



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

BG0002071

SITENAME

Most Arda

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

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1.1 Type	1.2 Site code
A	BG0002071

1.3 Site name

Most Arda

1.4 First Compilation date	1.5 Update date
2005-10	2015-07

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 – 784/29.10.2008 (promulgated SG 104/2008).

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude

25.765833333333333

Latitude

41.61416666666667

2.2 Area [ha]:

15022.4542

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	1	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A402	Accipiter brevipes			c		9	i		G	C	B	C	A
B	A085	Accipiter gentilis			c		2	i		G	B	B	C	A
B	A085	Accipiter gentilis			p	4	4	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A086	Accipiter nisus			p	5	7	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A086	Accipiter nisus			c		154	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A079	Aegypius monachus			c	12	15	i		G	A	A	B	A
B	A229	Alcedo atthis			p	5	9	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			p	2	5	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			w		11	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A255	Anthus campestris			r	1	11	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A091	Aquila chrysaetos			p	1	1	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A404	Aquila heliaca			p	1	2	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A089				c		55	i		G	C	A	C	C

		Aquila pomarina												
B	A089	Aquila pomarina			r	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A028	Ardea cinerea			r	2	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A028	Ardea cinerea			c		280	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A028	Ardea cinerea			w		6	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A215	Bubo bubo			p	5	5	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A133	Burhinus oedicnemus			r	3	9	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A087	Buteo buteo			c	100	820	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A087	Buteo buteo			p	15	20	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A403	Buteo rufinus			c	2	18	i		G	C	B	C	A
B	A403	Buteo rufinus			p	2	4	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A224	Caprimulgus europaeus			r	30	90	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A136	Charadrius dubius			r	15	25	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A136	Charadrius dubius			c				P	DD	C	A	C	C
B	A031	Ciconia ciconia			r	4	5	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A031	Ciconia ciconia			c		4099	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A030	Ciconia nigra			c		51	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A030	Ciconia nigra			r	12	12	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A080	Circus gallicus			c		51	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A080	Circus gallicus			r	1	2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A081	Circus aeruginosus			c	20	251	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A082	Circus cyaneus			c	7	10	i		G	B	A	C	C
B	A083	Circus macrourus			c	1	4	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A084	Circus pygargus			c		17	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A231	Coracias garrulus			r	16	18	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A036	Cygnus olor			w	15	15	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A238	Dendrocopos medius			p	52	118	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A429	Dendrocopos syriacus			p	50	53	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A236	Dryocopus martius			p	1	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A027	Egretta alba			w		4	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A379	Emberiza hortulana			r	200	224	p		G	C		C	A
B	A511	Falco cherrug			c		2	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A095	Falco naumanni			r		1	p		G	B	A	B	B
B	A103	Falco peregrinus			r	1	1	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A103	Falco peregrinus			c		6	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A099	Falco subbuteo			c		33	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A099	Falco subbuteo			r	1	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A096	Falco tinnunculus			p	7	26	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A096				c		187	i		G	C	A	C	A

		Falco tinnunculus												
B	A097	Falco vespertinus			c		85	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A097	Falco vespertinus			r		3	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A123	Gallinula chloropus			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A123	Gallinula chloropus			p	6	6	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A075	Haliaeetus albicilla			c		2	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A092	Hieraetus pennatus			r	1	2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A092	Hieraetus pennatus			c	5	18	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A439	Hippolais olivetorum			r	23	25	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A022	Ixobrychus minutus			r	1	3	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A338	Lanius collurio			r	320	640	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A339	Lanius minor			r	14	37	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A433	Lanius nubicus			r	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A246	Lullula arborea			p	100	120	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A230	Merops apiaster			r	92	92	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A230	Merops apiaster			c	1460	8637	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A073	Milvus migrans			r	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A073	Milvus migrans			c		18	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A077	Neophron percnopterus			r	3	4	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A077	Neophron percnopterus			c		1	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A160	Numenius arquata			c		3	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A023	Nycticorax nycticorax			c		1	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A094	Pandion haliaetus			c	1	5	i		G	B	B	C	C
B	A020	Pelecanus crispus			c		92	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A072	Pernis apivorus			c		234	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A072	Pernis apivorus			r	4	4	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			w	3	64	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			c		918	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A393	Phalacrocorax pygmeus			w		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A234	Picus canus			p	1	5	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A118	Rallus aquaticus			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A118	Rallus aquaticus			p	1	1	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A249	Riparia riparia			r	3	3	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A307	Sylvia nisoria			r	37	163	p		G	C		C	B
B	A004	Tachybaptus ruficollis			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A004	Tachybaptus ruficollis			r	1	4	p		G	C	B	C	C

B	A004	Tachybaptus ruficollis			w		7	i		G	C	B	C	C
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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			120	120							X	
B	A218	Athene noctua			33	33							X	
B	A366	Carduelis cannabina			105	105							X	
B	A363	Carduelis chloris			340	340							X	
B	A347	Corvus monedula			40	40								X
B	A113	Coturnix coturnix			90	90							X	
B	A377	Emberiza cirius			290	290							X	
B	A382	Emberiza melanocephala			313	313							X	
B	A269	Erithacus rubecula			235	235							X	
B	A359	Fringilla coelebs			820	820							X	
B	A244	Galerida cristata			52	52							X	
B	A251	Hirundo rustica			590	590							X	
B	A233	Jynx torquilla			18	18							X	
B	A271	Luscinia megarhynchos			495	495							X	
B	A383	Miliaria calandra			485	485							X	
B	A280	Monticola saxatilis			11	11							X	
B	A281	Monticola solitarius			6	6							X	
B	A278	Oenanthe hispanica			88	88							X	
B	A214	Otus scops			80	80							X	
B	A329	Parus caeruleus			600	600							X	
B	A443	Parus lugubris			100	100							X	
B	A235	Picus viridis			27	27							X	
B	A276	Saxicola torquata			14	14							X	
B	A445	Sitta neumayer			8	8					X			
B	A210	Streptopelia turtur			130	130							X	
B	A311	Sylvia atricapilla			500	500							X	
B	A304	Sylvia cantillans			140	140							X	
B	A305	Sylvia melanocephala			75	75							X	

B	A283	Turdus merula			780	780							X	
B	A285	Turdus philomelos			135	135							X	
B	A284	Turdus pilaris			1500	1500							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
N19	5.0
N09	10.0
N10	1.0
N12	15.0
N08	7.0
N15	1.0
N21	1.0
N22	1.0
N16	55.0
N20	
N23	2.0
N17	
N06	2.0
Total Habitat Cover	NaN

Other Site Characteristics

The area is located in south-eastern Bulgaria, in the Eastern Rhodopes Mountain. It covers the Arda river course from the village of Rabovo to the town of Madzharovo and the northern parts of Iranov Ridge. To the north it borders on the villages of Madzhari, Voyvodets, Dolno Pole, Rumelia and Gorno Pole; to the west ? on the villages of Pchelari, Golobradovo, Rabovo, Potochnitsa and Stari Chal. Its southern border passes through Krasino, Sbor and Bubino and its eastern one lies between Bubino, Chernichino and Madzharovo. The area is a part of the Arda river valley between the reservoirs of Studen Kladenets and Ivailovgrad and is surrounded by forested mountain slopes and rock massifs. It is surrounded by three IBAs, situated close to it ? Studen Kladenets, Madzharovo and Krumovitsa. The biggest share of its territory is occupied by broadleaved xerothermal. At places the screes are covered by mixed broadleaved forests of *Quercus cerris*, *Quercus frainetto* and *Quercus pubescens*, with Mediterranean elements, like *Juniperus oxycedrus*, *Colutea arborescens*, etc. There are isolated areas, covered by shrubs of *Paliurus spina-christi* mixed with *Jasminum fruticans* and combined with xerothermal grass formations of Mediterranean elements. In the southern part of the site the forests of *Quercus dalechampii* are represented, in some places mixed with *Quercus frainetto* (Bondev 1991). The share of open grasslands with xerothermal and alluvial-meadow grass formations (mainly around the river), as well as that of the shrub associations with Mediterranean elements, is also considerable. The agricultural lands are located in the valley extension itself and on the slopes and flat tops of the surrounding hills. The riverbed is sandy-stone and its banks are overgrown with willows *Salix* spp. and shrubs.

4.2 Quality and importance

The region of Arda Bridge supports 142 bird species, 31 of which are listed in the Red Data Book for Bulgaria (1985). Of the birds occurring there 65 species are of European conservation concern (SPEC) (BirdLife International, 2004), 5 of them being listed in category SPEC 1 as globally threatened, 19 in SPEC 2 and 41 in SPEC 3 as species threatened in Europe. The area provides suitable habitats for 49 species, included in Annex 2 of the Biodiversity Act, which need special conservation measures, of which 43 are listed also in Annex I of the Birds Directive. The area is of global importance, as it is a representative example for the Mediterranean biome. Seven biome-restricted species, typical for the Mediterranean biome out of 9 established in Bulgaria occur there: Black-eared Wheatear *Oenanthe hispanica*, Olive-tree Warbler *Hippolais plivetorum*, Masked Shrike *Lanius nubicus*, Sub-alpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans*, Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala*,

Rock Nuthatch *Sitta neumayer* and Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala*. Arda Bridge is one of the few places in Bulgaria which are of global importance for the conservation of the Black Vulture *Aegypius monachus* as this species occurs there regularly in considerable numbers, as well as for the breeding Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca*. It is one of the most important sites in the country on a European union scale for the Imperial Eagle, the Stone Curlew *Burhinus oedichemus*, the Black Stork *Ciconia nigra* and the Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus*. The Arda Bridge is important site on a European level for the Scops Owl *Otus scops* and the Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius*. The globally threatened Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni* seems that still breed there in low numbers. Other breeding species with representative populations there are the Olive-tree Warbler, the Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*, the Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria*, etc.

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	G01.05		o
L	G01.05		i
L	C01.01		i
M	A04.03		o
L	B02.04		i
L	J02.01.01		i
M	A03		i
L	C01.01		o
M	A07		i
L	F03.02.02		o
L	B02.04		o
M	B02.02		o
L	A01		o
M	A09		o
L	J02.01.01		o
M	B01		i
H	L09		i
L	B		i
L	G01.04		i
L	E03.01		o
M	A10		i
L	J01		o
L	G05		o
L	G01.04		o
M	A04.03		i
M	F03.02.03		o
L	F03.02.02		i
L	G05		i
L	J01		i
L	F03.02.01		o
M	B01		o
L	A03		o
M	B02.01		o
L	E03.03		i
L	A08		o
M	A07		o
M	B01.02		i
M	B02.01		i
M	A10		o
M	D02.01		o
L	F03.02.01		i
M	A09		i
M	B01.02		o
L	A08		i
L	A01		i
H	L09		o
M	F03.02.03		i
M	D02.01		i
L	B		o

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

L	E03.03		o
L	E03.01		i
M	B02.02		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, Dimitar Demerdjiev - 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 Bulgariya. 2005. ?Nacionalna banka za ornitologichna informacia 1988-2005?, Balgarsko Druzhestvo za zastita na pticite; Barov, B. 1995. Status na beloshipata vetrushka Falco naumanni v Iztochnite Rodopi. Otchet po proekt Opazvane na biologichnoto raznoobrazie na Iztochnite Rodopi ? ? faza. BSHPOBR, Sofia.; Barov, B. 1996. Sustoianie na populaciata na beloshipata vetrushka Falco naumanni v Iztochnite Rodopi, 1995-1996. Doklad po proekt Opazvane na biologichnoto raznoobrazie na Iztochnite Rodopi. BSHPOBR, Sofia.; Botev, B. and Tz. Peshev, (eds). 1985. Red Data Book of Republic Bulgaria. 2: Animals. Sofia: Bulgarian Academy of Science. 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Link(s): <http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/Home/ProtectedSite?code=BG0002071&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 [%]
BG00	88.5	BG06	11.5	BG03	

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
BG06	ORESHARI	+	0.4
BG06	CHERNATA SKALA	+	5.9
BG06	MOMINA SKALA	+	5.2
BG03	SKALNI NISHI	+	

designated at international level:

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

5.3 Site designation (optional)

So far about 11% of the site's territory is under legal protection by the national nature conservation law. There are 5 protected areas here ? 3 with ?Protected area? category and 2 nature monuments. Most of them are designated to protect rock formations and landscape. Half of the territory overlaps with Dolinata na Arda CORINE Site, which was designated in 1998 because of its European value for rare and threatened habitats, plant and animal species, including birds. In 2005 the site 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 Departments - Ivailovgrad, Krumovgrad, Harmanli, Haskovo;
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).