

Information Sheet on EAA Flyway Network Sites (SIS) – 2017 version

Available for download from <http://www.eaaflyway.net/about/the-flyway/flyway-site-network/>

Categories approved by Second Meeting of the Partners of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership in Beijing, China 13-14 November 2007 - Report (Minutes) Agenda Item 3.13

Notes for compilers:

1. The management body intending to nominate a site for inclusion in the East Asian - Australasian Flyway Site Network is requested to complete a Site Information Sheet. The Site Information Sheet will provide the basic information of the site and detail how the site meets the criteria for inclusion in the Flyway Site Network. When there is a new nomination or an SIS update, the following sections with an asterisk (*), from Questions 1-14 and Question 30, must be filled or updated at least so that it can justify the international importance of the habitat for migratory waterbirds.
2. The Site Information Sheet is based on the Ramsar Information Sheet. If the site proposed for the Flyway Site Network is an existing Ramsar site then the documentation process can be simplified.
3. Once completed, the Site Information Sheet (and accompanying map(s)) should be submitted to the Flyway Partnership Secretariat. Compilers should provide an electronic (MS Word) copy of the Information Sheet and, where possible, digital versions (e.g. shapefile) of all maps.

1. Name and contact details of the compiler of this form*:

Full name: Mr. Masao Hoshino

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EAAF SITE CODE FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

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2. Date this sheet was completed*:

DD/MM/YYYY

2010/09/2010

3. Country*:

Japan

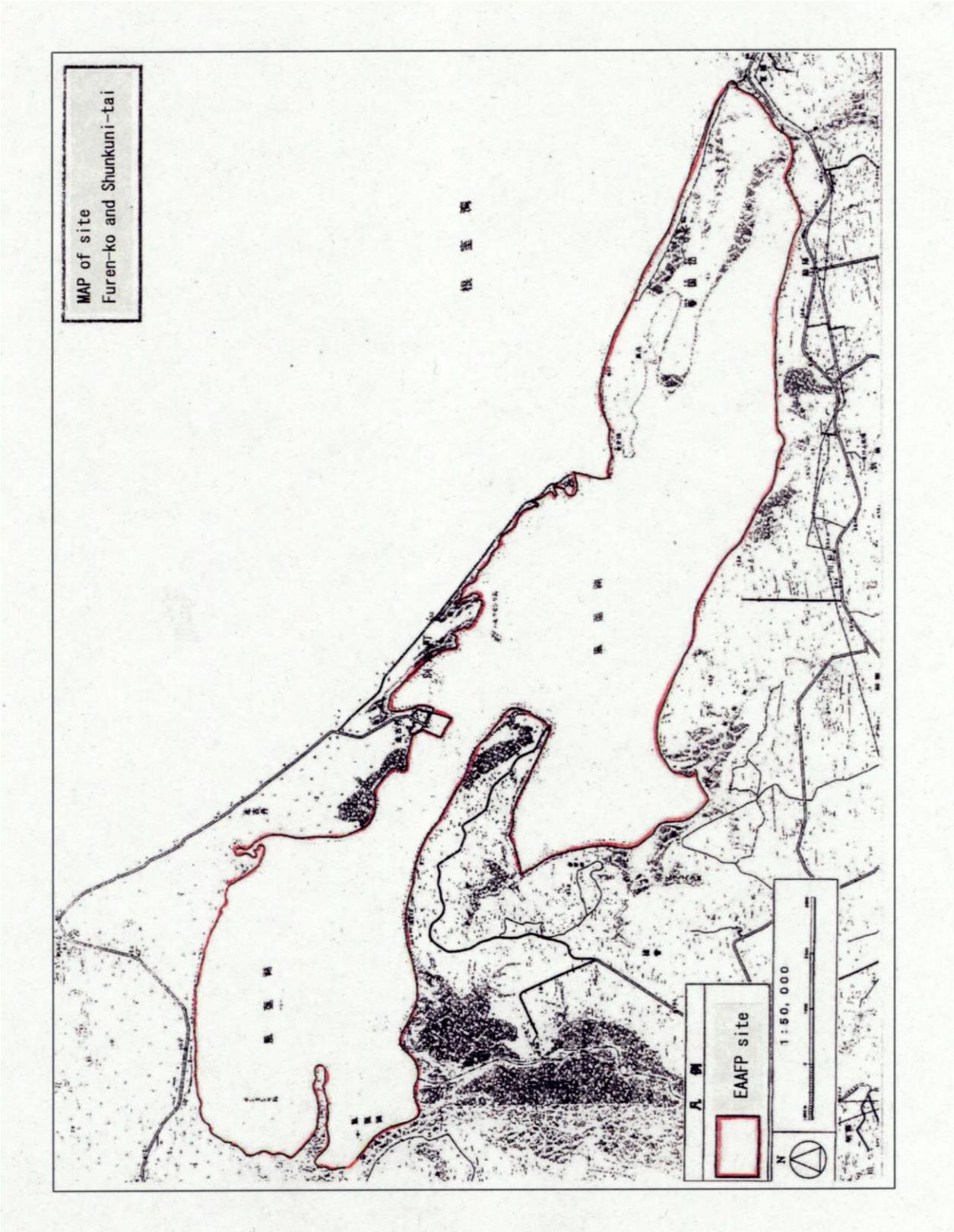
4. Name of the Flyway Network site*:

Accepted English transcription of the Site's name.

Furen-ko and Shunkuni-tai

5. Map of site*:

The most up-to-date available and suitable map of the wetland should be appended to the SIS (only in digital format and shape file). The map must clearly show the boundary of the site. Please refer to the "Digitising Site Boundaries in Google Earth" file linked [here](#).



6. Geographical coordinates (latitude/longitude, in decimal degrees)*:

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

43.29722 N, 145.35556 E (43°17'50"N, 145°21'20"E)

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

T.P. (Medium level): 1m

8. Area*:

The total area of the site, in hectares. If the areas of discrete site units are known, please also list each of these together with the names (or labels) used to identify and differentiate these units.

6,139 ha

9. General overview of the site*:

A brief (two sentences) summary of the site, mentioning principal physical and ecological functions, and its importance for migratory waterbirds.

Furen-ko and Shunkuni-tai are located in the eastern part of Hokkaido. Furen-ko is a brackish lake flowing into Nemuro bay, and tidal flats and *Zostera* seagrass beds have developed in the lake. Shunkuni-tai is a sandbar formed between Furen-ko and Nemuro bay. *Picea glehnii* (Japanese Spruce) forest and clumps of rugosa rose (Japanese rose) have developed. These forests, grass field, salt marshes and tidal flats are favorable habitat environment for wild birds. It is an important place as a stopping point for migratory birds in Japan.

10. Justification of Flyway Site Network criteria*:

Please provide waterbird count information (with year of latest count) that demonstrates that the site meets the criteria of the Flyway Site Network (Annex 1). That is:

- it regularly supports > 20 000 migratory waterbirds; or,
- it regularly supports > 1 % of the individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of migratory waterbird; or,
- it supports appreciable numbers of an endangered or vulnerable population of migratory waterbird
- it is a “staging site” supporting > 5 000 waterbirds, or > 0.25% of a population stage at the site.

A listing of the populations of migratory waterbirds covered by the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership and the 1% thresholds is attached (Annex 3).

The “staging site” criterion is particularly difficult to apply and application of this should be discussed with the Secretariat. Also note that some species have several populations that are very difficult to distinguish in the field.

a 2:

Two species that are listed in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Wildlife in Japan inhabit Furen-ko and Shunkuni-tai..

Species	IUCNstatus ¹	Japan Red	Species Conservation Laws ³
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		List²	
Red-crowned crane (<i>Grus japonensis</i>)	EN	VU	Yes
Spoon-billed sandpiper (<i>Eurynorhynchus pygmeus</i>)	VU	EN	

The Japanese population of Red-crowned crane *Grus japonensis* is not migratory but is included here so that this nomination will be consistent with some previous Network site nominations from Hokkaido.

A few individuals of Spoon-billed sandpiper has been observed annually.

a 5:

The site regularly supports more than 20,000 waterbirds, the majority of which are migratory.

Species	Census Survey				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Anatidae	56,020	49,557	48,602	36,752	58,692

a 6:

The following 12 migratory populations visit the site and in each case the site regularly supports over 1% of the East Asian – Australasian Flyway population.

Species & Subspecies (Scientific name)	Census Survey					
	1% of flyway population	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Black-necked Grebe <i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	100	-	1,950	1,875	1,010	1,052
Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	600	5,263	4,182	4,624	5,639	5,532
Bean Goose <i>Anser fabalis serrastris</i>	700	1,598	1,999	2,232	2,406	1,495
Black Brant <i>Branta bernicla</i>	50	—	915	503	399	698
Eurasian Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i>	5,000	14,836	13,490	20,636	10,732	13,645
Falcated Duck <i>Anas falcata</i>	350	—	2,560	2,795	1,375	6,077
Northern Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>	2,000	—	10,250	7,228	6,742	6,365
Greater Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i>	2000	19,850	20,295	18,455	22,005	18,370

Red-breasted Merganser <i>Mergus serrator</i>	250	—	2,059	1,237	2,372	1,782
Red-crowned Crane <i>Grus japonensis</i>	9	32	68	35	39	35
Grey-tailed Tattler <i>Heteroscelus brevipes</i>	400	1,568	2,490	1,898	1,074	2,240
Ruddy Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i>	250	669	809	566	671	1,253

bi.

In addition, the site regularly supports more than 0.25% of the following population during migration.

Species (Scientific names)	The number of individuals 0.25% basis		Census Survey				
	World	Flyway	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Mongolian plover <i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	788	100	272	316	293	193	242

¹ = IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

² = Red List of Threatened Wildlife in Japan. Ministry of the Environment.

³ = Designated under the Law for Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Species Conservation Law)

(Abbreviations: CR = Critically endangered; EN = Endangered; VU = Vulnerable; Yes = noted as a Domestic Endangered Species)

11. Wetland Types*:

List the wetland types present (see Annex 2). List the wetland types in order of their area in the Flyway Network site, starting with the wetland type with the largest area.

a) presence:

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

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

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

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

b) dominance:

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

QEHBGU

12. Jurisdiction*:

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

[territorial]

River Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (publicly-owned water body)

[functional]

Ministry of the Environment (National Wildlife Protection Area)

River Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (publicly-owned water body)

13. Management authority*:

Provide the name and address of the local office(s) of the agency(ies) or organisation(s) directly responsible for managing the wetland and the title and/or name and email address/phone number of the person or persons in this office with direct responsibility for managing the wetland.

Kushiro Nature Conservation Office, Hokkaido Regional Environment Office, Ministry of the Environment

10-3 Saiwai-cho, Kushiro-shi, Hokkaido 085-8639 JAPAN

Tel: +81-154-32-7500

Fax: +81-154-32-7575

14. Bibliographical references*:

A list of key technical references relevant to the wetland, including management plans, major scientific reports, and bibliographies, if such exist. Please list Web site addresses dedicated to the site or which prominently feature the site, and include the date that the Web site was most recently updated. When a large body of published material is available about the site, only the most important references need be cited, with priority being given to recent literature containing extensive bibliographies.

- Management plan of the Special Protection Area of National Wildlife Protection Area
- Ministry of the Environment 2005-2009 "Monitoring Sites 1000 Project : Survey of Anatidate"

- Ministry of the Environment 2005-2009 "Population Census Survey of Antidae"
- Ministry of the Environment 2005-2009 "Monitoring Sites 1000 Project : Survey of Shorebirds "
- Wetlands International 2006 "Waterbird Population Estimates 4th Edition"
- Environment Agency 1993 "The Fourth National Surveys on the Natural Environment Report on Lake and Marsh Survey"
- Environment Agency 1995 "The Fifth National Survey on the Natural Environment Report on Wetland Survey"
- Ministry of the Environment Nature Conservation Bureau 2002 "500 Important Wetlands in Japan"
- Ministry of the Environment 2002 "Threatened Wildlife of Japan –Red Data Book 2nd ed.- Volume 2, Aves"
- Environment Agency 2000 "Threatened Wildlife of Japan -Red Data Book 2nd ed. - Volume 8, Vascular Plants
- The IUCN Species Survival Commission "IUCN Red List of Threatened Species"

15. Physical features of the site:

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

Geology: volcanic loam, volcanic ash, Mashu pyroclastic deposit-pumic fall deposit and volcanic ash

Geomorphology: an inland-sea lake

Soil type: peat soil

Origins: Natural.

Hydrology: 13 inflow streams. Water flows out to the sea from the lake mouth.

Water quality: brackish water; oligotrophic lake; pH 8.3(8.2-8.3)(1991), DO 7.5(5.3-9.1) ppm (1991), alkalinity 1.439(1.073-1.788) meq/L (1991), COD 4.8(4.0-4.8) ppm (1991), T-N 0.55(0.55-0.56) ppm (1991), T-P 0.051(0.021-0.079) ppm (1991), salinity 17.42(5.71-28.08)‰ (1991), Chl-a 2.29(1.05-2.94) µg/L (1991), SS 4 ppm (1990), NH₄-N 0.26 ppm (1990), NO₂-N <0.005 ppm (1990), NO₃-N <0.005 ppm (1990), PO₄-P 0.042 ppm (1990)

Water depth: 1.0 m on average, 11.0 m at maximum

Water level fluctuation: None

Climate: Cool climate and sea fog frequently appears in summer, cold with strong wind in winter. Annual precipitation: 1,030 mm, annual mean temperature: 6.1 degrees Celsius, fluctuation of mean temperature in each month: -4.7-+17.3 degrees Celsius (average of Nemuro from 1971 to 2000)

16. Physical features of the catchment area:

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

Surface area: 1,054.83 sq.km

General geology and geomorphological features: The catchment consist of the main stream Furen-gawa which flows between Bekkai-cho and Nemuro City, and small and medium-sized rivers that flow in to Furen-gawa including Anebetu-gawa in Hamanaka-cho.

General soil types: Mashu pyroclastic deposit-pumic fall deposit and volcanic ash, Tosyunbetsu formation - pumic sand and gravel, taffaceous sand, siltstone with coal, Furen-ko formation-silt, sand and gravel

General land use: forests, pasture, urban area

Climate: Cool climate and sea fog frequently appears in summer, cold with strong wind in winter. Annual precipitation: 1,030 mm, annual mean temperature: 6.1 degrees Celsius, fluctuation of mean temperature in each month: -4.7-+17.3 degrees Celsius (average of Nemuro from 1971 to 2000)

17. Hydrological values:

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

None

18. General ecological features:

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

Large tidal flats and *Zostera* seagrass beds extend within the site. *Zostera marina* and *Z. japonica* grow in the entire lake. Salt marsh vegetation which is mainly composed by *Triglochin maritimum* community and *Carex subspathacea* community can be seen in the marshland of the lake. The vegetation of the freshwater marsh is formed by *Scirpus tabernaemontani* community, *Typha latifolia* (cattail) community, *Phragmites communis* (reed) - *Calamagrostis stricta* community, *Phragmites communis* (reed) - *Carex lyngbyei* community, *Alnus japonica* (Japanese alder) - *Fraxinus mandshurica* v. *japonica* forest and *Picea glehnii* (Japanese spruce) forest.

It is an important spawning area and habitat for herring and salmon. Also, *Ruditapes philippinarum* (Short-neck clam) lives in the site. The site is an important staging site in spring and fall for many migratory waterbirds including Shorebirds, wild ducks, swans and geese. Also,

more than 2% of Japanese population of Red-crowned Crane *Grus japonensis* is breeding in the site.

19. Noteworthy flora:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the SIS.*

(Please add here the species which do not come under sec no 14)

Triglochin maritimum [vulnerable species (VU)*1]

Carex subspathacea [critically endangered species (CR)*1]

Note: *1 Red List of Threatened Wildlife of Japan. Ministry of the Environment

20. Noteworthy fauna:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in 10. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the SIS.*

(Please add here the species which do not come under sec no 14)

Eurynorhynchus pygmeus (Spoon-billed Sandpiper) [endangered species (EN)*1, vulnerable species (VU)*2]

Himantopus himantopus (Black-winged Stilt) [endangered species (EN)*1]

Tringa totanus ussuriensis (Redshank) [vulnerable species (VU)*1]

Numenius madagascariensis (Far Eastern Curlew) [vulnerable species (VU)*1]

Anser fabalis serratirostris (Bean Goose) [vulnerable species (VU)*1]

Grus japonensis (Japanese Crane) [vulnerable species (VU)*1, endangered species (EN)*2, Domestic Endangered Species*3]

Note: *1 Red List of Threatened Wildlife of Japan. Ministry of the Environment

*2 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

*3 Designated under the Law for Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
(Species Conservation Law)

21. Social, economic and cultural values:

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

Harvesting of clams

Fishery and aquaculture (*Hypomesus pretiosus japonicus*, *Eleginus gracilis*, righteyed flounders, herrings..etc.)

Attractive landscapes

b) Is the site considered of international importance for holding, in addition to relevant ecological values, examples of significant cultural values, whether material or non-material, linked to its origin, conservation and/or ecological functioning? (Double-click the checkbox to check and choose "Checked" under "Default Value" from "Check Box Form Field Options" window)

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

- I. Sites which provide a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland:
- II. Sites which have exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland:
- III. Sites where the ecological character of the wetland depends on the interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples:
- IV. Sites where relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland:

22. Land tenure/ownership:

a) Within the Flyway Network site:

Publicly-owned water body: national land 5,202 ha

Syunkuni-tai (Special protected area):

National land 492ha

City-owned land (Nemuro city) 273ha

Private land 172 ha

b) In the surrounding area:

National land, prefectural land, town-owned land, private land

23. Current land (including water) use:

a) Within the Flyway Network site:

No resident, fishery rights are obtained, tourism, nature observation

b) In the surroundings/catchment:

Natural forests, secondary forests, planted forests, cropland, meadow, urban area, reclaimed land

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

a) Within the Flyway Network site:

There is a concern of eutrophication due to inflow of domestic wastewater, factory disposal, and animal manure.

b) In the surrounding area:

None

25. Conservation measures taken:

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

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

Ramsar site 6,139ha * designated in November 2005

Special Protection Area of National Wildlife Protection Area: hectares (Wildlife Protection and Appropriate Hunting Law) 6,139ha * designated on November 1st 2005

Capture of wildlife is in principle prohibited in the area. It is required to obtain permission from the Minister of the Environment when installation of artificial structure, reclamation of the water body and tree felling.

b) If appropriate, list the IUCN (1994) protected areas category/ies which apply to the site (tick the box or boxes as appropriate, see Annex 3):

Ia ; Ib ; II ; III ; IV ; V ; VI ; N/A

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

A plan is formulated with consultation among relevant national agencies, local governments and stakeholders, for the management of the Special Protection Area of National Wildlife Protection Area.

If yes, is it being implemented?: If no, is one being planned?

d) Describe any other current management practices:

Local communities are engaged in cleanup activities on surrounding roads.

26. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

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

Since the condition of the transplanted plants has been poor after the dam construction the following plans were suggested:

None

27. Current scientific research and facilities:

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

[Scientific research]

Population Census Survey of Anatidae (Ministry of the Environment)

Population Census Survey of Shorebirds (Ministry of the Environment)

Survey and improvement project of wintering site of Geese in Hokkaido and Tohoku region, 2001 (Ministry of the Environment)

Population Census Survey of Red-crowned Crane *Grus japonensis* (Ministry of the Environment)

[Facilities established for research]

None

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

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

Shunkunitai Wild Bird Sanctuary Nature Center (managed by Nemuro city)

About 10,000 visitors visit the nature center annually. NGO and other organizations are carrying out nature interpretation programs such as bird watching.

29. Current recreation and tourism:

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

Hiking, many tourists come to watch birds.

30. Threats*:

Which of the following threats is present historically – when the threat stopped but the effects are still there (H), currently (C) or potentially (P)?

	Historically	Currently	Potentially
Residential and commercial development			
housing and urban areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
commercial and industrial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
tourism and recreation areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture and aquaculture			
annual and perennial non-timber crops	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
wood and pulp plantations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
livestock farming and ranching	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
marine and freshwater aquaculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy production and mining			
oil and gas drilling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
mining and quarrying	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
renewable energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation and service corridors			
roads and railroads	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
utility and service lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
shipping lanes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
flight paths	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biological resource use			
hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
gathering terrestrial plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
logging and wood harvesting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human intrusions and disturbance			
recreational activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
war, civil unrest and military exercises	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
work and other activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natural system modifications			

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fire and fire suppression	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
dams and water management/use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
other ecosystem modifications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Invasive and other problematic species and genes

invasive non-native/alien species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
problematic native species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
introduced genetic material	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Pollution

household sewage and urban waste water	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
industrial and military effluents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
agricultural and forestry effluents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
garbage and solid waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
air-borne pollutants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
excess energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Geological events

volcanoes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
earthquakes/tsunamis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
avalanches/landslides	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Climate change and severe weather

habitat shifting and alteration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
droughts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
temperature extremes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
storms and flooding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please write here any additional threats and comments/queries you have on the threats.

Annex 1: Criteria for the inclusion of sites in the Flyway Site Network

(From the Partnership Text)

To be considered for inclusion in the Flyway Site Network, this Partnership adopts the following criteria:

- a. Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) criteria for internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds. That is:
 - Criterion 2: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities.
 - Criterion 5: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds.
 - Criterion 6: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of waterbird.

- b. The staging criteria as applied under the Asia - Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy. That is:
 - i. A staging site should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 0.25% of individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of waterbirds on migration.
 - ii. A staging site should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 5,000 or more waterbirds at one time during migration.

- c. Under exceptional circumstances a site can be nominated if it supports migratory waterbirds at a level or stage of their life cycle important to the maintenance of flyway populations. Justification of such nominations will be considered by the Partnership on a case by case basis.

Annex 2: Ramsar Classification System for Wetland Type

The codes are based upon the Ramsar Classification System for Wetland Type as approved by Recommendation 4.7 and amended by Resolutions VI.5 and VII.11 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties. The categories listed herein are intended to provide only a very broad framework to aid rapid identification of the main wetland habitats represented at each site.

To assist in identification of the correct Wetland Types to list in section 19 of the RIS, the Secretariat has provided below tabulations for Marine/Coastal Wetlands and Inland Wetlands of some of the characteristics of each Wetland Type.

Marine/Coastal Wetlands

- A -- **Permanent shallow marine waters** in most cases less than six metres deep at low tide; includes sea bays and straits.
- B -- **Marine subtidal aquatic beds**; includes kelp beds, sea-grass beds, tropical marine meadows.
- C -- **Coral reefs.**
- D -- **Rocky marine shores**; includes rocky offshore islands, sea cliffs.
- E -- **Sand, shingle or pebble shores**; includes sand bars, spits and sandy islets; includes dune systems and humid dune slacks.
- F -- **Estuarine waters**; permanent water of estuaries and estuarine systems of deltas.
- G -- **Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats.**
- H -- **Intertidal marshes**; includes salt marshes, salt meadows, saltings, raised salt marshes; includes tidal brackish and freshwater marshes.
- I -- **Intertidal forested wetlands**; includes mangrove swamps, nipah swamps and tidal freshwater swamp forests.
- J -- **Coastal brackish/saline lagoons**; brackish to saline lagoons with at least one relatively narrow connection to the sea.
- K -- **Coastal freshwater lagoons**; includes freshwater delta lagoons.
- Zk(a) – **Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems**, marine/coastal

Inland Wetlands

- L -- **Permanent inland deltas.**
- M -- **Permanent rivers/streams/creeks**; includes waterfalls.
- N -- **Seasonal/intermittent/irregular rivers/streams/creeks.**
- O -- **Permanent freshwater lakes** (over 8 ha); includes large oxbow lakes.
- P -- **Seasonal/intermittent freshwater lakes** (over 8 ha); includes floodplain lakes.
- Q -- **Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes.**
- R -- **Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes and flats.**

- Sp -- **Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.**
- Ss -- **Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.**
- Tp -- **Permanent freshwater marshes/pools;** ponds (below 8 ha), marshes and swamps on inorganic soils; with emergent vegetation water-logged for at least most of the growing season.
- Ts -- **Seasonal/intermittent freshwater marshes/pools on inorganic soils;** includes sloughs, potholes, seasonally flooded meadows, sedge marshes.
- U -- **Non-forested peatlands;** includes shrub or open bogs, swamps, fens.
- Va -- **Alpine wetlands;** includes alpine meadows, temporary waters from snowmelt.
- Vt -- **Tundra wetlands;** includes tundra pools, temporary waters from snowmelt.
- W -- **Shrub-dominated wetlands;** shrub swamps, shrub-dominated freshwater marshes, shrub carr, alder thicket on inorganic soils.
- Xf -- **Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands;** includes freshwater swamp forests, seasonally flooded forests, wooded swamps on inorganic soils.
- Xp -- **Forested peatlands;** peatswamp forests.
- Y -- **Freshwater springs; oases.**
- Zg -- **Geothermal wetlands**
- Zk(b) – **Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, inland**

Note: “**floodplain**” is a broad term used to refer to one or more wetland types, which may include examples from the R, Ss, Ts, W, Xf, Xp, or other wetland types. Some examples of floodplain wetlands are seasonally inundated grassland (including natural wet meadows), shrublands, woodlands and forests. Floodplain wetlands are not listed as a specific wetland type herein.

Human-made wetlands

- 1 -- **Aquaculture** (e.g., fish/shrimp) **ponds**
- 2 -- **Ponds;** includes farm ponds, stock ponds, small tanks; (generally below 8 ha).
- 3 -- **Irrigated land;** includes irrigation channels and rice fields.
- 4 -- **Seasonally flooded agricultural land** (including intensively managed or grazed wet meadow or pasture).
- 5 -- **Salt exploitation sites;** salt pans, salines, etc.
- 6 -- **Water storage areas;** reservoirs/barrages/dams/impoundments (generally over 8 ha).
- 7 -- **Excavations;** gravel/brick/clay pits; borrow pits, mining pools.
- 8 -- **Wastewater treatment areas;** sewage farms, settling ponds, oxidation basins, etc.
- 9 -- **Canals and drainage channels, ditches.**
- Zk(c) -- **Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, human-made**

Annex 3: IUCN Protected Areas Categories System

IUCN protected area management categories classify protected areas according to their management objectives. The categories are recognised by international bodies such as the United Nations and by many national governments as the global standard for defining and recording protected areas and as such are increasingly being incorporated into government legislation.

Ia Strict Nature Reserve

Category Ia are strictly protected areas set aside to protect biodiversity and also possibly geological/geomorphical features, where human visitation, use and impacts are strictly controlled and limited to ensure protection of the conservation values.

Ib Wilderness Area

Category Ib protected areas are usually large unmodified or slightly modified areas, retaining their natural character and influence without permanent or significant human habitation, which are protected and managed so as to preserve their natural condition.

II National Park

Category II protected areas are large natural or near natural areas set aside to protect large-scale ecological processes, along with the complement of species and ecosystems characteristic of the area, which also provide a foundation for environmentally and culturally compatible, spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational, and visitor opportunities.

III Natural Monument or Feature

Category III protected areas are set aside to protect a specific natural monument, which can be a landform, sea mount, submarine cavern, geological feature such as a cave or even a living feature such as an ancient grove. They are generally quite small protected areas and often have high visitor value.

IV Habitat/Species Management Area

Category IV protected areas aim to protect particular species or habitats and management reflects this priority. Many Category IV protected areas will need regular, active interventions to address the requirements of particular species or to maintain habitats, but this is not a requirement of the category.

V Protected Landscape/ Seascape

A protected area where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant, ecological, biological, cultural and scenic value: and where safeguarding the integrity of this interaction is vital to protecting and sustaining the area and its associated nature conservation and other values.

VI Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources

Information Sheet on EAA Flyway Network Sites

Category VI protected areas conserve ecosystems and habitats together with associated cultural values and traditional natural resource management systems.