



# NATURA 2000 - STANDARD DATA FORM

For Special Protection Areas (SPA),  
Proposed Sites for Community Importance (pSCI),  
Sites of Community Importance (SCI) and  
for Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

SITE BG0002019

SITENAME Byala reka

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## 1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

<b>1.1 Type</b> A	<b>1.2 Site code</b> BG0002019	<a href="#">Back to top</a>
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### 1.3 Site name

Byala reka
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<b>1.4 First Compilation date</b> 2005-10	<b>1.5 Update date</b> 2015-07
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### 1.6 Respondent:

<b>Name/Organisation:</b>	Ministry of Environment and Water, "National Nature Protection Service" Directorate
<b>Address:</b>	Sofia Kn. Maria Luiza Blvd. 22 1000 Sofia
<b>Email:</b>	natura2000@moew.government.bg

### 1.7 Site indication and designation / classification dates

<b>Date site classified as SPA:</b>	2007-03
<b>National legal reference of SPA designation</b>	Site classified as SPA by Council of Ministers Decision No. 122/02.03.2007 (promulgated SG 21/2007).
<b>Explanation(s):</b>	Site classified as SPA by Council of Ministers Decision No. 122/02.03.2007 (promulgated SG 21/2007). Issued designation order by the Minister of Environment and Water with prohibitions and restrictions on activities contradicting the conservation objectives of the site - Order No. RD - 575/08.09.2008 (promulgated SG 85/2008).

## 2. SITE LOCATION

### 2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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**Longitude**  
25.94722222222223

**Latitude**  
41.39194444444444

### 2.2 Area [ha]:

44626.646

### 2.3 Marine area [%]

0.0

## 2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

## 2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code

Region Name

BG42	Южен централен / Yuzhen tsentralen
BG42	Южен централен / Yuzhen tsentralen

## 2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Continental (100.0  
%)

## 3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### 3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

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### 3.2 Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and listed in Annex II of Directive 92/43/EEC and site evaluation for them

Species					Population in the site					Site assessment				
G	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	T	Size		Unit	Cat.	D. qual.	A B C D	A B C		
						Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	Glo.
B	A402	<a href="#">Accipiter brevipes</a>			r	2	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A086	<a href="#">Accipiter nisus</a>			p	3	18	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A168	<a href="#">Actitis hypoleucos</a>			r	3	4	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A079	<a href="#">Aegypius monachus</a>			p		46	i		G	C	A	B	B
B	A229	<a href="#">Alcedo atthis</a>			p	10	21	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A229	<a href="#">Alcedo atthis</a>			c	9	9	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A053	<a href="#">Anas platyrhynchos</a>			p	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A255	<a href="#">Anthus campestris</a>			p	2	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A091	<a href="#">Aquila chrysaetos</a>			p	2	3	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A404	<a href="#">Aquila heliaca</a>			p	1	2	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A089	<a href="#">Aquila pomarina</a>			r	4	12	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A028	<a href="#">Ardea cinerea</a>			w	3	15	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A028	<a href="#">Ardea cinerea</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A215	<a href="#">Bubo bubo</a>			p	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A133	<a href="#">Burhinus oedicnemus</a>			r	2	2	p		G	C	B	C	B
B	A087	<a href="#">Buteo buteo</a>			p	19	30	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A403	<a href="#">Buteo rufinus</a>			p	4	5	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A224	<a href="#">Caprimulgus europaeus</a>			r	136	326	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A136	<a href="#">Charadrius dubius</a>			r	12	24	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A031	<a href="#">Ciconia ciconia</a>			r	5	5	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A030	<a href="#">Ciconia nigra</a>			r	6	18	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A080	<a href="#">Circus gallicus</a>			r	9	11	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A084	<a href="#">Circus pygargus</a>			r	1	1	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A231	<a href="#">Coracias garrulus</a>			r	6	9	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A239	<a href="#">Dendrocopos leucotos</a>			p	15	19	p		G	C	B	C	C

B	A238	<a href="#">Dendrocopos medius</a>			p	100	150	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A429	<a href="#">Dendrocopos syriacus</a>			p	200	350	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A236	<a href="#">Dryocopus martius</a>			p	9	21	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A027	<a href="#">Egretta alba</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A026	<a href="#">Egretta garzetta</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A379	<a href="#">Emberiza hortulana</a>			r	67	194	p		G	C		C	C
B	A095	<a href="#">Falco naumanni</a>			r		1	p		G	A	A	B	B
B	A103	<a href="#">Falco peregrinus</a>			r	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A099	<a href="#">Falco subbuteo</a>			r	7	7	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A096	<a href="#">Falco tinnunculus</a>			p	18	18	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A097	<a href="#">Falco vespertinus</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A442	<a href="#">Ficedula semitorquata</a>			r	2	25	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A125	<a href="#">Fulica atra</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A123	<a href="#">Gallinula chloropus</a>			p	1	5	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A127	<a href="#">Grus grus</a>			c	20	20	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A078	<a href="#">Gyps fulvus</a>			p		35	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A075	<a href="#">Haliaeetus albicilla</a>			c				V	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A093	<a href="#">Hieraetus fasciatus</a>			c	1	1	i		G	A	B	B	A
B	A093	<a href="#">Hieraetus fasciatus</a>			r		3	i		G	A	B	B	A
B	A092	<a href="#">Hieraetus pennatus</a>			r	2	8	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A439	<a href="#">Hippolais olivetorum</a>			r	30	40	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A022	<a href="#">Ixobrychus minutus</a>			r	1	1	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A022	<a href="#">Ixobrychus minutus</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A338	<a href="#">Lanius collurio</a>			r	4500	5500	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A339	<a href="#">Lanius minor</a>			r	29	29	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A433	<a href="#">Lanius nubicus</a>			r	8	8	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A459	<a href="#">Larus cachinnans</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A179	<a href="#">Larus ridibundus</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A246	<a href="#">Lullula arborea</a>			p	424	469	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A230	<a href="#">Merops apiaster</a>			r	290	290	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A230	<a href="#">Merops apiaster</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A073	<a href="#">Milvus migrans</a>			r	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A077	<a href="#">Neophron percnopterus</a>			r	1	2	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A023	<a href="#">Nycticorax nycticorax</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A072	<a href="#">Pernis apivorus</a>			r	8	25	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A017	<a href="#">Phalacrocorax carbo</a>			w				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A234	<a href="#">Picus canus</a>			p	5	10	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A307	<a href="#">Sylvia nisoria</a>			r	35	45	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A004	<a href="#">Tachybaptus ruficollis</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A165	<a href="#">Tringa ochropus</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A142	<a href="#">Vanellus vanellus</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C

- **Group:** A = Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, I = Invertebrates, M = Mammals, P = Plants, R = Reptiles
- **S:** in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes
- **NP:** in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)
- **Type:** p = permanent, r = reproducing, c = concentration, w = wintering (for plant and non-migratory species use permanent)
- **Unit:** i = individuals, p = pairs or other units according to the Standard list of population units and codes in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting (see [reference portal](#))

- **Abundance categories (Cat.):** C = common, R = rare, V = very rare, P = present - to fill if data are deficient (DD) or in addition to population size information
- **Data quality:** G = 'Good' (e.g. based on surveys); M = 'Moderate' (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = 'Poor' (e.g. rough estimation); VP = 'Very poor' (use this category only, if not even a rough estimation of the population size can be made, in this case the fields for population size can remain empty, but the field "Abundance categories" has to be filled in)

### 3.3 Other important species of flora and fauna (optional)

Species					Population in the site			Motivation						
Group	CODE	Scientific Name	S	NP	Size		Unit	Cat.	Species Annex		Other categories			
					Min	Max		C R V P	IV	V	A	B	C	D
B	A247	<a href="#">Alauda arvensis</a>			260	260	p						X	
B	A218	<a href="#">Athene noctua</a>			45	45	p						X	
B	A366	<a href="#">Carduelis cannabina</a>			165	165	p						X	
B	A363	<a href="#">Carduelis chloris</a>			248	248	p						X	
B	A347	<a href="#">Corvus monedula</a>			18	18	p							X
B	A113	<a href="#">Coturnix coturnix</a>			35	35	p						X	
B	A377	<a href="#">Emberiza cirius</a>			120	120	p						X	
B	A382	<a href="#">Emberiza melanocephala</a>			600	600	p						X	
B	A269	<a href="#">Erithacus rubecula</a>			2000	2000	p						X	
B	A359	<a href="#">Fringilla coelebs</a>			3600	3600	p						X	
B	A244	<a href="#">Galerida cristata</a>			128	128	p						X	
B	A251	<a href="#">Hirundo rustica</a>			615	615	p						X	
B	A233	<a href="#">Jynx torquilla</a>			17	17	p						X	
B	A341	<a href="#">Lanius senator</a>			225	225	p						X	
B	A271	<a href="#">Luscinia megarhynchos</a>			830	830	p						X	
B	A383	<a href="#">Miliaria calandra</a>			800	800	p						X	
B	A278	<a href="#">Oenanthe hispanica</a>			3	3	p						X	
B	A214	<a href="#">Otus scops</a>			105	105	p						X	
B	A329	<a href="#">Parus caeruleus</a>			550	550	p						X	
B	A443	<a href="#">Parus lugubris</a>			65	65	p						X	
B	A273	<a href="#">Phoenicurus ochruros</a>			60	60	p						X	
B	A235	<a href="#">Picus viridis</a>			85	85	p						X	
B	A276	<a href="#">Saxicola torquata</a>			23	23	p						X	
B	A210	<a href="#">Streptopelia turtur</a>			300	300	p						X	
B	A311	<a href="#">Sylvia atricapilla</a>			1650	1650	p						X	
B	A304	<a href="#">Sylvia cantillans</a>			80	80	p						X	
B	A305	<a href="#">Sylvia melanocephala</a>			55	55	p						X	
B	A283	<a href="#">Turdus merula</a>			2550	2550	p						X	
B	A285	<a href="#">Turdus philomelos</a>			2250	2250	p						X	

- **Group:** A = Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, Fu = Fungi, I = Invertebrates, L = Lichens, M = Mammals, P = Plants, R = Reptiles
- **CODE:** for Birds, Annex IV and V species the code as provided in the reference portal should be used in addition to the scientific name
- **S:** in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes
- **NP:** in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)
- **Unit:** i = individuals, p = pairs or other units according to the standard list of population units and codes in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting, (see [reference portal](#))
- **Cat.:** Abundance categories: C = common, R = rare, V = very rare, P = present
- **Motivation categories:** IV, V: Annex Species (Habitats Directive), A: National Red List data; B: Endemics; C: International Conventions; D: other reasons

## 4. SITE DESCRIPTION

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### 4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N16	56.0
N17	
N20	
N21	2.0
N08	12.0
N09	12.0
N19	3.0
N06	1.0
N15	1.0
N22	1.0
N12	9.0
N10	1.0
N23	2.0
<b>Total Habitat Cover</b>	NaN

### Other Site Characteristics

The area covers the Byala Reka watershed in the most south-eastern part of the Eastern Rhodopes, immediately next to the state border with Greece. It includes the Byala Reka valley and the surrounding mountain hills from the village of Chernichevo on the west to the spot where the river crosses the state border to the east. The regions vegetation is quite diverse and heavily influenced by the Mediterranean climate. Because of the regions low population density and border regime old forests of *Fagus sylvatica* L. subsp. *moesiaca* and *Quercus dalechampii* have been preserved there. Mixed oak forests of *Q. dalechampii*, *Q. virgiliana*, *Q. frainetto* and *Q. pubescens*, interspersed at places with *Carpinus orientalis*, are also widely distributed. The region supports also xerothermal shrub formations of Mediterranean type with considerable species diversity, dominated by *Phyllirea latifolia* and *Juniperus oxycedrus*, with the participation of *Paliurus spina-christi*, *Fraxinus ornus*, etc. (Bondev 1991). The river is comparatively deep and its waters are not polluted. The riverbed is sandy-stony. Its banks are overgrown with willows *Salix* spp. and shrubs. At certain places in the region there are single low cliffs. The farmlands occupy a comparatively small part of the total area, mainly around the settlements.

### 4.2 Quality and importance

The area of Byala Reka supports 167 bird species, 33 of which are listed in the Red Data Book for Bulgaria (1985). Of the birds occurring there 67 species are of European conservation concern (SPEC) (BirdLife International, 2004), 2 of them being listed in category SPEC 1 as globally threatened, 22 in SPEC 2 and 43 in SPEC 3 as species threatened in Europe. Byala Reka is a site with global importance as a representative area for the Mediterranean biome. Five of the 9 biome-restricted species, established in the country, that are typical for this biome, occur there: Olive-tree Warbler *Hippolais olivetorum*, Sub-alpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans*, Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala*, Masked Shrike *Lanius nubicus* and Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala*. Byala Reka provides suitable habitats for 51 species, included in Annex 2 of the Biodiversity Act, which need special conservation measures. Forty-six of them are listed also in Annex I of the Birds Directive and more than half of them breed in the region in significant populations. The region is of global importance as a permanent roosting and feeding site for the Cinereous Vulture *Aegypius monachus*. Byala Reka is one of the most important sites in Bulgaria on a European Union scale for the species mentioned above, as well as for the breeding of the Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*, Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus*, Booted eagle *Hieraetus pennatus*, Short-toed Eagle *Circaetus gallicus*, Levant Sparrowhawk *Accipiter brevipes*, Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*, Olive-tree Warbler *Hippolais olivetorum* and Masked Shrike *Lanius nubicus*. Significant population on European scale of Woodlark *Lullula arborea* breeds in Byala Reka.

### 4.3 Threats, pressures and activities with impacts on the site

The most important impacts and activities with high effect on the site

Negative Impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	A10.01		i
L	D02.01		o
M	A03		o

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside /outside [i o b]
M	B01		i
M	B02.01		i
H	A04		o

L	B02.04		o
L	A10		o
L	D01.02		i
M	F03.02.09		i
L	C01.01.02		i
M	K01.01		i
M	H05		o
L	B02.04		i
L	A08		o
M	H04		i
H	B02.02		i
M	F02.03.01		o
L	B03		i
L	L		o
M	B		o
L	A08		i
M	D01.01		o
L	C01.01.01		o
H	F03.02.03		i
M	J02.05.02		i
M	L		i
M	F03.01		o
M	F03.02.09		o
M	H05		i
M	A03		i
H	G01.03		o
L	J01		o
L	A01		o
L	B03		o
L	D01.02		o
L	D02.09		i
M	K01.01		o
M	F03.01		i
H	F03.02.01		i
M	B		i
M	A04.03		i
H	F04		o
L	A01		i
L	F03.02.02		o
M	H		o
H	E03.01		i
L	G01.03		i
H	E03.01		o
M	H		i
M	F03.02		o
L	F02.03		i
L	A02		i
H	F03.02.01		o
M	H04		o
L	J01		i
L	A02		o
M	D01.01		i
L	F03.02.02		i
L	E03.03		i
L	A10.01		o
H	B02.02		o
L	C01.01.01		i
L	E03.03		o

H	A05.01		o
L	D01.02		i
M	G02.04		o
M	K04.01		o
L	A09		i
H	A05.02		o
L	G01.03		i
M	G02.04		i
L	D02.01		o
L	B01.02		i
M	L		i
H	A05.01		i
M	B02.01		o
M	A09		o
L	B01		o
H	A05.02		i
M	A04		i
L	L		o
L	B01.02		o
H	E01.03		o
H	E01.03		i

H	F04		i
L	B02.03		i
M	F02.03.01		i
L	F02.03		o
L	C01.01.02		o
L	A10		i
L	B02.03		o
M	F03.02		i
H	D02.09		o

Rank: H = high, M = medium, L = low

Pollution: N = Nitrogen input, P = Phosphor/Phosphate input, A = Acid input/acidification,

T = toxic inorganic chemicals, O = toxic organic chemicals, X = Mixed pollutions

i = inside, o = outside, b = both

#### 4.4 Ownership (optional)

#### 4.5 Documentation

Initial proposal and description of the site made by Dr. Petar Iankov, Dr. Boris Barov, Hristo Hristov, Ivailo Angelov - Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds, Bulgaria, 1111 Sofia, P.O.Box 50, phone (+359 2) 9715855, fax (+359 2) 9715856, www.bspb.org .Data revised by a team of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (<http://www.bas.bg>).Documents: Barov, B. 1995. Status na beloshipata vetrushka Falco naumanni v Iztochnite Rodopi. Otchet po proekt Opazvane na biologichnoto raznoobrazie na Iztochnite Rodopi <sup>2</sup> faza. BSHPOBR, Sofiya.;Barov, B. 1996. Sastoyanie na populatsiyata na beloshipata vetrushka Falco naumanni v Iztochnite Rodopi, 1995-1996. Doklad po proekt Opazvane na biologichnoto raznoobrazie na Iztochnite Rodopi. BSHPOBR, Sofiya.;Barov, B. 1999. Ekologichni osobenosti na ornitotsenozite, obitavashti kserotermnite dabovi gori v rayona na r. Byala reka, Iztochni Rodopi. Diplomna rabota, Biologicheski fakultet pri SU Sv. Kl. 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Link(s): <http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/Home/ProtectedSite?code=BG0002019&siteType=BirdsDirective>

## 5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

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### 5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
BG00	96.2	BG06	3.6	BG03	0.2

### 5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
BG03	NAHODISHTE NA GRADNINSKI CHAY - LUDA REKA	+	0.2
BG06	HAMBAR DERE	+	0.2
BG06	BYALA RIVER MEANDRES	+	3.4

designated at international level:

Type	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
Other	IBA	=	100.0

### 5.3 Site designation (optional)

About 4% of the area is under legal protection. The Byala Reka meanders Protected Area was designated to protect the threatened bird species, including the Egyptian Vulture and the Golden Eagle, as well as riverine habitats. In 1998 a big part of the area was appointed as CORINE Site with the same name because of its European value for habitats, rare and threatened plant and animal species, including birds. In 1997 the area was designated as Important Bird Area by BirdLife International.

## 6. SITE MANAGEMENT

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### 6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

Organisation:	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water -Haskovo;East-Aegean River Basin Directorate;Forestry Department - Ivailovgrad, Krumovgrad;
Address:	
Email:	

### 6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> No, but in preparation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

### 6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

## 7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:



Map delivered as PDF in electronic format (optional)

Yes  No

Reference(s) to the original map used for the digitalisation of the electronic boundaries (optional).