



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 5 October 2020

Georgia Madatapa Lake



Designation date	8 July 2020
Site number	2435
Coordinates	41°10'57"N 43°46'53"E
Area	1 398,00 ha

Color codes

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

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

1 - Summary

Summary

The site contains high mountain shallow freshwater lake, marshes, boggy meadows, rivers and streams. It is located in sub-alpine zone and is a part of by treeless mountain steppe landscape. The site represents one of the most important water bird habitats in the country. The wetland is typical for the biogeographical region.

Madatapa lake is the part of Javakheti wetland system, located along the African-Eurasian migration flyways. the lake is a crucial stop-over and breeding site for many bird species, including globally threatened species and species included in National Red list of endangered species.

The lake is one of the richest is ecoregion in point of view of avifauna.

There are many nesting water birds in Madatapa (the majority stay here in winter and move from frozen lakes to the rivers.) Seasonally, especially in autumn this place is filled with various birds of prey.

From Javakheti cornfields the sound of snipe and quail are constantly heard. In lakes, there are thousands of coots, wild geese and ducks.

2 bird species are included in IUCN "Red List", 6 species – in the "Red List" of Georgia, 12 species in the Africa-Eurasia Migratory Bird Agreement. 1 species of mammal, the marbled polecat, is included in the IUCN "Red List" and in the "Red List" of Georgia. Other mammal species are noteworthy, such as the gray hamster (*Cricetulus migratorius*), Turkish hamster (*Mesocricetus brandti*) and the European otter (*Lutra lutra*).

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Responsible compiler

Institution/agency

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

From year

To year

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

Unofficial name (optional)

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps

Boundaries description

South Georgia, Javakheti Plateau, Ninotsminda District, southeast from Town Ninotsminda, X - 397813.63; Y - 4559738.19; The boundary is the same as established protected area – Madatapa managed reserve (IUCN IV category).

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?

b) What is the nearest town or population 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 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):

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
Udvardy's Biogeographical Provinces	Caucaso-Iranian Highlands Biogeographical Province of Palaeartic realm

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

According Olson et al., (2001) the site belongs to Palaearctic realm Eastern Anatolian montane steppe district. Temperate Grasslands, Savannas, and Shrublands are usual for this district.

According Robin Abell et al., (2008) the site belongs to Kura - South Caspian Drainages Ecoregion of Palaearctic Realm. Major Habitat Type is temperate floodplain rivers and wetlands. The ecoregion encompasses the whole Kura-Aras catchment (Lake Sevan exclusive) and rivers of the Caspian Sea. Montane freshwaters are main freshwater habitat type in this ecoregion. Plateau-shaped elevations of the Lesser Caucasus are occupied by different types of alpine meadows, steppes, and semi-deserts.

b) biogeographic regionalisation scheme (include reference citation):

- Urdvady (1975) A classification of the biogeographical provinces of the world.
- Olson et al., (2001) Terrestrial ecoregions of the world: A new map of life on Earth.
- Abell et al., (2008) Freshwater Ecoregions of the World: A New Map of Biogeographic Units for Freshwater Biodiversity Conservation. doi: 10.11641/B580507

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 site belongs to Kura - South Caspian Drainage Ecoregion of Palaearctic Realm (Robin Abell et al., 2008). The wetland contains volcanic permanent freshwater lake (Lake Madatapa), river (River Kochki), streams and marshes which are characteristic to this biogeographical region. Lake Madatapa is one of four large lakes of Javakheti plateau. This is one of the richest wetlands for waterbirds in the region. The site is a representative example of the Region, includes all plant communities and fauna species typical to the area.

Other ecosystem services provided

The wetland is a part of the Javakheti wetland system located along the African-Eurasian migration flyways. At least 1/5 (in some years more) of waterfowl migrating across Georgia is recorded here. A total of 279 bird species have been recorded for the Javakheti Upland, or about 3/4 of Georgian Avifauna. At least 225 bird species are regular elements in the Avifauna of Javakheti Upland and about 50 species are rare or occasional elements to study area; around 30% of species were confirmed as breeding locally. The Wetland supports more than two hundred bird species.

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities
- 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

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
Plantae								
<i>Carex nigra juncea</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		Carex wiluica is considered a rare species in the Caucasus and apart from Javakheti is known to occur only in Bakuriani (South Central Georgia).

Flora of this wetland is typical for this biogeographical region. Lake Madatapa is at the die-off stage. It is completely covered with aquatic vegetation, among which Potamogeton natans, p. gramineus or P. lucens are dominants. Polygonum amphibium is spread on lesser area. Urticularia vilgaris, Lemna trisulca, Myriophyllum spicatum and some plants of wetland vegetation are mixed with them in a quite large amount. Caricetum vesicariae purum, C. acutae purum or communities of order Aquiherbosa are dominated in boggy banks. Above mentioned aquatic vegetation is represented in all types of wetland associations. On large areas are developed wet meadows represented with Deschampsia caespitosa and Festuca spp.

Javakheti plateau is the richest region of Georgia with lakes and wetlands. By the size of wetlands it is the second after the Colkhethi lowland. Although, rare, endemic and relic species are not known in the Javakheti wetlands, wetland vegetation of area significantly differs from those of other regions of Georgia.

Cariceta elatae is rare in Georgia only occurring Javakheti Plateau and Ajara (Western Georgia). Cariceta wilnicae is also extremely rare and is only found in Javakheti at elevations between 2,000 and 2,100 m. Carex wiluica is considered a rare species in the Caucasus and apart from Javakheti is known to occur only in Bakuriani (South Central Georgia).

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 ¹⁾	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
Others																		
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	European Otter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red List of Georgia - VU		
CHORDATA / REPTILIA	<i>Vipera darenskii</i>	Darevsky's Viper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				CR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	<i>Vormela peregusna</i>	Marbled Polecat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red List of Georgia - EN		
Birds																		
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Northern Pintail	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	Northern Shoveler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>		breeding	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Anas crecca</i>	Eurasian Teal; Green-winged Teal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		breeding	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	Garganey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>		resting during migration	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Anas strepera</i>	Gadwall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>		breeding	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Anthropoides virgo</i>	Demoiselle Crane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Great Egret	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Purple Heron	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration	
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Ruddy Turnstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration	

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence ¹⁾	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	Common Pochard	<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"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		breeding
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"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		breeding
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	Eurasian Bittern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Sanderling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Dunlin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	Little Stint	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	Temminck's Stint	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	Whiskered Tern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	White-winged Tern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	Black Tern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	White Stork	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red List of Georgia - VU	resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Black Stork	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red List of Georgia - VU	resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Crex crex</i>	Common Crane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Little Egret	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		breeding
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Gallinago media</i>	Great Snipe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	Gull-billed Tern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Glareola nordmanni</i>	Black-winged Pratincole	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	Collared Pratincole	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence ¹⁾	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Grus grus</i>	Common Crane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4	2020	4	LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red List of Georgia - EN	Population: Black Sea & Caspian; breeding
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Black-winged Stilt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Caspian Tern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	Little Bittern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Larus armenicus</i>	Armenian Gull	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		breeding
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Larus canus</i>	Mew Gull	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Bar-tailed Godwit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Black-tailed Godwit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	Jack Snipe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	Velvet Scoter; White-winged Scoter	<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"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red List of Georgia - EN	resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Netta rufina</i>	Red-crested Pochard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	Eurasian Curlew	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Whimbrel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Black-crowned Night Heron; Black-crowned Night-Heron	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	Dalmatian Pelican	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	Red-necked Phalarope	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Ruff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	Greater Flamingo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red List of Georgia - VU	resting during migration

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence ¹⁾	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	Eurasian Spoonbill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Glossy Ibis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	European Golden Plover; European Golden-Plover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Black-bellied Plover; Grey Plover	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Great Crested Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		breeding
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	Red-necked Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		breeding
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Black-necked Grebe; Eared Grebe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		breeding
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Porzana parva</i>	Little Crake	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Porzana porzana</i>	Spotted Crake	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Porzana pusilla</i>	Baillon's Crake	<input type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	Pied Avocet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Common Tern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	Little Tern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	Ruddy Shelduck	<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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Red List of Georgia - VJ	resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	Sandwich Tern	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	Spotted Redshank	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Common Greenshank	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	Green Sandpiper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence ¹⁾	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	Marsh Sandpiper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Vanellus gregarius</i>	Sociable Lapwing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				CR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Northern Lapwing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		breeding
CHORDATA / AVES	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	Terek Sandpiper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		resting during migration

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

The site is relatively poor in amphibians and reptiles. Three amphibian and seven reptiles species have been recorded in the region. Birds are a noteworthy element of fauna of this site. Wetlands are the most important breeding, feeding and resting habitats in Georgia for many species of various waterbirds – grebes, pelicans, herons, geese, ducks, waders, gulls, terns and other water-associated bird species, including species of global and national conservation concern. Among mammal species recorded on the site are two globally threatened rare mustelids, the otter (*Lutra lutra*) and marbled polecat (*Vormela peregusna*), both of which directly depend on wetlands and are included in Red List of Georgia. Two small mammal species – *Nannospalax nehringi* and *Cricetulus migratorius* – also included in Red List of Georgia. Fox, hair, wolf and badger are common species.

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

<no data available>

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

4.1 - Ecological character

The Javakheti Plateau, where the Ramsar-site is located, contains high mountain freshwater lakes, bogs and damp meadows, rivers and streams and represents part of the open mountain steppe landscape. The main vegetation types found in the area are mountain steppe, meadows and wetland vegetation.

Lake Madatapa is located at the North-East part of Javakheti Plateau. The catchment area of the lake is 136 km², and belongs to the Paravani catchment.

Javakheti plateau is a product of volcanic activities that took place during different geological times. Volcanic processes began in the Oligocene and Neocene and peaked in the quaternary period. Thick layers of lava are evident throughout the Region. The most important volcanic centers, however, were located along the ruptures, which determined the orientation of Abul-Samsari, Javakheti and Hek-Dagi mountain ranges.

The Oligocene tuff breccias are represented by thickest series. They had been folded and eroded. In the latest eruption, basaltic lavas covered the rough surface of denudated tuff breccias, preventing their further washout and it generated the Javakheti Plateau. The wide distribution of alluvial layers and wetlands in the Javakheti plateau is associated with depressions created by lava flows.

It is evident that orogenetical processes began in the Pliocene and continued to present time in the form of seismic activity.

The climate of Javakheti plateau is largely determined by the latitudinal Arsiani Ridge and Erusheti Highlands which restrict the influence of the Black Sea. On the other hand, the Region is strongly influenced by the continental climate of Armenian Highlands located south of the plateau. The Region is therefore characterized with cold and long winter and cool short summer. The mean annual temperature is 5.3 oC. The annual precipitation is 500-600 mm with the maximum in late spring and early summer and the minimum in January. Summer rains are typically heavy but short often with thunderstorms and hail. The average annual relative humidity is 54%.

The Javakheti Plateau where proposed Ramsar-site is located contains high mountain freshwater lakes, bogs and damp meadows, rivers. Main vegetation types found in the area: mountain steppe, meadows and wetland vegetation.

The site is important with its recreational service to the population, it is also one of the favorite places of birdwatchers in Georgia.

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

Inland wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
Fresh water > Flowing water >> M: Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks		3		Representative
Fresh water > Flowing water >> N: Seasonal/ intermittent/ irregular rivers/ streams/ creeks		4		
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		1		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Tp: Permanent freshwater marshes/ pools		2		Representative
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Ts: Seasonal/ intermittent freshwater marshes/ pools on inorganic soils		2		

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
<i>Beckmannia eruiciformis</i>		
<i>Carex acuta</i>		
<i>Carex vesicaria</i>		
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>		
<i>Poa palustris</i>		
<i>Scolochloa festucacea</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/AVES	<i>Anser anser</i>	Greylag Goose				
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	Ferruginous Duck				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Cricetulus migratorius</i>	Gray Dwarf Hamster, Migratory Hamster				
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	Great White Pelican				

Invasive alien animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Impacts	
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Carassius carassius</i>	Crucian;Crucian carp;English carp;Gibeles;Golden carp;Prussian carp;Wild goldfish;Yakut crucian carp	Actual (major impacts)	No change

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)

- Entire river basin
- Upper part of river basin
- Middle part of river basin
- Lower part of river basin
- More than one river basin
- 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.

sub basin - Paravani river basin
the larger river basin - Kura river basin

4.4.3 - Soil

- Mneral
- Organic
- No available information

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

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	
Usually permanent water present	No change

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source	
Water inputs from precipitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Water inputs from surface water	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Water inputs from groundwater	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

Water destination

Presence?	
To downstream catchment	No change

Stability of water regime

Presence?	
Water levels fluctuating (including tidal)	No change

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

Lake Madatapa is natural lake locates to North-East of Childiri Ridge and to the Southwest from mountain Madatapa (2713.8m). Despite this mountain is the dominant of the landscape in vicinity of the lake, it plays no role in its water supply, because it consists of dead volcanic rocks. There are three bays at the north bank of the Lake. The coefficient of the development of shoreline is 1,54. Lake Madatapa is natural freshwater lake of volcanic origin.

Main morphometric parameters of the lake:
 Water Volume – 9, 658 million m3
 - Area (km2) - 8.69
 - Length (km) - 5
 - Width (km) - 1.6
 - Average Depth (m) - 1.1
 - Max. Depth (m) - 1.7
 - Elevation (m) - 2108
 - Average Water Temp - 8oC
 - Water Catchment (km2) – 151
 Input: river Kurianch,
 Output: Only river (River Kochki) flows from the lake. River Kochki directs to the Northwest and joins river Burdasheni near village Gorelovka.

Maximum water temperature is 17-18oC (in August) and minimum 2-4 oC (in November-April). The lakes freeze in winter. The daily fluctuation of water temperature is 2-6 oC depending on depth and mud content. Aquatic vegetation is well developed.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

- Significant erosion of sediments occurs on the site
- Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site
- Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site
- Sediment regime is highly variable, either seasonally or inter-annually
- Sediment regime unknown

4.4.6 - Water pH

- Acid (pH<5.5)
- Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)
- Alkaline (pH>7.4)
- Unknown

Please provide further information on pH (optional):

Biological and physico-chemical parameters of lake Madatapa:
 - Hydroxidation* (mol per litre) 0,12·10-5
 - pH- 6,75
 - Water T (oC) - 12

4.4.7 - Water salinity

- Fresh (<0.5 g/l)
- Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (0.5-30 g/l)
- Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l)
- Hyperhaline/Hypersaline (>40 g/l)
- Unknown

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

- Eutrophic
- Mesotrophic
- Oligotrophic
- Dystrophic
- Unknown

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

Composition of the major elements in the lake (mg/ l)
 - Ca2+ – 5
 - Mg2+ – 3,24
 - CO32 – 0
 - HCO3–36,6
 - P – 0,22
 - N – 1,8
 Water is yellowish-green. Water transparency is very low.

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.

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)	Medium
Fresh water	Drinking water for humans and/or livestock	High

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	High
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)	High

Supporting Services

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

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

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

ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland

Description if applicable

Javakheti is a historical part of Georgia. The first historical record about Javakheti dates back to 735 B.C. According to Georgian sources Javakhos, one of the sons of the legendary Mtskhetos, the founder of the Georgian nation, ruled the country of Javakheti occupying the territory from lake Paravani to the sources of the river Mtkvari. During the time of King Parnavaz of Georgia (4th-3rd cc. B.C.) Javakheti was governed by the appointed 'Eristavi' (Governor) with a residence in Tsunda. The traditional division of Georgia into 'Khevi'-s (basins of large rivers) was not applicable to Javakheti due to lack of such physical entities and Javakheti was therefore divided into districts coinciding with the catchments-areas of larger lakes. Javakheti abounds in historical, religious and cultural monuments such as churches, monasteries, castles, steles, etc. Javakheti region is connected with introduction of Christianity in Georgia. Saint Nino Equal to the Apostles and the Enlightener of Georgia, (c. 296 – c. 338 or 340) preached and introduced Christianity in Georgia. She came from Cappadocia and entered to ancient Georgian Kingdom of Iberia from Javakheti Region in about 320 A.D. The present name of district - "Ninotsminda" – in Georgian means "Saint Nino". Over the historical time Javakheti has seen numerous invaders including Arabs, Mongols, Persians, etc. Under the Adriapol Peace Treaty of 1828, Javakheti became part of the Russian empire, which put an end to the Turkish rule in this part of the world. Since then major changes took place in the human population of Javakheti. Native Moslem Georgians were expelled; Armenians were brought from Erzerum, the Dukhobors, members of a Russian Christian cult expelled from Russia were also brought to Javakheti. Since 1960's many Dukhobors have left and migrated to Canada or back to Russia. Only less than 10% of the Dukhobor community remain in Javakheti at present. It should be noted that Russian Dukhobors have special attitudes to wildlife and nature in general. White storks nesting in villages on power the roofs of the houses and electric poles represent a remarkable example of human-wildlife co-existence. Near Lake Madatapa located villages Sameba. The village was founded by Russian Dukhobors in 19-th century. There are two historical settlement-sites with fortress in them between the villages Gorelovka and Sameba (Troitskoe). During the Communist regime archaeological studies were prohibited in Javakheti region.

iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities 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

Public ownership

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

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

1. Agency of Protected Areas
2. Ministry of Environmental protection and Agriculture of Georgia

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

Valerian Mchedlidze, Head of the Agency

Postal address:

1. Georgia, 0114 Tbilisi
G. Gulua Str. # 6
2. Georgia, 0159, Tbilisi
Marshal Gelovani N6

E-mail address:

vakomchedlidze@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	In the surrounding area
Housing and urban areas	Low impact	Low impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Agriculture and aquaculture

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

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Recreational and tourism activities	Low impact	Low 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	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	High impact	High impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please describe any other threats (optional):

a) within the Ramsar site:
 Over-grazing (especially in reed beds that provide important habitats for birds), invasive species, habitat degradation, pollution from cattle farming, disturbance caused by illegal hunting, unsustainable fishery practices. The southern part of the lake is dammed for fishing and agricultural needs depending on the season. The dam is not big but it prevents water exchange and facilitates the process of natural eutrophication.
 A reduction in precipitation has been recently observed in the Lake Madatapa basin leading to a decrease in water volume. This problem is aggravating, since the Madatapa riverbed is naturally deepening, which increases and fastens water outflow from the lake (the Madatapa River is flowing out of the lake from the north-east side). The reduction in water level has caused bogging in the parts of the lake, where the water level was particularly low, first of all in the north-west part. Increasing eutrophication was caused by grazing in the lakeside area and by inappropriate use of manure by residents of villages along the south-west shore.

b) in the surrounding area:
 Over- grazing, invasive species, habitat degradation, pollution from cattle farming, disturbance caused by illegal hunting, illegal mining practices.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Other international designation	Madatapa Emerald Site		whole

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
National Protected area	Madatapa lake managed reserve	http://apa.gov.ge/en/protected-areas/cattestone/djavaxetis-dacul-i-teritoriebis-administracia	whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

- Ia Strict Nature Reserve
- Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
- II National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
- III Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
- IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention
- V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
- VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Harvest controls/poaching enforcement	Implemented
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Proposed

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? No need identified

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

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14. IUCN red list of threatened species. <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>
15. Javakheti Ecosystems Conservation Management Plan (Lakes: Khanchali, Bugdasheni, Madatapa), 2000, NACRES. http://nacres.org/pdf/javakheti_en.pdf
16. <https://ebird.org/home>

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

<1 file(s) uploaded>

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

<no file available>

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

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<1 file(s) uploaded>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Madatapa lake (Lasha Gigaure, Agency of Protected Areas, 26-04-2018)



Madatapa lake (Lasha Gigaure, Agency of Protected Areas, 26-04-2018)



Madatapa lake (Lasha Gigaure, Agency of Protected Areas, 26-04-2018)



Madatapa lake (Lasha Gigaure, Agency of Protected Areas, 12-10-2019)



Madatapa lake (Lasha Gigaure, Agency of Protected Areas, 12-10-2019)



Madatapa lake (Lasha Gigaure, Agency of Protected Areas, 12-10-2019)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

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Date of Designation