



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 25 January 2010

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Belarus

Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve



Designation date	25 January 2010
Site number	1927
Coordinates	54°43'13"N 28°20'31"E
Area	85 192,00 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 Ramsar site is located in the floodplain of the Berezina River, on the watershed of the Berezina and Essa rivers' basins that in turn refer to the basins of the Black and the Baltic seas. The Berezinsky Reserve is a unique complex of different types of forest, mires, big and small rivers and lakes. Forests occupy more than 89.1% of the territory. About 61 % of the territory is covered by marshes and waterlogged areas. The Berezina River is the defining water stream of the hydrological system of the Reserve, and it is one of the largest tributaries of the Dnieper River, which goes throughout the site for about 100 km. The river regulates the hydrological regime of the region. It's catchment on the territory of the Reserve includes about 50 small forest rivers, which basins are only slightly transformed, or were not exposed to disruption at all. The hydrographic network also includes a complex of four lakes connected by channels. Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve is one of the least disturbed natural territories of Belarus, which gives it the capacity to preserve both natural complexes in general and their individual components. Intact forests, floodplain meadow ecosystems and a large area occupied by mires determine the high biodiversity of flora and fauna species.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

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

From year	2010
To year	2018

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve
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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?	No
(Update) Optional text box to provide further information	There were no significant changes in the ecological character of the territory. There are local changes in the composition of mire forests in small rivers' floodplains, caused by flooding as a result of beavers' activity; overgrowth of open floodplain biotopes caused by cessation of mowing and grazing. The area of such changes is less than 1% of the site's territory.

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps	0
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Boundaries description

The Ramsar site is situated in the Northern part of Belarus. The area and borders of the Ramsar site coincide with the protected area Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve. In 2012 the area of the site was calculated more accurately and now it is 85192 ha. The site extends in meridional direction along the left bank (East) of the Berezina River for the distance of about 60 km. Maximum width of the territory in its central part in the line from West to East reaches 18 km. In the north the site borders with another Ramsar site - Golubitskaya Puscha.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Dokshitsy and Lepel districts of the Vitebsk region, Borisov district of the Minsk region
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b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Dokshitsy, Lepel
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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	Boreal

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

Mire massifs and separate mires of the territory are connected between each other, as well as with lakes, rivers and streams and constitute the single complex wetland system. Defining and regulating water stream of this system is Berezina River, one of the largest tributaries of the Dnieper River, which goes throughout the site for about 100 km. It functions as water-regulating and water-protecting river in the region. It's catchment on the territory of the Reserve includes more than 30 small forest rivers, which basins are only slightly transformed, or were not exposed to amelioration at all. Hydrological network of the Southern part of the Reserve is the rare example of the water system, functioning without human intervention and regulation.

There is the watershed of the basins of the two seas – Baltic and Black, on the territory of the site. Due to the large area of the site, it supplies groundwater to extensive distances, which maintains the high base level of erosion at a large area around the northern part of the reserve.

Other ecosystem services provided

The Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve is a reference object, used for a long-term monitoring of the state of natural complexes and certain biological species typical of the region of Northern Belarus. The Reserve is actively used for recreational tourism and ecological education. The following activities are allowed in specially allocated places of the Reserve: hay making, collection of mushrooms and berries, grazing and amateur fishing.

Other reasons

The wetland is a typical example of a complex of different mire types preserved in the natural condition and typical for the Belarusian Poozerie Area. Mires have become rare in Belarus as a result of mass heavy drainage activities, and have practically disappeared in Central Europe. The complex of the undrained reserve's mires is one of the largest in Europe. The Reserve is exceptionally important reference object, characterizing the nature of the Eastern European sub-taiga forests, their flora and fauna.

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve is one of the least disturbed natural territories of Belarus, which has sufficient potential to preserve both natural complexes in general and their individual components. Intact forests, floodplain meadow ecosystems and a large area occupied by mires determine the high degree of biological diversity of the flora and fauna species.

The reserve's mires are quite specific and important natural habitat for biodiversity. They serve as habitat for a big number of plant species that form depending on soil richness and moisture, a unique variety of communities with a great number of ecotone variants.

Zoological complexes of mire ecosystems are also notable for a high density and taxonomic richness.

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

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

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
<i>Aldrovanda vesiculosa</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	EN	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The site is at the eastern border of the distribution range of the species
<i>Betula nana</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The site is beyond the southern border of the distribution range of the species
<i>Botrychium matricariifolium</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The site is at the eastern border of the distribution range of the species
<i>Corallorhiza trifida</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
<i>Cystopteris sudetica</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	The site is the only or one of the few habitats of this species in Belarus. The site is at the eastern border of the distribution range of the species.
<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata ochroleuca</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
<i>Dactylorhiza viridis</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
<i>Dracocephalum ruyschiana</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
<i>Hammarbya paludosa</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
<i>Hermidium monorchis</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The site is at the eastern border of the distribution range of the species.
<i>Liparis loeselii</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
<i>Malaxis monophyllos</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
<i>Neottia cordata</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
<i>Ophrys insectifera</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	
<i>Pedicularis sceptrum-carolinum</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
<i>Pedicularis sylvatica</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	
<i>Stellaria crassifolia</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	

There are 78 plant and mushroom species from the National Red List within the site.

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	GITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7								
Birds																	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Common Kingfisher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	Criterion 4: The primary value of the wetland is that it supports habitats and offers breeding grounds for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anser anser</i>	Greylag Goose	<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"/>		Criterion 4: The primary value of the wetland is that it supports the species during migration
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VJ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Criterion 4: the site supports this species during migration
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Golden Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	On breeding
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aquila clanga</i>	Greater Spotted Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9	2008		VJ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	6-12 pairs on breeding. Criterion 4: The primary value of the wetland is that it supports habitats and offers breeding and feeding grounds for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	17	2008		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	15-20 pairs. Criterion 4: The primary value of the wetland is that it supports habitats and offers breeding grounds for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Short-eared Owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - LC, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Athene noctua</i>	Little Owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
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"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Bubo bubo</i>	Eurasian Eagle-Owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	Breeds in floodplain oak woods. Criterion 4: The primary value of the wetland is that it supports habitats and offers breeding grounds for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Black Stork	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	Criterion 4: The primary value of the wetland is that it supports habitats and offers breeding grounds for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	2008		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	4-6 pairs, inhabits raised bogs with adjacent forests
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Northern Harrier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	European Roller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Crex crex</i>	Corn Crane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	Criterion 4: The primary value of the wetland is that it supports habitats and offers breeding grounds for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	Otolan Bunting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix III of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine Falcon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Eurasian Kestrel; Common Kestrel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>	Red-footed Falcon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Gallinago media</i>	Great Snipe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	Inhabits floodplain meadows. Criterion 4: The primary value of the wetland is that it supports habitats and offers breeding grounds for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	Black-throated Loon; Arctic Loon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion			Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	GITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7								
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Grus grus</i>	Common Crane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	Criterion 4: The primary value of the wetland is that it supports habitats and offers breeding grounds for this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	White-tailed Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	Criterion 4: The primary value of the wetland is that it supports habitats and offers breeding and feeding grounds for this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	Little Gull	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ	Breeds on shores of lakes and oxbows in the Berezina floodplain
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	Little Bittern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	Breeds in the Berezina floodplain
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Lagopus lagopus</i>	Willow Ptarmigan; Willow Grouse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR, Appendix III of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Black-tailed Godwit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix III of the Bern Convention	Breeds in raised bogs
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Black Kite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	Breeds in island floodplain forests of the Berezina and Serguch rivers
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	Eurasian Curlew	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix III of the Bern Convention	Breeds in raised bogs
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Whimbrel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix III of the Bern Convention	Breeds in raised bogs
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Western Osprey, Osprey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	Criterion 4: The primary value of the wetland is that it supports habitats and offers breeding grounds for this species.
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Picus viridis</i>	European Green Woodpecker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	European Golden-Plover; European Golden Plover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix III of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>	Little Tern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Strix nebulosa</i>	Great Gray Owl; Great Grey Owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Strix uralensis</i>	Ural Owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix II of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Common Greenshank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ, Appendix III of the Bern Convention	
Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea																	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Acipenser ruthenus</i>	Sterlet sturgeon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VJ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR, Appendix III of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Ballerus ballerus</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Appendix III of the Bern Convention	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Cobitis taenia</i>	Spine loach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Appendix III of the Bern Convention	
Others																	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Bison bonasus</i>	European bison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VJ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	species listed in the Appendix III of Bern Convention; Annex II of EU Habitats Directive; Annex IV of EU Habitats Directive, National Red List - VJ	
ARTHROPODA/ ARACHNIDA	<i>Dolomedes plantarius</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VJ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VJ	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	GITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	<i>Dytiscus latissimus</i>		<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"/>	National Red List - VU, Appendix II of the Bern Convention		
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	<i>Epidalea calamita</i>		<input checked="" 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"/>	National Red List - VU, Appendix II of Bern Convention		
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	European Otter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Appendix II of Bern Convention; Annex II of EU Habitats Directive; Annex IV of EU Habitats Directive		
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Lynx lynx</i>	Eurasian Lynx	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN. Species listed in the Appendix III of Bern Convention; Annex II of EU Habitats Directive; Annex IV of EU Habitats Directive		
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Meles meles</i>	European Badger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix III of the Bern Convention		
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Mustela erminea</i>	Ermine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN, Appendix III of the Bern Convention		
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Myotis dasycneme</i>	Pond Myotis; pond bat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN		
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Appendix II of the Bern Convention, National Red List - LC		
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Ursus arctos</i>	Brown Bear; Grizzly Bear	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Appendix II of Bern Convention; Annex II of EU Habitats Directive; Annex IV of EU Habitats Directive; National Red List - CR		

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

There are 111 animal species from the National Red List within the site (9 mammal species, 58 - bird, 3 - amphibia and reptile, 2 - fish species, 37 - insect species, 1 - spider species, 1 - mollusc species).

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
9010 * Western Taiga	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occurs in the northern and central parts of the reserve: indigenous pine forest, indigenous spruce forest. The total area is 6,670.81 ha.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive, high priority habitat
91D0 * Bog woodland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Coniferous forests in raised bogs, transition and fen mires; white birch forests in raised bogs and transition mires. The area is 6,439.43 ha.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive, high priority habitat
9020* Fennoscandian hemiboreal natural old broad-leaved deciduous forests rich in epiphytes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The area is 279.11 ha.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive, high priority habitat
9050 Fennoscandian herb-rich forests with <i>Picea abies</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Grow on mineral islands among black alder swamps in the southern part of the reserve. The area is 2,206.3 ha.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
91E0 * Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i> , <i>Alnion incanae</i> , <i>Salicion albae</i>)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deciduous forests in river valleys. The area is 164.61 ha.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive, high priority habitat

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
7160 Fennoscandian mineral-rich springs and springfens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Annex I of the Habitat Directive
9080 *Fennoscandian deciduous swamp woods	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Black-alder and White birch forests in highly waterlogged soils and fen mires. The area is 14,289.92 ha.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive, high priority habitat
91FO Riparian mixed forests of Quercus robur, Ulmus laevis, U. minor, Fraxinus excelsior, angustifolia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Floodplain oak woods, 7.5 ha.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
7230 Alkaline fens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Their total area is 1152.3 ha.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
91TO Central European lichen pine forests	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The area is 9.15 ha.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
6270 * Fennoscandian lowland species-rich dry to mesic grasslands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	They are formed on tops and upper parts of the slopes of above-floodplain terraces and flat near-riverbed ridges in the northern part of the Berezina floodplain, the area is 6.9 hectares.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive, high priority habitat
6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-siltladen soils (Molinion caeruleae)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	They are formed on the lower parts of the near-terrace ridges, as well as in small depressions of the floodplain of the Serguch River, at the edges of marshes, area - 22.3 hectares.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Formed in the near-terrace depressions, shallow depressions and at the foot of the floodplain ridges in the low flat left-bank Berezina floodplain, the area is 53.6 hectares.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
6450 Northern boreal alluvial meadows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	They are formed in the central and northern parts of the Berezina floodplain and also along the old riverbed of the Serguch River, the area is 3395 hectares.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
2330 Inland dunes with open Corynephorus and Agrostis grasslands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	located on tops of quite high dunes, area - 1.9 ha	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
3150 Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shallow lakes with clear water with pH 6-9, mesotrophic and mid-eutrophic; and lakes with low-flow water (pH 7-9), mid- and highly eutrophic, 5-15 m deep. The overall area is 1,438 ha.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
3160 Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The area of this habitat is 22 ha.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
3270 Rivers with muddy banks with Chenopodium rubri p.p. and Bidenton p.p. vegetation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Small parts of the floodplain of the Berezina River at its right, less frequently left, bank.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
6230 * Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The area is 203.8 ha. Formed under conditions of soil podzolization on the slopes of above-floodplain terraces, on low ridges and on the slopes of riverbed ridges, on flat oxbow embankments in the floodplains of Berezina and Serguch Rivers.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive, high priority habitat
6530 * Fennoscandian wooded meadows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occur in the northern part of the floodplain of the Buzyanka River and on mineral islands in the mires in the southern part of the reserve.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive, high priority habitat
7110 * Active raised bogs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Concentrated in the northern and central parts of the site.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive, high priority habitat
7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Formed and developed in conjunction with large raised bogs in the northern and central parts of the reserve.	Annex I of the Habitat Directive
7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Annex I of the Habitat Directive

[Optional text box to provide further information](#)

There are 23 biotopes of international importance within the site, among which mire and forest ecological communities dominate. Rare biotopes occupy more than a half of the territory.

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

4.1 - Ecological character

Berezinsky Reserve is the large complex of forests mixed with bogs and fens, as well as waterbodies. Forests occupy more than 89.1% of the territory. About 61 % of the territory is covered by marshes and waterlogged areas. The Site contains unique and preserved mire tracts, the total area of which is more than 50.000 hectares. The largest of them is the Domzheritsy mire complex, with an approximate total area of 11.000 hectares. The hydrological network of the Reserve includes the Berezina River, which stretches for about 96 km from north to south across the entire territory of the reserve and flows through Lake Palik near its southern border. It is also composed by a complex of four lakes connected by channels and about fifty small forest rivers which flow into the Berezina River.

The site's forests are represented by four groups: boreal coniferous (53.1 % of the forested area), broad-leaved (0.7%), deciduous wet (35.6%) and deciduous secondary (10.6%) forests. In the total area of forests (75.9 thousand hectares), pine phytocenosis dominates (44.3%).

The most present forest in the reserve are wet pine forests (19.300 hectares). They grow on all types of mires, covering vast areas in the central and northern parts of the reserve. Spruce forests (6.700 hectares) are located along the Berezina floodplain and edges of fen mires.

Broad-leaved forests are represented by oak woods and ash forests. Deciduous wet forests are represented by black alder woods (11.900 hectares) and white birch forests (14.000 hectares).

Mires occupy 52.000 hectares (61% of the site's territory). Fen mires prevail in the Reserve (54.4% of the total mire area). Share of transition mires in the Reserve is 35.3% of the total mire area. And raised bogs occupy 10.3% of the total mire area.

Meadows occupy the tenth part of the reserve's territory and are mostly located in the floodplain of the Berezina River.

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 >> M: Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks		2		
Fresh water > Flowing water >> N: Seasonal/ intermittent/ irregular rivers/ streams/ creeks		4		
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		3	1639	
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> T: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		4		
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Ts: Seasonal/ intermittent freshwater marshes/ pools on inorganic soils		4		
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non-forested peatlands		3		Rare
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> W: Shrub-dominated wetlands		3		
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands		2		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> Xp: Permanent Forested peatlands		1		Representative

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
4: Seasonally flooded agricultural land		4		
9: Canals and drainage channels or ditches		4		

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

RIS for Site no. 1927, Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve, Belarus

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
<i>Arnica montana</i>		National Red List - NT, the site is near the northern border of the distribution area of this species
<i>Boletopsis leucomelaena</i>		
<i>Carex vaginata</i>		The site is beyond the southern border of the distribution range of the species.
<i>Corynephorus canescens</i>		The site is beyond the northwestern border of the distribution range of this species
<i>Dentipellis fragilis</i>		
<i>Empetrum nigrum</i>		The site is beyond the southern border of the distribution range of the species.
<i>Ganoderma lucidum</i>		
<i>Hericium coralloides</i>		
<i>Huperzia selago</i>		National Red List - NT, the site is near the southern border of the distribution area of this species
<i>Lunaria rediviva</i>		
<i>Lycopodiella inundata</i>		
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>		National Red List - NT, the site is at the eastern border of the distribution area of this species
<i>Pulsatilla patens</i>		
<i>Pycnoporus cinnabarinus</i>		
<i>Salix lapponum</i>		
<i>Scytinostroma odoratum</i>		
<i>Thesium ebracteatum</i>		
<i>Trollius europaeus</i>		

Invasive alien plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
<i>Acer negundo</i>		Actually (minor impacts)	No change
<i>Acorus calamus</i>		Actually (minor impacts)	No change
<i>Elodea canadensis</i>		Actually (major impacts)	No change
<i>Heracleum sosnowskyi</i>		Actually (minor impacts)	No change
<i>Petasites hybridus</i>		Actually (minor impacts)	No change
<i>Sorbaria sorbifolia</i>		Actually (minor impacts)	No change

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/ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Blicca bjoerkna</i>	Flat bream				common river species
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Esox lucius</i>	Snake				common river species
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Gymnocephalus cernua</i>					common river species
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Leuciscus idus</i>	Golden orfe				common river species
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>	European perch				common river species
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Rutilus rutilus</i>	Siberian roach				common river species
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>	Pearl roach				common river species
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Alces alces</i>	moose				common within the boundaries of the site.
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Canis lupus</i>	Gray Wolf				predator
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Capreolus capreolus</i>	western roe deer				common within the boundaries of the site.
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	wapiti or elk				common within the boundaries of the site.
ARTHROPODA/INSECTA	<i>Cordulegaster boltonii</i>	Common Goldenring				
ARTHROPODA/INSECTA	<i>Ips acuminatus</i>					forest pest
ARTHROPODA/INSECTA	<i>Ips typographus</i>					forest pest
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Martes martes</i>	European Pine Marten				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Nyctereutes procyonoides</i>	Raccoon dog				Mammal predator
ARTHROPODA/INSECTA	<i>Ophiogomphus cecilia</i>	Green Snaketail				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	wild boar				common within the boundaries of the site.
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Red Fox				Mammal predator

Optional text box to provide further information

In the aquatic ecosystems of the reserve 896 species and varieties of invertebrates were found. There are 543 species registered in the benthos. Both in the rivers and in the lakes the faunistic composition is rich. In general, more than 60 species of aquatic invertebrates, or about 7% of hydrofauna, belong to rare and protected species. The fauna of the vertebrates of the reserve includes 336 species of 460 registered in Belarus. There are 56 species of mammals and 230 species of birds. The fauna of reptiles has 6 species, and the aquatic fauna is represented by 9 species. The faunal list of fish and cyclostomes includes 34 species.

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)

The climate of the reserve is moderately continental, damp and is generated under the influence of wet and warm Atlantic air masses. Southern winds dominate on winter and spring, western – on summer and autumn. The average temperature of the coldest month of the year (January) is -7.3o C, the warmest month (July) is +16.7o C, the average annual temperature is +5,2o C. Relevant temperatures in general for Belarus are -6.7o C, +17.8o C, +5.8o C, respectively. The annual precipitation in the reserve’s territory is 690 mm. This is slightly more than the total national level of 650 mm. The stable snow cover remains in the region for about 120 days, from the first decade of December to the beginning of April.

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.

The reserve's territory is situated in the watershed of rivers' basins, flowing into Black and Baltic seas. The larger part of the territory (about 95%) is located in the floodplain of the Berezina River in its upper stream. Berezina is a right tributary of the largest and the most important river of the Black Sea basin – Dnieper. Small part of the territory (less than 5%) is situated in the floodplain of the Essa River, tributary of the Western Dvina River (Baltic sea basin).

4.4.3 - Soil

Mneral

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

Organic

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

No available information

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 soil cover of the territory is highly mosaic. Hydrological regime is one of the leading factors of soil formation process. There are 5 genetic soil types – sod-podzol, wet sod-podzol, wet sod, peat-mire and alluvial (floodplain), which are divided into 42 soil variations.

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

Water destination

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
To downstream catchment	No change

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

Hydrological network of the territory is well developed (average density of river network is 0.41 km/km²) and is represented by 69 rivers with constant and seasonal flow). The total river length is 280 km, the length of most rivers (80%) does not exceed 5 km. The main waterway of the reserve, the Berezina River, crosses the western part of the reserve in a meridional direction for almost 100 km, and the length of its largest left-bank tributary, the Serguch River, is 35 km within the Reserve. The hydrographic network also includes lakes, the total area of which is 1748 ha. The largest of them is Palik Lake (712 ha).

Presence of regulated adjacent ameliorative systems has some influence on the state of the hydrological regime of the reserve. In general, in recent decades, the anthropogenic impact on the water system of the reserve is minimal. Hydrological regime of a number of small rivers that were previously changed is restoring now by natural way.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site

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

Sediment regime unknown

4.4.6 - Water pH

Acid (pH<5.5)

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

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

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

Alkaline (pH>7.4)

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

Unknown

Please provide further information on pH (optional):

Different types of wetlands are characterized by different water acidity: water pH in raised bogs is 3.0-3.5; transitional mires - 4.8-5.8; fen mires - 6.2-6.7; Berezina River and its tributaries - 7.1-8.1; lakes - 5.4-8.1.

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

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

Unknown

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic

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

Mesotrophic

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

Oligotrophic

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

Dystrophic

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

Unknown

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

There are oligotrophic raised bogs, mesotrophic fen and transition mires, eutrophic and mesotrophic natural lakes, natural dystrophic lakes within the site.

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
Food for humans	Sustenance for humans (e.g., fish, molluscs, grains)	Medium
Fresh water	Drinking water for humans and/or livestock	Medium
Wetland non-food products	Fuel wood/fibre	Medium

Regulating Services

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

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	High
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	High
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	Medium
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	High
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	High
Scientific and educational	Educational activities and opportunities	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
Soil formation	Accumulation of organic matter	Medium
Nutrient cycling	Carbon storage/sequestration	High

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

The Berezina River functions as water-regulating and water-protecting river in the region. Due to the large area of the site, it supplies groundwater to extensive distances, which maintains the high base level of erosion at a large area around the northern part of the reserve. Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve is one of the least disturbed natural territories of Belarus, which has sufficient potential to preserve both natural complexes in general and their individual components. Intact forests, floodplain meadow ecosystems and a large area occupied by mires determine the high degree of biological diversity of the flora and fauna species. The Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve is a reference object, used for a long-term monitoring of the state of natural complexes and certain biological species typical of the region of Northern Belarus. The Reserve is actively used for recreational tourism and ecological education. In the reserve the most massive, bringing the maximum income, is recreational tourism. Environmental education, along with environmental and scientific activities, is one of the priorities of the reserve. In the reserve it is conducted on the basis of the Museum of Nature.

Within the site: 800

Outside the site: 2000

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

RIS for Site no. 1927, Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve, Belarus

i) the site provides a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland

ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland

iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples

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

<no data available>

4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

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

5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

Public ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Provincial/region/state government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

within the Ramsar site:

The land of the site is the property of the state

in the surrounding area:

State-owned land leased to state collective farms and forest economic enterprises.

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

The main structure governing the compliance of established regime on the territory of the site is State Nature Protection Institution "Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve", with the staff of 415 people.

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

Prokoshin Andrei Mikhailovich

Postal address:

Address of State Nature Protection Institution "Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve": 211188, Tsentralnaya Str., 3, Domzheritsy, Lepel district, Vitebsk region, Belarus.

Tel/fax: +375 2132 26343

E-mail address:

info@berezinsky.by

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Livestock farming and ranching	Low impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Transportation and service corridors

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Roads and railroads	Medium 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	Low impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Gathering terrestrial plants	High impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Logging and wood harvesting	Medium impact		<input type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" 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		<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
Fire and fire suppression	Low impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Dams and water management/use	Low impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change
Vegetation clearance/land conversion	Low impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Unspecified/others	Medium impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input 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
Invasive non-native/ alien species	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
Industrial and military effluents	Medium impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change
Agricultural and forestry effluents	Medium impact		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" 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		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

A part of the catchment area of the Berezina tributaries is located outside the reserve's territory in the zone of intensive agricultural and industrial production. In this regard, most of the right-bank tributaries of the Berezina are contaminated with copper compounds, in some there is an increased content of nitrate and nitrite nitrogen and oil products.

From forested and wet catchment, large amounts of biogenic substances enter the river channels, contributing to the intensive development of aquatic vegetation, the death of which leads to sedimentation of river beds and accumulation of bottom sediments in lakes, reducing the oxygen dissolved in water to zero values. This leads to the reduction of the flow of rivers and lakes, increased waterlogging of their floodplain and disruption of their natural functions.

There is possibility of disruption of the existing hydrological regime as a result of impact of water keeping dams (system of lakes Plavno, Olshitsa, Manets and Domzheritskoe), which is a threat to the ecosystem of this group of lakes.

Recently, there has been a decrease in the level of groundwater as a result of extremely dry periods, which leads to the threat of afforestation of raised bogs and the encroachment of shrubs to the transitional mires.

Cattle grazing has a significant impact on the state of the Berezina coastal ecosystems within the protected zone of the reserve. Overgrazing has led to the partial destruction of natural meadow phytocenoses, the loss of the natural appearance of the coastal landscape. On the other hand, the reduction in the number of hayfields in the central part of the Berezina floodplain and in the Serguch floodplain led to the formation of tussocks and overgrowth of the floodplain meadows with shrubs and the loss of the species diversity of the plants growing here.

The main threats to forests of the reserve are caused by the aging of the forests and the extreme impact of weather and climate factors. The age dynamics of forests leads to the accumulation of dry and dead wood, which increases their vulnerability to fires.

Unauthorized commercial gathering of mushrooms and berries in closed areas is a threat to mire ecosystems (trampling of mire vegetation, reduction of the feeding base of grouses, increased disturbance of animals).

In recent years, there has been an increase in invasion of alien animal and plant species into the reserve. Partly the reason for this is climate warming, on the other hand - the rash policy on the introduction of new species to the land adjacent to the protected area.

Motor transport in the M-3 road strip (Minsk-Vitebsk) has a direct impact on wildlife populations, causing the death of mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles, and insects.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Global legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
UNESCO Biosphere Reserve	Berezinsky Biosphere Zapovednik	www.berezinsky.by	whole

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Natural Area of Strict Protection		www.berezinsky.by	whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Biarezinski zapovednik	http://iba.ptushki.org/en/iba/42	whole
Important Plant Area	Berezinsky	http://www.plantlifeipa.org/site/factsheet/81	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
Hydrology management/restoration	Partially implemented
Improvement of water quality	Partially implemented
Faunal corridors/passage	Partially implemented

Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Implemented

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Harvest controls/poaching enforcement	Implemented
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Implemented
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Implemented
Research	Implemented
Livestock management/exclusion (excluding fisheries)	Partially implemented
Regulation/management of wastes	Partially implemented

Other:

The Berezinsky Biosphere Reserve is a key area for maintaining a regionally stable state of populations of commercially valuable, rare and protected animal and plant species. The main efforts is directed to reduce the negative impact of anthropogenic factors on the habitats of certain species. The main conservation measures are:

- zoning of the reserve with regard to the location of key habitats of rare and Red Data Book species of animals and plants;
- allocation of ecological corridors and development for these territories of the relevant Regulations on the protection regime and use of resources;
- mowing and clearing the shrubs in some floodplain areas of traditional land use in order to preserve rare plant species;
- inventory of traditional fish spawning grounds and ensure the implementation of measures to monitor their condition;
- development of measures to reduce the impact of the Minsk-Lepel highway on the migration processes of various animal species;
- organize a quarantine center for the treatment and rehabilitation of Red Data Book wild animals in the open-air cages;
- ensure the feeding and protection of the Berezinsky-Borisov bison population in its wintering areas, take measures to reduce the level of close-breeding in the population and achieve the transfer of the bison wintering territory under the control of the reserve's administration;
- inventory of key habitats of rare and protected species of plants and animals in the transit zone of the reserve and seek to give them a special protection status;
- assess the impact of hunting farms on the state of ungulates and predatory mammals of the reserve and, in the event of a negative impact, develop and carry out measures to reduce it.

And other conservation measures according to the Management plan (attached).

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:

There is House of Ecological Education and Museum of Nature within the Reserve. There are also ecological routes. Guided ecological tours are organized in the reserve.

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
Animal community	Implemented
Water quality	Implemented
Plant species	Implemented
Animal species (please specify)	Implemented
Birds	Implemented

The following animal species (apart from birds) are monitored:

- animal species included in the National Red Data Book: European bison, Brown bear, Lynx, European badger.
- large ungulates: Elk, Red deer, Wild boar, Roe deer.
- predators: Wolf, Red fox, Raccoon dog, European pine marten.
- small animals: European hare, Mountain hare, squirrel.
- protected insect species, inhabiting the Reserve.
- insects, which are forest pests: European spruce bark beetle, Sharp-dentated Bark Beetle.

The reserve's scientific surveys consist of leading the permanent year-round researches, aimed at studying natural complexes and natural process dynamic for rating and forecasting the state of ecosystems, features of fauna and flora, scientific basis development for nature protection and biodiversity preserving. Scientific research is carried in two directions: monitoring of processes and natural phenomena at the reserve (Nature chronicle) and fundamental investigation of the structure and dynamic of natural forest, meadow, lake and river complexes, birds and mammals fauna (European bison,) research. Scientific department also carries out joint investigations with the scientists of the Belarusian state university, with a number of institutes of the Academy of Sciences, with national and foreign specialists. Based on the results of scientific research, practical guidelines are worked out and introduced, and scientific papers and monographs are published. The reserve's research staff takes active part in scientific conferences.

Coordination of the reserve's scientific activity is led by the Scientific and Technical Council, members of which are the leading specialists of the reserve, and also of scientific- research institutes of the Academy of Sciences as well as of Ministries.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/figures/biogeographical-regions-in-europe-2/map_2-1_biogeographical-regions/image_large
 Other bibliographical references are added as a separate document in the section Additional reports and documents.

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

- i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)
 <2 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
 <1 file(s) uploaded>
- iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports
 <no file available>
- v. site management plan
 <1 file(s) uploaded>
- vi. other published literature
 <2 file(s) uploaded>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Berezina River (*Ivkovich D.V., 08-07-2014*)



Domzheritskoe Lake (*Ivkovich D.V., 31-08-2013*)



Raised Bog Rozhnianskoe (*Ivkovich D.V., 12-06-2013*)



Open transition mires are ideal displaying ground for Black grouse. Up to 30 males gather on the Postrezhskoe mire. (*Ivkovich D.V., 20-04-2011*)



The Reserve holds many natural small rivers, surrounded by swampy black alder forests. (*Ivkovich D.V., 11-05-2012*)



The left bank of the upper reaches of the Berezina River is occupied by a huge forest-swamp massif with a predominance of natural complexes undisturbed by man. (*Ivkovich D.V., 27-09-2011*)



During the spring flood period the Berezina River floods the whole floodplain and surrounding swampy forests; the flood reaches a width of 2-4 km. (*Ivkovich V.S., 08-04-2005*)



The most typical plant of raised bogs is the Tussock cottongrass, whose seeds ripen in the end of May. (*Ivkovich V.S., 21-05-2004*)



Marsh marigold begins to blossom in early spring on the floodplain meadows of the Berezina River. (*Ivkovich D.V., 03-05-2008*)



The Round-leaved sundew is a unique carnivorous plant, common in the Reserve's mires. (*Ivkovich V.S., 12-05-2008*)



The Lesser spotted eagle is protected species of birds of prey, which is common in open biotopes in the Berezina floodplain. (*Ivkovich V.S., 17-08-2011*)



Black alder swampy forests in the southern part of the Reserve represent unique massif of untouched forests at an area of more than 15,000 ha. (*Ivkovich V.S., 05-08-2008*)



The Eurasian beaver is found throughout the whole territory of the Reserve, inhabiting both the Berezina River and its numerous tributaries. (*Ivkovich D.V., 15-12-2013*)



Berries of the Bog cranberry ripen on bogs in spring. It serves as a perfect food for many animal species. (*Ivkovich V.S., 30-09-2006*)



Floodplain meadows of the Berezina River are characterized by the exceptional variety of flora and fauna. (*Ivkovich V.S., 12-08-2016*)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation