

INFORMATION SHEET ON RAMSAR WETLANDS

Country: Sweden

Date: December 1991

Ref: 7SE016

Name and address of compiler: Tiina Laantee, Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, 17185 Solna, Sweden
Tel: +46 8 7991000
Fax: +46 8 291106

Name of wetland: Tärnasjön

Date of Ramsar designation: 5 December 1974

Geographical coordinates: 66°00' N 15°29' E

General location: Located about 40 km south-west of the town of Ammarnäs in the county of Västerbotten.

Area: 11,800 ha

Wetland type: M O U W X

Altitude: average of 627 m above sea level.

Overview: Lake Tärna lies in a flat marshy basin characterized by parallel moraine ridges. The site is botanically important for its extensive mire complexes and comprises a complex of "Palsa" mires.

Physical features: Lake Tärnasjön is a long, narrow lake occupying a stretch of the upper River Umeälven system. It is situated completely within the sub-alpine region, and lies in a flat marshy basin characterized by parallel moraine ridges. In the southern part of the lake these ridges form a distinctive landscape, with a very indented marshy shoreline and numerous small islands. The area is flooded in spring. In the south towards Ankadalen are extensive mire areas and a mosaic of mires, small lakes and moraine ridges. The River Tärna enters the lake in the north, forming a delta little modified by human activities. At Lake Laivajaure are the southernmost and probably the best developed "Palsa" mires in Sweden.

Ecological features: Vegetation is mainly heathlike woods of *Betula* with dwarf scrub often reaching down to the shroe. Some tall *Carex* species occur. Most of the lakeshore is composed of moraine deposits with a rich flora. North-west of the delta are botanically important mires.

Land tenure/ownership of

a) **site:** state owned.

b) **surrounding area:**

Conservation measures taken: The whole area is included in the

nature Reserve of Vindelfjällen, established 3 July 1975. A management plan exists for the reserve.

Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented: no information supplied.

Current land use: principal human activities in

a) site: Reindeer farming; Fishing; Recreation (the King's Trail passes through the site); Nature Conservation.

b) surroundings/catchment: Reindeer farming.

Disturbances/threats, including changes in land use and major development projects

a) at the site: no information supplied.

b) in the surroundings/catchment: no information supplied.

Hydrological and physical values: The site covers an area which, in contrast to most adjacent areas, hasn't been affected by water regulations for hydro-electric purposes. The Palsa mires are very nicely developed and have few if any corresponding elements in this part of Sweden.

Social and cultural values: no information supplied.

Noteworthy fauna: Breeding: *Anas penelope*, *A. crecca*, *Aythya marila*, *melanitta nigra*, *M. fusca*, *Numerius phalopus*, *Philomachus pugnax*, *Phalaropus lobatus*, *Gallinago media*, *Gavia arctica*, *G. stellata*, *Buteo lagopus*, *Falco rusticolus* and *Circus cyaneus*.

Haliaeetus albicilla and *Aquila chysaetos* are observed but do not probably breed in the area.

Other fauna: *Gulo gulo*, *Lynx lynx*, *Ursus arctos* and *Lutra lutra* are occasionally observed. *Castor fiber* has been introduced to the area.

Noteworthy flora: Locally species-rich herb vegetation is found within the mire complexes.

Current scientific research and facilities: no information supplied.

Current conservation education: no information supplied.

Current recreation and tourism: Fishing is popular in the lake.

Management authority: The manager of the Nature Reserve is the County Administration of Västerbotten.

Jurisdiction: Territorial and functional: County Administration of Västerbotten.

Bibliographical references:

- Grimmett, R.F.A. & Jones, T.A. (1989). Important Bird Areas of Europe. ICBP.
- Svenska våtmarker av internationell betydelse (1989). Swedish EPA information. (English summary).

Reasons for inclusion: 1b, 2b, 3b

Map of site: enclosed