



# Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 3 May 2022

Update version, previously published on : 10 January 2017

## Netherlands

### Oostelijke Vechtplassen



Designation date	29 August 2000
Site number	1275
Coordinates	52°10'52"N 05°04'55"E
Area	6 475,00 ha

## 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

The Ramsar site Oostelijke Vechtplassen (6475 ha) consists of a series of peat lands between the river Vecht and the east side of the Utrechtse Heuvelrug (Utrecht hill ridge). The development of peat land was possible due to seepage of water from the hill ridge and the influence from the river Vecht. The small lakes are a result of peat extraction activities in the past. Some lakes are quite deep due to extraction of sand.

The site has a broad variety of landscapes and vegetations ranging from open water, wet grasslands, marshes, transition mires and quaking bogs to bog woodland. Due to the process of vegetation succession a decrease in marsh vegetations can be observed in favour of woodland. This is particularly important for the conservation of habitat types and associated species like dragon flies, fish and many bird species.

## 2 - Data & location

### 2.1 - Formal data

#### 2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

##### Responsible compiler

Institution/agency	Wageningen Environmental Research
Postal address	PO Box 47 6700 AA Wageningen The Netherlands

##### National Ramsar Administrative Authority

Institution/agency	Ministry of Agriculture Nature and Food Quality
Postal address	Bezuidenhoutseweg 73 P.O. Box 20401 2500 EK The Hague The Netherlands

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

From year	2015
To year	2020

#### 2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Oostelijke Vechtplassen
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#### 2.1.4 - Changes to the boundaries and area of the Site since its designation or earlier update

(Update) A. Changes to Site boundary	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
(Update) B. Changes to Site area	No change to area
(Update) For secretariat only. This update is an extension	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### 2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS?	No
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## 2.2 - Site location

### 2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

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

Former maps	0
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Boundaries description

The boundary of the Ramsar site is equal to the Natura 2000-site with the same name.
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### 2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Utrecht and Noord-Holland
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Hilversum with a population of 91.235 in 2021 (Source: CBS, Netherlands Statistics).

### 2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries?	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party?	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>

## 2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha):

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

## 2.2.5 - Biogeography

### Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Atlantic

### Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

The bio-geographic regions dataset used, contains the official delineations used in the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and for the EMERALD Network set up under the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention).

### 3 - Why is the Site important?

#### 3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

- Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

Other reasons

The almost 6500 ha of the Oostelijke Vechtplassen form one of the largest and finest examples of bog in the Atlantic biogeographic region. The site is very diverse due to the alternation of land and water with all kinds of succession stages ranging from the finest examples of transition mires and quaking bogs to vast areas of bog woodland. As a result the area is home to a wide range of species and habitat types of European importance (see criterion 2 and 3).

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

The Oostelijke Vechtplassen is designated as a Natura 2000 site (both SAC and SPA) and can therefore be considered important for maintaining the biodiversity of the Atlantic biogeographic region. Besides the species mentioned under criterion 2, the site has also been designated as a SAC for a range of habitat types (Annex I of HD) and SPA for a number of bird species that are not on annex I of the BD.

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

- Criterion 5 : >20,000 waterbirds

Overall waterbird numbers

25,940

Start year

2015

Source of data:

Sovon, Dutch Centre for Field Ornithology

- Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

- Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.

Justification

The site has among others been designated as a SAC for following fish species: Bitterling *Rhodeus sericeus amarus*, Spined Loach *Cobitis taenia*, and Bullhead *Cottus gobio* (see criterion 2).

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
<b>Plantae</b>								
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	<i>Epipactis palustris</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
BRYOPHYTA/ BRYOPSIDA	<i>Fissidens adianthoides</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	<i>Hammarbya paludosa</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	<i>Liparis loeselii</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Pedicularis palustris</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
BRYOPHYTA/ BRYOPSIDA	<i>Rhizomnium pseudopunctatum</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
BRYOPHYTA/ BRYOPSIDA	<i>Scorpidium scorpioides</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
<b>Fungi</b>								
BASIDIOMYCOTA/ AGARICOMYCETES	<i>Armillaria ectypa</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
BASIDIOMYCOTA/ AGARICOMYCETES	<i>Hygrocybe helobia</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
BASIDIOMYCOTA/ AGARICOMYCETES	<i>Tricholoma fulvum</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
		2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
<b>Others</b>																	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Aeshna viridis</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Boloria selene</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Brachytron pratense</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Graphoderus bilineatus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Leucorrhinia pectoralis</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Libellula fulva</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Microtus oeconomus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.

Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
		2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Myotis dasycneme</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
<b>Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea</b>																	
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	<i>Anisus vorticulus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Cobitis taenia</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Cottus gobio</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	<i>Gyraulus riparius</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Misgurnus fossilis</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	<i>Myxas glutinosa</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
MOLLUSCA/ BIVALVIA	<i>Pisidium amnicum</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
MOLLUSCA/ BIVALVIA	<i>Pisidium hibernicum</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
MOLLUSCA/ BIVALVIA	<i>Pisidium pseudosphaerium</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
MOLLUSCA/ BIVALVIA	<i>Pisidium pulchellum</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Rhodeus amarus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
<b>Birds</b>																	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.

Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
		2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1274	2015/16-2019/20	2	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anas penelope</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9365	2015/16-2019/20	0.7		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anas strepera</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1464	2016/17-2019/20	1.2	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6860	2015/16-2019/20	0.6	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Anser anser</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3617	2015/16-2016/17	0.4	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Ardea alba</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	45	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	foraging, resting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	188	2015/16-2019/20	0.5	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	911	2015/16-2019/20	0.5	VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2168	2016/17-2019/20	0.2	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		foraging, resting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13	2015/16-2019/20	0.2	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	919	2015/16-2019/20	0.1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		foraging, resting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	91	Non-breeding	0	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2019	2015/16-2017/18	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		foraging, resting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Fulica atra</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3461	2015/16-2019/20	0.2	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		foraging, resting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	2015/16-2017/18	0	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	49	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	foraging, resting
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.



Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
		2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Mergellus albellus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	128	2015/16-2019/20	0.4	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	603	2015/16-2019/20	0.1	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Porzana porzana</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9	Non-breeding	0	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list species	The site is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for this species and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

Bird data are provided by SOVON, Dutch Centre for Field Ornithology.

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

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Transition mires and quaking bogs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Bog woodland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Priority habitat types	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharitum type vegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.
Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Priority habitat types	The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for this habitat type and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.

[Optional text box to provide further information](#)

The site is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) for the habitat types listed above and is part of the Natura 2000 network within the European Union.

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

### 4.1 - Ecological character

An extensive area of shallow lakes and canals, fenland, reed beds, swampy woodland, and wet meadows. The area is made up out of: permanent freshwater lakes (approx 40%), permanent freshwater marshes (approx. 25%), freshwater swamp forest (approx. 30%) and wet grassland (approx. 5%).

Water management measures have considerably improved the water quality. From 2010 onwards this among others resulted in (incidental) sightings of Otters (*Lutra lutra*) again (which had gone extinct in the seventies).

The site furthermore has a great number of plant communities of European interest:

- Nitellopsidetum obtusae
- Charetum hispidae
- Charetum asperae
- Lemno-Nitelletum capillaries
- Najadetum marinae
- Potametum lucentis
- Stratiotetum
- Utricularietum vulgaris
- Groenlandietum
- Scirpetum fluitantis
- Cicuto-Caricetum pseudocyperi
- Cladietum marisci
- Pallavicinio-Sphagnetum
- Scirpidio-Caricetum diandrae
- Sphagno palustris-Ericetum
- Lychnido-Hypericetum tetrapteri
- Carici elongatae alnetum
- Thelypterido-Alnetum
- Betuletum pubescentis

The ecosystem services mainly refer to:

- the opportunities for recreation.
- the ability for agriculture to take fresh water in (for irrigation or livestock drinking water) or drain it off.

### 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 > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		2		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non-forested peatlands		1		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> Xp: Permanent Forested peatlands		3		Rare

#### Human-made wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type
4: Seasonally flooded agricultural land		4	
9: Canals and drainage channels or ditches		0	

### 4.3 - Biological components

#### 4.3.1 - Plant species

##### Other noteworthy plant species

Phylum	Scientific name	Position in range / endemism / other
BASIDIOMYCOTA/AGARICOMYCETES	<i>Cortinarius betulinus</i>	National Red List (2004) - NT

#### 4.3.2 - Animal species

<no data available>

#### 4.4 - Physical components

##### 4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
C: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with mild winters	Cfb: Marine west coast (Mild with no dry season, warm summer)

The climates according to Köppen are rainy (Cfb) and montane (EH).

##### 4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

- Entire river basin
- Upper part of river basin
- Middle part of river basin
- Lower part of river basin
- More than one river basin
- 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.

The Vechtplassen belong to the river Rhine catchment area. The surface area of the Rhine catchment is 185.000 km<sup>2</sup>. Geologically and geomorphologically it consists mainly of Quarternary, Paleozoic and Mesozoic sediments and Tertiary mountains.

##### 4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Organic

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

No available information

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

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

The general soil types are: Alluvial, Brown forest soils and montane soils.

##### 4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Usually permanent water present	

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

This area of lakes and marshes does not have a major hydrological function. The water system is more or less isolated from the surrounding waters to improve the water quality. Different parts of the site have certain water level targets. Inlet of water from the river Vecht or the canal "s Gravelandse Vaart" (main sources of water are seepage and precipitation) has to be allowed in order to ensure these stable water levels. For the inlet into the Loosdrechtse Plassen, in the southern part of the site, the Vecht-water is treated first to improve the quality.

The current landscape has been formed by reclamations. Part of the seepage water is drained by the lower elevated reclamations. Water shortage locally occurs in summer time. More or less polluted water from the river Vecht has to be let in to compensate for the shortage.

##### 4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Sediment regime unknown

<no data available>

4.4.6 - Water pH

Unknown

<no data available>

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change  Increase  Decrease  Unknown

Unknown

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Unknown

<no data available>

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 site itself: i) broadly similar  ii) significantly different

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development

Surrounding area has higher human population density

Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use

Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Food for humans	Sustenance for humans (e.g., fish, molluscs, grains)	High
Wetland non-food products	Reeds and fibre	Medium
Wetland non-food products	Other	Low

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Climate regulation	Regulation of greenhouse gases, temperature, precipitation and other climatic processes	Low

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	Low
Recreation and tourism	Water sports and activities	High
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Low
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	Medium
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	Medium
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	High

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Biodiversity	Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganisms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	High
Nutrient cycling	Carbon storage/sequestration	High

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

Current land use (including water use within the Ramsar Site: Boating 60%, Tourism and leisure 5%, Residential (conurbation) 5%, Motorways and major roads 2%, Extractive operations 1%, Farming 5%, Commercial fisheries 60%, Conservation and research 27%, Water management 100%, Reed cutting 1%.

Current communications, education and public awareness (CEPA) activities related to or benefiting the site: Excursions, hide, information booklet.

Current recreation and tourism: Boating, cycling, hiking and excursions. Number of visitors not known.

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site? Yes  No  Unknown

#### 4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

i) the site provides 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) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland

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
National/Federal government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

##### Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Provide further information on the land tenure / ownership regime (optional):

##### a) within the Ramsar site:

The site is partly owned by Natuurmonumenten and Staatsbosbeheer; the remainder is in private ownership.

##### b) in the surrounding area:

Several private owners

#### 5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:

##### Main management authorities:

(1) Staatsbosbeheer: see <https://www.staatsbosbeheer.nl/natuurgebieden/groene-hart-vechtstreek>  
 (2) Natuurmonumenten: see <https://www.natuurmonumenten.nl/natuurgebieden/vechtplassen>

Postal address:

Head office: Staatsbosbeheer, P.O. Box 2, 3800 AA Amersfoort, the Netherlands, tel. 030-6926111  
 Head office: Natuurmonumenten, P.O. Box 2166, 3800 CD Amersfoort, the Netherlands, tel. 033 47 97 000

E-mail address:

[info@staatsbosbeheer.nl](mailto:info@staatsbosbeheer.nl)

## 5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

#### Human settlements (non agricultural)

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Tourism and recreation areas	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

#### Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Drainage	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

#### Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Gathering terrestrial plants	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

#### Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Recreational and tourism activities	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

#### Natural system modifications

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Dams and water management/use	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

#### Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Agricultural and forestry effluents	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change
Air-borne pollutants	High impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

#### 5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

## Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	Oostelijke Vechtplassen	<a href="https://www.natura2000.nl/gebieden/noord-holland/oostelijke-vechtplassen">https://www.natura2000.nl/gebieden/noord-holland/oostelijke-vechtplassen</a>	whole

## National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
National Ecological Network (NEN)	Oostelijke Vechtplassen	<a href="https://www.government.nl/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/national-ecological-network-nen">https://www.government.nl/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/national-ecological-network-nen</a>	whole

## Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Oostelijke Vechtplassen	<a href="http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/1251">http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/1251</a>	whole
Important Plant Area	Oostelijke Vechtplassen	<a href="https://atlasnatuurlijkkapitaal.nl/important-plant-areas">https://atlasnatuurlijkkapitaal.nl/important-plant-areas</a>	whole
Other non-statutory designation	KBA Oostelijke Vechtplassen	<a href="http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/1251">http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/1251</a>	whole

## 5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

- Ia Strict Nature Reserve
- Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
- II 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
Improvement of water quality	Implemented
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Implemented
Faunal corridors/passage	Implemented

## Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Implemented

## Human Activities

Measures	Status
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Implemented
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Implemented
Research	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? Yes  No

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

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

No specific centre, although historic Fort Kijkuit (<https://www.natuurmonumenten.nl/natuurgebieden/fort-kijkuit>) is regarded the starting point for recreational activities in the area.

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant): <https://www.natuurmonumenten.nl/natuurgebieden/vechtplassen>

### 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
Birds	Implemented
Water regime monitoring	Implemented
Water quality	Implemented
Soil quality	Implemented
Plant community	Implemented
Plant species	Implemented
Animal species (please specify)	Implemented

Ongoing biodiversity monitoring is one of the obligatory activities in relation to the designated Natura 2000-habitat types and/or species. SOVON, the Dutch Bird Research Organisation, coordinates for instance a continuous national bird monitoring program in which it cooperates with 7000 volunteers, research institutes and organisations in the monitoring of birds throughout the Netherlands (among which the Oostelijke Vechtplassen).

## 6 - Additional material

### 6.1 - Additional reports and documents

#### 6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

The site equals the Natura 2000-boundaries. Voor up-to-date information and references about the site see <https://www.natura2000.nl/gebieden/noord-holland/oostelijke-vechtplassen>.

#### 6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

<no data available>

#### 6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



- ( Mark van Veen, - )

#### 6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation