

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 1 February 2020

India Samaspur Bird Sanctuary



Designation date Site number 2415 Coordinates 25°59'44"N 81°23'19"E Area 799,37 ha

3 October 2019

https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/2415 Created by RSIS V.1.6 on - 1 February 2020

Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a 'full' Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

1 - Summary

Summary

Samaspur Bird Sanctuary is a lowland marsh located in Salon tehsil of Raebareli district of Uttar Pradesh. Covering an area of 800 hectares, the S shaped wetland comprises of six connected lakes namely Samaspur, Mamani, Gorwa, Hasanpur, Hakganj and Rohnia. The seventh lake Bissaiya is close by but not connected to the main water body. It also forms a part of the sanctuary. The wetland is perennial and receives water from Sharda canal supplemented by monsoon run-off. The Sanctuary is a hotspot of biological diversity having a population of 149 species of higher plants, at least 46 species of fish, over 250 species of resident and migratory birds, several invertebrates such as molluscs, butterflies, both terrestrial and water snakes, turtles, frogs and higher vertebrates such as the blue bull. The Sanctuary is an important site of migratory bird species that arrive in the winter months and more than 75000 water birds can be sighted within the wetlands complex. Some of the migratory species recorded in the Sanctuary are great crested grebe, spoonbill, ruddy shelduck, northern shoveler, northern pintail, gadwall, common teal, common pochard, tufted duck and greylag goose. Of the 46 fish species known to use the wetlands as habitat, 12 migrate between the riverine and wetlands habitat, exemplifying the role of wetlands in sustaining fish diversity in the region.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Compiler 2

Name	Abu Arshad Khan
Institution/agency	UP Forest and Wildlife Department
Postal address	Aranya Sadan, Shisham Bagh, Sector-19, Indira Nagar, Lucknow-226016
E-mail	cfendpro@gmail.com
Phone	+91 0522-2716322
Fax	+91 0522-2716322
Name	Asad R. Rahmani
Institution/agency	Scientific Adviser, The Corbett Foundation, and Hem Chand Mahindra Foundation. Board Member of Wetlands International South Asia, New Delhi, and former Director, Bombay Natural History Society.
Postal address	701, Solitaire II, Eldeco Eden Apartments, Kursi Road, Tedhipullia, Lucknow 226 024, Uttar Pradesh, India.
E-mail	rahmani1.asad@gmail.com
Phone	+91 9820516394

2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year	2013
To year	2018

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish) Samaspur Bird Sanctuary

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image <1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps 0

Boundaries description

North :
1- Village Ataulabad Agriculture Land
2- Village Netrampur Human settlements
3- Village Karemua Human settlements
4- Village Visaiva Agriculture Land
South :
1- Village Rohaniva Human settlements
2- Village Saidour Agriculture Land
3- Village Hawkgani Agriculture Land
4- Village Godwahasanour Human settlements
Fast -
1 - Village Mamuni Human settlements
2- Village Gosai ka nurwa Human settlements
3- Village Shiv Sevak ka nuwa Agriculture Land
4. Village Narinar Human settlements
5- Village Paksrawan Human settlements
1 Villago Harikishanpur Agriculturo Land
The site outdoes with hourdories of Component kird construct
me site overlaps with boundaries of Samaspur bird sanctuary

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does Raebareli district in

the site lie? Raebareli district in state of Uttar Pradesh, India

b) What is the nearest town or population

centre? Salon

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes O No (a) b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes O No (a)

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 799.371

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions		
Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeog	raphic region
Freshwater Ecoregions of the World (FEOW)	Gangetic Plains and Delta	

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

The wetland falls within Indo- Gangetic Plains.

3 - Why is the Site important?

3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

<no data available>

Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

The Sanctuary is a hotspot of biological diversity having a population of 149 species of higher plants, around 60 varieties of fish (46 species documented in recent survey) and over 250 species of resident and migratory birds. The forest department has also recorded the presence of several invertebrates {such as molluscs (Pila globose), (Limex sp.) and butterflies (Graphium sarpedon sarpedon), (Princepts paris paris) etc.}, both terrestrial and water snakes, turtles, frogs and higher vertebrates such as the blue bull . Of the 46 species of fish documented, 45 are indigenous species having distribution in the Gangetic system. A delicate food web exists in these wetlands as a result of this biological diversity.

Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions

Criterion 5 : >20,000 waterbirds

Overall waterbird numbers	74,009
Start year	2013
Source of data:	Departmental census

Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

Criterion 7 : Significant and representative fish

At least 46 fish species are known to use the wetlands as habitat. Of these 12 species are know to migrate between the riverine and wetlands habitat, exemplifying the role of wetlands in sustaining fish diversity in the region.

3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

<no data available>

3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion 2 4 6 9	Species contributes under criterion 3 5 7 8	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	x Other Status	Justification
Birds												
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas acuta	Northern Pintail						LC				Wetland is a wintering site for the species.

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Spe qual un crite	cies lifies der erion 6	c 9 3	Species ontributes under criterion	Pop. Size Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas clypeata	Northern Shoveler							LC				Wetland is a wintering site for the species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas poecilorhyncha	Spot-billed Duck; Indian Spot-billed Duck			J				LC				Native to India, species contributes to biodiversity of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas strepera	Gadwall					1800 2015	1.6	LC				Wetland is a wintering site for the species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anhinga melanogaster	Oriental Darter; Darter			Jø				NT				Native to Indian subcontinent, it contributes to biodiversity of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anser anser	Greylag Goose							LC				Wetland is a wintering site for the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aquila clanga	Greater Spotted Eagle	20						W				Site provides habitat for the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aythya ferina	Common Pochard	20	Ø			3250 2015	1.02	W				Wetland is a wintering site for the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aythya fuligula	Tufted Duck		20			6400 2015	1.64	LC				Wetland is a wintering site for the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aythya nyroca	Ferruginous Duck							NT		V		Wetland is a wintering site for the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus	Black-necked Stork			J				NT				Native to Indian subcontinent, it contributes to biodiversity of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	Grus antigone	Sarus Crane	ØD						W				Site provides habitat to the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Haliaeetus leucoryphus	Pallas's Fish Eagle							EN		×		Wetland is wintering site for the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Limosa limosa	Black-tailed Godwit							NT				Site provides habitat to the species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Mycteria leucocephala	Painted Stork							NT				Site provides habitat to the species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Neophron percnopterus	Egyptian Vulture	20						EN		×		Wetland is wintering site for the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Netta rufina	Red-crested Pochard							LC				Wetland is a wintering site for the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Numenius arquata	Eurasian Curlew							NT				Site provides habitat to the species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Platalea leucorodia	Eurasian Spoonbill							LC				Wetland is a wintering site for the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Podiceps cristatus	Great Crested Grebe							LC				Wetland is a wintering site for the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Psittacula eupatria	Alexandrine Parakeet							NT				Site provides habitat to the species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Tadorna ferruginea	Ruddy Shelduck							LC				Wetland is a wintering site for the species
CHORDATA/ AVES	Threskiornis melanocephalus	Black-headed Ibis			Jø				NT				Resident to India, the species contributes to biodiversity of the site
Fish, Mollusc a	and Crustacea										· · · · · ·		
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGI	Ailia coila				J				NT				Native to Indian subcontinent, species contributes to biodiversity of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	S qu cr 2	pecie Jalifie Jinder iterio 4 6	s s n 9	Sp con u cri 3	becies tribute inder iterior 5 7	es Po Si 8	op. ize Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Chitala chitala					Ø					NT				Native to Indian subcontinent, Species contributes to biodiversity of the site
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Clarias batrachus					Ø					LC				Native to south east Asia, the species contributes to biodiversity of the site
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Eutropiichthys vacha					20					LC				Native to south Asia, species contributes to biodiversity of the site
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Monopterus cuchia	Mud eel; Rice eel				Ø	J				LC				Native to Asia, the species contributes to biodiversity of the site
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Mystus vittatus	Striped dwarf cat fish				Ø	JØ				LC				Native to Asia, this species contributes to biodiversity of the site
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Ompok pabda	Pabdah catfish; Pabdah catfish				Ø					NT				Native to Asia, this species contributes to biodiversity of the site
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Ompok pabo					Ø					NT				Native to South and South east Asia, species contributes to biodiversity of the site

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

<no data available>

4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

4.1 - Ecological character

The Samaspur Bird Sanctuary is a lowland marsh located in Salon tehsil of Raebareli district of Uttar Pradesh. Covering an area of 800 hectares, the S shaped wetland comprise of six connected lakes namely Samaspur, Mamani, Gorwa, Hasanpur, Hakganj and Rohnia. The seventh lake Bissaiya is close by but not connected to the main water body. It also forms a part of the sanctuary. Of the 800 ha declared as Sanctuary, only about 207 ha is underwater, the remaining area is dryland where the Forest Department has created some plantations. It also includes 271 ha of private land, which include crop fields and orchards. The wetland is perennial receiving water from Sharda canal and is supplemented by monsoon run-off. The depth of the wetland varies from 0.1 to 5 m. This International Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) hosts more than 110 bird species. Among those recorded were 14 duck species, 13 wader species, 10 raptors species and 4 stork species. A pair each of black – necked stork (Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus) and Pallas's fish eagle (Haliaeetus leucoryphus) regularly breeds in this sanctuary. The wetland also supports 10 fish species of economic importance. Blue bull (Boselaphus tragocamelus) and golden jackal (Canius aureus) are very common in the area. The endangered Egyptian vulture (Neophron percopterus) is also seen in and around nearby villages. The wetland also supports 149 species of higher plants belonging to 60 families and distributed in 129 genera. Exotic plants represent 41.6% of the floral species.

4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

Inland wetlands				
Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		1	800	Representative

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
Azadirachta indica		
Azolla pinnata		
Bacopa monnieri		
Datura stramonium		
Lemna perpusilla		
Luffa echinata		
Nelumbo nucifera	sacred lotus	
Ricinus communis		
Spirodela polyrhiza		
Trapa incisa		

Invasive alien plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Impacts	
Eclipta prostrata		Potentially	No change
Eichhornia crassipes		Actually (minor impacts)	No change
lpomoea carnea		Potentially	No change
Ludwigia perennis		Potentially	No change
Typha domingensis		Potentially	No change

4.3.2 - Animal species

<no data available>

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

RIS for Site no. 2415, Samaspur Bird Sanctuary, India

Climatic region	Subregion
A: Tropical humid climate	Am: Tropical monsoonal (Short dry season; heavy monsoonal rains in other months)

The average rainfall is about 850 mm per annum with maximum and minimum temperatures generally varying between 46 °C and 5.5° C respectively.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

99	a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)
104	a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)
Entire river basin	
Upper part of river basin \Box	
Middle part of river basin 🗹	
Lower part of river basin \Box	
More than one river basin \Box	
Not in river basin 🗖	
Coastal	

Please name the river basin or basins. If the site lies in a sub-basin, please also name the larger river basin. For a coastal/marine site, please name the sea or ocean.

Ganga River Basin

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral Organic 🗹 No available information \Box

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological Yes
No O conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)?

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

Most of the barren area comes in the category of usar land which is characterized by saline-sodic soils. Vegetation cover becomes sparse due to the soil condition. Under this soil layer there is a hard layer of 'kankar' (stone) which often acts as a barrier for the percolation of water. The pH level of soil varies from 7.5 to 10.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence		
Presence?		
Usually permanent water present	No change	
Source of water that maintain	s character of the site	
Presence?	Predominant water source	
Water inputs from surface water	X	No chang

Water inputs from surface water	я.	No change
Water inputs from rainfall		No change

Water destination

Presence?	
Feeds groundwater	No change

Stability of water regime

, .	
Presence?	
Water levels fluctuating (including tidal)	No change

Please add any comments on the water regime and its determinants (if relevant). Use this box to explain sites with complex hydrology.

The lakes receive rain water as well as canal water. The water level reduces during the summer months by 1-1.5 m.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant erosion of sediments occurs on the site \Box

Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site \Box

Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site \Box

Sediment regime is highly variable, either seasonally or inter-annually \Box

Sediment regime unknown 📝

(ECD) Water turbidity and colour 1.3 NTU

4.4.6 - Water pH

Acid (pH<5.5) 🗖

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

Akaline (pH>7.4) 🗌

Unknown 🗖

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l) 🗹

Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (0.5-30 g/l)

Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l) 🗖

Hyperhaline/Hypersaline (>40 g/l)

Unknown 🗆

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic

Mesotrophic 🗹

Oligotrophic \Box

Dystrophic

Unknown 🗖

4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological

characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the i) broadly similar O ii) significantly different left.

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development \Box

Surrounding area has higher human population density 🗹

Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use

Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types \Box

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

	Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Food for humans Fresh water Wetland non-food products		Sustenance for humans (e.g., fish, molluscs, grains)	Medium
		Water for irrigated agriculture	Medium
		Livestock fodder	Medium

Regulating Services

	Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
	Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	Low
Hazard reduction		Flood control, flood storage	Low

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium

Supporting Services

RIS for Site no. 2415, Samaspur Bird Sanctuary, India

	1					
Ecosystem service	Example	es	Importance/Extent/Significance			
Biodiversity	Supports a varie forms including animals a microorganizms, they contain, a ecosystems of v form a pa	ty of all life g plants, and , the genes and the which they art	High			
	Within the site:	5000				
	Outside the site:	20000				
Have studies or assessme ecosys 4.5.2 - Social and cultur	ents been made of stem services prov ral values	f the econon <i>i</i> ded by this	nic valuation of Ramsar Site?			
i) the site provides a m application of traditional kr use that mai	odel of wetland wis nowledge and met intain the ecologic	se use, den hods of ma al character	nonstrating the nagement and rof the wetland			
ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland						
iii) the ecological charac wi	iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples					
iv) 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

<no data available>

4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

5 - How is the Site managed? (Conservation and management)

5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

Public ownership		
Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Provincial/region/state government		
Private ownership		
Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	×	

5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:	 Range Forest Officer, Samaspur Bird Sanctuary, Salon, Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh, India. Wildlife Warden, Endangered Project, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India. Conservator of Forests, Endangered Project, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India.
Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:	Amit Srivastava, Range Forest Officer. Abu Arshad Khan, Wildlife Warden. Neeraj Kumar, Conservator of Forests.
Postal address:	Conservator of Forest, Endangered Project, Uttar Pradesh, Aranya Sadan, Shisham Bagh, Sector-19, Indira Nagar, Lucknow, Pin-226016
E-mail address:	cfendpro@gmail.com

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

5.2.1 - Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site's ecological character

Water regulation						
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area		
Canalisation and river regulation	Medium impact			×		

Agriculture and aquaculture				
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Annual and perennial non- timber crops	Medium impact			Ø

Invasive and other problematic species and genes

	1 0			
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Invasive non-native/ alien species	Medium impact		×	

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Sanctuary	Samaspur Bird Sanctuary		whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Samaspur Bird Sanctuary		whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

la Strict Nature Reserve

Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection

Il National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation

- III Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
- IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention
- V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
- VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

Habitat

	Measures	Status	
Habitat		Implemented	
	manipulation/enhancement	Implemented	

Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Implemented
Control of invasive alien plants	Implemented

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Implemented
Research	Partially implemented

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? Yes

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the

site?

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning Yes O No () processes with another Contracting Party?

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? Yes, there is a plan

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Water quality	Implemented
Birds	Implemented

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

1. Rahmani, A.R., Islam, M.Z. and Kasambe, R.M. (2016) Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas in India: Priority Sites for Conservation (Revised and updated). Bombay

Natural History Society, Indian Bird Conservation Network, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and BirdLife International (U.K.). Pp. 1992 + xii.

2. Islam, M.Z. and Rahmani, A.R. (2008) Existing and Potential Ramsar Sites in India. Indian Bird Conservation Network, Bombay Natural History Society, BirdLife

International, and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Oxford University Press, New Delhi. Pp 592.

3. Rahmani, A. R., Islam, M.Z., Singh, V.P., Chaudhari, S. (2011) Important Bird Areas of Uttar Pradesh. Katerniaghat.

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3) <1 file(s) uploaded>

ii. a detailed Ecological Character Description (ECD) (in a national format)

iii. a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>
v. site management plan

<1 file(s) uploaded>

vi. other published literature <no file available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:





A panoramic view of Samaspur Wetlands (*Anit Kumar Srivastava*, 09-12-2019)



A panoramic view of Samaspur Wetlands (*Anit Kumar Srivastava, 09-12-*2019)



A panoramic view of Samaspur Wetlands (*Anit Kumar Srivastava, 09-12-*2019)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2019-10-03