

Ramsar Information Sheet

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1. Date this sheet was completed:

27.06.1995

2. Country:

Hungary

County: Baranya

Districts: Kölked, Homorúd villages, Mohács town

3. Name of wetland:

Béda-Karapanca

4. Geographical co-ordinates:

45°33'-45°58'N - 18°42' -18°49' E

5. Altitude:

84-88 m

6. Area:

1,149.68

7. Overview

Béda-Karapanca is a nature reserve on the southernmost part of the river Danube near the boundary of Hungary. The nature reserve contains typical floodplain habitats.

8. Wetland type:

M, O Xf

9. Ramsar Criteria:

1a, 2a

10. Map of site included:

yes

11. Name and address of compiler:

Directorate of Duna-Dráva National Park

7625 Pécs, Tettye tér 9.

12. Justification of criteria selected under point 9:

Béda-Karapanca is a typical representative site for the floodplains of the Danube on the middle part of the river. Its large size, naturalness and richness of habitats provide proper circumstances for the plant and animal communities.

13. General location:

The nearest large town is Mohács with approximately 50.000 inhabitants.

14. Physical features:

Topography : being a floodplain, Béda-Karapanca has a flat topography with a few meter differences on the surface. River branches, oxbow lakes can be found on the site.

Climate: the climate is humid continental. Summers are usually hot, and winters are very cold. The yearly precipitation is about 600-650 mm, annual mean temperature is between 10-11 degree Celsius.

Geology and geomorphology: on the surface mainly riverine alluvial sediment layers can be found at a different width. These are quaternary gravel, sand and clay deposits.

Soils: characteristic soils are floodplain, meadow and peat-like soils depending on the local circumstances.

15. Hydrological values:

The river Danube is a middle-reach on the site with developing elbows. Sand banks arise continuously and wander with floods which is one of the consequence of the regulators. A system of oxbow lakes covers the territory of Béda-Karapanca. The currently protected area is between dikes on either side of the Danube. Water quality is still good in the area. The sediment trapping is also a value of river Danube.

16. Ecological features:

Habitats : -rivers, oxbow lakes, ponds in the floodplain

- marshland
- meadows
- reedbeds
- gallery forests both hardwood and softwood (ash, elm, alder and oak)
- willow bushes

The most characteristic vegetation types (associations) are as follows:

Salicetum albae-fragilis

Caricetum elatae

Scirpo-Phragmitetum

Lemno-Utricularietum

Hydrochari-Stratietum

Frago-annonicae-Ulmetum

17. Noteworthy flora:

Carpesium abrotanoides: rare, biogeographically important, potentially endangered

Crataegus nigra: endemic species, known only from the lower floodplains of the Danube

Carex strigosa: biogeographically important, potentially endangered

Leucophaea aestivum: potentially endangered

Iris sibirica: rare, potentially endangered

Nymphoides peltata: rare, potentially endangered

Ophioglossum vulgatum: rare, potentially endangered

Epipactis helleborine

E. microphylla

Scilla vindobonensis

Nymphaea alba

Vitis sylvestris

Platathera bifolia

Cephalanthera damasonium

Salvinia natans

18. Noteworthy fauna:

The most important bird species

Egretta garzetta 20-30 nesting pairs

Nycticorax nycticorax 20-30 nesting pairs

Ciconia nigra 3-4 nesting pairs

Haliaeetus albicilla 2-3 nesting pairs

Milvus migrans 1-2 nesting pairs

Falco cherrug 1 nesting pair

Anser anser 5-10 nesting pairs

Anser albifrons

Anas platyrhynchos

Authya nyroca

A. ferina

Anas querquedula

A. clypeata
Hippolais pallida - biogeographically important

Important mammalian species
Lutra lutra - strictly protected species

19. Social and cultural values:

20. Land tenure/ownership of:

- a. The territory of Béda-Karapanca is mainly state owned, but private, cooperative and local municipality ownership can also be found
- b. The surrounding area is owned by cooperatives, local municipalities and state companies.

21. Current land use/principal human activities:

- a. at the site
Fishing, forestry, hunting
- b. at the surroundings and catchment area
Agricultural activity (grazing, farming, etc), forestry and hunting

22. Factors adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land use and development projects:

- a. at the site
Adventitious tree species expand on some part of the nature reserve. The high number of wild grazers are also a potential threat for the site (red deer, wild boar).
- b. around the sites
Primarily the water quality could be the determining factor for the ecosystem therefore it should be kept on a high level.

23. Conservation measures taken:

A Landscape Protection Area was established in the Béda-Karapanca region before 1996. In 1996, Béda-Karapanca protected areas were declared parts of the Duna-Dráva National Park. Some parts of it became strictly protected. Water level regulation is taken, motorboat and fishing, hunting regulations are as well.

24. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

Developing a detailed management plan, and designation the site for the List of Wetlands of International Importance.

25. Current scientific and research facilities:

There is no research project

26. Current conservation education:

27. Current recreation and tourism:

The volume of tourism is not noteworthy

28. Jurisdiction:

Directorate of Duna-Dráva National Park under the supervisory of the Authority for Nature Conservation of the Ministry for Environment and Regional Policy.

29. Management authority:

Directorate of Duna-Dráva National Park - 7625 Pécs, Tettye tér 9

30. Bibliographical references:

J. Majer (1990): Zoological survey of Béda-Karapanca Landscape Protection Area - in Hungarian, Janus Pannonius University, Pécs

Á. Uherkovics (eds., 1992): Wildlife of the Béda-Karapanca Landscape Protection Area - in Hungarian, Baranyamegyei Múzeumok Igazgatósága, Pécs