



Project "Conservation of the Natural and Cultural Heritage in Wetlands"

Ramsar Culture Network Development in the Carpathian Region

Questionnaire

I.	Name of the wetland site with cultural aspect(s) In case of the designated Ramsar site or World Heritage Site (or part of it) please add its reference number from the relevant database
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Cheremosh river: White and Black Cheremosh river parts (Bilyi and Chorny Cheremosh)

II.	Location details (country, general location, administrative region, municipality, geographical coordinates)
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The length is 80 km, the area of the drainage basin is 2,650 km². The overall height difference is 280 m. The slope of the river is 3.3 m / km.

It is formed by the merger of the Black Cheremosh (87 km, the drainage basin - 856 km²) and the White Cheremosh (80 km, the drainage basin - 606 km²) near the village of Usteriky. It flows on the border of Ivano-Frankivsk region (Verkhovynskyi, Kosivskyi, Snyatynskyi districts) and Chernivtsi region (Putylskyi, Vyzhnytskyi, Kitsmanskyi districts).

White Cheremosh coordinates on the link:

https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?language=uk&pagename=%D0%91%D1%96%D0%BB%D0%B8%D0%B9_%D0%A7%D0%B5%D1%80%D0%B5%D0%BC%D0%BE%D1%88¶ms=47_51_12.24000000002_N_24_59_48.84_E_globe:

Black Cheremosh coordinates on the link:

https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?language=uk&pagename=%D0%A7%D0%BE%D1%80%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%B9_%D0%A7%D0%B5%D1%80%D0%B5%D0%BC%D0%BE%D1%88¶ms=48_7_10.000020000011_N_24_59_32.000027999998_E_globe:



Resource <http://vsviti.com.ua/nature/25399>

III.	Time period to which identified value or practice relates (historical dates/earliest known origins, date at which it ceased to be present, or specify that it is still of continuing relevance if this is the case)
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Cultural and anthropic values:

- a) *It is a historic border area with high cultural diversity. The White Cheremosh and Cheremosh rivers flow on the border of historic Galicia and Bukovina; for centuries, they were the state border between the Poland and Moldavia (Ottoman Empire). From 1919 to 1939, the border between Poland and Romania.*
- b) *testimonies proving the history of the residence: monasteries, churches, buildings with special architectural features: hutsul houses, water mills;*
- c) *the existence of an ethnographic diversity with different traditions and customs – Hutsul ethnic group of Ukrainian, Boiko ethnic group, small Romanian groups.*
- d) *traces of Neolithic settlements.*

Typologies of cultural values and practices

Elements of cultural heritage present on the area of Cheremosh river have regional and national importance through the age of populating this space.

Among the most significant cultural elements we mention:

- a) *On the picturesque shore of Cheremosh, the Hutsul village of Marinichi stretches out. In it in 1878 the Hutsul church was built, bearing the name of Simeon Stolpnik. The temple is considered a typical example of the works of Hutsul wooden architecture.*



Resource https://ua.igotoworld.com/ua/poi_object/69398_cerkov-simeona-stolpnika-marinichi.htm

- b) *Quite interesting is the church in the village of Dikhtinets, which was built in 1871 with completely unusual forms for Bukovina and Hutsul region in general. In ancient times, in this village were made a tarpaulin, from which the name went. Also at the entrance to the village is a large rock, near which there was a battle between the Ukrainian Insurgant Army and Stalin Police Troops (After World War II).*

IV.



Resource: https://ua.igotoworld.com/ua/poi_object/69399_dmitrievskaya-cerkov-dihtinec.htm

Please select for each identified site

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.

The site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilisations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland.

The site where the ecological character of the wetland depends on the interaction with local communities.

The site where 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.

Please describe of what type is the site (Wetland related human activities)

1. Habitation

1.1 Cultural landscapes

Cheremosh is a sacred river of Hutsuls (ethnographic mountain group of Ukrainians), which connects their land with all of Ukraine, and then - with the whole world. After all, its waters flow into the Black Sea. And they flow from the hills of Palenytsia, Komenova and Komen, which in their form are really like the Kominus of Hutsul furnaces. The names of these mountains have not been uncovered by the researchers. Hutsuls call Cheremosh the true son of the Carpathians, who, born in the mountains, lives here among them, and here he also dies, falling into the Prut. And he is born of the merger of two rivers - Black and White Cheremosh. The White Cheremosh, who, according to pagan beliefs, carries its water from the world of "Pravi" - the world of good gods. The Black Cheremosh, who is from the world of the "Navi", the dangerous place of the spirits of the Underground. The Cheremosh is capricious and unexpected, like the Carpathian summer. It flows calmly, combining innumerable mountain tributaries, then wrapped by steep banks, stone rapids, deep slopes, wooden bridges, it briskly turns its snake's body back to 180 degrees.

1.2 Cultural heritage sites (including religious heritage – monasteries, sanctuaries, hermitages, chapels)

The large number churches and chapels (over 30) are located along Whitte and Black Cheremosh rivers.

1.3 Settlements and structures

1.3.1 Ancient sites and structures (up to 1599)

1.3.2 Traditional and modern settlements and structures

The area is dominated by the Hutsul architectures types:



http://static.iloveukraine.com.ua/p/0/83/83180/bfe8754f40efeba6d346432e2c89ffb8_600x1000.jpg

1.4 Wetland archaeology

1.5 Infrastructure

1.5.1 Terrestrial transportation networks

1.5.2 Water management and facilities and networks

2. Primary uses of wetland resources

2.1 Wetland related agriculture

In the territory confined to Cheremosh an intensive agriculture is poorly developed, the main industries are traditional landuse on wet and moist types of meadows, like hay producing, sheep/cow grazing, gardening, especially the cultivation of apple trees. The bulk of the efforts of the local population is aimed at growing fodder for large and small cattle.

2.2 Stock-breeding

Sheepbreeding and sheep/cow farming have long been widespread in the Cheremosh valley. In ancient times, the sheep were first thrown into the nearer, warmer mountain valleys - "spring", where the grass had a faster growth. The heat was driven of flock on higher altitudes. In the summer, the flea grew in the sheep, it could be kept even in the snow - digging a grass and from under the snow. In Hutsulshchyna, the "Pintshaw" cow breed, adapted to the mountain conditions, was brought here during the time of the grandmother of Austria. Such a cow weighs about 350 kg (Dribonka, plain cows - up to 700 kg), easily overcomes heights, less disturbing rations, resistant to tuberculosis.

2.3 Fishing and aquaculture

Fishing is carried out mainly by fishermen by lovers of local fish species, with the special excite of fishing trout.

2.4 Management of forest wetland types

“Bokorashi” way, which traditionally fused fell forest. Nowadays it is a rare way of wood delivery.



<http://vsviti.com.ua/nature/25399>

2.5 Hunting

In adjacent areas, hunting is possible in private and public hunting farms, but poaching is quite common among the local population.

2.6 Salt extraction, mineral extraction, mining

2.7 Water use

2.7.1 Irrigation

2.7.2 Domestic use

Water from rivers is used for domestic purpose and for cattle/sheep farming. The cultural and traditional landscape development depends on water resources very much.

2.7.3 Water transfer infrastructure

2.7.4 Energy production

2.7.5 Other water uses (water mills, saw mills etc.)

2.8 Use of other wetland natural resources

2.8.1 Biomass extraction

2.8.2 Sustainable use of medicinal plants

Collecting medicine plants was common for private and for traditional medicine use as well as for spiritual rituals (“molfars”).

3. Secondary use of wetland resources

3.1 Food processing

3.1.1 Traditional methods of food preservation

3.1.2 Culinary heritage

Traditionally, food is associated with livestock products, especially sheep and mushrooms, which are so rich in nearby forests. A special cuisine “Hutsul cuisine” exists there, which is very popular among tourists and restaurant business.

3.2 Craftsmanship

3.2.1 Artefacts (of ancient origin – up to 1599 / traditional and modern artefacts)

3.2.2 Handicrafts and tools (of ancient origin / traditional and modern)

The handicraft types are very popular in each village along Cheremosh. It is strongly related back in history, like distance of 33 km from Vyzhnytsia is the old town of Vashkivtsi. For the first time in memory of him we are struck in a letter dated 15 June 1431. At the end of the XIX century - at the beginning of the XX century in the city there are first enterprises, and before that the basis of the economy was agriculture. Honored Master of Folk Art of Ukraine, ornamental artist Georgy Haras, who created 28 large embroidered paintings and more than 3 thousand ornaments, lived and worked in the city.



3.2.3 Transportation means (boats etc.) (ancient / traditional and modern)

3.3 Traditional building construction

3.3.1 Dwellings

Along the catchment of Black and White Cherromos, there are almost no cities, the settlements are confined mainly to the water and the influx of the above rivers. Houses are traditionally built of wood and handicraft materials.



http://verkhovyna.life/files/Apartment/Tykhyi_Vechir/shapka-tykhyi-vechir-home-1.jpg

3.3.2 Utilitarian buildings

3.3.3 Public buildings

3.4 Wetland-based traditional marketing

3.5 Tourism – eco-tourism and cultural tourism

Rural tourism (agro tourism or green tourism) is quite common on the territory, in addition to this local people sell handmade locally produced products, as well as frequent tourists with delicious local cuisine, which are closely linked to traditional farming and sheep breeding.

3.6 Leisure and sports

3.6.1 Hiking, climbing

The number of ecological trails are located along the White and Blach Cheremosh.

Already From the pass there are magnificent panoramas of the Carpathians and the valleys of Cheremosh. The pass is the starting point for excursions to the Dovbush Cave on the slopes of the Zakharch Mountain (832 m), and if you go south, to the wonderful monument of nature of the Bukovynian Carpathians - the tract of the Strongest Stone.

These are real complexes of gigantic stone rocks, scattered by groups on the forest on the slope of the ridge. They are very much not only under the crest, but also down the slopes, in the valley of the stream Smugar. In this exotic place, many scenes for films "White Bird with a Black Sign" and "Zakhar Berkut" are shot. In the area Cleanse the Stone in which complexes of rocks scattered by groups on the forest on the slope of the mountain range, training climbers, climbers, competitions of various ranks and from many kinds of mountain sports are held.

3.6.2 Rafting and kayaking

On the Black Cheremosh River, rafting, which attracts thousands of tourists annually, is very popular, and there are numerous tours organized by local tourist organizations. Rafting is also organized on the White Cheremosh.



3.6.3 Sailing and boating

3.6.4 Diving

3.6.5 Speleology

The Dovbush Cave is a rather attractive tourist attraction - a geological nature monument of local importance in Ukraine. Located within the Putil district of the Chernivtsi region, east of the village Pidzakharychi with the purpose of preserving a picturesque rock complex with a cave located on the slope of the Beryska ridge in the massif of the Pokutsko-Bukovyny Carpathians. The cave represents a vertical sloping crack of tectonic origin in sandstones. The length of the cave is 22 m, the width of the walk - up to 1.5 m, the height of 3-6 m.

3.7 Social practices and methods

3.8 Festivals, fairs, celebrations and events

Cheremosh Fest is eco-tourism festival, it takes place in July each year. Mission of "Cheremosh-Festa" is protection of the Cheremosh River in its natural form.



<https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRHlb0cDsUDUn7JzzLcxwm3m3VozviNXjxUNTexE6gL5h7jVH7UOQ>

- **Knowledge, belief systems and social practices**

3.9 Scientific research and education

Basic scientific researches are carried out on the basis of Cheremosh National Nature Park.

3.10 Traditional knowledge

3.10.1 Oral traditions and expressions, sayings

3.10.2 Languages, dialects and special terms

3.10.3 Relevant place names and their etymologies

3.10.4 Practice of traditional medicine

3.11 Spirituality and belief systems (including processions, pilgrimages, nature rituals and ceremonies)

3.12 Sacred natural sites or landscapes (e.g. caves, islands, rivers, springs, mountains...)

3.13 Artistic expression

3.13.1 Dances and traditional rural games

Hutsul ethnographic dances are typical for the area



3.13.2 Music and traditional songs

Number of folk songs are linked to beauty of Cheremosh river and landscape

3.13.3 Nature photography

3.13.4 Literature of wetlands nature, traditional legends and stories*

The legend story is written below

3.13.5 Movies and TV shows

In the Tract Temple - a complex of gigantic solid rocks scattered in groups of forest on the slope of the spine. They are very much not only under the crest, but also down the slopes, in the valley of the stream Smugar. In this exotic place, many scenes for films "White Bird with a Black Sign" and "Zakhar Berkut" are shot.

3.13.6 Painting landscapes and nature

At 4 km below Usterik, in the mouth of the right tributary of Putli, on its both shores is the village of Ust-Putila. Almost in the very center of the village a little lower than the mouth of the right bank tributary Widely the river Biskov, near the road is a high 30-meter rock, resembling a person's figure.

Please provide details and comments if necessary.

* Please send the text of legend/story identified relevant to the aims of this project in English (Word format) to be published in the final publication.

There is an interesting legend about this creature of nature: In very ancient times, with all the forests, mountain valleys and all that was visible around, owned a rich, buying and evil landlord. One day she met a poor widow who asked for her alms. The bad guy was angry and, instead of alms, threw a stone in her. In response, the widow said: "And that you become a stone!" And a miracle happened: in the eyes of the astonished inhabitants of the village, the landlord became a rocky rock and remained forever standing by the road. Since then, this rock has been popularly called the Stone Bagache. The motifs of folk legends and stories, historian and playwrighter L. Novitsky wrote the play "Kamyanyaya Rybachka", which successfully went on scenes of many theaters of Ukraine, and in the village of Marenichi under the right bank there is a geological monument - the Frog stone. A block of sandstone size 3x5 m, similar in shape to the frog. By an old legend, the boulder fell from the mountain, where the goverment army pursued people's avengers (like insurgents). The Chremosh river water rose and blocked the road pursuers.

V.	<p>The main exponents, practitioners or beneficiaries of the documented values and practices.</p> <p>Particular values may be held in common by a particular community of stakeholders or a social group who derive benefits (tangible or intangible) from the wetland systems (or stories) concerned. In the case of cultural practices, there may be details to record concerning roles played by particular members or groups in the community</p>
VI.	<p>Specialised or vernacular terms used locally (including in local languages) to refer to the values and practices concerned</p> <p><i>Hutsul dialets of Ukrainian language is a most authentic dialect. The Cheremosh river and tributaries is one of the centers of this dialect development and current existence.</i></p>
VII.	<p>Relative significance of the values and practices concerned (e.g. in terms of rarity, magnitude, degree of formal recognition, or diversity in combination with other values)</p> <p><i>The values are highly rare and authentic.</i></p>
VIII.	<p>Transcription of any pertinent officially-adopted descriptions of the values and practices concerned, specifying the source in each case</p>
IX.	<p>Conservation implications of the cultural values/practices for the wetland(s)</p> <p><i>Climate change makes some impact also on cultural values via shrinking the water flow and volume and water table. The cultural aspects of hutsul ethnographic minority life is strictly dependent on water resources.</i></p>
X.	<p>Status of the cultural values/practices</p> <p>Clarify whether the values or practices relate to a former period of history or whether they are continuing. If they relate to a former period of history, the time of their cessation and</p>

	the reasons of it (if known) should be noted. If they are continuing, it should be clarified whether any changes have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur in relation to the values or practices concerned.
<i>The status of cultural values is mainly being well preserved.</i>	
XI.	Current touristic use and potential for sustainable tourism development in the area, tourism influence in the area
<i>The tourism (rural tourism) is booming in large scale and making impact on life of local population. For the area of high unemployment rate the rural tourism is a real way of keeping tradition and cultural values well developed and preserved.</i>	
XII.	Suggestions for conservation actions (for example to address threats, restore or enhance values, improve integrated management or strengthen policy) – see 4.1 above
<i>Maintain traditional landuse types, expansion of national nature park</i>	
XIII.	Ongoing management activities at the site (if any)
<i>Traditional landuse is a major management activity. The illegal logging makes a threat to sustainability of the area.</i>	
XIV.	Please include reference sources (and links to them where relevant), images, illustrations, maps, data tables, interview results, further detail on case examples, useful contacts and anything else deemed appropriate
<i>in the text above</i>	

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