

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 27 January 2021 Update version, previously published on : 29 March 2013

BelarusVydritsa



Designation date 29 March 2013
Site number 2195
Coordinates 52°44'13"N 29°40'28"E
Area 17 403,00 ha

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.

1 - Summary

Summary

The Vydritsa Ramsar represents mosaic combination of floodplains, oxbow lakes, river valleys, wet forests, wet meadows, mires and forests in the catchment of the Berezina River. Natural complexes are mostly swampy, partially meliorated. A combination of forest-mire and dry upland plant complexes is also very remarkable for this territory. The diversity and variety of ecological systems and the high level of biological diversity characterizes the wetland.

The main types of biotopes are waterlogged forests and forested mires. Dry lands are occupied by dry forests of pine, spruce, ash and oak with rich undergrowth and soil cover, containing many rare and threatened plant species.

The main watercourses of the territory are Berezina River and its left tributaries – Ola and Vydritsa Rivers. Numerous oxbow lakes and fen mires are situated in the rivers' floodplain.

The site's wetlands have significant importance for natural functioning of the river Pripyat basin; have a great hydrological importance to adjacent areas accumulating the water supplies during the dry seasons and providing flow to other water bodies, maintaining groundwater levels, and playing an important role in maintaining the high water quality. Moreover, Vydritsa wetland is an ecosystem of accumulation type that acts as a biological filter of anthropogenic pollutants coming from the neighboring territories.

The wetland serves as a benchmark of natural complexes in the north of Gomel Polesie and it is an important element in the formation of contiguous and unified migratory corridors. The site acts as a reserve for many rare and endangered relict species of plants and animals included in national and international Red Books.

During the spring flood the Berezina floodplain serves as a stopover and foraging place for numerous migrating geese and ducks.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1	 Name 	and	address	of the	compiler	of this	RIS
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Responsible compiler	
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Institution/agency Institute of Experimental Botany of the National Academy of Science of Belarus

Postal address 220072, Minsk, Akademicheskaya st., 27

National Ramsar Administrative Authority

Institution/agency Institute of Experimental Botany of the National Academy of Science of Belarus

Postal address 220072, Minsk, Akademicheskaya st., 27

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

From year 2013

To year 2019

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

Unofficial name (optional)

Выдрица

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

(Update) A Changes to Site boundary Yes ② No ○	
^(Update) The boundary has been delineated more accurately ☑	
(Update) The boundary has been extended □	
(Update) The boundary has been restricted □	
(Update) B. Changes to Site area No change to area	
^(Update) For secretariat only. This update is an extension □	

2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

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

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps 0

Boundaries description

The boundaries of the site coincide with the boundaries of the National Landscape Reserve Vydritsa.

The boundaries of the reserve have well-defined natural boundaries. The western border of the reserve is the Berezina River. In the south, the boundary of the reserve is: the mouth section of the Vydritsa River, the green forest zone and protective strips along the Svetlogorsk - Zhlobin railway. The eastern and northeastern borders are defined by the contours of large peat massifs included in the reserve, covered mainly with alder and birch forests on floodplain peatlands. In the north, the border goes along the edge of the forest in the water protection zone of the Berezina River.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does	Gomel Region, Zhlobin and Svetlogorsk Districts
the site lie?	
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Svetlogorsk

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other Yes O No

O countries?

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes O No \odot

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 17403

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from 17403.159

GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Diogoogiapino rogiono	
Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Continental

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

European Environmental Agency (2012)

http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/figures/biogeographical-regions-in-europe-1

3 - Why is the Site important?

3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

☑ Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

The site is situated in the lower stream of the Berezina river; the main watercourses of the territory are Berezina River and its left tributaries – Ola and Vydritsa Rivers. It is an example of the rare type of wetland system to the appropriate biogeographic region, which is predominantly in its natural state.

- it has significant importance for natural functioning of the river Pripyat basin;

Hydrological services provided

- it has a great hydrological importance to adjacent areas:
- during the dry season holds water supplies and provides flow to other water bodies;
- maintains groundwater levels;
- plays an important role in maintaining high water quality.

The wetland ecosystems of the site perform a number of important socio-economic and environmental functions:

- Release of oxygen and carbon sequestration

Other ecosystem services provided

- Raw materials (reserve of berries, medicinal and industrial raw materials, hunting species);
- Climate formation in the region;
- Biological filter of anthropogenic pollutants coming from the neighboring territories;
- Peat-formation.

The site acts as a reserve for many rare and endangered relict species of plants and animals included in national and international Red Books.

During the spring flood the Berezina floodplain serves as a stopover and foraging place for numerous migrating geese and ducks.

Other reasons

The site is situated in the lower stream of the Berezina river; the main watercourses of the territory are Berezina River and its left tributaries – Ola and Vydritsa Rivers. It is an example of the rare type of wetland system to the appropriate biogeographic region, which is predominantly in its natural state. It is unique wetland within the pre-Polesie region.

Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Ensures the existence of populations of plants and animals that are important for maintaining biological diversity within the Continental biogeographic region.

The wetland supports populations of plant and animal species that are important for the conservation of biological diversity of mires, rivers, lakes and oak forests.

The complex combination of hydrologic and geomorphic features determines the rich fauna and rare plant species present at the site. According to research studies, 670 species of vascular plants can be found belonging to 355 genus, 99 families, 55 orders, 6 classes and 5 divisions. Among them, there are 5 Lycopodium species, 6 horsetail species, 11 fern species, 3 species of gymnosperms and 445 species of angiosperms (289 dicots and 156 monocots).

Justification

Within the boundaries of the wetland around 200 species of terrestrial vertebrates have been registered, including 10 amphibian species, 6 reptile species, 146 bird species and 41 mammal species (more than a half of the Belarussian theriofauna).

☑ Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions

3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Plantae					List			
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Allium ursinum	Ø	2				Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Dracocephalum ruyschiana	V	2				Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Drosera intermedia	V	2				Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Pedicularis sceptrum- carolinum	V	2				Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: classified as Category II of protection (Endangered species, EN)	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Platanthera chlorantha	V	2				Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Trapa natans	V	V		LC		Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	

There are 17 plant species from the Red data Book of the Republic found within the site.	

3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion 2 4 6 9	under criterio	n Size	Period of pop. Est.	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
Others										
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Emys orbicularis		2 000						Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable, VU)	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Meles meles					LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	
Birds										
AVES	Arcedo attnis		Ø000	16	2001	LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	At least 8 breeding pairs
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anser anser					LC				on passage

Phylum	Scientific name	Species species qualifies under contributes criterion under criterion 2 4 6 9 3 5 7 8	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1) IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aquila clanga		4	2001			V	Red Book of Belarus: Category I of protection (Critically Endangered, CR)	2 breeding pairs
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aquila pomarina		6	2001				Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	at least 3 breeding pairs
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ardea alba			2001-2011	LC				on passage
CHORDATA/ AVES	Botaurus stellaris	80008000	1	2006	LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU) The international status of protection (IBA): Criterion A1	1 male
CHORDATA/ AVES	Charadrius hiaticula		4	2001	LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	1-2 breeding pairs
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ciconia nigra		8	2001	LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	at least 4 pairs
CHORDATA/ AVES	Circaetus gallicus	88008000	8	2001	LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category II of protection (Endangered species, EN) The international status of protection (IBA): Criterion B2	At least 4 breeding pairs
CHORDATA/ AVES	Circus cyaneus	80008000	2	2001	LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU) The international status of protection (IBA): Criterion B2	At least 1 breeding pair
CHORDATA/ AVES	Crex crex			2001	LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Emberiza hortulana	80008000		2001	LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category II of protection (Endangered species, EN)	breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Falco tinnunculus			2001	LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Gallinago media		40	2001-2011	NT			Red Book of Belarus: Category II of protection (Endangered, EN)	30-40 males
CHORDATA/ AVES	Grus grus		6		LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	3 breeding pairs
CHORDATA/ AVES	Haematopus ostralegus		12		NT			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	5-6 breeding pairs
CHORDATA/ AVES	lxobrychus minutus				LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category II of protection (Endangered species, EN)	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Limosa limosa			2011	NT			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Milvus migrans		10	2001	LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	At least 5 breeding pairs

Phylum	Scientific name	Species qualifies under criterion 2 4 6 9	under criterion	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Pandion haliaetus		0000				LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category II of protection (Endangered species, EN)	on passage
CHORDATA/ AVES	Picus viridis		Ø000				LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category III of protection (Vulnerable species, VU)	breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	Strix nebulosa		Ø000	2	2001		LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category II of protection (Endangered species, EN)	At least 1 breeding pair
CHORDATA/ AVES	Tringa stagnatilis			2	2001		LC			Red Book of Belarus: Category I of protection (Critically Endangered, CR)	1 breeding pair

¹⁾ Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

27	7 animal species from the Red Data Book of Belarus are found within the site.

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
Ridge native forests with old pine and pine- broad-leaved forests		indigenous old pine and pine-broad-leaved forests on sandy ridge islands among large mire massifs (heather and mossy)	
Indigenous subclimax spruce forest			
Old birch forests with a complex of nemoral vegetation			
Pseudo-indigenous oak-hornbeam forests			
9080 * Fennoscandian deciduous swamp woods	2		EU Habitats directive, Annex I, priority habitat
7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs	✓		EU Habitats directive, Annex I
7120 Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	2		EU Habitats directive, Annex I
7110 * Active raised bogs	2		EU Habitats directive, Annex I, priority habitat
91D0 * Bog woodland	V		EU Habitats directive, Annex I, priority habitat

4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

4.1 - Ecological character

The Vydritsa Ramsar Site represents a mosaic combination of floodplains, oxbow lakes, river valleys, wet forests, wet meadows, mires and forests in the catchment of the Berezina River. Natural complexes are mostly swampy, partially meliorated. A combination of forest-mire and dry upland plant complexes are also very remarkable for this territory.

The main types of biotopes are waterlogged forests and forested mires. Forests occupy 60% of the site's territory. According to the forest zoning of Belarus, the site is located at the border of two geo-botanical subzones: spruce-hornbeam oak woods and hornbeam oak woods. The southern part of the site is characterized by limited distribution of spruces, and widely distributed broad-leafed forests. The southern part is mainly represented by floodplain forests in the floodplain of the Berezina River and its tributaries – Ola and Vydritsa rivers. The unique forest massif situated here, was formed and preserved on floodplain peatlands of Berezina River and its tributaries.

The northern part of the site is characterised by more abundant spruce and less distributed oak trees. Dry lands are occupied by dry forests of pine, spruce, ash and oak with rich undergrowth and soil cover, containing many rare and threatened plant species.

Rivers and their coast occupy 1.5% of the total site's area. Berezina River and its left tributaries – Ola and Vydritsa Rivers are the main watercourses of the territory. The valley of the Berezina River within the territory is 2-8 km wide, the floodplain is waterlogged, overgrown with shrubs and partly with forest. During spring flood and autumn rainfall, the valley is flooded for up to 1.5 months with water levels between 0.2 – 3.5 meters. During the spring flood the Berezina floodplain serves as a stopover and foraging place for numerous migrating geese and ducks. More than 26 oxbow lakes are situated within the area. They play an important role in the formation of the natural complex - in regulating river flow, self-purification of water, and the accumulation of matter in bottom sediments. Large reserves of natural resources are concentrated in the oxbow lakes: aquatic, biological, plant, animal, mineral, recreational and informational.

23 fen mires with a total area of 6500 ha and a total peat reserve of 11 million tons are found in relief depressions and river floodplains. Mires play the main role in regulation of surface water runoff and in the cycle of oxygen and carbon dioxide.

Altogether the site's wetlands have significant importance for natural functioning of the river Pripyat basin; they have a great hydrological importance for adjacent areas as they accumulate water supplies during dry seasons and provide flow to other water bodies. The wetlands maintain groundwater levels, and play an important role in maintaining high water quality. During high water levels, Berezina River is used for shipping. The whole river throughout its length in its natural state is used for fishery. Berezina ranks fourth in the Republic in terms of fish stocks and catch.

The main type of use of the site's territory is forestry activity (83% of the total area). All the other land is used for agriculture. Hay and grazing meadows are situated mainly in the Berezina floodplain. Productivity of the agricultural lands is quite low, and their use is low-efficient. About 2.2 thousand hectares of forest is in the green zone of the Svetlogorsk town. Despite the fact that most of these forests are waterlogged and, moreover, contaminated by radionuclides, the recreational load is quite high. Berezina River and numerous floodplain lakes are used by locals and tourists for recreation and amateur fishing.

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

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 > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non- forested peatlands		4		Unique
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> W: Shrub- dominated wetlands		3		Unique
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf. Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands		1		Unique
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> Xp: Permanent Forested peatlands		2		Unique

Human-made wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type
9: Canals and drainage channels or ditches			

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Phylum	Scientific name	Position in range / endemism / other
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	Cardamine bulbifera	Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	Carex rhizina	Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	Genista germanica	Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	Gladiolus imbricatus	Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
TRACHEOPHYTA/LYCOPODIOPSIDA	Huperzia selago	Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	lris sibirica	Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
TRACHEOPHYTA/LYCOPODIOPSIDA	Lycopodiella inundata	Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	Neottia ovata	Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	Pulsatilla pratensis	Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
TRACHEOPHYTA/POLYPODIOPSIDA	Salvinia natans	Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Viola uliginosa	Red Book of the Republic of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)

Optional text box to provide further information

The complex combination of hydrologic and geomorphic features determines the rich fauna and rare plant species present at the site. According to research studies, 670 species of vascular plants can be found belonging to 355 genus, 99 families, 55 orders, 6 classes and 5 divisions. Among them, there are 5 Lycopodium species, 6 species of horsetails, 11 species of ferns, 3 species of gymnosperms and 445 species of angiosperms (289 dicots and 156 monocots).

The degree of synanthropization of the vegetation cover is extremely low - anthropophytes are practically absent. This is explained by a weak anthropogenic impact on the natural complex of the reserve, as well as its considerable remoteness from travel communications and large industrial centers, a small population and poor agricultural development.

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Alces alces				
CHORDATA/AVES	Dendrocopos leucotos				Red Book of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
CHORDATAVAVES	Ficedula albicollis				Red Book of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Lutra lutra				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Muscardinus avellanarius				Red Book of Belarus:Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Sus scrofa				
CHORDATA/AVES	Falco subbuteo				Red Book of Belarus: Category IV of protection (Near Threatened, NT)

Optional text box to provide further information

Within the boundaries of the wetland around 200 species of terrestrial vertebrates have been registered, including 10 amphibian species, 6 reptile species, 146 bird species and 41 mammal species (more than a half of the Belarussian theriofauna).

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
D: Moist Mid-Latitude	Dfb: Humid continental (Humid with severe winter, no dry season, warm
	summer)

Long-term average annual temperature is $+6.9 \pm 0.10$ ° C, varying in different years from +4.9 (1940) to +8.70 ° C (1989, 2008). The warmest month of the year is July (+18.60 ° C). The coldest month is January (-5.40 ° C).

The duration of the period with average daily temperatures of above 0°C is of 256 days. The growing season is 207 days long. Frost free period lasts 148 days. The last frost in the air can be noticed on the 2nd of May and the first on 28th of September. The average air temperature in January ranges from 0.8 °C (1989) to -15.8 °C (1987). In July from +15.3 °C (1979) to +22.7 °C (2010). The average monthly temperature of the surface of the soil is to -7 °C in winter and 22 °C in July.

Long-term average annual amount of precipitation for the observation period is 671 ± 12 mm, varying in different years from 422 (in 1963) to 969 mm (1998).

See additional material for further information

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

above sea level (in metres)	a) Mnimum elevation above sea
above sea level (in metres)	a) Maximum elevation above sea
Entire river basin	
Upper part of river basin ☐	
Middle part of river basin ☑	
Lower part of river basin ☐	
More than one river basin ☐	
Not in river basin 🗆	
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.

The site belongs to Dnieper hydrological basin, Berezina River system. Berezina is the third largest tributary of the Dnieper River (Black Sea basin).

4.4.3 - Soil

Organic 🗹

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change Increase O Decrease O Unknown O

No available information \Box

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)?

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

According to soil-geographical zoning, the area belongs to Luban-Svetlogorsk-Kalinkovichi subarea of sod-podzolic boggy sand, loam and peat soils of lowland type, which is part of the South-Eastern District of Polesie. Typical soils of the wetland are:

- 1. Sod-podzolic sandy soils underlain by loam (pH 5.2);
- 2. Sod-podzolic and sod-podzolic swamped sandy soils (pH 4.4);
- 3. Peat soils (pH from 3.1 to 6.5);
- 4. Sod-podzolic and sod-waterlogged sandy soil (pH 5.5);
- 5. Alluvial (floodplain) turf swamped and peat soils (pH from 5.5 to 7.5).

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

riator porriariorioo	
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
Water inputs from surface water	/	No change

Water destination

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
To downstream catchment	No change
Feeds groundwater	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.

The site is located within the Berezina River system, tributary of the Dnieper River hydrological basin. The hydrographic network includes the main river Berezina and its left tributaries of first and second order river Ola and river Vydritsa, together with oxbow lakes located in the floodplain and marsh areas in the surrounding area.

The valley of the Berezina River within the territory is 2-8 km wide, the floodplain is waterlogged, overgrown with shrubs and partly – with forest. During spring flood and autumn rainfall, it is flooded up to 1.5 month with water level up to 0.2 – 3.5 meters.

See additional material for further information

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant erosion of sediments occurs on the site $\ensuremath{\mathbb{Z}}$

Sediment regime unknown

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

The average depth is 2-2.5 m, maximum - 6.5 m. Flow speed is 0.5-

0.8 m/s. The bed of the river is clean, just the river banks present vegetation overgrown. The bottom is flat and sandy. The banks have a different slope, from flat to steep, approximate height of 1- 2 meters. With the erosion of the river valley the slopes reach 15 meters in height. They are predominantly sandy and loamy, breakable and partially fixed by bushes.

4.4.6 - Water pH

Akaline (pH>7.4)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change

● Increase

O Decrease

O Unknown

O

Unknown

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change

● Increase

O Decrease

O Unknown

O

				_
- 11	nkr	OLA	m	

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic ☑	
(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ● Increase O Decrease O Unknown O	
Mesotrophic ☑	
^(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ② Increase ○ Decrease ○ Unknown ○	
Unknown □	

Please provide further information on dissolved or suspended nutrients (optional):

Water in the Berezina river belongs to the hydrocarbonate class of the calcium group. During the survey (May 1998), the total mineralization of water reached 275 mg/l. The basis of the chemical composition of water is formed by ions: bicarbonate and calcium, which account for about 80% of the total amount of ions. The content of bicarbonate ion is 176 mg/l, calcium ions - 48.5 mg/l. Water of the Vydritsa River is a hydrocarbonate class of calcium group. The chemical composition is characterized by increased mineralization (up to 325 mg/l). In the water mineral composition of the Ola River, a bicarbonate ion dominates; its value reaches 240 mg/l.

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 i) broadly similar ○ ii) significantly different ⑤ site itself:

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development □

Surrounding area has higher human population density □

Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use ☑

Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types □

Please describe other ways in which the surrounding area is different:

The main types of land use: Forestry

- logging,
- reforestation
- secondary forest (collection of berries, mushrooms, medicinal and industrial raw materials)

Agriculture

- perennial grasses
- tilled and crops
- grazing

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Food for humans	Sustenance for humans (e.g., fish, molluscs, grains)	Medium
Fresh water	Drinking water for humans and/or livestock	Medium
Wetland non-food products	Timber	Medium

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	Medium
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Storage and delivery of water as part of water supply systems for agriculture and industry	Medium
Pollution control and detoxification	Water purification/waste treatment or dilution	Medium

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance	
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium	
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	Medium	
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	Medium	
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	Medium	

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

The wetland, as part of t	he natural hydrographic network of the B	elorussian pre-Polesie,	has a great hydrological v	value for the adjacent
territories:				

- Keeps water during the dry season, supporting other water bodies;
 Maintains the groundwater level;
- Participates in the formation of underground hydrological systems, which supply with water surface wetland complexes; and
- Plays an important role in maintaining the high water quality in the region.

See additional material for further information

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

4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

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
ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland
iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples
iv) relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and neir existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological Contractor of the wetland

<no data available>

4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

5 - How is the Site managed? (Conservation and management)

5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

Public ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
National/Federal	→	
government	(e)	(a)

Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	>	
Cooperative/collective (e.g., farmers cooperative)	2	

Provide further information on the land tenure / ownership regime (optional):

within the Ramsar site:

The land owned by the state (land Svetlogorsk and Zhlobin executive committees) and transferred to the long-term use to Svetlogorsk and Zhlobin SFEs, agricultural enterprises.

in the surrounding area:

State land rented by farms and forestry enterprises.

5.1.2 - Management authority

1. Svetlogorsk and Zhlobin executive committees manage the wetland «Vydritsa». Operational management of reserve is carried out by the State Environmental Institution "Republican landscape reserve "Vydritsa."

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:

2. Zhlobin and Svetlogorsk district inspections of natural resources and environment protection are the bodies responsible for state control, protection and rational use of the wetland. Address of Svetlogorsk district inspection:

st. Aviatsionnaya, 70, Svetlogorsk, Belarus, 247433. tel.: +375 (2342) 71294, e-mail: swroos@mail.gomel.by

Address of Zhlobin district inspection: st. Petrovskogo, 9, Zhlobin, Belarus, 247210.

tel.: +375 (2334) 49961; e-mail: dlbprios@mail.gomel.by

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

Shutov Alexey Nikolaevich, director of the State Environmental Institution "Republican landscape reserve "Vydritsa."

Postal address:

Address: village Sudovitsa, Svetlogorsk district, Gomel region Telephone: +375 (2342) 2-09-47, +375 (29) 393-13-18

E-mail address: zakaznik-vydritsa@yandex.by

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

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	Medium impact	2	No change	2	No change

Biological resource use

orogical recourse acc						
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat Potential		Within the site	Changes	es In the surrounding area Change	
Logging and wood harvesting	Medium impact	Medium impact	2	No change	2	No change

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	Medium impact		2	No change	/	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	Medium impact	Medium impact	>	No change	>	No change
Fire and fire suppression	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	V	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

The main adverse factors within the Ramsar site are logging, impact of existing drainage network and river canalization on the hydrological regime of the site, fires and disturbance.

Logging is mainly conducted in coniferouis and broad-leafed forests, in lesser extent – in birch and alder forests. After establishment of the protected area the logging was limited, however there is still a threat of cutting of old broad-leafed forests on islands, important for maintaining of biodiversity in the region.

Only south-western and north-eastern parts of the site were exposed to hydromelioration. Thus, the negative impact of the drainage network has local character. Canalization of the Ola River has led to increased level of spring floods and to stronger impact of summer droughts.

Radioactive contamination of the territory as a result of the Chernobyl accident dramatically worsened the environmental conditions of the land and its management. Thus, about 10% of agricultural enterprises lands of Zhlobin area included in the wetland are contaminated with radionuclides.

in the surrounding area:

These negative factors also occur in adjacent areas.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site	
Republican Landscape Reserve	Vydritsa	https://zakaznik-vydritsa.by/	whole	

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Vydritsa	http://iba.ptushki.org/en/iba/17 /full	whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

la Strict Nature Reserve □
Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
Il National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
Il Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
V Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly of conservation through management intervention
/Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Legal protection		
Measures	Status	
Legal protection	Implemented	

Habitat

	Tablac			
	Measures	Status		
n	Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Implemented		

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Management of water abstraction/takes	Implemented
Regulation/management of wastes	Implemented
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Implemented
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Implemented

Other:

On the territory is forbidden:

- conducting drainage and other works related to the change of the landscape and existing hydrology, peat and sapropel extraction;
- continuous felling of width cutting area of over 100 meters;
- damage and destruction of trees and shrubs, the violation of the natural soil, except for contours that are on agricultural land, as well as when it is connected with forestry activities; burning of dry vegetation (burns); air processing of pesticides of agricultural and forest lands;
- diversion of water from reservoirs and water for industrial water supply, irrigation; discharge of untreated and inadequately treated sewage, industrial waste and consumption in water bodies and watercourses; the clearing of coastal and aquatic vegetation, except for areas designated for recreational;
- tourist camping, fires, car parking in places not designed for that purpose; movement off-road motorized vehicles, except vehicles carrying agricultural and forestry work;
- use floating craft with motors, except floating craft of rescue and environmental services;
- haymaking (before 30 June) in the breeding season of birds and animals, and livestock grazing in the coastal zone of the rivers Berezina, Vydritsa and Ola.

Recreation, building and construction of power lines, roads, pipelines and other facilities as well as the development of deposits of minerals in the reserve, is subject to the needs of economic development in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Belarus and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental protection of the Republic of Belarus and the Ministry of Architecture and Construction.

Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

The State program for the development of the protected areas system (2008-2014), provided retooling to the state environmental agency that manages the reserve Vydritsa.

A certification of the habitats with rare and endangered plant species, the most valuable plant communities, and vulnerable natural ecosystems is required in order to ensure the protection by land users.

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? No

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes O No

Yes O No

O

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning Yes O No

processes with another Contracting Party?

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

The State environmental agency of "Vydritsa" leads target activities aimed at environmental education within the reserve. Work with local residents, students and legal entities is also carried out. Promotional materials are available.

Information about the reserve and its natural value for the conservation of biological diversity has been published in the pages of the regional and national press, television, radio and internet.

However, given the high value of the protected area for the conservation of biological diversity and the high recreational potential, it is of relevance to create a data center in the reserve.

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant): https://zakaznik-vydritsa.by/

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? No need identified

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

	Monitoring	Status
Animal community		Implemented

Case studies of landscape and biological diversity in the reserve have been carried out in the preparation of the scientific substantiation of the protected area "Vydritsa."

In 1998, detailed studies of the flora and fauna were conducted by experts from the Scientific and Practical Center of Bioresources of NAS and the V.F.Kuprevich Institute of Experimental Botany of NASB. Systematic lists of the major groups of vertebrates were prepared, rare and vulnerable species were identified and an assessment of the status of the wetland was produced.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

The Red Book of Belarus: Rare and endangered species of wild plants / Ch. Editorial Board.: L.I. Khoruzhik (preds.), L.M. Sushchenya, V.I. Parfenov and others - 2nd ed. - Minsk: BelEn, 2006. - 456.

Treasures of Belarusian Nature: Areas of international importance for biodiversity conservation /

A.V. Kozulin [and others]. - 2nd ed. - Mn.: Belarus, 2005. - 215.

Mongin, E. 2008. Great snipe population, habitat management and conservation aspects in Belarus: a review. In: Economical, social and cultural aspects in biodiversity conservation. Proceedings of the 1st North Vidzeme Biosphere Reserve international scientific conference of 23 November, 2006, Valmiera, Latvia. (eds: Opermanis, O., Whitelaw, G.). Press of the University of Latvia. Pp.31-38.

Levy S.V. http://iba.ptushki.org/en/iba/17/full

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

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

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

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available:

v. site management plan

<no file available

vi. other published literature

<1 file(s) uploaded>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site



The floodplain contains numerous oxbows (Alexander Najdenov, 15-07-



Floodplain oak wood is one of the most valuable biotops of the site (Alexander Najdenov, 11-05-2011)



Vvdritsa River flows into the Berezina River within the site's territory (*Alexande Najdenov*, 14-05-2011)



Ramsar site Vvdritsa is situated in the Berezina River floodplain (Alexander Najdenov, 15-07-2011)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2013-03-29