



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 1 November 2022

Update version, previously published on : 15 December 2014

Netherlands

Zuidlaardermeergebied



| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Designation date | 29 August 2000 |
| Site number | 1282 |
| Coordinates | 53°08'56"N 06°40'55"E |
| Area | 2 087,00 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 Zuidlaardermeer (2087 ha) is a natural lake originally fed with ground water from the Drenthe plateau. The area consists of the Zuidlaardermeer with its surrounding shorelands and part of the polders to the north and northwest of the lake, in which part of the Foxholstermeer and the Drentse Diep are also located. The open landscape around the Zuidlaardermeer is determined by the Hondsrug in the west and the edge of the Veenkoloniën in the east. Towards the Hondsrug the landscape becomes somewhat denser due to the development of swamp forests. Southeast of the village Noordlaren, the shores of the lake have largely become forested with Alder trees. The eastern side of the lake is virtually treeless. The polders are important feeding ground for herbivorous water birds, while the lake is used for roosting.

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 | <input type="text" value="2015"/> |
| To year | <input type="text" value="2020"/> |

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

| | |
|---|--|
| Official name (in English, French or Spanish) | <input type="text" value="Zuidlaardermeergebied"/> |
|---|--|

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 |
|--|----|

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Former maps | <input type="text" value="0"/> |
|-------------|--------------------------------|

Boundaries description

| |
|---|
| The boundary of the Ramsar site is equal to the Natura 2000-site with the same name. In 2014 the Site boundary was aligned to the Natura 2000 site, resulting in an area decrease of 9 hectares. |
|---|

2.2.2 - General location

| | |
|--|--|
| a) In which large administrative region does the site lie? | <input type="text" value="Groningen,Drenthe"/> |
| b) What is the nearest town or population centre? | <input type="text" value="Groningen with a population of 233.273 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 No

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

<no data available>

Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

The Zuidlaardermeergebied 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 SPA for a number of bird species that are not on Annex I of the Birds Directive.

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

Optional text box to provide further information

The Ramsar site is also part of the Natura 2000 network in the European Union. It is designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA) for the functions that it provides to specific breeding and non-breeding bird species (e.g. migratory, hibernating, sleeping, resting, foraging).

Criterion 5 : >20,000 waterbirds

Overall waterbird numbers

23,596

Start year

2015

End year

2020

Source of data:

Sovon, Dutch Centre for Field Ornithology

Optional text box to provide further information

Start season 2015/2016. End season 2019/2020. Peak numbers for two out of five seasons > 20,000. Average 23,596 individuals.

Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

Optional text box to provide further information

The 1% waterbird population thresholds are based on the 7th Edition of the Conservation Status Report (CSR7).

Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.

Justification

The site has among others been designated as a SAC for the Weatherfish *Misgurnus fossilis*

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 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Plantae | | | | | | | | |
| BRYOPHYTA / SPHAGNOPSIDA | <i>Sphagnum capillifolium</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | |
| BRYOPHYTA / SPHAGNOPSIDA | <i>Sphagnum subnitens</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | |
| Fungi | | | | | | | | |
| BASIDIOMYCOTA / AGARICOMYCETES | <i>Cortinarius dumetorum</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | |
| BASIDIOMYCOTA / AGARICOMYCETES | <i>Inocybe squarrosa</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | |
| BASIDIOMYCOTA / AGARICOMYCETES | <i>Mycena pterigena</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | |
| BASIDIOMYCOTA / AGARICOMYCETES | <i>Russula alnetorum</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 | | | | | | | | |
| Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MOLLUSCA / GASTROPODA | <i>Lithoglyphus naticoides</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 / ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Misgurnus fossilis</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 | |
| Birds | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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>Anas acuta</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"/> | 264 | 2019/20 | 0.4 | LC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | Reference population: North-west Europe. foraging, resting |
| 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"/> | 1254 | 2015/16-2019/20 | 1.9 | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | Reference population: North-west & Central Europe (win). 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 crecca</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"/> | 5725 | 2019/20 | 1.1 | LC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | Reference population: crecca, North-west Europe. foraging, resting |
| 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"/> | 5977 | 2015/16-2019/20 | 0.4 | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | Reference population: Western Siberia & NE Europe/NW Europe. 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"/> | 1421 | 2017/18-2019/20 | 1.2 | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Reference population: strepera, North-west Europe. foraging, resting |
| 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"/> | 5851 | 2015/16-2019/20 | 0.5 | LC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Reference population: albifrons, NW Siberia & NE Europe/North-west Europe. 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>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"/> | 1574 | 2015/16-2019/20 | 0.2 | LC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Reference population: anser, NW Europe/South-west Europe. foraging, resting |
| CHORDATA/AVES | <i>Anser serrirostris</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"/> | 601 | 2015/16-2019/20 | 0.1 | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Reference population: rossicus, West & Central Siberia/NE & SW Europe. 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"/> | 67 | 2015/16-2019/20 | 0.1 | LC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | Reference population: alba, W, C & SE Europe/Black Sea & Mediterranean. 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"/> | 18 | 2015/16-2019/20 | 0.2 | LC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | Reference population: stellaris, W Europe, NW Africa (bre). 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"/> | 5564 | 2015/16-2019/20 | 0.5 | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Reference population: Russia/Germany & Netherlands. foraging, resting |
| CHORDATA/AVES | <i>Cygnus columbianus</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"/> | 5 | 2018/19 | 0 | LC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Reference population: bewickii, Western Siberia & NE Europe/North-west Europe. 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"/> | 310 | 2016/17-2019/20 | 0.4 | NT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | Reference population: limosa, Western Europe/NW & West Africa foraging, resting |
| 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"/> | 24 | 2015/16-2019/20 | 0.1 | LC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Reference population: North-west & Central Europe (win). foraging, resting |
| CHORDATA/AVES | <i>Podiceps nigricollis</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"/> | 36 | 2016/17-2019/20 | 0 | LC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | Reference population: nigricollis, Europe/South & West Europe & North Africa. foraging, resting |
| 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"/> | 80 | 2015/16-2019/20 | 0 | LC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National red list species | Reference population: Europe/Africa. 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.
 The 1% waterbird population thresholds are based on the 7th Edition of the Conservation Status Report (CSR7).

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

Permanent freshwater lakes 31%, wet grassland 36%, drained grassland/ rough grassy vegetation 30%. The site encompasses a lake, wet polders and woodland. The polders are important feeding ground for herbivorous water birds, while the lake is used for roosting.

Plant communities of European interest that occur are:

- Cicuto-Caricetum pseudocyperis (only some 100 m²)
- Carici elongatae-Alnetum typicum (some four hectares)

The ecosystem services mainly refer to:

- the opportunities for water recreation and recreation on land;
- the ability to store fresh water (especially i.r.t. climate change);
- 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 | | 1 | | |

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 | | 2 | |

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

<no data available>

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 Zuidlaardermeergebied is part of the river Rhine catchment.

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral

(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 | |

Source of water that maintains character of the site

| Presence? | Predominant water source | Changes at RIS update |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Water inputs from surface water | <input type="checkbox"/> | No change |

Water destination

| Presence? | Changes at RIS update |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Marine | No change |
| To downstream catchment | No change |

Stability of water regime

| Presence? | Changes at RIS update |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Water levels largely stable | 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 river Hunze (length about 40 km) drains into lake Zuidlaardermeer. The lake has a function for agriculture (like irrigation) and flood control. Superfluous water is eventually discharged in the Wadden Sea through various canals and the Lauwersmeer.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Sediment regime unknown

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

Probably no change although the sediment regime was not exactly known at the time of completing this database.

4.4.6 - Water pH

Unknown

Please provide further information on pH (optional):

Probably no change although the pH of the water was not exactly known at the time of completing this database.

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

Eutrophic

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

Unknown

Please provide further information on dissolved or suspended nutrients (optional):

Although the dissolved or suspended nutrients in water were not exactly known at the time of completing this database, there is probably no change, due to the nutrient load from agricultural fields nearby.

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) | Medium |
| Wetland non-food products | Reeds and fibre | Medium |

Regulating Services

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

Cultural Services

| Ecosystem service | Examples | Importance/Extent/Significance |
|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Recreation and tourism | Picnics, outings, touring | Medium |
| Scientific and educational | Educational activities and opportunities | Medium |
| 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 | Medium |

Optional text box to provide further information

The river Hunze (length about 40 km) drains into lake Zuidlaardermeer. The lake has a function for agriculture (like irrigation) and flood control. Superfluous water is eventually discharged in the Wadden Sea through various canals and the Lauwersmeer.

Ongoing biodiversity monitoring is one of the obligatory activities in relation to the designated Natura2000 habitat types and/or species. SOVON, the Dutch Bird Research Organisation, coordinates for instance a continues 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 Oudegaasterbrekken, Fluessen en omgeving).

Research is a.o. carried out by Rijkswaterstaat from the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment and the Institute for River Research, which is part of the Institute for Hydraulic Engineering (IHE, www.ihe.nl) in Delft, and focuses mainly on floodplain research.

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 |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Foundation/non-governmental organization/trust | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 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 the Groninger Landschap, Staatsbosbeheer and the Drents Landschap; the remainder is state (Dienst der Domeinen, Ministerie van Financiën) and 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. Stichting Het Groninger Landschap,
2. Stichting Het Drentse Landschap,

Postal address:

1. Rijksweg 333, 9752 CG Haren, +31 (0)50 313 59 01.

2. P.O. Box 83, 9400 AB Assen, tel. +31 (0)592 31 35 52.

E-mail address:

info@groningerlandschap.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 type="checkbox"/> | No change |

Transportation and service corridors

| Factors adversely affecting site | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site | Changes | In the surrounding area | Changes |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Aircraft flight paths | Medium impact | Medium impact | <input type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input checked="" 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 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 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 | Zuidlaardermeergebied | https://www.natura2000.nl/gebieden/groningen/zuidlaardermeergebied | whole |

National legal designations

| Designation type | Name of area | Online information url | Overlap with Ramsar Site |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| National Ecological Network (NEN) | Zuidlaardermeergebied | https://www.government.nl/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/national-ecological-network-nen | whole |

Non-statutory designations

| Designation type | Name of area | Online information url | Overlap with Ramsar Site |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Important Bird Area | Zuidlaardermeergebied | http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/1231 | whole |
| Other non-statutory designation | KBA Zuidlaardermeergebied | http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/1231 | 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 |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Habitat manipulation/enhancement | Implemented |

Species

| Measures | Status |
|---|-------------|
| Threatened/rare species management programmes | Implemented |

Human Activities

| Measures | Status |
|--|-------------|
| Research | Implemented |
| Regulation/management of recreational activities | Implemented |
| Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities | 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:

Excursions, hide, information booklet.

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant): <https://www.natura2000.nl/gebieden/groningen/zuidlaardermeergebied>

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 quality | Implemented |

Ongoing biodiversity monitoring is one of the obligatory activities in relation to the designated Natura2000 habitat types and/or species. SOVON, the Dutch Bird Research Organisation, coordinates for instance a continues 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 Zuidlaardermeergebied).

Research is a.o. carried out by Rijkswaterstaat from the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment and the Institute for River Research, which is part of the Institute for Hydrolic Engineering (IHE, www.ihe.nl) in Delft, and focuses mainly on floodplain research. The Center for Limnology (NIOO-CL, www.nioo.nl) in Nieuwersluis studies plant-bird interactions in several large freshwater lakes as part of general limnological research programs.

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/groningen/zuidlaardermeergebied>.

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

<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:



- (Niels Gilissen, -)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2000-08-29