canada/Greenland/Ireland population) in Greenland and may be the most important moulting area for the population as a whole.

Due to the biogeographically region the site holds high numbers of Common eider (*Somateria mollissima*) (2,500 ind. in 1993) and King eider (*S. spectabilis*) (1,000 ind. in 1993).

Some rare species breeds in the area (Sabine's gull (*Larus sabini*) 20-30 pairs in 1985) and Ivory gull (*Pagophila eburnean*) (75 ind., one colony in 1980))

Walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus*) use to some extends the coast as a terrestrial haul-out site. Arctic fox (*Alopex lagopus*) is extremely rare (Egevang & Boertmann 2001).

19. Social and cultural values: (e.g. fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological site etc.)
Remote area within national park with very few visitors.

20. Land tenure/ownership of: (a) site (b) surrounding area
a and b: Territorial ownership. No privately owned land.

21. Current land use: (a) site (b) surroundings/catchment
a and b: None

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

(a) at the site (b) around the site

In general the Ramsar site is a remote area within The National Park. The National Park has very few visitors and has not had an indigenous human population for the last 200 years.

(a) and (b) past:

There has neither been any human induced changes' adversely affecting the physical structure of the site nor of the surroundings of the site. So the ecological potential of the site is expected to be preserved. Changes in the composition of the bird species using the site, might have been caused by factors affecting the birds in the whole of their distribution areas.

(a) and (b) present:

The same as in the past.

(a) and (b) potential:

There are no planned activities, which will change the physical structure of the site or the surroundings of the site. Any future activities will be regulated. See point 23 and 24.

23. Conservation measures taken: (national category and legal status of protected areas - including any boundary changes which have been made: management practices; whether an officially approved management plan exists and whether it has been implemented)

The site is within the boundaries of the National Park of North and Northeast Greenland.

Completely protected area.

No management plans exists.

24. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented: (e.g. management plans in preparation; officially proposed as a protected area etc.)

The National Environmental Research Institute (NERI) recommends that a monitoring programme is relevant with a 10-20 years interval at this site.

25. Current scientific research and facilities: (e.g. details of current projects; existence of field station etc.)

NERI has in 2001 published a status report for this and all other Ramsar areas in Greenland.

26. Current conservation education: (e.g. visitors centre, hides, information booklet, facilities for school visits etc.)

None.

27. Current recreation and tourism: (state if wetland is used for recreation/tourism; indicate type and frequency/intensity)

No tourism.

28. Jurisdiction: (territorial e.g. state/region and functional e.g. Dept of Agriculture/Dept. of Environment etc.)

State.

29. Management authority: (name and address of local body directly responsible for managing the wetland)

Ministry of Environment and Nature, Greenland Home Rule Government, P.O. Box 1614, DK-3900 Nuuk, Greenland. Ph.: + 299 34 67 01, fax + 299 32 52 86

30. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

Danish Report 1996 on the Ramsar Convention, Denmark and Greenland.

Ministry of Environment and Energy, The National Forest and Nature Agency
Ramsar Areas in Greenland.

Department of Environment and Nature, Greenland. Unpublished report 1998.

Egevang, C. & Boertmann, D. 2001. The Greenland Ramsar Sites, a status report. - National Environmental Research Institute (NERI), Denmark. NERI Technical Report No. 346, 96 pp.

Please return to: **Ramsar Convention Bureau, Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 GLAND, Switzerland**
Telephone: +41 22 999 0170 ! Fax: +41 22 999 0169 ! e-mail: ramsar@hq.iucn.org