



Project “Conservation of the Natural and Cultural Heritage in Wetlands”

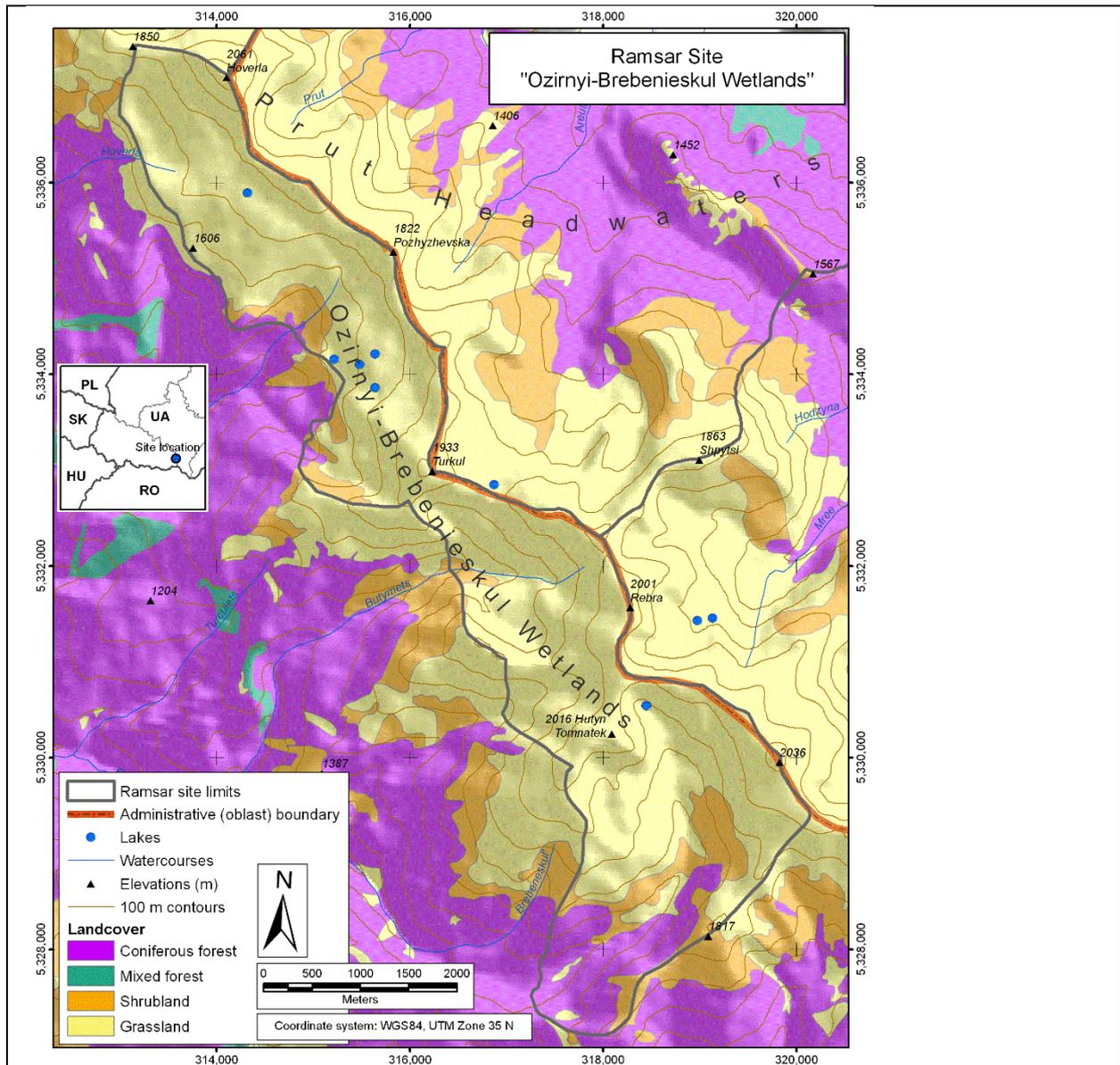
Ramsar Culture Network Development in the Carpathian Region

## Questionnaire

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| I.  | <b>Name of the wetland site</b> with cultural aspect(s)<br>In case of the designated Ramsar site or World Heritage Site (or part of it) please add its reference number from the relevant database |
| <i>Stow Ozirnyi-Brebeneskul (applied Ramsar site)</i>   |  |
| II.   | <b>Location details</b> (country, general location, administrative region, municipality, geographical coordinates)   |
| <p><i>The wetland lies on the southern slopes of Hoverla, Bretskul, Turkul, Pozhyzhevaska, Hutyn-Tomnatyk and Brebeneskul mountains, where streams Brebeneskul and Ozirnyi begin. The area is characterized by a dense river network – 2.9 km per km<sup>2</sup>. Around 5% of the territory is boggy. Mainly these are mountain oligotrophic bogs, which have been formed in the Glacial Period.</i></p> |  |
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[eco-turizm.net](http://eco-turizm.net)



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| III. | <p><b>Time period</b> 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)</p> <p>Cultural and anthropic values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>It is an historic border area of historic Galicia and Czechoslovakia/Hungary; for centuries, they were the state border between the Hungary and Poland.</i></li> <li>b) <i>One of top visited touristic nature destination in Ukraine;</i></li> <li>c) <i>High quality water resource for millions downstream</i></li> <li>d) <i>Highland research station, weather station</i></li> </ul> |
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| IV. | <p><b>Typologies of cultural values and practices</b></p> |
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Please select for each identified site

x 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

*The wetland includes four glacial lakes that are rare on the background of the Carpathian region: Upper Ozirne (surface – 0.20 ha, depth – 0.5 m), Lower Ozirne (surface – 0.25 ha, depth – around 3 m), Bretskul (surface – 0.16 ha, depth – around 1.5 m) and Brebeneskul (surface - over 0.6 ha, depth – over 3 m). Next to it there are several smaller lakes and bogs (sedge-sphagnum) on the southwestern macroslope of Hoverla, Bretskul, Turkul and Pozhyzhevskya mountain peaks. Some of the lakes are interconnected either by surface or underground brooks. In some places a great number of peat lake pits are found, which are filled in with a shallow layer of water only in the period of active snow melting or heavy rains.*

*The wetland plays an important role in water supply of the Tysa River (the Danube tributary). Around 5% of the territory is boggy. Mainly these are mountain oligotrophic bogs formed in the Glacial Period.*

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

### 1.3 Settlements and structures

#### 1.3.1 Ancient sites and structures (up to 1599)

#### 1.3.2 Traditional and modern settlements and structures

### 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 sheep/cow grazing.*

### 2.2 Stock-breeding

### 2.3 Fishing and aquaculture

*Fishing is forbidden to keep the stock downstream and protection status of the area. The downstream fishing is carried out mainly by lovers of local fish species, with the special excite of fishing trout.*

#### 2.4 Management of forest wetland types

No logging is allowed, which is a core zone of Carpathian Biosphere Reserve

#### 2.5 Hunting

*Hunting is forbidden. The bear - Ursus arctos, wolf – Canis lupus, lynx - Lynx lynx, wild cat - Felis sylvestris, species present in Prut river headwater are protected species under the Red Data Book of Ukraine and Protected Area Laws.*

#### 2.6 Salt extraction, mineral extraction, mining

#### 2.7 Water use

##### 2.7.1 Irrigation

##### 2.7.2 Domestic use

*Water from rivers are 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

*Traditionally, local people collect blueberries, cranberries and raspberries in the area, however on the largest part of the area is forbidden to collect berries.*

##### 2.8.2 Sustainable use of medicinal plants

*Medicinal plants from this territory are used for the manufacture of medicinal teas that are sold to domestic tourists and for the manufacture of various alcoholic medicinal tinctures.*

### **3. Secondary use of wetland resources**

#### 3.1 Food processing

##### 3.1.1 Traditional methods of food preservation

##### 3.1.2 Culinary heritage

#### 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)

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

#### 3.3 Traditional building construction

##### 3.3.1 Dwellings

##### 3.3.2 Utilitarian buildings

##### 3.3.3 Public buildings

#### 3.4 Wetland-based traditional marketing

### 3.5 Tourism – eco-tourism and cultural tourism

*The area is important for environmental education, recreation and scientific research. On the territory of the area there is a part of the highest mountain of Ukraine - Hoverla, which is an important social and tourist value of the general Ukrainian level. The area is highly visited place in the Ukrainian Carpathians (up to 0,5 million people per year visiting the wetlands).*

### 3.6 Leisure and sports

#### 3.7 Hiking, climbing

*Through the natural complex of lakes Ozirny Brebenskul passes a lot of mountain tourist routes, as there is the highest lake in Ukraine. Each year, thousands of tourists are raised to the highest in Ukraine, Mount Hoverla 2061 m, several touristic trails start here on Hoverla Mt and adjacent Mts.*

##### 3.7.1 Rafting and kayaking

##### 3.7.2 Sailing and boating

##### 3.7.3 Diving

##### 3.7.4 Speleology

### 3.8 Social practices and methods

### 3.9 Festivals, fairs, celebrations and events

## 4. Knowledge, belief systems and social practices

### 4.1 Scientific research and education

*The wetlands «Ozirnyi-Brebeneskul» are characterized by an extremely high diversity of biotopes. The vegetation is represented by upper forest belt, subalpine meadows and bushes, alpine meadows, waterside and anthropogenic biotopes prevail here, as well as ones of rocks, stone fields, bogs and ecotones. The principal plant types are represented by upper forest (Vaccinio-Piceetea), subalpine and alpine shrubs (Junipero-Pinetea mugi, Loiseleurio-Vaccinieta, Salicetea herbaceae, Vaccinio-Juniperetea), subalpine and alpine meadow (Juncetea trifidi, Phragmito-Magnocaricetea, Montio-Cardaminetea, Nardo-Callunetea, Festuco- Brometea, Caricetea curvulae, Elyno-Seslerieteae). The flora of the wetland is very rich and diverse. It reckons over 500 vascular plant species. These include particularly endemic (10), rare taxa, as well as those included in the Red Data Book of Ukraine (42). A total of 10 vascular plant species of the region need protection. In the sites with the increased humidity are extended by sedge-sphagnum communities: Carex rostrata, Eriophorum latifolii, Empetrum nigrum, Sphagnum palustris, S. girgensohnii, S. riparium. In the subalpine and alpine zones of the wetland grow a number of rare species, such as: Saussurea porcii, Swertia perrenis, Anemone narcissiflora, Gentiana acaulis, G. lutea, G. punctata, Pulsatilla alba, Rhodiola rosea, Loiseleurea procumbens.*

### 4.2 Traditional knowledge

#### 4.2.1 Oral traditions and expressions, sayings

#### 4.2.2 Languages, dialects and special terms

#### 4.2.3 Relevant place names and their etymologies

#### *Legend on Hoverla Mt name*

*One day the Hungarian Baron Janos Noode learned that none of the Magyars had visited the highest, yet still nameless mountain in the Carpathians. He thought of himself to be the first to go to the top and name it with his name. Taking with them twenty brave servants on horses, each of the servants took a horse, loaded with food and equipment, and went on the road. That was just in the summer.*

*All Hungary knew about the campaign of Noode, who was to bring glory not only to the conqueror of the summit, but also to the state, but that the peasants visited this place more than once, and nobody remembered. Two months later, Janos Nodi traveled to a small Carpathian village, lost in the mountains, and was surprised. Is it really difficult to get out of the mountain? But to bring her to the top with a hand. The summer sun is unbearably hell. But it was nice to go. Coniferous virgin forests cooled people and horses. Two more days went to the foot of the mountain. There, the baron stopped and ordered to camp, to rest, to restore strength. Two days people were resting. Leaving three men and horses in the camp, the baron with the rest of the dawn went to the mountain. The sky was clean, no clouds. Long gone, some of the shoes were broken. They broke through thick thickets, slammed through stingy stones, poured over thick decks, overthrew the storm. Fade, fell. Proud lady it started to annoy. One servant, who wanted to go back, missed a shot. It was already evening when tortured people came out of the woods. In front of them spread a vast valley, which seemed to reach the sky. Noodle did not feel tired. Having seen in front of him for several hundred meters the peak, he was flying to her, so that only the first to become over the Carpathians. Nobody noticed how heavy the clouds dragged the sky. They only felt it when the thick snow was sprinkled. Blowing a cold wind, a blizzard shot and a storm burst. Rescuing from the storm, people ran away somewhere. In vain, Janos Nod stopped them - nobody heard him. During the night there was so much snow that people barely pulled their legs from the meadow to the meadow. Only a third of people returned to the camp. They were exhausted, hungry, frozen. The rest died in a storm. Baron Janos Nood did not return. - Govyrlo! Govyrlo! - Those who returned came back exhausted. This expression meant that the whole peak was covered with snow. Such a miracle, people who came here from a remote Magyar plain, have not yet seen: that in the summer and snow. Since then, the mountain is named Hoverla - a snow mountain. And she is really snowy. Large heaps of snow and in the summer lie in depressions, gorges. And the weather here is often changing: the snow on Hoverla in the summer - not a miracle.*

#### 4.2.4 Practice of traditional medicine

*Here medicinal plants are collected by local residents who make various teas and tinctures from them*

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

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

4.4 Artistic expression

4.4.1 Dances and traditional rural games

4.4.2 Music and traditional songs

*Number of folk songs are linked to beauty of Hoverla Mt. In the highlands, shepherds use one of the largest musical instruments, the trembita.*

4.4.3 Nature photography

*Very attractive place for photographers.*

4.4.4 Literature of wetlands nature, traditional legends and stories\*

4.4.5 Movies and TV shows

*Several films, likes "White Bird with a Black Sign" and "Zakhar Berkut" are shot in this area.*

#### 4.4.6 Painting landscapes and nature

*Many artists like to paint Hoverla Mt as highest peak in Ukraine and surrounding landscape.*

*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.

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| V.   | <p><b>The main exponents, practitioners or beneficiaries of the documented values and practices.</b></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>                   |
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| VI.  | <p><b>Specialised or vernacular terms used locally</b> (including in local languages) to refer to the values and practices concerned</p>   |
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| VII.   | <p><b>Relative significance of the values and practices concerned</b> (e.g. in terms of rarity, magnitude, degree of formal recognition, or diversity in combination with other values)</p>  |
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| VIII.  | <p><b>Transcription of any pertinent officially-adopted descriptions of the values and practices concerned</b>, specifying the source in each case</p>   |
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| IX.  | <p><b>Conservation implications of the cultural values/practices for the wetland(s)</b></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 are strictly dependent on water resources.</i></p> |  |
| X.   | <p><b>Status of the cultural values/practices</b></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 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.</p> |
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| XI.  | Current <b>touristic use</b> and potential for <b>sustainable tourism</b> development in the area, tourism influence in the area  |
| <i>Over the 0.5 million tourists visit the wetland.</i>  |   |
| XII.   | <b>Suggestions for conservation actions</b><br>(for example to address threats, restore or enhance values, improve integrated management or strengthen policy) – see 4.1 above  |
| <i>It is a need on limiting the tourists number. The anti erosion measures for trails, which are over trumped, need to be implemented.</i> |   |
| XIII.  | <b>Ongoing management activities</b> at the site (if any)   |
| <i>Controlling number of tourists, garbage collecting, controlling fire places, protecting species and habitats.</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 |
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