



RAMSAR SITE
NUMBER
1266

Tourbières et lacs de la montagne jurassienne //



FRANCE

Area :
12 156 ha

Date of designation :
February 2nd 2021

Coordinates :
46° 45' N 06° 10' E

Summary

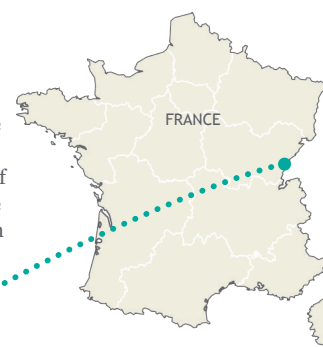
This site covers 12,134 ha located at the head of the watersheds that feed the Doubs, Orbe and Ain rivers. It is composed of 125 peat bogs (about 2000 ha) and 18 natural lakes of medium mountain (1000 ha). It is the largest French complex of low alkaline mires and high mountain mires. This extension of the Ramsar site "Bassin du Drugeon" reflects a desire to preserve and develop peatlands on the scale of the Jura massif.

Internationale importance

The site includes 12 Natura 2000 sites, classified for the conservation of birds (SPA) as well as flora, habitats and other fauna species, especially insects (SAC). It is designated in the list of wetlands of international importance because of the large number of animal and plant species that it shelters, as well as the presence of peat bogs, a habitat particularly threatened.

General location

This Ramsar site is located in the mountains, between 800 and 1200 m of altitude, in the heart of the Jura massif, in the east of the Burgundy-Franche-Comté region and close to the Swiss border.



Services provided by wetlands

The various marshes provide food and favorable habitats for many animal and plant species, the biodiversity is remarkable.

Livestock farming and forestry are practiced throughout the site, on the periphery of the peaty areas and marginally in the interior.

Numerous sites (lakes, peat bogs) host leisure, tourist and educational activities to discover the environment, thus contributing to the local economy and the reputation of the territory.

The wetland regulates and buffers the quality and quantity of water in these high altitude watersheds.

Peatlands also play an important role in carbon storage, which helps limit global warming, provided they are maintained in a good state of conservation.

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Adverse factors

A dense drainage network, resulting from the ancient use of peat and the intensification of agricultural practices, constitute the main threats to the conservation of the site. The increase in water withdrawals also constitutes a medium-term risk.

The input of organic matter is greater than the absorption capacity of the lakes, which tend to become eutrophic, causing deoxygenation of the water columns.

Climate change could have a major impact on high altitude peatlands. Currently carbon stocks, they could become greenhouse gas emitters.



Four species representative of the site



LARGE WHITE-FACED DARTER
(*Leucorrhinia pectoralis*)

This dragonfly species has been evolving favorably throughout the site for the past 20 years, thanks to small peaty pools filled with vegetation.

Both larval and adult cycles can flourish within the many peat sites of the Ramsar site.



COMMON SNIPE
(*Gallinago gallinago*)

This bird is in the southern end of its breeding range.

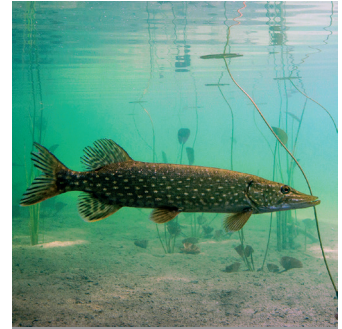
However, the Drugeon basin is home to the largest breeding population in France with about 25 pairs, which has been in significant decline for the last 20 years, supplemented by the recent installation of pairs in the Haut-Jura, thanks to marsh restoration work.



FEN ORCHID
(*Liparis loeselii*)

This small fen orchid is very present in former peat mining areas where the water level is not impacted by drainage.

Populations remain high, and are favored by rewetting or grazing.



NORTHERN PIKE
(*Esox lucius*)

The Drugeon, the Orbe and the Tavern, as well as the lakes offer favorable conditions for the reproduction of this species.

Very slow meandering rivers and lakes with wide vegetation belts provide the different habitats where the species can reproduce, shelter and feed.

Biodiversity

The Ramsar site hosts a remarkable biodiversity, specific to peaty environments and mid-mountain lakes.

Certain groups of odonates, butterflies and molluscs, unique in France, are present there.

The site is also a privileged nesting place (on a French scale) for the Common Snipe.

The hydrographic network, often linked to lakes and marshes, allows the installation of spawning grounds for many species of fish, amphibians and crustaceans.

Finally, a great diversity of glacial relict plant species is still found on the site, from the most alkaline bogs to the most acidic bogs. Forests on peat, hooked pine, birch or spruce occupy large areas, giving a northern character to the site.



Management and conservation



The site concentrates many issues, particularly in terms of preserving biodiversity, qualitative and quantitative water management and mitigating the effects of climate change.

It is a "sentinel site" in understanding and mitigating the effects of climate change on wetlands and mountain lakes, as well as on water resource management.

The actions of conservation of the environments are in line with the numerous programs of restoration and remediation carried out since many years, in particular via the program Life "Tourbières du Jura" which allowed the restoration of 40 peat bogs of the site.

The 18 mid-mountain lakes of the site are the object of particular attention both in terms of their hydrological functioning, the conciliation between ecological quality and drinking water supply but also their adaptation to climate change.

The management and the animation of the site led jointly by the Regional Natural Park of the Haut-Jura and the Public Establishment of development and management of water Haut-Doubs Haute-Loue, allow a coherence of work at the scale of the territory.



The Ramsar Convention

The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, commonly known as the Ramsar Convention, is a global inter-governmental treaty that provides the frame-work for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. It is the only global treaty to focus on one single ecosystem.