



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 13 July 2016

Update version, previously published on 10 August 2001

Belarus

Olmany Mires Zakaznik



Designation date	10 August 2001
Site number	1091
Coordinates	51°47'40"N 27°21'3"E
Area	94 219,00 ha

Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a 'full' Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

1 - Summary

Summary

The Olmany mires Ramsar site is a typical example of mires formerly wide-spread on the territory of Polesie, but now drained and degraded. It is the largest complex in Europe of bogs and transition mires preserved in the natural state. Territories with natural vegetation (forests, meadows, mires, shrubs and waters) cover 99 per cent of the site's area.

The Ramsar site is located in the interfluvium of the Lva and Stviga rivers, right-bank tributaries of the Pripjat River (in the Dnieper basin). The site has a transboundary location and plays a very important hydro-regulation and water protection role for the Pripjat River. It is an important concentration place of nesting and migrating waterbirds and is a key nesting site of the globally threatened Spotted Eagle (*Aquila clanga*).

Natural typical vegetation communities and faunal complexes are preserved on the territory due to its inaccessibility and sparse population. Thus, this territory is unique and has special importance for conservation of aboriginal biological and landscape singularity of Belarussian Polesie.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Name	A.V. Kozulin, M.E. Nikiforov, M.V. Maximenkov, O.S. Beliatskaya
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2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year	2000
To year	2010

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Olmany Mires Zakaznik
Unofficial name (optional)	Ольманские болота

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 checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>
(Update) The boundary has been delineated more accurately	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(Update) B. Changes to Site area	No change to area

2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS?	No <input type="radio"/>
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2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Boundaries description (optional)

The site is located in the central part of the Polesie region, on the territory of Stolín District of Brest Region. The Ramsar Site coincides with the Landscape Reserve of Republican Importance and is located between rivers Lva and Stviga. It borders with Ukraine in the south, Pripyatski National Park in the east. The closest dwelling is Olmany village.

The Olmany Mires Zakaznik was designated as protected area in 1998, with the area of 94219 and borders that remain unchanged until now (the new map shows the right border). The old map was not drawn very precisely.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Brest Region/Stolín District
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Stolín town

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries?	Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>
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b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes No

idem No

d) Transboundary Ramsar Site name: Olmany – Perebrody mires

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 94219

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries 94293.2

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Continental

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

Polesian Lowland (Dementiev V.A., 1959. System of physiographic regions of Belarus/«Physical and economic geography of Byelorussia» Minsk, 150 p. (In Russian).

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

Hydrological services provided

The Olmany mires Ramsar site is a typical example of mires formerly wide-spread on the territory of Polesie, but now drained and degraded. It is one of the Europe's largest natural complexes of bogs and transition mires and the largest natural swamp of its type in the Pripyat Polesie region. The Olmany site plays a very important hydro-regulation and water protection role for the Pripyat River basin.

Other ecosystem services provided

Natural typical vegetation communities and faunal complexes are preserved on the territory due to its inaccessibility and sparse population. Thus, this territory is unique and has special importance for conservation of native biological and landscape features of Belarussian Polesie.

Other reasons






The site has high scientific significance as a reference area for estimation of the consequences of man-induced transformation of natural environment.

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

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




























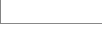

- Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

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>Corydalis intermedia</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
<i>Drosera intermedia</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
<i>Nymphaea alba</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
<i>Salix myrtilloides</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	

687 plant species have been identified on the territory of the site, including 5 representatives of the Lycopsidea class, 6 equisetails, 7 fern-like species, 3 gymnosperms, and 662 angiosperms. The site supports 12 National Red Data Book species.

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification	
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8									
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Aquila clanga</i>	Greater Spotted Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>	18	2008	2.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	18-20 breeding pairs (2008), the site supports one of the largest European breeding populations of the species European population: 810-1,100 breeding pairs (BirdLife International 2004)	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Aquila pomarina</i>	Lesser Spotted 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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	2008		LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	breeding pairs
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	Eurasian Bittern	<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"/>	20	2007		LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	males
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Bubo bubo</i>	Eurasian Eagle-Owl	<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"/>	6	2005		LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	breeding pairs, on breeding
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Black Stork	<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"/>	20	2005-2010		LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	breeding pairs, on breeding
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	Short-toed Snake 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"/>	20	2008		LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	breeding pairs, on breeding
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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	2005-2007		LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	breeding pair
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Crex crex</i>	Common 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"/>	100	2005-2010		LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	males
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Gallinago media</i>	Great Snipe	<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"/>	20	2005		NT 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	males
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Grus grus</i>	Common Crane	<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"/>	100	2005-2010		LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	breeding pairs, on breeding
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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	2008		LC 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	breeding pairs
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Limosa limosa</i>	Black-tailed Godwit	<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"/>	50	2007		NT 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	breeding pairs
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	 <i>Mustela lutreola</i>	European Mink	<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"/>				CR 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Numenius arquata</i>	Eurasian Curlew	<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"/>	10	2005-2010		NT 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	breeding pairs, on breeding
CHORDATA / AVES	 <i>Strix nebulosa</i>	Great Gray Owl; Great Grey Owl	<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"/>	30	2007		LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	breeding pairs. The site supports a considerable share (10-20%) of the Belarusian population of the species, which is represented by an isolated relict grouping in the south of Belarus and north of Ukraine.

26 mammal species have been registered on the territory of the Zakaznik, including 3 National Red Data Book species. European mink (*Mustela lutreola*), a globally threatened European species, has been identified on the site. 151 bird species have been identified on the territory of the Olmany mires, including 25 National Red Data Book. The international value of the site is indicated in the first place by the fact that the Olmany mires support one of the largest European populations of the globally threatened Greater Spotted Eagle.

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
7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transition mires cover 25.5% of the site's area (65.7% of the overall area of the site's mires). These are dominated by sedge and sedge-sphagnum communities.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
7110 * Active raised bogs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cover 0.8% of the site's area. Sedge, sedge-sphagnum and sphagnum communities prevail on bogs. Bogs are represented mainly by open and semi-open areas with swamp type of Common Pine and shrub storey dominated by <i>Ledum palustre</i> and <i>Andromeda</i> sp.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive, priority habitat
91D0 * Bog woodland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Birch and conifer mire woods	Annex I of the Habitat Directive, priority habitat

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

4.1 - Ecological character

The site is the largest complex in Europe of bogs and transition mires preserved in the natural state. The total area of open mires located on the territory of the site is 38,200 ha. Mineral islands form long elevated ridges covered with pine and parvifoliate forests. Bogs occupy 754.7 ha of the site's area (2.1 % of the overall area of the mires). Transition mires cover 24,057 ha (65.7 per cent of the overall area of the mires). These are dominated by sedge and sedge-sphagnum communities. Fen mires cover more than 11,760 ha.

Forests occupy 46,936.9 ha, which is 49.8 % of the overall area of the Site. The most common are pine and white birch forests. In total, the forest cover of the territory is formed by mire and adjacent waterlogged forest communities in combination with dry pine stands isolated on the sand ridges, floodplain oak woods and black alder forests. Native tree stands dominate among the site's forests and constitute 96.6% of the total forest area, which is very high for Belarus.

Succession processes in the forest ecosystems. Gradual overgrowth of old drainage canals and loss of their draining function lead to intensifying of processes of peat accumulation and transformation of mires towards increase of their waterlogging and decrease of flowage. Increase of the water level along the perimeter of some of the ridges results in drying out of pine forests and encroachment of mire vegetation.

The site includes the territory of acting aviation polygon, the largest in Belarus. In opposition to a wide-spread opinion, the activities of the military have not caused any degradation of natural communities located on the territory of the mire complex. On the contrary, limitation of civil activities in the area, especially of hydroamelioration works, allowed for preservation of the naturalness of the site.

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 > Flowing water >> Mt Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks				
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes				
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		1		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non-forested peatlands		3		
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands		2		
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> Xp: Permanent Forested peatlands		4		

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
9: Canals and drainage channels or ditches				

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
<i>Carex umbrosa</i>		
<i>Iris sibirica</i>		
<i>Lilium martagon</i>		
<i>Lycopodiella inundata</i>		
<i>Pulsatilla pratensis</i>		
<i>Salvinia natans</i>		
<i>Viola uliginosa</i>		

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/MAMMALIA	Lutra lutra	European Otter				Floodplains of the Stviga and Lva support one of the largest populations of this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	Lyrurus tetrix	Eurasian Black Grouse; Black Grouse	70	2002-2010		breeding pairs
CHORDATA/AVES	Tetrao urogallus	Western Capercaillie	30	2002-2010		breeding pairs. This game species inhabits old pine woods on the edge of the mire complex and large ridges amongst mires within the site. The Polesie population of the species is currently in a catastrophic condition.

4.4 - Physical components

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)

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

Lower part of river basin

Please name the river basin or basins. If the site lies in a sub-basin, please also name the larger river basin. For a coastal/marine site, please name the sea or ocean.

The site is located between river Stviga, which is the right-bank tributary of the Pripyat river, and Lva river. The Lva river forms the North-Western border of the site and flows into the Stviga river. The Pripyat river is a right tributary of the Dnieper river (the Black sea basin).

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral

Organic

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

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

The dominating soil types are mire and soddy-podzolic, which is determined by occurrence of groundwater close to the surface. Vast lands are dominated by peat-mire soils of bog type, which are concentrated in the central part of the site. They are adjoined by peat-mire soils of transition type. Fen soils are represented by low-depth peat, peaty-gley, humus-gley and muddy-humus types, underlied by loose ancient alluvial sands and developed under conditions of groundwater feeding of various flowage rate.

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 groundwater	<input type="checkbox"/>	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.

The water levels on the periphery of the site fluctuate depending on the hight of the floods and are stable in the mire's center. The major waterway draining the territory of the Olmany mires is the Stviga River with its tributaries. The Stviga river's floodplain is 0.2-1 km wide in the upstream and up to 3 km in the downstream reaches. The Stviga River is joined by a number of old main draining canals constructed in the beginning of the century. They are currently in a half-broken condition, but the outflow of water is still ongoing, most intensively in spring. The Lva river flows along the north-western boundary of the site. That part of this river's floodplain is extremely wet. Two lakes (Bolshoe Zasominnoie and Maloie Zasominnoie) with a total area of 100 ha are located on the territory of the mire. The other 23 lakes are quite small (0.5-5 ha).

(EOD) Connectivity of surface waters and of groundwater

There is a close connection between groundwater level and level of surface water in site's rivers. There are places of groundwater cropping out to the surface in the rivers' valleys, flowing with a slight gradient, regularly feeding the groundwater.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Sediment regime unknown

4.4.6 - Water pH

Acid (pH<5.5)

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

Please provide further information on pH (optional):

The water pH is about 6.5 on the periphery of the site, where transition and fen mires are located. The water pH is less than 5.5 in the center, where raised bogs prevail.

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Mesotrophic

Oligotrophic

4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the i) broadly similar ii) significantly different 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
Wetland non-food products	Timber	Low

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	High
Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	Medium

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	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

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

Polesie Military Aviation Training Ground and Polesie Military Forestry (the most part of the site), and collective farm "Rubelski" (774 ha of the site's land) are active on the territory of the site.

Activities of the military have not cause any degradation of natural communities located on the territory of the mire complex. On the contrary, limitation of civil activities in the area, especially of hydroamelioration works, allowed for preservation of the naturalness of the site. The military exercises are practiced on localized land plots. Activities of the military forestry are regulated by the Provision on the regime of the Protected area.

Hunting and fishing, as well as collection of mushrooms and berries by local people are practiced here.

The site, preserved in natural condition, can serve as a reference site for study of natural flora and fauna, and anthropogenic transformation of biotopes.

RIS for Site no. 1091, Olmany Mires Zakaznik, Belarus

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

<no data available>

4.6 - Ecological processes

(ECD) Carbon cycling

The peat accumulation is ongoing on the site, it is even more active now due to overgrowing and waterlogging of old drainage canals.

(ECD) Notable aspects concerning migration

The site is a place of concentration of birds during migration.

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"/>

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

The site is under jurisdiction of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus and the Ministry of Defense. The largest in Belarus military polygon is situated within the site.

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

The managing authority is the State Nature Conservation Authority "Protected Areas Middle Pripyat and Olmany mires", established in 2006. The main structure, controlling the compliance of the nature conservation regime within the protected area is the Stolín District Inspection of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus.

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

Jahnovec Ivan Vasilievich, the director of the State Nature Conservation Authority

Postal address:

Sovetskaya str. 72
Stolín, Brest region
225510 Belarus

E-mail address:

gpystolin@tut.by

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Drainage			<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Livestock farming and ranching	Low impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input 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	Medium impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Gathering terrestrial plants	Medium impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	increase	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Logging and wood harvesting	Medium impact	Low impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Unspecified			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

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		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	increase	<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
Fire and fire suppression	High impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

Main factors negatively impacting and/or threatening the existence of natural communities on the territory of the site are:

- illegal pasturing of cattle by local people on the Ukrainian side;
- burning of vegetation on mires in spring by local people to improve conditions for grazing. This is the main cause of fires.
- poaching woodcutting on mineral ridges;
- unlimited collection of cranberries. Each year thousands of people visit the site for unsanctioned collection of cranberries. This aggravates the disturbance factor, leads to substantial shrinking of the feeding base for most animals, initiates fires. Most of the cranberry collectors come over from the Ukrainian side;
- unlimited hunting of wild animals (hunting species), led to dramatic declines in the number of Capercaillie, Elk, Wild Boar;
- military exercises still continue on the site but their intensity has dropped significantly. This brought about changes in the protection regime, significant increase in cases of illegal use of the site's natural resources and a substantial rise in other kinds of anthropogenic load.

Draining amelioration of overwetted areas adjoining the site on both Belarusian and Ukrainian sides leads to a drop in groundwater level within the site and as a result, to degradation of natural communities.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
National landscape	Olmany Mires	www.zakazniki-stolin.deal.by	whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	A' manskija baloty	http://www.ptushki.org/en/what_we_do/ibas/almany_mire.html	partly

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Partially implemented
Research	Implemented

Other:

The presence of the military polygon has positive impact - the restriction of economic activities, especially hydro melioration, let to preserve this forest-mire complex in its natural state.

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:

The Information centre is established on the base of the State Nature Conservation Facility "Protected Areas Middle Pripjat and Olmany Mires", which manages the area and provides the following services:
 - excursions (walking, bicycle, water); rent of touring equipment; water tours along the Pripjat river; accomodation in the infocentre, in farms; fishing; motor boat rental; information services.
 There are 2 tourist routes within the Olmany site, the routes are provided with rest places.

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant):

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
Plant community	Implemented
Plant species	Implemented
Animal community	Implemented
Birds	Implemented

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

1. Unpublished information from Dombrovsky V.Ch.
2. Baichorov V.M., Giginiak Y.G., Nikiforov M.E., Plenin A.E., Podolyako V.M., Mulenko V.A., Daigot N.E.. Ecological use of military ranges as nature-protection facilities. III International Technical-Practical Conference "Productive Reuse of Former Military Sites: Environmental and Economic Aspects of Demilitarization". September 23-27, 1996, Minsk, Republic of Belarus. -Minsk: Belsens Ltd., 1996, p. 416-420.
3. Nikiforov M.E., Maximenkov M.V., Bakulin A.M. Need for international solutions to problems of State Landscape Zakaznik "Olmany mires". 3rd International Conference "Development of a System of Transboundary Protected Areas" (Russian)
4. Nikiforov M.E., Baichorov V.M., Maximenkov M.V. The experience of establishment of specially protected areas in former military training areas of the Republic of Belarus. Abstracts from reports of the international scientific and practical conference "Natural Protected Areas and Sites of the Belarusian Poozerie: Current State, Future Perspectives", Vitebsk 1997 (Russian).
5. Dombrovsky V.Ch., Zhuravliov D.V. Results of counting of rare predator bird species on the protected areas of Polesie. Belavezhskaia Pushcha on the border of centuries. Based on reports of the scientific and practical conference dedicated to the 60th anniversary of State National Park "Belavezhskaia Pushcha". Minsk 1999 (Russian)
6. Dombrovsky V.Ch., Zhuravliov D.V. Rare predator bird species on the transboundary with Ukraine protected areas of Belarussian Polesie // Materials of the 3d International Conference "Birds of prey of Ukraine". Krivoy Rog, 25-26 of October, 2008. P. 125-133.

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

<1 file(s) uploaded>

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

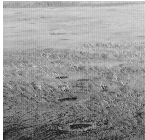
<1 file(s) uploaded>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Olmany mires (*Mikhail Nikiforov, 2002*)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<no file available>

Transboundary Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation