



Strasbourg, 31 January 2022

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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Standing Committee**

42<sup>nd</sup> meeting

Strasbourg, 29 November - 2 December 2022

**Complaints on stand-by: 2017/3**

**Possible negative impact of a harbor's construction on the  
confluence of the Sava into the Danube  
(Serbia)**

**- GOVERNMENT REPORT -**

*Document prepared by  
Ministry of Environmental Protection, Serbia*

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**The Progress report on the Complaint no. 2017/3 on possible negative influence of building the Port on the area of the confluence of the Sava river into the Danube river (Serbia) in 2021.**

With the request of the Secretariat of the Bern Convention from from 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021. which refers to Complaint No. 2017/3 on possible negative influence of building the Port on the area of the confluence of the Sava river into the Danube river (Serbia) from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021., on behalf of the Ministry of Environmental Protection, we would like to inform you about the following:

1. The Progress Report on Complaint No. 2017/3 was prepared on the basis of the obtained official reports from the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure and the Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia.
2. The Decision on the Development of the Spatial Plan of the Special Purpose Area of the New Port in Belgrade ("Official Gazette of the RS", No. 17/2021), which began the development of the Plan in question, entered into force on March 6, 2021. years. Also, on the same day, the Decision on starting the preparation of the strategic environmental impact assessment of the Plan of the Special Purpose Area of the new port of Belgrade on the environment came into force. The strategic assessment is being done for the area of the Spatial Plan, the framework border of which includes parts of the territory of the city of Belgrade in the city municipality of Palilula, KO Kovilovo, KO Krnjača and part of the territory of the city of Pancevo. The submitted documentation states that the final limit of the Spatial Plan will be given in the Draft. On this occasion, it was stated that the Plan will consider two variant solutions, variant solution 1 - location Pupinov most and variant solution 2 - the existing port of Pancevo as the port of Belgrade. The deadline for drafting the spatial plan is 12 months from the date of entry into force of this decision;
3. Development of the General Project with the Preliminary Feasibility Study for the construction of a new port in Belgrade is ongoing. Two solutions of the final location were selected. The first location is the left bank of the Danube upstream from Pupin Bridge, which, compared to the originally planned location in the Beljarica zone, has been moved upstream for more than 5 kilometers, so it is no longer in the planned protection zone of the left forland of the Danube in Belgrade. Another solution is the expansion of the existing Port of Pancevo, where there are also no planned or determined protection zones.
4. Inspecting the Central Register of Protectors of Natural Resources and the documentation of the Institute, it was established that in the area of the framework border of the Plan there is a Landscape of Outstanding Features "Forland on the left bank of the Danube near Belgrade" - the area for which the protection procedure has been initiated, as well as the ecologically significant area "Confluence of the Sava into the Danube" of the ecological network of the Republic of Serbia, within which the internationally and nationally important areas for birds (IBA areas) are the "Danube Les Section" and the "Confluence of the Sava into the Danube". The plan covers a section of the Danube that has been identified as an ecological corridor of international importance ecological network to the RS. Having in mind the above, it is necessary that the strategic assessment of the impact of the Spatial Plan, as an integral part of the planning documentation, be prepared in accordance with nature protection conditions, issued by the Institute for the development of planning documents in accordance with Article 9 of the Law on Nature Protection ("Official Gazette of RS", no. 36/2009, 88/2010, 91/2010-correction, 14/2016, 95/2018 - other law).
5. The Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia was prepared the Protection Study on proposing the area of Forland on the left bank of the Danube for protection as a Landscape of Outstanding Features in April 2021. year;
  - The study on protects the prohibitions and restrictions that are in accordance with Art. 35 of the Law on Nature Protection ("Official Gazette of RS", no. 36/2009, 88/2010, 91/2010-correction, 14/2016, 95/2018 - other law and 71/2021) and Art. 6. paragraph 2 of the Decree on protection regimes ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 31/2012);

- The public presentation of the Protection Study for the Landscape of Outstanding Features "Forland on the left bank of the Danube near Belgrade" was held on July 13, 2021;
- By publishing the Protection Study on the website of the Ministry of Environmental Protection on July 20, 2021. the procedure for the protection of this area has been initiated. Pursuant to Article 42, paragraph 7. of the Law on Nature Protection, the area for which the protection procedure has been initiated is considered protected, and until the adoption of the proclamation act, the protection measures prescribed in the Protection Study are applied;
- The Decree on Protection of the Landscape of Outstanding Features "Forland on the left bank of the Danube near Belgrade" will be established by the Government in 2022.

In accordance with the Institute's Work Program for 2021, during June and October, expert inspections were performed at sites in the Danube Forland, where white-tailed eagle nests were registered, in order to monitor the general condition of nesting pairs. Proposed are activities and restrictions on the use of forests in zones of 100 m, that is, 300 m radius from the nest. Here we emphasize that all protected species, which are included in the Study of protection of "Forland on the left bank of the Danube", recorded in an area of several thousand hectares and stretching from Široka Bara, through Beljarica and Crvenka to Kožara are still preserved and in the same condition as at the time of valorization of the area in 2013;

6. 6. During the handling of the complaint, the Ministry of Environmental Protection continues activities in this area to undertake measures for the protection and manage of habitats of strictly protected species in order to ensure adequate conditions for nature protection in cooperation with relevant competent authorities, experts organizations and non-governmental organizations.

Belgarde, 31st January 2021.

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Data source:

- Internal report of the Ministry of Environmental Protection;
- Report by the Ministry of Mining and Energy;
- Report of the Institute for Nature Conservation;