

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code

Region Name

BG42	Южен централен / Yuzhen tsentralen
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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	A089	Aquila pomarina			r	2	4	p		G	C	B	C	B
B	A243	Calandrella brachydactyla			r	5	10	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A379	Emberiza hortulana			r	70	70	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A439	Hippolais olivetorum			r	93	93	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A338	Lanius collurio			r	167	167	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A246	Lullula arborea			p	85	85	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A242	Melanocorypha calandra			p	43	43	p		G	C	A	C	A

- **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	Alauda arvensis			61	61	p							X	
B	A382	Emberiza melanocephala			265	265	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

4.1 General site character

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Habitat class	% Cover
N06	1.0
N16	21.0
N23	2.0
N22	5.0
N10	1.0
N09	6.0
N21	0.0
N15	4.0
N08	34.0
N12	23.0
N19	3.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

Harmanliyska Reka is situated in the southeast part of the Upper Thracian Plain. It covers a hilly area along the lower stream of the Harmanliyska river west from the town of Harmanli. To the north it borders to the main road E80, and to the west the site limit goes through the villages of Bryagovo and Ropdopi. The site`s limits reach the village of Ostar kamak to the south. In this part of its course the river forms a deep rocky gorge with vertical cliffs, surrounded by pastures, broadleaved forests and shrubs. The forests are composed mainly of oak *Quercus cerris* and oriental hornbeam *Carpinus orientalis* with the participation of Mediterranean elements. The open areas are occupied by xerothermal grass formations and ephemeral species. The pastures are interspersed with shrubs of Christ's thorn *Paliurus spina-cristi* and single trees. Part of the site has recently been affected by a big fire, which has changed the state of the oak forests. Currently they are undergoing coppice regeneration and form huge territories of shrubby habitats. Two types of riverine associations occur along the Harmanliyska river: Riverine willow formations *Salix* spp. and mixed elm-alder groups along the rivers *Fraxinus excelsior* *Alnus glutinosa*

4.2 Quality and importance

The region of Harmanliyska Reka supports 149 bird species, 28 of which are listed in the Red Data Book for Bulgaria (1985). Of the birds occurring there 35 species are of European conservation concern (SPEC) (BirdLife International, 2004), one of them being listed in category SPEC 1 as globally threatened (the Pygmy Cormorant *Phalacrocorax pygmeus*), 20 in SPEC 2 and 42 in SPEC 3 as species threatened in Europe. The area provides suitable habitats for 45 species, included in Annex 2 of the Biodiversity Act, which need special conservation measures, of which 41 are listed also in Annex I of the Birds Directive. The site is one of the most important places in the country on European Union scale for the conservation of the Olive-tree Warbler *Hippolais olivetorum* and the Calandra Lark *Melanocorypha calandra*, which breed there in considerable numbers. The Great Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla* also breeds there in significant numbers.

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]
M	B02.02		i
M	B01		i
M	B01.02		i
M	B02.01		o

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	A08		o
M	A04		o
M	A09		i
M	A04		i

M	A08		o
M	A07		o
M	A09		o
H	L09		i
M	B01.02		o
H	L09		o
M	D02.01		i
M	A10		i
L	B		i
L	B02.04		i
M	A08		i
L	J01		o
L	B02.04		o
M	B02.02		o
M	A03		o
M	A04.03		i
M	A03		i
M	A04.03		o
M	D02.01		o
M	B01		o
M	A09		i
M	B02.01		i
L	B		o
L	J01		i
L	A07		i
M	F03.02.03		i
M	F03.02.03		o
M	A10		o

M	A08		i
M	A03		o
M	A09		o
M	A03		i

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 Stoycho Stoychev - 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: BDZP/BirdLife Balgariya. 2005. Nacionalna banka za ornitologichna informacia 1988-2005, Balgarsko Druzhestvo za zastita na pticite;Botev, B. and Tz. Peshev, (eds). 1985. Red Data Book of Republic Bulgaria. 2: Animals. Sofia: Bulgarian Academy of Science. (In Bulgarian.);Kostadinova, I., S.Dereliev. 2001. Results the Mid-Winter Counts of Waterbirds in Bulgaria for the period 1997- 2001. BSPB Conservation Series. Book 3, BSPB, Sofia, BG;MOSV. 2005. Arhiv na zastitenite teritorii v Balgaria. Baza dannii (nepubl.); BirdLife International. 2000. Threatened birds of the world. Barcelona and Cambridge, UK: Lynx Edicions and BirdLife International, 695pp. Birdlife International. 2004. Birds in Europe: Population estimates, trends and conservation status. Cambridge, UK: Birdlife International (Birdlife Conservation Series No. 12).373pp.;BSPB/BirdLife International. 2005. World Bird Database Important Birds Areas.Bulgaria. Cambridge. (unpublished);Guidelines for evaluation of protected zones according, which include habitats for birds to art.7, par.3, under the art.6 par.1.3 and 1.4 of the Biodiversity Act. 2005. (In Bulgarian.);Kostadinova, I., M. Mihailov, (comp.) 2002. Guide for NATURA 2000 in Bulgaria. BSPB nature conservation series No5. BSPB, Sofia, 80pp. (In Bulgarian.);Kostadinova, I. 2005. Application of C criteria for Identification of Important Bird Areas of European Union importance in Bulgaria. Preliminary implementation and analysis of the gaps. In: Petrova, A. (ed.), Current state of Bulgarian biodiversity problems and perspectives. Pp. 533-548. Bulgarian Bioplatform, SofiaOsieck, E. 2000 Filling in the requirements of the EU Birds Directive: Lessons from the Dutch Case. In: European IBA Workshop. 29 March - 2 April 2000, Brussels, Belgium. Proceedings. BirdLife International, 86-99;Simeonov, S. 1970. Uber die Verbreitung mediterraner Vogelarten in Bulgarien. Die Vogelwelt., 91, 2, 59-67. Waliczky, Z. 2000 Important Bird Areas of European Union Importance: explanation of the EU Criteria applied in IBA 2000 In: European IBA Workshop. 29 March - 2 April 2000, Brussels, Belgium. Proceedings. BirdLife International, 12-16. New data on Aquila pomarina nesting in the site provided by project LIFE12 NAT/BG/001218 - Preserve Key Forest Habitats of the Lesser Spotted Eagle (Aquila pomarina) in Bulgaria (www.eagleforests.org).

Link(s): <http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/Home/ProtectedSite?code=BG0002092&siteType=BirdsDirective>

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

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Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
BG03	0.012	BG06	1.0	BG00	98.988

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
BG06	DEFILETO OLU DERE	+	1.0
BG03	KURU DERE	+	0.004
BG03	KYUMURLUKA	+	0.008

designated at international level:

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

5.3 Site designation (optional)

Less than 1% of the sites territory is under legal protection by the national nature conservation law. The Defileto is the biggest protected area in the site, designated in 1973 to protect the landscape features. There are two natural monuments, designated in 1966 also to protect the landscape. A procedure for enlargement of the Defileto Protected area is carried out since 2005 in order to protect the best preserved habitats along the Harmanlyiska river. In 2005 it was designated also as Important Bird Area by BirdLife International.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

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Organisation:	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water - Haskovo; Forestry Departments - Harmanli, Haskovo; East-Aegean River Basin Directorate;
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).

