

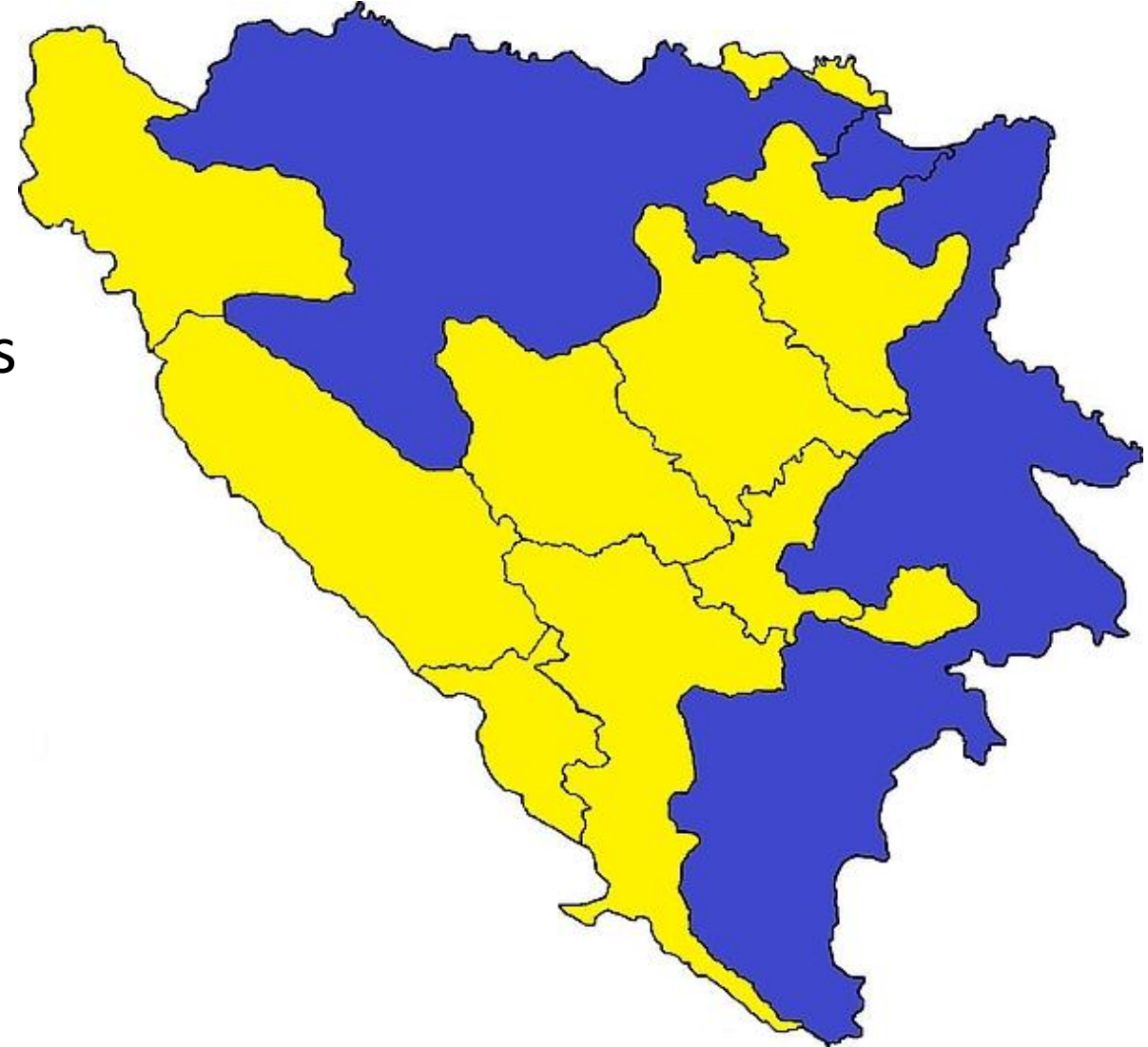


Case file 2020/9: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of hydro-power plant development on the Neretva river

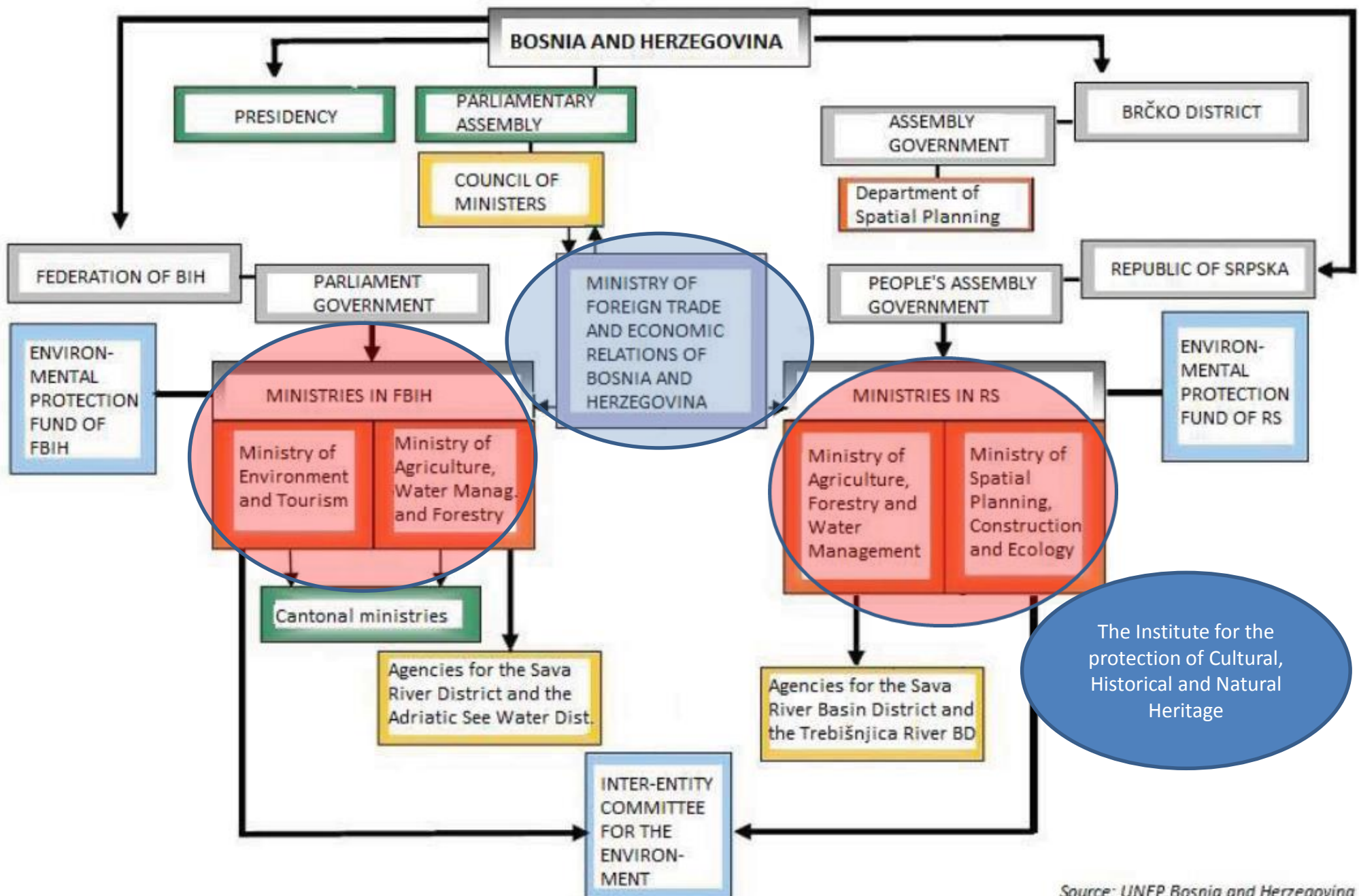
Dejan Radosevic
Bern Convention National Focal Point for Bosnia and Herzegovina
43rd Standing Committee Meeting of the Bern Convention
Strasbourg, 27 November - 1 December 2023

Responsibilities, legal framework

- Nature protection competence is regulated at the entity level
 - Law on Nature Protection of FBiH
 - Law on Nature Protection of RS
 - Law on Nature Protection of BD

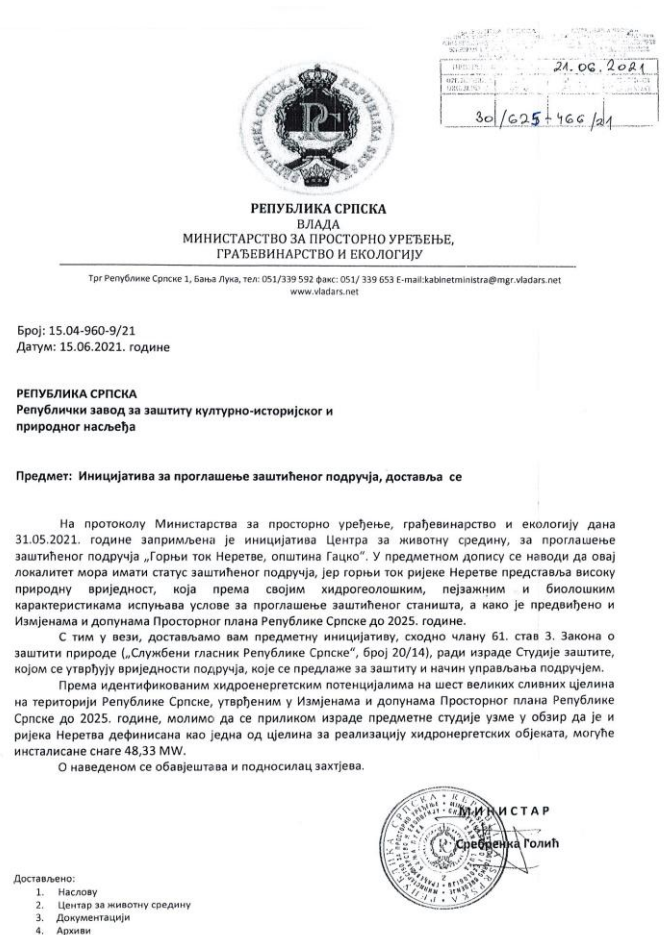


GENERAL SCHEME OF ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



NERETVA – steps towards protection

1. The first legal protection of the Neretva river canyon dates back to 1958, when the National Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments and Natural Rarities of Bosnia and Herzegovina placed the area under protection with Decision No. 08-283/1-58,
2. The upper course of the Neretva River is included in the list of Candidate sites of the EMERALD network (Site Code: BA0000002),
 1. The Initiative for establishment of a new Protected Area was launched by the Association of Citizens “Center for Environment” in (May, 2021),
 2. The Study has been submitted to the procedure of declaring a protected area (December, 2022).



РЕПУБЛИКА СРПСКА
ВЛАДА
МИНИСТАРСТВО ЗА ПРОСТОРНО УРЕЂЕЊЕ,
ГРАЂЕВИНАРСТВО И ЕКОЛОГИЈУ

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Број: 15.04-960-9/21
Датум: 15.06.2021. године

РЕПУБЛИКА СРПСКА
Републички завод за заштиту културно-историјског и
природног наслеђа

Предмет: Иницијатива за проглашење заштићеног подручја, доставља се

На протоколу Министарства за просторно уређење, грађевинарство и екологију дана 31.05.2021. године запримљена је иницијатива Центра за животну средину, за проглашење заштићеног подручја „Горњи ток Неретве, општина Гацко“. У предметном допису се наводи да овај локалитет мора имати статус заштићеног подручја, јер горњи ток ријеке Неретве представља високу природну вриједност, која према својим хидрогеолошким, пејзажним и биолошким карактеристикама испуњава услове за проглашење заштићеног станишта, а како је предвиђено и Измјенама и допунама Просторног плана Републике Српске до 2025. године.

С тим у вези, достављамо вам предметну иницијативу, сходно члану 61. став 3. Закона о заштити природе („Службени гласник Републике Српске“, број 20/14), ради израде Студије заштите, којом се утврђују вриједности подручја, које се предлаже за заштиту и начин управљања подручјем.

Према идентификованим хидроенергетским потенцијалима на шест великих сливних целина на територији Републике Српске, утврђеним у Измјенама и допунама Просторног плана Републике Српске до 2025. године, молимо да се приликом израде предметне студије узме у обзир да је и ријека Неретва дефинисана као једна од целина за реализацију хидроенергетских објеката, могуће инсталисане снаге 48,33 MW.

О наведеном се обавјештава и подносилац захтјева.

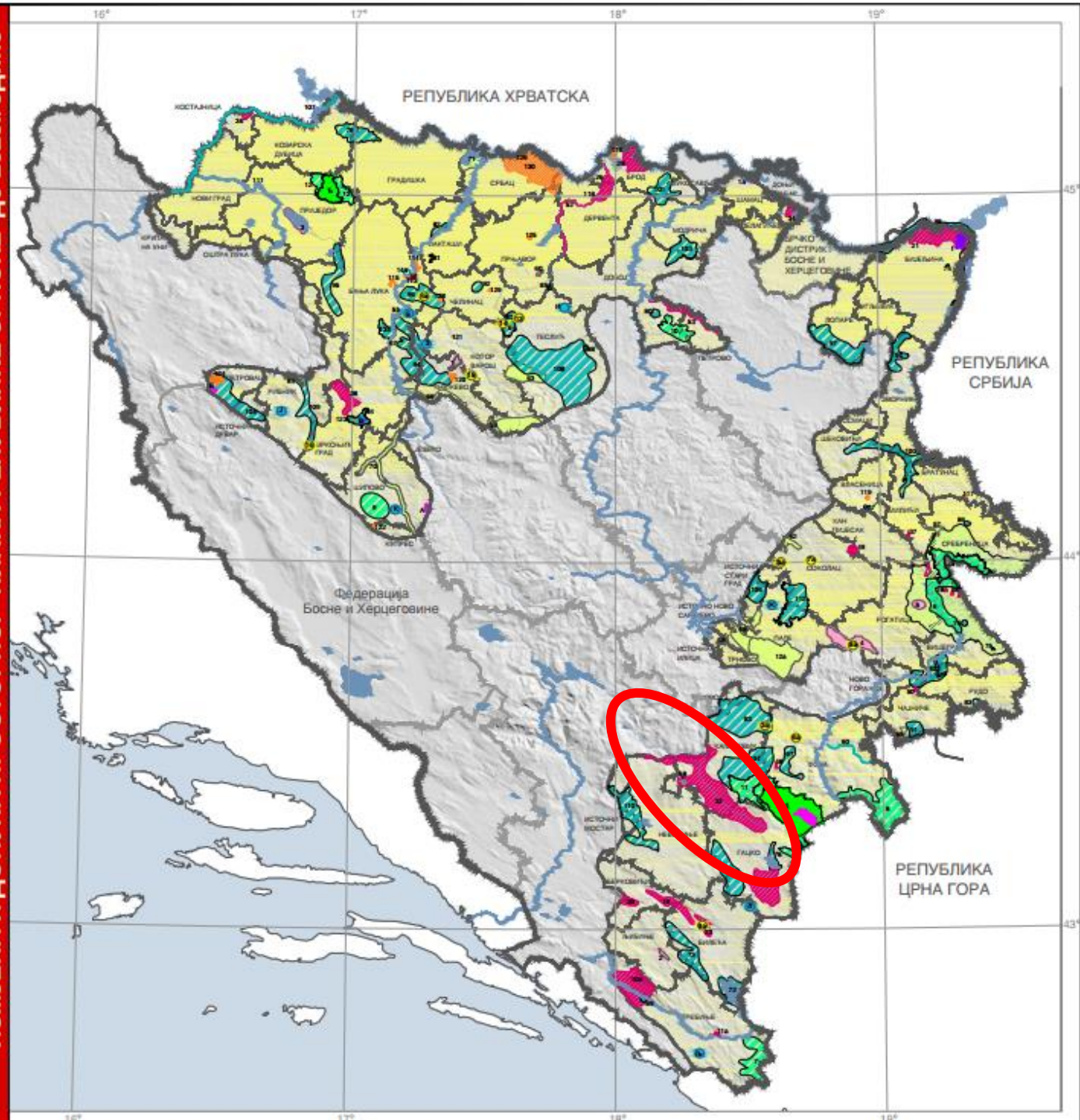
МИНИСТАР
Снежана Голић

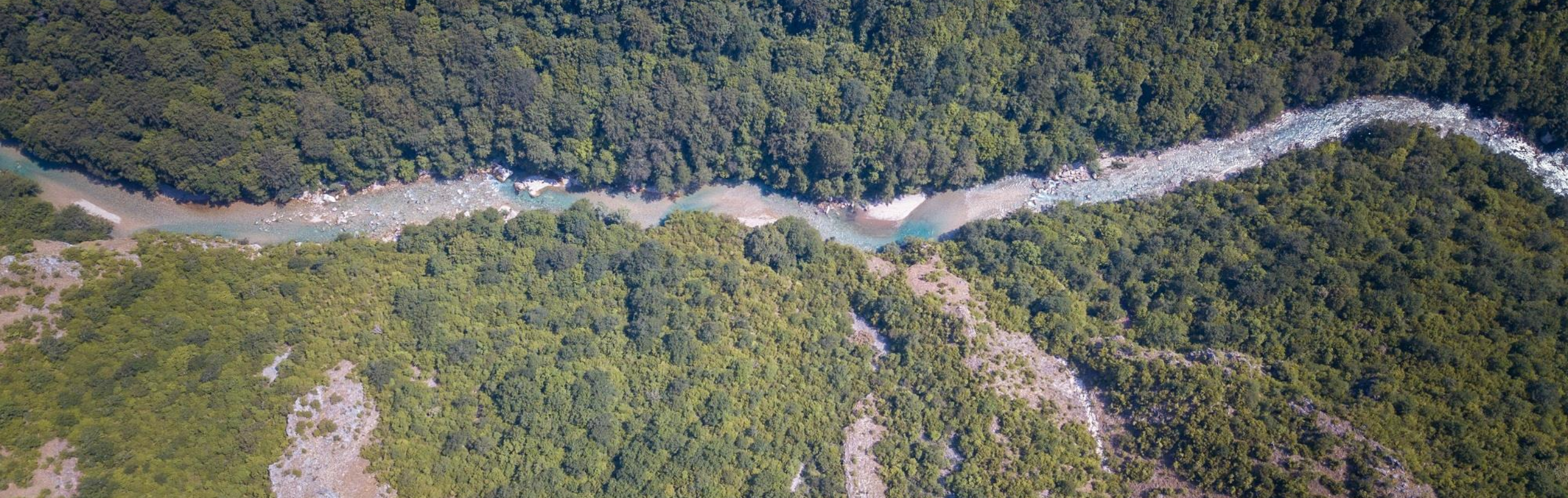
Достављено:
1. Наслову
2. Центар за животну средину
3. Документацији
4. Архиви

Spatial plan of Republic of Srpska is a planning basis for the Republic Institute for the Protection of Cultural, Historical and Natural Heritage when it comes to establishment of the new protected areas



ИЗМЈЕНА И ДОПУНА ПРОСТОРНОГ ПЛАНА РЕПУБЛИКЕ СРПСКЕ ДО 2025.ГОДИНЕ





Neretva

Protected Habitat – Category IV

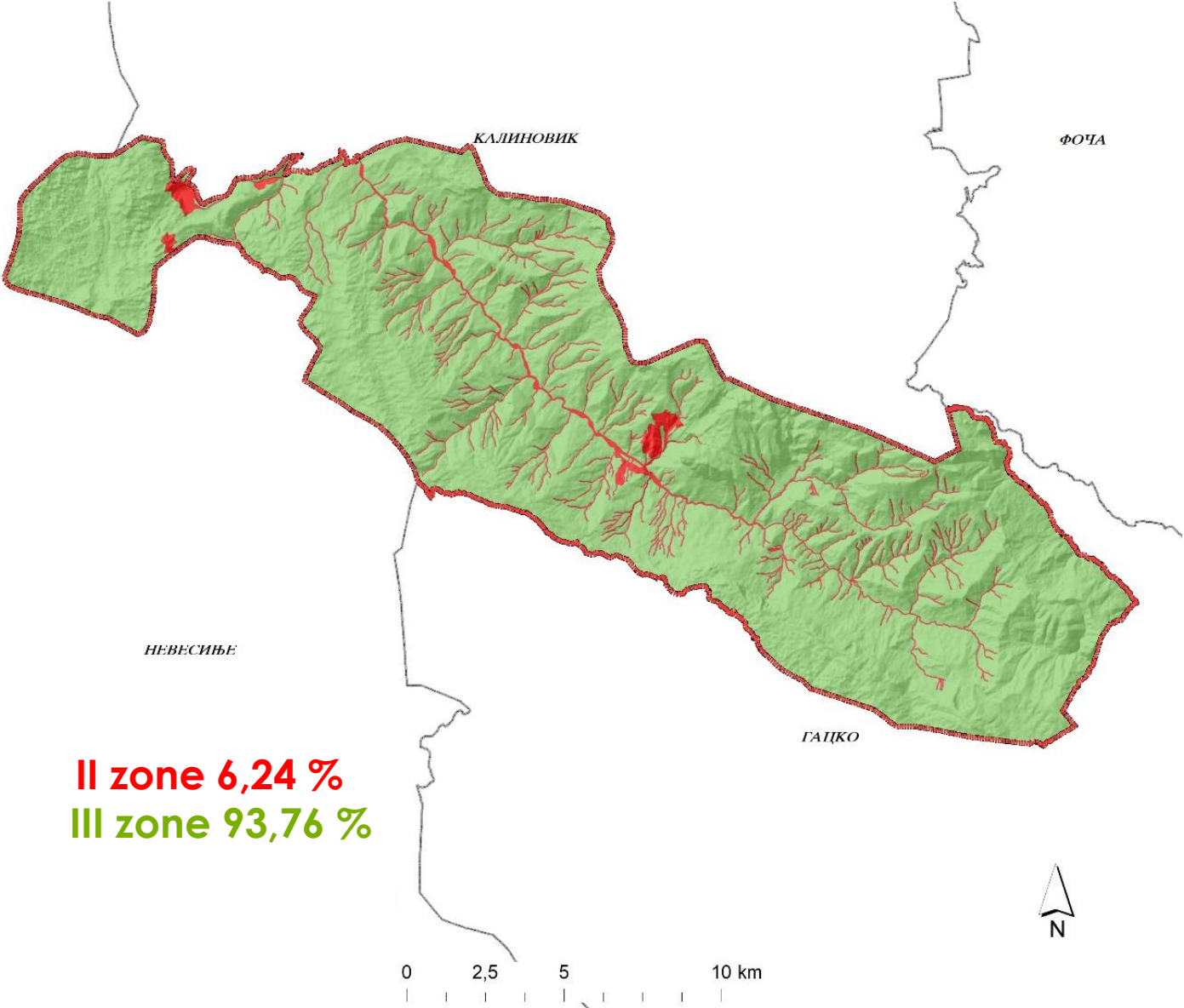
Surface of PA

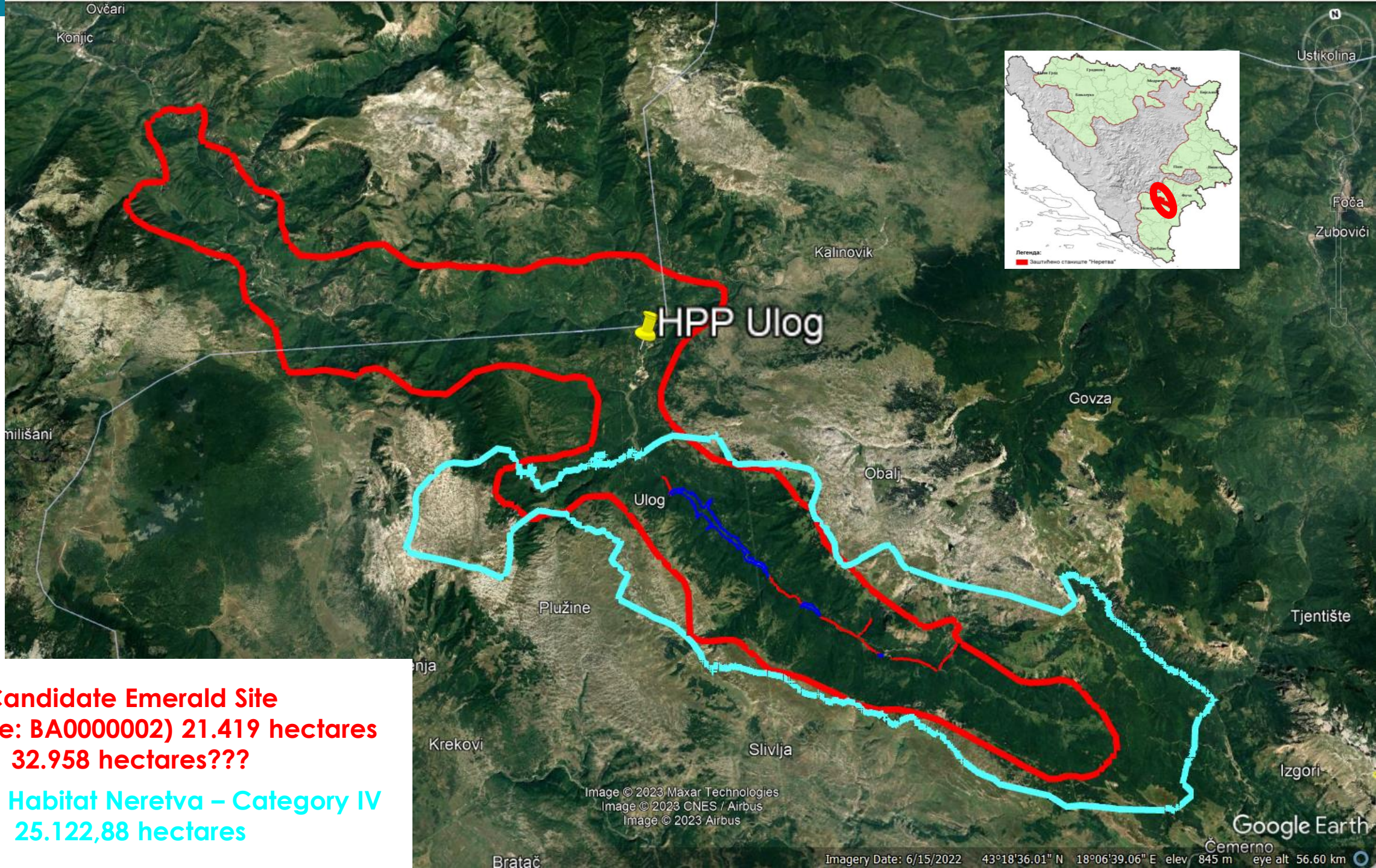
25.122,88 ha

Fundamental values

- River Neretva with tributaries (27,3 km)
- Category I of water quality
Regulation on water classification and categorization of watercourses (Official Gazette of RS, 42/01)
- Landscape value
- Biodiversity richness
- *Salmo farioides* (Adriatic brown trout) *Certificate provided by the Center for Genotyping of Fishing Resources (University of Belgrade, Faculty of Biology)

PA Neretva – Protection zones





Candidate Emerald Site
(Site Code: BA0000002) 21.419 hectares
32.958 hectares???

Protected Habitat Neretva – Category IV
25.122,88 hectares

Image © 2023 Maxar Technologies
Image © 2023 CNES / Airbus
Image © 2023 Airbus

Imagery Date: 6/15/2022 43°18'36.01" N 18°06'39.06" E elev 845 m eye alt 56.60 km
Google Earth

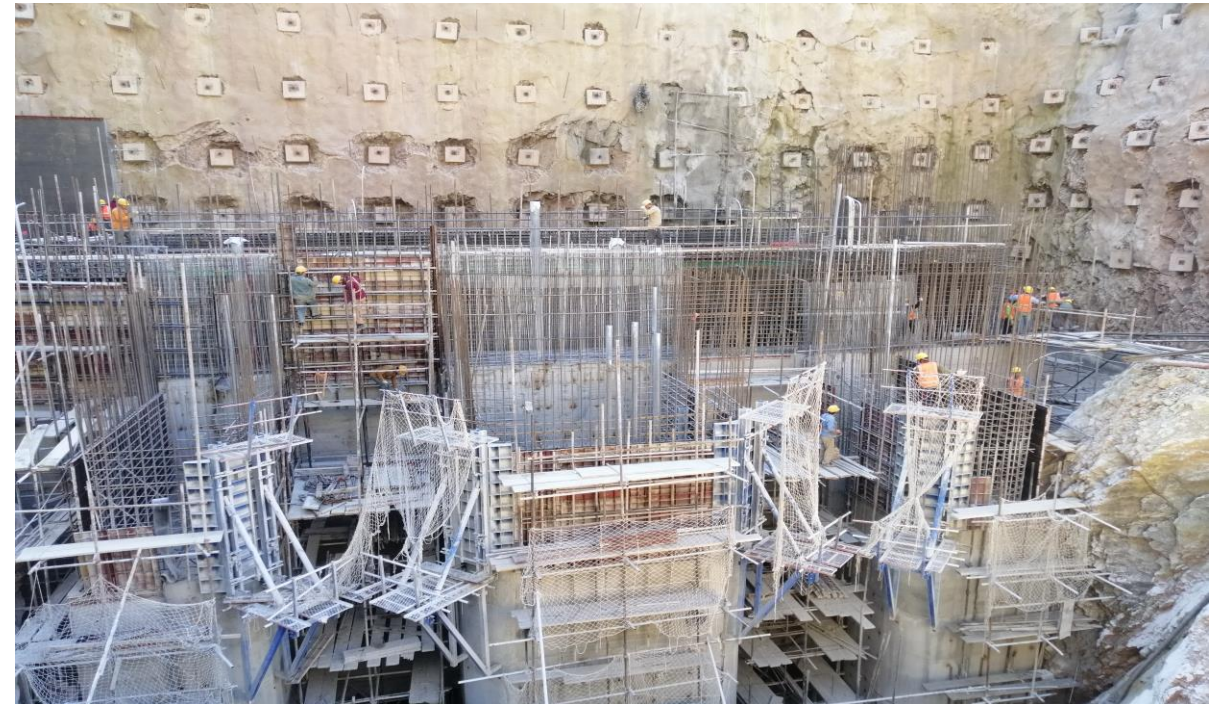
FB&H

(04-19-737/21/22-3, February 2, 2023)
information towards the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina about how FMO&T acted in relation to Recommendation No. 217 (2022) of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention concerning the possible negative impact of the construction of hydropower facilities on the Neretva River.

- HPP Bjelimici
- HPP Glavaticevo,

RS

- HPP Ulog is not halted
- HPS of the Upper Neretva (7sHPP)



GAPS

- A major drawback is the absence of a national ecological network, although its establishment is planned by the provisions of the Law on nature protection.
- The establishment of ecologically significant areas that should protect the habitats of wild species protected on the basis of international agreements is foreseen.

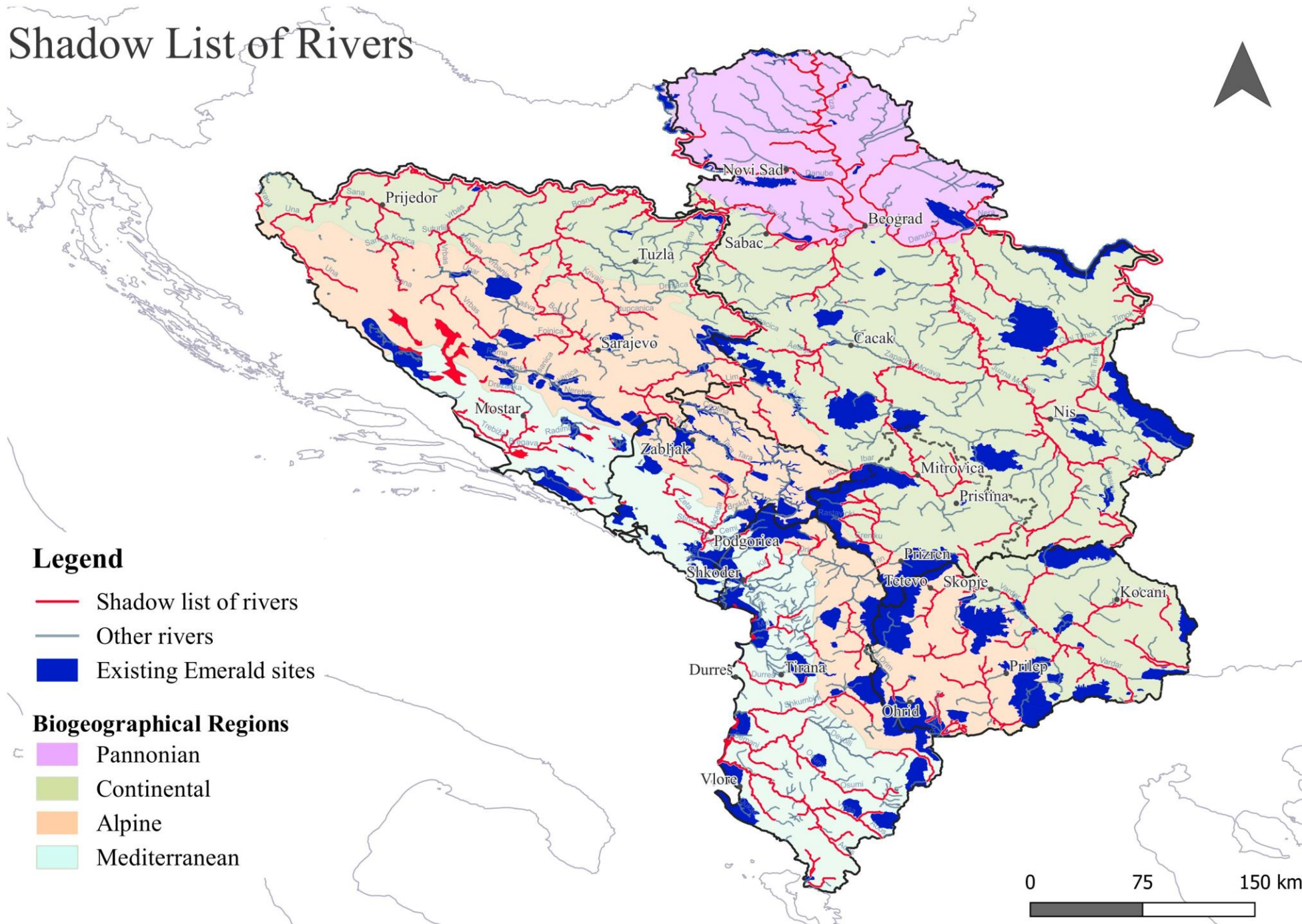
Possible solutions

✓ **Article 46 (Law on Concessions)**

- The grantor (Government) can unilaterally terminate the contract if, for example, the concessionaire does not perform the necessary actions within the agreed period or
- If the performance of the concession activity endangers the environment or public goods protected by law, beyond the permitted and prescribed standards

✓ **Conclusions of the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (File no- 03-04-1219-1/2023 AN dated on October 31, 2023)**

Shadow List of Rivers



Legend

- Shadow list of rivers
- Other rivers
- Existing Emerald sites

Biogeographical Regions

- Pannonian
- Continental
- Alpine
- Mediterranean

Fish species from Annex II of the Habitats Directive and Resolution VI of the Berne Convention.

26 proposed areas in B&H for the extension of Emerald network

T3 K-M Global Biodiversity Framework

- ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.

Now: 177.000 ha (3,5%)
2030: 1.534.000 ha (30%)



THANK YOU!

Case file 2020/9: Bosnia and Herzegovina: Possible negative impact of hydro-power plant development on the Neretva river

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