

# MYANMAR

## RAMSAR CONVENTION CAME INTO FORCE 2005

NUMBER OF RAMSAR SITES DESIGNATED (at 31 August 2005) **1**

AREA OF RAMSAR SITES DESIGNATED (at 31 August 2005) **256 ha**

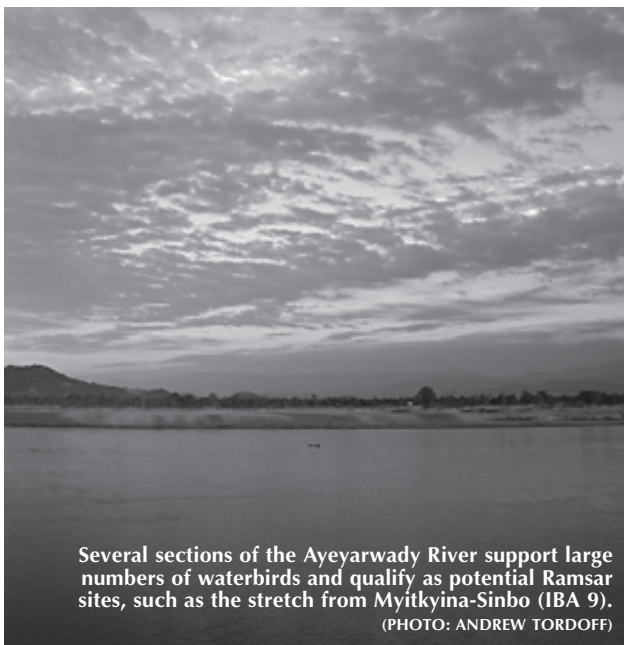
ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION **Director General,  
Planning and Statistics Department, Ministry of Forestry**

RAMSAR DESIGNATION IS:

**Partial in 1 IBA  
Lacking in 34 IBAs**

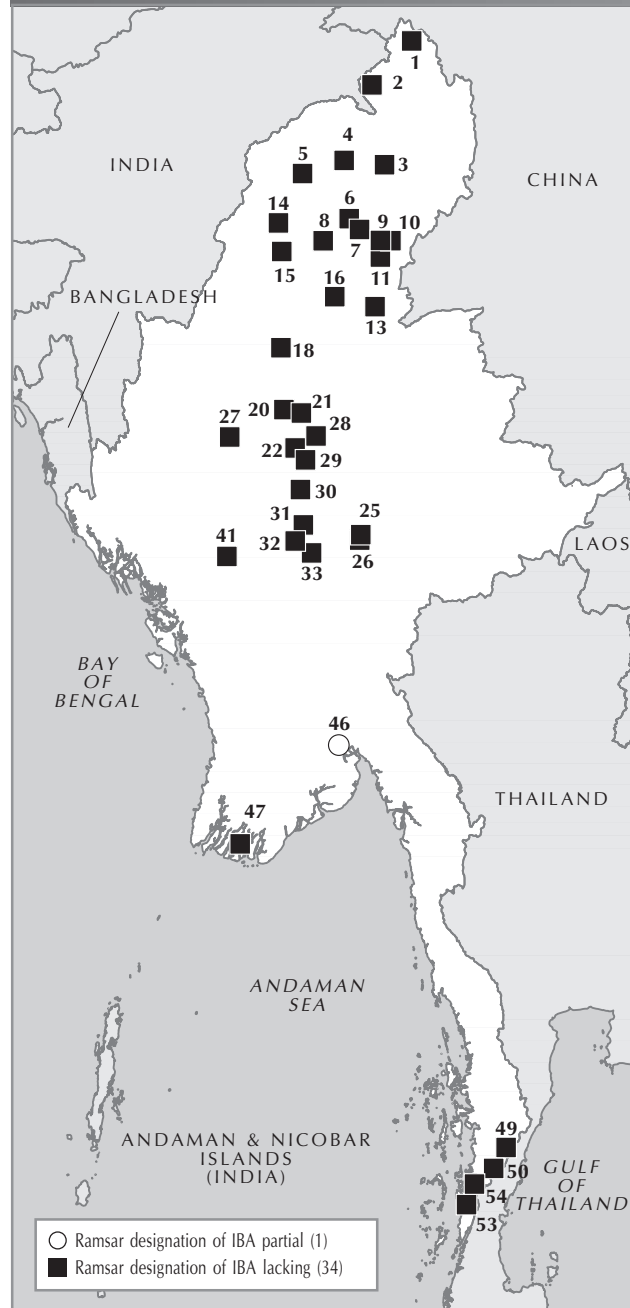
There are seven major wetland regions in Myanmar according to Davies *et al.* (in prep.): the basins of the Ayeyarwady, Chindwin, Thanlwin, Sittaung and Mekong rivers in the interior, and the coastal areas of Rakhine State and Thaninthayi Division. The last major undammed rivers in South-East Asia are in Myanmar, and their conservation is of paramount importance, particularly the Chindwin River. Northern Myanmar is still relatively undeveloped and its wetlands support large numbers of waterbirds, including globally threatened species such as White-bellied Heron *Ardea insignis*, White-winged Duck *Cairina scutulata*, and possibly even the last surviving Pink-headed Ducks *Rhodonessa caryophyllacea*. Central Myanmar is arid, and the river basins there are important for many species of wetland-dependent birds, including an important wintering population of the globally threatened Baer's Pochard *Aythya baeri*. There are extensive inter-tidal wetlands on the coast of Myanmar, which have not been well studied but are likely to be important for many waterbirds, including the threatened Spotted Greenshank *Tringa guttifer* and Spoon-billed Sandpiper *Eurynorhynchus pygmeus*. The Ministry of the Environment of Japan has funded wetlands surveys in Myanmar, the results of which will soon be published in a wetland inventory (Davies *et al.* in prep.).

The Ramsar Convention came into force in Myanmar in March 2005. The one Ramsar Site that has been designated so far overlaps with an IBA, and an additional 34 potential Ramsar Sites have been identified in the country.



Several sections of the Ayeyarwady River support large numbers of waterbirds and qualify as potential Ramsar sites, such as the stretch from Myitkyina-Sinbo (IBA 9).  
(PHOTO: ANDREW TORDOFF)

### Location of Important Bird Areas in Myanmar that contain areas that qualify as Ramsar Sites.



### Summary of Important Bird Areas that contain areas that qualify as Ramsar Sites in Myanmar.

#### Ramsar designation of IBA partial (1 IBA)

IBA	IBA name	IBA area (ha)	Ramsar Site name	Ramsar Site area (ha)	Ramsar criteria			
					2	4	5	6
46	Moyingyi Bird Sanctuary	10,360	Moyingyi Wetland Wildlife Sanctuary	256	✓	✓	✓	✓

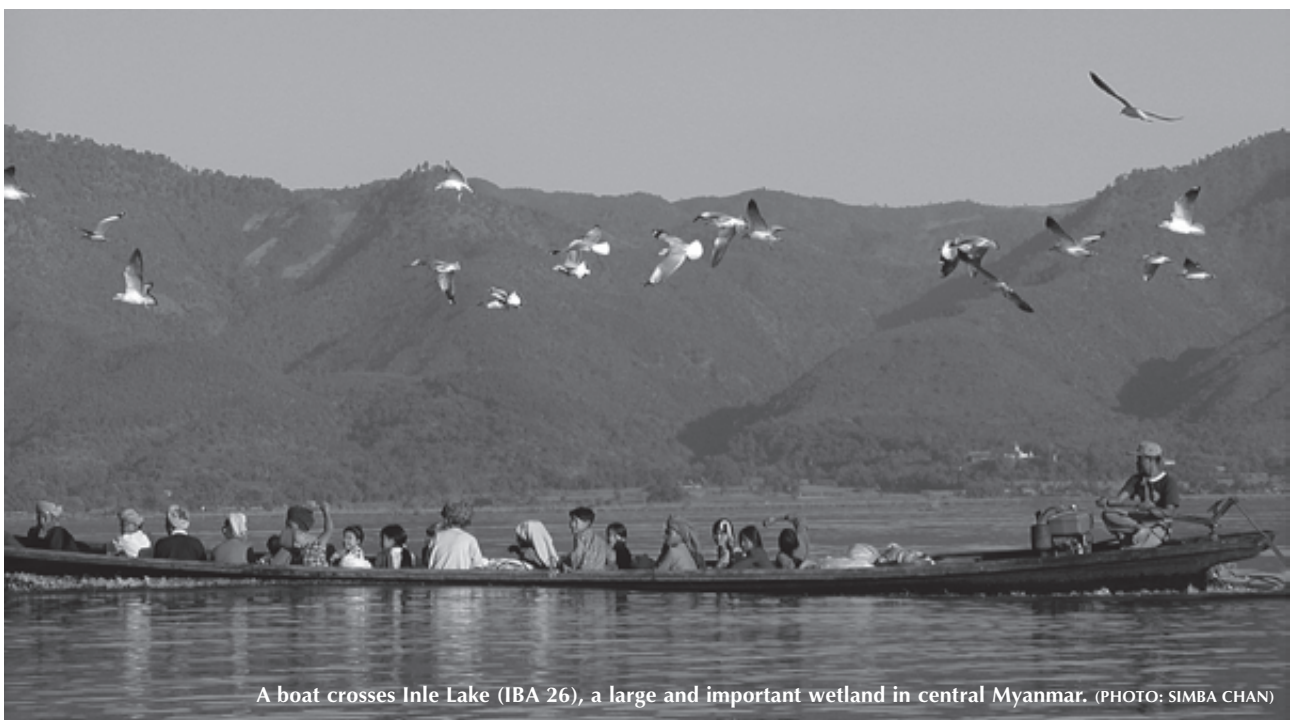
Ramsar designation of IBA lacking (34 IBAs)						
IBA	IBA name	IBA area (ha)	Ramsar criteria			
			2	4	5	6
1	Hkakabo Razi National Park	381,248	✓	✓		✓
2	Hponkan Razi Wildlife Sanctuary	270,396	✓	✓		✓
3	Bumphabum Wildlife Sanctuary	175,000	✓			
4	Tanai River	63,000	✓	✓		✓
5	Hukaung Valley Wildlife Sanctuary	615,000	✓	✓		✓
6	Kamaing	15,000	✓			
7	Upper Moguang Chaung basin	20,000	✓			
8	Indawgyi Lake and Indawgyi River	90,000	✓	✓		✓
9	Ayeyarwady River Myitkyina-Sinbo	135,000	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Myitkyina-Nandebad-Talawgyi	40,000		✓		✓
11	Nan Sam Chaung	500	✓	✓		✓
13	Ayeyarwady River Bhamo-Shwegu	15,000	✓	✓		✓
14	Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary	215,074	✓			
15	Uyu River	200,000	✓			
16	Ayeyarwady River Moda Section	3,300		✓		✓
18	Chatthin Wildlife Sanctuary	26,936	✓	✓		✓
20	Mahanandar Kan	425		✓		✓
21	Ayeyarwady River Singu Section	3,000		✓	✓	✓
22	Yemyet Inn	5,180	✓	✓		✓
25	Nadi Kan	1,550	✓			
26	Inle Bird Sanctuary (including Balu Chuang, Sagar and Moby)	64,232	✓	✓	✓	✓
27	Ayeyarwady River Bagan Section	7,500	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Taung Kan at Sedawgyi	50	✓		✓	✓
29	Peleik Inn	50			✓	✓
30	Myittha Lakes (Yit Kan, Yewei Kan, Yathar Kan, Myin Sin Kan and Taungkangyi)	10,000	✓	✓		✓
31	Nyaung Yan-Minhla Kan	2,033		✓	✓	✓
32	Chaugmagyi Reservoir	850			✓	✓
33	Kyee-ni Inn	617	✓	✓		✓
41	Ayeyarwady River Sinbyugyun-Minbu Section	14,240		✓		✓
47	Ayeyarwady Delta	1,100,000	✓	✓	✓	✓
49	Ngawun	220,000	✓			
50	Lenya National Park	170,000	✓			
53	Pachan	145,000	✓			
54	Karathuri	25,000	✓			



The spectacular temple at Indawgyi Lake (IBA 8) in northern Myanmar. (PHOTO: ANDREW TORDOFF)

Summary of the occurrence of globally threatened wetland-dependent bird species within the selected IBAs in Myanmar.

IBA	Spot-billed Pelican <i>Pelecanus philippensis</i> VU	White-bellied Heron <i>Ardea insignis</i> EN	Storm's Stork <i>Ciconia stormi</i> EN	Lesser Adjutant <i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i> VU	White-winged Duck <i>Cairina scutulata</i> EN	Baer's Pochard <i>Aythya baeri</i> VU	Pallas's Fish-eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucorhynchus</i> VU	Greater Spotted Eagle <i>Aquila clanga</i> VU	Sarus Crane <i>Grus antigone</i> VU	Masked Finfoot <i>Heliopais personata</i> VU	Wood Snipe <i>Gallinago nemoricola</i> VU	Spoon-billed Sandpiper <i>Euryrhynchus pygmaeus</i> EN	Indian Skimmer <i>Rynchops albicollis</i> VU	Blue-banded Kingfisher <i>Alcedo euryzona</i> VU	Straw-headed Bulbul <i>Pycnonotus zeylanicus</i> VU	Total
1		✓														1
2		✓														1
3	✓				✓											2
4					✓					✓						2
5	✓	✓		✓	✓					✓	✓					6
6	✓															1
7	✓			✓												2
8	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓							6
9	✓			✓												2
11		✓			✓											2
13		✓		✓												2
14	✓				✓					✓						3
15	✓															1
18	✓				✓											2
22								✓								1
25								✓								2
26						✓		✓	✓							4
27								✓								2
28						✓		✓					✓			2
30						✓		✓								1
33						✓		✓								1
46	✓					✓		✓	✓							4
47				✓					✓			✓				3
49			✓											✓		2
50															✓	1
53			✓	✓										✓		3
54				✓												1
Total	10	5	2	8	6	6	1	7	5	3	1	1	2	2	1	



A boat crosses Inle Lake (IBA 26), a large and important wetland in central Myanmar. (PHOTO: SIMBA CHAN)