



# Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 6 April 2017

Update version, previously published on : 19 March 2013

## Sweden Vasikkavuoma



Designation date	19 March 2013
Site number	2179
Coordinates	67°13'38"N 23°11'53"E
Area	200,00 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

Vasikkavuoma is one of the largest and best preserved mowed mires in northern Europe. The stream, Vasikkajoki runs through the wetland and when it floods it provides the marshy meadows with nutrients. The site consists mostly of wetland habitat, transition mires and quaking bogs but also contains aapa mire and alkaline fens. The mire has been subjected to restorations through clearing and mowing. Today around 90 hectares is being harvested for hay making. The villages around Vasikkavuoma are mowing the grassland on the mire to get hay for reindeers and to keep a part of Sweden's cultural heritage alive. Most likely the mowing of Vasikkavuoma started around 1770. Between 1950 and 1980 no mowing took place. A small area of ten hectares was mowed to make fodder for reindeers. In 1996, 80 hectares of the mire belonging to Juhonpieti was restored and in 1998 further actions was taken to restore the site. There used to be approximately 200 hay barns on Vasikkavuoma of which around 80 hay barns are still present. At least 50 vascular plant species can be found on Vasikkavuoma. Chalk-dwelling orchids as Early marsh orchid (*Dactylorhiza incarnata*) and *Dactylorhiza. incarnata* spp. *cruenta* indicates that the area contains calcareous bedrock. Vasikkavuoma is also a good staging and nesting site for many birds.

## 2 - Data & location

### 2.1 - Formal data

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

##### Compiler 1

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##### Compiler 2

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Institution/agency	Naturvårdsverket (Swedish EPA)
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Fax	+46 10 698 16 00

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

From year	2013
To year	2015

#### 2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Vasikkavuoma
Unofficial name (optional)	Vasikkavuoma (peatland)

#### 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  No

(Update) B. Changes to Site area No change to area

#### 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	0
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#### Boundaries description

The boundary is the same as for the Nature Reserve and the Natura 2000 site, SE0820400.

### 2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Norrbotten
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b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

### 2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes  No

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
Udvardy's Biogeographical Provinces	Western Eurasian Taiga
Bailey's Ecoregions	130 Sub-arctic division
WWF Terrestrial Ecoregions	Scandinavian-Russian taiga
Other scheme (provide name below)	DMEER Scandinavian-Russian taiga
Freshwater Ecoregions of the World (FEOW)	Ecoregion 406 Northern Baltic drainages
EU biogeographic regionalization	Boreal

#### Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

### 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

Hydrological services provided	The open mires are flooded every year which enhance the productivity.
Other ecosystem services provided	The hay making tradition in Vasikkavuoma produces large amounts of hay, mainly water horsetail and sedge, which is utilized as food for reindeers during winter time.
Other reasons	The wetland types present are Open mires (U), Permanent freshwater marshes and pools (Tp) and Permanent rivers and streams (M). The site contains representative examples of those natural wetland types in the EU boreal region. Mowing takes place on a regular basis and the management methods are rare for areas like these. This vast mire, managed by mowing is close to unique in Europe. The wetland, having so large part mowed and lots of old hay barns has high value for cultural history.

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification	The site supports important populations of plant and wetland bird species which are important for the biological diversity in the northern part of the EU boreal region. The biodiversity includes for the region rare species.
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- Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions






























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

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
<i>Aneura pinguis</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Bistorta vivipara</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Calliergon giganteum</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Calliergon richardsonii</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Carex heleonastes</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (EN).	See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected species according to the (SFS 2007:845).	See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata cruenta</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected species according to the (SFS 2007:845).	See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Dactylorhiza lapponica</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected species according to the (SFS 2007:845).	See textbox below the table and in section 3.1

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
<i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List (NT). EC Habitats Directive Annex II.	See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Paludella squarrosa</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Parnassia palustris</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Pedicularis palustris</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Philonotis tomentella</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Rhizomnium pseudopunctatum</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Scorpidium cossonii</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Scorpidium revolvens</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Sphagnum centrale</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Sphagnum compactum</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Sphagnum contortum</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Sphagnum fuscum</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Sphagnum obtusum</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Sphagnum riparium</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Sphagnum squarrosum</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Sphagnum subfulvum</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Sphagnum subsecundum</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Sphagnum teres</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Stellaria crassifolia</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1
<i>Trichophorum alpinum</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1

Criterion 2 and 3: For all species, their status in the Swedish Red List and general information for that classification etc can be found at <http://artfakta.artdatabanken.se/>. Observations can be found in [www.artportalen.se](http://www.artportalen.se).

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion			Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence <sup>1)</sup>	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7								
<b>Birds</b>																	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Anas acuta</i> 	Northern Pintail	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU).	Foraging, staging. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Anser fabalis</i> 	Bean Goose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT).	Foraging, staging. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Anthus pratensis</i> 	Meadow Pipit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT).	Breeding. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Buteo lagopus</i> 	Roughleg; Rough-legged Buzzard; Rough-legged Hawk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT).	Foraging, staging. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i> 	Lapland Longspur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU).	Foraging, staging. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Circus cyaneus</i> 	Northern Harrier	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT).	Breeding. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Emberiza rustica</i> 	Rustic Bunting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU).	Breeding. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i> 	Reed Bunting; Common Reed Bunting; Common Reed-Bunting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU).	Breeding. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Numerius arquata</i> 	Eurasian Curlew	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT).	See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Pernis apivorus</i> 	European Honey Buzzard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT).	Foraging, staging. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i> 	Ruff	<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"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU).	Foraging, staging. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Poecile cinctus</i> 	Siberian Tit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU).	Breeding. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Regulus regulus</i> 	Goldcrest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (VU).	Foraging, staging. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i> 	Whinchat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swedish Red List 2015 (NT).	Breeding. See textbox below the table and in section 3.1.
<b>Others</b>																	
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	<i>Alces alces</i> 	Elk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		See textbox below the table and in section 3.1

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

Criterion 2, 3 and 4: For all species, their status in the Swedish Red List and general information for that classification etc can be found at <http://artfakta.artdatabanken.se/>. Observations can be found in [www.artportalen.se](http://www.artportalen.se).

## 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
Fennoscandian mineral-rich springs and springfens (EU 7160)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Springs and springfens have a continuous flow of ground-water. The water is cold, of even temperature, and rich in oxygen and minerals, due to the rapid percolation. Springs may have a basin where the water wells up and an adjacent outflow.	Habitat in the EC Habitats Directive, Annex I. The habitat type has an unfavourable conservation status in the EU boreal region of Sweden (2013).
Aapa mires (EU 7310)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mire complexes in the boreal zone characterised by minerotrophic fen vegetation in the central parts of the complexes. String fens and mixed mires are often parts of the mire complex.	Habitat in the EC Habitats Directive, Annex I. The habitat type has an unfavourable conservation status in the EU boreal region of Sweden (2013).
Alkaline fens (EU 7230)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wetlands mostly or largely occupied by peat- or tufa-producing small sedge and brown moss communities developed on soils permanently waterlogged, with a baserich, often calcareous water supply, with the water table close to the ground level.	Habitat in the EC Habitats Directive, Annex I. The habitat type has an unfavourable conservation status in the EU boreal region of Sweden (2013).



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

### 4.1 - Ecological character

Vasikkavuoma stretches along the stream Vasikkajoki which drains the mire north towards the river Torne. The brook is partly used in order to dam the upper mire and thus increase the output. Precipitation is low with an annual average rainfall of approximately 500 mm. The annual average temperature is -2 °C and the vegetation period is 130 days. The bedrock in Vasikkavuoma mainly consists of greenstone, limestone and slate. The flora comprises several lime favoured species like orchids.

Vasikkavuoma has been mowed for over 200 years. The mowing stopped during the 1950s. Willow and brushwood started to grow and take over the earlier mowed mire, and hay barns and cabins used for the mowing management started to decay. The mowing continued in 1980 after willow and brushwood had been removed and many barns were restored. The restoration continued in 1998 and is more or less on-going. Today 72 barns are being used in the hay making process.

The annual mowing produces hay which is used as reindeer fodder. Some parts of the mire are mowed by hand and some with help from a machine constructed especially for the purpose of mowing in wet mires like Vasikkavuoma. The land adjacent to Vasikkajoki is wet and vegetation like *Carex cordhorizza*, *Menyanthes trifoliata* and *Equisetum fluviatile* dominates. *Equisetum fluviatile* is the most important one in the hay making process. Hay from horsetail was especially good for the cows and their milk but also for reindeers.

### 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 > Flowing water >> M: Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks		0		Representative
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		0	1	Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non-forested peatlands		1	130	Representative
Fresh water > Flowing water >> Y: Permanent Freshwater springs; oases		0		Representative

#### Other non-wetland habitat

Other non-wetland habitats within the site	Area (ha) if known
Western taiga	4
Fennoscandian deciduous swamp woods	1
Unspecified forest	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
D: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with cold winters	Dfc: Subarctic (Severe winter, no dry season, cool summer)

#### 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.

Vasikkavuoma lies within middle parts of Torne river basin. The river Torne älv has its outlet in the Bothnian bay. Vasikkajoki which runs through Vasikkavuoma is a smaller tributary to river Torne.

#### 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 bedrock in the area consists of basic igneous rocks and the soil types are peat and till.

#### 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"/>	unknown
Water inputs from groundwater	<input type="checkbox"/>	unknown
Water inputs from rainfall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	unknown

##### Water destination

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
To downstream catchment	No change

##### Stability of water regime

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Water levels fluctuating (including tidal)	No change

#### 4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Sediment regime unknown

#### 4.4.6 - Water pH

Unknown

#### 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

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

Please describe other ways in which the surrounding area is different:

In the surroundings there are no mowed wetlands; instead there are other mires and also forests affected by forestry. The nearest village is Erkkeikki and the small town community of Pajala situated 10 km east of Vasikkavuoma.

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Wetland non-food products	Livestock fodder	High

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	High
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	High
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	High
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	Medium

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	Medium

Outside the site:

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

Description if applicable

The open mires in Vasikkavuoma are flooded every year which enhances the productivity of the area. Mowing takes place on a yearly basis. The first to settle near Vasikkavuoma was a family from Finland in the 1600s and most likely the utilization of Vasikkavuoma for livestock winter fodder started as early as in the 1700s. Today Vasikkavuoma is the largest mire currently being mowed in the Nordic countries.

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

Description if applicable

MEJA is a local organisation which partly consists of the landowners in Vasikkavuoma. They are also responsible for the mowing of the site. They use a machine designed especially for the sole purpose of being able to mow in flooded mires. With the help of this machine the locals manage a large portion of the mire. In total approximately 200 hectares are mowed annually.

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

#### 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

##### 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):

The Ramsar site constitutes an area of national interest for nature and culture conservation.

#### 5.1.2 - Management authority

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

County Administration Board is responsible for the management. Private land owners get funding's from County Administration Board to finance the mowing of Vasikkavuoma.

Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:

County Administration Board

Postal address:

Stationsgatan 5 971 86 Luleå

E-mail address:

norrbottn@lansstyrelsen.se

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

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

#### Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Drainage			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

#### Energy production and mining

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Mining and quarrying	unknown impact	High 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
Logging and wood harvesting			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Please describe any other threats (optional):

Energy production and mining: There are at present (2017) nine granted exploration permits within a range of 40 km from the Ramsar site which all of them expires between 2017 and 2020. Of these nine there is one granted exploration permit for graphite which partly exceeds the Ramsar site in the southeast part of Vasikkavuoma. Approximately 1,4 hectares are directly affected by the exploration permit which expires in February 2018. There are at the moment three granted mining concessions in a range of 35 km from the site. The closest is approximately 15 km north of Vasikkavuoma. They expire in year 2033 and 2035.

#### 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	See national legislation.		whole

##### National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Natura 2000 SAC	Vasikkavuoma	<a href="http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norr-botten/SiteCollectionDocuments/Sv/djur-och-natur/skyddad-natur/Naturreservat/Pajala/Beslut%20och%20BP/Vasikkavuoma_BP_2007.pdf">http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norr-botten/SiteCollectionDocuments/Sv/djur-och-natur/skyddad-natur/Naturreservat/Pajala/Beslut%20och%20BP/Vasikkavuoma_BP_2007.pdf</a>	whole
Nature Reserve	Vasikkavuoma	<a href="http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/Norr-botten/Sv/djur-och-natur/skyddad-natur/naturreservat/pajala/Pages/vasikkavuoma.aspx">http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/Norr-botten/Sv/djur-och-natur/skyddad-natur/naturreservat/pajala/Pages/vasikkavuoma.aspx</a>	whole
Site of national importance for cultural environment conservation	Juhonpieti-Erkeheikki		whole
Site of national importance for nature conservation	Torneälven	<a href="http://nypub.vic-metria.nu/handlingar/rest/dokument/204197">http://nypub.vic-metria.nu/handlingar/rest/dokument/204197</a>	partly

### 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

#### Human Activities

Measures	Status
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Implemented

#### Other:

The key conservation effort which keeps the site in a viable condition is the mowing of the mire.

### 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:

There is a parking, bird observation tower, footbridges, weather-boards, camp-fire sites, cabins and WC.

### 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

<no data available>

## 6 - Additional material

### 6.1 - Additional reports and documents

#### 6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

VISS-database. <http://www.viss.lansstyrelsen.se/>

Gärdefors, U. (Remissversion) 2015. Rödlistade arter i Sverige 2015 - The 2015 Red List of Swedish Species. Artdatabanken, SLU, Uppsala.

#### 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:



One of many hay barns i Vasikkavuoma ( County Administration Board of Norrbotten, 2008 )



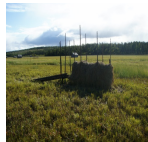
Mineral-rich spring ( County Administration Board of Norrbotten, 2008 )



Footbridge over the wet mire ( County Administration Board of Norrbotten, 2008 )



Mowing machine ( County Administration Board of Norrbotten, 2008 )



Hay drying rack ( County Administration Board of Norrbotten, 2008 )



Hay barns, Vasikkavuoma ( County Administration Board of Norrbotten, 2008 )



Mowing of the mire ( County Administration Board of Norrbotten, 2008 )



Facilities in Vasikkavuoma ( County Administration Board of Norrbotten, 2008 )



Facilities in Vasikkavuoma ( County Administration Board of Norrbotten, 2008 )

#### 6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2013-03-19