

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 6 October 2006 Update version, previously published on 6 October 2006

HungaryUpper Kiskunság alkaline steppes



Designation date 6 October 2006 Site number 1646 Coordinates 47°04'15"N 19°09'E Area 13 177,00 ha

https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/1646 Created by RSIS V.1.6 on - 3 April 2017

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 intermittent sodic-alkaline marshes and meadows of Kiskunság give a good special example of continental saline ecosystems which are characteristic, unique wetland habitat types of the Pannonic biogeographic region. It hosts several noteworthy endemic and regionally endemic plant and animal species and communities. The site is a very important area for waterbirds during both breeding and migration season. The migrating water birds numbers – especially regards to Anseriiformes and Charadriiformes species – reach 20.000 individuals.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name	and address	of the com	piler of	this RIS
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Compiler 1

Name	Zoltan Vajda
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2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year 2006

To year 2014

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

Upper Kiskunság alkaline steppes

Unofficial name (optional)

Felső-Kiskunsági szikes puszták

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 O No ●

(Update) B. Changes to Site area the area has decreased

(Update) The Site area has been calculated more accurately

(Update) The Site has been delineated more accurately

(Update) The Site area has increased because of a boundary extension

(Update) The Site area has decreased because of a boundary restriction

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?

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps 0

Boundaries description

The site boundary follows the boundary of the national park. In the northeast, the site extends beyond the national park and follows physical boundaries (canals) and land registration plot boundaries there.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?

Bács-Kiskun, Pest counties

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

Kunszentmiklós

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes O No $\ensuremath{\bullet}$

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes O No lacktriangle

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 13177

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from 13177.72

GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Pannonic

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

European Commission DG Environment webpage

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/sites_hab/biogeog_regions/index_en.htm The biogeographic regionalisation scheme applied is the same used by the European Union (according to the Habitats Directive)

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

In common with the Upper Kiskunság Alkaline Lakes Ramsar Site, this site also represents a rare example of the natural sodic-alkaline type wetlands within the Pannonic biogeographic region. The sodic plain has a rather variegated micro-relief. Differences of just a couple of dozen inches in elevation can produce different types of soils with distinctive floras to go with them. The high salinity and poor water economy of the soil allow only halophytic grass. It presents a nice variation of marshes, sodic meadows, grazing lands, sodic terraces and sodic barrens with a typical vegetation consisting of various salt-resistant and halophyte species. The sodic pans and salt marshes are the other important habitat types of the site from the point of view of birds and invertebrates as well. The site is important not only from the point of view of natural inland salt habitats, but is important for birds as a nesting, feeding and roosting site as well.

Other ecosystem services provided

Habitat types listed on Annex I of the Habitats Directive:

1530 Pannonic salt steppes and salt marshes (EU Council Directive 92/43/EGK Annex I) 6250 Pannonic loess steppic grasslands (EU Council Directive 92/43/EGK Annex I)

- ☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities
- ☑ Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

The site holds several species endemic to the Carpathian Basin, important for maintaining the biological diversity within the Pannonic biogeographical region.

Sea Aster Aster tripolium ssp. pannonicum - Pannonic subendemic

Enthostodon hungaricus – Pannonic endemic moss, listed in Hungarian Red Data Book

ustification

Lepidium crassifolium - Pannonic endemic, biogeographically important

Limonium gmelini ssp. hungaricum – Pannonic endemic, biogeographically important

Plantago schwarzenbergiana – Pannonic endemic, biogeographically important and protected in Hungary

Puccinellia limosa - Pannonic subendemic, biogeographically important

Dorcadion fulvum cervae – Pannonic endemic, listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II

- ☑ Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions
- ☑ Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population
- 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
Entosthodon hungaricus			Ø				listed in Hungarian Red Data Book	Criterion 3: The site holds this species endemic to the Carpathian Basin, important for maintaining the biological diversity within the Pannonic biogeographical region.
Lepidium cartilagineum			Ø					Criterion 3: The site holds this species endemic to the Carpathian Basin, important for maintaining the biological diversity within the Pannonic biogeographical region. Biogeographically important
Limonium gmelinii			V					Criterion 3: The site holds this species endemic to the Carpathian Basin, important for maintaining the biological diversity within the Pannonic biogeographical region. Biogeographically important
Plantago schwarzenbergiana			V				protected in Hungary	Criterion 3: The site holds this species endemic to the Carpathian Basin, important for maintaining the biological diversity within the Pannonic biogeographical region. Biogeographically important
Puccinellia distans			V					Criterion 3: The site holds this species endemic to the Carpathian Basin, important for maintaining the biological diversity within the Pannonic biogeographical region. Biogeographically important
Tripolium pannonicum	Sea Aster		2					Criterion 3: The site holds this species endemic to the Carpathian Basin, important for maintaining the biological diversity within the Pannonic biogeographical region.

Species listed under Biological components which are not yet included in the Catalogue of Life:	
Species listed under biological components which are not yet included in the Odialogue of Life.	
Phascum floerkeanum – moss species listed in Hungarian Red Data Book	

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	qualifies c	criterion	Pop. Size Period of pop. Est		IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
Birds											
	Acrocephalus melanopogon	Moustached Warbler					LC			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES		Common Kingfisher					LC ● iii ● iiii			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anser albifrons	Greater White- frontedGoose			1000	19.1	LC ©				Criterion 6: 21000 individuals occur regularly. Biogeographic region: Western Siberian/Central Europe

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	q		fies	con	tribut nder terio	tes on	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN e Red List		CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anser anser	Greylag Goose			2 0				9000		16.1	LC OTH				Criterion 6: 9000 individuals occur regularly. Biogeographic region: Central Europe/North Africa
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ardea alba	Great Egret	1	V								LC			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
	Ardeola ralloides	Squacco Heron	√	V)								LC ●計 ●開			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
	Aythya nyroca	Ferruginous Duck	Ø	V								NT ●# ●#		V	79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Charadrius alexandrinus	Kentish Plover; SnowyPlover	Ø	V								LC •# •#			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Charadrius morinellus	Eurasian Dotterel	V												79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ciconia ciconia	White Stork	1	V								LC			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ciconia nigra	Black Stork	V	V								LC ●許 ●開			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Circus aeruginosus	Western Marsh Harrier	Ø	V								LC			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	Ø	V								LC •# •#			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Falco cherrug	Saker Falcon	V									EN ©®		\checkmark		Criterion 2: The site holds this species.
	Grus grus	Common Crane	V	V)								LC Sign			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Haliaeetus albicilla	White-tailed Eagle		¥.								LC	Ø	Ø	79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Himantopus himantopus	Black-winged Stilt	V	V								LC ●部			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Hydrocoloeus minutus	Little Gull	V	V								LC ●# ●##			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	qu u cri	ecies alifies nder iterion	cor	pecies stributes under siterion 5 7	Size	d of pop. E	% est. occurrence 1)		CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ichthyaetus melanocephalus	Mediterranean Gull	V	20c	000							79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ixobrychus minutus	Little Bittern	Ø.	200						LC Sign		79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Lanius minor	Lesser Grey Shrike	Ø.	200						LC Sign		79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Luscinia svecica	Bluethroat	Ø.	200						LC Sign		79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Microcarbo pygmeus	Pygmy Cormorant		70c								79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Nycticorax nycticorax	Black-crowned NightHeron; Black-crowned Night-Heron	V	000						LC Sis		79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Otis tarda	Great Bustard	2	عمد						VU Sit Other	V	Annex I Birds Directive	Criterion 2: The site holds this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Pandion haliaetus	Osprey, Western Osprey	V	2 00						LC		79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Philomachus pugnax	Ruff	V	000						LC Sign		79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Platalea leucorodia	Eurasian Spoonbill	V	20c						LC Sign		79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Porzana parva	Little Crake	V	2 00						LC Sign		79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Porzana porzana	Spotted Crake	Ø.	20C						LC Sign		79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Recurvirostra avosetta	Pied Avocet	V	200	000					LC		79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Sterna hirundo	Common Tem	V	200						LC Sign		79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.

RIS for Site no. 1646, Upper Kiskunság alkaline steppes, Hungary

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion 2 4 6 9	Species contributes under criterion 3 5 7 8	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Tringa glareola	Wood Sandpiper						LC Str			79/409/EGK Annex I	Criterion 2: The site holds this species with international designation. Criterion 4: Notable breeding, migrating, wintering and resident birds on wetlands including this species.
Others												
ARTHROPODA / INSECTA	Dorcadion cervae		0000	2 000							listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II	Criterion 3: The site holds this species endemic to the Carpathian Basin, important for maintaining the biological diversity within the Pannonic
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	citellus	European Ground Squirrel; European Souslik	$\square \square \square$					VU ©SI			Annex II Habitats Directive	Criterion 2: The site holds this species.

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

79/409/EGK - EU Birds Directive 92/43/EGK - EU Habitats Directive

Species listed under Biological components which are not yet included in the Catalogue of Life: Saragossa porosa kenderiensis – Pannonic endemic

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

The prevalence of different sodic alkaline wetland habitat structures depends on water levels and seasonal fluctuation, which may be very variable year to year.

Lepidio-Puccinellietum and Astero-Agrostetum albae sodic marshes: The feature of this habitat is that it has only temporary or ephemeral saline water-flooding zone (0-10 cm), usually from later autumn to later spring. After it has dried out saline crystals often occur high density on the bare surface, this reason is that the plants growing are strength hampered here. The characteristic vegetation, which can thrive in these extreme conditions consists mainly of terrestrial halophyte and succulent plants such as: Lepidio crassifolium, Puccinellia limosa, Camphorosma annua, which occur sporadically on the surface. This habitat is one of the most important shorebird feeding zone because it has seasonal shallow (0-10 cm) water coverage and bare surface, often only the surface is wet and the muddy ground is soft. This feeding habitat exists mainly in spring and autumn for the waterbirds, when there is higher water level on the site.

Puccinellietum limosae sodic marshes: This habitat is similar as Lepidio marshes, but it has longer and a bit deeper saline water-flooding (0-20 cm), usually from early autumn to beginning of summer, due to more vegetation biomass can be found here, especially high dominant of halophyte Puccinellia limosa. The sodium crystal accumulation is not so expressed on the surface only in the deeper level of the soil. The vegetation coverage abundance may be very variable.

Bolboschoenus-Phragmitetum sodic marshes: This habitat regularly is covered with shallow water (0-30 cm) or wet all over the year. Due to here can overgrow more abundant halophyte vegetation as on saline marshes 2. zone. The characteristic dominant plants are Bolboshoenus maritimus and saline ecotype of Phragmites communis, these may occurrence in very different coverage proportion.

Open bed of pans: This habitat regularly is covered with deeper saline shallow water (10-50 cm) all over the year. This habitat is the major importance for waterbirds. In hot summer, when the water level may be dropped seriously, so pool-bed surfaces can be become only wet or dried out.

Other not characteristic wetlands types can be also found such as Alopecuretum pratensis meadow, Caricetum acutiformis ripariae and Cladium mariscus marshes.

(For further information, see additional material)

4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

Inland wetlands

Il lianu wellanus				
Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
Saline, brackish or alkaline water > Lakes >> R: Seasonal/ intermittent saline/ brackish/ alkaline lakes and flats	Ss & R area considered together	1	3480	
Saline, brackish or alkaline water > Marshes & pools >> Sp: Permanent saline/ brackish/ alkaline marshes/ pools		2	2254	Representative
Saline, brackish or alkaline water > Marshes & pools >> Ss: Seasonal/ intermittent saline/ brackish/ alkaline marshes/ pools		1	3480	

Human-made wetlands

i lui ilai i-i ilade wellalida				
Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
1: Aquaculture ponds		3	488	
9: Canals and drainage channels or ditches		4	316	

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
Cirsium brachycephalum	Small-flowered Thistle	listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II
Tortula cernua		moss species listed in Hungarian Red Data Book

Invasive alien plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
Elaeagnus angustifolia		Potentially	No change

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/AVES	Acrocephalus arundinaceus	Great Reed Warbler				
CHORDATA/AVES	Acrocephalus schoenobaenus	Sedge Warbler				

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/AVES	Acrocephalus scirpaceus	Eurasian Reed Warbler				
CHORDATA/AVES	Actitis hypoleucos	Common Sandpiper				
CHORDATA/AVES	Anas acuta	Northern Pintail				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Anas dypeata	Northern Shoveler				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Anas crecca	Eurasian Teal;Green- winged Teal				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Anas penelope	Eurasian Wigeon				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Anas querquedula	Garganey				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Anser fabalis	Bean Goose				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Anthus pratensis	Meadow Pipit				
CHORDATAAVES	Anthus spinoletta	Water Pipit				
	Ardea cinerea	Gray Heron; Grey Heron				
CHORDATA/AVES	Arenaria interpres	RuddyTurnstone				
CHORDATA/AVES	Aythya ferina	Common Pochard				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Aythya fuligula	Tufted Duck				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Calidris alba	Sanderling				Birdo Birdouve / Vinex i.
CHORDATA/AVES		Ů				Diede Dieseties Assessed
CHORDATA/AVES	Calidris alpina	Dunlin				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper				
CHORDATA/AVES	Calidris minuta	Little Stint				
CHORDATA/AVES	Calidris temminckii	Temminck's Stint				
CHORDATA/AVES	Charadrius dubius	Little Ringed Plover				
CHORDATA/AVES	Charadrius hiaticula	Common Ringed Plover				
CHORDATA/AVES	Chlidonias leucopterus	White-winged Tern				
CHORDATA/AVES	Chroicocephalus ridibundus	Black-headed Gull				Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATAAVES	Cygnus olor	Mute Swan				
CHORDATA/AVES	Fulica atra	Eurasian Coot				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Gallinago gallinago	Common Snipe				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Gallinula chloropus	Common Moorhen				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Larus cachinnans	Caspian Gull;Yellow- legged Gull				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Larus canus	Mew Gull				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Larus fuscus	Lesser Black-backed Gull				Birds Directive Annex I.
CHORDATA/AVES	Limicola falcinellus	Broad-billed Sandpiper				Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATAAVES	Limosa limosa	Black-tailed Godwit				Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATAAVES	Locustella fluviatilis	River Warbler				Birds Directive Annex I
	Locustella luscinioides	Savi's Warbler				
CHORDATAVAVES	Motacilla flava	Western Yellow Wagtail				
CHORDATA/AVES	Numenius arquata	Eurasian Curlew				Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATA/AVES	Numenius phaeopus	Whimbrel				Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATA/AVES	Phalacrocorax carbo	Great Cormorant				
CHORDATA/AVES						Diade Discretics A
CHORDATA/AVES	Pluvialis squatarola	Grey Plover				Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATA/AVES	Podiceps cristatus	Great Crested Grebe				
CHORDATA/AVES	Podiceps grisegena	Red-necked Grebe				
CHORDATA/AVES	Podiceps nigricollis	Black-necked Grebe;Eared Grebe				

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/AVES	Rallus aquaticus	Water Rail				Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATA/AVES	Remiz pendulinus	Eurasian Penduline Tit				
CHORDATA/AVES	Tachybaptus ruficollis	Little Grebe				
CHORDATA/AVES	Tringa erythropus	Spotted Redshank				Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATA/AVES	Tringa nebularia	Common Greenshank				Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATA/AVES	Tringa ochropus	Green Sandpiper				
CHORDATA/AVES	Tringa stagnatilis	Marsh Sandpiper				
CHORDATA/AVES	Tringa totanus	Common Redshank				Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATA/AVES	Vanellus vanellus	Northern Lapwing				Birds Directive Annex I
HORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Cobitis taenia	Spine loach				listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II
HORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Leuciscus aspius	Schied;Schied;Schied				listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II
HORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Misgumus fossilis	European weather loach				listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II
HORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Rhodeus amarus	European bitterling				listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II
CHORDATA/AVPHIBIA	Bombina bombina	European Fire-bellied Toad				listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	Emys orbicularis	European Pond Terrapin				listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II
CHORDATA/MAM/MALIA	Lutra lutra	European Otter				listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II
CHORDATA/MAM/MALIA	Mustela eversmanii	Steppe polecat				- listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II
CHORDATA/AMPHIBIA	Triturus dobrogicus	Danube crested newt				listed in 92/43/EGK directive Annex II

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
C: Moist Md-Latitude dimate with mild winters	Cfb: Marine west coast (MId with no dry season, warm summer)

The climate variations are limited in the region of the Carpathian Basin. The macroclimate can be considered a homogenous basic feature in terms of surface and fauna evolution, as well.

The region has a temperate continental climate. Its unique features are limited cloudiness, a relatively high number of sunshine hours, high daily and annual temperature variation, relative dryness and very low humidity values.

See additional material under "physical features of the site" for further information on climate.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

195	a) Mnimum elevation above sea level (in metres)
195	a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)
Entire river basin	
Upper part of river basin \Box	
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 sodic plain belongs to River Danube catchment area. The general physical features of the site is characteristic for almost whole catchment area of the pans, but have to put emphasis on sodic wetlands have more extensive groundwater catchment area than on the surface. The local wetland catchment area has two main parts, on the major part is the lowland River Danube basin, and on the eastern part is the plain sandy ridge plateau.

^(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)

Chernozem meadow soil types, which are surfaces developed on a sandy loess base situated in the highest level layers in the region, with a high humus content. Their layer thickness varies between 20-40 cm. Solonetz meadow or carbonated solonetz soils, which appear in non-classical forms, in patches, and are more of a transition between the meadow and sodic soils in various combinations, Solonchak-solonetz soils, sodic solonchak soils, solonchak soils of eroded salt berms. Among these calcareous-sodic solonchak-solonetz soils are the most common, giving the character of the sodic plains found here.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Usually seasonal, ephemeral or intermittent water present	

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source	Changes at RIS update
Water inputs from rainfall		No change
Water inputs from groundwater		No change
Water inputs from surface water		No change

Water destination

Presence?	Changes at RIS update	
Feeds groundwater	No change	

Stability of water regime

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Water levels fluctuating (including tidal)	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 sodic-alkaline alkaline wetlands are special type of continental salt waters, which is a typical Pannonic wetland type in Hungary. These pans have primarily groundwater and rainfall supplied water bodies. These are seasonal intermittent shallow waters (max. depth = 0.4-0.5 m), because there is notable seasonal water level fluctuation and frequently dries out entirely to middle of summer or autumn.

See additional material under "Physical features of the catchment area"

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Sediment regime unknown

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

The susceptibility to re-suspension of sediments is different for each lake as it depends on the sediment type and on the shape and depth profile of a lake. Hypothetically, wave re-suspension occurs depends on the critical fetch (Fcrit) at which the wavelength exceeds twice the depth, relative to the total length of the lake measured in the direction of the wind. It causes that generally at lower find velocity there can be found a lower turbidity less re-suspended belt (Fcrit) around the shoreline below a critical water depth. The lowest turbidity can be found every time among emergent marshland vegetation. The non-turbid transparent sodic-alkaline waters have dull brown colour.

4.4.6 - Water pH

Akaline (pH>7.4) ✓

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change

● Increase

O Decrease

O Unknown

O

Unknown

Please provide further information on pH (optional):

The total solute content of the region's ground water is relatively high. Even the smallest values are around 1000 mg/l. The highest values vary between 2000-10.000 mg/l. In the event of high ground water levels the ground water also brings solutes to the surface via its capillary ascent. The most important cations and anions in the ground water are Na+, Ca2+, Mg2+ and HCO3-, according to predominance Na+, HCO3- couple with high pH values (sodic water).

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (0.5-30 g/l) ₩

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change Increase ODecrease OUnknown O

Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change Increase ODecrease OUnknown O

Unknown [

Please provide further information on salinity (optional):

The sodic-alkaline alkaline wetlands are special type of continental salt waters, which is a typical Pannonic wetland type in Hungary. These pans have primarily groundwater and rainfall supplied water bodies. These are seasonal intermittent shallow waters (max. depth = 0.4-0.5 m), because there is notable seasonal water level fluctuation and frequently dries out entirely to middle of summer or autumn. The salinity regurlary varies between hypo- (0,8-20 g.l-1), sometimes in mesosaline (20-50 g.l-1) ranges corresponding with water level. The total dissolved solids is dominated in sodium (Na+), calcium (Ca2+), carbonate (CO32-) ions, and high grey-brown coloured holomictic turbidity being permanently suspended by colloidal suspended ion complex. Some shallow opened water tables have very high turbidity attributed to countinuos resuspension of the sediments by the winds coupled with its shallowness.

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water	
	Unknown ☑
4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which ma	ny affect the Site
Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site diff	•
Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or de	evelopment
Surrounding area has higher human populat	tion density
Surrounding area has more intensive agric	cultural use 🗆
Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or ha	abitat types

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance	
Wetland non-food products	Other	Medium	
Wetland non-food products	Livestock fodder	Medium	
Wetland non-food products	Reeds and fibre	Medium	

Regulating Services

	r togulating our mood		
	Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological		Groundwater recharge and	
	regimes	discharge	

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance	
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium	
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	Medium	

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

No traditional fisheries, forestry production, religious importance, archaeological sites corresponding with the wetlands. Social relations with existing wetlands can be understood by traditional Hungarian extensive farmland lifestyle especially regard to domestic semi-nomadic animals grazing.

The extensive grassland, fishpond, reed harvesting and agricultural uses are involved.

General Hungarian biodiversity and bird monitoring program has been running on the site.

Some ecotourism, especially amateur birdwatchers visit the area and the fishing is permissible on three channels.

The site has an important role in the retention and storage of inland water and regulation of the groundwater level of the surrounding area as well.

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of Yes O No O Unknown @ ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site?

4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

des a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the titional knowledge and methods of management and that maintain the ecological character of the wetland	application of trad
as exceptional cultural traditions or records of former $\hfill\Box$ ve influenced the ecological character of the wetland	ii) the site h civilizations that ha
al character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples	iii) the ecologic
naterial values such as sacred sites are present and trongly 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

ı ub	lic owners	u III

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
National/Federal government	>	
Provincial/region/state government	V	
Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc.	V	

Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	2	/

Provide further information on the land tenure / ownership regime (optional):

within the Ramsar site:

State owned and managed by the National Park Directorate 61 %

Other state owned 19 %

Privately owned 18 %

Local goverment owned 2 %

in the surrounding area: basically privately owned

5.1.2 - Management authority

agency or organization responsible for	Kiskunság National Park Directorate
managing the site: Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:	
people with responsibility for the wetland:	Zoltan VAJDA
Postal address:	H-6000 Kecskemét, Liszt F. u.19.
E-mail address:	vajdaz@knp.hu

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
Water abstraction	High impact	High impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Canalisation and river regulation	Medium impact	Medium impact	/	No change		No change

Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Wood and pulp plantations	Medium impact	Medium impact		No change	✓	No change

Energy production and mining

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Mining and quarrying	Medium impact	Medium impact		No change	✓	No change

Biological resource use

Biological resource use							
	Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
	Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	2	No change

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Dams and water management/use	Medium impact	Medium impact	/	No change	/	No change
Unspecified/others	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	No change		No change
Fire and fire suppression	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	2	No change

Invasive and other problematic species and genes

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Invasive non-native/ alien species	Medium impact	Medium impact	2	No change	✓	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	✓	No change	2	No change
Unspecified	Medium impact	Medium impact		No change	√	No change

Climate change and severe weather

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Droughts	High impact	High impact	✓	No change	✓	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

within the Ramsar site:

Groundwater decrease, water regulation, extensive agricultural pollution and disturbing factors, drying out, low grazing pressure, alien species invasion (e.g. Eleagnus angustifolia), waterfowl hunting, increasing of mammalian (fox) and avian (crows) predators, burning.

The most important adverse factors threatening the site's ecological character is the ground water decreasing. In the area located between the Rivers Danube and Tisza the following factors are influencing the ground water level changes: precipitation, artesian water exploitation for water supply purposes, ground water exploitation mainly for irrigation purposes, increase of areas covered by forests, water management and other factors. From the beginning of the 1970s to the middle of the 1990s the precipitation level dropped below the average, nearly 1000 mm precipitation shortage was experienced in the area. As a result ground water level started to drop, significant amount of the previous lakes dried up. During this time extensive ground water stock exploitation also started for the purposes of irrigation, which also contributed to the further reduction of ground water level. In the area Danube-Tisza Interfluves the factors influencing ground water reduction are as follows and their respective share in percentage also indicated: weather (50%); artesian water exploitation:(25%); ground water exploitation (6%); changes to land utilisation (10%); water management (7%); other (hydrocarbon exploitation (2%).

in the surrounding area:

Increase of gravel exploitation, groundwater decreasing, water regulation, intensive agricultural pollution and disturbing factors, artificial forest planting, drying out, eutrophication, alien species invasion (e.g. Eleagnus angustifolia), waterfowl hunting, increasing of natural mammalian (fox) and avian (crows) predators, burning.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Global legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
UNESCO Biosphere Reserve	Kiskunság		partly

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	Upper Kiskunság alkaline steppes		whole

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Environmentally Sensitive Area	UpperKiskunság alkaline steppes		whole
National Park	Kiskunsági		partly
Site of Community Importance	Upper Kiskunság alkaline steppes		whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

la Strict Nature Reserve

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 O No @

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning Yes O No

processes with another Contracting Party?

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

There are 5 observation towers and one nature trail on the site. General information booklets are also available.

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? Yes, there is a plan

Further information

Extensive wetland restorations programmes were also carried out on 2000 ha of the site. The site and surrounding area are declared as an environmentally sensitive area, which gives an opportunity for a zoned compensation scheme for farmers.

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented
Animal community	Implemented
Plant community	Implemented

General Hungarian biodiversity and bird monitoring program has been running on the site.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

see additional documents under other published literature

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

<2 file(s) uploaded>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Alkaline steppes with Av ocets in the Kiskunság (Kovács Sándor, 09-06-2011)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2006-10-06