

Australia

Corner Inlet

Offline RIS Word form

The purpose of this form is to help in collecting data on a Ramsar Site for the completion of an online Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS) at <https://rsis.ramsar.org>. It can be circulated between the National Focal Point, RIS compilers and other national data collectors. However, it is not accepted by the Ramsar Secretariat for submission of a Site update or new Site designation. The data collected through this form must be transferred to the online form by the National Focal Point or an authorized online RIS compiler.  
  
All fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are required.  
  
 For more information on how to use this form, please refer to the document   
 [How to use the offline RIS Word form.](http://www.ramsar.org/document/how-to-use-the-offline-ris-word-form)

Created by RSIS v1.7 on 04 February 2020 at 00:29

[https://rsis.ramsar.org/RISapp/section.php?idSection=1&part=1&idvris=54152167&action=view](https://rsis.ramsar.org/RISapp/section.php?idSection=1&amp;part=1&amp;idvris=54152167&amp;action=view)

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.

Summary

1.1 Summary description

Please provide a short descriptive text summarising the key characteristics and internationally important aspects of the site. You may prefer to complete the four following sections before returning to draft this summary.

Summary (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Corner Inlet is a large tide-dominated embayment located adjacent to the southernmost tip of the Australian mainland. The inlet consists of a submerged plain covered by sand or mud flats and extensive seagrass beds, and large sand islands. A radiating system of deeper channels supports efficient tidal exchange over the flats and the areas between the islands. Due to its large area and the diversity of habitats present, the Corner Inlet Ramsar site supports significant populations of a number of aquatic species and communities as well as habitats including:  Extensive seagrass beds, including the most southerly distribution of the seagrass Posidonia australis;  Large areas of coastal saltmarsh and mangrove shrubland;  Significant numbers of waterbirds, including over 30 species listed under international agreements;  Breeding habitats of waterbirds, particularly beach-nesting species; and  A diversity and abundance of fish species, including nursery habitat for recreational and commercially important species. |

Data & location

2.1 Formal data

2.1.1 Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Name

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Janet Holmes |

Institution/agency

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning |

Postal address (This field is limited to 254 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 8 Nicholson St, East Melbourne, Victoria 3002 |

E-mail (The online RIS only accepts valid e-mail addresses, e.g. example@mail.com )

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | janet.holmes@delwp.vic.gov.au |

Phone (The online RIS only accepts valid phone numbers, e.g. +1 41 123 45 67 )

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | +61 3 9637 9859 |

Fax (The online RIS only accepts valid phone numbers, e.g. +1 41 123 45 67 )

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Compiler 2

Name

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Institution/agency

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Postal address (This field is limited to 254 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

E-mail (The online RIS only accepts valid e-mail addresses, e.g. example@mail.com )

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Phone (The online RIS only accepts valid phone numbers, e.g. +1 41 123 45 67 )

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Fax (The online RIS only accepts valid phone numbers, e.g. +1 41 123 45 67 )

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

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

From year (The online RIS only accepts numeric values)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1982 |

To year (The online RIS only accepts numeric values)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 2015 |

2.1.3 Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)\* (This field is mandatory)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Corner Inlet |

Unofficial name (optional)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

2.1.4 Changes to the boundaries and area of the Site since its designation or earlier update

A. Changes to Site boundary (Update)

[x] Yes / [ ] No

.

[x] The boundary has been delineated more accurately

[ ] The boundary has been extended

[ ] The boundary has been restricted

B. Changes to Site area (Update)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | the area has decreased[[1]](#footnote-1) |

[ ] The Site area has been calculated more accurately

[x] The Site has been delineated more accurately

[ ] The Site area has increased because of a boundary extension

[ ] The Site area has decreased because of a boundary restriction

Important note: If the boundary of the designated site is being restricted/reduced, before submitting this updated RIS to the Secretariat the Contracting Party should have followed: - the requirements in Article 2.5 of the Convention; or - the procedures established by the Conference of the Parties in the annex to Resolution VIII.20 (2002); or - where appropriate instead, the procedures in the annex to Resolution IX.6 (2005). Contracting Parties should also have provided to the Secretariat a report on changes prior to the submission of an updated RIS.

2.1.5 Changes to the ecological character of the Site

6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS? (Update)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | No[[2]](#footnote-2) |

Are the changes (Update)

[ ] Positive / [ ] Negative / [x] Positive & Negative

.

.

What extent of the Ramsar site is affected (%)

Positive % (Update)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Negative % (Update)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Optional text box to provide further information (Update)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The site was listed as meeting criteria 1, 3, 5, and 6 in the RIS published in 1999. Subsequently In 2011 an ecological character description was compiled for the site. This process included a reconsideration of the criteria with specific reference to more up to date requirements outlined in Ramsar Handbook 14 and more up to date data. It was determined that at the time of listing, the Corner Inlet Ramsar Site would have also met criteria 2, 4 and 8, but did not meet criteria 3.    Further justification for changes and revision for criteria listed is provided as an attachment to section 6.1.2. |

[ ] No information available

Are changes the result of (tick each category which applies):

[ ] Changes resulting from causes operating within the existing boundaries?

[ ] Changes resulting from causes operating beyond the site’s boundaries?

[ ] Changes consequent upon site boundary reduction alone (e.g., the exclusion of some wetland types formerly included within the site)?

[ ] Changes consequent upon site boundary increase alone (e.g., the inclusion of different wetland types in the site)?

Please describe any changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar Site, including in the application of the Criteria, since the previous RIS for the site. (Update)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Is the change in ecological character negative, human-induced AND a significant change (above the limit of acceptable change) (Update)

[ ] Yes / [x] No

.

Has an Article 3.2 report been submitted to the Secretariat? (Update)

[ ] Yes / [x] No

.

2.2 Site location

2.2.1 Defining the Site boundaries

The site boundaries must be clearly delineated on both: a) a GIS shapefile and b) a digital map/image:

-> To define the site boundaries please complete field 2.2.1 a1), 2.2.1 a2) and 2.2.1 b) via the online form.

-UPLOAD via online form-

Boundaries description (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The boundary comprises:  - all of the Corner Inlet Marine and Coastal Park, gazetted on 18 April 1986  - all of the Corner Inlet Marine National Park, gazetted on 16 November 2002  - specific parts of Nooramunga Marine and Coastal Park, gazetted on 18 April 1986. The parts selected for inclusion in the Ramsar site are those that have marine influence and are consistent in character with the rest of the Ramsar site.  - crown land parcels adjacent to the above areas that contain the same marine character as those areas (e.g. shoreline subject to tidal influences)  More detailed information on the specific boundary of the site is attached in separate boundary description report at 6.1.2.vi. |

2.2.2 General location

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Wellington and South Gippsland Shires |

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Foster, Port Albert |

2.2.3 For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries?

[ ] Yes / [x] No

.

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party?

[ ] Yes / [x] No

.

c) Is the site part of a formal transboundary designation with another Contracting Party?

[ ] Yes / [x] No

.

d) Transboundary Ramsar Site name:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

2.2.4 Area of the Site

If you have not established an official area by other means, you can copy the area calculated from the GIS boundaries into the 'official area' box.

Official area, in hectares (ha): (The online RIS only accepts numeric values)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 67071 |

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 67071.513 |

2.2.5 Biogeography

Please provide the biogeographic region(s) encompassing the site and the biogeographic regionalization scheme applied:

Biogeographic regions

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Regionalisation scheme(s)** | **Biogeographic region** |
| Marine Ecoregions of the World (MEOW) | Southeast Australian Shelf |
|  |  |

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Integrated Marine and Coastal Regionalisation of Australia (IMCRA) 4.0 - Corner Inlet is located in the Southeast IMCRA Transition Provincial Bioregion. |

Why is the Site important?

3.1 Ramsar Criteria and their justification

Tick the box against each criterion applied to the designation of the Ramsar Site. All criteria which apply should be ticked. Please explain why you selected a criterion by filling in the relevant fields on this page, on the three other pages of this section 'Criteria & justification' and on the 'Wetland types' page of the section 'What is the site like?'.

[x] Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

To justify this Criterion, please select at least one wetland type as representative, rare or unique in the section What is the site like? > Wetland types and provide further details in at least one of the three boxes below.

Hydrological services provided (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Corner Inlet plays a substantial hydrological role in the natural functioning of a major coastal system through its protection from oceanic swells providing habitat for wetland development, receiving and channeling the flow of rivers and creeks within the South Gippsland Basin. |

Other ecosystem services provided (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Other reasons (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Corner Inlet is an example of a near natural wetland which continues to function in what is considered an almost natural way. Corner Inlet contains good representatives of Ramsar wetland types: B (marine sub-tidal aquatic beds); G (intertidal mud, sand or salt flats); H (intertidal marshes) and I (intertidal forested wetlands). The site contains extensive intertidal mud and sand flats that are likely to represent the most extensive in the bioregion (BMT WBM 2011, Appendix B) and the saltmarsh (wetland type H) and mangrove (wetland type I) habitats are considered to be in good condition (Boon et al. 2011). The site supports extensive Posidonia beds, which are among the largest in the bioregion. |

[x] Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

To justify this Criterion, please give details below on:

- relevant plant species in the section Criteria & justification> Plant species (3.2)

- relevant animal species in the section Criteria & justification> Animal species (3.3)

- relevant ecological communities in the section Criteria & justification> Ecological communities (3.4)

Optional text box to provide further information (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The site was identified as meeting this criterion in 2011 when the ECD was compiled. The ECD process included a reconsideration of the criteria with specific reference to more up to date requirements outlined in Ramsar Handbook 14 and more up to date data.    The Corner Inlet Ramsar Site supports seven species of threatened palaearctic migratory waders and the hooded plover as well as the Australian Grayling.    There is insufficient evidence (due to insufficient recent counts) to determine if the Australian Fairy Tern continues to be regularly supported over the period since listing in 1982. Orange-bellied parrot and the growling grass frog are not considered to have met Criterion 2 at the time of listing or to meet it now as they are not regularly supported (recorded in two thirds of seasons) at the Ramsar site.    The site also supports Thelymitra epipactoides (Metallic Sun-orchid) which is listed as Endangered in Australia (under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act) and also listed as engendered under the CITES. |

[ ] Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

To justify this Criterion, please give details in the box below. If you want to name any specific species, please give details on:

- relevant plant species in the section Criteria & justification> Plant species (3.2)

- relevant animal species in the section Criteria & justification> Animal species (3.3)

Justification (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

[x] Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions

To justify this Criterion, please give details below on:

- relevant plant species in the section Criteria & justification> Plant species (3.2)

- relevant animal species in the section Criteria & justification> Animal species (3.3)

and explain the life cycle stage or nature of adverse conditions in the accompanying 'justification' box.

Optional text box to provide further information (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The site was identified as meeting this criterion in 2011 when the ECD was compiled. The ECD process included a reconsideration of the criteria with specific reference to more up to date requirements outlined in Ramsar Handbook 14 and more up to date data.    The basic description of this criterion implies a number of common functions/roles that wetlands provide including supporting fauna during migration and breeding. Over 35 waterbirds listed under international migratory agreements have been recorded within the Ramsar site. This number includes species that, in Australia, are residents (e.g. eastern great egret) and vagrant seabirds for which the site does not provide significant habitat (e.g. albatross species). There are 26 species of palaearctic migratory shorebirds, 16 of which are regularly supported (in two thirds of seasons) by the Corner Inlet Ramsar Site. The extensive mudflats and intertidal marshes provide both feeding and high tide roost sites for these species.    In addition, over 20 species of wetland dependent bird species have been recorded breeding within the site. The site is specifically important for beach-nesting species: Australian pied oystercatcher (Haematopus longirostris), Australian fairy tern (Sternula nereis nereis), Caspian tern (Hydroprogne caspia), crested tern (Thalasseus bergii) and hooded plover (Thinornis rubricollis). These species use the beaches and islands within the site annually. |

[x] Criterion 5 : >20,000 waterbirds

To justify this Criterion, please give details below on:- the total number of waterbirds and the period of data collection - relevant waterbird species, and if possible their population size, in the section Criteria & justification> Animal species (3.3)

Overall waterbird numbers\* (This field is mandatory)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 31416 |

Start year\* (This field is mandatory)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1981 |

End year\* (This field is mandatory)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 2015 |

Source of data:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Birdlife Australia |

Optional text box to provide further information (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Average annual maximum shorebird count = 31416  Counts of shorebirds have been consistently > 20,000 every year since 1981, except 2015, when total maximum shorebird count was 19,000 (data from BirdLife Australia). These counts do not include the substantial numbers of other waterbird species that are supported within the site. For example, between 1987 and 1992, when comprehensive counts of waterbirds were undertaken at the site, there were between 5000 and 10,000 non-wader species, including substantial numbers of black swan (Cygnus atratus) and chestnut teal (Anas castanea). |

[x] Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

To justify this Criterion, please give details on relevant waterbird species and their population size in the section Criteria & justification> Animal species (3.3)

Optional text box to provide further information (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

[ ] Criterion 7 : Significant and representative fish

To justify this Criterion, please give information in the box below and details of relevant fish species in the section Criteria & justification> Animal species (3.3)

Justification (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

[x] Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.

To justify this Criterion, please give information in the box below. Completion of details on relevant fish species in the section Criteria & justification> Animal species (3.3) is optional.

Justification (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The site was identified as meeting this criterion in 2011 when the ECD was compiled. The ECD process included a reconsideration of the criteria with specific reference to more up to date requirements outlined in Ramsar Handbook 14 and more up to date data.    Corner Inlet provides important habitats, feeding areas, dispersal and migratory pathways, and spawning sites for numerous fish species of direct and indirect fisheries significance. These fish have important fisheries resource values both within and external to the site.  Key fish species of significance include King George whiting (Sillaginodes punctatus), blueweed whiting (Haletta semifasciata), Australian salmon (Arripis spp.), greenback flounder (Rhombosolea tapirina), Southern garfish (Hyporhamphus melanochir), yelloweye mullet (Aldrichetta forsteri), silver trevally (Pseudocaranx dentex), black bream (Acanthopagrus butcheri), sand flathead (Platycephalus bassensis), dusky flathead (Platycephalus fuscus), rock flathead (Leviprora laevigatus), leatherjackets (several species), Snook (Sphyraena novaehollandiae) and gummy shark (Mustelus antarcticus). Other significant species include calamari and arrow squid, whereas the sand crab fishery is highly variable and largely opportunistic (BMT WBM 2011).  Important fisheries species commonly found within the Ramsar site are not found exclusively in any one habitat type during any part of their life-cycle. Rather, these species have relatively plastic habitat requirements, and are typically found in a variety of habitat types. Many species spend their juvenile stages in shallow protected waters, particularly around seagrass and mangroves, whereas most species tend to spawn in coastal and marine waters. Adults of most species tend to utilise a variety of habitats in the site. Corner Inlet is recognized as an important pupping area for school shark (Galeorhinus galeus). Dusky flathead (Platycephalus fuscus) and river garfish (Hyporhamphus regularis) spawn in estuaries near seagrass and/or shoals and black bream (Acanthopagrus butcheri) is thought to spawn in upper estuaries near the fresh and brackish water interface. |

[ ] Criterion 9 : >1% non-avian animal population

To justify this Criterion, please give details on relevant non-avian species and their population size in the section Criteria & justification> Animal species (3.3)

Optional text box to provide further information (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

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**[[3]](#footnote-3) | **CITES Appendix I** | **Other status** | **Justification** |
| Thelymitra epipactoides | metalic sun orhid | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  | [x] | EN - CITES | EPBC Act - endangered |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Optional text box to provide further information on plant species of international importance:

(This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

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**[[4]](#footnote-4) | **Period of pop. Est.**4 | **% occurrence**4 | **IUCN Red List**[[5]](#footnote-5) | **CITES Appendix I** | **CMS Appendix I** | **Other Status** | **Justification** |
| **2** | **4** | **6** | **9** | **3** | **5** | **7** | **8** |
| Birds | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chordata/Aves | Anas castanea | Chestnut Teal | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | 1083 | 1981-2015 | 1.1 | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | endemic to SE and SW Australia. population is >1% of SE Australia biogeographic population |
| Chordata/Aves | Arenaria interpres | Ruddy Turnstone | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | Foraging and roosting for international migrant |
| Chordata/Aves | Calidris acuminata | Sharp-tailed Sandpiper | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | Foraging and roosting for international migrant |
| Chordata/Aves | Calidris alba | Sanderling | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | Foraging and roosting for international migrant |
| Chordata/Aves | Calidris canutus | Red Knot | [x] | [x] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | 2421 | 1981-2015 | 2.2 | NT | [ ] | [ ] | National (EPBC) - Endangered | Foraging and roosting for international migrant within EAAF. Supports >2% of piersmai and rogersi biogeographic regional populations. |
| Chordata/Aves | Calidris ferruginea | Curlew Sandpiper | [x] | [x] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | 2030 | 1981-2015 | 1.5 | NT | [ ] | [ ] | National (EPBC) - Critically endangered | Foraging and roosting for international migrant within EAAF. Supports 1.5% of E, SE Asia & Australia (non-bre) biogeographic population. |
| Chordata/Aves | Calidris ruficollis | Red-necked Stint | [ ] | [x] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | 14414 | 1981-2015 | 4.6 | NT | [ ] | [ ] |  | Foraging and roosting for international migrant within EAAF. Supports >4% of NE Siberia (bre) biogeographic population |
| Chordata/Aves | Calidris tenuirostris | Great Knot | [x] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  | EN | [ ] | [ ] | National (EPBC) - Critically endangered | Foraging and roosting for international migrant |
| Chordata/Aves | Charadrius bicinctus | Double-banded Plover | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | Foraging and roosting for international migrant |
| Chordata/Aves | Charadrius leschenaultii | Greater Sand Plover; Greater Sand-Plover | [x] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  | LC | [ ] | [ ] | National (EPBC) - Vulnerable | Foraging and roosting for international migrant |
| Chordata/Aves | Charadrius mongolus | Lesser Sand Plover; Lesser Sand-Plover | [x] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  | LC | [ ] | [ ] | National (EPBC) - Vulnerable | Foraging and roosting for international migrant |
| Chordata/Aves | Haematopus fuliginosus | Sooty Oystercatcher | [ ] | [x] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | 304 | 1981-2015 | 7.6 | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | Breeds regularly in the site. Supports >7% of fuliginosus biogeographic population (S Australia) |
| Chordata/Aves | Haematopus longirostris | Pied Oystercatcher | [ ] | [x] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | 939 | 1981-2015 | 8.5 | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | Breeds regularly in the site.Supports >8% of Australia, S New Guinea, Aru Is biogeographic population |
| Chordata/Aves | Hydroprogne caspia | Caspian Tern | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | Breeds regularly in the site |
| Chordata/Aves | Limosa lapponica | Bar-tailed Godwit | [x] | [x] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | 10346 | 1981-2015 | 3.7 | NT | [ ] | [ ] | National (EPBC) - Vulnerable | Foraging and roosting for international migrant along EAAF. Supports >3% of menzbieri & (anadyrensis) and bauera biogeographic populations. |
| Chordata/Aves | Numenius madagascariensis | Eastern Curlew; Far Eastern Curlew | [x] | [x] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | 1128 | 1981-2015 | 3.5 | EN | [ ] | [x] | National (EPBC) - Critically endangered | Foraging and roosting for international migrant along EEAF. Supports >3% of C & E Asia (bre) biogeographic population. |
| Chordata/Aves | Numenius phaeopus | Whimbrel | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | Foraging and roosting for international migrant |
| Chordata/Aves | Philomachus pugnax | Ruff | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  |  | [ ] | [ ] |  | Foraging and roosting for international migrant |
| Chordata/Aves | Sternula nereis nereis | Australian fairy tern | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  |  | [ ] | [ ] | National (EPBC) - Vulnerable | Breeds regularly in the site |
| Chordata/Aves | Thalasseus bergii | Great Crested Tern; Greater Crested Tern | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | Breeds regularly in the site |
| Chordata/Aves | Thinornis rubricollis | Hooded Plover | [x] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  |  | [ ] | [ ] | National (EPBC) - Vulnerable | Breeds regularly in the site |
| Chordata/Aves | Tringa nebularia | Common Greenshank | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] | [ ] | [ ] |  |  |  | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | Foraging and roosting for international migrant |
| Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chordata/Actinopterygii | Acanthopagrus butcheri | Black bream; Bream; Silver bream; Blue nose bream; Southern yellowfin bream; Southern bream; Southern black bream; Golden bream; Gippsland bream | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] |  |  |  | LC | [ ] | [ ] |  | Nursery habitat for juvenile fish |
| Chordata/Actinopterygii | Platycephalus fuscus | Black flathead; Mud flathead; Lizard; Frog; Flattie; Riv er flathead; Estuary flathead; Dusky flathead; Dusky | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] |  |  |  |  | [ ] | [ ] |  | Supports breeding, nursery and adult life-stages |
| Chordata/Actinopterygii | Prototroctes maraena | Australian Grayling | [x] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [x] |  |  |  | NT | [ ] | [ ] | National (EPBC) - Vulnerable | Fish migration for reproduction |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Optional text box to provide further information on animal species of international importance:

(This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The Corner Inlet Ramsar Site regularly supports 16 species of migratory shorebird listed under international migratory bird treaties (BirdLife Australia unpublished data). |

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** |
| Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh | [x] | The Coastal Saltmarsh ecological community consists mainly of salt-tolerant vegetation (halophytes) including: grasses, herbs, sedges, rushes and shrubs. Succulent herbs, shrubs and grasses generally dominate. | Community is listed as vulnerable under the EPBC Act. |
|  |  |  |  |

Optional text box to provide further information (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Saltmarsh typically occurs in the upper - intertidal zone as a band along the landward edge of the mangrove zone. In particular, saltmarsh communities are notable along the northern mainland shore of Ramsar site, and on most of the islands including Franklin Island and Snake Island. |

What is the Site like?

4.1 Ecological character

Please summarize the ecological components, processes and services which are critical to determining the ecological character of the site. Please also summarize any natural variability in the ecological character of the site, and any known past or current change

(This field is limited to 4000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The Corner Inlet Ramsar site supports a diversity of ecological features, including 14 wetland types. Mangroves and saltmarsh are present along the tidal flats, embayments and creeks within the site, while vegetation communities on the sand islands include dune grass, scrub and woodland. The wetland habitats support a variety of fauna species, with the diversity and abundance of waterbirds particularly notable.  Two components, a process and two services are critical to the ecological character of the Ramsar site (BMT WBM 2011).  1. Marine and Estuarine Wetland Habitats (critical component) including:  - Seagrass beds which provide the basis of benthic food webs at the site, important nursery habitat for stocks of fish, regulatory services through stabilization of coastal sediments and are responsible for a significant portion of critical processes, e.g., primary production, sediment stabilization, nutrient, carbon and energy cycling.  - Saltmarsh which forms an important linkage between terrestrial and marine-based ecosystems  - Mangroves which provide habitat for juvenile fish and other marine organisms and protecting the shoreline from erosion  - Permanent shallow marine waters which supports invertebrate activity important for benthic foodwebs and nutrient cycling  - Intertidal flats are important for supporting microphytobenthos (a key driver of foodwebs), macroinvetebrates (prey resources for fish and waders and important for nutrient cycling).  2. Waterbird abundance and diversity (critical component) with 95 species recorded, including 26 species of palaearctic migratory shorebirds and a mean maximum count of 36,000 shorebirds in 2011-2015.  3. Waterbird breeding (critical process), notably of five beach nesting species  4. Threatened species (critical service) which include 8 species of Palaearctic migratory shorebird and the Australian grayling (Prototroctes maraena).  5. Fisheries resource values (critical service) ) - important habitats, feeding areas, dispersal and migratory pathways, and spawning sites for numerous fish species of direct and indirect fisheries significance.    The limit of natural variability, where known, are reflected in limits of acceptable change for each of these critical components, processes and services (BMT WBM, 2011 and Hale, in prep.)  In the 2011-2015 period, the counts of curlew sandpiper, eastern curlew and red knot recorded in the Ramsar site declined by more than 50%. The populations of these three species are known to be in decline in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, with speculation that this is a result of habitat loss in staging areas (MacKinnon et al. 2012, Murray et al. 2015, Hua et al. 2015). The decline is not related to conditions in the Corner Inlet Ramsar Site and is not considered to be a potential change in character. |

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

Please list all wetland types which occur on the site, and for each of them: - rank the four most abundant types by area from 1 (greatest extent) to 4 (least extent) in the third column, - if the information exists, provide the area (in ha) in the fourth column - if this wetland type is used for justifying the application of Criterion 1, indicate if it is representative, rare or unique in the last column - you can give the local name of the wetland type if different from the Ramsar classification system in the second column

Marine or coastal wetlands

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Wetland types (code and name)** | **Local name** | **Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)** | **Area (ha) of wetland type** | **Justification of Criterion 1** |
| A: Permanent shallow marine waters |  | 3 | 10520 |  |
| B: Marine subtidal aquatic beds (Underwater vegetation) |  | 2 | 14810 | Representative |
| D: Rocky marine shores |  | 0 | 0.002 |  |
| E: Sand, shingle or pebble shores |  | 0 |  |  |
| F: Estuarine waters |  | 0 | 1090 |  |
| G: Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats |  | 1 | 24950 | Representative |
| H: Intertidal marshes |  | 4 | 3860 | Representative |
| I: Intertidal forested wetlands |  | 3 | 3000 | Representative |
|  |  |  |  |  |

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 >> N: Seasonal/ intermittent/ irregular rivers/ streams/ creeks |  | 2 |  |  |
| Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Ts: Seasonal/ intermittent freshwater marshes/ pools on inorganic soils |  | 1 | 160 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Human-made wetlands

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Wetland types (code and name)** | **Local name** | **Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)** | **Area (ha) of wetland type** | **Justification of Criterion 1** |
|  |  |  |  |  |

What non-wetland habitats are within the site?

Other non-wetland habitat

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Other non-wetland habitats within the site** | **Area (ha) if known** |
| Coastal woodland, scrub and grassland. Some small areas of exotic vegetation | 7480 |
|  |  |

Habitat connectivity (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Saltmarsh and mangroves form a link between terrestrial and marine-based ecosystems. Connectivity between various sub-tidal habitats, estuarine waters and inflowing streams is important for fish which use different habitats at different life stages |

4.3 Biological components

4.3.1 Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Scientific name** | **Common name** (optional) | **Position in range / endemism / other** (optional) |
| Adriana quadripartita | bitterbush | endangered in Victoria |
| Asplenium obtusatum | shore spleenwort | vulnerable in Victoria |
| Avicennia marina | white mangrove | most southerly occurrence |
| Eucalyptus kitsoniana | Bog gum | near threatened in Victoria |
| Lepidium desvauxii | Bushy Pepper cress | rare in Victoria |
| Posidonia australis |  | Southerly extreme |
| Pterostylis grandiflora | Cobra greenhood | rare in Victoria |
| Triglochin minutissima | tiny arrow grass | near threatened in Victoria |
|  |  |  |

Invasive alien plant species

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scientific name** | **Common name** | **Impacts** | **Changes at RIS update** |
| Euphorbia paralias |  | Potentially | No change |
| Spartina anglica | Cord grass | Actually (minor impacts) | No change |
|  |  |  |  |

Optional text box to provide further information (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The most notable weed threatening the Ramsar site is spartina (Spartina angelica as well as the hybrid Spartina x townsendii). Spartina was widespread in the Ramsar site, but a control program has been successful in reducing infestations.  The green macroalga (Codium fragile ssp tomentosoides) was first discovered in Corner Inlet in March 1995. It has reportedly formed dense populations in Corner Inlet and other locations in Victoria.    Other noteworthy flora (not found in database):  Austrofestuca littoralis (Coast Fescue) - vulnerable in Victoria  Cyathodes juniperinum (Crimson Berry) - vulnerable in Victoria  Exocarpus syrticola (Coast Ballart) - rare in Victoria  Prasophyllum paruifloum (Slender Leek-orchid) - vulnerable in Victoria  Pterostylis aciculiforris (Slender Ruddyhood) - insufficiently known in Victoria  Senecio diagchides (Erect Groundsel) - rare in Victoria  Helichrysum dealbatum (Silver Everlasting) - rare in Victoria    The most southerly occurrence of Avicennia marina (White Mangrove) is at Corner Inlet. |

4.3.2 Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Phylum** | **Scientific name** | **Common name** | **Pop. size** (optional) | **Period of pop. est.** (optional) | **% occurrence** (optional) | **Position in range /endemism/other** (optional) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Invasive alien animal species

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Phylum** | **Scientific name** | **Common name** | **Impacts** | **Changes at RIS update** |
| Echinodermata/Asteroidea | Asterias amurensis | Northern Pacific seastar;Japanese common starfish | Potentially | No change |
| Arthropoda/Malacostraca | Carcinus maenas | green shore crab;shore crab;common shore crab;green crab;European shore-crab | Actually (minor impacts) | No change |
| Chordata/Mammalia | Oryctolagus cuniculus | European Rabbit | Actually (minor impacts) | No change |
| Chordata/Mammalia | Rattus rattus | black rat | Actually (minor impacts) | No change |
| Annelida/Polychaeta | Sabella spallanzanii | Mediterranean fanworm;feather duster worm;European fan worm | Potentially | No change |
| Chordata/Mammalia | Vulpes vulpes | Red Fox | Actually (minor impacts) | No change |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Optional text box to provide further information (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Foxes cause disturbance to birds on their feeding grounds, roosts and breeding sites, and prey on birds, their chicks and eggs.  Northern Pacific seastar (Asterias amurensis) represents an invasion risk to Corner Inlet.  European shorecrab (Carcinus maenas) has been present at Corner Inlet since the late 19th century. It is an extremely tolerant and hardy species and a voracious predator. Its effects in Corner Inlet are unknown.  Mediterranean fanworm (Sabella spallanzanii) presents a potential invasion risk to Corner Inlet. |

4.4 Physical components

4.4.1 Climate

Please indicate the prevailing climate type(s) by selecting below the climatic region(s) and subregion(s), using the Köppen-Gieger Climate Classification System.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Climatic region** | **Subregion** |
| C: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with mild winters | Csb: Mediterranean (Mild with dry, warm summer) |
|  |  |

If changing climatic conditions are affecting the site, please indicate the nature of these changes:

(This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Corner Inlet is in the Southern Slopes (Victoria East) sub-cluster (https://www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/en/climate-projections/future-climate/regional-climate-change-explorer/super-clusters/).  - Average temperatures will continue to increase in all seasons  - More hot days and warm spells are projected. Fewer frosts are projected.  - Generally less rainfall in the cool season is projected. Changes to summer and autumn rainfall are possible but less clear. For the near future, natural variability is projected to dominate any projected changes.  - Increased intensity of extreme rainfall events is projected.  - Mean sea level will continue to rise and height of extreme sea-level events will also increase.  - A harsher fire-weather climate in the future (high confidence).  - On an annual and decadal basis, natural variability in the climate system can act to either mask or enhance any long-term human induced trend, particularly in the next 20 years and for rainfall. |

4.4.2 Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres) (The online RIS only accepts numeric values)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 0 |

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres) (The online RIS only accepts numeric values)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 20 |

b) Position in landscape/river basin:

[ ] Entire river basin

[ ] Upper part of river basin

[ ] Middle part of river basin

[ ] Lower part of river basin

[ ] More than one river basin

[x] Not in river basin

[x] 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. (This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | An embayment connected to the Southern Ocean. The main streams in the catchment that enter Corner Inlet are the Franklin and Agnes Rivers to the west, and the Albert and Tarra Rivers and Bruthen Creek which drain into the eastern side of the inlet. |

4.4.3 Soil

[x] Mineral

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[x] Organic

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] 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 / [x] No

.

Please provide further information on the soil (optional) (This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Corner Inlet is a large submerged plain covered by sand or mud flats, some of which are exposed at low tide, and others which remain permanently covered. |

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** |
| Marine water | [x] | No change |
| Water inputs from surface water | [ ] | No change |
| Water inputs from groundwater | [ ] | No change |
|  |  |  |

Water destination

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Presence?** | **Changes at RIS update** |
| Marine | 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: (This field is limited to 2000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Corner Inlet is a tide dominated estuary. Two high tides occur each day, generally reaching a tidal range of 2.0m which may rise to 2.5m during the equinoxes. During a typical low tide, more than 40% of the inlet is exposed (~220km2). Flow speeds in the channels of Corner Inlet are relatively high (> 1 m/s), facilitating a large exchange of water; however, most of the area drains and fills slowly due to the shallow water and large number of banks. |

Connectivity of surface waters and of groundwater (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Groundwater may contribute flows to the Ramsar site either directly as a groundwater discharge into the marine embayment or indirectly via discharge to inflowing streams. (WG CMA 2013) |

Stratification and mixing regime (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | No current data available on this aspect of the character of the site |

4.4.5 Sediment regime

[ ] Significant erosion of sediments occurs on the site

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[ ] Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[ ] Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[ ] Sediment regime is highly variable, either seasonally or inter-annually

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[ ] Sediment regime unknown

Please provide further information on sediment (optional): (This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Corner Inlet receives input of sediments from several inflowing streams. Loads are generally higher during wetter periods with production forests contributing the highest sediment loads from the catchment.    The high rates of flushing in the inlet are a key determinant of the physio-chemical properties of waters and sediments within the site.    The Nooramunga barrier islands and sandy dune systems are highly susceptible to erosion and impacts associated with climate change related increases to sea level and increased wave energy. There is currently no data describing sediment movements and long-term shoreline changes to identify climate change impacts. |

Water turbidity and colour (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Limited data: Turbidity elevated in nearshore area in NW of Corner Inlet, low in Nooramunga except at Bruthen Ck estuary |

Light - reaching wetland (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | No current data available on this aspect of the character of the site |

Water temperature (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | No current data available on this aspect of the character of the site |

4.4.6 Water pH

[ ] Acid (pH<5.5)

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[x] Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4 )

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[ ] Alkaline (pH>7.4)

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[ ] Unknown

Please provide further information on pH (optional): (This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

4.4.7 Water salinity

[ ] Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

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.

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[ ] Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (0.5-30 g/l)

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

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[x] Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l)

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[ ] Hyperhaline/Hypersaline (>40 g/l)

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[ ] Unknown

Please provide further information on salinity (optional): (This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The surface waters within the embayment of Corner Inlet and Nooramunga are usually of ocean water salinity, except for short periods in summer when evaporation can cause salinities to slightly exceed those of sea water. |

Dissolved gases in water (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Dissolved oxygen levels were well in excess of saturation during summer, indicating significant oxygen production through algae and seagrass photosynthesis.  A significant overnight oxygen sag was hypothesized due to respiration of algae and seagrass.  (Hindell et al. 2007) |

4.4.8 Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

[ ] Eutrophic

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[ ] Mesotrophic

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[ ] Oligotrophic

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[ ] Dystrophic

Changes at RIS update (Update)

[x] No change / [ ] Increase / [ ] Decrease / [ ] Unknown

.

.

.

[x] Unknown

Please provide further information on dissolved or suspended nutrients (optional): (This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Dissolved organic carbon (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | No current data available on this aspect of the character of the site |

Redox potential of water and sediments (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | No current data available on this aspect of the character of the site |

Water conductivity (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | No current data available on this aspect of the character of the site |

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 / [x] ii) significantly different

.

If the surrounding area differs from the Ramsar Site, please indicate how: (Please tick all categories that apply)

[ ] Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development

[x] Surrounding area has higher human population density

[x] Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use

[x] Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types

Please describe other ways in which the surrounding area is different: (This field is limited to 2000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Agriculture is the dominant land use activity in the catchment, constituting just over 50% of total land use. Dryland grazing (beef and sheep) comprises approximately 40% of total land use, with dairying comprising 10%. During recent times there have been two important changes to land use in the Corner Inlet catchment. The first is the consolidation of dairy farms into larger enterprises. The second is the increase in smaller scale dryland grazing and growth in lifestyle-type properties. |

4.5 Ecosystem services

4.5.1 Ecosystem services/benefits

Please select below all relevant ecosystem services/benefits currently provided by the site and indicate their relative importance in the right-hand column.

Provisioning Services

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Ecosystem service** | **Examples** | **Importance/Extent/Significance** |
| Food for humans | Sustenance for humans (e.g., fish, molluscs, grains) | High |
|  |  |  |

Regulating Services

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Ecosystem service** | **Examples** | **Importance/Extent/Significance** |
| Erosion protection | Soil, sediment and nutrient retention | Medium |
| Climate regulation | Local climate regulation/buffering of change | Low |
|  |  |  |

Cultural Services

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Ecosystem service** | **Examples** | **Importance/Extent/Significance** |
| Recreation and tourism | Recreational hunting and fishing | High |
| Recreation and tourism | Water sports and activities | Medium |
| Recreation and tourism | Picnics, outings, touring | Medium |
| Recreation and tourism | Nature observation and nature-based tourism | 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 microorganizms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part | High |
| Nutrient cycling | Carbon storage/sequestration | Medium |
|  |  |  |

Optional text box to provide further information (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above: (This field is limited to 2000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | No other services apply |

Please make a rough estimate of the approximate number of people who directly benefit from the ecological services provided by this site (estimate at least in orders of magnitude: 10s, 100s, 1000s, 10 000s etc.):

Within the site:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 100s |

Outside the site:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 10000s |

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site?

[x] Yes / [ ] No / [ ] Unknown

.

.

Where economic studies or assessments of economic valuation have been undertaken at the site, it would be helpful to provide information on where the results of such studies may be located (e.g. website links, citation of published literature): (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | There are few economic evaluations of the Corner Inlet Ramsar site. Tourism at the site was estimated at $22.5 million annually (WG CMA 2013) and commercial fishing at over $2 million annually (Department of Primary Industries 2012). The extensive seagrass, saltmarsh and mangrove beds would have a substantial blue carbon value, but this is yet to be assessed. |

4.5.2 Social and cultural values

Is the site considered internationally important 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 so, please describe this importance under one or more of the four following categories. You should not list here any values derived from non-sustainable exploitation or which result in detrimental ecological changes.

[ ] 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 (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

[ ] ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland

Description if applicable (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

[ ] iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples

Description if applicable (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

[ ] 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

Description if applicable (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

4.6 Ecological processes

This section is not intended for completion as part of a standard RIS, but is included for completeness as part of the agreed format of a ‘full’ Ecological Character Description (ECD) outlined by Resolution X.15

Primary production (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Microalgae, marshes and seagrasses are mainly responsible for primary productivity. Saltmarsh and mangroves are also highly productive but cover less area. |

Nutrient cycling (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Seagrasses and microphytobenthos in permanent shallow marine waters and intertidal flats play a key role in nutrient cycling. |

Carbon cycling (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Seagrasses are responsible for a significant portion of carbon cycling. |

Animal reproductive productivity (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The site is specifically important for beach-nesting species: Australian pied oystercatcher, Australian fairy tern, Caspian tern, crested tern and hooded plover. |

Vegetational productivity, pollination, regeneration processes, succession, role of fire, etc. (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Variability occurs in the distribution and extent of seagrass meadows over time with periods of decline and regeneration. |

Notable species interactions, including grazing, predation, competition, diseases and pathogens (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Notable aspects concerning animal and plant dispersal (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Notable aspects concerning migration (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | There are 16 species of international migratory shorebirds that are regularly supported by the Corner Inlet Ramsar site. |

Pressures and trends concerning any of the above, and/or concerning ecosystem integrity (ECD)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The populations of some migratory shorebird species are known to be in decline, with speculation that this is a result of habitat loss in staging areas in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. |

How is the Site managed?

5.1 Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

5.1.1 Land tenure/ownership

Please specify if this category applies to the Ramsar Site, to the surrounding area or to both, by ticking the relevant option(s).

Public ownership

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Within the Ramsar Site** | **In the surrounding area** |
| Provincial/region/state government | [x] | [x] |
|  |  |  |

Private ownership

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Within the Ramsar Site** | **In the surrounding area** |
| Other types of private/individual owner(s) | [x] | [x] |
|  |  |  |

Other

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Within the Ramsar Site** | **In the surrounding area** |
|  |  |  |

Provide further information on the land tenure / ownership regime (optional): (This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | While the Corner Inlet Ramsar site has a complex tenure arrangement, most land and waters within the site (89% of the site area) are reserved as public land.  The Corner Inlet Ramsar site consists of the following areas reserved under the National Parks Act 1975 (Victoria): Corner Inlet Marine and Coastal Park, Corner Inlet Marine National Park and Nooramunga Marine and Coastal Park in addition to other public land and small areas of private land. |

5.1.2 Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site: (This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Parks Victoria  Level 10/535 Bourke Street Melbourne. 3000. VIC |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Peter Kemp, Environmental Programs Manager |

Postal address: (This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Parks Victoria  Level 10/535 Bourke Street Melbourne. 3000. VIC |

E-mail address: (The online RIS only accepts valid e-mail addresses, e.g. example@mail.com )

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | peter.kemp@parks.vic.gov.au |

5.2 Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

5.2.1 Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site’s ecological character

Please specify if this category applies to the Ramsar Site, to the surrounding area or to both, by ticking the relevant option(s).

Human settlements (non agricultural)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors adversely affecting site** | **Actual threat** | **Potential threat** | **Within the site** | **Changes** | **In the surrounding area** | **Changes** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Water regulation

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors adversely affecting site** | **Actual threat** | **Potential threat** | **Within the site** | **Changes** | **In the surrounding area** | **Changes** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Agriculture and aquaculture

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors adversely affecting site** | **Actual threat** | **Potential threat** | **Within the site** | **Changes** | **In the surrounding area** | **Changes** |
| Livestock farming and ranching | Medium impact | High impact | [ ] | No change | [x] | unknown |
| Wood and pulp plantations | Medium impact | Medium impact | [ ] | No change | [x] | No change |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Energy production and mining

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors adversely affecting site** | **Actual threat** | **Potential threat** | **Within the site** | **Changes** | **In the surrounding area** | **Changes** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Transportation and service corridors

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors adversely affecting site** | **Actual threat** | **Potential threat** | **Within the site** | **Changes** | **In the surrounding area** | **Changes** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Biological resource use

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors adversely affecting site** | **Actual threat** | **Potential threat** | **Within the site** | **Changes** | **In the surrounding area** | **Changes** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Human intrusions and disturbance

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors adversely affecting site** | **Actual threat** | **Potential threat** | **Within the site** | **Changes** | **In the surrounding area** | **Changes** |
| Recreational and tourism activities | Low impact | High impact | [x] | increase | [x] | No change |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Natural system modifications

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors adversely affecting site** | **Actual threat** | **Potential threat** | **Within the site** | **Changes** | **In the surrounding area** | **Changes** |
| Dams and water management/use | unknown impact | Medium impact | [ ] | No change | [x] | 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 | High impact | [x] | No change | [ ] | No change |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Pollution

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors adversely affecting site** | **Actual threat** | **Potential threat** | **Within the site** | **Changes** | **In the surrounding area** | **Changes** |
| Household sewage, urban waste water | Medium impact | Medium impact | [x] | No change | [x] | No change |
| Industrial and military effluents | Low impact | High impact | [x] | No change | [ ] | No change |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Geological events

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors adversely affecting site** | **Actual threat** | **Potential threat** | **Within the site** | **Changes** | **In the surrounding area** | **Changes** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Climate change and severe weather

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors adversely affecting site** | **Actual threat** | **Potential threat** | **Within the site** | **Changes** | **In the surrounding area** | **Changes** |
| Habitat shifting and alteration | Low impact | High impact | [x] | increase | [ ] | No change |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Please describe any other threats (optional): (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The 2015 management plan, contained within the West Gippsland Waterway Strategy (West Gippsland CMA 2014) contains a comprehensive risk assessment and identification of priority threats for management. Details on threats to the site can be found in the ECD (section 5) and the management plan (Appendix 10).  The management plan identified four high risk threats to the ecological character of the site:  1. Pollutant (sediment and nutrients) inputs affecting water quality - increased inputs of sediment and nutrients from the surrounding catchment (WGCMA, 2013). Catchment land uses, particularly farming and forestry, but to a lesser extent activity in urban areas, impact on the levels of sediment and nutrient at the site. This movement of pollutants into Corner Inlet has the potential to impact on seagrass condition and extent as well as mudflat productivity, thereby disturbing the delicate balance of organisms that rely on these habitats. Over recent years, changes in local seagrass condition and distribution, and the presence of algae have been of concern.  2. Invasive animals – marine: Three key invasive marine pest animals have been identified as potential threats in the Corner Inlet Ramsar site: Northern Pacific seastar, European shore crab and Mediterranean fanworm.  3. Climate change - Sea level rise of seven to 55 centimetres is predicted across the Western coastal regions of Gippsland by 2070. Coastal retreat as a result of this could impact on the size of some islands in the Nooramunga precinct in particular. Changes in the distribution and extent of habitats due to altered water levels could also occur. In particular, the loss of saltmarsh and mangrove vegetation arising from the restriction of landward movement and long term survivability caused by levee banks, seawalls, embankments and public infrastructure. Impacts to coastal habitats and communities could also be associated with an increase in the frequency of storm surges.  4. Altered hydrology: The magnitude, timing, frequency and duration of freshwater inflows can influence water quality and water regimes in the estuaries and embayment’s of Corner Inlet and Nooramunga, and therefore their dependent ecological values. |

5.2.2 Legal conservation status

Please list any other relevant conservation status, at global, regional or national level and specify the boundary relationships with the Ramsar Site:

Global legal designations

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Designation type** | **Name of area** | **Online information url** | **Overlap with Ramsar Site** |
|  |  |  |  |

Regional (international) legal designations

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Designation type** | **Name of area** | **Online information url** | **Overlap with Ramsar Site** |
|  |  |  |  |

National legal designations

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Designation type** | **Name of area** | **Online information url** | **Overlap with Ramsar Site** |
| Coastal Reserves | Port Franklin - Port Welshpool Coastal Reserve; Yanakie (Red Bluff) Coastal Reserve |  | partly |
| Marine and Coastal Parks | Corner Inlet Marine & Coastal Park | http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/corner-inlet-marine-and-coastal-park | whole |
| Marine and Coastal Parks | Corner Inlet Marine National Park | http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/corner-inlet-marine-national-park | whole |
| Marine and Coastal Parks | Nooramunga Marine and Coastal Park | http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/nooramunga-marine-and-coastal-park | partly |
|  |  |  |  |

Non-statutory designations

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Designation type** | **Name of area** | **Online information url** | **Overlap with Ramsar Site** |
| Important Bird Area | Corner Inlet | http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sitefactsheet.php?id=23928 | whole |
|  |  |  |  |

5.2.3 IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

[ ] Ia Strict Nature Reserve

[ ] Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection

[x] 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

[x] 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** |
| Catchment management initiatives/controls | Implemented |
| Improvement of water quality | Partially implemented |
| Habitat manipulation/enhancement | Implemented |
| Hydrology management/restoration | Partially implemented |
| Re-vegetation | Implemented |
|  |  |

Species

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Measures** | **Status** |
| Threatened/rare species management programmes | Partially implemented |
| Control of invasive alien plants | Implemented |
| Control of invasive alien animals | Implemented |
|  |  |

Human Activities

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Measures** | **Status** |
| Management of water abstraction/takes | Implemented |
| Fisheries management/regulation | Implemented |
| Harvest controls/poaching enforcement | Implemented |
| Regulation/management of recreational activities | Implemented |
|  |  |

Other: (This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

5.2.5 Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes[[6]](#footnote-6) |

Is the management plan/planning implemented?

[x] Yes / [ ] No

.

The management plan covers

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | All of Ramsar Site[[7]](#footnote-7) |

Is the management plan currently subject to review and update?

[x] Yes / [ ] No

.

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site?

[x] Yes / [ ] No

.

Please give link to site-specific plan or other relevant management plan if this is available via the Internet or upload it in section 'Additional material': (This field is limited to 500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The 2015 management plan for the site is within the West Gippsland Waterway Strategy (West Gippsland CMA 2014). http://www.wgcma.vic.gov.au/our-region/waterways/waterway-strategy |

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 / [x] No

.

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site: (This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The Corner Inlet Ramsar site contains no communications, educational or public awareness facilities at present. |

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

5.2.6 Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes; there is a plan[[8]](#footnote-8) |

Has the plan been implemented?

[x] Yes / [ ] No

.

The restoration plan covers:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | All of Ramsar Site[[9]](#footnote-9) |

Is the plan currently being reviewed and updated?

[ ] Yes / [x] No

.

Where the restoration is being undertaken to mitigate or respond to a threat or threats identified in this RIS, please indicate it / them: (This field is limited to 1000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A water quality improvement plan has been developed and is being implemented for the site. http://www.wgcma.vic.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/corner-inlet-wqipweb.pdf. |

Further information (This field is limited to 2500 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

5.2.7 Monitoring implemented or proposed

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Monitoring** | **Status** |
| Water quality | Proposed |
| Plant community | Implemented |
| Birds | Implemented |
| Animal community | Implemented |
|  |  |

Please indicate other monitoring activities:

(This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Monitoring of fish (indicated above as animal community) is via catch per unit effort.    The ECD and Management Plan for the site both list monitoring requirements. However, there is limited resources and not all monitoring needs are currently met. The Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning is currently undertaking a project to collate monitoring requirements across all eleven Ramsar sites in Victoria and prioritise monitoring actions on a annual basis. |

Additional material

6.1 Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 Bibliographical references

(This field is limited to 3000 characters)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | BMT WBM. (2011). Corner Inlet Ramsar Site Ecological Character Description. Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, Canberra.  Boon, P.I., Allen, T., Brook, J., Carr, G., Frood, D., Hoye, J., Harty, C., McMahon, A., Mathews, S., Rosengren, N.J., Sinclair, S., White, M., and Yogovic, J. (2011). Mangroves and Coastal Saltmarsh of Victoria: Distribution, Condition, Threats and Management. Victoria University, Melbourne.  Department of Primary Industries. (2012). Fisheries Victoria Commercial Fish Production Information Bulletin 2012. Fisheries Victoria, Queenscliff, Victoria.  Hindell J., Ball D., Brady B. and Hatton D. (2007) Establishment of a monitoring program to assess estuarine water quality and its effects on seagrass health in Corner Inlet. Department of Primary Industries, Queenscliff, Victoria. No. WG0506.10.28, 54pp.  Hua, N., Tan, K., Chen, Y., and Ma, Z. (2015). Key research issues concerning the conservation of migratory shorebirds in the Yellow Sea region. Bird Conservation International 25(01): 38–52.  MacKinnon, J., Verkuil, Y.I., and Murray, N. (2012). IUCN situation analysis on East and Southeast Asian intertidal habitats, with particular reference to the Yellow Sea (including the Bohai Sea). Occasional paper of the IUCN species survival commission 47.  Murray, N.J., Ma, Z., and Fuller, R.A. (2015). Tidal flats of the Yellow Sea: A review of ecosystem status and anthropogenic threats. Austral Ecology 40(4): 472–481.  West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority. (2013). Corner Inlet Water Quality Improvement Plan 2013. West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority. |

6.1.2 Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)

-UPLOAD via online form-

ii. a detailed Ecological Character Description (ECD) (in a national format)

-UPLOAD via online form-

iii. a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory

-UPLOAD via online form-

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

-UPLOAD via online form-

v. site management plan

-UPLOAD via online form-

vi. other published literature

-UPLOAD via online form-

Please note that any documents uploaded here will be made publicly available.

6.1.3 Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **File** | **Copyright holder** | **Date on which the picture was taken** | **Caption** |
| files/54152167/pictures/posidonia 2.JPG | DELWP | 2007 | Corner Inlet seagrass |
|  |  |  |  |

[x] I certify that I am the photographer, the valid holder of rights over the photograph(s), or an authorized representative of the organization which is the valid holder of rights over the photograph(s), and I hereby assign an irrevocable, perpetual and royalty-free right to use, reproduce, edit, display, transmit, prepare derivative works of, modify, publish, affix logos to, and otherwise make use of the submitted photograph(s) in any way, to the Ramsar Convention Secretariat, its affiliates and partners, for non-commercial purposes in conjunction with the mission of the Ramsar Convention. This use includes, but is not limited to, internal and external publication and materials, presentation on the websites of the Ramsar Convention or any affiliated body, and any and all other communication channels with copyright attributed to the holder in all published forms. The full accuracy of all data submitted rests with the submitter, or organization submitting the photograph(s). In submitting, I hereby agree to the aforementioned terms, personally or on behalf of the organization of which I am an authorized official, certifying that the Ramsar Convention Secretariat, its affiliates and partners are explicitly held harmless for any and all costs, expenses, or damages arising from use of the submitted photograph(s) and any additional information provided.

6.1.4 Designation letter and related data

Designation letter\*

-UPLOAD via online form-

Please upload a letter of designation from the Ramsar Administrative Authority. This letter must clearly state that the wetland is being designated for inclusion in the Ramsar List and specify the formal date of designation wished. The letter can be uploaded in two formats: Word document (doc); pdf Strategic Framework: 408. The RIS for a newly designated Site (or an update to the RIS for a previously designated site) must be officially transmitted to the Secretariat by the Ramsar Administrative Authority (AA) of the Contracting Party concerned, with a letter clearly stating that the wetland is being designated for inclusion in the Ramsar List and specifying the formal date of designation if wished. 413. The date of designation of a Ramsar Site is that indicated or requested by the Ramsar Administrative Authority (AA). The designation date required should be indicated in the designation letter from the AA to the Secretariat that accompanies the RIS. 414. If no designation date is indicated to the Secretariat, the Secretariat assigns the date of the designation letter from the Administrative Authority as the designation date of the site. 415. If, following the receipt and review of the RIS by the Secretariat (see below), a significant time-period elapses before any problems with the RIS content are resolved with the Administrative Authority, the Secretariat may propose that, with the agreement of the AA, the date of designation is that on which the RIS is finalised.

Transboundary Designation letter

-UPLOAD via online form-

Date of Designation

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1982-12-15 |

Number of certificates wished (The online RIS only accepts numeric values)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 0 |

1. No change to area | the area has increased | the area has decreased [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Not evaluated | No | Uncertain | Yes -likely- | Yes -actual- [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site. These fields are only compulsory to justify criteria 6 & 9 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. No | Yes | In preparation [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. All of Ramsar Site | Part of Ramsar Site [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. No need identified | No; the site has already been restored | No; but restoration is needed | No; but a plan is being prepared | Yes; there is a plan [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. All of Ramsar Site | Part of Ramsar Site [↑](#footnote-ref-9)