

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 25 November 2015 Update version, previously published on 1 January 2008

Hungary Szaporca



Designation date 11 April 1979
Site number 182
Coordinates 45°47'12"N 18°5'22"E
Area 289,50 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 wetland site covers the territory of an ox-bow lake that developed naturally from the main arm of the river Drava. Before regulation of the river the site was flooded regularly. River regulation created permanent separation between the river and its former riverbed. Various wetland habitats along this fragmented riverbed represent well the different stages of biological succession.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Name	Ákos Gáborik, conservation officer
Institution/agency	Duna-Dráva Nemzeti Park Directorate
Postal address	H-7625 Pécs, Tettye tér 9. Hungary
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2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year 2013

To year 2015

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

Szaporca

Unofficial name (optional) | Szaporca, Ó-Dráva meder

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 No (Update) The boundary has been delineated more accurately (Update) B. Changes to Site area No change to area

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>

Boundaries description (optional)

The Ramsar Site follows the boundary of the Duna-Dráva National Park around the shoreline of the ancient riverbed of the Dráva at Szaporca. No area has been removed from the Ramsar site. The description of the site boundary is the same as in the 2006 version of the RIS, because the site is and has always been designated for the ancient riverbed (oxbow lake), not for the present riverbed or the gallery forest alongside the river Dráva. Unfortunately, an older version of the map contained, incorrectly, a stretch along the river Dráva. The boundary on the map has been better adjusted to the land parcel boundary and thus to the actual boundary of the near-natural habitats (gallery forest and oxbow lake).

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	County of Baranya
b) What is the nearest town or population	South-west from town of Pécs.

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries?

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party?

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 289.5

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries 289.42

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Pannonic

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

Other ecosystem services provided

The Szaporca Ó-Dráva-meder (ancient riverbed of Dráva at Szaporca) is a typical example of a nearnatural oxbow. Considering its close to natural status it has a special value because it supports the species richness of the river Dráva and its floodplain communities, including floating vegetation communities (Lemno-Utricularietum, Nuphareto-Castalietum)

- ☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities
- ☑ 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

Criterion 2: This wetland has in recent years supported critically endangered species of plants and animals. This wetland complex supports the survival of endangered and vulnerable animal and plant species.

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion	Species contribut under criterion 3 5 7	es n	Pop. Size Period of pop. Est. occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
AVES	Accipiter gentilis	Northern Goshawk		000			LC OTSF				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	Accipiter nisus	Eurasian Sparrowhawk		000			LC OTSF				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	Alauda arvensis	Eurasian Skylark;SkyLark		000			LC OTSF				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Alcedo atthis	Common Kingfisher		000			LC OTSF			Annex I of the EU Birds Directive	The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	<u>**</u> **	Ferruginous Duck	Ø000				NT ●# ●#		V	Annex I of the EU Birds Directive	Aythya nyroca is particularly noteworthy as a breeding species in the area. Criterion 4: The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Botaurus stellaris	Eurasian Bittern		000			LC •#			Annex I of the EU Birds Directive	The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	ECL.	Common Buzzard					LC •#				2 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Ciconia ciconia	White Stork		000			LC OTS			Annex I of the EU Birds Directive	The site shelters internationally threatened species.

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion	cor		Pop. Size Period of pop. Est. occurren	IUCN Red List		CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA / AVES	Ciconia nigra	Black Stork					LC Sign			Annex I of the EU Birds Directive	The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	aeruginosus	Western Marsh Harrier			000		LC			Annex I of the EU Birds Directive	1 pair The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	Coturnix coturnix	Common Quail					LC SW				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Cuculus canorus	Common Cuckoo			000		LC © SSS				5-6 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
1	Dendrocopos major	Great Spotted Woodpecker			000		LC ©SS				6-7 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
/	Dendrocopos minor	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker					LC				1-2 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	martius	Black Woodpecke	r 🗆 🗷 🗆 🗆				LC			Annex I of the EU Birds Directive	1-2 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	Falco subbuteo	Eurasian Hobby,Northern Hobby					LC ©SF				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
MAMMALIA	Felis silvestris	Wildcat	2 000		000		LC			Annex IV of the EU Habitats Directive; EU CITES All; Bern Convention Appendix II	
CHORDATA / AVES	Galerida cristata	Crested Lark					LC				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	chloropus	Common Moorhen					LC ©SS				8-10 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
	Ixobrychus minutus	Little Bittern					LC			Annex I of the EU Birds Directive	3-4 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Locustella Iuscinioides	Savi's Warbler					LC				2-3 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	megarhynchos	Common Nightingale					LC				4-5 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	Lutra lutra	European Otter	2 000				LC	V		Annex IV and II of the EU Habitats Directive; Bern Convention Appendix II	
AVES	Merops apiaster	European Bee- eater					LC				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Milvus migrans	Black Kite					LC			Annex I of the EU Birds Directive	1 pair The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	daubentonii		2 000							Annex IV of the EU Habitats Directive; EU CITES All; Bern Convention Appendix II	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion	Species contributes under criterion 3 5 7 8	Pop. Size Period of pop. Est. occurrence	IUCN Red A	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
AVES	nycticorax	Black-crowned Night Heron;Black- crowned Night- Heron				LC Sign			Annex I of the EU Birds Directive	The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	Oriolus oriolus	Eurasian Golden Oriole				LC Sign				2-3 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Picus viridis	European Green Woodpecker				LC Sign				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
MAMMALIA	pipistrellus	Common Pipistrelle;commo pipistrelle	or 🗷 🗆 🗆 🗆			LC Sign			Annex IV of the EU Habitats Directive ; EU CITES A III ; Bern Convention Appendix II	
AVES	Rallus aquaticus	Water Rail				LC				8-10 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	Remiz pendulinus	Eurasian Penduline Tit				LC ©SS				1-2 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	Riparia riparia	Bank Swallow;Sand Martin				LC Sign				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	Saxicola torquatus	Common Stonechat		10000		LC Sign				1-2 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	Sitta europaea	Eurasian Nuthatcl		10000		LC Sign				3-4 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	# GCL	Tawny Owl				LC Sign				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	Sylvia communis	Common Whitethroat		10000		LC Sign				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	Sylvia nisoria	Barred Warbler				LC Sign			Annex I of the EU Birds Directive	The site shelters internationally threatened species.
AVES	ruficollis	Little Grebe				LC				4-5 pairs The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Tyto alba	Barn Owl				LC				The site shelters internationally threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Upupa epops	Common Hoopoe;Eurasian Hoopoe				LC Sign				The site shelters internationally threatened species.

Criterion 2: This wetland has in recent years supported critically endangered species of plants and animals. This wetland complex supports the survival of endangered and vulnerable animal and

3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

RIS for Site no. 182, Szaporca, Hungary

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
Soft wood gallery forests (Salicetum albae-fragilis)		In botanical sense the wetland belongs to the Titelicum in Eupannonicum of the larger area of Pannonicum.	
Willowpoplar gallery forests (Saliceto- Populetum)		In botanical sense the wetland belongs to the Titelicum in Eupannonicum of the larger area of Pannonicum.	
Hard wood gallery forests (Fraxino pannonicae-Ulmetum)		In botanical sense the wetland belongs to the Titelicum in Eupannonicum of the larger area of Pannonicum.	

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

4.1 - Ecological character

As a complex riverine ecosystem, the wetland site offers appropriate feeding and breeding sites for a diverse wildlife. Ecological processes are still complete and human interference is not significant.

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 > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		1		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands		2		

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
Carex strigosa		
Carpesium abrotanoides		
Dryopteris carthusiana		
Hottonia palustris		
Iris pseudacorus		
Nymphaea alba		
Nymphoides peltata		
Sagittaria sagittifolia		
Salvinia natans		
Stratiotes aloides		
Trapa natans		
Urtica kioviensis		

4.3.2 - Animal species

<no data available>

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

The climate is continental with the influence of Mediterranean winds.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)	93
a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in	-

Middle part of river basin

✓

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.

Hydrographically, the oxbows are inextricably linked to the river Dráva. The narrow left-side valley-plain of the Dráva belongs to the catchment of the site.

The wetland has no independent catchment area, it belongs to the Dráva river.

4.4.3 - Soil

Organic 🗹

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)

Soils associated with riverine ecosystems are predominant along the river Dráva flood plain (83%). Bedrock types are usually clay or sandy clay. Its calcium carbonate content varies widely.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Usually permanent water present	

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.

According to the hydrographical classification the site is moderately wet with surplus water. River Dráva may flood the area in summer and in autumn, however, the area is charaterised by relatively low water in winter. Local watercourses usually carry much water at the beginning of summer.

Water supply is managed through sluices that are connected to the river Dráva.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

<no data available>

4.4.6 - Water pH

Unknown 🗹

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Unknown 🗹

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 O ii) significantly different o site itself:

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

The immediate surroundings of the site are the former floodplain of the Drava river is formed from alluvial sediments (mostly sand and clay). The general land use is agriculture, around the site there are large arable lands.

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

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Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Wetland non-food products	Livestock fodder	Medium

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	High

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Scientific and educational	Educational activities and opportunities	Medium
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	Medium
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	Medium

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

a) within the Ramsar site:

Arable land: 84 ha; Grassland: 30 ha; Marshland: 52 ha; Forest: 62 ha; Fallow: 10 ha; Other: 17 ha. Total: 257 ha

b) in the surroundings/catchment: ploughlands, hay production, other agricultural activities.

Within the site: 100s

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

<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

ı ub	lic owners	u III

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area		
Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc.	2			

Private ownership

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

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

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167 ha, Duna-Dráva National Park Directorate 57 ha, prívate 29 ha, other 4 ha

b) in the surrounding area:

Cooperative farms or privately owned

5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:	Duna-Dráva National Park Directorate
Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:	Ákos Gáborik, zoological officer
Postal address:	H-7625 Pécs, Tettye tér 9. Hungary Phone: +36 72 517 200 fax:+36 72 517 219

E-mail address: gaborik@ddnp.kvvm.hu

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Water regulation

affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Drainage	Medium impact		 ✓	No change		No change

Biological resource use

Didiogram roodaraa aaa						
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	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		2	No change		No change

Pollution

Foliation						
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Agricultural and forestry effluents	Medium impact			No change	/	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

a) within the Ramsar site:

Water regulation carried out between 1986-1990 had a negative impact on the wetland site. There is a strong pressure of anglers on the wetland especially at Lake Kisinci. Due to the draining Solidago canadensis and Cercis siliquastrum are spreading in the site.

b) in the surrounding area:

Intensified agricultural activities in the surroundings resulted in decline of water quality.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	Kelet-Dáva (SCI)		whole

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
national park	Duna-Dráva National Park		whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for

landscape/seascape conservation and recreation

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Habita

donat		
Measures	Status	
Hydrology management/restoration	Proposed	

Human Activities

Measures	Status	
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Implemented	

Other

Fishing with nets is prohibited in the area. Angling is allowed only from the shores, outside the breeding season and with restrictions.

Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

The oxbow can only be preserved by intermittent water recharges from the river Dráva. This is becoming increasingly more difficult as the regulation of the river has resulted in deepening of the riverbed. It is of utmost importance to establish a thin culvert connecting the river with the oxbow.

Due to vegetation succession, the habitats and species diversity are declining at an increasing rate. Succession will lead to the swamp being overgrown with shrubs and riparian forests, and eventually the wetland habitat may rapidly disappear, as it has happened with numerous remnant oxbows along the river Dráva. The first step of restoration is provision of water supply. Next, the surrounding 'ameliorated' agricultural lands will have to be converted to grasslands. The riparian zone will have to be converted to softwood gallery woodland.

In the long term, all arable lands within the horseshoe-shaped oxbow bed will have to be eliminated, and areas with favourable water conditions will have to be forested with near-natural stands. Chemical use in the surrounding area will have to be eliminated, as the seepage affects wildlife and accelerates the silting process. Grazing in the wooded pastures nearby is not solved presently; state support is needed to maintain livestock and promote traditional land use forms.

There are plans to refill the water level two times a year from Fekete-víz, the works will start in fall of 2013 and be finished spring of 2014.

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 \odot

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:

Trips are organised to demonstrate the values and functions of the wetland by the Duna-Dráva National Park Directorate.

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? Please select a value

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

<no data available>

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Á, Uherkovich (eds., 1995): The fauna of the Drava region I. Studia Pannonica (A) Series HistoricoNaturalis in Hungarian, Baranya Megyei Múzeumok Igazgatósága, Pécs

Á, Uherkovich (eds., 1998): The fauna of the Drava region II. Studia Pannonica (A) Series HistoricoNaturalis in Hungarian, Baranya Megyei Múzeumok Igazgatósága, Pécs

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

<no data available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



The old riverbed of the Dráva River at Szaporca in summer (*Mr. Attila Komlós*; *Duna-Dráva National Park Directorate*, 08-07-2013)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<no file available>

Date of Designation 1979-04-11