

# Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS) – 2009-2012 version

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## 1. Name and address of the compiler of this form:

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DD MM YY		

Designation date

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Site Reference Number

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## 2. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

May 2012

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## 3. Country:

Denmark

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## 4. Name of the Ramsar site:

The precise name of the designated site in one of the three official languages (English, French or Spanish) of the Convention. Alternative names, including in local language(s), should be given in parentheses after the precise name.

Ertholmene

(International No. 165; National No. 26)

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## 5. Designation of new Ramsar site or update of existing site:

This RIS is for (tick one box only):

- a) Designation of a new Ramsar site ; or  
b) Updated information on an existing Ramsar site

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## 6. For RIS updates only, changes to the site since its designation or earlier update:

### a) Site boundary and area

The Ramsar site boundary and site area are unchanged:

or

If the site boundary has changed:

- i) the boundary has been delineated more accurately ; or  
ii) the boundary has been extended ; or  
iii) the boundary has been restricted\*\*

and/or

**If the site area has changed:**

- i) the area has been measured more accurately  ; or
- ii) the area has been extended ; or
- iii) the area has been reduced\*\*

\*\* **Important note:** If the boundary and/or area of the designated site is being restricted/reduced, the Contracting Party should have followed the procedures established by the Conference of the Parties in the Annex to COP9 Resolution IX.6 and provided a report in line with paragraph 28 of that Annex, prior to the submission of an updated RIS.

**b) Describe briefly any major changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar site, including in the application of the Criteria, since the previous RIS for the site:**

No major changes to the ecological character of the site are known.

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**7. Map of site:**

Refer to Annex III of the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines*, for detailed guidance on provision of suitable maps, including digital maps.

**a) A map of the site, with clearly delineated boundaries, is included as:**

- i) a **hard copy** (required for inclusion of site in the Ramsar List): ;
- ii) an **electronic format** (e.g. a JPEG or ArcView image) ; Denmark\_ramsar26.pdf
- iii) a **GIS file providing geo-referenced site boundary vectors and attribute tables** .

A comprehensive ESRI ArcView GIS 3.1 shapefile named DKRamsar\_WGS84geo is submitted in conjunction with the Danish RIS 2010 update files. The shape is geo referenced and projected in datum WGS84. The shape is composed of five files:

- a. DKRamsar\_WGS84geo.shp
- b. DKRamsar\_WGS84geo.dbf
- c. DKRamsar\_WGS84geo.shx
- d. DKRamsar\_WGS84geo.sbn
- e. DKRamsar\_WGS84geo.sbx

and is considered self-explanatory in its database fields.

**b) Describe briefly the type of boundary delineation applied:**

e.g. the boundary is the same as an existing protected area (nature reserve, national park, etc.), or follows a catchment boundary, or follows a geopolitical boundary such as a local government jurisdiction, follows physical boundaries such as roads, follows the shoreline of a waterbody, etc.

All Danish Ramsar sites are also designated as Special Protection Areas for Birds (SPAs) under the EEC Birds Directive, and most of them as Special Areas of Conservation Concern (SACs) under the EEC Habitats Directive, hence part of the Danish Natura 2000 network. Generally the delineation of the Ramsar-sites are identical to that of the SPAs, follow coastlines or lake shores, but also includes adjacent salt marshes.

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**8. Geographical coordinates** (latitude/longitude, in degrees and minutes):

Provide the coordinates of the approximate centre of the site and/or the limits of the site. If the site is composed of more than one separate area, provide coordinates for each of these areas.

55°19'N, 15°11'E

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**9. General location:**

Include in which part of the country and which large administrative region(s) the site lies and the location of the nearest large town.

Ertholmene are situated east of the island Bornholm. Nearest town is Svaneke. Administrative region is Bornholm Municipality.

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**10. Elevation:** (in metres: average and/or maximum & minimum)

0-22 m

**11. Area:** (in hectares)

1,266 ha

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**12. General overview of the site:**

Provide a short paragraph giving a summary description of the principal ecological characteristics and importance of the wetland.

Sea area (1,213 hectares) with rocky islands (37 hectares)

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**13. Ramsar Criteria:**

Tick the box under each Criterion applied to the designation of the Ramsar site. See Annex II of the *Explanatory Notes and Guidelines* for the Criteria and guidelines for their application (adopted by Resolution VII.11). All Criteria which apply should be ticked.

1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6 • 7 • 8 • 9

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**14. Justification for the application of each Criterion listed in 13 above:**

Provide justification for each Criterion in turn, clearly identifying to which Criterion the justification applies (see Annex II for guidance on acceptable forms of justification).

**Criterion 4:** The site is by far the most important breeding locality for two Alcidae species on the current Danish Red List (DMU 2007), i.e. the only breeding locality in Denmark for Guillemot (*Uria aalge*) NT, and by far the largest breeding colony for Razorbill (*Alca torda*) NT.

In terms of the application of the criteria, criterion 4 is applied as opposed to criterion 2 in the previous RIS as both bird species feature as NT on the Danish Red List.

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**15. Biogeography** (required when Criteria 1 and/or 3 and /or certain applications of Criterion 2 are applied to the designation):

Name the relevant biogeographic region that includes the Ramsar site, and identify the biogeographic regionalisation system that has been applied.

**a) biogeographic region:**

Continental

**b) biogeographic regionalisation scheme** (include reference citation): Biogeographical Regions Europe, 2005, European Environment Agency

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**16. Physical features of the site:**

Describe, as appropriate, the geology, geomorphology; origins - natural or artificial; hydrology; soil type; water quality; water depth, water permanence; fluctuations in water level; tidal variations; downstream area; general climate, etc.

Deep waters off Bornholm containing rocky islands.

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**17. Physical features of the catchment area:**

Describe the surface area, general geology and geomorphological features, general soil types, and climate (including climate type).

No specific information.

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**18. Hydrological values:**

Describe the functions and values of the wetland in groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilization, etc.

No specific information.

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**19. Wetland Types**

**a) presence:**

Circle or underline the applicable codes for the wetland types of the Ramsar "Classification System for Wetland Type" present in the Ramsar site. Descriptions of each wetland type code are provided in Annex I of the *Explanatory Notes & Guidelines*.

Marine/coastal: A • B • C • D • E • F • G • H • I • J • K • Zk(a)

Inland: L • M • N • O • P • Q • R • Sp • Ss • Tp • Ts • U • Va •  
Vt • W • Xf • Xp • Y • Zg • Zk(b)

Human-made: 1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6 • 7 • 8 • 9 • Zk(c)

**b) dominance:**

List the wetland types identified in a) above in order of their dominance (by area) in the Ramsar site, starting with the wetland type with the largest area.

A, B, D. The exact extent of the subterranean wetland types is unknown.

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**20. General ecological features:**

Provide further description, as appropriate, of the main habitats, vegetation types, plant and animal communities present in the Ramsar site, and the ecosystem services of the site and the benefits derived from them.

Rocky islands with sparse vegetation.

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**21. Noteworthy flora:**

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in 14, Justification for the application of the Criteria) indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the RIS.*

No specific information.

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**22. Noteworthy fauna:**

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in 12, Justification for the application of the Criteria) indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc., including count data. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the RIS.*

The only breeding locality in Denmark for Guillemot (*Uria aalge*), the largest colony of Razorbill (*Alca torda*), and the second largest breeding colony of Eider (*Somateria mollissima*) in Denmark.

Recent numbers:

	2006	2007	2008
<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	1780	1660	1060
<i>Uria aalge</i>	2500- 3000	2500- 3000	2500- 3000
<i>Alca torda</i>	965	1000	1000

Sources: Lyngs (2007, 2008, 2009).

Both Alcidae populations are thriving (stable or increasing) whereas the Eider population is rapidly declining, apparently because of local food shortage (ducklings dies shortly after hatching) – but the explanation behind this phenomenon is unknown (Lyngs 2008, 2009) – but parallel to many other Eider colonies throughout the Baltic Sea in recent years.

### 23. Social and cultural values:

a) Describe if the site has any general social and/or cultural values e.g., fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological sites, social relations with the wetland, etc. Distinguish between historical/archaeological/religious significance and current socio-economic values:

Ertholmene are of great cultural, historical and architectural value.

b) Is the site considered of international importance for holding, in addition to relevant ecological values, examples of significant cultural values, whether material or non-material, linked to its origin, conservation and/or ecological functioning?

If Yes, tick the box  and describe this importance under one or more of the following categories:

- i) sites which provide 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) sites which have exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland:
- iii) sites where the ecological character of the wetland depends on the interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples:
- iv) sites where 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:

### 24. Land tenure/ownership:

a) within the Ramsar site:

Territorial waters, the State represented by the Ministry of Defence

b) in the surrounding area:

Territorial waters

### 25. Current land (including water) use:

a) within the Ramsar site:

Some recreational sailing and kayaking; tourism.

b) in the surroundings/catchment:

None.

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

a) within the Ramsar site:

At present the main factors adversely affecting the site's ecological character are eutrophication from the inhabited islands, from Bornholm and the surrounding waters, and from airborne nitrogen, which affects the vegetation of the reefs, risk of oil-spill from tankers, and disturbances of breeding birds from recreational sailing (including kayaks) anchoring near the coastline.

b) in the surrounding area:

A potential threat is pollution from oil tankers.

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**27. Conservation measures taken:**

a) List national and/or international category and legal status of protected areas, including boundary relationships with the Ramsar site:

In particular, if the site is partly or wholly a World Heritage Site and/or a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, please give the names of the site under these designations.

Nature conservation: The total Ramsar Site was protected in 1984. About 30 hectares on and around Græsholm (scientific sanctuary) is totally protected against hunting and there is no public access). There are restrictions on sailing and windsurfing.

The whole Ramsar site is protected under EU legislation, and included in:

Natura 2000-site No. 189

Special Protection Area for Birds (SPA) No. 79,

Special Area of Conservation (SAC) No. 210.

b) If appropriate, list the IUCN (1994) protected areas category/ies which apply to the site (tick the box or boxes as appropriate):

Ia ; Ib ; II ; III ; IV ; V ; VI

c) Does an officially approved management plan exist; and is it being implemented?:

A management plan has been carried out and approved in 2009 by the Ministry of Defence.

For all Danish Ramsar sites, being part of the Danish Natura 2000 network, conservation status base-line reports were finalised in 2006 by the former counties, and published by the regional Environment Centres of the Agency for Spatial and Environmental Planning in 2007. In 2011 Natura 2000 plans were issued by the Danish Ministry of Environment/Danish Nature Agency setting up site-specific nature goals and priorities for all Danish Natura 2000 sites, including all Danish Ramsar sites. Parallel to this initiative on Natura 2000 sites, river basin management plans were likewise issued by the Danish Ministry of the Environment/Danish Nature Agency for all Danish river basins in 2011, aimed at meeting demands from the EU Water Framework Directive, hence to improve water quality and ecological status in wetland catchments and coastal areas.

National Ramsar site No. 26 is covered by Natura 2000 plan No. 189 (Naturstyrelsen 2011a) and river basin management plan No. 3.1 (Naturstyrelsen 2011b).

d) Describe any other current management practices:

In order to reduce mortality of adult female Eiders and their (currently few surviving) ducklings, Noer et al. (2009) proposed a local protection from shooting Eiders around Ertholmene and Bornholm, where the females rear the ducklings and subsequently moult. This was implemented in 2011.

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**28. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:**

e.g. management plan in preparation; official proposal as a legally protected area, etc.

During 2012 the Government will develop site-specific management action plans to meet the goals of the Natura 2000 and river basin management plans.

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**29. Current scientific research and facilities:**

e.g., details of current research projects, including biodiversity monitoring; existence of a field research station, etc.

In 2003 Denmark launched the NOVANA programme. This programme forms the basis for future nature and water quality assessments in Denmark, and as such also supports the administration of the Ramsar site networks. NOVANA is an acronym that could be translated to English as NMWANA (**N**ew **M**onitoring programme for **W**ater quality and **N**ature), and aims at fulfilling the Danish obligations with regards to reporting conservation status of species and habitats covered by the EEC Birds and Habitats Directives annexes, as well as water quality and associated target species covered by the National 3<sup>rd</sup> Action Plan for the Aquatic Environment (Vandmiljøplan 3) as well as the EEC Water Framework Directive. The programme is described by Bijl et al. (2007). A first 'pre'-NOVANA assessment of the national conservation status of birds was published in 2003, and translated to English in 2006 (Pihl et al. 2006). National criteria for assessing favourable conservation status for the listed species and habitats were likewise published in 2003, and translated to English in 2007 (Søgaard et al. 2007), except for marine habitats, published solely in Danish (Dahl et al. 2005a). First assessments of reference conditions and development of Ecological Quality Objectives (EQOs) related to the Water Framework Directive were published in 2005-2006 (Dahl et al. 2005b, Petersen et al. 2006). Water bird monitoring programmes involves complete national mid-winter surveys every third year (e.g. Petersen et al. 2006b), and annual complete counts of selected species groups (e.g. swans, geese, dabbling ducks, rare breeding birds, e.g. e.g. Søgaard et al. 2006, 2007). The dabbling duck monitoring programme is built upon the much more comprehensive reserve monitoring programme from 1994-2001 (Clausen et al. 2004). Annual assessments of water quality are also available (latest summary report, Nordemann Jensen et al. 2010).

A private scientific field station carries out monitoring of birds on the islands.

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**30. Current communications, education and public awareness (CEPA) activities related to or benefiting the site:**

e.g. visitors' centre, observation hides and nature trails, information booklets, facilities for school visits, etc.

An information brochure about the nature of the islands exists and there are good bird observation possibilities from an old tower which also houses exhibitions about nature and the history of the islands.

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**31. Current recreation and tourism:**

State if the wetland is used for recreation/tourism; indicate type(s) and their frequency/intensity.

The main island is intensively visited by tourists (about 80,000 per year), but only in daytime, and there is no public access to the wetland parts.

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**32. Jurisdiction:**

Include territorial, e.g. state/region, and functional/sectoral, e.g. Dept of Agriculture/Dept. of Environment, etc.

National legislation on Nature Conservation and Hunting regulations, as well as national administration of the Ramsar Convention and EEC Birds and Habitats Directives: *Ministry of the Environment*.

National legislation on Agriculture and Fisheries: *Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries*.

Local administration and implementation of Nature Conservation: The Ministry of Defence listed below under point 33.

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### 33. Management authority:

Provide the name and address of the local office(s) of the agency(ies) or organisation(s) directly responsible for managing the wetland. Wherever possible provide also the title and/or name of the person or persons in this office with responsibility for the wetland.

Ministry of Defence  
Christiansø Administration  
Christiansø  
3740 Svaneke

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### 34. Bibliographical references:

Scientific/technical references only. If biogeographic regionalisation scheme applied (see 15 above), list full reference citation for the scheme.

Bijl, L. van der, Boutrup, S. & Nordemann Jensen, P. (ed.) (2007): NOVANA. Det nationale program for overvågning af vandmiljøet og naturen. Programbeskrivelse 2007-09 - del 2. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser, Aarhus Universitet. - Faglig rapport fra DMU 615: 120 pp. <http://www2.dmu.dk/Pub/FR615.pdf>

Dahl, K., Petersen, J.K., Josefson, A.B., Dahllöf, I. & Søgaard, B. (2005a): Kriterier for gunstig bevaringsstatus for EF-habitatdirektivets 8 marine naturtyper. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser. - Faglig rapport fra DMU 549: 39 pp. [http://www2.dmu.dk/1\\_viden/2\\_Publikationer/3\\_fagrappporter/rapporter/FR549.PDF](http://www2.dmu.dk/1_viden/2_Publikationer/3_fagrappporter/rapporter/FR549.PDF)

Dahl, K.(ed.), Andersen, J.H.(ed.), Riemann, B.(ed.), Carstensen, J., Christiansen, T., Krause-Jensen, D., Josefson, A.B., Larsen, M.M., Petersen, J.K., Rasmussen, M.B. & Strand, J. (2005): Redskaber til vurdering af miljø- og naturkvalitet i de danske farvande. Typeinddeling, udvalgte indikatorer og eksempler på klassifikation. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser. - Faglig rapport fra DMU 535: 158 pp.

DMU (2007). *Den danske rødliste / Fagdatacenter for Biodiversitet og Terrestrisk Natur (B-FDC)*. - *Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser*, [2004]. <http://redlist.dmu.dk>. Accessed 1 March 2008.

Grell, M.B. (1998): Fuglenes Danmark. – Dansk Ornitologisk Forening, Gads Forlag, Copenhagen. 825 pp.

IUCN (2007): 2007 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. <http://www.iucnredlist.org/> Accessed 5 March 2008.

Lyngs, P. (2007): Christiansø Feltstation. Pp. 164-165 in Christensen, P.S. & Lange, P. (eds): Fugleåret 2006. Dansk Ornitologisk Forening.

Lyngs, P. (2008): Christiansø Feltstation. Pp. 170-171 in Christensen, P.S. & Lange, P. (eds): Fugleåret 2007. Dansk Ornitologisk Forening.

Lyngs, P. (2009): Christiansø Feltstation. Pp. 184-185 in Christensen, P.S. & Lange, P. (eds): Fugleåret 2008. Dansk Ornitologisk Forening.

Miljø- og Energiministeriet, Skov- og Naturstyrelsen (1996): EF-fuglebeskyttelsesområder og Ramsarområder. Kort og områdebeskrivelser, status 1995. [With an English summary](*national report on delineation of and species found within the Danish SPA and Ramsar site network*). 273 pp.

Miljø- og Energiministeriet, Skov- og Naturstyrelsen (1999): Birds of Danish SPAs – trends in occurrence. (*national report on the status of species found within the Danish SPA and Ramsar site network*). 119 pp. <http://www.sns.dk/natur/netpub/birds/hcelepubl.pdf>

Noer, H., Asferg, T., Clausen, P., Olesen, C.R., Bregnballe, T., Laursen, K., Kahlert, J., Teilmann, J., Christensen, T.K. & Haugaard, L. 2009: Vildtbestande og jagttider i Danmark: Det biologiske grundlag for jagttidsrevisionen 2010. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser, Aarhus Universitet. 288 pp. – Faglig rapport fra DMU nr. 742. <http://www.dmu.dk/Pub/FR742.pdf>

Naturstyrelsen 2011a: Natura 2000-plan 2010-2015. Ertholmene. Natura 2000-område nr. 189. Habitatområde H210 Fuglebeskyttelsesområde F79. - Miljøministeriet, Naturstyrelsen. All Natura 2000 plans are available at: [http://www.naturstyrelsen.dk/Naturbeskyttelse/Natura2000/Natura\\_2000\\_planer/Se\\_Planerne/](http://www.naturstyrelsen.dk/Naturbeskyttelse/Natura2000/Natura_2000_planer/Se_Planerne/)



Naturstyrelsen 2011b: Vandplan 2010-2015, Vandplan 2010-2015. Bornholm. Hovedvandopland 3.1  
Vanddistrikt Bornholm. - Miljøministeriet, Naturstyrelsen. All river basin management plans are available at:  
[http://www.naturstyrelsen.dk/Vandet/Vandplaner/Se\\_vandplanerne/](http://www.naturstyrelsen.dk/Vandet/Vandplaner/Se_vandplanerne/)

Nordemann Jensen, P., Boutrup, S., Bijl, L. van der, Svendsen, L.M., Grant, R., Wiberg-Larsen, P., Jørgensen, T.B., Ellermann, T., Hjorth, M., Josefson, A.B., Bruus, M., Søgaard, B., Thorling, L. & Dahlgren, K. 2010: Vandmiljø og Natur 2008. NOVANA. Tilstand og udvikling. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser, Aarhus Universitet. 106 s. – Faglig rapport fra DMU nr. 767.  
<http://www2.dmu.dk/Pub/FR767.pdf>

Petersen, J.K., Andersen, J.H., Dahl, K., Hansen, O.S., Josefson, A.B., Karlsson, J., Loo, L.-O., Magnusson, J., Moy, F. & Nilsson, P. (2006a): Reference conditions and EQOs for aquatic vegetation and macrozoobenthos. Copenhagen: Nordic Council of Ministers. - TemaNord 2006:510 : 138 pp.

Petersen, I.K., Pihl, S., Hounisen, J.P., Holm, T.E., Clausen, P., Therkildsen, O.R. & Christensen, T.K. (2006b): Landsdækkende optælling af vandfugle januar-februar 2004. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser. - Faglig rapport fra DMU 606: 76 pp.  
<http://www2.dmu.dk/Pub/FR606.pdf>

Pihl, S., Clausen, P., Laursen, K., Madsen, J. & Bregnballe, T. (2006): Conservation status of bird species in Denmark covered by the EU Wild Birds Directive. National Environmental Research Institute. - NERI Technical Report 570: 128 pp.  
<http://www2.dmu.dk/Pub/FR570.pdf>

Stoltze, M. & Pihl, S. (1998): RØDLISTE 1997 over planter og dyr i Danmark. - Miljø- og Energiministeriet 1998, Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser og Skov- og Naturstyrelsen. <http://www.sns.dk/1pdf/rodlis.pdf>

Søgaard, B., Pihl, S. & Wind, P. (2006): NOVANA Arter 2004-2005. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser. - Faglig rapport fra DMU 582: 148 pp. [http://www2.dmu.dk/1\\_viden/2\\_Publikationer/3\\_fagrappporter/rapporter/FR582.pdf](http://www2.dmu.dk/1_viden/2_Publikationer/3_fagrappporter/rapporter/FR582.pdf)

Søgaard, B., Skov, F., Pihl, S., Nygaard, B., Laursen, K., Fredshavn, J.R., Ejrnæs, R., Clausen, P., Bregnballe, T., Madsen, J., Baattrup-Pedersen, A., Lauridsen, T.L., Søndergaard, M., Aude, E., Riis-Nielsen, T., Buttenschön, R.M., Møller, P. & Nielsen, K.E. (2007): Criteria for favourable conservation status in Denmark. - Natural habitat types and species covered by the EEC Habitats Directive and birds covered by the EEC Birds Directive. National Environmental Research Institute, University of Aarhus. - NERI Technical Report 647: 92 pp. <http://www2.dmu.dk/Pub/FR647.pdf>

Søgaard, B., Pihl, S. & Wind, P. (2007): Arter 2006. NOVANA. Danmarks Miljøundersøgelser, Aarhus Universitet. - Faglig rapport fra DMU 644: 88 pp. <http://www2.dmu.dk/Pub/FR644.pdf>

Vandmiljøplan 3. – see <http://www.vmp3.dk/>

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Please return to: **Ramsar Convention Secretariat, Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 Gland, Switzerland**  
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