



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 **BG0000436**
SITENAME **Reka Mechka**

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

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1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code BG0000436
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1.3 Site name

Reka Mechka

1.4 First Compilation date	1.5 Update date
2005-12	2020-12

1.6 Respondent:

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

1.7 Site indication and designation / classification dates

Date site classified as SPA:	0000-00
National legal reference of SPA designation	No data

Date site proposed as SCI:	2007-03
Date site confirmed as SCI:	2008-12
Date site designated as SAC:	No data
National legal reference of SAC designation:	No data

Explanation(s):	Adopted by Council of Ministers Decision No. 122/02.03.2007 (promulgated SG 21/2007).
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2. SITE LOCATION

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2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

Longitude

25.0928

Latitude

41.9453

2.2 Area [ha]:

3248.7041

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

2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Continental (100.0
%)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

Annex I Habitat types						Site assessment			
Code	PF	NP	Cover [ha]	Cave [number]	Data quality	A B C D	A B C		
						Representativity	Relative Surface	Conservation	Global
91AA			20.63		G	C	C	B	C
91M0			383.2		M	C	C	C	C
92A0			8.41		G	D			

PF: for the habitat types that can have a non-priority as well as a priority form (6210, 7130, 9430) enter "X" in the column PF to indicate the priority form.

NP: in case that a habitat type no longer exists in the site enter: x (optional)

Cover: decimal values can be entered

Caves: for habitat types 8310, 8330 (caves) enter the number of caves if estimated surface is not available.

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)

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.

I	1093	Austropotamobius torrentium			p			i	P	M	D	C	C	C
F	5088	Barbus cyclolepis			p				C	DD	C	B	C	B
A	1188	Bombina bombina			p			localities	P	DD	C	A	B	B
A	1193	Bombina variegata			p			localities	P	DD	C	A	B	A
M	1352	Canis lupus			p	0	1	i	P	M	D			
I	1088	Cerambyx cerdo			p	8603	12694	i	R	M	C	C	C	C
F	1149	Cobitis taenia			p	319379	319379	i	R	G	C	A	C	A
R	5194	Elaphe sauromates			p			localities	P	DD	C	A	C	B
R	1220	Emys orbicularis			p	4	4	localities	V	P	C	A	C	B
I	1083	Lucanus cervus			p	5334	10494	i	R	M	C	C	C	C
M	1355	Lutra lutra			p	2	3	i	C	G	C	C	C	C
I	1089	Morimus funereus			p				R	DD	C	C	C	C
M	1316	Myotis capaccinii			p				P	DD	D			
M	1324	Myotis myotis			p				P	DD	D			
M	1305	Rhinolophus euryale			p				P	DD	D			
M	1304	Rhinolophus ferrumequinum			p	11	50	i		P	C	B	C	C
M	1303	Rhinolophus hipposideros			p	11	50	i	R	G	C	B	C	C
F	5339	Rhodeus amarus			p	912240	912240	i	C	G	C	A	C	B
I	1087	Rosalia alpina			p				V	DD	D			
F	1146	Sabanejewia aurata			p	11270	11270	i	C	G	C	A	B	A
R	1219	Testudo graeca			p			localities	P	DD	C	C	C	C
R	1217	Testudo hermanni			p			localities	P	DD	C	C	C	C
A	1171	Triturus karelinii			p			localities	P	DD	C	B	C	A
I	1032	Unio crassus			p	33446	33446	i	R	M	C	B	C	B
M	2635	Vormela peregusna			p	1	1	localities	P	P	C	B	C	B

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
A		Bufo viridis						P					X	

F		Chondrostoma vardarense						P					X		
R		Coluber caspius						P						X	
R		Elaphe longissima						P						X	
M		Erinaceus concolor						P				X			
A		Hyla arborea						P						X	
R		Lacerta trilineata						P						X	
R		Lacerta viridis						C						X	
F		Leuciscus cephalus						C							X
R		Natrix tessellata						P						X	
A		Pelobates syriacus						P						X	
R		Podarcis muralis						P						X	
R		Podarcis taurica						C						X	
A		Rana dalmatina						P						X	
F		Vimba melanops						P					X		
R		Vipera ammodytes						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
N09	45.0
N23	1.0
N20	3.0
N17	4.0
N15	34.0
N16	12.0
N06	1.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

The Mechka is a river In Southern Bulgaria, a left tributary of the Maritsa. It takes its sources from the Eastern Rhodopes near the Topolovska saddle. It is 42,5 km long and runs north-westwards in a wide alluvial valley. The waters are used for irrigation.The river within the proposed site is entirely surrounded by arable land and urbanized areas. There are patches of well preserved belt of polars and willows.

4.2 Quality and importance

The site is a bio-corridor linking the Rhodopi Mountains with the Maritsa River. A disadvantage is the fact that there are many settlements, roads and arable land in the area.In table "Ecological Information - Other Important species", the species justified by 'A-National' are not necessarily included in the National Red Data Book, because its last

edition is too old (1985), not up-dated and has no legislative value. The species indicated by 'A-National' are the protected flora and fauna species, included in the Bulgarian Biodiversity Act, and therefore this motivation is given highest priority. The *Sabanejewia aurata* found within the site has recently been identified as *Sabanejewia balcanica*, derived from *Sabanejewia aurata balcanica* subspecies.

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				Positive Impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]	Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	C01.01		o				
L	E03		o				
L	A03		o				
M	A03		i				
L	C01.01		i				
L	E01.03		i				
L	E03.01		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 Dimitar Popov, Mladen Angelov - Green Balkans Federation, Plovdiv 4000, +359 32 62 69 77, office@greenbalkans.org ; Angel Tsekov; St. Beshkov - NMNH, Sofia. Initially listed documents: Arnold, E., J. Burton, D. Ovenden. 1992. A field guide to the Reptiles and Amphibians of Britain and Europe. Collins Publ., London, 272 pp. • Benda, P., T. Ivanova, I. Horacek, V. Hanak, J. Gaisler, J. Cerveny, J. Gaisler, A. Georgieva, B. Petrov, V. Vohralik. 2003. Bats (Mammalia: Chiroptera) of the Eastern Mediterranean. Part 3. Review of bat distribution in Bulgaria. Acta Soc. Zool. Bohem., 67, 245-357. • CORINE BIOTOPES database • Cramp, St. 1983. Handbook of the Birds of Europe the Middle East and North Africa. The Birds of the Western Palearctic. Volume 4. Oxford University Press, 48-62 pp. • Cramp, St., K. Simmons et al. 1977. Handbook of the Birds of Europe the Middle East and North Africa. The Birds of the Western Palearctic. Volume I : Ostrich to Ducks. Oxford University Press. • Delany, S., C. Reyes, E. Hubert, S. Pihl, E. Rees, L. Haanstra, A. Strien. 1999. Results from the International Waterbird Census in the Westwrn Palearctic and Southwest Asia 1995 and 1996. Wetlands International Publication, 54, 178 pp. • Georgiev, D. 2003. A report of Mesocricetus newtoni (Mammalia: Cricetidae) from South-Eastern Bulgaria. Trav. Sci. Univ. Plovdiv, Animalia, 39 (6), 107-110. • Ivanova, T. 2005. Important Bat Underground Habitats (IBUH) in Bulgaria. Acta zool. Bulg. • Horacek, I., J. Cerveny, A. Tausl, D. Vitek. 1974. Notes on the Mammal fauna of Bulgaria (Insectivora, Chiroptera, Rodentia). Vestnik Cesk. Spol. Zool., XXXVIII, 1, 19-31. • Karapetkova, M., M. Zhivkov. 1995. Fish in Bulgaria. Sofia. "Gea Libris", 247 pp. • Kavrakova, V., D. Dimova, M. Dimitrov, R. Tsonev, T. Belev (ed.). 2005. Guide for identification of habitats of European significance in Bulgaria. WWF DCP, Green Balkans Federation. Sofia. 128 pp. • Kostadinova, I. (compiler). 1997. Important Bird Areas in Bulgaria. BSPB, Sofia. • Kostadinova, I., S. Dereliev. 2001. Results from the midwinter census of waterfowl in Bulgaria for the period 1997-2001 year, Sofia. • Macdonald, D., P. Barret. 1993. Mammals of Britain & Europe. Collins field guide, Harper Collins Publ., London, 312 pp. • Michev, T., L. Profirov. 2003. Mid-winter Numbers of Waterbirds in Bulgaria (1977-2001). Results form 25 years of mid-winter counts carried out at the most important Bulgarian wetlands. Sofia – Moscow, 160. • Mihov, S. 2002. Field guide of amphibians in Bulgaria, Bourgas Wetlands, 45 pp. • Milchev, B., Z. Boev, V. Georgiev. 2004. Die Nahrung der Schleiereule (Tyto alba) in Sudost-Bulgarien. Egretta, 47, 66-77. • Nankinov, D., S. Simeonov, T. Michev, B. Ivanov. 1997. Fauna of Bulgaria. Vol. 26: Aves, Part II. Sofia, Academic Publishing House "Prof. M. Drinov", 427 pp. • Nankinov, D. et al. 2004. Breeding totals of the ornithofauna in Bulgaria. Green Balkans, Plovdiv, 32 pp. • Ornithological database of Green Balkans Federation of Nature Conservation NGOs. • Patev, P. 1950. Birds in Bulgaria. BAS, Sofia, 364 pp. • Peshev, T., D. Peshev, V. Popov. 2004. Fauna of Bulgaria. Vol. 27: Mammalia. Sofia. Academic Publishing House "Prof. M. Drinov", 632 pp. • Popov, V. 2003. Mammals in Bulgaria. Vitosha Nature Park Directorate, Sofia, "Geosoft", 291 pp. • Roché, J. 2000. Die Vogelstimmen Europas auf 4 CDs – Rufe und Gesänge. "Kosmos". • Simeonov, S., T. Michev. 1991. The birds of the Balkan Peninsula. "Peter Beron", Sofia, 249 pp. • Simeonov, S., T. Michev, D. Nankinov. 1990. Fauna in Bulgaria. Vol. 20 Aves. Part I. S., BAS, 350 pp. • Simeonov, S., T. Michev. 1991. Birds of the Balkan Peninsula. Peter Beron, Sofia, 245 pp. • Sivkov, Y. S. 1991. Morphological characteristics of the Danubian loach (Sabanejewia aurata, Drensky, 1928, Pisces, Cobitidae). Acta Zoologica Bulgarica, 42. 34-43. • Swensson, L. 1992. Identification guide to European Passerines. Stockholm. • Swensson L., P. Grant. 2000. Bird guide. Harper Collins Publishers, London, 392 pp. • Sakalyan, M. (eds.). 1993. National Strategy for Biodiversity Conservation. Main Reports. Volume 1. • Arnold, E., J. Burton, D. Ovenden. 1992. A field guide to the Reptiles and Amphibians of Britain and Europe. Collins Publ., London, 272

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Link(s): <http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/Home/ProtectedSite?code=BG0000436&siteType=HabitatDirective>

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	100.0				

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

5.3 Site designation (optional)

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

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6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

Organisation:	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water: Plovdiv
Address:	
Email:	

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

☐ Yes
☐ No, but in preparation
☒ No

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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INSPIRE ID:	
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Map delivered as PDF in electronic format (optional)

☐ Yes	☒ No
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Reference(s) to the original map used for the digitalisation of the electronic boundaries (optional).

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