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Text was prepared by O. Petrovych and B. Prots.

Foto by M. Gorpenyuk, G. Molodan, B. Prots, M. Riabiy, R. Zhuravchak, M. Yakovlev, National Nature Park "Synevyr", Shatskyi National Nature Park.

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6 sites represent wetlands of the Polissia region

The sites of the Polissia region provide habitat for large numbers of many species of breeding, migrating and molting waterbirds and waders. Birds such as *Crex crex*, *Ciconia nigra*, *Grus grus*, *Gallinago gallinago* and *Aquila heliaca* use the site for reproduction. The sites are also important for the conservation of rare and endangered species of clubmosses, mosses, algae and the endemic vascular plant.

32 Shatsk Lakes. 23/11/95; Volynska Oblast; 32,850 ha. Shatskyi National Nature Park, shatskyibr.com.ua. Unique system of 22 lakes includes marshes, peatlands, meadows, and forests.



The site supports reedbeds, sedges and grasses and is important for the protection of various threatened species of swamp fauna and flora.

18 Prypiat River Floodplains. 23/11/95; Volynska Oblast; 12,000 ha. National Nature Park "Prypiat-Stokhid", www.pripyat-stohid.com.ua. The site comprises rivers, lakes, marshes, peatlands, meadows, forests, and river islands.

19 Stokhid River Floodplains. 23/11/95; Volynska Oblast; 10,000 ha. National Nature Park "Prypiat-Stokhid", www.pripyat-stohid.com.ua. The site includes rivers, lakes, marshes, peatlands, islands, and meadows.

29 Perebrody Peatlands. 29/07/04; Rivnenska Oblast; 12,718 ha. Rivnenskyi Nature Reserve, rpz.org.ua. The Lowland sedge-reed communities are concentrated in the central over-damp part of the site and transitional sedge-sphagnum communities prevail at its periphery.

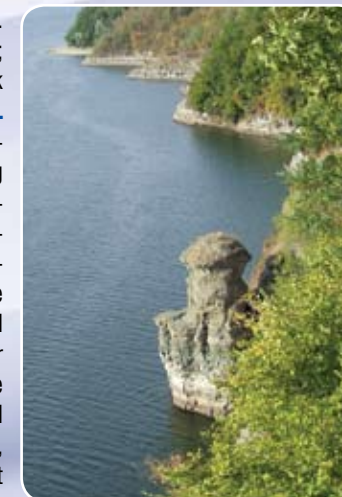
33 Polissia Mires. 29/07/04; Zhytomyrska Oblast; 2,145 ha. Polisskyi Nature Reserve, polesye-reserve.org.ua. A large swamp area of transitional mires and oligotrophic bogs fed by rain and snow waters and a separated wetland complex of transitional mires and fens integrated in small rivers floodplains.

24 Desna River Floodplains. 29/07/04; Sumska Oblast; 4,270 ha. National Nature Park "Desniansko-Starogutskyi", www.nppds.narod.ru. River network with lakes, oxbows, mires and floodplain meadow areas, with aquatic and riverside vegetation types, swamp, shrubs, meadow, and partly forest.

Two sites represent wetlands of Dniester river

25 Lower Smotrych River. 29/07/04; Khmelnytska Oblast; 1,480 ha. National Nature Park "Podilski Tovtry", www.tovtry.com. Canyon and delta areas of the Smotrych River upstream from its confluence with the Dniester River. The site provides good conditions of reproduction for bats, birds of prey, waterbirds and fish species under international protection such as the Pond Bat, the Corn-crake and the Black Sea Roach and presents rare and representative flora communities.

28 Bakotska Bay. 29/07/04; Khmelnytska Oblast; 1,590 ha. National Nature Park "Podilski Tovtry", www.tovtry.com. The site was formed during the filling of a low-lying area of the Dniester River valley with waters of the newly-constructed Dniester Reservoir located downstream. Site supports vulnerable bird and fish species such as Lesser Kestrel, Corncrake, and the fish Zingel and has a special importance for birds of prey, Mallard, Mute Swan, Great White Egret, and Little Egret.



Dnipro-Oril Floodplains represents wetlands of Dnipro River

21 Dnipro-Oril Floodplains. 29/07/04; Dnipropetrovska Oblast; 2,560 ha. Nature Reserve "Dniprovsko-Orilskyi". There are numerous lakes, mires, and well-developed flora of vascular plants, including rare communities of *Salvinia natans* and *Trapa natans*, floodplain forests with oak, willow, poplar and alder. The site is an important nesting place and represents a key point of of the Dnipro bird migration route.

Lake Synevyr represents wetlands of Ukrainian Carpathians.

23 Lake Synevyr. 29/07/04; Zakarpatska Oblast; 29 ha. National Nature Park "Synevyr", www.npp-synevyr.net.ua. The lake is located among spruce forests and has a depth of 58 m. Three

permanent mountain streams flow into the lake, causing accelerated silting in those places and transforming into eutrophic mires overgrown by *Glyceria fluitans* and *Equisetum palustre*.



The Carpathian region represents one of Europe's last great wilderness areas. It is a bastion for large carnivores, with over half of the continent's populations of bears, wolves and lynx, and home to the greatest remaining reserves of old growth forests. The Carpathian region of Ukraine contains refuges for important wetland habitats, like bogs, mires, floodplain forests, mountain streams and rivers. Rich wet mountain pastures and hay meadows were created over centuries of traditional land management and its biodiversity is unsurpassed in Europe. However, the wetlands of the Carpathian and in adjacent areas have no effective conservation designation and not internationally recognised.

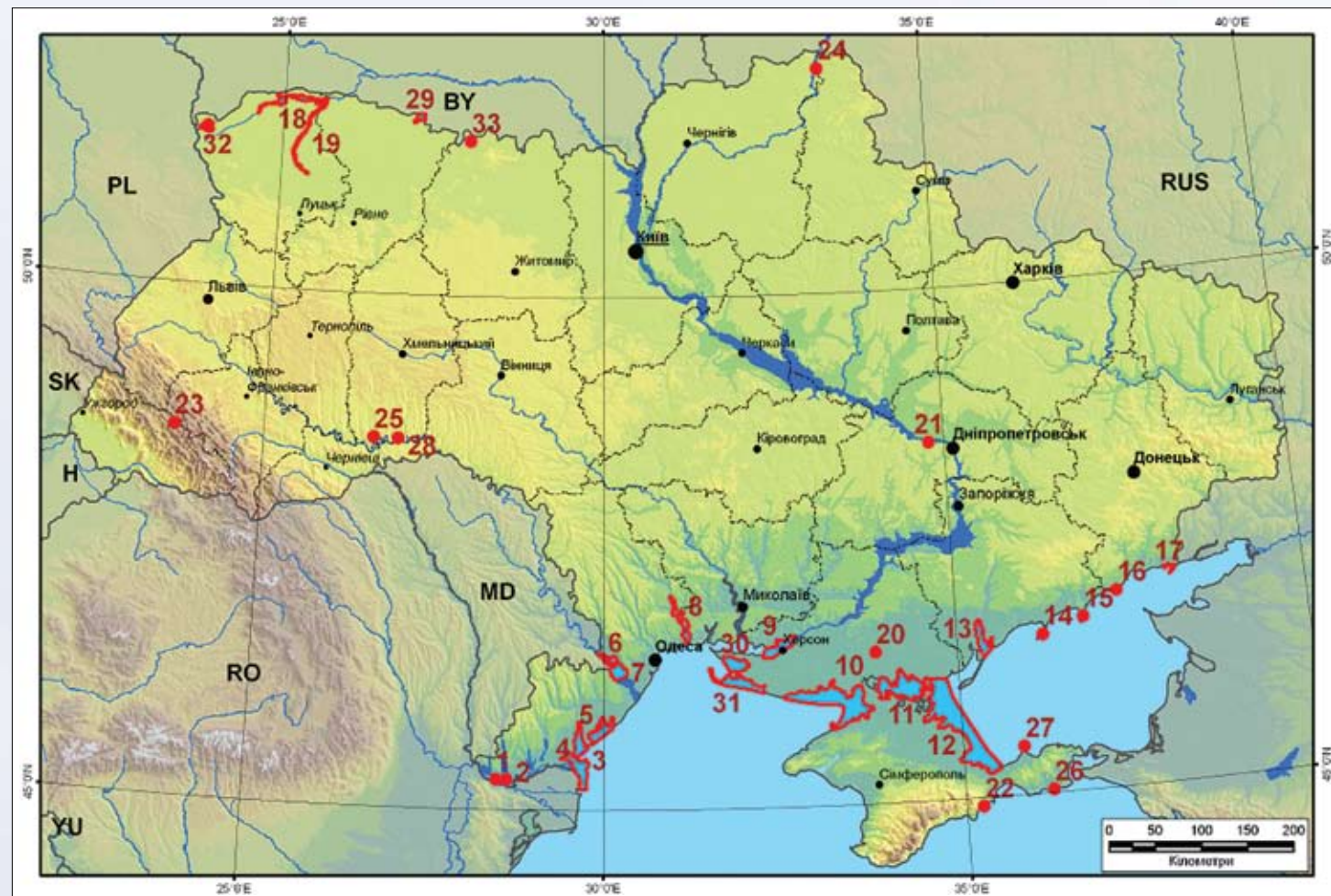
Based on uniqueness of mountain region wetlands, long term drainage of mountain bogs in seventies and urgent need for protection of mountain wetlands in climate change and economic development considerations we have prepared 19 new Ramsar applications with total areas of around 60.000 ha, which are already supported by three Government decrees at national level. They are mountain mires, highland bogs, upper river catchments with large number of different wetlands type, floodplain and riparian habitats, wet meadows and high mountain wet forests.

11 of them are in the Carpathian Region. These are small lands important for preserving of rare species of flora and fauna, conservation of mountain wetlands and upland rivers leaks. Two wetlands are planned to be created on the Dniester river, which will help preserve lands important for fish spawning and birds breeding. Four wetlands of total land area of 31,790 ha are in Polissia region and represent different types of almost untouched wetlands. These wetlands are important for the preservation of rare species of plants, including orchids and breeding areas of many species of birds. Two wetlands with the area of 10,000 ha are set amidst Kakhovka reservoir, the largest one in the country. The system of islands and the coast of the reservoir is a place for many nesting waterbirds and herons, and an important stop during migrations.



Discover Wetlands of Ukraine

Location of the Ramsar Sites in Ukraine



The Ramsar status for Ukrainian wetlands are very important as for country with transition economy. International protection status helps in conflict situations, more attractive for tourists, and have better chances for conservation and restoration activities.

33 wetlands of Ukraine are included in the list of wetlands of international importance. One of the main features of national wetland conservation strategy is to provide them with the status of protected areas. It allows to effectively organize work on protection and restoration of wetlands, and also secures wise use of wetlands,

environmental education activities and raising public awareness. Besides, hunting is prohibited in the parks and reserves by national law. Thus, more than 70% of wetlands really protect all birds and mammals that breed, migrate and spend winter there.

23 wetlands are located in and the Black and Azov Seas region in southern Ukraine. 6 wetlands are situated in northern Ukraine in the Polissia region. Two sites represent wetlands of Dniester river. One site is located in the Carpathian region and one site is in the central part of Ukraine.

23 sites represent wetlands of the Black and Azov Seas region



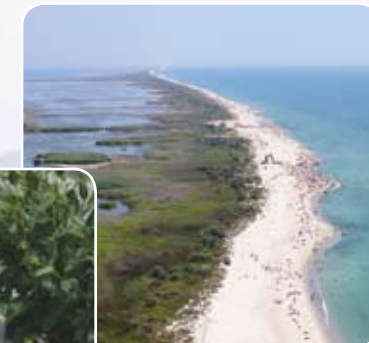
The sites of the Black and Azov Seas region provide habitat for large numbers of many species of wintering, migrating, breeding and molting waterbirds, as well as breeding and nursery places for fish and amphibians. More than 300 species of birds can be seen there. Some of the sites support seasonal concentrations of up to 1,000,000 waders and waterbirds. Rare, vulnerable or endangered bird species from national and international lists are found at these sites. Marine mammals include three species of dolphin, all nationally rare, as well as several nationally rare and relic fish species. Vegetation consists of floating vegetation, aquatic plants, reed thickets, salt meadows, areas of steppe and floodplain forest supporting numerous rare, relict and endemic plant species.

- 1 Kartal Lake. 23/11/95; Odeska Oblast; 500 ha. A system of small, interconnected floodplain lakes set in the lower Danube basin.
- 2 Kugurlui Lake. 23/11/95; Odeska Oblast; 6,500 ha. A shallow oxbow lake with swampy shores set in the lower Danube basin.
- 3 Kyliiske Mouth. 23/11/95; first designated 11/10/1976. Odeska Oblast; 32,800 ha. Danube Biosphere Reserve, dbr.org.ua. The site, a tributary delta of the Danube River, is situated along the Black Sea. It comprises numerous channels, alluvial islands, swamp areas, floodplain forests, freshwater lakes, and sandy spits enclosing bays.
- 4 Sasyk Lake. 23/11/95; Odeska Oblast; 21,000 ha. Artificially maintained as a freshwater area by pumping, the site consists of a reservoir near the Danube Delta and the Black Sea and includes various floodplain areas.

5 Shagany-Alibei-Burnas Lakes System. 23/11/95; Odeska Oblast; 19,000 ha. National nature park "Tuzlovski Limans", tyzlivski-luman.ucoz.com. Three shallow limans (brackish lagoons) of the Black Sea, set in a closed drainage area and thus subject to drought and intensive sea currents. The lakes are separated from the sea by a sandy spit, and include peninsulas and islands.

6 Northern Part of the Dniester Liman. 23/11/95; Odeska Oblast; 20,000 ha. National Nature Park "Nyzhnodnistrovskiy", www.facebook.com/nizhnednestrovsky. This site includes the Dniester River delta, streams, floodplain lakes, and part of the Dniester Liman.

7 Dniester-Turunchuk Crossrivers Area. 23/11/95; Odeska Oblast; 76,000 ha. National Nature Park "Nyzhnodnistrovskiy", www.facebook.com/nizhnednestrovsky. The Dniester River delta and floodplain lakes consist of islands of floodplain forests, numerous scroll ridges, deep lakes, and floating bogs.



8 Tyligulskiy Liman. 23/11/95; Odeska, Mykolaivska Oblasts; 26,000 ha. Regional Landscape Park "Tylygul's'kyi", tiligul.org. One of the purest limans (brackish lagoons) on the north-west coast of the Black Sea, the site includes accumulative islands, salt meadows, and sandy peninsulas.

9 Dnipro River Delta. 23/11/95; Khersonska Oblast; 26,000 ha. Game Reserve. The site, a delta of the third largest river in Europe, includes swampy areas, floodplain forests, sandy ridges, and a lake complex.

30 Yagorlytska Bay. 23/11/95; Khersonska, Mykolaivska Oblasts; 34,000 ha. Chornomorskyi Biosphere Reserve, bsbr.ks.ua. National nature park "Biloberezhzhya Svyatoslava", belosvyat.org.ua. Regional Landscape Park "Kinburnska kosa", www.kinburn.narod.ru.



A saltwater lagoon separated from the sea by a long sandy spit, the site includes numerous interconnected lakes and temporary waterbodies.

31 Tendrivska Bay. 23/11/95; Khersonska Oblast; 38,000 ha. Chornomorskyi Biosphere Reserve, bsbr.ks.ua. A saltwater lagoon of varying salinity, separated from the Black Sea by sandy spits. The site includes islands, numerous lakes, and temporary waterbodies.

20 Big Chapelsk Depression. 29/07/04; Khersonska Oblast; 2,359 ha. Biosphere Reserve "Askania-Nova", askania-nova-zapovidnik.gov.ua. Natural shallow depression filled by water from melted snow and rains - thanks to additional water from artesian wells, the lake, at the central part of the depression, never dries up. Non-freezing lakes provide wintering opportunities for birds.

10 Karkinitzka and Dzharlygatska Bays. 23/11/95; Khersonska Oblast, Crimean Autonomy Republic; 87,000 ha. National nature park "Dzharylgatskyi", vk.com/skadovsk_ostrov. Crimean Nature Reserve, www.dus.gov.ua/270.623.0.0.1.0.phtml. An embayment of the Black Sea, the site includes several islands and surrounding waters.

11 Central Syvash. 23/11/95; Khersonska Oblast, Crimean Autonomy Republic; 80,000 ha. Azovo-Syvashskiy National Nature Park, www.dus.gov.ua/park2.phtml. Azov-Black-Sea Ornithological Station. Part of an extremely large lagoon, the site includes spits, islands, saline lowlands, and peninsulas along the Azov Sea.

12 Eastern Syvash. 23/11/95; Khersonska Oblast, Crimean AR; 165,000 ha. Azovo-Syvashskiy National Nature Park, www.dus.gov.ua/park2.phtml. The site, part of a large coastal lagoon, is a shallow saltwater bay near the Azov Sea and includes numerous spits, islets, saline lowlands, and peninsulas.

13 Molochnyi Liman. 23/11/95; Zaporizka Oblast; 22,400 ha. Pryazovskiy National Nature Park, pnpp.info. A saline liman (lagoon) near the Azov Sea, the site includes sandy-shell islands and peninsulas.

14 Obytochna Spit and Obytochna Bay. 23/11/95; Zaporizka Oblast; 2,000 ha. Game Reserve. An Azov Sea bay and associated spit supporting reed-swamp vegetation and saline meadows fringed by steppe vegetation.

15 Berda River Mouth and Berdianka Spit and Berdianska Bay. 23/11/95; Zaporizka Oblast; 1,800 ha. Game Reserve. The site, a shallow bay of the Azov Sea and small river delta, includes accumulative islands, a spit, dunes, and saline lakes.

16 Bilosaraiska Bay and Bilosaraiska Spit. 23/11/95; Donetsk Oblast; 2,000 ha. Regional Landscape Park "Meotida", www.meotida.org.ua. National Nature Park "Meotida". A sandy-shell spit and a shallow bay of the Azov Sea, the site includes shallow lakes, dunes, and silt islands.

17 Kryva Bay and Kryva Spit. 23/11/95; Donetsk Oblast; 1,400 ha. Regional Landscape Park "Meotida", www.meotida.org.ua. National Nature Park "Meotida". A bay of the Azov Sea made up of a sandy-shell spit, beaches, silt islands, and shallow lakes.

22 Aquatic-cliff complex of Karadag. 29/07/04; Crimean AR; 224 ha. Karadagskyi Nature Reserve. Located at the southeastern part of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the aquatic-cliff complex of Karadag comprises sublittoral marine areas up to 6 metres depth, bays, a narrow strip of pebble-boulder coast and coastal cliffs up to 120m high.

26 Aquatic-coastal complex of Cape Opuke. 29/07/04; Crimean AR; 775 ha. Opukskyi Nature Reserve. Combination of steep limestone rocks on the seaside (marine boundary lines along 6 meter isobath), sandy-coquina spits, and a salt lake.

27 Aquatic-cliff complex of Cape Kazantyp. 29/07/04; Crimean AR; 251 ha. Kazantypskiy Nature Reserve. Coastal area of the Azov Sea composed of pebble and detritus-coquina bays with thickets of macrophytic algae *Cystoseira barbata* and vascular plants *Zannichellia major* and *Zostera noltii*. It is an important spawning ground for crustaceans and rare fish species, such as the Great Sturgeon *Huso huso ponticus*, and maintains a significant proportion of indigenous fish species.

