



# Ramsar Sites Information Service

## Annotated List of Wetlands of International Importance

# Romania

20 Ramsar Site(s) covering 1,177,748 ha

### Bistret

Site number: 2,063 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Dolj County  
Area: 27,482 ha | Coordinates: 43°52'33"N 23°34'40"E | Designation dates: 13-06-2012  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Bistret. 13/06/12; Dolj County; 27,482 ha; 43°52'34"N 023°34'40"E. Natura 2000 (SPA). A mosaic of different habitats, including Bistret Lake, the Danube river, fishery and lagoon complexes, islands, meadows, agricultural land and forests that harbours a diversity of species of flora and fauna, especially birds. Being located along a major migratory route, the site is a nesting, resting and feeding site for many regionally and globally threatened bird species such as the endangered Red-breasted Goose *Branta ruficollis* and the vulnerable Dalmatian Pelican *Pelecanus crispus*. The site is used for agriculture; fishing and recreational activities. Bistret Lake acts as a water reservoir and influences the groundwater level. The area surrounding the Lake is of archaeological importance, with one of the most important Bronze Age complexes on the Lower Danube. The operation of the fish farm poses certain threats to the site, as does poaching and solid waste disposal. Ramsar Site number: 2063. Most recent RIS information: 2012.

### Blahnita

Site number: 2,110 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Dolj County  
Area: 45,286 ha | Coordinates: 44°25'31"N 22°38'17"E | Designation dates: 21-01-2013  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Blahnita. 02/02/2013; Dolj County; 45,286 ha; 44°25' 31"N 022°38' 17"E. Nature Reserves; Natura 2000 Network (SPA, SCI). The landscape of this site is represented by swamps, permanent lakes and sand dunes covered with acacias, poplars, oak forests and grasslands, inhabited by a rich and diverse fauna which finds exceptional conditions for nesting and breeding in the area. The site has been designated as a special protection area (SPA) under the Birds Directive for the protection of 16 bird species listed in Annex I, such as the Himantopus himantopus, the Chlidonias hybrida or the Egretta garzetta. The site is also important for the protection of many migratory species listed under the Bonn Convention as for example the Coracias garrulous, the Ixobrychus minutus and the Phalacrocorax pygmeus. Within the Ramsar Site most of human activities are related to agriculture, fishing and forestry, which bring with them potential threats of water pollution, poaching, overfishing and dumping affecting the ecological character of the wetland. In order to avoid these impacts, a management plan is to be developed by the Romanian Ornithological Society. The village of Hinova within the site has been inhabited since the Roman era. Ramsar Site no. 2110. Most Recent RIS information: 2012.

## Borcea Arm

Site number: 2,111 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Calarasi County  
Area: 21,529 ha | Coordinates: 44°17'12"N 27°40'03"E | Designation dates: 21-01-2013

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Borcea Arm (Bratul Borcea). 02-02-2013; Calarasi, Ialomita Counties; 21,529 ha; 44°17'12"N 027°40'03"E. Nature Reserve, Natura 2000 (SPA, SCI). Located along a major migratory route, the Danube meadow site represents an important area for resting and feeding of a great variety of bird species. It contains many breeding populations of *Accipiter brevipes*, *Acrocephalus melanopogon*, *Alcedo atthis* and *Ardea purpurea* among others. During migration, the site is also important as a resting area for populations of *Aythya nyroca*, *Ciconia ciconia*, *Haliaeetus albicilla* and *Pandion haliaetus* in their way from Russia to the Mediterranean and African countries. The Danube meadow shapes the landscape with lakes between sand dunes, marshes, fishponds, islands, canals and drainage channels, transforming the site into a cradle of biodiversity richness. The vegetation is represented by aquatic macrophytes (*Phragmites*, *Typha* sp., etc.), poplars, shrubs and oak forests. The site provides a regulatory ecosystem service, reducing the Danube floods in the area. Within the site, Popina Bordusani contains historical and archaeological ruins which belong to one of the most ancient prehistoric settlements in Ialomita County, dated to 7,000 years old. A management plan has been developed but it is still pending approval. Ramsar Site no.: 2111. Most recent RIS information: 2012.

## Calafat - Ciuperceni - Danube

Site number: 2,112 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Dolj County  
Area: 29,206 ha | Coordinates: 43°50'45"N 22°57'09"E | Designation dates: 21-01-2013

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Calafat-Ciuperceni-Danube. 02/02/2013; Dolj County; 29,206 ha; 43°50' 46N 022°57' 09E. Natura 2000 (SPA, SCI); Nature Reserve. The site, situated in the southwestern part of the Oltenia Plain, very close to the Danube River, comprises three Nature Reserves for the protection of migratory and water birds under the Bonn Convention and the Birds Directive. Some of these species find ideal conditions for nesting, such as the *Haliaeetus albicilla*, *Ciconia ciconia* and *Burhinus oedipnemos*. During the migration seasons, the site is also important for the *Tringa glareola*, the *Pelecanus crispus*, the *Platalea leucorodia* and the *Plegadis falcinellus*. Furthermore, the site represents habitats of community importance as natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion, rivers with muddy banks and *Chenopodium rubri* and *Bidenton* vegetation, dunes with *Hippophaë rhamnoides* and humid dune slacks. The site plays a very important role in mitigating Danube flood damages. The area was very wild in the past; after years of draining, however, and the construction of dykes and channels, the biodiversity has been reduced. The forests have been cut and many of the lakes have been dried and transformed into arable land. A management plan has been developed but not yet implemented. Ramsar Site no. 2112. Most recent RIS information: 2012.

## Canaralele de la Harsova

Site number: 2,113 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Ialomita and Constanta Counties  
Area: 7,406 ha | Coordinates: 44°40'36"N 27°55'27"E | Designation dates: 21-01-2013

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Canaralele de la Harsova. 02/02/2013; Ialomita, Constanta Counties; 7,406 ha; 44°40' 37N 027°55' 28E. Important Bird Area; 2 Nature Reserves; Natura 2000 Network (SPA, SCI). Situated in the confluence of two Danube branches, Dunarea Veche and Bratul Borcea, on a major migratory route, the site represents an important area for resting and feeding of rare bird species. It provides shelter to important populations of protected birds catalogued under Annex I of the Birds Directive, as for example *Accipiter brevipes*, *Circus macrourus* and *Pelecanus onocrotalus*. The land situated in the surroundings of the Danube branches is covered by temporary lakes which also represent an important space for breeding and nesting of many other birds like *Accipiter brevipes*, *Alcedo atthis* and *Botaurus stellaris*. The site plays an important role in reducing and regulating the effects of Danube floods. Within its boundaries, the most important human activities are forestry, navigation and agriculture. A management plan is going to be developed under the framework of an environmental project approved in 2011. In Harsova at the edge of the site are the remains of the 2nd century Roman Carsium Fortress. Ramsar site no. 2113. Most recent RIS information: 2012.

## Comana Natural Park

Site number: 2,004 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Giurgiu County  
Area: 24,963 ha | Coordinates: 44°09'N 26°09'E | Designation dates: 05-03-2009  
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Comana Natural Park (Parcul Natural Comana). 25/10/11; Giurgiu County; 24,963 ha; 44°09'N 026°09'E. Natural Park, Natura 2000 (SPA, SCI). A complex in the flat plain of southern Romania characterized by a high diversity of flora and fauna and consisting mainly of forests, agro-ecosystems, meadows, rivers, lakes, canals, oxbow lakes and a micro-delta. Some 157 bird species have been observed in the park, which regularly supports more than 20,000 waterbirds, many of them migratory. The park also supports numerous fish species, including the endemic *Petroleuciscus boristhenicus* and the internationally threatened *Umbra krameri*. Neajlov River and its microdelta are optimal habitats for the Otter (*Lutra lutra*), and the Tree-marten (*Martes martes*), Fitchew (*Putorius putorius*), Jackal (*Canis aureus*), and Badger (*Meles meles*). Of the 1,300 plant species, 72 are threatened nationally and species like *Marsilea quadrifolia* L. are also protected in Europe. Special conservation areas have been established for thorn *Ruscus aculeatus* as well as for the Romanian peony *Peonia peregrina*, which lends its name to the Peony Festival, celebrated in the park in May. The site plays an important role in water purification, flood protection, shoreline stabilization, groundwater recharge, and stream flow maintenance. About 10,000 people who live inside the park directly benefit from these services and also use the site for fishing, hunting and traditional agriculture. Historical importance derives from the Comana Monastery, built by Vlad Tepes (commonly known as "Dracula") in 1462. Ramsar Site no.2004. Most recent RIS information: 2011.

## Danube Delta

Site number: 521 | Country: Romania | Administrative region:  
Area: 647,000 ha | Coordinates: 45°09'59"N 29°15'E | Designation dates: 21-05-1991  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Danube Delta. 21/05/91; 647,000 ha; 45°10'N 029°15'E. World Heritage Site, UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. The Danube delta (Romanian part) consists of a fluvial zone characterized by sandy levees and densely vegetated lakes, a transitional zone of larger lakes, reed swamps and forested levees, and a marine zone, dominated by dune and barrier beach complexes. The site supports a rich flora, fish fauna (75 species), and important populations of several mammals. The area is internationally important for breeding, staging and wintering waterbirds. Nesting species include internationally important numbers of cormorants and pelicans. The inhabitants of the many scattered villages have unique cultural links with the ecosystem. Human activities include fishing, forestry, small-scale cultivation, and tourism. The site was formally twinned with the Camargue Ramsar site by an agreement between the governments of Romania and France, 1992. Ramsar site no. 521.

## Danube Islands - Bugeac - Iotormac

Site number: 2,114 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Calarasi and Constanta counties  
Area: 82,832 ha | Coordinates: 44°13'32"N 27°45'47"E | Designation dates: 21-01-2013  
[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Danube Islands-Bugeac-Iortmac (Ostroavele Dunarii Bugeac Iortmac). 02/02/2013; Calarasi, Constanta counties; 82,832 ha; 44°13' 32N 027°45' 48E. Natural Monuments; Natural Reserves; Natura 2000 Network (SPA, SCI). The site is a part of the Danube's floodplain, where it has the largest width because the Danube splits into two branches which formerly enclosed large lakes. The site is situated on the route of an important migration corridor, so it is important as a breeding and resting place for several rare bird species. The landscape is specific to the meadows, with lakes between the sand dunes, marshes, shrub-dominated wetlands, fishponds and islands providing appropriate conditions for a great biodiversity. Endemic flora like the *Hedysarum grandiflorum* grow within the site. There is a LIFE project financed by the European Union for the protection of these islands, which are considered very important for bird species such as the *Falco cherrug*, *Haliaeetus albicilla* and *Pelecanus crispus*. During wintering and migration, the site is also important for many other threatened species such as the *Ardea purpurea*, *Branta ruficollis*, and *Ciconia nigra*. Human activities which may affect the ecological character of this site are navigation, fishing, poaching, hunting, tourism, urbanisation and wind turbines. The site plays an important hydrological value as it regulates Danube water fluctuation and floods. Ramsar Site no. 2114. Most recent RIS information: 2012.

## Dumbravita-Rotbav Fishpond Complex

Site number: 1,605 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Brasov County

Area: 2,282 ha | Coordinates: 45°48'47"N 25°31'02"E | Designation dates: 19-01-2006

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

A reservoir and fishponds featuring mudflats and surrounded by fields of crops, meadows, wet grasslands, marsh areas and dense emergent vegetation with reedbeds. It was extended in 2021 to include the Rotbav fishpond complex and align with the wetland habitats of the Dumbrăvița-Rotbav-Măgura Codlei Natura 2000 Site; this caused the area to increase from 414 to 2,282 hectares. The Site supports a rich plant life and provides an important breeding site for over 30 waterbird species and a staging area for more than 100 bird species. Through targeted integrated management, the number of passage species of conservation concern, such as black stork (*Ciconia nigra*) and great white egret (*Ardea alba*), has increased significantly in recent years. Besides the most abundant species, some species which are rare in Romania can be found, such as *Platalea leucorodia*, *Plegadis falcinellus*, *Cygnus cygnus*, and *Branta ruficollis*. The entire pond system with its highly productive mudflats is largely covered in reedbeds and used for aquaculture. Other uses include recreation, and agriculture including livestock grazing and haymaking which contribute to the annual regeneration of grasslands and marshes and prevent overgrowing. Threats include illegal waste dumping and uncontrolled reed burning. The increased number of fish-eating cormorants around the ponds could potentially lead to a human-wildlife conflict between farm owners and birds; to prevent this the Site management plan proposes non-violent solutions including compensation measures.

## Iron Gates Natural Park

Site number: 1,946 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Caras Severin and Mehedinti Counties

Area: 115,666 ha | Coordinates: 44°40'59"N 21°55'59"E | Designation dates: 05-03-2009

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Iron Gates Natural Park. 18/01/2011. Caras Severin and Mehedinti Counties; 115 666 ha; N 44°41 E 21°56 . Natural Park. The site is situated in South West Romania. It is a potential Transboundary Ramsar Site of outstanding beauty bordering the Republic of Serbia along the course of the Danube river. It is mostly covered by forest that is interspersed with streams and freshwater pools. The variety of ecosystems as well as the diversity of species is very high. Many species of flora (about 3700) and fauna (more than 5200) are protected under international, European and national regulations. Such species include birds like the Imperial Eagle (*Aquila heliaca*), amphibians like the European Fire-bellied Toad (*Bombina orientalis*), vulnerable fish species such as *Acipenser ruthenus*, and mammals like the Otter (*Lutra lutra*). Some plant species are endemic to the area. The large Iron Gates water reservoir serves multiple purposes, from hydropower production to fishing, navigation and leisure activities. It is especially important as a breeding, staging and wintering site for many bird species and regularly supports 20,000 or more water birds. A management plan has been developed and is awaiting approval by the Ministry for Environment and Water Management. Ramsar Site no. 1946. Most recent RIS information: 2009.

## Jijia - Iasi Wetlands

Site number: 2,422 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: North-East Development Region. The area covers 12 local administrative units.

Area: 19,432.5 ha | Coordinates: 47°22'39"N 27°21'56"E | Designation dates: 13-02-2020

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Jijia – Iasi is composed of a variety of habitats that surround the lower stretch of the Jijia river, before it flows into the Prut river which marks the border with Moldova. The wetlands' habitats include temporary rivers and ponds, reed beds, grassy marshes, pastures, shrub areas and a few patches of forest along with arable land. Spring floods can cover almost the entire area, transforming the landscape into a large water body. In 1970, a plan to regulate flooding led to the establishment of water supply connections for nearby communities and numerous human-made ponds for fisheries. The wetland is important for its biodiversity, as around 200 species included in international protection lists have been recorded. Overall, the area hosts 225 bird species – 140 of which use it as breeding grounds – reaching over 40,000 individuals recorded during migration periods, the most abundant being white stork (*Ciconia ciconia*), greater white-fronted goose (*Anser albifrons*), greylag goose (*Anser anser*) and ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*). The most notable impacts to the wetland are land conversion and drainage for agricultural purposes.

## Jiu-Danube Confluence

Site number: 2,115 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Dolj County

Area: 19,800 ha | Coordinates: 43°59'38"N 23°53'48"E | Designation dates: 21-01-2013

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Jiu-Danube Confluence (Confluenta Jiu-Dunare). 02/02/2013; Dolj County; 19,800 ha; 43°59' 38N 023°53' 48E. Natura 2000 (SPA). The site covers an important part of the Jiu river, which springs in the Southern Carpathians and flows into the Danube. A small part of the Danube meadow is also included in the site. Due to its length (over 60 km north-south), the site includes a great variety of ecosystems: oak forests, poplar forests, small lakes, old branches of the river, sand islands, dunes, marshes, channels, arable lands, etc. The complexity of these ecosystems provides favourable conditions for the presence of a high biodiversity. The site is also an Important Bird Area for many migratory birds, and it was declared a Special Protection Area (SPA) under the Birds Directive in 2007. Some of the species which find ideal conditions for nesting are *Crex crex*, *Haliaeetus albicilla*, *Ciconia ciconia*, and *Burhinus oediacnemus*, and during the migration period, the site is also important for the *Tringa glareola*, *Pelecanus crispus*, *Platalea leucorodia* and *Plegadis falcinellus*. In terms of its hydrological value, the site plays a very important role in groundwater level regulation. Fishing is a traditional occupation within the site, and it offers recreational and touristic possibilities, along with several important archaeological sites. The management plan is in development. Ramsar Site no. 2115. Most recent RIS information: 2012.

## Lake Calarasi

Site number: 2,064 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Calarasi County

Area: 5,001 ha | Coordinates: 44°11'24"N 27°16'27"E | Designation dates: 13-06-2012

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Lake Calarasi (Iezerul Calarasi). 13/06/12; Calarasi County; 5,001 ha; 44°11'24"N 027°16'28"E. Nature Reserve, Natura 2000 (SPA). Originally covered entirely by Ezer Lake, the site now contains only a small part of the former lake which has been preserved following the Danube's embankment. The remainder of the site was transformed into agricultural land and fish ponds now forming a mosaic of natural and human-made ecosystems. The site is of special importance to 271 species of sedentary and migratory waterbirds as well as for several species of fish, amphibians, reptiles and mammals, including species threatened on national, European and global level. During winter large concentrations of White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons* roost on the lake and Red-breasted Goose *Branta ruficollis* rests and feeds in the site. Human uses include fishing, aquaculture and agriculture and the site is important for flood control and groundwater recharge. Potential threats include uncontrolled tourism and over-fishing. Several conservation measures are foreseen, including the prevention of reed burnings, the reduction of agriculturally used chemicals, and the possible development of eco-tourism. An information centre offering educational programs exists. Ramsar Site number: 2064. Most recent RIS information: 2012.

## Lake Techirghiol

Site number: 1,610 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Constanta

Area: 1,462 ha | Coordinates: 44°03'N 28°37'59"E | Designation dates: 23-03-2006

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Lake Techirghiol. 23/03//06; Constanta; 1,462 ha; 44°03'N 028°38'E. Protected Area. A lake situated near the Black Sea coast, divided into three parts by two dams constructed in the 1980s: the eastern part remained salty, between the dams the water became brackish, and the western end of the lake contains fresh water. In such diverse conditions the population of plants, such as *Suaeda maritima* and *Puccinellia distans*, as well as animals, e.g. the Danube Crested Newt *Triturus dobrogicus* and the Fire-bellied Toad *Bombina bombina* and several threatened bat species such as *Miniopterus schreibersi*, have developed continuously, and the coastal habitats and wetlands provide good conditions for a high variety of species. The site provides a very important roosting place for waterfowl, especially geese and ducks, and at the same time the reed beds offer ideal breeding grounds for many bird species. The marine salt characteristics of the lake support *Artemia salina*, a small crustacean which produces the biogenic silt sapropel which is used for medical therapeutic activities. Potential threats are perceived from disturbances by tourists and local people accessing the area with motor vehicles, as well as a garbage dump near Techirghiol village. A management plan is expected to be completed in 2006. Ramsar site no. 1610. Most recent RIS information: 2006.

## Mures Floodplain

Site number: 1,606 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Arad and Timis counties

Area: 17,166 ha | Coordinates: 46°13'N 21°09'E | Designation dates: 19-01-2006

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Mures Floodplain. 02/02/06; Arad, Timis; 17,166 ha; 46°13'N 021°09'E. Natural Park, IBA. Includes the length of the River Mures downstream from Arad to the Hungarian border. It consists of a high variety of ecosystems, a mixture of meadows, periodically flooded areas mainly covered with soft and hard wood forests, arable land and pastures, and about 40 isles on the river. The forest and old riverbed ecosystems, permanently or temporarily linked with the Mures, are among few examples of this type of habitat remaining in Europe. The present landscape results from the damming of the valley and the consequent agricultural transformation; as the lower floodplain is bordered by dams and high terraces, it is subjected to all the benefits and damage caused by floods, such as drying out of habitats in years of low flow and water-logging in high floods. Disturbance is caused by overgrazing as well as poaching of fish and game resources and introduced exotic tree species, especially *Acer negundo*. The main human activities are oil and timber harvesting, together with agriculture as well as sheep and cattle grazing. Amongst the many archaeological sites is the fortified settlement "Santul Mare" dating from the Bronze Age. The Hodos-Bodrog and Bezdin monasteries are also culturally important and the objective for ecumenical tourism. Ramsar site no. 1606. Most recent RIS information: 2006.

## Old Danube - Macin Arm

Site number: 2,116 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Braila, Tulcea and Constanta counties

Area: 26,792 ha | Coordinates: 44°59'N 28°09'14"E | Designation dates: 21-01-2013

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Old Danube-Macin Arm (Dunarea Veche-Bratul Macin). 02/20/2013; Braila, Tulcea, Constanta Counties; 26,792 ha; 44°59' 01N 028°09' 14E. Nature Reserve; SAC; SCI. The site is part of the Danube meadow and is situated in an important migration corridor, providing breeding, resting and feeding shelter for many IUCN Red Listed bird species. The landscape is characterized by lakes between sand dunes, marshes, shrub wetlands, fishponds, islands, canals and drainage channels all very rich in biodiversity. The site is also important for conservation of tree galleries of *Populus alba* and *Salix alba*. Some of the factors adversely affecting its ecological status are drainages, wind turbines, urbanization, grazing, hunting and poaching. In terms of ecosystem services, the site plays a very important hydrological regulatory role in reducing the effects of the Danube floods. Within the site the most important human activities are agriculture, forestry and fishing. Ramsar Site no. 2116. Most recent RIS information: 2012.



## Olt - Danube Confluence

Site number: 2,065 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Olt County, Teleorman County  
Area: 46,623 ha | Coordinates: 43°45'42"N 24°43'53"E | Designation dates: 13-06-2012

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Olt-Danube Confluence (Confluenta Olt-Dunare). 13/06/12; Olt, Teleorman Counties; 46,623 ha; 43°45'43"N 024°43'53"E. Avian Protection Site, Natura 2000 (SPA, SCI), IBA. Containing natural stretches of rivers Olt and Danube, alluvial meadows and forests, riparian mixed forests, sand islands, oxbow and temporary lakes, the site offers an ideal habitat for many species of waterbirds. Vulnerable Dalmatian Pelican *Pelecanus crispus* can be found as well as 33 bird species of European importance which rest, feed and breed in the site, such as Pygmy Cormorant *Phalacrocorax pygmeus*. It is also important for different species of fish, amphibians and mammals. The site is used for agriculture, forestry, fishing, and recreational activities as well as hydropower production. Not having been much transformed by human use, many of the site's ecological functions are still intact and play an important role in flood protection and sediment trapping. The construction of hydropower plants, solid waste disposal, and poaching are some of the factors threatening the site. A transboundary Ramsar Site designation with Bulgaria is planned. Ramsar Site number: 2065. Most recent RIS information: 2012.

## Poiana Stampei Peat Bog

Site number: 2,003 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Suceava County, north Romania  
Area: 640 ha | Coordinates: 47°17'27"N 25°05'57"E | Designation dates: 05-03-2009

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Poiana Stampei Peat Bog (Tinovul Poiana Stampei). 25/10/11; Suceava County; 640 ha; 47°17'28"N, 025°05'57"E. Scientific Reserve, NATURA 2000. Considered the largest oligotrophic peat bog in Romania, the site is forested with pine *Pinus silvestris f. turfosa* and surrounded by spruce forest, which acts as a buffer zone. It includes several habitat types listed under the EU Habitats Directive and provides a shelter for internationally rare species of fauna and flora such as the *Ligularia sibirica*. Many invertebrates like rotifers, cladocers, copepods and insects can be found, and the peat bog also hosts species of endemic algae such as *Batrachospermum dornense*. Some of the plant species, such as moss *Sphagnum wulfianum* and fern *Dryopteris cristata*, are relict in Romania. The forest components of the site are important for the prevention of floods, especially during spring and rainy periods. The site plays a role in the purification of water and stores considerable amounts of carbon dioxide as the peat grows. It is mainly used for scientific research and educational purposes. High winds have resulted in serious tree damage, which is expected to lead to an increase in bark insect populations. Ramsar Site no. 2003. Most recent RIS information: 2011.

## Small Island of Braila

Site number: 1,074 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Braila county  
Area: 17,586 ha | Coordinates: 44°58'N 27°55'E | Designation dates: 15-06-2001

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Small Island of Braila. 15/06/01; Braila; 17,586 ha; 44°58'N 027°55'E. Natural Reserve. A group of wetlands in the Lower Danube region, one of the rare areas along the river that has preserved its natural hydrological conditions and which contains a representative sample of habitats characteristic of floodplains as well as a former inland delta. Comprising seven small islands stretching over 61 km between two arms of the Danube just south (upstream) of Braila, Romania's second largest city, the site is of major interest for at least 34 internationally protected bird species, two of which, *Phalacrocorax pygmeus* (pygmy cormorants) and *Pelecanus crispus*, are considered priorities for LIFE financing, and 65 species of fish. The wetlands perform important hydrological functions, particularly during seasonal inundations, and affect the local microclimate. The adjacent "Big Island of Braila", five times greater in size, was largely drained during the previous political era. Regional management plans in the past have tended toward intensive agriculture and aquaculture, but more recently sustainability has emerged as an objective. Ramsar site no. 1074. Most recent RIS information: 2001.

## Suhaia

Site number: 2,066 | Country: Romania | Administrative region: Teleorman County

Area: 19,594 ha | Coordinates: 43°44'17"N 25°11'33"E | Designation dates: 13-06-2012

[View Site details in RSIS](#)

Suhaia.13/06/12; Teleorman County; 19,594 ha; 43°44'17"N 025°11'33"E. Avian Protection Site, Natura 2000 (SPA), IBA. Located along a major migratory route and comprising Suhaia Lake, the Danube river, connecting channels, fishing ponds, reed beds, swamps and rice fields. The site offers habitat to numerous threatened species of birds which feed, rest and breed here, including 21 bird species of European importance as well as the globally vulnerable Dalmatian Pelican *Pelecanus crispus*. Moreover, several threatened species of invertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles and mammals can be found, including the globally vulnerable European Mudminnow *Umbra krameri*. Suhaia Lake plays a significant role in groundwater replenishment and had an important flood control function prior to the embankment of the Danube. Human uses include aquaculture, agriculture, forestry and recreational activities. Illegal burning of vegetation, poaching and the overuse of fertilizers threaten the ecological character of the site. Ramsar Site number: 2066. Most recent RIS information: 2012.