



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

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1.1 Type A	1.2 Site code BG0002019
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1.3 Site name

Byala reka

1.4 First Compilation date 2005-10	1.5 Update date 2015-07
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1.6 Respondent:

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

1.7 Site indication and designation / classification dates

Date site classified as SPA:	2007-03
National legal reference of SPA designation	Site classified as SPA by Council of Ministers Decision No. 122/02.03.2007 (promulgated SG 21/2007).
Explanation(s):	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

3.2 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

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Species					Population in the site						Site assessment			
Group	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	Type	Size		Unit	Cat.	Data quality	A B C D	A B C		
						Min	Max		C R V P		Pop.	Cons.	Isol.	Glob.
B	A402	Accipiter brevipes			r	2	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A086	Accipiter nisus			p	3	18	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A168	Actitis hypoleucos			r	3	4	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A079	Aegypius monachus			p		46	i		G	C	A	B	B
B	A229	Alcedo atthis			c	9	9	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A229	Alcedo atthis			p	10	21	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			p	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A255	Anthus campestris			p	2	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A091	Aquila chrysaetos			p	2	3	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A404	Aquila heliaca			p	1	2	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A089	Aquila pomarina			r	4	12	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A028	Ardea cinerea			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A028	Ardea cinerea			w	3	15	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A215	Bubo bubo			p	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A133	Burhinus oedicnemus			r	2	2	p		G	C	B	C	B
B	A087	Buteo buteo			p	19	30	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A403	Buteo rufinus			p	4	5	p		G	C	A	C	C

B	A224	Caprimulgus europaeus			r	136	326	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A136	Charadrius dubius			r	12	24	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A031	Ciconia ciconia			r	5	5	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A030	Ciconia nigra			r	6	18	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A080	Circus gallicus			r	9	11	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A084	Circus pygargus			r	1	1	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A231	Coracias garrulus			r	6	9	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A239	Dendrocopos leucotos			p	15	19	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A238	Dendrocopos medius			p	100	150	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A429	Dendrocopos syriacus			p	200	350	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A236	Dryocopus martius			p	9	21	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A027	Egretta alba			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A026	Egretta garzetta			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A379	Emberiza hortulana			r	67	194	p		G	C		C	C
B	A095	Falco naumanni			r		1	p		G	A	A	B	B
B	A103	Falco peregrinus			r	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A099	Falco subbuteo			r	7	7	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A096	Falco tinnunculus			p	18	18	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A097	Falco vespertinus			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A442	Ficedula semitorquata			r	2	25	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A125	Fulica atra			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A123	Gallinula chloropus			p	1	5	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A127	Grus grus			c	20	20	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A078	Gyps fulvus			p		35	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A075	Haliaeetus albicilla			c				V	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A093	Hieraaetus fasciatus			c	1	1	i		G	A	B	B	A
B	A093	Hieraaetus fasciatus			r		3	i		G	A	B	B	A
B	A092	Hieraaetus pennatus			r	2	8	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A439	Hippolais olivetorum			r	30	40	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A022	Ixobrychus minutus			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A022	Ixobrychus minutus			r	1	1	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A338	Lanius collurio			r	4500	5500	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A339	Lanius minor			r	29	29	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A433	Lanius nubicus			r	8	8	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A459	Larus cachinnans			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A179	Larus ridibundus			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A246	Lullula arborea			p	424	469	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A230	Merops apiaster			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A230	Merops apiaster			r	290	290	p		G	C	A	C	C

B	A073	Milvus migrans			r	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A077	Neophron percnopterus			r	1	2	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A023	Nycticorax nycticorax			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A072	Pernis apivorus			r	8	25	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			w				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A234	Picus canus			p	5	10	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A307	Sylvia nisoria			r	35	45	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A004	Tachybaptus ruficollis			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A165	Tringa ochropus			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A142	Vanellus vanellus			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	Alauda arvensis			260	260							X	
B	A218	Athene noctua			45	45							X	
B	A366	Carduelis cannabina			165	165							X	
B	A363	Carduelis chloris			248	248							X	
B	A347	Corvus monedula			18	18								X
B	A113	Coturnix coturnix			35	35							X	
B	A377	Emberiza cirrus			120	120							X	
B	A382	Emberiza melanocephala			600	600							X	
B	A269	Erithacus rubecula			2000	2000							X	
B	A359	Fringilla coelebs			3600	3600							X	
B	A244	Galerida cristata			128	128							X	
B	A251	Hirundo rustica			615	615							X	
B	A233	Jynx torquilla			17	17							X	
B	A341	Lanius senator			225	225							X	
B	A271	Luscinia megarhynchos			830	830							X	
B	A383	Miliaria calandra			800	800							X	
B	A278	Oenanthe hispanica			3	3							X	
B	A214	Otus scops			105	105							X	
B	A329	Parus caeruleus			550	550							X	

B	A443	Parus lugubris			65	65							X	
B	A273	Phoenicurus ochruros			60	60							X	
B	A235	Picus viridis			85	85							X	
B	A276	Saxicola torquata			23	23							X	
B	A210	Streptopelia turtur			300	300							X	
B	A311	Sylvia atricapilla			1650	1650							X	
B	A304	Sylvia cantillans			80	80							X	
B	A305	Sylvia melanocephala			55	55							X	
B	A283	Turdus merula			2550	2550							X	
B	A285	Turdus philomelos			2250	2250							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
N23	2.0
N22	1.0
N10	1.0
N16	56.0
N17	
N12	9.0
N08	12.0
N20	
N09	12.0
N15	1.0
N19	3.0
N21	2.0
N06	1.0
Total Habitat Cover	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 region's vegetation is quite diverse and heavily influenced by the Mediterranean climate. Because of the region's 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 *Hieraaetus 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]
M	H05		i
L	B03		o
M	D01.01		i
L	A02		o
L	C01.01.02		o
L	A10		i
H	G01.03		o
M	K01.01		o
L	F03.02.02		i
M	H		o
M	B		o
L	F02.03		o
H	B02.02		i
M	F03.02		o
M	F03.02		i
H	D02.09		o
H	F03.02.01		i
H	F03.02.01		o
M	A03		o
M	D01.01		o
M	L		i
L	A10		o
M	H04		o
H	E03.01		i
L	L		o
L	F02.03		i
L	J01		i
M	F03.01		o
H	B02.02		o
L	C01.01.01		i
M	A04.03		i
L	B03		i
L	F03.02.02		o
L	J01		o
L	A02		i
M	K01.01		i
M	F03.02.09		i
M	A03		i
M	H		i
L	B02.04		i
L	D01.02		i
L	B02.03		o
M	B		i
L	A10.01		o
L	A08		i
H	F03.02.03		i
M	H05		o

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	L		i
L	B01		o
L	D01.02		i
M	A04		i
H	A05.01		o
M	A09		o
H	E01.03		o
M	B02.01		o
H	A05.02		i
H	A04		o
L	B01.02		o
H	A05.02		o
M	B02.01		i
L	A09		i
M	G02.04		i
L	L		o
H	A05.01		i
L	D02.01		o
M	B01		i
L	G01.03		i
M	K04.01		o
L	B01.02		i
M	G02.04		o
H	E01.03		i

H	E03.01		o
L	E03.03		i
L	A01		i
M	F02.03.01		i
L	E03.03		o
L	C01.01.02		i
L	C01.01.01		o
M	F03.02.09		o
L	A08		o
L	D02.01		o
M	F02.03.01		o
L	A01		o
L	D01.02		o
L	D02.09		i
M	H04		i
M	J02.05.02		i
M	F03.01		i
L	B02.03		i
L	A10.01		i
H	F04		o
L	B02.04		o
H	F04		i
L	G01.03		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

4.5 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 ? ? 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. Ohridski?, Sofiya, 49 s.; BDZP/BirdLife Balgariya. 2005. ?Nacionalna banka za ornitologichna informacia 1988-2005?, Balgarsko Druzhestvo za zastita na pticite; Bondev, I. 1991. Rastitelnostta na Balgariya. S. Universitetsko izdatelstvo ?Sv. Kliment Ohridski?, 183 s.; Botev, B. and Tz. Peshev, (eds). 1985. Red Data Book of Republic Bulgaria. 2: Animals. Sofia: Bulgarian Academy of Science. (In Bulgarian.); BDZP.2000. Finalen otchet na proekt ?Kartirane gnezdovite nahodishta na tsarskiya orel (Aquila heliaca) I merki za tyahoto opazvane. 1998-2000, Plovdiv, BDZP, 89 s.; Iankov, P. 2002.(red.). Svetovno zastrasheni vidove ptitsi v Balgariya. Natsionalni planove za deystvie za opazvaneto im. Chast 1. BDZP-MOSV, Prirodzashtitna poreditsa, Kn. 4, Sofiya: 204-219.; Kostadinova, I. (sast.) 1997. Ornitologichno vazhni mesta v Balgariya. BDZP, Prirodzashtitna poreditsa. Kniga 1, BDZP, Sofiya, 176 s.; Michev, T., Tz. Petrov, L. Profirov, P. Iankov, S. Gavrilov. 1989. 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Link(s): <http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/Home/ProtectedSite?code=BG0002019&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	0.2	BG06	3.6	BG00	96.2

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

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

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

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

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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:

☐	Yes
☐	No, but in preparation
☒	No

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).