



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

BG0002114

SITENAME

Ribarnitsi Chelopechene

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

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1.1 Type	1.2 Site code
A	BG0002114

1.3 Site name

Ribarnitsi Chelopechene

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 – 553/05.09.2008 (promulgated SG 83/2008).

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude

23.45694444444442

Latitude

42.7413888888889

2.2 Area [ha]:

65.1901

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

BG41	Югозападен / Yugozapaden
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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	A085	Accipiter gentilis			c		1	i		G	D			
B	A085	Accipiter gentilis			w		1	i		G	D			
B	A086	Accipiter nisus			c		1	i		G	D			
B	A293	Acrocephalus melanopogon			c		3	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A168	Actitis hypoleucos			c	1	30	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A229	Alcedo atthis			c	1	4	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A229	Alcedo atthis			w		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A054	Anas acuta			w		10	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A054	Anas acuta			c				P	DD	C	C	C	C
B	A056	Anas clypeata			c	6	80	i		G	B	C	C	B
B	A056	Anas clypeata			r		8	p		G	B	C	C	B
B	A052	Anas crecca			c	1	60	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A052	Anas crecca			w	12	55	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A050	Anas penelope			c	27	27	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A050	Anas penelope			w		5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			c	1	210	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			p	1	3	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			w	13	232	i		G	C	B	C	C

[illegible]

B	A082			w		3	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A082	Circus cyaneus		c	1	5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A038	Cygnus cygnus		w		3	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A036	Cygnus olor		c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A036	Cygnus olor		w		17	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A429	Dendrocopos syriacus		p	1	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A236	Dryocopus martius		c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A027	Egretta alba		w		2	i		G	B	B	C	B
B	A027	Egretta alba		c	2	30	i		G	B	B	C	B
B	A026	Egretta garzetta		r	1	2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A026	Egretta garzetta		c	25	25	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A099	Falco subbuteo		c	2	2	i		G	D			
B	A096	Falco tinnunculus		w		1	i		G	D			
B	A096	Falco tinnunculus		c	4	6	i		G	D			
B	A097	Falco vespertinus		c	3	3	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A125	Fulica atra		p	10	10	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A125	Fulica atra		w	4	55	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A125	Fulica atra		c	150	250	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A123	Gallinula chloropus		w		11	i		G	C	A	B	C
B	A123	Gallinula chloropus		p	20	20	p		G	C	A	B	C
B	A130	Haematopus ostralegus		c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A131	Himantopus himantopus		r	2	3	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A022	Ixobrychus minutus		r	13	13	p		G	C	B	C	B
B	A022	Ixobrychus minutus		c	7	7	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A338	Lanius collurio		r	1	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A338	Lanius collurio		c	1	5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A459	Larus cachinnans		c	10	15	i		G	D			
B	A180	Larus genei		w		2	i		G	C	C	B	C
B	A179	Larus ridibundus		c	50	102	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A179	Larus ridibundus		w	20	400	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A156	Limosa limosa		c	20	20	i		M	C	B	C	C
B	A068	Mergus albellus		w		10	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A070	Mergus merganser		w		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A058	Netta rufina		c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A058	Netta rufina		w	1	2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A023	Nycticorax nycticorax		r		20	i		G	B	B	C	B
B	A023	Nycticorax nycticorax		c	30	61	i		G	B	B	C	B
B	A094	Pandion haliaetus		c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A019	Pelecanus onocrotalus		c		8	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A072			c		2	i		G	C	B	C	C

		Pernis apivorus												
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			c	1	2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A393	Phalacrocorax pygmeus			r	2	6	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A393	Phalacrocorax pygmeus			w	5	33	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A393	Phalacrocorax pygmeus			c	23	70	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A151	Philomachus pugnax			c	5	50	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A234	Picus canus			p		1	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A032	Plegadis falcinellus			c	15	17	i		G	B	B	C	B
B	A141	Pluvialis squatarola			c		4	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A005	Podiceps cristatus			w		4	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A005	Podiceps cristatus			r	2	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A005	Podiceps cristatus			c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A008	Podiceps nigricollis			c				P	DD	C	C	C	C
B	A008	Podiceps nigricollis			w		4	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A120	Porzana parva			c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A119	Porzana porzana			c	2	3	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A121	Porzana pusilla			c	3	4	i		G	B	B	C	A
B	A121	Porzana pusilla			r	2	2	p		G	B	B	C	A
B	A118	Rallus aquaticus			p	15	15	p		G	C	A	B	C
B	A118	Rallus aquaticus			w		1	i		G	C	A	B	C
B	A132	Recurvirostra avosetta			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A190	Sterna caspia			c		7	i		G	C	C	B	C
B	A193	Sterna hirundo			w		1	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A193	Sterna hirundo			c	10	60	i		G	C	C	C	C
B	A191	Sterna sandvicensis			c	2	6	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A004	Tachybaptus ruficollis			r	1	2	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A004	Tachybaptus ruficollis			w	3	20	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A004	Tachybaptus ruficollis			c	4	60	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A048	Tadorna tadorna			c		40	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A161	Tringa erythropus			c	2	2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A166	Tringa glareola			c	20	50	i		G	B	B	C	A
B	A164	Tringa nebularia			c	8	8	i		G	B	B	C	C
B	A165	Tringa ochropus			w		4	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A165	Tringa ochropus			c	2	2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A163	Tringa stagnatilis			c	4	5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A162	Tringa totanus			c	2	5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A142	Vanellus vanellus			w	3	15	i		G	C	B	C	C

B	A142	Vanellus vanellus			c	5	6	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	A113	Coturnix coturnix						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	82.0
N09	11.0
N15	7.0
N23	
Total Habitat Cover	NaN

Other Site Characteristics

The fishponds of Chelopechene are located immediately next to the Chelopechene residential area of Sofia and the city's ring road. The site is limited by the Lesnovska river and the military barracks on the south, arable plots on the north, the ring road of Sofia on the west and the road to Kremikovtzi on the east. The fishponds have a total area of 73 ha, 60 ha of which are open water. Their banks and dykes are overgrown with reed *Phragmites australis* and reed mace *Typha latifolia*. The open water surface is partly covered by *Ceratophyllum demersum* and *Potamogeton* spp. Belts of poplar *Populus* spp., willow *Salix* spp. and acacia *Robinia pseudoacacia* grow around them. The ponds' water level varies depending on their exploitation regime. Presently they are private property.

4.2 Quality and importance

Chelopechene fishponds supports 134 bird species, 31 of which are listed in the Red Data Book for Bulgaria (1985). Of the birds occurring there 58 species are of European conservation concern (SPEC) (BirdLife International, 2004), 2 of them being listed in category SPEC 1 as globally threatened, 13 in SPEC 2 and 43 in SPEC 3 as species threatened in Europe. With their key location ? midway on the migratory flyway following the Iskar gorge, through the Sofia plain to the Struma river valley ? the fishponds are an important station for many migratory waterfowl, songbirds and birds of prey that roost and feed there. Besides, they substitute in away the former natural marshlands that used to exist on this place and they are one of the most important sites in the country on a European Union scale for the conservation of the Baillon's Crane

Porzana pusilla that breeds there. The fishponds are quite important also for the breeding Little Bittern Ixobrychus minutus and the globally threatened Ferruginous Duck Aythya nyroca. The fishponds are an important wintering site for the Bittern Botaurus stellaris and the Great White Egret Egretta alba, in the Sofia plain, as well as a valuable trophic base for the Glossy Ibis Plegadis falcinellus, the White Pelican Pelecanus onocrotalus, the Wood Sandpiper Tringa glareola and the globally threatened Pygmy Cormorant Phalacrocorax pygmeus on migration and in winter.

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	J02.10		i
L	E03.02		i
L	D02.01		i
H	D05		i
L	E03.01		i
H	F03.01		o
M	J01		i
M	E03.03		o
L	E03.03		i
M	E03.01		o
M	F03.01		i
H	G05		o
M	E03.02		o
M	F02.03		i
M	G05		i
M	C01.01.01		i
L	D02.01		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

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	J02.02		i

4.5 Documentation

Initial proposal and description of the site made by I. Nikolov - CEIE, 1303 Sofia, 17A S. Vrachanski St., Bulgaria, (+3592) 9808497; M. Gramatikov - 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; Botev, B. and Tz. Peshev, (eds). 1985. Red Data Book of Republic Bulgaria. 2: Animals. Sofia: Bulgarian Academy of Science. (In Bulgarian.); Nikolov, Ch. 2002. Nabliudenie na sredna pustrushka (Porzana parva). ? Za pticite, 1, 11.; Petkov, N. 1997b. Suvremenno sustoianie na belookata potapnica (Aythya nyroca) v Bulgaria. Diplomna rabota, Biologicheski Fakultet pri SU ?Sv. Kl. Ohridski?, Sofia, 104 s.; Iankov, P. 2002.(red.). Svetovno zastrasheni vidove ptici v Bulgaria. Nacionalni planove za dejstvie za opazvaneto im. Chast 1. BDZP-MOSV, Prirodoshtitna poredica, Kn. 4, Sofia: 204-219.; Levkova, D. 1989. Recent Status of Some Wetlands in Sofia Plain. Diploma Thesis. Sofia University ?K. Ohridski?, 85 pp. (In Bulgarian); 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., 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; 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. Preliminarily implementation and analysis of the gaps. ? In: Petrova, A. (ed.), Current state of Bulgarian biodiversity ? problems and perspectives. Pp. 533-548. Bulgarian Bioplatform, Sofia Michev, T., Tz. Petrov, L. Profirov. 1989. Status, breeding, distribution, numbers and conservation of the White Stork in Bulgaria; Nankinov, D., P. Shurulinkov, I. Nikolov, B. Nikolov, S. Dalaktchieva, I.Hristov, R. Stanchev, A. Rogev, A. Dutsov, M. Sarov. 1998. Studies of the Waders (Charadriiformes) on the Wetlands around Sofia (Bulgaria). Riv. Ital. Orn., Milano, 68, 1: 63-83 Osieck, 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; Petkov, N. 1998a. Current Status of the Ferruginous Duck (Aythya nyroca) in Bulgaria. ? Partimadar, 6-7, MME, Budapest, 44?49.; Petkov, N., 2004. Comparative Ecological Research of the Ferruginous Duck (Aythya nyroca Guldenstaedt, 1799) and the Pochard (Aythya ferina Linnaeus, 1758) During the Breeding Season in Bulgaria. PHD Thesis. BAS, Sofia, 232 pp. (In Bulgarian.) 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

Link(s): <http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/Home/ProtectedSite?code=BG0002114&siteType=BirdsDirective>

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
BG00	100.0				

designated at international level:

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

5.3 Site designation (optional)

Chelopechene fishponds are not protected by national nature conservation legislation. In 2005 the area was designated as Important Bird Area by BirdLife International.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

Organisation:	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water - Sofia; Danube River Basin Directorate;
Address:	
Email:	

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

☐	Yes
☐	No, but in preparation
☒	No

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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).

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