

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 2 August 2021 Update version, previously published on : 1 January 2003

UkraineBig Chapelsk Depression



Designation date
Site number
Coordinates

Coordinates

17 November 2003

1397

Coordinates 46°28'57"N 33°50'55"E

Area 2 359,00 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

Big Chapelsk Depression is a depression in relief, having a specific geomorphological structure of the Left-bank region of the Lower Dniper. It is an inland drainless wetland with permanent stagnant dystrophic water bodies and temporary overflows, lying at the crossroads of bird migratory routes in the northern Black Sea region. The Site represents one of three fragments of the protected steppe area, which are included in a cluster structure of the Biosphere Reserve 'Askania-Nova'. The hydroregime is characterized by a periodical high water flooding and heavy rains-induced floods, cover an area from 4 to 1,300 ha and, for several years, provoking the development of subaqual ecosystems with typical flora and fauna.

Phytocoenoses have 4 vegetation types and 16 formation groups, include over 400 species in total. During floods, the meadow and meadow-boggy components dominate such as Butomus umbellatus Schoenoplectus lacustris, Beckmannia eruciformis, etc. During autumn and spring migrations, the Site supports dozens of thousands, and in some years - hundreds of thousands birds, in particular Anser albifrons (20,000-100,000 ind.), Grus grus (10,000-44,000 ind.), Branta ruficollis (400-12,500 ind.), Tadorna ferruginea (550-9,000 ind.). There are also infrequent records of Cygnus columbianus, Anser erythropus, Numenius arquata, etc. Ponds, located in the site, are filled with underground artesian water, do not freeze in winter, and thus support wintering of up to 40,000 of Anser albifrons, up to 16,000 ind. of Anas platyrhynchos, up to 3,500 of Tadorna ferruginea, etc. The Site is divided into enclosed areas with grazing of reintroducted indigenous species or ecological alternates of extinct steppe animals of Europe (Saiga tatarica, Equus hemionus kulan, E. przewalskii, Bison bison, Cervus elaphus, as well as C. nippon hortulorum, C. (Dama) dama, Ovis ammon musimon). In summer period, small groups of zoo animals are grazed (Equus burchelli, Taurotragus (Tragelaphus) oryx, Boselaphus tragocamelus, Connochaetes taurinus, Syncerus caffer, etc.). The Site is an important research area and located in the core zone of the Biosphere Reserve 'Askania-Nova'.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Responsible compiler

Institution/agency The F.E. Falz-Fein Biosphere Reserve 'Askania-Nova'

Postal address 13 Frunze Str., Askania-Nova, Chaplynka district, Kherson region, 75230, Ukraine

National Ramsar Administrative Authority

Institution/agency Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine

Postal address

35, Vasilya Lipkivs'kogo Street, Kyiv, 03035, Ukraine

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

From year 2012

To year 2018

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

Big Chapelsk Depression

2.1.4 - Changes to the boundaries and area of the Site since its designation or earlier update

(Update) A Changes to Site boundary Yes O No

(Update) B. Changes to Site area

No change to area

(Update) For secretariat only. This update is an extension □

2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS?

(Update) Optional text box to provide further information

There are changes in the basic meteorological parameters, showing the specificity of climate situation from minimum of 297.3 mm (about 74% of the norm) of the typical seasonal distribution of precipitation and to high aridity in some periods of year (April, June, July, September and November). At the same time, fertility and numbers of hoofed animals increases in the site, providing a negative impact on a state of the area. In addition, Social vole, gray crane and seasonal ornithological pressure significantly affected the disturbance of soil and grass cover in general. The last two are due to changes in behavior of birds, because of their permanent stay in the wetland to feed on adjacent agricultural areas.

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<2 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps 0

Boundaries description

The Site represents a natural relief depression, 4 km wide, 6 km long, formed as a result of numerous transgressions of ancient seas and transformations of loess. The Site is covered with natural steppe vegetation and surrounded by arable land. The Site is included in the Biosphere Reserve 'Askania-Nova'. Thus, the boundaries of the Site run along the border with the fields to the east, west and north, on the south side of the Site is limited by the boundaries of the core zone of the biosphere reserve.

The Site lies in the north-eastern part of Chaplynka District of Kherson Region, Ukraine. The Site is located near Askania-Nova Village (3,500 people); lies 50 km to the south-east from the town of Nova Kakhovka (67,000) and circa 100 km to the east from the regional administrative centre – Kherson City (almost 400,000 people).

Approximately 24 km to the south the western part of the Syvash wetlands begin.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does Chaplynka District of Kherson Oblast the site lie?

b) What is the nearest town or population Askania-Nova Village centre?

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes O No ${\color{red} \bullet}$

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes O No \odot

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 2359

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from 2423.764

GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	The Steppe Biogeographical Region

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

Prisivasko-Priazovskaya lowland area of the Southeast (dry-steppe) subzone [Marynych and all., 2003; Baydikov, 2017].

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

The wetland collects and stores water in a relatively arid steppe region. The water area of the Site varies from 4 to 1300 ha with periodicity of 12 years, depending on precipitation (snow and rain).

The Big Chapelsk Depression is one of the unique wetlands in the steppe zone of the Azov-Black Sea region and very important for biodiversity conservation. This area is a year-round protected for the Other reasons conservation of rare bird species during nesting, migrating and wintering. Most of them do not breed in similar ecosystems in the region, which is caused by the growth of the hunting pressure and agricultural influence.

- ☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities
- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

The total flora diversity includes approximately 400 species. The wetland supports populations of plant species typical for the biogeographical region and is crucially important for the conservation of biological diversity. After floods on dry areas there are formed temporary coenoses of meadow-boggy grasses, and aslo coenoses with the dominance of meadow vegetation. Plant communities of Big Chapelsk Depression comprise 4 types of vegetation and 16 formations which encompass over 30 autochthonous associations. Heterogeneity of the bottom microrelief of the Site and changes in its water content determine a concentric localization and mosaic of its vegetation.

Justification

Big Chapelsk Depression is of crucial importance for birds, which species diversity consists of 131 species fom 31 familes (Lystopadskyi, Hayrylenko, Mezinov, 2014), Other fauna is represented by Pisces - 2 species; Orthopteroidea - 14 species; Amphibia - 3 species; Reptilia - 5 species; Mammalia - 29 species (of them Insectivora – 1 species; Leporiformes –1 species, Rodentia – 7 species; Carnivora – 2 species; Perissodactyla – 5 species; Artiodactyla – 13 species) (Notes ..., 2010).

- Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions
- ☑ Criterion 5 : >20,000 waterbirds

Overall waterbird numbers | 150000

Start year 2012

Source of data

The scientists' own observations of the reserve are reflected in the reporting documents and Chronicles of the nature of the reserve.

☑ Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Plantae								
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Allium regelianum		✓				Red Data Book of Ukraine – LC	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Damasonium alisma	✓	✓		W		Red Data Book of Ukraine - EN	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	⊟atine hungarica	2	✓				Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Fritillaria meleagroides	2	✓				Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Juncus sphaerocarpus	✓					Red Data Book of Ukraine - EN	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Lythrum thymifolia	2	✓				Red Data Book of Ukraine – VU	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Phlomoides tuberosa		✓				Red Data Book of Ukraine - NE	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Stipa capillata		✓				Red Data Book of Ukraine - NE	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Stipa lessingiana		✓				Red Data Book of Ukraine - NE	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Stipa rubens		✓				Red Data Book of Ukraine – NE	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Tulipa gesneriana	✓	✓				Red Data Book of Ukraine – VU	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	Tulipa sylvestris australis	2	✓				Red Data Book of Ukraine – EN	
Fungi	-							
BASIDIOMYCOTA/ AGARICOMYCETES	Agaricus bresadolanus	2	2				Red Data Book of Ukraine – EN	

EL (II B' OL LIB ' ' L (400 '
Flora of the Big Chapelsk Depression is about 400 species.
Tiota of the big offapolot boprossion to about 400 species.

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

Phylum	Ocientino name	Species qualifies under criterion 2 4 6 9	under criterion	Size	Period of pop. Est.	occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
Others											
MAMMALIA	Allactaga major		Ø000				LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine – LC	
REPTILIA	austriaca						LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine – VU	
CHORDATA / REPTILIA	Vipera renardi	Ø000	2 000							Red Data Book of Ukraine – VU	
Birds											

Phylum	Scientific name	Speci- qualifies criteri	under on	und	ler cı	outes riterion	Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
CHORDATA / AVES	Anser albifrons						29100	2012-2018	14.55	LC				Overlapping populations: Western Siberia/Black Sea & Turkey and Western Siberia/Central Europe
CHORDATA / AVES	Anser erythropus	2					70	2012-2018		W		V	Red Data Book of Ukraine – VU	The Site supports the species during migration.
CHORDATA / AVES	Anthropoides virgo	2 2 0		V			35	2012-2018		LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine – EN	The Site supports the species during migration.
CHORDATA / AVES	Aquila heliaca			Ø			2	2012-2018		VU	V	V	Red Data Book of Ukraine – LC	
CHORDATA / AVES	Branta ruficollis	V	Z C		V		2140	2012-2018	4.28	EN		 ✓	Red Data Book of Ukraine – VU	The Site supports the species during migration. Population : Northern Siberia/Black Sea & Caspian
CHORDATA / AVES	Bucephala clangula			V			35	2012-2018		LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine – LC	The Site supports the species during migration and wintering.
CHORDATA / AVES	Ciconia nigra	V					4	2012-2018		LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine – LC	The Site supports the species during migration.
CHORDATA / AVES	Coracias garrulus	2		V			6	2012-2018		LC		V	Red Data Book of Ukraine – EN	The Site supports the species during migration. and nesting.
CHORDATA / AVES	Falco cherrug	2		V			2	2012-2018		EN		V	Red Data Book of Ukraine – VU	The Site supports the species during migration. and nesting.
CHORDATA / AVES	Falco peregrinus	9		V			2	2012-2018		LC	V		Red Data Book of Ukraine – LC	The Site supports the species during migration and wintering.
CHORDATA / AVES	Fulica atra	9					50	2012-2018		LC			EU IUCN Red List - NT	support during migrations. 1-6 pairs nest within the site
CHORDATA / AVES	Glareola pratincola			V			25	2012-2018		LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine – LC	The Site supports the species during migration.
CHORDATA / AVES	Grus grus	V V G	2 C		V		21000	2012-2018	21	LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC, Annex I EU Birds Directive	The Site supports 21 % of the Eastern Europe/Turkey, Mddle East & NE Africa population during migration.
CHORDATA / AVES	Haliaeetus albicilla	2		V			8	2012-2018		LC	V	V	Red Data Book of Ukraine - LC	The Site supports the species during migration. 1 pair nests within the site.
CHORDATA / AVES	Himantopus himantopus	2		V			52	2012-2018		LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	The Site supports the species during migration. and nesting.
CHORDATA / AVES	Limosa limosa	2					170	2012-2018		NT			Annex I EU Birds Directive	support during migrations
CHORDATA / AVES	Microcarbo pygmeus	2 2 0					11	2012-2018					Red Data Book of Ukraine – EN	The Site supports the species during migration.
CHORDATA / AVES	Numenius arquata	2					10	2012-2018		NT			Red Data Book of Ukraine - CR	support during migrations
CHORDATA / AVES	Otis tarda	2		V			100	2012-2018		VU		 ✓	Red Data Book of Ukraine - CR	The Site supports the species during migration.

Phylum	Scientific name		under criterio	on Size	Period of pop. Est.		IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
	Platalea leucorodia	2 4 6 9		_	2012-2018		LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine – VU	The Site supports the species during migration.
	Plegadis falcinellus			19	2012-2018		LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine – VU	The Site supports the species during migration.
/	Recurvirostra avosetta	0000	Ø000	20	2012-2018		LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine – LC	The Site supports the species during nesting period
CHORDATA / AVES	Tadorna ferruginea			7300	2012-2018	14.6	LC			Red Data Book of Ukraine - VU	The Site supports the species during migration. and up to 120 pairs during nesting period. nest within the site Population: East Mediterranean & Black Sea/North-east Africa
CHORDATA / AVES	Vanellus vanellus		2 000	300	2012-2018		NT			EU IUCN Red List - VU	support during migrations

¹⁾ Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

The wetland supports the greatest number of common species despite the remoteness of Syvash bays, located at a considerable distance from the Big Chapelsk Depression. The site holds concentrations of waders during spring and autumn migrations as well as cranes, Anseriformes and other waterbirds. The site regularly supports simultaneous gatherings of more than 20,000 ind. of Grus grus (average annual number over the period from 2012 to 2018 is 21,000 ind) and Anser albifrons (29,100 ind.). The maximum number of Grus grus (up to 44,000 ind; Havrylenko et al., 2012) was recorded in 2009, that of Anser albifrons – in 1996 (480,000 ind.) (Havrylenko, Mezinov, 2013). The total number of birds may reach more than 150,000 ind.

In total, the fauna of the site is represented by Pisces – 2 species; Aves – 131 species of 31 families, Orthopteroidea – 14 species; Amphibia – 3 species; Reptilia – 5 species; Mammalia – 29 species (of them Insectivora – 1 species; Leporiformes –1 species, Rodentia – 7 species; Carnivora – 2 species; Perissodactyla – 5 species; Artiodactyla – 13 species).

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
C1.6: Temporary lakes, ponds and pools	Ø	Temporary freshwater and saline inland bodies of water and temporary drying areas of permanent water bodies	Representative. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.
C1.67 : Turlough and lake-bottom meadows	2	Communities at the bottom of periodically, usually annually, drying areas of stagnant water bodies	Representative. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.
C3.2 : Water-fringing reedbeds and tall helophytes other than canes	Ø	Communities of inland water bodies, including brackish ones, with the dominance of Bolboschoenus spp., Butomus umbellatus, Eleocharis palustris, Phragmites australis, Typha spp.	Rare, occurred only after flooding. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.
C3.5: Periodically inundated shores with pioneer and ephemeral vegetation.	2	Communities of low annual plants such as Elatine spp., Lindernia procumbens (C3.51), communites of nitrophilous high annual plants - Bidens spp., Persicaria spp., Rorippa spp., Ranunculus sceleratus	Representative. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.

RIS for Site no. 1397, Big Chapelsk Depression, Ukraine

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
C3.51: Euro-Siberian dwarf annual amphibious swards.	2	Community of Cyperus fuscus and other low vegetation species	Representative. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.
C3.5131 Toad-rush swards	2	Community of Juncus bufonius	Representative. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.
C3.6: Unvegetated or sparsely vegetated shores with soft or mobile sediments	Ø	Muddy, sandy, gravel, pebble sediments near watercourses and lakes, including those in place of drying water bodies (freshwater and saline).	Representative. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.
E1.2. Perennial calcareous grassland and basic steppes.	Ø	Projective cover is 30-100%. Typical dominants: Galatella spp., Phlomis spp., Poa angustifolia, Stipa spp.	Representative. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.
E1.6: Subnitrophilous annual grassland.	2	Mediterranean coenoses formed under intensive grazing. Aegylops cylindrica is dominant.	Representative. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.
E1.E: Trampled xeric grasslands with annuals.	2	Typical species are Lepidium ruderale, Plantago major, Poa annua, Polygonum aviculare s. l.	Periodically, in dry season. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention
E3.4: Moist or wet eutrophic and mesotrophic grassland.	Ø	Typical dominants: Alopecurus pratensis, Juncus spp.	Periodically, in dry season. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention
E6.2: Continental inland salt steppes.	Ø	Typical dominants of the communities: Beckmannia eruciformis, Festuca pseudodalmatica, Limonium spp., Puccinellia spp., Taraxacum bessarabicum, Triglochin palustris.	Representative. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.
C3.42, C3.43: Species-poor beds of low- growing water-fringing or amphibious vegetation	2	communities of the forest-steppe and steppe zones with the dominance of Elatine spp., Lythrum hyssopifolia	Representative. The community is included in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention.

Optional text box to provide further information

A total of 4 vegetation types and 16 formations are found encompassing over 30 associations.

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

4.1 - Ecological character

The wetland is formed in a steppe shallow depression. Slopes of the Chapelsk Depression have better moisture conditions in comparison with upland steppe. It is conditioned by the surface runoff, a general trend of redistribution of snow cover in the direction of negative forms of a relief, microclimatic parameters (cold air from the surrounding area runs in closed lowlands by the ravines), and others. The microrelief of the Big Chapelsk Depression has 6 concentric zones, different in hydrology and phytocenotic structure. The steppified, meadow, meadow-boggy and wetland phytocenoses are territorially displacing, but still are time-delimited. The boundary between them is outlined by the lower reaches of the slopes and the edge of the bottom, which are flooded for a short time (15-30 days). The average duration between heavy rains is 12.2 years, with fluctuations from 4 to 24 years and changes in the water area from 4 to 1,300 hectares. The water level ranges from 15 cm to 1.3 m and depends on the precipitation amount. The maximum depth of full flooding does not exceed 1.3 m. The permanent centre of meadow-boggy vegetation is the central part of the bottom, periodically flooded up to 30-90 days, and in case of heavy rains - up to 200-240 days. The wetland is located in the Black Sea area of the Atlantic-continental steppe region, characterized by a large amount of light, warm and mild unstable winter. The average annual air temperature is +9.4 °C. The amplitude of annual air temperatures exceeds 70 °C (min -35 °C, max + 48.5 °C). The normal level of precipitation is 400 mm, ranging from 164 to 703 mm. The main part of precipitations occurs in the period from November to March. The ground freezes up to 30-40 cm, in occasional severe winters - up to 120 cm. Temporary reservoirs are formed annually. They initiate the development of ephemeral and hydrophilic formations and serve as places for the reproduction of amphibians. There are no outputs of underground water to the surface. Flood control is not required, as flooding, as a rule, does not go beyond the Site boundaries. The water, flowing by small artificial channels from artesian wells, is an additional source to maintain water level in a dry period for wild hoofed animals that are kepted within the Site.

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

Inland wetlands

iriidi id Wellarias				
Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion
Fresh water > Flowing water >> N: Seasonal/ intermittent/ irregular rivers/ streams/ creeks		4	2.3	Representative
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> P: Seasonal/ intermittent freshwater lakes		1	1300	Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Ts: Seasonal/ intermittent freshwater marshes/ pools on inorganic soils		3	150	Representative

Human-made wetlands

Trainian made medanae			
Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type
2: Ponds		1	15.4
3: Irrigated land		1	5
9: Canals and drainage channels or ditches		1	3.7

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Phylum	Scientific name	Position in range / endemism / other
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Achillea euxina	endemic
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Achillea inundata	endemic
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Achillea micranthoides	endemic
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	Elymus repens repens	endemic
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Galatella sedifolia biflora	endemic
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Gypsophila muralis	endemic
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Phalacrachena inuloides	endemic
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Polygonum aschersonianum	endemic
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Scleranthus verticillatus	endemic

Phylum	Scientific name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Amaranthus albus	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Amaranthus blitoides	Potential	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Amaranthus retroflexus	Actual (major impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Ambrosia artemisiifolia	Actual (major impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Atriplex tatarica	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	Bromus tectorum	Actual (major impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Capsella bursa-pastoris	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
RACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Centaurea diffusa	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	Descurainia sophia	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Erigeron canadensis	Potential	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	lva xanthiifolia	Potential	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Lactuca serriola	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Lepidium draba	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Lepidium perfoliatum	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	Lepidium ruderale	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	Onopordum acanthium	Potential	No change
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	Sisymbrium altissimum	Actual (major impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Tripleurospermum inodorum	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	Xanthium albinum	Actual (major impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	Xanthium pungens	Actual (major impacts)	No change
TRACHEOPHYTAMAGNOLIOPSIDA	Xanthium spinosum	Actual (major impacts)	No change
		1	

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/AVES	Alauda arvensis				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Cervus elaphus				
CHORDATA/AVES	Emberiza calandra				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Equus hemionus				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Equus przewalskii				
CHORDATA/REPTILIA	Lacerta agilis				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Lepus europaeus				
CHORDATAAVES	Melanocorypha calandra				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Microtus socialis				
CHORDATA/AMPHIBIA	Pelophylax ridibundus				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Saiga tatarica				

Optional text box to provide further information

The species of animals listed in this section are kept on the territory of the wetland as part of the zoo. At appropriate times of the year, animals graze here, which helps to compensate for the lack of wild herbivores and maintain vegetation in good condition.

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
D: Moist Mid-Latitude	Dfa: Humid continental (Humid with severe winter, no dry season, hot
diffiate with cold wifiters	summer)

The site belongs to the continental region of temperate climate. Hot dry summers and mild unstable winters are typical for the depression area. An average air temperature is 9.5°C (extremities ranges from -32°C to +40.3°C). Average annual precipitation is 400 mm with its minimum of 164 mm in 1943 and maximum of 703 mm in 1997.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Mnimum elevation above sea level (in metres)	
a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)	
Entire river basin	
Upper part of river basin ☐	
Mddle part of river basin	
Lower part of river basin	
More than one river basin \Box	
Not in river basin 🗹	
Coastal	

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.

Big Chapelsk Depression is located outside river basins and marine water areas. It relates to inland drainless wetlands with permanent stagnant dystrophic waterbodies and temporary overflows.

.4.3 - S011	
Mineral	☑
(Update) Changes at RIS update	No change Increase Decrease Unknown O
No available information	
Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological	v. Ov. 8

conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)?

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

Southern black soils and dark-chestnut soils (gley meadow soils in depressions) are typical for the site.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	Changes at RIS update	
Usually permanent water present	No change	
Usually seasonal, ephemeral or intermittent water present	decrease	

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Source of water that maintains character of the site				
Presence?	Predominant water source	Changes at RIS update		
Water inputs from surface water		No change		
Water inputs from precipitation	2	No change		

Water destination

	Presence?	Changes at RIS update
	Feeds groundwater	No change

Stability of water regime

outsing of trater regime		
Presence?	Changes at RIS update	
Water levels fluctuating (including tidal)	decrease	

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

The Site is supplied with water from atmospheric precipitation. The average duration of the period between strong floods is 12.2 years, ranging from 4 to 24 years; they change the water surface area from 4 to 1,300 hectares. The water level ranges from 15 cm to 1.3 m and depends on precipitation amount. An additional water source for the Site is the water coming from artesian wells.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Sediment regime unknown

4.4.6 - Water pH

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

(Update) Changes at RIS update	No shange (Ingresses	O Dogrago	O Unknown O
Changes at RIS update	No change w increase	U Decrease	Unknown U

Unknown

Please provide further information on pH (optional):

The water acidity at the bottom in the Site is less than 6 units. This is due to the influence of soil pH (pH = 5.83-5.65) and a low oxidation-restoration potential. Abrupt changes in the chemical composition of water bodies occasionally occur in the spring season. Recrystallization processes take place during snow melting and with inflow of water, formed from melted snow, from the catchment basin. These processes lead to up to 5 times water enrichment by many ions, including free hydrogen ions, resulting in so-called "pH-shock", when the pH value rapidly falls to pH = 7.03 in the spring melted waters.

Other reserve's water bodies have subalkali or alkaline reaction, caused by increased salinity of natural waters and depth of the bottom formed by loess-like loam: pH of the artificial reservoirs of the site (which are situated at the southern slope of the wetland and from where the water through small artificial channels flows to the bottom) varies between 7.63 and 7.13.

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change

Increase

Decrease

Unknown

Unknown □

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Unknown 🗹

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 i) broadly similar O ii) significantly different © site itself:

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development \square

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:

In the surrounding area, the intensive agriculture is provided, which has led to the plowing of gullies, by which the water flows into the site. There is a reduction in the number of agricultural areas with cereals, the remains of which serve as forage for birds. The activity of hunting farms in the region during the hunting season increased, while the number of biotechnical measures provided by them was reduced.

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

ovisioning dervices		
Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Fresh water	Drinking water for humans and/or livestock	Medium

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological	Groundwater recharge and	Medium
regimes	discharge	Wediairi

Cultural Services

Cultural Col vices				
Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance		
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	Medium		
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	High		
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	Medium		
Scientific and educational	Educational activities and opportunities	High		
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	High		
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	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 microorganizms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	High

Within the site:	100-83000
Outside the site:	9600-79000

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

4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

i) the site provides a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland

Description if applicable

Establishing of eco-tourism centers based on wetlands of international importance is least influential on the ecosystems and considerably economical use of natural resources to form environmental awareness of visitors. The application of technologies of organized ecotourism significantly reduces the disturbance of birds, giving them the ability to reproduce, eat, spend the night, and at the same time, leaving them available to viewing by many eco-tourists. Volumes of visit is determined and approved by the Scientific Council of the institution. It makes an inquiry about the limit for use of resources and the appropriate permissions.

At the same time, conferences, workshops and meetings held in Askania Nova increase the opportunity to influence more people through participants. And also the media are involved, which are reports all over the country and abroad. The visit of birdwatchers that prefer observing from afar increased in recent years. Particular attention is paid to the scientific and educational activities with school and out-of-school institutions. Ecological actions, discussions, field trips are carried out according to the agreements with the reserve and cover about 7 thousand people annually.

ii) the site has exceptional cultural tra civilizations that have influenced the ecologic	
iii) the ecological character of the wetland	d depends on its interaction titles or indigenous peoples

iv) relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland

4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

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

5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

			ers	

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Provincial/region/state government	/	/

Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)		✓

Provide further information on the land tenure / ownership regime (optional):

Lands of state ownership were transferred to the Administration of the Friedrich Faltz-Fein Biosphere Reserve 'Askania-Nova' of the Ukrainian Academy of Agricultural Sciences (there is the Certificate on the right of permanent land use).

Other lands of national ownership, which were transferred to permanent use to the Biosphere Reserve 'Askania-Nova' (within the core area), the Institute of Livestock Breeding of the Steppe Region 'Askania-Nova', the Institute of Oil Crops of the Ukrainian Academy of Agricultural Sciences, as well as lands of private ownership (agricultural lands) within a buffer zone and zone of anthropogenic landscapes.

5.1.2 - Management authority

agency or organization responsible for	The Friedrich E. Falz-Fein Biosphere Reserve 'Askania-Nova'
managing the site:	
Provide the name and/or title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:	Viktor Havrylenko, director
or people with responsibility for the wettand.	
Postal address:	15 Parkova St., Askania-Nova, Chaplynka district, Kherson region, 75230, Ukraine
E-mail address:	askania.zap@gmail.com

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Human settlements (non agricultural)

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Tourism and recreation areas	Low impact	Low impact	>	No change	✓	No change
Housing and urban areas	Low impact	Low impact	2	No change	✓	No change

Water regulation

vvaler regulation	valer regulation								
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes			
Dredging	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change		No change			
Salinisation	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change	✓	No change			

Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Wood and pulp plantations	Low impact	Low impact		No change	2	No change
Annual and perennial non-timber crops	Low impact	Low impact		No change	2	No change
Livestock farming and ranching	Low impact	Medium impact	2	No change	2	No change

Transportation and service corridors

Traine per la del traine del trai								
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes		
Roads and railroads	Medium impact	Medium impact		No change	✓	No change		
Aircraft flight paths	Low impact	Low impact		No change	✓	No change		
Utility and service lines (e.g., pipelines)	Low impact	Low impact		No change	2	No change		

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	Medium impact	Medium impact		No change	V	No change
Gathering terrestrial plants	Low impact	Low impact		No change	V	No change
Logging and wood harvesting	Low impact	Low impact		No change	V	No change
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	Low impact	Low impact		No change	>	No change

Natural system modifications

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Fire and fire suppression	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Dams and water management/use	High impact	High impact	2	No change	2	No change
Vegetation clearance/ land conversion	Low impact	Low impact	2	No change	2	No change

Invasive and other problematic species and genes

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Invasive non-native/ alien species	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Problematic native species	Low impact	Low impact	V	No change	✓	No change

Pollution

1 Olidaoti						
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Agricultural and forestry effluents	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change	>	No change
Garbage and solid waste	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change	2	No change
Air-borne pollutants	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change	✓	No change

Climate change and severe weather

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Temperature extremes	Low impact	Low impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Habitat shifting and alteration	Medium impact	High impact		No change	2	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

The alteration of the habitats in relation to this Site implies the transformation of natural areas on arable land, which takes place in the region as a whole. This makes the Site an increasingly important stopover place for migratory birds.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Global legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
UNESCO Biosphere Reserve		http://www.unesco.org/new/en/nat ural- sciences/environment/ecolog ical- sciences/biosphere-reserves /europe- north-america/ukraine/as kaniya-nova/	whole

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Other international designation	Emerald network site UA00016 Askaniia-Nova Biosphere Reserve	https://rm.coe.int/updated-list- of- officially-adopted-emerald-si tes- 2020/1680a080d5	partly

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Biosphere Reserve	'Askania-Nova'	http://askania-nova-zapovidnik.g ov.ua/	whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Askania-Nova Biosphere Reserve	http://datazone.birdlife.org/sit e/factsheet/askania-nova-biosphe re- reserve-iba-ukraine	whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

rve 🗆	la Strict Nature Resen
	lb Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
em ☑ ion	Il National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosyste protection and recreation
	Il Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural feature
nly \square	V Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed main for conservation through management intervention
for \square	/ Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly fi landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
nly 🔲 ms	Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed main for the sustainable use of natural ecosystem

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Legal protection				
Measures	Status			
Legal protection	Implemented			

Habitat

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

Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Implemented
Control of invasive alien plants	Implemented
Control of invasive alien animals	Implemented

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Management of water abstraction/takes	Implemented
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Implemented
Research	Implemented
Livestock management/exclusion (excluding fisheries)	Partially implemented
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Implemented

Other:

It is planned to develop and implement measures to reduce the impact of hunting outside the biosphere reserve, as well as mechanisms of compensation for the damage caused to landowners by flocks of migratory birds (during feeding on agricultural fields), including rare species-Grus grus and Tadorna ferruginea.

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? In preparation

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site-? Yes O No ®

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning Yes O No

processes with another Contracting Party?

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

The administration of Askania-Nova Biosphere Reserve has an environmental propaganda sector that operates as a regional environmental and educational center.

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? No need identified

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Water regime monitoring	Implemented
Plant species	Implemented
Animal species (please specify)	Implemented
Plant community	Implemented
Animal community	Implemented
Birds	Implemented

Continuous monitoring is carried out on animals kept on semi-free grazing, as well as predators (foxes and wolves) and small mammals. Periodic monitoring of individual taxonomic groups of insects is also carried out.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Notes on the vertebrate fauna of Askania-Nova Biosphere Reserve (with elements of population analysis) / V. S. Havrylenko, M. A. Lystopadskyi, I. K. Polishchuk, V. P. Dumenko. - Askania-Nova: PE Andreeva Press, 2010. - 120 p. [in Ukrainian].

Baydikov I.A. Modern landscape structure of the territory of the Kherson area as a basis for the introduction of the middle scale plan of landscape complexes of the region / Ukrainian Geographical Journal. 2017. Vol. 3(99). P.21-28. [in Ukrainian].

Havrylenko V. S. Birds of the Red Book of Ukraine in ecosystems of Askania-Nova Biosphere Reserve / V.S. Havrylenko // Rare and Endangered Birds of the north-western part of the Black Sea region: Collection of scientific papers / Edited by Rusev I. T., Korzyukov A. I. - Kyiv: Ukrainian Society for the Protection of Birds, 2011. - P. 18-25. [in Russian]

Havrylenko V. S. Wetland of international importance "Big Chapelsk Depression" / V.S. Havrylenko, O.S. Mezinov // Monitoring of wetlands of international significance: methods and results: materials of the scientific-practical workshop "Organization and results of monitoring of wetlands of international importance in Ukraine", Odessa, March 4-6, 2014 // Ed. by O. Z.Petrovich. - K.: DIA, 2014. - P. 116-121. [in Ukrainian] Havrylenko V.S. Peculiarities of phenology, dynamics of numbers and nature of cranes' stay in the Askania-Nova Biosphere Reserve / V.S. Havrylenko, MA Listopadsky, A. S. Mezinov // Branta: Transactions of the Azov-Black Sea Ornithological Station. - Melitopol, 2012. - Iss. 15. - P. 46-56. [in Russian]

Lystopadskyi M.A. The role of depression ecosystems in the formation of waterbird communities in the interfluve of the Dnieper-Molochna rivers / M.A. Lystopadskyi, V.S. Havrylenko, A. S.Mezinov, P. P. Chehorka // Bulletin of the Askania-Nova Biosphere Reserve. - 2014 - Vol. 16. - P. 30-45. [in Ukrainian]

Marynych O. M., Parkhomenko H. O., Petrenko O. M., Shyshchenko P. H. Improved physical and geographical zoning of the Ukraine. Ukrainian geographical journal. 2003. Vol. 1. 16-20. [In Ukrainian.

Shapoval V.V. Sozological element in the flora of vascular plants of the Ascanian steppe: current composition and protection status / V.V.Shapoval // Bulletin of Askania-Nova Biosphere Reserve. - 2014 - T. 16. - pp. 4-21. [in Ukrainian]

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<no file available>

<no data available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Big Chapeisk Depression (Viktor Havrylenko, 05-03-2015)



Big Chapeisk Depression (Mezinov Alexandr, 21-05-



Big Chapeisk Depression (Mezinov Alexandr, 21-05-



Big Chapeisk Depression (Mezinov Alexandr, 14-02-



Big Chapeisk Depression (Mezinov Alexandr, 22-09-



Big Chapeisk Depression (Viktor Havrylenko, 16-10-

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2003-11-17