

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 27 April 2022 Update version, previously published on : 1 January 1998

UkraineKugurlui Lake



Designation date 23 November 1995
Site number 760
Coordinates 45°18'02"N 28°39'32"E

Area 13 493,00 ha

https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/760 Created by RSIS V.1.6 on - 27 April 2022

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

Lake Kugurlui relates to the western group of the Danube freshwater floodplain water bodies. It is located 10 km south-west of the village of Novosilske on the border between Reni and Izmail districts of Odesa Region of Ukraine. Lake Kugurlui is a shallow water body. It is represented by the southern part of Yalpug Liman with which it is connected by a wide canal. The surface area of Kugurlui greatly varies depending on the water content of the year.

In the north-eastern part Kugurlui joins to the Danube by a narrow but deep canal called Repida. The water flow in the canal is rather rapid during the spring flood, though sometimes a reverse water current from the Danube to Kugurlui is recorded as well.

In the Ukrainian Danube region, Kugurlui Lake ranks second according to the size (after the Danube Delta) as a wetland of international importance. Water level fluctuations of the lake often causes changes in the ecological capacity of the Site and the quality of habitats which are actively used by hydrophilous organisms, especially by waterbirds.

The Site supports 240 species of birds. 42 species of them have different protected statuses, including White Pelican, Pygmy Cormorant, Redbreasted Goose, White-eyed Pochard, White-tailed Eagle. Species diversity of birds and the abundance of particular species allow considering habitats of Lake Kugurlui as important for birds (IBA). The Site also is a habitat more than 40 species of mammals, 8 of which have a global protection status or are listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine.

Lake Kugurlui holds 133 species of flowering plants belonging to 91 genera, 49 families. Geophytes, hemicryptophytes and floating forms dominate. 7 species of plants are rare and protected. Communities of Saliceta albae, formations of Trapa natans and Salvinia natans are typical for the Site.

Local population uses Kugurlui for fish-breeding and fishing. The water is used for irrigation of agricultural fields and private land plots. The reed harvesting on the lake shores is used for local needs and for export.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1	- 1	Name	and	address	of the	compiler	of this RIS
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Responsible compiler

National Ramsar Administrative Authority

Institution/agency Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine

Postal address 35, Vasilya Lipkivs'kogo Street

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

From year 2012

To year 2018

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

Kugurlui Lake

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 O
^(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 the area has increased
^(Update) The Site area has been calculated more accurately ☑
^(Update) The Site has been delineated more accurately ☑
(Update) The Site area has increased because of a boundary extension
(Update) The Site area has decreased because of a boundary restriction □
^(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 Site is located in Odesa Region, in the steppe zone of Ukraine, in the Danube downstream. The Site encompasses Lake Kugurlui. In the north-west, the Site borders on the settlement of Novosilske, in the north-east – on Matroska and Larzhanka, in the south - on agricultural lands

The boundary overlaps with the Emerald Network Site Systema Dunaiskykh Ozer (UA0000142).

In 2021 the boundaries of the Site was delineated more accurately. The area was calculated based on the Land Cadastral Map of Ukraine using GIS tools.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?

Reni and Izmail districts of Odesa Region

b) What is the nearest town or population centre? Novosilske Village

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): 13493

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

13490.748

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

ggp	
Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
Marine Ecoregions of the World (MEOW)	Black Sea
EU biogeographic regionalization	Steppic

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

According to geobotanical zoning, the Site is located within Reni-Kiliia region of the Danube-Dniester district of gramineous and wormwood-gramineous steppes and reedbeds of the Black Sea-Azov steppe sub-province of the Pontic steppe province of the Steppe-subregion (zone) of Eurasian steppe region (National Atlas of Ukraine, 2009).

According to zoogeographical zoning of Ukraine, the Site belongs to the Danube-Dniester sub-area of the Azov-Black Sea area of the Azov-Black Sea region of the Pontic district of the steppe province of the Mediterranean-Central Asian sub-region of Palearctic region (National Atlas of Ukraine, 2009).

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

Due to its marsh vegetation, the Site plays an important ecological role in the filtration of water. The Site mitigates the climate of the region during the arid summer period. It is a source of clean water for the local Hydrological services provided population and important water source for domestic animals.

> Regulation of water regime in Lake Yalpug is carried out via Lake Kugurlui, by supplying the water from the Danube.

The reed is an important resource of the Site, used for economic needs by the local people. Lake Other ecosystem services provided Kugurlui provides habitats for game species of animals, the southern part of the Site is converted into a system of fishponds.

The Site supports valuable wetland vegetation and provides habitats for animals, especially birds, during important periods of their life cycles. Due to its biological and landscape diversity the Site is traditionally Other reasons used for research, and as an area to implement international scientific projects on the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources of the region, as well as for educational and environmental awareness activities.

- ☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities
- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

The Site is a crucial area of concentration and conservation of abundant biodiversity. 133 species of higher plants and 39 species of algae are found in the territory as well as about 240 species of birds, over 40 species of mammals, 44 species of fish, 11 species of amphibians, 5 species of reptiles. The most tvoical and numerous species of birds are representatives of Anseriformes (Anser albifrons - in some years up to 20,000 ind., on the average - 10,000 ind, Anser anser - 500); Gruiformes (Fulica atra -12,000); Pelecaniformes (Phalacrocorax carbo – 3,000-5,000 ind.).

- Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions
- ☑ Criterion 5 : >20.000 waterbirds

Overall waterbird numbers 21.000

Start year 2012

Source of data: Unpublished original data

- ☑ Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population
- ☑ Criterion 7 : Significant and representative fish

Justification

Lake Kugurlui supports 39 species of fish, among which Leuciscus idus, Carassius carassius, Gymnocephalus schraetzer are listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine, and 7 species are protected according to the Bern Convention (Alosa immaculate, Aspius aspius, Pelecus cultratus, Rhodeus sericeus, Vimba vimba).

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 List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Plantae								
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Aldrovanda vesiculosa	/	V		EN		listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Anacamptis palustris	 ✓	V		LC		listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Cladium mariscus	/	V		LC		listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Epipactis palustris	/	V		LC		listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Leucojum aestivum	/	V		LC		Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ POLYPODIOPSIDA	Marsilea quadrifolia	/	V		LC		listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Nymphoides peltata	✓	/		LC		listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ POLYPODIOPSIDA	Salvinia natans		/		LC		listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - NE	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Trapa natans		/		LC		listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - NE	

Cita is important in maintaining the goographic range of a plant appairs/sammunity	
Site is important in maintaining the geographic range of a plant species/community.	

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	Species contributes under criterion	Size	Period of pop. Est.	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
Others										
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Acherontia atropos								listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Aromia moschata								listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Bombus argillaceus								listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Bombus muscorum								listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Calosoma sycophanta								listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - EN	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Discoelius zonalis								listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Felis silvestris					CR			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	

Phylum	Scientific name	2	qui u cri	alif inde	er ion		Spe contri un crite	butes der rion	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Hipparchia statilinus		00									LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	lphiclides podalirius	¥	0][listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Lutra lutra	¥	7	0			2 🗆					NT	¥.		listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - NE	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Mustela lutreola	¥	7	0			2 🗆					CR			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - EN	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Palingenia Iongicauda	V	7	0			<i>i</i>								listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - EN	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Papilio machaon	¥	90	0			<i>i</i>								listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Plecotus austriacus	С	00	0			<i>7</i> 🗆					LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - rare	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Proserpinus proserpina		00	0			<i>i</i>					DD			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Saturnia pyri		00	0			<i>7</i> 🗆								listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Stizoides tridentatus	С	00	0			<i>7</i> 🗆								listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	
Fish, Mollusc ar	nd Crustacea															
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Abramis brama][2 🗆					LC				
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Alosa immaculata	V	0)(<i>[</i>]	V				VU			Bern Convention annex II	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Blicca bjoerkna	¥	90][2 🗆	Ø.				LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII			00][2 🗆					LC				
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Cyprinus carpio											VU				
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Esox lucius		30	30]6	7 🗆]			LC				
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Gymnocephalus schraetser	V	0	0			0	2)			LC			Bern Convention - annex III	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Leuciscus aspius	V	0	0			0	2				LC			Bern Convention annex III	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Leuciscus idus	V	7	0			0	V				LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Pelecus cultratus	V	0	0			<i>7</i> 🗆	2				LC			Bern Convention annex II	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Perca fluviatilis		םכ									LC				
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Rhodeus sericeus	V	0	0			7 🗆	2				LC			Bern Convention - annex III	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Rutilus rutilus		00	0			2 🗆					LC				
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Sander lucioperca	С	00	0			<i>i</i>					LC				
ACTINOPTERYGII	Scardinius erythrophthalmus				_							LC				
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Silurus glanis			_								LC				
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Tinca tinca											LC				

Phylum	Scientific name	Speci qualifi unde criteri	ies er ion	Species contribut under criterio	es Por		% occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Vimba vimba	\mathbf{Z}		V - V				LC			Bern Convention annex II	
Birds												
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas platyrhynchos				750	2012-2018		LC				The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas strepera				250	2012-2018					listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anser albifrons				800	2012-2018		LC				The Site supports species during migratory and wintering periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anser anser				400	2012-2018		LC				The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anser erythropus				5	2012-2018		VU		\checkmark	listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ardea alba				400	2021-2018		LC				The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ardeola ralloides	77			200	2012-2018		LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC, Bern Convention - Annex II	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aythya ferina	V			550	2012-2018		VU				The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aythya nyroca	V			300	2012-2018		NT		√	listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Botaurus stellaris	77			30	2021-2018		LC			Bern Convention - Annex II	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Branta ruficollis				200	2012-2018		VU		\mathscr{J}	listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	The species occurs here during migrations and wintering.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Chlidonias hybrida	~			150	2021-2018		LC			Bern Convention - Annex II	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Chroicocephalus ridibundus				700	2012-2018						occurs here during migration and wintering
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ciconia ciconia				10	2012-2018		LC			isted in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Circus aeruginosus	Z			50	2021-2018		LC			Bern Convention - Annex II	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Cygnus columbianus bewickii	2 00			20	2012-2018					listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC Bern Convention - Annex II	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Cygnus olor		2 🗆		600	2012-2018	1	LC				The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods. Pop: Black Sea
CHORDATA/ AVES	Fulica atra				600	2012-2018		LC				The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Haliaeetus albicilla	ZZ			25			LC	V	V	listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	Two pairs nest here. The Site is important for support the species during the wintering.

Phylum	Scientific name	qua un crit	ecies lifies ider erion	Specie contribution under criterio	ites r on	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Himantopus himantopus	V				5	2012-2018		LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus	V				30	2012-2018					listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - EN	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ixobrychus minutus					50	2012-2018		LC				The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Limosa limosa					50	2012-2018		NT				
CHORDATA/ AVES	Mergus serrator					5	2012-2018		LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Microcarbo pygmeus	V				1500	2012-2018	1.6				listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - EN	Up to 300 pairs breed here. The Site is also important for support the species during summer forage migrations. Pop: BLACK SEA & MEDITERRANEAN
CHORDATA/ AVES	Netta rufina					1200	2012-2018	3.6	LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods. Up to 300 pairs breed here. Pop: Black Sea & East Mediterranean
CHORDATA/ AVES	Numenius arquata	2							NT			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - EN	The Site is used as a summering ground.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Numenius phaeopus	2							LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - EN	The Site is used as a summering ground.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Nycticorax nycticorax	V				450	2012-2018		LC			Bern Convention - Annex II	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Pelecanus crispus	1				40	2012-2018		VU	\mathscr{J}		listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - EN	Approx. 5 pairs breed here.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Pelecanus onocrotalus	V				600	2012-2018	1.6	LC		V	listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - EN	Feeds and rests here during migration Pop: Europe & Western Asia (bre)
CHORDATA/ AVES	Phalacrocorax carbo					6000	2012-2018		LC				The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Platalea Ieucorodia	V				50	2012-2018		LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Plegadis falcinellus	1				350	2012-2018		LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Podiceps cristatus					700	2021-2018		LC				The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Podiceps grisegena	1				40	2021-2018		LC			Bern Convention - Annex II	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Podiceps nigricollis	V				150	2021-2018		LC			Bern Convention - Annex II	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Porzana parva	V				30	2021-2018					Bern Convention - Annex II	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Porzana porzana	1				50	2021-2018		LC			Bern Convention - Annex II	The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.
CHORDATA/ AVES	Rallus aquaticus					60	2021-2018		LC				The Site supports species during breeding and migratory periods.

Phylum	Scientific name	Spec quali und crite 2 4	ifies co der	Species ontributes under criterion	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Sterna nilotica				20	2021-2018						
CHORDATA/ AVES	Tadorna ferruginea				10	2012-2018		LC			listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Vanellus vanellus				20	2012-2018		NT				

¹⁾ Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

Fauna of Lake Kugurlui is quite typical for the wetlands, located near large rivers in the south-western part of the Black Sea region. Waterbirds dominate among bird species. Rather large size of the lake, availability of mosaic reedbeds along the shores, trees in the floodplain, and large-leaved aquatic plants attract birds with different breeding biology – Charadriiformes, Anseriformes, Passeriformes, Gruiformes, Pelecaniformes, Falconiformes, etc. At the same time, small depth of the water body and meso-oligotrophic properties of water provide aquatic invertebrates, fish, amphibians, birds and mammals, which feed on them, with a sufficient amount of nutrients, virtually throughout all seasons of the year. In winter, Lake Kugurlui can freeze and the number of animals declines, but these periods don't last long. That is why, large gatherings of birds (primarily Anseriformes) are found there during winter; in some years, these the bird concentrations include more than 20,000 ind. Due to the absence of the qualitative tourism and recreation infrastructure, the anthropogenic pressure on Kugurlui is relatively low thus allowing a number of rare species of all taxa to breed or survive in important periods of their life cycles.

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
C1.2. Permanent mesotrophic lakes, ponds and pools		Community of Salvinia natans Community of Aldrovanda vesiculosa Community of Charophyta algae	Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention

Optional text box to provide further information

Main habitats: reedbeds (Phragmites australis) with areas of boggy, floodplain, open-water and halophytic communities of such species as Agrostis gigantea, A. stolonifera, Alopecurus pratensis, Azolla caroliniana, A. filiculoides, Carex acuta, C. acutiformis and C. pseudocyperus, Elytrigia maeotica and E. repens, Limonium hypanicumi and L. meyeri, Nymphaea alba, Nymphoides peltata, Nuphar lutea, Phragmites australis, Potamogeton pectinatus and P. perfoliatus, Puccinellia distans, Salix alba and S. cinerea, Schoenoplectus lacustris, Typha angustifolia and T. Latifolia, Trapa natans. Lakeshores are located in the Dnieper floodplain. A fourth of its area is occupied by beds of higher aquatic vegetation (consisting of Phragmites australis, Typha angustifolia, Schoenoplectus lacustris, Butomus umbellatus, etc.). Submerged vegetation (primarily Potamogeton pectinatus and P. crispus) covers over 10%, while emergent plants (Trapa natans, Nuphar lutea) – up to 20% of the water surface.

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

4.1 - Ecological character

The area is a typical wetland represented by Lake Kugurlui and its vicinities. Fluctuations in the water level regime of this water body often lead to changes in the ecological capacity of the Site and the quality of its habitats which are actively used by hydrophilic organisms, primarily waterbirds. Since the water exchange of the lake with the Danube and adjacent water bodies is regulated, the size and depth of Kugurlui depend not only on the natural conditions, but also on the functioning of hydrotechnical facilities.

The climate is moderate continental with short, mild winters and long, hot summers. The annual precipitation is 350-400 mm, annual evaporation is 800-900 mm. In some years, the lake occasionally freezes, but not longer than for 1 month. The water level in the lake depends on the water level in the Danube.

The most typical habitats, adjacent to Kugurlui, are meadow-boggy and boggy areas as well as salt marshes. The soils are mostly loamy. The lake bottom is covered by a high amount of silt, easily forming a suspension in the water column, even by weak movements of adjacent waters. Kugurlui is used by the local people for fish breeding and fish catching. The water is used for irrigation of agricultural fields and private land plots. The scrub harvested on Kugurlui shores are used both for local needs and for export.

The main vegetation is reed-beds with areas of marshland, meadows, open water and halophyte communities. Aquatic vegetation is widely represented and divides on free-floating, rooted to the bottom and submerged plants. Water vegetation covers more than 10% of water surface. Marsh (air-aquatic) vegetation is represented by phytocenosis with high, middle and short grass species. Marshes with high grass species are formed with dominating Phragmites australis, Typha angustifolia, Scirpus lacustris. Small grass air-aquatic associations are wide-spread in the lower part of lake, but they do not cover large areas. Meadow vegetation also does not cover large areas due to land melioration along rivers whose banks were covered by the vegetation earlier. Meadow vegetation is formed on elevated places of the shore. Halophyte vegetation is a part of coastal vegetation and is genetically connected to marsh and meadow associations. It is represented by halophyte and meadow-halophyte species that grow on saline soils. Solonetz-saline vegetation within the wetland belongs to Thero-Salicornietalia class. Meadow-halophyte vegetation is the most spread among other vegetation within the shore line. Forest vegetation around the lake is represented by willow-poplar forests (Salix alba, S. fragilis, Populus alba) along banks of water streams and the main river-bed of Danube River and Kugurlui Lake. Steppe vegetation could be found on slopes and sliding shores. It is heavily transformed due to grazing and is preserved better at the places where animals cannot reach it. The most preserved areas are feather-grass – fescue steppe (Stipa lessingiana, S. capillata and Festuca valesiaca) and fescue steppe (F. valesiaca). Fragments of steppe associations with Agropyron pectinatum, Koeleria cristata could be found often. The most spread associations include dominating Botryochloa ischaemum, which cover all the eroded slopes around the lake.

Fauna of Lake Kugurlui is quite typical for the wetlands, located near large rivers in the south-western part of the Black Sea region. Waterbirds dominate among bird species. Rather large size of the lake, availability of mosaic reedbeds along the shores, trees in the floodplain, and large-leaved aquatic plants attract birds with different breeding biology – Charadriiformes, Anseriformes, Passeriformes, Gruiformes, Pelecaniformes, Falconiformes, etc. At the same time, small depth of the water body and meso-oligotrophic properties of water provide aquatic invertebrates, fish, amphibians, birds and mammals, which feed on them, with a sufficient amount of nutrients, virtually throughout all season

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	6500	Representative
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		3		
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Ts: Seasonal/ intermittent freshwater marshes/ pools on inorganic soils		3		

Human-made wetlands

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

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Invasive alien plant species

Phylum	Scientific name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Ambrosia polystachya	Actual (major impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Amorpha fruticosa	Actual (major impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Centaurea diffusa	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Elaeagnus angustifolia	Actual (major impacts)	increase
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Grindelia squarrosa	Actual (major impacts)	increase

4.3.2 - Animal species

Invasive alien animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Canis aureus	Actual (minor impacts)	increase
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Lepomis auritus	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Nyctereutes procyonoides	Actual (minor impacts)	No change

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

4.4.1 - Climate

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

Climate is temperate and continental with long, hot and often arid summer and short, mild winter with little snow and often thaws. Average temperature in summer is +22.8°C, in winter -5 – -10°C. A standard depth of ground freeze is 0.8 m.

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)
a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)
Entire river basin
Upper part of river basin \Box
Middle part of river basin $\ \Box$
Lower part of river basin 🗹
More than one river basin \Box
Not in river basin \Box
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 Danube River Basin		

4.4.3 - Soil

Minera	1 ☑
(Update) Changes at RIS update	e No change ⊙ Increase O Decrease O Unknown O
Organi	c ☑
(Update) Changes at RIS updat	e No change ⊙ Increase O Decrease O Unknown O
No available informatio	
Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrologics conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)	Yes O No 💿

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

The soils in habitats adjacent to Lake Kugurlui are mostly loamy. The lake bottom is covered by a high amount of silt, easily forming a suspension in water, even by weak movements of adjacent waters. The upper part (up to 2.5 m) is represented by layers of silted light and heavy sandy loams and dusty sands. Lower layers are represented by loam silts in fluid consistency with limestone and organic residues.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Usually permanent water present	No change

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 inputs from precipitation		No change
Water inputs from groundwater		No change

Water destination

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
To downstream catchment	No change

Stability of water regime

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Water levels largely stable	No change

Please add any comments on the water regime and its determinants (if relevant). Use this box to explain sites with complex hydrology:

Lake Kugurlui lies in the Danube River floodplain and is hydrologically linked to it. It has also connection with Lakes Kartal and Yalpug. Total catchment area is 4430 km2. Water level depends on the water level of the Danube River.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site 🗹	
^(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ⊙ Increase ○ Decrease ○ Unknown ○	
Sediment regime unknown □	

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

Amounts of organic substances in the water vary from 14.05 to 18.06 mg/l.

4.4.6 - Water pH

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

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

Unknown \square

Please provide further information on pH (optional):

Studies on hydrochemical water indices, carried out in 2000-2001, have shown that pH ranged between 6.75 -8.85 (Denga, Medinets, 2002).

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change

● Increase O Decrease O Unknown O

Unknown \square

Please provide further information on salinity (optional):

Water is fresh or lightly salted. Mineralization is 0.7-1.7 g/l.

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Mesotrophic 🗹

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

Unknown \square

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

The content of phosphorus in the bottom deposits varies within 426-725 mg/kg, the content of total nitrogen - 34.8-50.2 mg/kg. The concentration of organic substances in the bottom sediments is 47.5-49.3 mg/kg.

	Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the 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

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)	High
Fresh water	Drinking water for humans and/or livestock	Medium
Fresh water	Water for irrigated agriculture	Low
Wetland non-food products	Livestock fodder	Low
Wetland non-food products	Reeds and fibre	Medium

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Storage and delivery of water as part of water supply systems for agriculture and industry	Medium
Erosion protection	Soil, sediment and nutrient retention	Low
Climate regulation	Local climate regulation/buffering of change	Medium
Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	Medium

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	Medium
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	Medium

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Biodiversity	Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganizms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	High
Nutrient cycling	Storage, recycling, processing and acquisition of nutrients	High

Within the site:	1,000
Outside the site:	10,000

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 plication 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 lizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland	
iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction	

iv) relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character 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

lic owners	

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
National/Federal government	✓	✓
Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc.		2

Private ownership

The second secon		
Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)		✓

5.1.2 - Management authority

agency or organization responsible for	Department Of Ecology And Natural Resources Of The Odessa Regional State Administration
managing the site:	
Provide the name and/or title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:	Bulanovich Pavlo, head of the Department Of Ecology And Natural Resources Of The Odessa Regional State Administration
Postal address:	83, Kanatna Str., Odesa, 65, 107, Ukraine
E-mail address:	ecolog@odessa.gov.ua

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Human settlements (non agricultural)

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Housing and urban areas	Low impact	Medium impact		No change	2	No change
Tourism and recreation areas	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change	✓	No change

Water regulation

rrator rogalation						
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Water abstraction	Low impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Canalisation and river regulation	Medium impact	Medium impact	2	No change	V	No change
Water releases	Low impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change

Agriculture and aquaculture

F	actors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Liv	estock farming and ranching	Low impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
	nual and perennial non-timber crops	Low impact	Medium impact	/	No change	/	No change

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	Low impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Gathering terrestrial plants	Low impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	>	No change
Logging and wood harvesting	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change	>	No change
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	Medium impact	High 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	Low impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Fire and fire suppression	Low impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Dams and water management/use	Medium impact	High impact	2	No change	2	No change

Invasive and other problematic species and genes

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Invasive non-native/ alien species	Low impact	High impact	✓	No change	✓	No change

Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Household sewage, urban waste water	Low impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Agricultural and forestry effluents	Medium impact	High impact	/	No change	/	No change
Garbage and solid waste	Low impact	Medium impact	/	No change	/	No change

Climate change and severe weather

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Temperature extremes	Low impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Habitat shifting and alteration	Low impact	Medium impact		No change	2	No change
Storms and flooding	Low impact	High impact	✓	No change	✓	No change

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

rregional (international) legal designations			
Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Other international designation	Emerald Network Site Systema Dunaiskykh Ozer (UA0000142)	https://www.arcgis.com/home/webm ap/viewer.html?webmap=d1804eb1f7 7546b8a282cd6dff1aa202	partly

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Kugurluj and Kartal lakes	http://datazone.birdlife.org/sit e/factsheet/kugurluj-and-kartal- lakes- iba-ukraine	partly

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

ш	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
	III Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
	IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention
	V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
1	VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Legal protection		
Measures	Status	
Legal protection	Proposed	

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Management of water abstraction/takes	Proposed
Regulation/management of wastes	Proposed

Other:

The site is going to be included in the Danube Biosphere Reserve.

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? $\,\text{No}\,$

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?

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
Water quality	Proposed
Water regime monitoring	Implemented
Birds	Proposed
Animal species (please specify)	Proposed
Plant species	Proposed

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

- 1. Vasylieva T.V. Landscapes of Bessarabia: 3. Flora of the Danube Lakes // Bulletin of Odesa National University. 2002. Vol. 7, lss. 1. P. 32-40. [in Ukrainian]
- 2. Vasylieva T.V. Invasive active adventive plant species of southern Bessarabia // Bulletin of Odesa National University. 2005. Vol. 10, lss. 5. P. 73-82. [in Ukrainian]
- 3. Money Yu.M., Medinets V.I. Hydrochemical regime and water quality of the Danube lakes // Bulletin of Odesa National University. 2002. Vol. 7, Iss. 2. P. 17-25. [in Russian]
- 4. Kovtun O.A., Tkachenko F.P. Biodiversity of macrophytes of the Danube lakes Yalpug and Kugurlui // Bulletin of Odesa National University. 2002. Vol. 7, lss. 2. P. 70-80. [in Russian]
- 5. Protopopova V.V., Shever M.V., Mosyakin S. L., Solomakha V.A., Solomakha T. D., Vasilyeva T. V., Petryk S. P. Species-transformers in the flora of the northern part of the Black Sea region // // Ukrainian Botanical Journal. 2009. Vol. 66, lss. 6. P. 770-782. [in Ukrainian]
- 6. Stoilovsky V.P. White-whiskered Tern of lakes Kartal and Kugurlui (Odesa Region) // Branta: Transactions of the Azov-Black Sea Ornithological Station. 2015. Issue 18. P. 110-117. [in Russian]
- 7. Stoilovskyi V.P., Maikov Ye.V. The current state of ichthyofauna of the Danube lakes Kartal and Kugurlui, prospects of their protection and use // Bulletin of Odesa National University. 2000. Vol. 5, lss. 1. P. 177-183. [in Ukrainian]
- 8. Striuk T.Yu. Lake Kartal in a system of the western group of the Danube water bodies and its characteristics // Bulletin of Odesa State Ecological University. 2011 Issue 11. P. 56-61. [in Russian]

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:



Kugurlui Lake (Maxim Yakovlev, 16-05-2015



Larus ridibundus on the nest (Maxim Yakovlev, 16-05-2015)



its connection with Lake
Kartal (D.A. Kivhanov, 15-



Cygnus olor (D.A. Kivhanov,



Ardeola ralloides (D.A.Kivhanov, 15-07-2015)



Lake Kugurlui in the point of its connection with Lake Kartal (D.A. Kivhanov, 15-06-2016)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 1995-11-23