

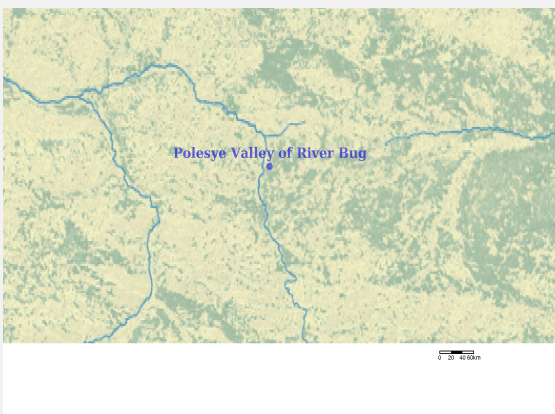


# Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 15 January 2016

## Belarus

### Polesye Valley of River Bug



Designation date	29 May 2014
Site number	2252
Coordinates	51°50'13"N 23°42'52"E
Area	23 159,00 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 wetland represents eastern (Belarusian) part of the valley of river Zapadny Buh (Western Bug) in its middle reach. The Western Bug river in the Ramsar Site is a typical example of reference wetland characteristics for the Continental biogeographical region in Europe. The river has fully preserved its natural state, while most other rivers of Western and Central Europe have been exposed to hydromorphological changes, including, full or partial channeling.

The wetland is significant in a transboundary context, situated along a the state border between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Poland. Besides, the eastern part of the wetland borders on the Ukrainian Ramsar Site Shatsk Lakes (Shatskye Ozera). The wetland maintains high groundwater levels in the international context. Being the floodplain of a large river, the site represents a territory for groundwater discharge and recharge, and improves the water quality. Considering the transborder location of the wetland, this function is equally important for the Belarusian, Polish and Ukrainian parts of the river basin.

Regardless of the relatively small area, the wetland is characterized by a high degree of biological diversity. There have been registered 209 species of birds, of which at least 167 are nesting. The wetland supports more than 60 animal species (including invertebrates) listed in the national Red Data Book of the Republic of Belarus. Moreover, the site is an important food source for fish, and a spawning ground, nursery and migration path on which fish stocks depend.

## 2 - Data & location

### 2.1 - Formal data

#### 2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

##### Compiler 1

Name	Andrej Abramchuk
Institution/agency	Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin
Postal address	225921, Oltush, Malorita district, Brest region, Naberezhnaya st., 35
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#### 2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year	2013
To year	2014

#### 2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Polesye Valley of River Bug
Unofficial name (optional)	Полесская долина реки Буг

## 2.2 - Site location

### 2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image  
<1 file(s) uploaded>

### 2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Brest Region/Brest District
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Brest 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  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):	23159
Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries	23273.29

### 2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Continental

### 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 wetland represents eastern (belarusian) part of the floodplain of river Zapadny Buh (Western Buh), in its middle reach. The length of the river within the territory is 107 km. The river has fully preserved its natural state and has numerous meanders and oxbows. River Western Buh within the proposed Ramsar site is an example of typical reference wetland characteristic for the continental biogeographic region. The wetland maintains the level of groundwater in the international extent. Being the floodplain of the large river, the site represents the territory of ground water discharge and recharge, ensuring the water quality as well. Considering the transborder location of the wetland, this function is equally important for Belarussian, Polish and Ukrainian parts of the river's basin.

The site executes the function of flood control and hazard reduction during spring flood. Moreover, the site serves as natural filter, ensuring biological purification of surface and ground water. Due to naturalness of the site's river ecosystems (absence of hydrotechnical constructions, natural riverbed, presence of floodplain and numerous floodplain water bodies, rich biodiversity) this function is very effective. Considering the transboundary position of the wetland, the function of water purification has international value.

Other ecosystem services provided

Regardless of the relatively small area, wetland "Polesye Valley of River Buh" is characterized by high degree of biological diversity. There have been registered 209 species of birds, of which at least 167 are nesting. Near 700 species of vascular plants grow here. Besides, the wetland supports more than 60 animal species (including invertebrates) listed in the national Red Data Book of the Republic of Belarus. The wetland is part of a river system, which is of great importance for the passage of river fish to the spawning grounds.

The site includes "Stradač" fishfarm, which is one of the oldest objects of its type in Belarus. The fish farm is used for extensive fish production.

A part of the wetland has historical value as a place of existence of "golendras" colonies appeared here in the beginning of the 16th century and had existed there for near 400 years. That was a unique experience (one of the first in the Eastern Europe) of coexistence of people in harmony with the nature of a wild river.

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification














Regardless of the relatively small area, wetland "Polesye Valley of River Buh" is characterized by high degree of biological diversity. There have been registered 209 species of birds, of which at least 167 are nesting. Near 700 species of vascular plants grow here.

- Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.













Justification

The wetland supports the ecological processes that are critical for the formation of populations of commercially important freshwater fish (spawning, feeding grounds, wintering).  
The wetland is part of a river system, which is of great importance for the passage of river fish to the spawning grounds.

#### 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>Anacamptis morio</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	Rare orchid typical for the bio-geographical zone.
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	Rare orchid typical for the bio-geographical zone.
<i>Cephalanthera rubra</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	Relict species, rare orchid typical for the bio-geographical zone.
<i>Corallorhiza trifida</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	Rare orchid typical for the bio-geographical zone.
<i>Dactylorhiza majalis</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	Rare orchids typical for the bio-geographical zone.
<i>Hedera helix</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	Relict species, the site is at the eastern edge of its range. The site supports one of the largest population groups of this species.
<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	The species here is beyond the eastern border of its range.
<i>Osmunda regalis</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	The site is the only place of occurrence of this species in the Eastern Europe, defines the eastern edge of the species' European range
<i>Prunus spinosa</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The site supports the largest population group of the species in Belarus.
<i>Saxifraga granulata</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	Relict species, is at the eastern edge of its range here.
<i>Viscum album austriacum</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The site is beyond the northern edge of the species' range

### 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 pomarina</i> 	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<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 - VU		
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Ardea alba</i> 	Great Egret	<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 - VU		
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Aythya nyroca</i> 	Ferruginous Duck	<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		
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Barbus barbus</i> 		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU		
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 - VU		
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Bubo bubo</i> 	Eurasian Eagle-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		

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence	IUCN Red List	GITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Chondrostoma nasus</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Black Stork	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 - VU	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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	
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	<i>Coronella austriaca</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Crex crex</i>	Corn Crane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 - VU	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	Ortolan Bunting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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	
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	<i>Epicidalea 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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Eptesicus nilssonii</i>	Northern Bat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The site is of great importance for such groups as bats, dormice.
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	Little Bittern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Meles meles</i>	European Badger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 - VU	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Myotis brandtii</i>	Brandt's Myotis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The site is of great importance for such groups as bats, dormice.
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Myotis dasycneme</i>	Pond Myotis;pond bat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The site is of great importance for such groups as bats, dormice.
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Myoxus glis</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The site is of great importance for such groups as bats, dormice.
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>	Leisler's Noctule;lesser noctule	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The site is of great importance for such groups as bats, dormice.
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Vimba vimba</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	

### 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
Floodplain (alluvial) forests	<input type="checkbox"/>	Salix alba and S. fragilis forest, Populus alba and P. nigra, Fraxinus, Alnus glutinosa forests along the river bed, as well as floodplain broadleaf mixed oak-ash forests along small streams and the main river bed of the Buh River.	Show the most diverse composition of avifauna species, are the habitat of a number of protected species.
Wet alder stands	<input type="checkbox"/>	Occupies significant areas within the wetland. These forests characterized by waterlogging throughout the year, with considerable rise of the water level in spring.	These are crucial for a number of species of birds, such as white-backed woodpecker, eagle owl, common crane, lesser spotted eagle, black stork, etc.
Galio-Carpinetum oak-hornbeam forests at watersheds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Occupies relatively small areas within the wetland.	have the most diverse avifauna species and show richness in rare flora elements.
Spruce forests	<input type="checkbox"/>	Are at the southern edge of its distribution. Apart from the common for Belarus and typical for the Boreal district "European" spruce (Picea abies subsp. Europaea Tepl.), there is widely spread its "Carpathian" form (Picea abies subsp. Acuminata).	Spruce forests support otherwise non-typical for the region fauna complexes with boreal elements.
Community of Juniperus communis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Occupies significant area within the wetland on heathlands or calciphyte dry meadows.	

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

### 4.1 - Ecological character

The wetland represents eastern (Belarusian) part of the valley of river Zapadny Bug (Western Buh), in its middle reach. The length of the river within the territory is 107 km. The boundaries of the wetland include "Stradach" fishfarm- a big complex of old fish ponds, natural lake Seliachi and lake Stradachskaje.

The Western Bug River within the site is an example of typical reference wetland characteristic for the continental biogeographical region. The river has fully preserved its natural state. Forests cover about 60% of the site's territory. Water bodies (river, oxbows, lakes, ponds) occupy a significant area; the share of meadows and open mires is small. The wetland is characterized by exclusive variety of ecosystems and species. Regardless of the relatively small area, the wetland is characterized by high degree of biological diversity. There have been registered 209 species of birds, of which at least 167 are nesting. Near 700 species of vascular plants grow here.

The river within the wetland is a state border between Poland and Belarus. Also the wetland borders on Ramsar Site "Shatskiye Ozera" ("Shatsk Lakes") in Ukraine. The wetland maintains the level of groundwater in the international extend.

### 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		3		Representative
Fresh water > Flowing water >> N: Seasonal/ intermittent/ irregular rivers/ streams/ creeks		0		
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		0		
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		0		
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Ts: Seasonal/ intermittent freshwater marshes/ pools on inorganic soils		0		
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non-forested peatlands		4		
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> V: Shrub-dominated wetlands		0		
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands		1		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> Xp: Permanent Forested peatlands		0		

#### 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
1: Aquaculture ponds		2		
4: Seasonally flooded agricultural land		0		

### 4.3 - Biological components

#### 4.3.1 - Plant species

##### Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
<i>Cardamine bulbifera</i>		
<i>Isopyrum thalictroides</i>		is at the north-eastern edge of its range
<i>Neottia ovata</i>		
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>		is situated near the eastern border of its range
<i>Salvinia natans</i>		

##### Invasive alien plant species



Scientific name	Common name	Impacts
<i>Acer negundo negundo</i>		Actually (minor impacts)

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/AVES	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Common Kingfisher				
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	Garganey				
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas strepera</i>	Gadwall				
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anser anser</i>	Greylag Goose				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Castor fiber</i>	Eurasian Beaver				
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	Mute Swan				
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	Eurasian Hobby,Northern Hobby				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	European Otter				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>					
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Myotis nattereri</i>	Natterer's bat,Natterer's Myotis				
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	Red-necked Grebe				
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Porzana parva</i>	Little Crane				

Invasive alien animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Impacts
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Neovison vison</i>	American Mnk	Actually (major impacts)

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)

Middle part of river basin

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

Western Buh (Zapadny Buh)

4.4.3 - Soil

Mneral

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 most frequent types of soil within the wetland are floodplain sod soil, peat-bog lowland and peat-bog alluvial soils, sod-calcareous loam and sandy-loam soil.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?
Usually permanent water present
Usually seasonal, ephemeral or intermittent water present

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source
Water inputs from rainfall	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water inputs from surface water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Water destination

Presence?
Feeds groundwater
To downstream catchment

Stability of water regime

Presence?
Water levels fluctuating (including tidal)

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

<no data available>

4.4.6 - Water pH

Alkaline (pH>7.4)

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic

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

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the site itself: i) broadly similar  ii) significantly different

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development

Surrounding area has higher human population density

Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use

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
Wetland non-food products	Timber	Medium

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	High
Pollution control and detoxification	Water purification/waste treatment or dilution	High
Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	High

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Low
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	Medium

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:

A part of the wetland has historical value as a place of existence of "golendras" (functioning on the basis of the so-called "Hollander" right) colonies. Such colonies appeared in the beginning of the 16th century in the area of settlement Domachevo and had existed there for near 400 years (until the end of the Second World War). That was a unique experience (one of the first in the Eastern Europe) of coexistence of people in harmony with the nature of a wild river. There are several archeological sites known within the wetland. There are two ecological paths (<http://www.rezervat.domachevo.com/tropa-meshozernaya.htm>) and several recreation areas within the site.

Within the site: 10s

Outside the site: 300000

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

<no data available>

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

### 5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

#### 5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

##### Public ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
National/Federal government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### 5.1.2 - Management authority

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

Brest Regional Executive Committee  
State Border Committee of the Republic of Belarus

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

Chairman of the Brest Regional Executive Committee - Matsuka Vladimir Alexandrovich

Postal address:

Brest Regional Executive Committee: 2, V. Khoruzhey street, 224030, Brest, Belarus

E-mail address:

brest\_rik@mail.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	In the surrounding area
Drainage	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Wood and pulp plantations	Low impact	Low impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Transportation and service corridors

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Roads and railroads	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Logging and wood harvesting	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Recreational and tourism activities	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Natural system modifications

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Fire and fire suppression	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dams and water management/use	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Invasive and other problematic species and genes

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Invasive non-native/ alien species	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Household sewage, urban waste water	Low impact	Low impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural and forestry effluents	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe any other threats (optional):

The main threats for fish ponds are late filling of ponds, full reconstruction of ponds. Overgrowth of open mires with shrubs due to cessation of mowing.

### 5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Other international designation	The international cross-border biosphere reserve Zapadnoe Polesie		partly

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Republican Landscape Reserve	Pribuzhskoye Polesie	http://www.rezervat.domachevo.co m	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	Proposed

Other:

Use of the FSC forest certification tools - partly implemented.  
Change of zoning of biosphere reserve (BR) "PribuzhskoyePolesye" (the Belarusian section of BR "ZapadnoyePolesye") is proposed;  
Amendment of the provision on the biosphere reserve is proposed.

### 5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? No

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes  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:

A visitor-center (located at the boundaries of the wetland) of SEI "Republican Reserve "PribuzhskoyePolesye"".

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant): <http://www.rezervat.domachevo.com>

### 5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

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

### 5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Plant community	Proposed
Plant species	Implemented
Birds	Implemented

Within the framework of the project "Let's save nature together" (funder SGP/GEF, 2008-2010, principle executor West Polesye Regional Department of APB-BirdLife Belarus) there were found near 140 habitats of 34 rare and protected species of plants and animals entered into the Red Book of Belarus. Requirements for protection of rare species of birds in fish farms were developed. Changes of the zoning scheme with the purpose to include the most valuable of the found areas (sections where most rare and valuable ecosystems, habitats of protected species of animals and plants, HCVF are presented) into the main zone of the biosphere reserve were proposed. The integrative system of monitoring of Buh River, state of ecosystems and threats was developed.

## 6 - Additional material

### 6.1 - Additional reports and documents

#### 6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

1. Report on NIR: Scientific Rationale of Announcement of State Landscape Reserve of Republican Importance "PribuzhskoyePolesye" in Brest District of Brest Region, Brest-Minsk, 2002. Supervisor of works deputy director of UE "BELNITSZEM" G. V. Dudko, scientific supervisor head of the ecosystems optimization laboratory of Polesye Problems Department of NAS of Belarus PhD (Biology) V. T. Demyanchik.
2. Report on NIR: To Develop Scientific Basis and Prepare Rationale of Creation of Biosphere Reserve "PribuzhskoyePolesye" in Brest Region. Supervisor of RSW G. V. Dudko, Minsk, 2003.
3. Report on RDW: Development of Scientific Concept and Draft Maintenance Plan for Republican Landscape Reserve "PribuzhskoyePolesye" (final). Supervisor PhD (Geography), assistant professor K. K. Krasovsky, Brest, 2004.
4. Report on NIR: Preparation of Materials of Nomination Application on Announcement of Biosphere Reserve "PribuzhskoyePolesye" Part of Cross-Border Reserve "ZapadnoyePolesye" (Belarus, Poland, Ukraine) (final). Supervisor of RSW PhD (Geography), assistant professor K. K. Krasovsky, Brest, 2005.
5. Project "SokhranimPriroduVmeste" ("Let's Protect Nature Together") (funder SGP/GEF) – 2008-2010.
6. The Red Book of Belarus: Rare and endangered species of wild plants / of the editorial L.I. Khoruzhik, L.M. Sushchenya, V.I. Parfenov [et al.] - 2nd ed. - Minsk: BelEn, 2006. – 456 p.

#### 6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

<no data available>

#### 6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



The waterlogged floodplain of the Buh River ( *Vershitskaya I.N., 2013* )

#### 6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2014-05-29