



Pakistan designates three new Ramsar sites

13 May 2004

Pakistan



The Ramsar Bureau is particularly pleased to announce three new Wetlands of International Importance in Pakistan totaling over 1 million hectares, all wildlife sanctuaries and all in Sindh Province, designated effective 5 November 2002. Deh Akro-II Desert Wetland Complex (20,500 ha, 26°50'N 068°20'E) consists of east-west dune systems punctuated by 36 permanent lakes in the inter-dunal valleys, home to a number of rare species. Indus Delta (~472,800 ha, 24°06'N 067°42'E) is the 5th largest delta system in the world and home to the 7th largest mangrove forest system. The Runn of Kutch (566,375 ha; 24°23'N 070°05'E), part of the great Thar desert and part of the very large transfrontier wetland system also known as the Rann of Kutch, is likewise characterized by sand dune systems broken up by inter-dunal depressions with alluvial soil. Sindh authorities were materially assisted in the preparation of these site designation by WWF-Pakistan with the benefit of financial assistance from WWF International's Living Waters Programme. Pakistan now has 19 Ramsar sites covering 1,343,627 hectares, and the Convention's 1283 sites now cover a surface area of 108,751,595 hectares.

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