



# Ramsar Information Sheet

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## Poland

### Poleski National Park



|                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Designation date | 29 October 2002       |
| Site number      | 1565                  |
| Coordinates      | 51°25'45"N 23°11'17"E |
| Area             | 9 764,00 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

Poleski National Park is located in eastern Poland in Lubelskie Voivodeship, near the town of Lublin. It protects a unique natural complex at European scale of shallow lakes and mires (raised bogs, transitional mires and, predominantly, fens) with vegetation indicating some features of tundra and woodland tundra in its westernmost location. Major natural values include alkaline fens with species representing Atlantic type vegetation and diverse wetland fauna. The Site is located at the watershed between the basins of Bug and Wieprz rivers. The area embraces open wetlands and wooded lots. Forest communities vary from pine woods on mineral soils to alder swamps with a typical hollow-and-mound structure on organic substrates. Calcareous mires, rare at the country scale, are quite common in the Park. The Site shelters more than 1% of the country population of aquatic warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola*, in addition to more than 150 other species of breeding bird species.

## 2 - Data & location

### 2.1 - Formal data

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

##### Compiler 1

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Name               | Marek Jobda, Rafał Rzepkowski, Paweł Szałański                 |
| Institution/agency | Pracownia Przyrodnicza   |
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| E-mail             | pracownia@przyrodnicza.eu                                      |
| Phone              | +48 509 029 647  |

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

|           |      |
|-----------|------|
| From year | 2007 |
| To year   | 2015 |

#### 2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Official name (in English, French or Spanish) | Poleski National Park |
| Unofficial name (optional)                    | Poleski Park Narodowy |

#### 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  No

(Update) B. Changes to Site area No change to area

#### 2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

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

(Update) Are the changes Positive  Negative  Positive & Negative

(Update) Positive % 70

(Update) No information available

(Update) Optional text box to provide further information

On 70% of the area there are positive changes in the ecological character of ecosystems and species occurring. Active protection measures were carried out there to improve the ecological character of the area. These treatments were: grazing and mowing, shrubs preventing succession in non-forest ecosystems, cleaning, thinning in forest ecosystems, maintenance and enlargement of water resources, restoring the native composition of ichthyofauna, raising water levels and transforming meadow communities into peatland vegetation communities. Positive effects can also be seen on the example of valuable protected species. Annual mowing of peat bogs in the areas of the Aquatic Warbler and maintaining an optimal water level allows to maintain the number of birds. By improving the habitat conditions, the number of European Pond Turtles has increased.

(Update) Changes resulting from causes operating within the existing boundaries?

(Update) Changes resulting from causes operating beyond the site's boundaries?

(Update) Changes consequent upon site boundary reduction alone (e.g., the exclusion of some wetland types formerly included within the site)?

(Update) Changes consequent upon site boundary increase alone (e.g., the inclusion of different wetland types in the site)?

(Update) Please describe any changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar Site, including in the application of the Criteria, since the previous RIS for the site.

positive changes mainly

(Update) Is the change in ecological character negative, human-induced AND a significant change (above the limit of acceptable change) Yes

## 2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps

Boundaries description

The boundary of the Ramsar site is the same as of the existing National Park.

2.2.2 - General location

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

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

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                 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Udvardy's Biogeographical Provinces | 10. Boreonemoral                     |
| Bailey's Ecoregions                 | 220 Hot Continental Division         |
| WWF Terrestrial Ecoregions          | Temperate broadleaf and mixed forest |
| 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 lakes and mires of the Poleski National Park constitute a major resource of the region and are very important in the ground water recharge. The Park is located at the watershed between the basins of Bug and Wieprz rivers. The local water regime depends much on precipitation, since underground feeding is scarce and ground water level is close to the ground surface (at the depth of 2-10 m). The ground water creates a complex system of waters originating in different levels (Quaternary, Cretaceous, Jurassic and Carbonic) while the first two levels join to form one water level. Despite of the conspicuous richness of surface water the hydrological regime of the site is quite vulnerable, depending on the balance between annual precipitation which is low and high evapotranspiration.

Other reasons

The site is considered important for conserving biodiversity in the biogeographical region as it supports unique and threatened aquatic ecosystems in the lowlands. The Poleski NP contains sites of the type of tundra and forest tundra – at their southernmost outposts. According to the classification of Natura 2000 areas it contains the following natural habitat types: 3150 natural eutrophic lakes, 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils, 6510 lowlands hay meadows, 7110 active raised bogs, 7140 transition mires, 7210 calcareous fens, 7230 alkaline fens, 91E0 alluvial forests and 91D0 bog woodland.

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

The Park activity is crucial for survival of many rare plants, animals and microorganisms and through genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part. The site is considered important for conserving biodiversity in the biogeographical region as it supports unique and threatened aquatic ecosystems in the lowlands. The Poleski NP contains sites of the type of tundra and forest tundra – at their southernmost outposts. The site shelters unique vegetation of alkaline mires, tundra-like bogs and special flora of raised and transitional bogs.

The site is very important for many bird species, especially during breeding season but also during spring and autumn migration. Park is important for maintain breeding populations such globally threatened species as Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola*.

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


























- Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

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

| Scientific name   | Common name                         | Criterion 2                         | Criterion 3                         | Criterion 4              | IUCN Red List | CITES Appendix I                    | Other status  | Justification |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------|
|  <i>Adenophora liliifolia</i>            | Bell-flower; Lily-leaved; Lady Bell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex II of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC),   |               |
|  <i>Aldrovanda vesiculosa</i>            | Waterwheel; Common Aldrovanda       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | EN            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex II of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC), Annex 1 of the Bern Convention as a species requiring specific habitat conservation measures, Polish Red Data Book of Plants (CR) |               |
|  <i>Betula humilis</i>                   | Shrubby Birch                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Polish Red Data Book of Plants (EN), species protected in Poland  |               |
|  <i>Carex chordorrhiza</i>               | String Sedge                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Polish Red Data Book of Plants (VU), species protected in Poland  |               |
|  <i>Cephalanthera rubra</i>              | Red Helleborine                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Polish Red Data Book of Plants (VU), species protected in Poland  |               |
|  <i>Cypripedium calceolus</i>            | Lady's Slipper Orchid               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | LC            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Annex II of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC)  |               |
|  <i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i>           | Early Marsh Orchid                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Polish Red Data Book of Plants (EN), species protected in Poland  |               |
|  <i>Eriophorum gracile</i>               | Slender Cottongrass                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Polish Red Data Book of Plants (CR), species protected in Poland  |               |
|  <i>Liparis loeselii</i>                 | Loesel Twayblade                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex II of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC), Polish Red Data Book of Plants (VU)   |               |
|  <i>Ostericum palustre</i>               | Bog Angelica                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex II, IV of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC), Annex 1 of the Bern Convention, Polish Red Data Book of Plants (EN)   |               |
|  <i>Pedicularis sceptrum-carolinum</i> | Moor-king Lousewort                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Polish Red Data Book of Plants (EN), species protected in Poland  |               |
|  <i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i>            | Butterwort                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Polish Red Data Book of Plants (CR), species protected in Poland  |               |
|  <i>Salix lapponum</i>                 | Downy Willow                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Polish Red Data Book of Plants (CR), species protected in Poland  |               |
|  <i>Salix myrtilloides</i>             |                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Polish Red Data Book of Plants (EN), species protected in Poland  |               |

The site shelters unique vegetation of alkaline mires, tundra-like bogs and special flora of raised and transitional bogs.

### 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                        | 8                        |           |                     |                 |   |                                     |                                     |   |  |
| <b>Birds</b>                       |   |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |                                     |                          |                          |                          |           |                     |                 |   |                                     |                                     |   |  |
| CHORDATA/AVES                      |  <i>Acrocephalus paludicola</i>  | Aquatic Warbler                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 231       | 2013                | 1               | VU<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Annex I of the Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409/EEC), Polish Red Data Book of Animals (VU) | pop. size: 172-381 singing males, (2009-2014) >1% of biogeographic population important breeding place; main biogeographical population of central Europe (incl. Eastern Poland) - Giessing B., 2002 |
| 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"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5         | 2013                |                 | NT<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex I of the Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409/EEC), Polish Red Data Book of Animals (EN) | pop. size: 5-10 pairs  |
| CHORDATA/AVES                      |  <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>       | Eurasian Bittern                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13        | 2013                |                 | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex I Birds Directive   | pop. size: 13 males  |
| CHORDATA/AVES                      |  <i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>       | Whiskered Crane                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5         | 2013                |                 | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex I of the Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409/EEC), Polish Red Data Book of Animals (LC) | pop. size: 5-10 pairs  |
| CHORDATA/AVES                      |  <i>Chlidonias niger</i>         | Black Tern                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5         | 2013                |                 | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex I Birds Directive   | pop. size: 5-10 pairs  |
| CHORDATA/AVES                      |  <i>Circus pygargus</i>          | Montagu's Harrier                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2         | 2013                |                 | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex I Birds Directive   | pop. size: 2-3 pairs   |
| CHORDATA/AVES                      |  <i>Crex crex</i>                | Comcrake                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 40        | 2013                |                 | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex I Birds Directive   | pop. size: 40-48 males   |
| CHORDATA/AVES                      |  <i>Gallinago media</i>          | Great Snipe                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5         | 2013                |                 | NT<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex I Birds Directive, Polish Red Data Book of Animals (VU)                                       | pop. size: 5-8 males   |
| 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"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 30        | 2013                |                 | LC<br>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex I of the Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409/EEC), Polish Red Data Book of Animals (LC) | pop. size: 30-32 breeding pairs  |
| CHORDATA/AVES                      |  <i>Lyrurus tetrix</i>           | Eurasian Black Grouse; Black Grouse | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3         | 2013                |                 | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex I Birds Directive, Polish Red Data Book of Animals (EN)                                       | pop. size: 3-8 calling males   |
| <b>Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea</b> |   |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |                                     |                          |                          |                          |           |                     |                 |   |                                     |                                     |   |  |
| CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII            |  <i>Rhinchocypris percunurus</i> | Lake Mnnow; Swamp Mnnow             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 150       | 2013                |                 | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Priority Species in Annex II Habitats Directive, Polish Red Data Book of Animals (EN)               |  |
| <b>Others</b>                      |   |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |                                     |                          |                          |                          |           |                     |                 |   |                                     |                                     |   |  |
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA                  |  <i>Castor fiber</i>           | Eurasian Beaver                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 360       | 2015                |                 | LC<br> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex II of the Habitats Directive  |  |
| CHORDATA/REPTILIA                  |  <i>Emys orbicularis</i>       | European Pond Turtle                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 100       | 2013                |                 |   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Annex II of the Habitats Directive Polish Red Data Book of Animals (EN)                             | pop. size: 100-250 adult ind.  |

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

Not found on the list:

Euphydryas aurinia- criterion 2, numerous, Polish Red Data Book of Animals (EN)

Park is important for maintain breeding populations such globally threatened species as Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola*. In 2012 in Poleski National Park occurred in excess of 1% of the Aquatic Warbler population (exactly 1.9%). In 2013, 259 singing males were inventoried, accounting for 8.9% of the national population and approximately 2.1% of the global population of Aquatic Warbler.

Source: Grzywaczewski G., Cios Sz. 2013. Monitoring i czynna ochrona ptaków w Poleskim Parku Narodowym. Maszynopis, Katedra Zoologii UP w Lublinie, Poleski Park Narodowy - Urszulin. 30-31.

### 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                                |
|---|--|-------------|--|
| 7110 active raised bogs   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | 110.8 ha    | Habitat listed on Annex I Habitats Directive |
| 91D0 bog woodland ( <i>Vaccinio uliginosi-Betuletum pubescentis</i> , <i>Vaccinio uliginosi-Pinetum</i> , <i>Pino mugo-Sphagnetum</i> , <i>Sphagno girgensohnii-Piceetum</i> and birch-pine bog woodland) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | 1357.7 ha   | Habitat listed on Annex I Habitats Directive |
| 91E0 alluvial forests ( <i>Circaeo-Alnetum</i> )  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | 5.63 ha     | Habitat listed on Annex I Habitats Directive |
| 6410 <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils ( <i>Molinion</i> )   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | 111.8 ha    | Habitat listed on Annex I Habitats Directive |
| 7140 transition mires and quaking bogs (predominantly <i>Scheuchzerio-Caricetea</i> )   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | 41.6 ha     | Habitat listed on Annex I Habitats Directive |
| 7230 alkaline fens  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | 32.6 ha     | Habitat listed on Annex I Habitats Directive |
| 7210 calcareous fens ( <i>Cladietum marisci</i> , <i>Caricetum buxbaumii</i> , <i>Schoenetum nigricantis</i> )  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | 27.6 ha     | Habitat listed on Annex I Habitats Directive |
| 6510 lowlands hay meadows ( <i>Arrhenatherion elatioris</i> )   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | 92.9 ha     | Habitat listed on Annex I Habitats Directive |
| 3150 oxbows and natural eutrophic reservoirs with <i>Nymphaeion</i> and <i>Potamion</i>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | 124.8 ha    | Habitat listed on Annex I Habitats Directive |



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

### 4.1 - Ecological character

Poleski National Park is one of but a few national parks in Poland which protects a unique complex at European scale of non-woody communities of raised bogs, transitional mires and, predominantly, fens with vegetation indicating some features of tundra and woodland tundra. Fens provide habitat for the development of characteristic tall sedge communities and the alkaline fens. In the transitional mires surrounding dystrophic lakes occur also rare plant communities. Fairly large areas are taken by raised bogs overgrown with bushy pine, birch and dwarf shrub species. Calcareous mires with *Cladium mariscus*, rare at the country scale, are common in the Park. Altogether 208 plant associations have been identified in addition to rich flora (about 1000 vascular plants). Aquatic vegetation range from submerged *Potamogeton* sp. and *Chara* sp. communities to emerged vegetation consisting of water lilies *Nymphaea alba* and *N. candida*. The site is located in the flat plains which emerged as a result of organic accumulation at the bottom of a large lake created in the post-glacial period after the withdrawal of the middle-Poland glaciation. Relative elevations in the field do not exceed 10 m. Recent land cover is made up of Quaternary deposits such as sands, clays and organic formations – peat and mud. Most of organic soils have been developed from fen peat on the site of drying out and overgrown lakes. More than half surface of the Park cover is swampy or open water (15% of the area is covered with shallow lakes). Lake waters vary in their trophic conditions from eutrophic to mesotrophic and dystrophic. The climate is transitional with influences of both the Atlantic and continental climates. The latter one is to be seen in the low annual precipitation i.e. 550 mm (40% of that falling in summer) and high insolation – averaging about 4.5 h/day. Length of vegetation period fluctuates between 205 and 215 days.

### 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                |            | 0  |                           | Representative               |
| Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes                     |            | 3  | 185                       | Representative               |
| Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools           |            | 4  |                           | Representative               |
| Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non-forested peatlands         |            | 1  | 2051                      | Representative               |
| Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> W: Shrub-dominated wetlands            |            | 3  | 390                       | Representative               |
| Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> X: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands |            | 1  | 2051                      | 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 |
|--|------------|--|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2: Ponds                                   |            | 3  | 202                       | Representative               |
| 4: Seasonally flooded agricultural land    |            | 2  | 500                       | Representative               |
| 9: Canals and drainage channels or ditches |            | 3  | 112                       | Representative               |

#### Other non-wetland habitat

| Other non-wetland habitats within the site                                    | Area (ha) if known |
|---|--------------------|
| Forests on dry soils Non peatland forests: Pine forests, oak-hornbeam forests | 2734               |
| Lowland dry grasslands 6230-4 Calluno-Nardetum                                | 11.5               |
| 4030 Drymoorlands   | 6                  |

### 4.3 - Biological components

#### 4.3.1 - Plant species

##### Other noteworthy plant species

| Scientific name                 | Common name                | IUCN Red List | Position in range / endemism / other |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Carex davalliana</i>         | Davall sedge               |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Carex heleonastes</i>        | Swamp sedge                |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i> | White helleborine          |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Dactylorhiza maculata</i>    | Spotted orchid             |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Dianthus superbus</i>        | Lilac pink, elegant pink   |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Drosera anglica</i>          | English Sundew             |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Drosera intermedia</i>       | Long-leaved Sundew         |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>     | Round-leaved Sundew        |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Epipactis palustris</i>      | Marsh Helleborine          |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Gentiana pneumonanthe</i>    | Marsh Gentian              |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Gentianella amarella</i>     | Autumn Gentian             |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Gentianella uliginosa</i>    | Dune gentian               |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Hierochloa australis</i>     | Southern sweet-grass       |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Iris sibirica</i>            | Siberian iris              |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Lathyrus palustris</i>       | Marsh Pea; Marsh Vetchling |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Lycopodiella inundata</i>    | marsh club moss            |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Nymphaea candida</i>         | small water lily           |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Orchis militaris</i>         | Military orchis            |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Rhododendron tomentosum</i>  | Marsh tea                  |               | Species protected in Poland          |
| <i>Schoenus ferrugineus</i>     | Rusty bog rush             |               | Species protected in Poland          |

## Invasive alien plant species

| Scientific name            | Common name                | IUCN Red List | Impacts                  | Changes at RIS update |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Acer negundo</i>        | Box Elder                  |               | Actually (minor impacts) | unknown               |
| <i>Pinus banksiana</i>     | Banksian pine              |               | Actually (minor impacts) | unknown               |
| <i>Prunus serotina</i>     | Black Cherry               |               | Actually (major impacts) | unknown               |
| <i>Quercus rubra</i>       | Northern Red Oak           |               | Actually (minor impacts) | unknown               |
| <i>Robinia pseudacacia</i> | False Acacia; Black Locust |               | Actually (minor impacts) | unknown               |
| <i>Solidago gigantea</i>   | Giant Goldenrod            |               | Actually (minor impacts) | unknown               |

## 4.3.2 - Animal species

## Other noteworthy animal species

| Phylum        | Scientific name               | Common name         | IUCN Red List | Pop. size | Period of pop. est. | % occurrence | Position in range / endemism / other                       |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------|--------------|--|
| CHORDATA/AVES | <i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i> | White-winged Tern   |               |           | 2013                |              | Polish Red Data Book of Animals (NT), pop. size: 2-4 pairs |
| CHORDATA/AVES | <i>Limosa limosa</i>          | Black-tailed Godwit |               |           | 2013                |              | IUCN Red List status (NT), pop. size: 5-10 pairs           |

## Invasive alien animal species

| Phylum                  | Scientific name                 | Common name                | IUCN Red List | Impacts                  | Changes at RIS update |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Ameiurus melas</i>           | Brown bullhead             |               | Actually (major impacts) | unknown               |
| CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Carassius gibelio</i>        | Prussian carp              |               | Actually (minor impacts) | unknown               |
| CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Cyprinus carpio</i>          | Leather carp; Leather carp |               | Actually (minor impacts) | unknown               |
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA       | <i>Neovison vison</i>           | American Mink              |               | Actually (major impacts) | unknown               |
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA       | <i>Nyctereutes procyonoides</i> | Raccoon dog                |               | Actually (major impacts) | unknown               |
| ARTHROPODA/MALACOSTRACA | <i>Orconectes limosus</i>       | spinycheek crayfish        |               | Actually (minor impacts) | unknown               |

#### 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)

- 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.

Located at the watershed between the basins of Bug and Wieprz rivers.

##### 4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral

(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 majority (2/3) of the Poleski National Park area is covered by organic (marshy) soils mainly histosols and muck.

##### 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 rainfall      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change             |
| Water inputs from surface water | <input type="checkbox"/>            | No change             |
| Water inputs from groundwater   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | No change             |

Stability of water regime

| Presence?                   | Changes at RIS update |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Water levels largely stable | No change             |

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

The Park is located at the watershed of between the basins of Bug and Wieprz rivers. The local water regime depends much on precipitation, since underground feeding is scarce and ground water level is close to the ground surface (at the depth of 2-10 m). The ground water creates a complex system of waters originating in different levels (Quaternary, Cretaceous, Jurassic and Carbonic) while the first two levels join to form one water level. Despite of the conspicuous richness of surface water the hydrological regime of the site is quite vulnerable, depending on the balance between annual precipitation which is low, and high evapotranspiration.

##### 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

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

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

Unknown

4.4.7 - Water salinity

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

Unknown

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

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) | Low                            |
| Fresh water               | Drinking water for humans and/or livestock           | Low                            |
| Wetland non-food products | Livestock fodder                                     | Low                            |
| Wetland non-food products | Timber   | Low                            |
| Wetland non-food products | Fuel wood/fibre                                      | Low                            |

Regulating Services

| Ecosystem service                       | Examples   | Importance/Extent/Significance |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| Maintenance of hydrological regimes     | Groundwater recharge and discharge   | High                           |
| Maintenance of hydrological regimes     | Storage and delivery of water as part of water supply systems for agriculture and industry | Low                            |
| Erosion protection                      | Soil, sediment and nutrient retention  | Low                            |
| Climate regulation                      | Local climate regulation/buffering of change   | Medium                         |
| Climate regulation                      | Regulation of greenhouse gases, temperature, precipitation and other climatic processes    | Medium                         |
| Biological control of pests and disease | Support of predators of agricultural pests (e.g., birds feeding on locusts)                | Low                            |
| Hazard reduction                        | Flood control, flood storage   | Low                            |
| Hazard reduction                        | Coastal shoreline and river bank stabilization and storm protection                        | Low                            |

Cultural Services

| Ecosystem service           | Examples  | Importance/Extent/Significance |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Recreation and tourism      | Recreational hunting and fishing  | Low                            |
| Recreation and tourism      | Picnics, outings, touring   | High                           |
| Recreation and tourism      | Nature observation and nature-based tourism   | High                           |
| Spiritual and inspirational | Inspiration   | Medium                         |
| Spiritual and inspirational | Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)   | High                           |
| Spiritual and inspirational | Contemporary cultural significance, including for arts and creative inspiration, and including existence values | Medium                         |
| Spiritual and inspirational | Spiritual and religious values  | Medium                         |
| Spiritual and inspirational | Aesthetic and sense of place values   | Medium                         |
| Scientific and educational  | Educational activities and opportunities  | High                           |
| Scientific and educational  | Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)                        | High                           |
| Scientific and educational  | Major scientific study site   | High                           |
| Scientific and educational  | Long-term monitoring site   | High                           |
| Scientific and educational  | Type location for a taxon   | 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                           |
| Soil formation    | Accumulation of organic matter  | High                           |
| Nutrient cycling  | Storage, recycling, processing and acquisition of nutrients   | Low                            |
| Nutrient cycling  | Carbon storage/sequestration  | Medium                         |
| Pollination       | Support for pollinators   | Medium                         |

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

**Research**  
No field stations are currently located within the Park, though numerous studies and various research programmes are being carried out in the Poleski National Park site. Field studies are carried out by employees of various scientific institutions, but also employees of the Park.

**Education**  
Poleski National Park offers a wide variety of educational services aimed at children, teenagers (wildlife competitions, expeditions, ecological runs) and adults (training, seminars, conferences). It is realized mainly through the education-museum centers in Park headquarters and Załucze Stare. Education center in Urszulin offers displaying a film about the Park and visiting Turtle Protection Centre.

**Recreation and tourism**  
Marked trails, viewing towers, observation hide and educational paths give chance to observe rare species of animals and plants in their natural habitats and get to know the methods of active wildlife conservation carried out by the national park. Organised groups can visit the Poleski National Park with an authorised guide.

**Spiritual and inspirational**  
Although cultural monuments in the Park are limited to wooden traditional cottages the site plays a great role to maintain local culture and historical tradition.

**Biodiversity**  
The Park activity is crucial for survival of many rare plants, animals and microorganisms and through genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part.

**Soil formation**  
As there are three peat-bog complexes within the borders of Poleski National Park it plays a big role in accumulation of organic matter.

Within the site:

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

- 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

Description if applicable

The land in the Park has been cultivated since colonisation in XVI century. Difficult hydrological conditions allowed to keep not-intensive agriculture, fishing and forestry. Wetlands were used as meadows for late summer haymaking and as pastures in dry seasons mostly in XVIII and XIX century. Since 1998 the Park has periodically undertaken activities to preserve open ecosystems, including shrubs and reeds removal, grass cutting and mowing, grazing and non-intensive haymaking.

- 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

Description if applicable

Local farmers use the wetland for mowing. Wet grasslands have been mown late summer under the agri-environmental schemes since 2004. Richness of protected species of flora and fauna allowed many farmers to get additional income for implementation of agri-environmental practices (mowing once a year, special technique and machinery for mowing, keeping or improving hydrological regime).

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

#### 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 type="checkbox"/>            |
| Provincial/region/state government                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

##### Private ownership

| Category                                   | Within the Ramsar Site              | In the surrounding area             |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Other types of private/individual owner(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

##### Other

| Category                    | Within the Ramsar Site              | In the surrounding area             |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Unspecified mixed ownership | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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

The State Treasury (PPN) is the owner of 8453 ha, Other public ownership – 14 ha, private owners– 1211ha i other types – 86 ha.

#### 5.1.2 - Management authority

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

Poleski National Park

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

Director of the Poleski National Park

Postal address: ul. Lubelska 3a, 22-234 Urszulin, Poland  
tel. +48 82 571 30 71  
fax + 48 82 571 30 03

E-mail address: poleskipn@poleskipn.pl

### 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 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Tourism and recreation areas     | Low impact    | Medium impact    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | unknown | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | unknown |

##### Water regulation

| Factors adversely affecting site | Actual threat  | Potential threat | Within the site                     | Changes | In the surrounding area  | Changes   |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Drainage                         | unknown impact | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | unknown | <input type="checkbox"/> | No change |

##### Agriculture and aquaculture

| Factors adversely affecting site | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | Changes | In the surrounding area             | Changes   |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Non specified                    | Medium impact | unknown impact   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | unknown | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change |

##### Energy production and mining

| Factors adversely affecting site | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | Changes   | In the surrounding area             | Changes   |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Mining and quarrying             | High impact   | unknown impact   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change |

##### Biological resource use

| Factors adversely affecting site         | Actual threat  | Potential threat | Within the site                     | Changes   | In the surrounding area  | Changes   |
|--|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources | unknown impact | Low impact       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input 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 | Low impact    |                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change |

## Natural system modifications

| Factors adversely affecting site     | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | Changes   | In the surrounding area             | Changes   |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Fire and fire suppression            |               | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change |
| Vegetation clearance/land conversion | Medium impact |                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change |
| Dams and water management/use        | Medium impact | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change |
| Problematic native species        | Low impact    |                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change |

## Pollution

| Factors adversely affecting site    | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site          | Changes   | In the surrounding area             | Changes |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Agricultural and forestry effluents | Medium impact |                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | unknown |

Please describe any other threats (optional):

Other threat: overgrowing of the open habitats, actual threat, within and outside the site, with no changes.

Within the Ramsar Site major threatening factor is overgrowing of open habitats (sometimes habitats of very important species like Marsh Fritillary (*Euphydryas aurinia*) by bushes, trees and undesirable plant species. Species structure of forests is also problematic, alien tree species occur what causes habitat and soil degradation. Water habitats are also endangered due to water level decreasing and eutrophication. In the surroundings there is heavy pressure for recreation, water sports, kayaking, hiking and biking, numerous camping grounds, recreation centers, hotels, water sport facilities etc. are situated along lake borders. Tourist management may pose a threat already, but more tourist developments are to be expected in the near future.

## 5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

## Global legal designations

| Designation type         | Name of area                   | Online information url | Overlap with Ramsar Site |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| UNESCO Biosphere Reserve | West Polesie Biosphere Reserve |                        | whole                    |

## Regional (international) legal designations

| Designation type | Name of area               | Online information url | Overlap with Ramsar Site |
|------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| EU Natura 2000   | Ostoja Poleska PLH060013   |                        | whole                    |
| EU Natura 2000   | Polesie PLB060019          |                        | partly                   |
| EU Natura 2000   | SPA Bagno Bubnów PLB060001 |                        | partly                   |

## National legal designations

| Designation type | Name of area                                  | Online information url | Overlap with Ramsar Site |
|------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------------|
| National Park    | Poleski National Park (Poleski Park Narodowy) |                        | whole                    |

## Non-statutory designations

| Designation type    | Name of area        | Online information url | Overlap with Ramsar Site |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Important Bird Area | Bagno Bubnów PL 103 |                        | partly                   |
| Important Bird Area | Polesie PL 102      |                        | partly                   |

## 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      |
|---|-------------|
| Catchment management initiatives/controls | Implemented |
| Improvement of water quality              | Implemented |
| Habitat manipulation/enhancement          | Implemented |
| Hydrology management/restoration          | Implemented |

##### Species

| Measures                                      | Status                |
|---|-----------------------|
| Threatened/rare species management programmes | Implemented           |
| Reintroductions                               | Implemented           |
| Control of invasive alien plants              | Partially implemented |
| Control of invasive alien animals             | Partially implemented |

##### Human Activities

| Measures   | Status                |
|--|-----------------------|
| Management of water abstraction/takes                                | Partially implemented |
| Regulation/management of wastes                                      | Implemented           |
| Fisheries management/regulation                                      | Implemented           |
| Harvest controls/poaching enforcement                                | Implemented           |
| Regulation/management of recreational activities                     | Implemented           |
| Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities | Implemented           |
| Research   | Implemented           |

#### 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:

Poleski National Park offers a wide variety of educational services focused on children, teenagers (wildlife competitions, expeditions, ecological runs) and adults (training, seminars, conferences). It is realized mainly through the education-museum centers in Park headquarters and Załucze Stare. Education center in Urszulin offers displaying a film about the Park and visiting Turtle Protection Centre.

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant):

#### 5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? No, the site has already been restored

Further information

The most important achievements in the protection of Poleski National Park wetlands and the species of flora and fauna are:

1. Active protection of wetlands as activities aimed at increasing water resources, such as:
  - reducing the rate of water outflow by building dykes, recesses or spotting ditches
  - recreation of watercourses and water reservoirs close to the natural state
  - recreation of ponds in the Park
2. Inhibition of water eutrophication through:
  - initiation of peat forming processes
  - promoting organic farming
3. Preventing negative changes in the sphere of biodiversity:
  - inhibiting the succession of trees and shrubs on peatlands in order to preserve the diversity of plant communities associated with the respective types of peatlands
  - protection of sites of endangered plant and animal species associated with wetlands
  - transformation of meadow communities into peatland vegetation communities by raising the water level
  - grazing and mowing
  - land purchase
  - recreating the family composition of ichthyofauna
  - restoration of European Beaver.

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

| Monitoring                      | Status      |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Water regime monitoring         | Implemented |
| Water quality                   | Implemented |
| Plant community                 | Implemented |
| Plant species                   | Implemented |
| Animal community                | Implemented |
| Animal species (please specify) | Implemented |
| Birds                           | Implemented |

## 6 - Additional material

### 6.1 - Additional reports and documents

#### 6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Bibliography attached in point 6.1.2 vi

Taxonomic lists of plants and animals are published at the Park's website:

Plants: [http://www.poleskipn.pl/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=92&Itemid=39](http://www.poleskipn.pl/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=92&Itemid=39)

Fishes: [http://www.poleskipn.pl/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=342&Itemid=244](http://www.poleskipn.pl/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=342&Itemid=244)

Birds: [http://www.poleskipn.pl/images/stories/pliki/ptaki\\_lista.html](http://www.poleskipn.pl/images/stories/pliki/ptaki_lista.html)

Amphibians and Reptiles: [http://www.poleskipn.pl/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=343&Itemid=245](http://www.poleskipn.pl/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=343&Itemid=245)

Mammals: [http://www.poleskipn.pl/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=345&Itemid=247](http://www.poleskipn.pl/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=345&Itemid=247)

#### 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

<1 file(s) uploaded>

vi. other published literature

<1 file(s) uploaded>

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

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Poleski National Park ( *Malgorzata Opechowska, 10-09-2015* )



Poleski National Park ( *Malgorzata Opechowska, 10-09-2015* )



Poleski National Park ( *Malgorzata Opechowska, 12-09-2015* )



Poleski National Park ( *Malgorzata Opechowska, 12-09-2015* )

#### 6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation