



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 20 January 2020

Update version, previously published on : 28 November 1984

Bulgaria

Durankulak Lake



Designation date	28 November 1984
Site number	293
Coordinates	43°40'24"N 28°32'26"E
Area	1 370,77 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

Durankulak Lake is situated in the North-Eastern part of the country, near the Black sea coast. It is a freshwater-brackish water liman of natural origin and with considerable vegetation cover. The main habitats are the open water surfaces and the large areas covered with higher aquatic vegetation. The Eastern part of the Lake is separated from the sea by a narrow sand strip, while agricultural land and small groups of trees surround its Western and Southern banks. The fresh waters of Durankulak Lake, the extensive reedbeds along the shore and the location of the wetland on the Via Pontica migratory route are some of the important features explaining the impressive avian richness of the site throughout the whole year. Durankulak Lake is one of the most significant wetlands along the Bulgarian Black Sea coast.

Lake Durankulak is a site of global importance for waterfowl in winter, mainly due to the large concentrations of geese. The White-Fronted Goose /*Anser albifrons*/ and the globally threatened Red-Breasted Goose /*Branta ruficollis*/ winter here in considerable numbers. Nearly the whole world population of the Red-Breasted Goose winter at Durankulak and Shabla Lake in January and February which makes them two of the most significant wetland areas worldwide. The Lake is the major breeding place on the Bulgarian Black Sea coast for the globally threatened Ferruginous Duck /*Aythya nyroca*/. The site hosts breeding populations of some other rare and threatened bird species such as the Bittern /*Botaurus stellaris*/, the Stone Curlew /*Burhinus oedicanus*/ and the Tawny Pipit /*Anthus campestris*/. As the lake lies along the migration path of Via Pontica and close to the Danube delta, it is one of the most important stopovers for bird migration along the Bulgarian Black Sea coast. Particularly numerous are the Ciconiiformes, Anseriformes and Charadriiformes. The Lake is used as a resting site during migration by the White Pelican /*Pelecanus onocrotalus*/, the Pygmy Cormorant /*Phalacrocorax pygmeus*/, as well as by individual Greater Spotted Eagles /*Aquila clanga*/.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

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

From year	1996
To year	2019

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Durankulak Lake
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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 <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
(Update) B. Changes to Site area	the area has increased
(Update) The Site area has been calculated more accurately	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(Update) The Site has been delineated more accurately	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Update) The Site area has increased because of a boundary extension	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Update) The Site area has decreased because of a boundary restriction	<input type="checkbox"/>

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?	Not evaluated
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2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<2 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps	0
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Boundaries description

The Republic of Bulgaria is a country in Southeast Europe. It is bordered by Romania to the North, Serbia and North Macedonia to the West, Greece and Turkey to the South and the Black Sea to the East.

Durankulak Lake is situated in northeastern part of Bulgaria, 6 km from the Romanian border, east of the village of the same name, near the Black sea coast. The Lake is surrounded by arable land and steppe territories. Between the lake and the sea lies a strip of sand dunes and beach.

The territory of the Ramsar site Durankulak Lake falls within the boundaries of the Natura 2000 sites - BG0000154 "Ezero Durankulak" designated under the Habitats Directive and within the Natura 2000 site BG0002050 "Durankulashko ezero" designated under the Birds Directive.

Part of the territory of the Ramsar site Durankulak Lake is designated as a protected area under National Protected Areas Act - Protected Site "Durankulashko ezero".

Official data on the boundaries of the site are used for the process of defining the boundary and creating the digital map image.

2.2.2 - General location

- a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?
- b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

- a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes No
- b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes No

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

- Official area, in hectares (ha):
- Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	The Black Sea Region

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

Supporting services are provided and the site is really important for the biodiversity. Durankulak is important for its scientific and educational service. Long-term monitoring is implemented and the lake is a major scientific study site. Other noteworthy are the recreation and tourism services, especially the nature-based tourism, birdwatching.

Other reasons

Coastal freshwater lagoons are unique because we have no real sea (Black Sea is brackish), in this sense (as mentioned above) the site provides unique biodiversity in terms of species combinations. Situation on Balkan Peninsula helps for their development as biodiversity hotspots. Situated near to arable lands the lake helps to prevent soil erosion and landslides into the Black sea and function as water purification systems. Durankulak is situated in a steppe region, where freshwater reservoirs are of the utmost importance. Durankulak offers cultural and historical heritage because of its archaeological finds.

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

There are several endemic plants to the Balkan Peninsula in the Ramsar Site Durankulak Lake. Plant species such as *Euphorbia paralias*, *Silene thymifolia*, *Alyssum borzaeanum*, *Convolvulus persicus*, *Verbascum purpureum*, *Ammophila arenaria* subsp. *arundinacea* and others, are very rare or even extinct on the Romanian seacoast. However, on Durankulak beach they have important local populations (Făgăraș, 2016). According to the Management Plan of Durankulak Lake Protected Site (national legislation), the number of the higher species here is 300. As a consequence of the high concentration of rare plants, Durankulak beach can be considered a reservoir of rare species for the entire coastal area of Dobrudja (both Bulgarian and Romanian) (Făgăraș, 2016). The majority of rare plants are concentrated on the mobile and stabilized sand dunes. "Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes)", "Embryonic shifting dunes" and "Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)" (Făgăraș, 2016). The Durankulak Lake is inhabited by more than 250 bird species, of which 92 species are nesting and 72 are listed in Bulgaria's Red Data Book. Within the listed birds, 136 are species of European conservation concern (SPEC) (BirdLife International, 2004).

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

- Criterion 5 : >20,000 waterbirds

Overall waterbird numbers	21800
Start year	2010
Source of data:	Executive Environmental Agency of Bulgaria-Monitoring of Wintering birds

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

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
<i>Aeluropus litoralis</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - VU; Biological Biodiversity Act - III	
<i>Alyssum borzaeanum</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - EN; Biological Biodiversity Act - III; BeC-I	
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Habitat 2120; <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> subsp. <i>arundinacea</i>	
<i>Astragalus albicaulis</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - EN	
<i>Astrodaucus litoralis</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - CR; Biological Biodiversity Act - III	
<i>Convolvulus persicus</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - CR; Biological Biodiversity Act - III	In the last decades, only 2 subpopulations (the shoreline at Durankulak Lake) with an abundance of less than 10 individuals have been observed, one of which subsequently disappeared
<i>Elymus athericus</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Elymus pycnanthus</i> - Red Data Book of Bulgaria - EN; Biological Biodiversity Act - III	
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sea Holly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - EN; Biological Biodiversity Act - III	
<i>Festuca vaginata</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - EN; Biological Biodiversity Act - III	
<i>Lactuca tatarica</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - EN; Biological Biodiversity Act - III	
<i>Silene thymifolia</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - EN	Cr. 3: Important local populations
<i>Stachys maritima</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - EN; Biological Biodiversity Act - III	
<i>Taraxacum bessarabicum</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - EN	
<i>Triglochin maritima</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - CR; Biological Biodiversity Act - III	For Bulgaria this is the only locality of the species.

There are also *Bassia hirsuta*, *Verbascum purpureum* (both are with status: Red Data Book of Bulgaria - EN; Biological Biodiversity Act - III). In Ramsar Site Durankulak Lake, the majority of rare plants are concentrated on the mobile and stabilized sand dunes. "Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes)", "Embryonic shifting dunes" and "Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)" are the most important habitat types on Durankulak beach. The "Annual vegetation of drift lines" is another habitat type interposed between the midlittoral zone and the first strip of sand dunes. The habitat "Mediterranean salt meadows belonging to *Juncetalia maritimi*" can be found in the salty and moist areas of the beach, along the lake banks. The loess cliffs from the northern side of Durankulak beach can be included in the habitat type "Vegetated sea cliffs of the Mediterranean coasts". All these habitat types have conservative value, according with the Annex I of the European Directive 92/43/EEC. (Făgăraș, 2016).

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion			Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7								
Birds																	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Northern Goshawk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – EN; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; Bern Convention – II; CITES-II; CMS - II	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – EN; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; Bern Convention – II; CITES-II; CMS - II	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Acrocephalus paludicola</i>	Aquatic Warbler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - VU , Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria - III; Directive 2009/147/EC - III/1, 2; BeC-III; CMS-II	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Northern Pintail	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Directive 2009/147/EO-III	Cr. 4: Wintering and staging during migration
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas crecca</i>	Green-winged Teal; Eurasian Teal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	30	2011-2019 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Directive 2009/147/EO-II, III	Cr. 4: Wintering and staging during migration
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas penelope</i>	Eurasian Wigeon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	37	2010-2019 (win)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Directive 2009/147/EO-II, III	Cr. 4: Wintering and staging during migration
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Mallard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1496	2010-2019 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Cr. 4: Wintering and staging during migration
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas strepera</i>	Gadwall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	21	2010-2019 (win)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – CR, Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III, Directive 2009/147/EO – I, BeC-II, CMS-II	Cr. 4: Wintering and staging during migration
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	Greater White-fronted Goose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	10868	2010-2019 (win)	5.43	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II; Directive 2009/147/EO-I, II	Cr. 4: Wintering and during migration Cr. 6: Western Siberia/Black Sea & Turkey
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anser erythropus</i>	Lesser White-fronted Goose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – CR; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III; ECS-spec 1, VU; BeC – II; Directive 2009/147/EO-I	Cr. 4: Wintering and staging during migration
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anthropoides virgo</i>	Demoiselle Crane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – EX; CITES-II; BeC-II; CMS-II	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aquila clanga</i>	Greater Spotted Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IUCN - VU; Red Data Book of Bulgaria – CR; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II; ECS-spec 1; Directive 2009/147/EC – II; Bern Convention – II; CITES-II; CMS - II	Cr. 4: Wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Great Egret	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – CR; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III; Bern Convention – II; CMS – II; Directive 2009/147/EC - I	Cr.4: As staging and overnight place mainly during migration and wintering.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Grey Heron; Gray Heron	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – VU, Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III, BeC-III	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Purple Heron	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – EN; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III; ECS-spec 3; Bern Convention – II; CMS – II; Directive 2009/147/EC - I	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	Common Pochard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	303	2011-2019 (win)		VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – VU, Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III, Directive 2009/147/EO – III, BeC-III, CMS-II	Cr. 4: Wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	Tufted Duck	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	217	2011-2019 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria-IV; Directive 2009/147/EC-II, III	Cr. 4: Wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	Ferruginous Duck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – VU; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; ECS-spec 1, vulnerable; Directive 2009/147/EC – I; Bern Convention – III; CITES-I; CMS - II	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence ¹⁾	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	Eurasian Bittern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – EN, Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III, Directive 2009/147/EO – I, BeC-I, CMS-I	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Branta ruficollis</i>	Red-breasted Goose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4288	2010-2019 (win)	9.74	VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – VU; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III; ECS-spec 1, vulnerable; Directive 2009/147/EC – I; Bern Convention – II; CITES-II; CMS – I, II	Cr. 4: Wintering Cr. 6: Northern Siberia/Black Sea & Caspian
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	Cetti's Warbler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – EN, Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III, BeC-I-III, CMS-II	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Snowy Plover; Kentish Plover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – CR; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; BeC – II; CMS – II	Cr. 3, Cr. 4: One of five nesting sites in Bulgaria, Also during migration.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Western Marsh Harrier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	18	2010-2019 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – EN; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III; ESC-spec 2; BeC – II; CMS – II; Directive 2009/147/EO -I; CITES - II	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Northern Harrier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – CR, Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III; ECS-spec 2, decreased; BeC-II, CMS-II, Directive 2009/147/EO – II, CITES-II	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	Tundra Swan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	27	2014 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – CR, Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; ECS-spec 3W, vulnerable; BeC-II, CMS-II, Directive 2009/147/EO – I	Cygnus columbianus bewickii Yarrell, 1830.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	Whooper Swan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	13	2011-2019 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – EN, Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; BeC-II, CMS-II, III	Cr. 4: Wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	Mute Swan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	119	2010-2019 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – VU, Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; BeC-II, CMS-II, III	Cr. 4: Wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>	Red-footed Falcon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria-CR; IUCN-NT; BeC- II; CMS-II; CITES-I; ECS-Spec 3; Directive2009/147/EC – I	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Fulica atra</i>	Eurasian Coot	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3842	2010-2019 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Directive 2009/147/EO-II, III	Cr.4: As staging and overnight place mainly during migration and wintering.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Red-throated Loon; Red-throated Diver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Cr. 3: It is one of the few places in Bulgaria where during the past few years with sightings of the Red-Throated Diver
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	White-tailed Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – VU; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III; ECS-spec 1, rare; Bern Convention – II; Directive 2009/147/EC – I	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Microcarbo pygmeus</i>	Pygmy Cormorant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	247	2010-2018 (win)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria –EN; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II; IUCN – NT; ECS-spec 2, vulnerable; Directive 2009/147/EC – I; Bern Convention – II; CMS – II	Criterion 4: The site is an important stopover for migrating pygmy cormorants and also during the winter period.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Netta rufina</i>	Red-crested Pochard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	241	2012 - 2019 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – EX; Directive 2009/147/EO – I; BeC-III; ECS-Spec 3; CMS-II	Cr. 4: Wintering. In 2016 - 1071 individuals of this species has been determined. That is even above the "1% threshold" for Black Sea & East Mediterranean region, for 1997, but is only for this year. Without that count, there are around 33 waterbirds of this species wintering in Durankulak Lake.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>	White-headed Duck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	2016 (win)		EN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - EN; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III; ECS-spec 1, VU; BeC-II; Directive2009/147/EC – I	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion			Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7								
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	Dalmatian Pelican	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7	2010, 2014 (win)		NT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – CR; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III; ECS-spec 1, rare; Directive 2009/147/EC – I; Bern Convention – II; CMS – I, II	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	Great White Pelican	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – EX; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; ECS-spec 3, rare; Directive 2009/147/EC – I; Bern Convention – II; CMS – I, II	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	European Shag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	32	2011-2019 (win)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – VU; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; Directive 2009/147/EO – I	Cr. 4: Wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Great Crested Grebe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	45	2010-2019 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – VU; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; BeC-III	Cr. 4: Wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Eared Grebe; Black-necked Grebe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	39	2010-2019 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bulgarian Red Data Book – CR; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; BeC-II	Cr. 4: Wintering
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Porzana parva</i>	Little Crane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – EN; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II; BeC-II; CMS – II; Directive 2009/147/EC – I	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>	Yelkouan Shearwater	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – EN; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; BeC – II	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – VU; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; BeC – III	Cr. 4: Breeding site
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Stemula albifrons</i>	Little Tern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – EN; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III; BeC – II; CMS – II; Directive 2009/147/EO-I	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	Little Grebe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – VU; Bern Convention – III	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	Common Shelduck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8	2010-2018 (win)		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – VU; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – III; Bern Convention – II, CMS-II	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tetrax tetrax</i>	Little Bustard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – EX; IUCN – NT; ECS-spec 2, VU; BeC-II; CMS – II; Directive 2009/147/EO-I	
Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea																	
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Amur carp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria – CR	
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Gasterosteus aculeatus</i>	Twospine stickleback; European stickleback; New York stickleback; Saw-finned stickleback; Banstickle; Eastern stickleback	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria-VU	
Others																	
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	European Otter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Appendix II and III of Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria, Annex II of Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992, Red Book of Bulgaria – “Vulnerable species”	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence ¹⁾	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	<i>Pelobates syriacus</i>	Eastern Spadefoot	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bern Convention – II	Pelobates syriacus balcanicus	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Spermophilus citellus</i>	European Ground Squirrel; European Souslik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Data Book of Bulgaria - VU; Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II; BeC-II; Council Directive 92/43/EEC – II, IV		

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

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

<no data available>

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

4.1 - Ecological character

The wetland includes the coastal frith of the Durankulak Lake with its adjacent sand dunes, marine aquatic area, grass communities, forest and arable agricultural lands. Durankulak is a brakish coastal lake with low salinity. The predominant habitats are the open water areas and the vast hydrophilic higher plants vegetation covering predominantly the northern part of the lake (Orlovoto Blato Marsh), the southwestern part (Vaklinskya Rakav Branch), as well as the marsh on the southeast.

There are several endemic plants to the Balkan Peninsula in the lake and other plants of international and national significance for conservation. The Durankulak Lake is inhabited by 254 bird species, of which 92 species are nesting and 72 are listed in Bulgaria's Red Data Book. Within the listed birds, 136 are species of European conservation concern (SPEC) (BirdLife International, 2004).

Together with the White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*), the globally endangered Red-breasted Goose (*Branta ruficollis*) winters here in substantial numbers; almost the whole global population inhabits the Durankulak and Shabla Lakes in January and February, which undoubtedly places these lakes among the most significant wetlands in the world.

Illegal draw of water for drinking and irrigation causing fluctuations of the water level during the period of active exploitation – May through October. Separation of the Kartaliysko Marsh from the lake by means of a dyke, disturbing the water regime of this part of the lake. Nutrient overload is the main cause of accelerated eutrophication and of un-balancing of the aquatic ecosystem of the lake. Large-scale illegal net-fishing in the lake. In 1993 the wetland was included in the Montreux list of Ramsar sites threatened by changes to their ecological characteristics, caused by disturbed water balance and poaching.

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

Marine or coastal wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
E: Sand, shingle or pebble shores		4	18.43	
K: Coastal freshwater lagoons	Liman	2	338.95	Unique

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
Saline, brackish or alkaline water > Marshes & pools >> Sp: Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools		3	108.86	

Human-made wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
3: Irrigated land		1	819.45	

Other non-wetland habitat

Other non-wetland habitats within the site	Area (ha) if known
Non-Ramsar type areas	84.5

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

<no data available>

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/AMPHIBIA	<i>Bombina orientalis</i>	European Fire-Bellied Toad				Annex II of Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 and Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	Collared Pratincole				Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria – II, III; Directive 2009/147/EO-I
CHORDATA/AMPHIBIA	<i>Hyla arborea</i>	European Tree Frog				Appendix III of Biological Diversity Act of Bulgaria ("Protected species")
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	<i>Natrix tessellata</i>	Dice Snake				Bern Convention - II, Council Directive 92/43/EEC – III
CHORDATA/AMPHIBIA	<i>Pelobates fuscus</i>	Common Spadefoot				Council Directive 92/43/EEC - O

Invasive alien animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>	Coypu	Potentially	unknown

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
B: Dry climate	BSk: Mid-latitude steppe (Mid-latitude dry)

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

- 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.

Black Sea coast (Black Sea River Basin District of Bulgaria)

4.4.3 - Soil

No available information

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)? Yes No

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change
Water inputs from rainfall	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Marine water	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

Water destination

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Marine	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 lake is fed by rain and by local springs mixing with sea water, which overflows the sandy bank.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Sediment regime unknown

4.4.6 - Water pH

Alkaline (pH>7.4)

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

Unknown

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

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

Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (0.5-30 g/l)

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

Unknown

Please provide further information on salinity (optional):

In some places the mineralization exceeds 1 g/l, due to nitrate pollution.

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic

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

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 site itself. i) broadly similar ii) significantly different

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)	Medium
Fresh water	Drinking water for humans and/or livestock	Medium
Fresh water	Water for irrigated agriculture	Medium

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
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	Low
Scientific and educational	Educational activities and opportunities	High
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	High

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Biodiversity	Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganisms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	High

Optional text box to provide further information

The Durankulak Lake is highly important as a habitat of waterfowl. The rich ornithofauna as well as the archeological findings serve as basis for development of specialized tourism.

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site? Yes No Unknown

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

Description if applicable

7,500-year-old cult complex has been found on the Big Island in the Durankulak Lake. The excavations of the Paleolithic and Neolithic settlement on the Big Island in Bulgaria's Durankulak Lake first started in 1970s, with the discovered Paleolithic finds dating back to around 10,000 BC; and a Neolithic settlement dating back to between 5500-5400 BC and 5100-5000 BC.

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 their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Foundation/non-governmental organization/trust	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cooperative/collective (e.g., farmers cooperative)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Other

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Unspecified mixed ownership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No information available	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

Green Balkans NGO - Regularly provides CEPA activities for Red-breasted geese at Durankulak and Shabla lakes.

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water (RIEW) - Varna

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

A. Bakalov - Senior Expert and M. Ivanova - Chief Expert, Preventive Activity Directorate

Postal address:

4 Yan Palah Str, Varna 9000, BULGARIA
Tel.: +359 52 678 850

E-mail address:

riosv-vn@riosv-varna.org

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
Tourism and recreation areas	unknown impact	unknown impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Drainage	unknown impact	unknown impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change
Water abstraction	unknown impact	unknown impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Annual and perennial non-timber crops	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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	High impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	High impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	High impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Vegetation clearance/land conversion	Low impact	Low impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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
Problematic native species	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Agricultural and forestry effluents	High impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Garbage and solid waste	unknown impact	unknown impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

Climate change and severe weather

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Droughts	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	unknown

Please describe any other threats (optional):

A 500 m buffer zone has been established where hunting and the application of pesticides is banned. Fishing allowed only without disturbance to the bird colony.
Natural expansion of reed covered areas is also a long-term problem. Increase in number of *Canis aureus* also is a problem for the birds nesting in the area.

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	Durankulashko Ezero, BG0002050	http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/Home/ProtectedSite?code=BG0002050&siteType=BirdsDirective	whole
EU Natura 2000	Ezero Durankulak, BG000154	http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/Home/ProtectedSite?code=BG000154&siteType=HabitatDirective	partly

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Protected Site	Durankulashko Ezero	http://eea.government.bg/zpo/en/area.jsp?NEM_Partition=1&categoryID=6&areaID=158	partly

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Durankulak Lake, BG050	http://bspb.org/media/files/IBA_and_Natura_2000_Inventory_BG.pdf https://www.birdsinbulgaria.org/ovm.php?l=en&pageNum_Ovm_AI=0&totalRows_Ovm_AI=114&id=50	partly
Important Plant Area	Durankulak	p. 167 - https://www.researchgate.net/profile/va_Apostolova/publication/289126283_Important_Plant_Areas_in_Bulgaria/links/58f9b9e507e9ba3ba4fba18/Important-Plant-Areas-in-Bulgaria.pdf	partly
Other non-statutory designation	Prime Butterfly Area Durankulak	http://www.nmnh.com/butterfly_areas_bg/area.php?q=08_durankulak	whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

- Ia Strict Nature Reserve
- Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
- II 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
- VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

Habitat

Measures	Status
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Proposed
Improvement of water quality	Proposed

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Partially implemented

Other:

- Green Balkans NGO - Regularly provides CEPA activities for Red-breasted geese at Durankulak and Shabla lakes
 - LIFE16 NAT/BG/000847 Life for safe flight - Conservation of the Red-breasted Goose along the Global Flyway - www.savebranta.org

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? Yes

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

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning processes with another Contracting Party? Yes No

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

Nature Conservation Centre Durankulak

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? No, but restoration is needed

Further information

Durankulak Lake is in the Montreux Record.

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented
Water quality	Implemented

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

1. Biological Biodiversity Act (in Bugarian) - <https://www.lex.bg/laws/ldoc/2135456926>
2. Bulgarian Ramsar Sites - <https://www.moew.government.bg/static/media/ups/tiny/Press/Ramsar-knjijka.pdf>
3. Information on the Black Sea wetlands protected by the BlackSeaWet Regional Initiative - https://www.moew.government.bg/static/media/ups/tiny/filebase/Nature/Natura%202000/RAMSAR/Black_Sea_Wet_Catalog-Final.pdf
4. National Action Plan for Conservation of Wetlands of High Significance in Bulgaria (2013 – 2022) - https://www.researchgate.net/publication/283017200_National_action_plan_for_conservation_of_wetlands_of_high_significance_in_Bulgaria_2013-2022
5. Ramsar Sites in Bulgaria (only in Bulgarian) - <https://www.moew.government.bg/bg/priroda/zastiteni-teritorii/zastiteni-teritorii-s-mejdunarodno-zna-chenie/ramsarski-mesta/>
6. Red Book of Bulgaria, 2011, Vol I – Animals <http://e-ecodb.bas.bg/rdb/en/vol2/texts.html>
7. Red Book of Bulgaria, 2011, Vol I - Plants - <http://e-ecodb.bas.bg/rdb/en/vol1/>
8. Trichkova T., V. Vladimirov, R. Tomov, M. Todorov (Eds.), 2017. Guide to invasive alien species of European Union concern. IBER-BAS, ESENIAS, Sofia, 184 pp. - https://www.esenias.org/files/ESENIAS_Atlas_WEB.pdf
9. Wetlands of international importance for Bulgaria, 2010 - https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Delcho_Solakov/publication/283349852_Wetlands_of_international_importance_for_Bulgaria/links/56362f9d08ae88cf81bd0fb0/Wetlands-of-international-importance-for-Bulgaria.pdf
10. Important Bird Areas in Bulgaria and Natura 2000, BSPB /BirdLife Bulgaria/, 2007 -http://bspb.org/media/files/IBA_a
11. Management Plan of Protected Site Durankulashko ezero, 2002 - 2011
12. Cheshmedjiev, S., et al. "Phytoplankton based assessment of the ecological status and ecological potential of lake types in Bulgaria." Biotechnology & Biotechnological Equipment 24.sup1 (2010): 14-25..
13. Davidova, Rositsa, and Victor Vasilev. "Seasonal dynamics of the testate amoebae fauna (protozoa: Arcellinida and Euglyphida) in Durankulak lake (northeastern bulgaria)." Acta Zool. Bulg. 65 (2013): 27-36.
14. Făgăraș, Marius, Paulina Anastasiu, and Negrean Gavril. "Rare and threatened plants in the Black Sea coastal area between Cape Midia (Romania) and Cape Kaliakra (Bulgaria)." Botanica Serbica 34.1 (2010).
15. Gherghel, Iulian, and Alexandru Iftime. "On the presence of the Danube crested newt, Triturus dobrogicus, at Durankulak Lake, Bulgaria." North-Western Journal of Zoology 5.1 (2009): 209.
16. Petrova, D. "Major Bloom Producing Phytoplankton Species in the Lakes along the Bulgarian Black Sea Coast." Bulgarian Journal of Agricultural Science 14.2 (2008): 201-208.
17. Stefanov, Tihomir. "Ichthyofauna of the Bulgarian Natural Lakes." BALWOIS (2006): 23-26.
18. Zehindjiev, Pavel, et al. "Occurrence of haemosporidian parasites in the paddyfield warbler, Acrocephalus agricola (Passeriformes, Sylviidae)." Acta Parasitologica 54.4 (2009): 295-300.

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

<2 file(s) uploaded>

vi. other published literature

<9 file(s) uploaded>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Durankulak Lake (Ivan Yanchev, 26-07-2019)



Durankulak, east side and Black Sea (Blagoy Uzunov, 01-06-2018)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation