

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 8 November 2016 Update version, previously published on 1 January 2008

Hungary Kis-Balaton



Designation date 17 March 1989
Site number 185
Coordinates 46°38'20"N 17°11'55"E
Area 14 659,00 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

Once the westernmost bay of Lake Balaton, the Kis-Balaton today is a water protection system consisting of two main parts (Phase I and Phase II, see description under item 16.). Phase I is characterised by open water surfaces with relatively narrow reedbelts along the dikes and some marshland vegetation on the southern part of the area, while Phase II contains vast reedbeds and sedgy marshes, and less open water. The Kis-Balaton has a crucial importance in the history of Hungarian nature conservation. This was the first area where the protection of the great white egret was organized. This species had become almost extinct, but due to its protection the population increased and nowadays about 4 000 pairs nest in Hungary. The Kis-Balaton, as a nature reserve area, has been legally protected since 1951. It has been part of the Balaton Uplands National Park since 1997. It has been under the protection of the Ramsar Convention since 1979. Almost the whole area of the Kis-Balaton was designated according to the Habitats Directive and the Birds Directive (12.803 ha, HUBF30003, SAC + SPA).

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Name	Máté Magyari
Institution/agency	Balaton Uplands National Park Directorate (Balaton-felvidéki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság, BfNPI)
Postal address	HU-8229 Csopak, Kossuth L. u. 16.
E-mail	bfnp@bfnp.kvvm.hu
Phone	+36-87-555260

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

From year 2015

To year 2015

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish) Kis-Balaton

2.1.4 - Changes to the boundaries and area of the Site since its designation or earlier update

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(Update) A Changes to Site boundary Yes 
No O

(Update) The boundary has been delineated more accurately 
(Update) B. Changes to Site area the area has decreased

(Update) The Site area has been calculated more accurately 
(Update) The Site has been delineated more accurately 
(Update
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2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS?

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Boundaries description (optional)

Site boundary is the same as the Kis-Balaton part of the Balaton Uplands National Park. The site boundary on the old map incorrectly included the village of Balatonmagyaród. This has been corrected on the new map, as the human settlement has never been and should not be part of the Ramsar site.

2.2.2 - General location

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

Zala & Somogy Counties

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

Keszhtely

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes O No \odot

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party?

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 14659

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries 14659.35

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Pannonic

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

The Kis-Balaton is unique within the biogeographic region by being one of the largest marshlands with reedbeds, marshy meadows and large sedges that are still in close-to-natural state. Most of the vegetation is water-logged for most of the vegetative season. The area of different types of reedbed vegetation is 2500 ha.

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

The Kis-Balaton holds one of the highest concentrations of waterbirds in the migration period in Transdanubia, i.e. the western part of the Pannonic biogeographic region and supports important populations of plant and animal species for maintaining the biological diversity of the Pannonian Biogeographic region.

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

Overall waterbird numbers 27776

Source of data:

Please refer to the document in Additional material > iv. other published literature for the list of Bibliographical references for Criterion 5.

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

Several fish species, amongst which Umbra krameri, live and spawn in the area. For the list of Justification internationally protected fish species, see Section 3.3 Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site.

☑ Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.

The population of Umbra krameri in the Kis-Balaton is estimated at about 50% of the world population. Water habitats of Phase II of the Kis-Balaton are very convenient spawning grounds for the asp (Aspius aspius) and other fish species: the carp (Cyprinus carpio carpio morpha hungarica), the roach (Rutilus rutilus), the rudd (Scardinius erythrophthalmus), the breams (Abramis spp.) and the bleak (Alburnus alburnus). Huge flocks of these fish species swim up from Lake Balaton to the spawning grounds of Kis-Balaton in every year.

- ☑ Criterion 9 : >1% non-avian animal population
- 3.2 Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Cirsium brachycephalum		₽			LC ●数 ●翻		Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive	
Lindernia procumbens	False Pimpernel	Ø			LC ©SP		Annex IV of the EU Habitats Directive	
Trapa natans	Water Chestnut	V			LC OW		Appendix I of the Bern Convention	

Criterion 2: The area of different types of threatened reedbed and sedges vegetation is approximately 3500 ha (2500 ha reedbed, 1000 ha sedge vegetation).

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

3.3 - Anima	al species wh	nose presend			ntern	ational impo	rtance o	it the	site			
Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion	Species contributes under criterion 3 5 7 8	Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendia	Cther Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGI	Alburnus alburnus	bleak	0000		9			LC ©SF				Water habitats of Phase II of the Kis-Balaton are very convenient spawning grounds for the bleak (Albumus albumus)
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas acuta	Northern Pintail	0000]			LC ●器				Criterion 5: see text box below
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas clypeata	Northern Shoveler			1800	2011	4.5					individuals 1% threshold = 400, Kis-Balaton: 1.800 migrating individuals (Nov. 2011) – max rate Criterion 5: see text box below
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas crecca	Eurasian Teal;Green- winged Teal	0000					LC ●数				Criterion 5: see text box below
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas penelope	Eurasian Wigeon	0000									Criterion 5: see text box below
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard	0000					LC				Criterion 5: see text box below
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas querquedula	Garganey	0000									Criterion 5: see text box below
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anas strepera	Gadwall	0000									Criterion 5: see text box below
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Anguis fragilis	Slowworm	2 000								Bern Convention Appendix III	
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	Anisus vorticulus	Little Ramshorn Whirlpool Snail	2 000]						Annexes II and IV of the EU Habitats Directive	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anser albifrons	Greater White- fronted Goose			5000	2011	4.5	LC ●幹 ●開				individuals (average) 1% threshold = 1.100, Kis-Balaton: >5.000 wintering individuals (Nov. 2011) – max rate Criterion 5: see text box below
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anser anser	Greylag Goose			9084	2006-2011	16.2	LC				individuals (average) 1% threshold = 560, Kis-Balaton: 6000 in January 2008, 6000 in November 2008, 8757 in November 2010, 15580 in November 2011. Criterion 5: see text box below
CHORDATA/ AVES	Anser fabalis	Bean Goose	0000					LC ©SS				Criterion 5: see text box below

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Specie qualifie under criterio 2 4 6	es con	pecies stributes under siterion	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence	IUCN Red List	-	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ardea alba	Great White Egret				375	2013	1.6	LC ©SSS			Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I	pairs (average) breeding pairs 1% threshold = 460, Kis-Balaton: cca. 350-400 breeding pairs (2013) – max rate
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ardea purpurea	Purple Heron							LC ●数 ●瞬			Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ardeola ralloides	Squacco Heron							LC			Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Aythya nyroca	Ferruginous Duck	~						NT ●数 ●翻		V	Birds Directive Annex I, European IUCN Red List VU	Criterion 4: see text box below
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Bombina bombina	Fire-bellied Toad							LC Sir			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annexes II and IV	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Botaurus stellaris	Eurasian Bittern							LC ●SS ●SS			Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Bufo bufo	European Toad							LC Single			Bern Convention Appendix III	
INSECTA	Cerambyx cerdo	Greater Capricorn Beetle							VU © iii © iiii			Appendix II of the Bern Convention ; Annexes II and IV of the EU Habitats Directive	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGI	Cobitis taenia	Loach							LC •#			Bern Convention Appendix III, Habitats Directive Annex II	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Coenagrion ornatum	Ornate Bluet	2 00		000				LC Sign			Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive	Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature
CHORDATA/ AVES	Crex crex	Corn Crake							LC			Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGI		carp				7			VU ●\$‡ ●簡				carp (Cyprinus carpio carpio morpha hungarica) Water habitats of Phase II of the Kis-Balaton are very convenient spawning grounds for the carp. Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature
CHORDATA/ AVES	Egretta garzetta	Little Egret							LC			Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Emys orbicularis	Emys orbicularis										Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annexes II and IV	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Eptesicus serotinus	serotine;Common Serotine							LC S			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Eriogaster catax	Tent Caterpillar Moth	2 00									Bern Convention Appendix II; Annexes II and IV of the EU Habitats Directive	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Falco subbuteo	Eurasian Hobby;Northern Hobby							LC Sign			Bern Convention Appendix II	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Felis silvestris	Wildcat							LC ●数 ●瞬			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Haliaeetus albicilla	White-tailed Eagle							LC	 ✓	Ø	Haliaeetus albicilla	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Himantopus himantopus	Black-winged Stilt							LC ●辭			Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion	Species contributes under criterion	Size		% occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
ANNELIDA/ CLITELLATA	Hirudo medicinalis	Medicinal Leech	Ø000					NT			Bern Convention Appendix III, Habitats Directive Annex V, EU CITES B(II)	
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Hyla arborea	European Tree Frog						LC Sign			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ichthyaetus melanocephalus	Mediterranean Gull	8000]						Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Ixobrychus minutus	Little Bittern						LC •#			Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Lacerta agilis	Sand Lizard		10000				LC ●数 ●簡			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYG	Leucaspius delineatus	Sunbleak		10000				LC Sin			Bern Convention Appendix III	Slack waters of the wetlands are excellent for the sunbleak that require specific ecological circumstances. Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYG	Leuciscus aspius	Asp	Ø00c		P						Habitats Directive Annex II	Water habitats of Phase II of the Kis-Balaton are very convenient spawning grounds for the asp (Aspius aspius). Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	, Leucorrhinia pectoralis	Yellow-spotted Whiteface						LC Sir			Bern Convention Appendix II	Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Lissotriton vulgaris	Smooth Newt						LC •#			Bern Convention Appendix III	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Lucanus cervus	Stag Beetle)						Bern Convention Appendix III, Habitats Directive Annex II	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Lutra lutra	European Otter						NT			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annexes II and IV	
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Lycaena dispar	Large Copper									Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annexes II and IV	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Microcarbo pygmeus	Pygmy Cormorant			518	2011	1.8				Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I	wintering individuals cca. 130-150 breeding pairs (2013), 518 wintering individuals (Dec. 2011) - max rates
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Microtus oeconomus	tundra vole		10000] -1		1	LC •°° •°°			Bern Convention Appendix III, Habitats Directive Annexes II and IV	Mcrotus oeconomus mehelyi Criterion 9: see text box Kis- Balaton is one of the few remaining sites for the Pannonic subspecies of the Northern Vole (Root Vole), a glacial relict. This subspecies is restricted to special sedge marshes in Transdanubia.
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYG	Misgurnus fossilis	Weatherfish						LC Str			Bern Convention Appendix III, Habitats Directive Annex II	Slack waters of the wetlands are excellent for the weatherfish that require specific ecological circumstances. Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Mustela erminea	Ermine						LC			Bern Convention Appendix III	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Myotis bechsteinii	Bechstein's Bat	8000					NT			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annexes II and IV	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Myotis dasycneme	Pond Myotis;pond bat						NT			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annexes II and IV	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Specie qualification unde criteric 2 4 6	es er on	Specie contribut under criterio 3 5 7	es n	Pop. Size Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence	Dod 4	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	C Other Status Justification
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Myotis daubentonii	Daubenton's Myotis							LC ©#			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Myotis myotis	Mouse-eared Myotis;mouse- eared bat							LC Sis			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annexes II and IV
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Myotis nattereri	Natterer's bat;Natterer's Myotis	2 00						LC Sis			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Natrix natrix	Grass Snake										Bern Convention Appendix III
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	Natrix tessellata	Dice Snake							LC Sis			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annexes II and IV
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Nyctalus noctula	noctule;Noctule Black-crowned	2 00						LC			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV
CHORDATA/ AVES	Nycticorax nycticorax	Night Heron;Black- crowned Night- Heron	2 00						LC Single			Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Pelobates fuscus	Spadefoot Toad							LC • Str			Bern Convention Appendix II
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Pipistrellus kuhlii	Kuhl's Pipistrelle;Kuhl's pipistrelle	2 00						LC © SS © TSF			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Pipistrellus nathusii	Nathusius's pipistrelle;Nathus Pipistrelle	iu 🎉 🗌 🗀						LC Str			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common Pipistrelle;commo pipistrelle	or 🗹 🗆 🗆						LC Sign			Bern Convention Appendix III, Habitats Directive Annex IV
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Pipistrellus pygmaeus	Soprano Pipistrelle	2 00						LC ©#			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV
CHORDATA/ AVES	Platalea leucorodia	Eurasian Spoonbill							LC			Birds Directive Annex I, (EU CITES A(II))
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Plecotus austriacus	gray big-eared bat;Gray Long- eared Bat							LC Single			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV
CHORDATA/ AVES	Porzana parva	Little Crake										Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATA/ AVES	Porzana porzana	Spotted Crake	2 00						LC Sin Sin			Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Pseudepidalea viridis	Green Toad										Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Rana arvalis	Rana arvalis							LC Str Str			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Rana dalmatina	Agile Frog							LC © 1587			Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYG	Rhodeus sericeus	Bitterling										Bern Convention Appendix III, Habitats Directive Annex II Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion 2 4 6	under	P S	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence	IUCN Red List	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	Rhysodes sulcatus	Wrinkled Bark Beetle	2 000							Habitats Directive Annex II	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Rutilus rutilus	roach			V			LC Star			Water habitats of Phase II of the Kis-Balaton are very convenient spawning grounds for roach (Rutilus rutilus)
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Scardinius erythrophthalmus	rudd			1			LC Star			Water habitats of Phase II of the Kis-Balaton are very convenient spawning grounds for the rudd (Scardinius erythrophthalmus)
CHORDATA/ AVES	Sterna hirundo	Common Tern	2 000					LC Str		Bern Convention Appendix II, Birds Directive Annex I	
CHORDATA/ AVES	Tachybaptus ruficollis	Little Grebe	2 000					LC		Bern Convention Appendix II	
CHORDATA/ AMPHIBIA	Triturus dobrogicus	Crested Newt	Ø000					NT © the		Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex II	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	Umbra krameri	European Mud- minnow	Ø009	2 000	✓.	-1	50	VU ●鈴 ●際		Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex II	Criterion 9: see text box below. The population of Umbra krameri in Kis-Balaton is estimated at about 50% of the world population. Slack waters of the wetlands are excellent for the european mud-minnow.
	Vertigo angustior	marsh snail						NT		Habitats Directive Annex II	
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	Vespertilio murinus	Particolored Bat; particolored bat								Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV	
	Zamenis lineatus	Aesculapian Snake								Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annex IV	

Criterion 2 - Species which are not listed in the Catalogue of Life:

- Cucujus cinnaberinusk Bern Convention Appendix II, Habitats Directive Annexes II and IV
- Euplagia quadripunctaria (Jersey Tiger) Habitats Directive Annex II
- Vertigo moulinsiana (Desmoulin's Whorl Snail)- Habitats Directive Annex II
- Rana esculenta (Edible Frog) Bern Convention Appendix III, Habitats Directive Annex V
- Rana lessonae (Lesser Pond Frog) Bern Convention Appendix III, Habitats Directive Annex IV
- Rana ridibunda (Pond Frog) Bern Convention Appendix III, Habitats Directive Annex V

Criterion 4: The site supports more than 250 bird species in their nesting, migration and wintering season. The site is a stronghold of numerous breeding bird species, including several internationally protected ones, such as Aythya nyroca (see international designations under justification of Criterion 2). The Kis-Balaton is also one of the few remaining sites for the Pannonic subspecies of the Northern Vole (Root Vole), a glacial relict listed on the Bern Convention Appendix III and on Annexes II and IV of the Habitats Directive. This subspecies is restricted to special sedge marshes in Transdanubia.

Criterion 5: Please refer to the document in section 6.1 Additional material > iv. other published literature.

Criterion 6: Please refer to the document in section 6.1 Additional material > iv. other published literature.

Criterion 9: The site regularly supports 1% of the individuals of the following populations:

- Invertebrates: Cercyon hungaricus Endrődy-Younga 1967 Reference: Lőkkös, A., 2014. The water and shore beetles (Coleoptera) of the Kis-Balaton. Natura Somogyiensis, 25: 141-156
- Fish: Umbra krameri Walbaum 1792- The population of Umbra krameri in the Kis-Balaton is estimated at about 50% of the world population. (Sallai, Zoltán pers. comm.) Additional reference: European Environment Agency, Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive Period 2007-2012 species Umbra krameri
- Mammal: Microtus oeconomus méhelyi Éhik 1928 Reference: European Environment Agency, Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive Period 2007-2012 species Microtus oeconomus mehelyi

Please refer to the document in section 6.1 Additional material > iv. other published literature.

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

<no data available>

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

4.1 - Ecological character

The rate of eutrophication of the reservoir is high. Its main source has been the Zala River, generating a high density of algae. Marshlands bordered with non-tussock beds of large sedges and wet meadows alternate with open water surface and reedbeds.

The site supports many waterbirds, during nesting and migration too.

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

Inland wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
Fresh water > Flowing water >> Mt Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks		4		
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		1		Unique
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non- forested peatlands		3		
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands				

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
6: Water storage areas/Reservoirs		2		

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials >		
Acer campestre	field maple	iv. other published literature		
Acorus calamus	sweet-flag	Botanical rarities - exist at the borders and openings of the large reedbeds		
Alnus glutinosa	common alder	Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature		
Anacamptis coriophora	Bug Orchid	EU CITES B(II)		
Anacamptis morio	Green-winged Orchid	EU CITES B(II)		
Anacamptis palustris	Marsh Orchid	EU CITES B(II)		
Anacamptis palustris elegans		EU CITES B(II)		
Cephalanthera damasonium	White Helleborine	EU CITES B(II)		
Cephalanthera longifolia	Sword-leaved Helleborine	EU CITES B(II)		
Cicuta virosa	cicuta	Botanical rarities - exist at the borders and openings of the large reedbeds		
Dactylorhiza incarnata	Early Marsh Orchid	EU CITES B(II)		
Epipactis helleborine	Broad-leaved Helleborine	EU CITES B(II)		
Epipactis helleborine helleborine		EU CITES B(II)		
Epipactis nordeniorum		EU CITES B(II)		
Epipactis palustris	Marsh Helleborine	EU CITES B(II)		
Epipactis tallosii		EU CITES B(II)		
Hottonia palustris	feather-foil	Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature		
lris sibirica	Siberian iris	Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature		
Lathyrus palustris	Marsh Pea;Marsh Vetchling	Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature		
Neottia nidus-avis	Bird's Nest Orchid	EU CITES B(II)		
Neottia ovata	Common Twayblade	EU CITES B(II)		
Nymphaea alba	white water-lily			
Ophrys sphegodes	Early Spider Orchid	EU CITES B(II)		
Orchis militaris	Military Orchid	EU CITES B(II)		
Persicaria amphibia	water-hogweed			
Platanthera bifolia	Lesser Butterfly-orchid	EU CITES B(II)		
Populus alba	silver poplar	Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature		
Quercus petraea	English oak	Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature		
Ranunculus lingua	reed-buttercup	Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature		
Spiranthes spiralis	Autumn Ladys-tresses	EU CITES B(II)		
Stratiotes aloides	water-soldier			
Thelypteris palustris	peat fern	Botanical rarities - exist at the borders and openings of the large reedbeds		
Uttica kioviensis	fen-nettle	Botanical rarities - exist at the borders and openings of the large reedbeds		

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Canis aureus	Golden Jackal				Habitats Directive Annex V
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Cobitis elongatoides	spiked loach				Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Esoxlucius	pike				Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Sander lucioperca	pikeperch				Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Silurus glanis	wels				Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Tinca tinca	tench				Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

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

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

A North Control of the Control of th	
a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)	102
motroe)	103
metes)	

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

Lower part of river basin

More than one river basin 🗵

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

The catchment area of the Kis-Balaton is about 2800 km2. 16 watercourses join the reservoir and the marshland. River Zala is the most significant of them.

4.4.3 - Soil

Organic 🗹

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

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Usually permanent water present	

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

Phase I of the system could be characterized as an open water surface area diversifying with small islands and with an area of 2380 ha. Owing to the locks and dike system, the turnover of the water is about two weeks and the water leaves Phase I in the former bed of River Zala and flows into Phase II. At this stage at Phase II the former dikes were cut through so that the river could water the area again. The different types of wetlands were maintained by the river. Marshlands bordered with non-tussock beds of large sedges and wet meadows alternate with open water surface and reedbeds.

Altogether, the water stays about one month in the Kis-Balaton before it reaches Lake Balaton.

The trait of this water body (water protecting system for removal of nutrients) determines the water levels and water permanence in all seasons. The average depth is about 1,5 meters.

Refer to 6.1.2 Additional materials > iv. other published literature > Physical features of the site

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

The shoreline is anchored and dissipated of erosive forces.

4.4.6 - Water pH

Unknown 🗷

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic 🗹

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

The main function of the Kis-Balaton is removing incoming nutrition by filtering through algae, floating and emergent marshland vegetation and by sediment trapping.

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 O ii) significantly different or site itself:

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	Reeds and fibre	Medium	
Wetland non-food products	Timber	Medium	

Regulating Services

regulating Services					
Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance			
Erosion protection	Soil, sediment and nutrient retention	Medium			
Pollution control and detoxification	Water purification/waste treatment or dilution	Medium			
Hazard reduction	Coastal shoreline and river bank stabilization and storm protection	Medium			

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	Medium

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

Land using means some controlled fish production, limited forestry and reed-harvesting in the area.

Within the Ramsar site:

Main activities are some works attached to water protecting and reserving, controlled fishing and reed harvesting, limited forestry, controlled hunting, limited guided tourism.

In the surroundings/catchment:

Mainly grazing, arable land cultivation, woodland management, hunting.

Hydrological values:

The main function of the Kis-Balaton is removing incoming nutrition by filtering through algae, floating and emergent marshland vegetation and by sediment trapping.

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

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

	_						
ı	Di i	hI	ic	OW	vners	h	in

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area	
National/Federal government	/	/	

Private ownership

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

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

Within the Ramsar site:

The Kis-Balaton Water Reserve System is completely state-owned. The surrounding protected areas are mainly state-owned too, but there are some private grasslands and agricultural areas.

In the surrounding area:

There are mainly private agricultural areas and forests and grasslands in the surrounding area.

5.1.2 - Management authority

agency or organization responsible for	West-Transdanubian Environmental Nature Conservation and Water Management Authority
managing the site:	
Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:	Máté Magyari
Postal address:	H-9700 Szombathely, Vörösmarty u. 2. Balaton Uplands National Park Directorate H-8229 Csopak, Kossuth L. u. 16.
E-mail address:	bfnp.kisbalaton@gmail.com

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Human settlements (non agricultural)

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Unspecified development					✓	
Piological resource use						

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	Medium impact		>	No change		No change
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	Medium impact	Medium impact	V	No change		No change

Natural system modifications

Natural System modifications							
	Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
	Dams and water management/use	Medium impact	Medium impact	2	No change	2	No change

Pollution

1 Oliulott							
	Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
	Agricultural and forestry effluents	Medium impact			No change	>	No change
	Unspecified	Medium impact	Medium impact		No change	✓	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

Within the Ramsar site:

- Past: fisheries, reed harvesting, hunting and the construction of the water protection system.
- Present and potential: illegal fishing, continuation of the construction of the water protection system.

In the surrounding area:

- Past: intensive use of artificial fertilizers in agriculture; introducing outlet water into live streams; increasing load of phosphorous transported by inflows.
- Present and potential: illegal pollution, innovations.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
EU Natura 2000	HUBF 30003 Kis-Balaton, SAC + SPA		partly

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
National park	Balaton Uplands National Park		whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	HU004 Kis-Balaton		partly

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for

landscape/seascape conservation and recreation

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

	Legal protection		
Measures		Status	
	Legal protection	Implemented	

Habitat

Measures	Status	
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Implemented	

Species

Operator			
Measures	Status		
Control of invasive alien animals	Implemented		

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Fisheries management/regulation	Implemented
Harvest controls/poaching enforcement	Implemented

Other:

Current management practices:

- Fishing, forestry, hunting and reed-harvesting are under control and regulation.
- Grasslands and meadows managed by the national park directorate are treated with an appropriate method according to the current vegetation period. Reed-beds are renewed partially by cutting in the winter season. Cutting of reedbeds selectively results in diverse habitats. Thus the age of the reed-beds becomes more variegated and the condition of the habitats is suited to nesting birds requiring different nesting places.
- The presence of goldfish (Carassius auratus) that produces large biomass in the water body is an actual problem regarding the fish fauna. The goldfish expands its occurrence against that of the crucian carp (Carassius carassius), which is an indigenous species in Hungary. To resolve this problem, carnivorous fish species like the pike were introduced and selective electric fishing has been used.
- The population of wild boar (Sus scrofa) has to be controlled by regular hunting. This species puts pressure on bird populations nesting on or close to the ground.

Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

There are no such conservation measures.

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 O No \odot

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning Yes O No

processes with another Contracting Party?

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

A 2,5 km long nature trail (Búbos Vöcsök Nature Trail) is located on the Kányavári Island and another 1 km long nature trail (Kócsag Nature Trail) is located near the Diás Island.

The Balaton Uplands National Park Directorate organizes various guided ecotouristic excursions on the strictly protected area of the Kis-Balaton. Guided long tour with bus across the Kis-Balaton: cca. 2.000 persons/year; short tour to the Diás Island: cca. 5.000 persons/year; exclusive boat trip along the Zala River: cca. 200 persons/year. The Kányavári Island is free for visitors, with cca. 100.000 persons/year. Sport fishing is limited, there are 4 legal places at the Kis-Balaton to do this type of recreation. The Directorate manages a buffalo reserve in the area.

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

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

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

From the beginning of flooding in 1985, research projects and monitoring activity were started on the wetlands on behalf of the water protection and nature protection institutions. Since 1994, when a part of Phase II was flooded, the research was focused on marshlands with more variegated habitats. A new biomonitoring program has started in 2012 by the organization of General Directorate of Water Management.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

- Csupor, T. (1990): Kis-Balaton, Gondolat, Budapest, p. 22-26., 81-90.

- Keve, A. (1976): Adatok a Kis-Balaton madárvilágához I., Aquila, 82., p. 49-50.

- Ligeti, L. (1974): A Balaton es szabályozása, Vízügyi történeti füzetek, Budapest, p. 13-14.

- Marosi, S. - Somogyi, S. (1990): Magyarorszag kistájainak katasztere I.-II., MTA Földrajztudományi - Kutatóintézete, Budapest, p. 483-487.

 - Futó J. (szerk.) (2001): A Kis-Balaton térsége. A Balaton-felvidék természeti értékei II. Balaton-felvidéki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság, Veszprém, p. 5-112.

The above is just a shortlist for the most important references. There are more than 350 research reports in many themes, for instance water quality, water ecology, algology, plants and vegetation, reed-beds, biotechton, zooplancton, molluscs, macrozoobenton, fish fauna, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals etc.

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

<5 file(s) uploaded>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Flocking waterbirds on the mudbanks of the Ingó Grove at the Kis-Balaton. (Mr. Máté Magyan, Balatonfelvidéki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság (National Park Directorate), 18-07-2015)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 1989-03-17