

Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

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

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

1. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

April 2002

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DD	MM	YY

Designation date

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Site Reference Number

2. Country:

Sweden

3. Name of wetland:

(River) Fylleån

4. Geographical coordinates:

56°40'N, 012°55'E

5. Altitude: (average and/or max. & min.)

0 - 60 m

6. Area: (in hectares)

910 ha

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

The site encompasses parts of a river that is largely untouched by hydrological interventions. The water quality is high and offers suitable conditions for demanding species. Deciduous forest dominates along the river and dune areas are found at the river mouth.

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

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

inland: L . M . N . O . P . Q . R . Sp . Ss . Tp . Ts
. U . Va . Vt . W . Xf . Xp . Y . Zg . Zk

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

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

9. Ramsar Criteria: (please circle the applicable criteria; see point 12, next page.)

1 . 2 . 3 . 4 . 5 . 6 . 7 . 8

Please specify the most significant criterion applicable to the site: 7

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

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

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

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Please provide additional information on each of the following categories by attaching extra pages (please limit extra pages to no more than 10):

12. Justification of the criteria selected under point 9, on previous page. (Please refer to Annex II in the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines* document).

2. >15 nationally redlisted species including 6 plants/cryptogam and 3 bird species
 3. Supports particular elements of biological diversity that are rare of the EU Continental region
 7. Supports significant proportions of Salmonidae populations that are representative of wetland benefits.
 8. Includes important spawning grounds and nursery areas for i.a. *Salmo spp*
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13. General location: (include the nearest large town and its administrative region)

The site is situated on the West Coast, 4 km east of the town of Halmstad, in the County of Halland, south-western Sweden. Municipalities: Halmstad, Laholm, Ljungby

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

Fylleån river discharges its water on the Swedish West Coast. The site encompasses the river valley, its surrounding wetlands and the area at the river mouth. The river valley itself runs through different kinds of soil deposits and through cracks in the bedrock. It is dependent on and formed by the substrate, and since this changes a lot along its course, so does the river. The coastal area included in the site has a mosaic-like character with a wide diversity of nature types and contains interesting archaeological and geological remnants. The geological features include large cobble-stone fields, a seashore bank created by the Littorina Sea, bare rocks, an erratic block of stone called 'Slyngestenen' (protected by law) and some sand dune areas.

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

The river is by large unaffected by human activities which contributes to the maintenance of water quality. It is of great importance for the region's water supply.

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

Important freshwater habitats are found in the river itself and in the wetlands along its shores. The vegetation types are mainly wetland meadows, marsh meadows and vast areas with emergent lake vegetation (mainly reed *Phragmites australis*). In the coastal areas there are grazed seashore meadows and sand dune, mainly forested.

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

Some of the most interesting parts from botanical point of view are constituted by old meanders, overgrowing oxbow lakes and regularly flooded wetlands. The sand dune landscape on the coast is rich and well preserved, in spite of the ever-changing substrate, and is dominated by different kinds of heath plants. Near the coast interesting and nationally redlisted vascular plants, such as *Juncus capitatus*, *Euphrasia micrantha* and *Botrychium multifidum*, have been noted. Several nationally redlisted mosses and lichens are also found along the river, i.e. *Bryhnia novae-angliae*, *Calypogeia arguta* and rich populations of *Hypotrachyna revoluta*.

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

The river is highly valued for its richness in the nationally redlisted fish salmon *Salmo salar* and also in sea trout *Salmo trutta*. The river contains important reproduction sites for both species. Ornithological values are also high, and the grey wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* and dipper *Cinclus cinclus* are regularly breeders; the kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* (nationally redlisted, EU Birds directive species) is an occasional

breeder. In alder forests, woodpeckers such as the lesser spotted woodpecker *Dendrocopos minor* breeds. On sand dunes in the coastal area the tawny piper *Anthus campestris* (nationally redlisted) breed regularly. The wetland meadows are important resting sites for waders, ducks and geese during spring and autumn migration. The nesting bird fauna in the two bird sanctuaries near or at the coast is interesting, e.g. the avocet *Recurvirostra avocetta* (nationally redlisted) in the large colony of black-headed gull *Larus ridibundus*. The pine *Pinus sylvestris* stands offers suitable habitats for birds of prey in the inland. The river is noted for being outstanding regarding the benthic fauna. In the main river channel, nationally redlisted species of benthic fauna like *Normandia nitens*, *Brachyptera braueri* and *Ibisia marginata* have been found. The rare beetle *Cicindela maritima* (nationally redlisted) occur on the coastal sand dunes.

19. Social and cultural values: (e.g. fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological site etc.)

The coastal cobble stone fields contain graves from the older Iron Age in Scandinavia. The surrounding region is an old area for settlements and there is a large number of archaeological and ancient cultural remains.

20. Land tenure/ownership of: (a) site (b) surrounding area

(a) Protected areas are owned privately and by the municipality. Unprotected areas are mainly owned privately and by the municipality.

(b) Mainly owned privately and by the municipality.

21. Current land use: (a) site (b) surroundings/catchment

(a) Grazing, to keep the meadows open and farming.

(b) Farming

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

(a) Hydrological disturbances are minor and local, e.g. due to road construction. Potential factors include pollution that would damage the benthic and fish fauna and also the ornithological values of the wetlands.

(b) Potential factors can be any projects disturbing the hydrological characteristics of the wetlands in the site area.

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

There are three nature reserves within the site;

Hagön Nature Reserve - 79 ha. Protected since 1973. Owned by the Municipality of Halmstad.

Brogård Nature Reserve - 14 ha. Protected since 1976. Owned by the Municipality of Halmstad.

Årnarp Nature Reserve - 9 ha. Protected since 1990. Owned privately.

Management plans exist for all of the three nature reserves.

In addition, there are two bird sanctuaries within the site;

Skäret Bird Sanctuary - 3 ha and

Trönningeängarna Bird Sanctuary - 109 ha.

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

River Fylleån SE0510132 has been proposed as pSCI sites to the Natura 2000 network.

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

None known, but the constructive and destructive processes of the river mouth, shaped by the winds and currents, are scientifically interesting.

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

None known

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

The area is highly valued for recreation and tourism, as well as for scientific interests. Because of the open landscape, scenic beauty, diverse nature and richness in monuments, it is attractive for hiking and other types of open-air activities.

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

County Administrative Board of Halland

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

County Administrative Board of Halland

S-301 86 Halmstad

Sweden

30. Bibliographical references: (scientific/technical only)

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