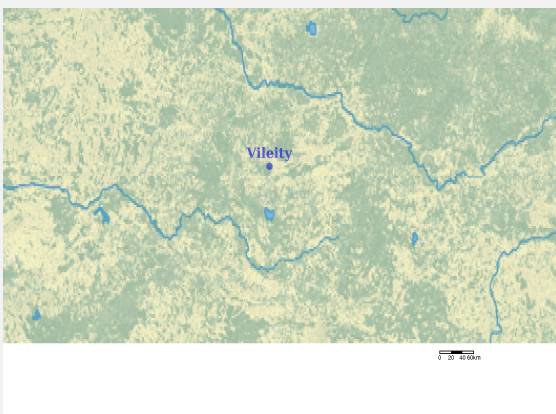




# Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 15 January 2016

## Belarus Vileity



|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Designation date | 30 September 2014    |
| Site number      | 2251                 |
| Coordinates      | 55°15'3"N 26°46'22"E |
| Area             | 8 452,00 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

This territory is the eastern part of the natural complex located in the transboundary zone of Belarus-Lithuania in the interstream area of the rivers Desna, Myadelka, Birveta and Drisyata. The site includes a large section of waterlogged forest with a complex of fen and transitional mires, floodplain meadows and marshes, medium and small rivers, oxbow lakes and a system of channels overgrown with woods. It is one of the few little-developed forest-swamp massifs in the north-western region of Belarus. During the spring flood the floodplains are completely waterlogged forming extensive shallow areas favorable for migratory birds. The site is important stopover and migration corridor for wetland birds. Rivers Myadelka and Drisyata are important migration paths of adult eel *Anguilla anguilla* from lakes of Braslav and Naroch groups to its spawning grounds, migrating through the Baltic Sea.

## 2 - Data & location

### 2.1 - Formal data

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

##### Compiler 1

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Name               | Maximenkov Michail Viktorovich, Kozulin Alexander Vasilievich |
| Institution/agency | The State Research and Production Association                 |
| Postal address     | Akademicheskaya 27<br>220072 Minsk<br>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 | 1999 |
| To year   | 2014 |

#### 2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Official name (in English, French or Spanish) | Vileity |
| Unofficial name (optional)                    | Вилейты |

## 2.2 - Site location

### 2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

#### b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

#### Boundaries description (optional)

This territory is the eastern part of the single natural complex located in the transboundary zone of Belarus-Lithuania. In the West, the Site borders the Lithuanian Nature reserve and Ramsar site "Aduiskis-Svyla-Birveta wetland complex". The Southern part of the Site is designated as Wetland Reserve of Local Importance. The borders of the Vileity site go along the forest planning quarters and encompass forest-swamp areas in the east, south and north-west of the site.

### 2.2.2 - General location

|  |   |
|--|---|
| a) In which large administrative region does the site lie? | Pastavy and Braslavsky districts/Vitebsk region |
| b) What is the nearest town or population centre?          | Postavy   |

### 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):                         | 8452    |
| Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries | 8394.64 |

### 2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

| Regionalisation scheme(s)        | Biogeographic region |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| EU biogeographic regionalization | Boreal               |

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

National: Belarussian Poozerie (Dementiev V.A., 1959. System of physiographic regions of Belarus/«Physical and economic geography of Byelorussia» Minsk, 150 p. (In Russian)).

### 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

Wetland Vileity is a representative, rare example of natural or near-natural wetland, typical for the north-west of Belarus and in general for the Eastern Baltic region. It includes a large section of water-logged forest with a complex of fen mires and transitional marshes, flooded meadows and marshes, medium and small rivers, oxbow lakes and a system of channels overgrown with woods. It is one of the few little-developed forest-bog massifs in the north-western region of Belarus. It has a transboundary continuation into Lithuania.

Hydrological services provided

The site is crossed by rivers Disna, Birveta, Myadelka, Drisyvata. These rivers are of environmental and water-control value, serve spawning and migratory channels for several fish species. Thus, the site represents the major natural floodplain system. It plays important role in functioning of the Western Dvina River's basin, hydrological regime regulation and flood control.

The rivers serve home to a large group of aquatic and coastal-aquatic species of plants and animals, they play the role of ecological corridors providing connection and exchange in gene pools between different watercourses.

Vileity provides habitat for significant amount of rare, vulnerable or endangered species of birds, mammals and plants. In the territory of the potential Ramsar site 2 species of mammals, 16 species of birds and 9 species of invertebrates, 6 species of plants from the Red Book of Belarus were registered.

Other ecosystem services provided

Floodplains of Disna, Myadelka, Birveta rivers are important migration corridors for wetland birds. During the spring tide the floodplains of these rivers host more than 20 thousand waterfowl stopping for rest and feeding. Among them in 2010 - 10 thousand geese (mostly white-fronted and gray), at least 5-7 thousand ducks (wigeon, mallard, tufted duck, goldeney, common shoveler, pintail, garganey), up to 1 thousand individuals of whooper swan and mute swan, 6-7 thousand gulls (black-headed, silver) and terns. In addition, over the years during migration period large concentrations of waders (up to 2000) are observed here – wood sandpiper, redshank, lapwing, snipe, black-tailed godwit, common greenshank.

Rivers Myadelka and Drisyvata are an important for adult eel *Anguilla anguilla* to migrate from lakes of Braslav and Naroch groups to the Baltic Sea to spawn.

Most channels are blocked by beavers, which led to the formation of a considerable area of shallow reservoirs. These lands serve as inaccessible ecological reserves, especially important for the reproduction period of mammals and birds.

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

Vileity provides habitat for a significant amount of rare, vulnerable or endangered species of birds, mammals and plants. In the territory of the potential Ramsar site 2 species of mammals, 16 species of birds and 9 species of invertebrates, 6 species of plants from the Red Book of Belarus were registered.

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

Criterion 5 : >20,000 waterbirds

Overall waterbird numbers

Start year

Source of data:

Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.




































Justification





























### 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>Dactylorhiza majalis</i><br> |             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - VU | Contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site                       |
| <i>Gladiolus imbricatus</i><br> |             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - NT | Contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site                       |
| <i>Huperzia selago</i><br>      |             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - NT | Relict, boreal-taiga species, is near the southern border of the range here. |
| <i>Iris sibirica</i><br>        |             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - NT | Boreal species, contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site       |
| <i>Neottia ovata</i><br>        |             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - NT | Contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site                       |

### 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>Anas acuta</i><br>         | Northern Pintail  | <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"/>            | 500       |                     |              | LC<br>        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - VU   | important rest and foraging place during migration              |
| CHORDATA/AVES           | <i>Anas clypeata</i><br>      | Northern Shoveler | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           | 2010                |              |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                          | important rest and foraging place during migration              |
| CHORDATA/AVES           | <i>Anas penelope</i><br>      | Eurasian Wigeon   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           | 2000                | 2010         |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                          | important rest and foraging place during migration              |
| CHORDATA/AVES           | <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i><br> | Mallard           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     | 2010         |               | LC<br>                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | important rest and foraging place during migration              |
| CHORDATA/AVES           | <i>Anas querquedula</i><br>   | Garganey          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     | 2010         |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                          | important rest and foraging place during migration              |
| CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Anguilla anguilla</i><br>  |                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              |               | CR<br>                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | The site's rivers are important migration path for this species |

| 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>Anser albifrons</i>                 | Greater White-fronted Goose                              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6000      | 2010                | 6            | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                        | Western Siberia/Central Europe population              |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Anser anser</i>                     | Greylag Goose  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1000      | 2010                |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                        | important rest and foraging place during migration     |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Anser fabalis</i>                   | Bean Goose   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3000      | 2010                | 7            | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                        | North-east Europe/North-west Europe population         |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Aquila pomarina</i>                 | Lesser Spotted Eagle                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input 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"/> | National Red List - VU | contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Aythya fuligula</i>                 | Tufted Duck  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 300       | 2010                |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                        | important rest and foraging place during migration     |
| ARTHROPODA/INSECTA   |  <i>Bombus muscorum</i>                 | Moss Carder-bee; Large Carder-bee                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input 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"/> | National Red List - VU | contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site |
| ARTHROPODA/INSECTA   |  <i>Bombus schrencki</i>                |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input 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"/> | National Red List - VU | contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>              | Eurasian Bittern   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - VU | contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site |
| 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 type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - EN | contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Bucephala clangula</i>              | Common Goldeneye   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           | 2010                |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                        | important rest and foraging place during migration     |
| ARTHROPODA/INSECTA   |  <i>Carabus menetriesi</i>              |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input 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"/> | National Red List - VU | swamp species  |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae</i> | Silver Gull  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           | 2010                |              |   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                        | important rest and foraging place during migration     |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>      | Black-headed Gull  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6500      | 2010                |              |   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                        | important rest and foraging place during migration     |
| 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 type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - VU | contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site |
| ARTHROPODA/INSECTA   |  <i>Colias palaeno</i>                  | Moorland Clouded Yellow; Palaeno Sulphur; Arctic Sulphur | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input 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"/> | National Red List - VU | rare swamp species                                     |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Crex crex</i>                       | Corn Crane   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - VU | contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>                   | Whooper Swan   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           | 2010                |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                        | important rest and foraging place during migration     |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Cygnus olor</i>                    | Mute Swan  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 200       | 2010                |              | LC<br>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                        | important rest and foraging place during migration     |
| ARTHROPODA/ARACHNIDA |  <i>Dolomedes plantarius</i>          |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | VU<br> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - VU | rare species of fen mires and floodplains              |
| 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 type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - VU | contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site |
| CHORDATA/AVES        |  <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>           | Common Snipe   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                        | important rest and foraging place during migration     |

| 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>Gallinago media</i>      | Great Snipe   | <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"/> |           |                     |              | NT<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | National Red List - EN | 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | National Red List - VU | 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 type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | National Red List - EN |   |                        |
| CHORDATA/AVES     |  <i>Limosa limosa</i>        | Black-tailed Godwit                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | NT<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | National Red List - VU | breeding - contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site; important rest and foraging place during migration |                        |
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA |  <i>Lynx lynx</i>            | Eurasian Lynx   | <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"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | National Red List - EN | boreal species  |                        |
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA |  <i>Meles meles</i>          | European Badger                                       | <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"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | National Red List - VU | contributes to the high biodiversity value of the site  |                        |
| CHORDATA/AVES     |  <i>Milvus migrans</i>       | Black Kite  | <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"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | National Red List - VU | on migration  |                        |
| CHORDATA/AVES     |  <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>    | Whimbrel  | <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"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | National Red List - VU | on migration  |                        |
| CHORDATA/AVES     |  <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>    | Osprey, Western Osprey                                | <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"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | National Red List - EN | on migration  |                        |
| CHORDATA/AVES     |  <i>Philomachus pugnax</i>   | Ruff  | <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"/> | 2500      | 2010                |              | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                                     | National Red List - CR | important rest and foraging place during migration  |                        |
| CHORDATA/AVES     |  <i>Picoides tridactylus</i> | Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker; Three-toed Woodpecker | <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"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                        | National Red List - NT  | Typical boreal species |
| CHORDATA/AVES     |  <i>Strix uralensis</i>      | Ural 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"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | National Red List - CR | Boreal species  |                        |
| CHORDATA/AVES     |  <i>Tringa glareola</i>      | Wood Sandpiper  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                        | important rest and foraging place during migration  |                        |
| CHORDATA/AVES     |  <i>Tringa nebularia</i>    | Common Greenshank                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br>  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | National Red List - VU | important rest and foraging place during migration  |                        |
| CHORDATA/AVES     |  <i>Tringa totanus</i>     | Common Redshank                                       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |              | LC<br> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                        | important rest and foraging place during migration  |                        |

During the spring floods, the site hosts more than 20 thousand waterfowl stopping for rest and feeding. Among them in 2010 - 10 thousand geese, at least 5-7 thousand ducks, up to 1 thousand swans, 6-7 thousand gulls and terns, about 2000 waders.

### 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  |
|--|--|---|--|
| Common birch and aspen forest  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | Dominant among the site's forests   |  |
| indigenous white birch and black alder forest  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | wide-spread within the site in fen and transition mires   |  |
| Communities with participation of broad-leaved trees (oak, ash, lime) and gray alder | <input type="checkbox"/>               | preserved in small quantities   |  |
| Fen mires  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | are located in areas of former lake basins with stable rich water and mineral nutrition. These are partly overgrown with black alder and birch.   |  |
| Raised bogs  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | These are few. They are scattered in small islands mostly on the remnants of the moraine plains in the north of the territory. Growing pine trees here have low solvency (Va). Low-ash peat (3.5 – 10.0%), acidic reaction (pH 3.1 – 3.5).          |  |
| Open floodplain communities  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | Most of the floodplain land is transformed and used for the cultivation of seeded grasses. Natural meadow-wetland floristic diversity is concentrated in the coastal strips of rivers, swampy lowlands, as well as in inter-stream areas of rivers. | However, despite the economic use of flood plain lands, they have not lost their value as habitats for rare bird species. During the spring flight and migration more than 20 thousand wetland birds are concentrated here, among which 7 species are prot |

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

### 4.1 - Ecological character

This territory is the eastern part of the single natural complex located in the transboundary zone of Belarus-Lithuania in the interstream area of the rivers Desna, Myadelka, Biveta and Drisyvata. It is one of the few little-developed forest-swamp massifs in the north-western region of Belarus. In environmental terms the following ecosystems are identified within the site: forests, valleys of small rivers, fen mires, transitional and raised bogs, streams of small forest rivers and canals. During the spring flood the floodplains are completely waterlogged forming extensive shallow areas favorable for migratory birds. The site is important stopover and migration corridor for wetland birds. Rivers Myadelka and Drisyvata are important migration paths of adult eel *Anguilla anguilla* from lakes of Braslav and Naroch groups to its spawning grounds in the Baltic Sea.

The territory of the site is used for hunting, collection of berries and mushrooms, cattle grazing and forestry activities.

### 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 >> Mt Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks                                      |            | 0  |                           |                              |
| Fresh water > Flowing water >> N: Seasonal/ intermittent/ irregular rivers/ streams/ creeks              |            | 0  |                           |                              |
| Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools                      |            | 0  |                           |                              |
| Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> Ts: Seasonal/ intermittent freshwater marshes/ pools on inorganic soils |            | 3  |                           |                              |
| Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands                      |            | 1  |                           | Representative               |
| Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> Xp: Permanent Forested peatlands                                  |            | 2  |                           | Representative               |

#### 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 |
|--|------------|--|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 4: Seasonally flooded agricultural land    |            | 4  |                           |                              |
| 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>Agrimonia pilosa</i>         |             |                                      |
| <i>Cinna latifolia</i>          |             |                                      |
| <i>Dactyloctenium aegyptium</i> |             |                                      |
| <i>Dactyloctenium aegyptium</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           |           |                     |              |                                      |
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA | <i>Castor fiber</i>     | Eurasian Beaver |           |                     |              |                                      |
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA | <i>Dryomys nitedula</i> |                 |           |                     |              |                                      |
| 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)

Middle part of river basin

More than one 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.

The Site is located in the interstream area of the rivers Desna, Myadelka, Biveta and Drisvyata. It is situated in the middle part of the Western Dvina River basin.

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral

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)

Soils are formed mainly on heavy lithologic basis and are significantly waterlogged. Sod-podzolic excessively wet soils of different texture are dominant. Peatlands, mostly of fen type, are widespread.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

| Presence?   |
|---|
| Usually permanent water present                           |
| Usually seasonal, ephemeral or intermittent 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 surface water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Water destination

| Presence?               |
|-------------------------|
| To downstream catchment |

Stability of water regime

| Presence?                                  |
|--|
| Water levels fluctuating (including tidal) |

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

During the spring flood the water level in the rivers rises on average up to 1.5 m, the water fills the floodplain for a period from 2 weeks to 1 month creating favorable conditions for waterfowl to stop for rest and feeding.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

<no data available>

4.4.6 - Water pH

Acid (pH<5.5)

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic

Mesotrophic

Oligotrophic

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  ii) significantly different  site itself.

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development

Surrounding area has higher human population density

Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use

## 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) | Low                            |
| Wetland non-food products | Timber   | Low                            |

#### Regulating Services

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

#### Cultural Services

| Ecosystem service      | Examples                         | Importance/Extent/Significance |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Recreation and tourism | Recreational hunting and fishing | Medium                         |

#### 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                           |

Within the site:

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

<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

##### 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:

Postavy district inspection for natural resources and environmental protection  
Braslav district inspection for natural resources and environmental protection

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

Kazak Viktor Ivanovich - Director of the Postavy district inspection for natural resources and environmental protection

Postal address:

211840, Postavy, Lenin sq, 25, Council House

E-mail address:

post\_eco@vitebsk.by

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

#### Agriculture and aquaculture

| Factors adversely affecting site      | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | In the surrounding area  |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Annual and perennial non-timber crops | Medium impact | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

#### Biological resource use

| Factors adversely affecting site           | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | In the surrounding area  |
|--|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals | Medium impact | Medium impact    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Logging and wood harvesting                | High impact   | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input 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"/> |

#### Invasive and other problematic species and genes

| Factors adversely affecting site   | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | In the surrounding area  |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Invasive non-native/ alien species | Medium impact |                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

#### Pollution

| Factors adversely affecting site    | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | In the surrounding area  |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Agricultural and forestry effluents | Medium impact | Medium impact    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please describe any other threats (optional):

Functioning within the site drainage network causes shortening of the flood and spill on the floodplain, reducing the level of groundwater.

Unsustainable agricultural practices on floodplain lands – early mowing, local over-grazing, placement of farms and silos in water protection zones and etc. These threats are not systemic, and are of local nature.

Biological pollution of natural ecosystems resulting in expansion in the natural habitats of species that are not characteristic of natural communities, and the displacement of indigenous species, especially of rare protected plants. Most of the floodplain lands in the recent past was used for agricultural purposes. In the forest areas, especially in the south, much of the forest grows on old-arable lands. In this regard, synanthropic floristic elements are widely presented in the forest, meadow and wetland ecosystems, while the rare and protected species are found locally and sporadically.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

National legal designations

| Designation type                    | Name of area | Online information url  | Overlap with Ramsar Site |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|--------------------------|
| Wetland Reserve of Local Importance | Vileity      | <a href="http://www.levonevski.net/pravo/normreg2013/num01/d01149.html">http://www.levonevski.net/pravo/normreg2013/num01/d01149.html</a> | partly                   |

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly  for conservation through management intervention

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

| Measures         | Status                |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Legal protection | Partially implemented |

Habitat

| Measures                         | Status   |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Hydrology management/restoration | Proposed |

Human Activities

| Measures                              | Status      |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Harvest controls/poaching enforcement | Implemented |
| Research                              | Implemented |

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? No

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

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

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

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

<no data available>

## 6 - Additional material

### 6.1 - Additional reports and documents

#### 6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

1. Saulus Svazas, Alexander Kozulin, Gennady Grichanov, Michail Maximenkov. Important transboundary Belarusian-lithuanian and Lithuanian-russian wetlands» (Важнейшие трансграничные белорусско-литовские и литовско-росийские водно-болотные угодья)// Institute of Ecology of Vilnius University @ "MPO Vilnius" Publishers/ Vilnius, 2003. – 96 s.
2. Saulus Svaras, Linas Balciauskas, Eugenius Drobelius, Liutauras Raudonikis. Important wetlands in Lithuania. Wilnus, 1999. 199 pp.
3. Semenchenko V., Maximenkov M., Skuratovich A.. State and Perspective of Widining of protected Areas in Zone (Belarus –Lithuania). Status and problems of nature conservation and turism development in Grodno oblast. Grodno, Selected papers. P. 3-15. (In Russian).
4. 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).

#### 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:



Vileity site's flora elements ( *Jakovets NN, 2010* )



Beaver's dam closint the drainage canals in Vileity site ( *Jakovets NN, 2010* )



Flooded meadows in Vileity site ( *Jakovets NN, 2010* )

#### 6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation