



Strasbourg, 14 August 2024

T-PVS/Files(2024)09

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

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**Standing Committee**

44<sup>th</sup> meeting  
Strasbourg, 2-6 December 2024

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**Bureau of the Standing Committee**

10-12 September 2024  
Strasbourg

**Open File: 2017/2**

**Alleged negative impacts on Lake Ohrid and  
Galichica National Park due to infrastructure  
development (North Macedonia)**

**- REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT -**

*Document prepared by the  
Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Republic of North Macedonia*

14 August 2024

There is no change in the status of activities for this file.

Noting that the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia held a first reading on August 13, 2024 of two draft laws to declare Lake Ohrid as Monument of nature and to grant Studencishko Blato the status of a Nature park.

There is no change in the activity status for the Open file 2017/02: North Macedonia: Alleged negative impacts to Lake Ohrid and Galichica National Park candidate Emerald Sites due to infrastructure developments Republic of North Macedonia

On January 22, 2024, promotion was made on Habitat Map of North Macedonia.

The mapping of habitats and vegetation is a significant method for identification and valorization of the ecological status of certain areas (including the Emerald basin of Ohrid Lake and NP Galichica).

The project for Habitat Map of North Macedonia within the framework of the Project "North Macedonia": Biological diversity and mapping of natural habitats, is financially supported by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

The purpose of the Project is to support the planning process in the country and advance the assessment of potential environmental impacts caused by development projects.

The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, as the competent authority for creating policy and environmental protection at the national level, understands and confirms the need for such a map to be part of the basis for future planning processes in the country. This will be reflected in the area of physical planning, and of course in the planning of the protection of nature and natural values of our country, but also in the area of identification of NATURA 2000 areas, which are part of the overall system for environmental protection planning.

During data selection, habitats were identified to the third level in compliance with the classification of the European Nature Information System (EUNIS 2012) of the European Environment Agency (EEA).