



# Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 24 March 2016

## Belarus

### Dikoe Fen Mire



Designation date	30 March 2015
Site number	2263
Coordinates	52°47'23"N 24°14'45"E
Area	23 145,00 ha

## Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a 'full' Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

## 1 - Summary

### Summary

The Dikoe fen mire is one of the largest fen mires of mesotrophic type in Europe preserved in a natural state. Fen mires prevail by area; numerous forested islands are located among mires. At present the mire is in transition development stage between Hypnum-sedge and sedge-Sphagnum mire types; the western part of the mire is typical fen mire, and the eastern part is transition mire. Pine trees, spruces and silver birch forests dominate among the forest vegetation.

The Dikoe mire is located on the watershed of two large basins: Baltic and Black Sea. Two famous rivers originate from the central part of the mire - the Narev River (Baltic basin) and the Yaselda (Black Sea basin). The mire forms and maintains the hydrological regime in the region and in the National Park "Belovezhskaya Puscha". The hydrological regime on the most of the territory is close to the natural one.

The mire is of international importance as it supports breeding of globally threatened species (VU): Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* (300 males), Greater Spotted Eagle *Aquila clanga* (4-5 pairs).

## 2 - Data & location

### 2.1 - Formal data

#### 2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

##### Compiler 1

Name	Kozulin Alexander Vasilievich, Maximenkov Michail Viktorovich, Beliatskaya Olga Sergeevna
Institution/agency	The State Research and Production Association
Postal address	Akademicheskaya Str. 27, 220072 Minsk, Belarus
E-mail	kozulinav@yandex.ru
Phone	+375 172 949069
Fax	+375 172 949069

#### 2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year	1998
To year	2014

#### 2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Dikoe Fen Mire
Unofficial name (optional)	болото Дикое

## 2.2 - Site location

### 2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

#### b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

#### Boundaries description (optional)

The Ramsar Site "Dikoe Fen Mire" is established within boundaries of the Important Bird Area "Dikoe Mire". The whole territory lies within the National Park "Belovezhskaya Puscha".  
Boundaries of the Ramsar Site follow the border of the fen mire Dikoe (border of peat soils) preserved in a natural state.

### 2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Brest Region/Pruzhany District and Grodno Region/Svisloch District
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Kamenets town

### 2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

- a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes  No
- b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes  No

### 2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha):	23145
Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries	23144.2

### 2.2.5 - Biogeography

#### Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Continental

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

Polesian Lowland (Dementiev V.A., 1959. System of physiographic regions of Belarus/«Physical and economic geography of Byelorussia» Minsk, 150 p. (In Russian).  
From geo-botanical point of view the Dikoe mire is situated in a subarea of hornbeam-oak-dark coniferous forests (Jurkevich, Geltman, 1965).

### 3 - Why is the Site important?

#### 3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

Hydrological services provided

i) The site provides control and protection against floods. The site is a large massif of fen mires that ensures accumulation of moisture during periods of intensive precipitation;  
ii) The site keeps water reserves during dry seasons, thus providing water supplies for rivers Narev and Yaselda, which originate here;  
iii) The site maintains a level of groundwater in the region, including the National Park "Belovezhskaya Puscha";  
v) the site is the source of large rivers Yaselda and Narev, and plays an important role in functioning of the Pripjat River's basin;  
vi) being a large complex of fen mires, the site considerably influences the climate and geo-chemical processes in the biosphere through carbon sequestration;  
vii) due to low economic activities the site plays an important role in the maintenance high water quality, contributes to formation of underground hydrological systems or springs, supplying surface wetland complexes.

Other ecosystem services provided

The Dikoe mire is important for local people as a place of cranberry collection, collection of other berries and mushrooms. It is necessary to admit that the Dikoe mire is the only mire in the south-western part of Belarus with considerable stocks of cranberry.

Other reasons

Peat accumulation: Processes of peat accumulation on the Dikoe mire started in the second half of the Boreal period of Holocene about 6000 years ago. At present the average peat thickness is 1.41 m, its maximal value is 4 m.

Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

The wetland supports populations of plant and animal species important for maintaining the biological diversity of mire ecosystems of Polesie - the Continental biogeographic region, which has a large proportion of well-preserved natural wetland ecosystems.

660 upper vascular plants have been found in the Dikoe mire. Flora on the mire parts with ground water table permanently standing over 5-30 cm above soil is characterized by a short list of flowering plant species. However, some of these species are very rare for Belarus: *Carex heleonastes*, *Stellaria crassifolia*, *Hippuris vulgaris*, *Rumex fontano-paludosus*, *Carex dioica*, *Eriophorum gracile*, including several protected species *Saxifraga hirculus*, *Salix myrtilloides*, *Nymphaea alba*. In total, highly waterlogged ecotopes have 47 upper vascular plant species. The eastern part of the mire has country's largest stands of birch species *Betula humilis* Schrank. From the floristic perspective, the highest diversity is found in the mineral islands, which are micro-refugia for several disappearing plant species. The islands have such species as *Arnica montana*, *Cypripedium calceolus*, *Epipactis helleborine*, *Campanula persicifolia*, *Aquilegia vulgaris*, *Lilium martagon*, *Dentaria bulbifera*. 39 lichen species have been found in the mire. 17 of these are present in waterlogged ecotopes, and 22 - on mineral islands and wet habitats. The main genera (by number of species) are *Sphagnum* (6), *Drepanocladus* и *Polytrichum* (4 each), *Dicranum*, *Brachythecium* and *Hypnum*.

At present, the Dikoe mire remains largely untransformed. Over 80% of the area is covered by natural or close-to-natural ecotopes. The main part of the mire therefore has high value for the preservation of typical fen mire flora of Europe. No introduced species with negative impact on vegetation communities have been found in the area. 10 plant species listed in the Red Data Book of Belarus.

Fauna of vertebrates on the Dikoe mire is quite diverse and includes 28 mammal species, 99 bird species, 4 reptile species and 5 amphibia species. There are several species from the National Red Data Book of Belarus: 20 bird species, 2 mammal species, 10 insect species. The Dikoe mire is a reproduction center for such species as Roe deer *Capreolus capreolus*, Wild boar *Sus scrofa*, Elk *Alces alces*, Grey wolf *Canis lupus*, Raccoon dog *Nyctereutes procyonoides*. Wolves settle on forest islands, difficult to human access.

Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions































### 3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
<i>Carex heleonastes</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	Rare fen mire species is at the southern edge of the range
<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	Relict species, contributes to the high biodiversity value of the wetland
<i>Dactylorhiza majalis</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the wetland
<i>Lycopodiella inundata</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - NT	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the wetland
<i>Nymphaea alba</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the wetland
<i>Platanthera chlorantha</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the wetland
<i>Pulsatilla pratensis</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - NT	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the wetland
<i>Salix myrtilloides</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	Relict boreal species is near the southern edge of the distribution range
<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	Arctoboreal relict species, is near the southern edge of the range
<i>Stellaria crassifolia</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the wetland

660 upper vascular plants have been found in the Dikoe mire. 39 lichen species have been found in the mire. 17 of these are present in waterlogged ecotopes, and 22 - on mineral islands and wet habitats. The main genera (by number of species) are Sphagnum (6), Drepanocladus и Polytrichum (4 each), Dicranum, Brachythecium and Hypnum.

### 3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Acrocephalus paludicola</i>	Aquatic Warbler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	200	2006-2011		VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	singing males. The site supports the breeding population of this globally threatened species and is a 'source' of the species dispersing to other similar habitats
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Aquila clanga</i>	Greater Spotted Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	2014			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		National Red List - CR	pairs, breeding
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	Lesser Spotted Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Short-eared Owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6	2012		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	breeding pairs. The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	 <i>Bison bonasus</i>	European bison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	foraging and rest place
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Bubo bubo</i>	Eurasian Eagle-Owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	2006-2008		LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	breeding pairs. The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	 <i>Chlaenius costulatus</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	species, disappeared in several European countries and which is very rare in Belarus
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	 <i>Chlaenius quadrisulcatus</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	species, disappeared in several European countries and which is very rare in Belarus in such ecosystems
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	 <i>Chlaenius sulcicollis</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	species, disappeared in several European countries and which is very rare in Belarus
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Black Stork	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
ARTHROPODA/ INSECTA	 <i>Coenonympha oedippus</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The species is typical for transition and fen mires. The population of this species discovered here is the largest in Belarus.
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Crex crex</i>	Corn Crake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	70			LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	males. The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine Falcon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - CR	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Common Kestrel; Eurasian Kestrel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Gallinago media</i>	Great Snipe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	20	2014		NT 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	males. The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Grus grus</i>	Common Crane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	White-tailed Eagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	2006-2012		LC 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	breeding pair. The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Limosa limosa</i>	Black-tailed Godwit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	 <i>Lynx lynx</i>	Eurasian Lynx	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red List - EN	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Numenius arquata</i>	Eurasian Curlew	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - VU	The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site
CHORDATA/ AVES	 <i>Strix nebulosa</i>	Great Gray Owl; Great Grey Owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	20	2006-2012		LC 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List - EN	breeding pairs. The species contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site

### 3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site



Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
Betuletum humilis	<input type="checkbox"/>	The eastern part of the mire has country's largest stands of birch species <i>Betula humilis</i> Schrank.	
Open <i>Caricetum chondorrhizae</i> , <i>Caricetum juncellae</i> , and <i>Caricetum limosae</i> communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	These in the past were widely present in Polesie wetlands. Form open sedge communities - habitat for globally threatened Aquatic Warbler	Due to drainage conducted in the past, the area of these communities has shrunk. At present open sedge mires are overgrowing with shrubs and reeds as a result of cessation of traditional mire use - mowing and grazing.

## 4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

### 4.1 - Ecological character

The Dikoe mire is one of the largest representatives of fen mires with poor trophic content preserved in a natural state. Fen mires dominate the area; numerous forested islands are scattered among the mires. Forest vegetation is dominated by pine, spruce and birch trees. The periphery of the mire is overgrown primarily by alder and birch stands.

The Dikoe mire is located on the watershed of two large basins: Baltic and Black Sea. Two famous rivers originate from the central part of the mire - the Narev River (Baltic basin) and the Yaselda (Black sea basin). The mire forms and maintains the hydrological regime in the region and in the National Park "Belovezhskaya Puscha". The hydrological regime on the most of the territory is close to the natural one.

The mire is of international importance as it supports breeding of globally threatened species (VU): Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola* (300 males), Greater Spotted Eagle *Aquila clanga* (4-5 pairs).

At present the Dikoe mire is at a transition stage (from Hypnum-sedge to sedge-Sphagnum mire types). This process has considerably accelerated during the last 30-40 years, when the use of the mire for haymaking was stopped. As a result, the area of sedge fen mires is shrinking. Besides, changes in the traditional use of the mire (cessation of mowing, absence of controlled burning of vegetation) are the main reasons of rapid overgrowth of the open mire with shrubs and number decrease of the Aquatic Warbler - indicator species of fen mires.

### 4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

#### Inland wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
Fresh water > Flowing water >> M: Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks		0		
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non-forested peatlands	Dikoe	1	5793	Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> W: Shrub-dominated wetlands		3	4546	
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands		0		
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> Xp: Permanent Forested peatlands		2	4759	

#### Human-made wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
9: Canals and drainage channels or ditches		0		

### 4.3 - Biological components

#### 4.3.1 - Plant species

##### Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>		
<i>Arnica montana</i>		
<i>Betula humilis</i>		
<i>Campanula persicifolia</i>		
<i>Carex dioica</i>		
<i>Epipactis helleborine</i>		
<i>Eriophorum gracile</i>		
<i>Hippuris vulgaris</i>		
<i>Lilium martagon</i>		
<i>Rumex acetosa acetosa</i>		

#### 4.3.2 - Animal species

##### Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range / endemism/other
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Alces alces</i>	moose				The site is a reproduction center of this species
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Canis lupus</i>	gray wolf/Wolf				The site is a reproduction center of this species
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Castor fiber</i>	Eurasian Beaver				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	European Otter				

#### 4.4 - Physical components

##### 4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
D: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with cold winters	Dfb: Humid continental (Humid with severe winter, no dry season, warm summer)

##### 4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

Upper part of river basin

Please name the river basin or basins. If the site lies in a sub-basin, please also name the larger river basin. For a coastal/marine site, please name the sea or ocean.

Two famous rivers originate from the central part of the mire - the Narev River (Baltic basin) and the Yaselda (Black sea basin).

##### 4.4.3 - Soil

Organic

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)? Yes  No

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

Soil-formation processes of a mire-type, mainly of fen character, prevail at the territory of the Dikoe Site. Mire-peat and peat-gley soils prevail. Thickness of the peat layer is 0.5 - 3 m (maximum 4 m). Sod-podzolic soils are found on islands of water-glacial origin and on genetically homogeneous adjacent areas. Sod-carbonate leached and podzolized soils have limited development on mineral islands amidst the mire. These soils are characterized by high fertility, which, along with isolated location of the islands and their naturalness, define high abundance of rare plant species on these soils.

##### 4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?
Usually permanent water present

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source
Water inputs from rainfall	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water inputs from groundwater	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Water destination

Presence?
Feeds groundwater
To downstream catchment

Stability of water regime

Presence?
Water levels largely stable

Please add any comments on the water regime and its determinants (if relevant). Use this box to explain sites with complex hydrology.

The hydrological regime in most of the mire is close to the natural. The groundwater level throughout the year is maintained near the mire surface with small fluctuations during snow melting, heavy rains or summer steady low water level. Only the south-eastern part of the mire is characterized by strong decrease of the groundwater level due to influence of adjacent agricultural meliorated systems.

<sup>(EOD)</sup> Connectivity of surface waters and of groundwater

##### 4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Sediment regime unknown

##### 4.4.6 - Water pH

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

Please provide further information on pH (optional):

Water pH on the Dikoe Fen Mire is typical for the transition mire.

##### 4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

##### 4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Mesotrophic

Please provide further information on dissolved or suspended nutrients (optional):

The total water mineralisation on the mire is 70-110 mg/l

4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the site itself: i) broadly similar  ii) significantly different

- Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development
- Surrounding area has higher human population density
- Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use
- Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types

Please describe other ways in which the surrounding area is different:

About 40% of the mire in its south-eastern part was drained in the 1970s, which has a negative impact on the hydrological regime of the natural mire.

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Food for humans	Sustenance for humans (e.g., fish, molluscs, grains)	High

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	High
Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	Medium

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	High

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Biodiversity	Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganisms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	High
Nutrient cycling	Carbon storage/sequestration	High

Within the site: 2000

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site? Yes  No  Unknown

4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

<no data available>

4.6 - Ecological processes

(ECD) Carbon cycling	Peat accumulation processes are ongoing on the mire with the rate 2 mm per year.
(ECD) Vegetational productivity, pollination, regeneration processes, succession, role of fire, etc.	As a result of cessation of traditional mire use (haymaking) the open sedge mire parts (the most valuable for the biodiversity) are rapidly overgrowing with shrubs

## 5 - How is the Site managed? (Conservation and management)

### 5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

#### 5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

Public ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
National/Federal government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### 5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:

The State Nature Conservation Authority "National Park "Belvezhskaya Puscha" of the Administration of the President of the Republic of Belarus

Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:

Buryi Alexander Vasilievich - The Director of the National Park Belovezhskaya Puscha

Postal address:

225063, Brest Region, Kamenets District, v. Kameniuki.

E-mail address:

beltour07@mail.ru

## 5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

### 5.2.1 - Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site's ecological character

Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Drainage	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Natural system modifications

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Dams and water management/use	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unspecified/others	High impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe any other threats (optional):

Changes in the traditional use of the mire (cessation of mowing, absence of controlled burning of vegetation) are the main reasons of rapid overgrowth of the mire with shrubs and number decrease of the Aquatic Warbler.

Impact of adjacent melioration systems. Drainage network of adjacent melioration systems has considerable impact on the hydrological regime of the mire, decreasing the water level in a marge zone of the eastern mire part. Decreased water table leads to development of shrubs and trees, including forest vegetation. Encroachment of forest vegetation on the open mires in the periphery of islands is observed almost everywhere in the eastern and central parts of the mire. It occurs due to spreading of shrubs, young white birches and common alders, sometimes - aspen and spruce.

Speed-up of natural successions. The Dikoe mire is at transition stage (from Hypnum-sedge to sedge-Sphagnum mire types). This process has considerably accelerated during the last 30-40 years, when the use of the mire for haymaking was stopped.

#### 5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Global legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
World Heritage site	Białowieża Forest	<a href="http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/33">http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/33</a>	whole
UNESCO Biosphere Reserve	Belovezhskaya Pushcha National Park	<a href="http://www.eoearth.org/view/article/150478/">http://www.eoearth.org/view/article/150478/</a>	whole

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
National Park	Belovezhskaya Pushcha	<a href="http://npbp.by/">http://npbp.by/</a>	whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Balota Dzikoje	http://iba.ptushki.org/en/iba/14	whole

## 5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

Ia Strict Nature Reserve II National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation 

## 5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

## Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

## Habitat

Measures	Status
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Proposed
Hydrology management/restoration	Partially implemented

## Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Partially implemented

## Human Activities

Measures	Status
Research	Partially implemented

## Other:

It is planned to clear from the shrubs more than 500 ha of the fen mire (within the frameworks of the GEF project)

## 5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? Yes

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes  No If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning processes with another Contracting Party? Yes  No 

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

There is an information center in the National Park "Belovezhskaya Pushcha", where a lot of attention is paid to the Dikoe Fen Mire.

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant): [www.npbp.brest.by](http://www.npbp.brest.by)

## 5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? Please select a value

## 5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Water regime monitoring	Implemented
Plant community	Implemented
Birds	Implemented

## 6 - Additional material

### 6.1 - Additional reports and documents

#### 6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

1. The Red Data Book of the Republic of Belarus: rare and threatened plant species / L.I. Choruzik, L.M. Suschena, V.I. Parfenov and others. – 2nd edition – Minsk: BelEn, 2006. – 456 p. (In Russian).
2. Committee on land resources, geodesy and cartography at the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus. National Atlas of Belarus. Minsk: RUP "Belkartographia", 2002. – 292 p. (In Belarussian).
3. National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus. Statistical bulletin "Population numbers on 1 January 2013 and average annual population number for 2012 in the Republic of Belarus by regions, districts, towns, settlements of town type". Minsk, 2013. 17 p. <http://belstat.gov.by/homep/ru/publications/population/2013/bulletin2013.php>
4. Jurgenson, N., Shushkova, E., Shliahtich, E., Ustin, V. Protected Areas. Handbook. – Minsk: State Research and Production Association "Bioresources Research Center of the Belarusian National Academy of Sciences", 2012. – 204 p. (in Russian).
5. Yakushko, O., Marjina, L., Emelianov, Ju. Geo-morphology of Belarus: tutorial for students of geographical and geological departments. – Mn.: BSU, 1999. – 173 p. [elib.bsu.by/bitstream/123456789/.../4/Геооморфология%20Беларуси.DOC](http://elib.bsu.by/bitstream/123456789/.../4/Геооморфология%20Беларуси.DOC)
6. Dementiev V.A., 1959. System of physiographic regions of Belarus/«Physical and economic geography of Byelorussia» Minsk, 150 p. (In Russian)
7. EUROPEAN TOPIC CENTRE ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY Under contract with the European Environment Agency. The indicative Map of European Biogeographical Regions: Methodology and development. ETC/BD, Paris, February 2006. [www.eea.europa.eu/...maps/.../biogeographical-..](http://www.eea.europa.eu/...maps/.../biogeographical-..)
8. Ramsar handbooks for the wise use of wetlands 4th edition, 2010, Handbook 1. Wise use of wetlands.

#### 6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)

<2 file(s) uploaded>

ii. a detailed Ecological Character Description (ECD) (in a national format)

<no file available>

iii. a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<1 file(s) uploaded>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

#### 6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



sedge fen mire partially overgrown with shrubs ( Kozulin A.V., 15-06-2006 )

#### 6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2015-03-30