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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Standing Committee**

39<sup>th</sup> meeting  
Strasbourg, 3-6 December 2019

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**Other complaints**

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

**- REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT -**

*Document prepared by  
the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Serbia*

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- August 2019 -

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)

Regarding the request of the Secretariat of the Bern Convention 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) from June 3th 2019., 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 Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia.

2. Report of the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure

Elaboration of the Preliminary Feasibility Study with the general project has not still realized and it will be started with elaboration in September 2019. Preliminary Feasibility Study with general project will be elaborated in order to determine the justification of micro locations from technical, ecological and all other aspects that involve shifting the subject location several hundred meters upstream to move the construction from the northern part of Foland located at the Beljanice site which is the habitat of strictly protected species. In the process of development of the mentioned documentation and spatial plan of the special purpose area for the new port of Belgrade, a strategic environmental impact assessment will be carried out with the conditions of nature protection.

3. Report of the Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia

By the time of submitting this report the Institute no request was received from the competent authorities for the opinion on strategic environmental impact assessment on spatial plan or environmental impact assessment on this project.

Expert control was done on 18th and 19th April 2019 as well as 26th July 2019. on the area of the forland of left coast of Danube inside and out the borders of the proposed area for conservation. On the request of JP 'Србијашуме', ШГ 'Београд', ШУ 'Рит' the expert associate of the Institute visited locations in total of 13 nests of white-tailed (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) where was among there was damage caused by a natural disaster, resulting windstorm which wind tunnels and breezes on the large areas of Euro-American poplars. After that, terms of nature protection issued by the Institute including planned rehabilitation and logging of nesting areas of white-tailed (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) in order to protect this species and its habitats.

The terms of nature protection are issued within the ecologically important area of the "Sava estuary into the Danube" and the ecological corridor of the Danube river within the ecological network of the Republic of Serbia as following:

- 1) Establish a protective zone of radius  $r = 100$  m from the tree with the nest of white-tailed *Haliaeetus albicilla* in forest departments ГЈ 'Дунав' Но. 29-3, 40/а, 41/а, 43/с, /52а; ГЈ 'Рит' No. 20/б, 29/б, 62/б, ГЈ 'Тамиш' No.23/б and on two private parcels in ГЈ 'Дунав' (Municipality Палилула, СМ Крњача, СР No.1192) and ГЈ 'Тамиш' (Municipality Палилула, СМ Бесни фок СР No.480);
- 2) All works and activities throughout the year are prohibited in the protection zone referred to point 1;
- 3) Establish a non-disturbance zone in the area of additional 100 m with respect to the protection zone referred to in subpoints 1) (total radius  $r=200$  m from tree with white-tailed nest) in forest departments ГЈ 'Дунав' Но. 29-3, 43/с, 52/а; ГЈ 'Рит' No.29/б and ГЈ 'Тамиш' No. 23/б);

- 4) In the non-disturbance zone referred to in sub-item 3) of the Decision, works on the use, cultivation and protection of the forest from July 15 to December 31 of the current year;
- 5) Logging and tree extraction works using mechanization in departments from sub-sections 3) in the zone from radius  $r = 200$  m to radius  $r = 300$  m from nest of white-tailed to be implemented after May 15 of the current year;
- 6) Conducting monitoring and scientific research on white-tailed (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) nesting sites can be done throughout the year by expert associates of the Institute or other professionals with special conditions for nature protection.

### 3. General conclusion

Bearing in mind that there are various threats to the strictly protected species and their habitats in this location, different protective measures will be implemented in order to reduce the possible negative impacts and risks of this project for the survival of this species and its habitats. 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.

Coordinated and Prepared by the  
Focal point for Bern Convention,  
Ms Snezana Prokic, MSc

Belgrade, 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.

- February 2019 -



**Republic of Serbia**  
**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL**  
**PROTECTION**

Number: 337-00-00147/2018-04

Date: 28. 01. 2019.

Немањина 22-26

Belgrade

European Council  
Department of Biodiversity  
Secretariat of the Berne Convention  
F-67075 Strasbourg  
Iva Obretenova, Secretary

**Subject: 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)**

Dear Ms. Obretenova,

Regarding the request from the Secretariat of the Bern Convention on the Complaint of the 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) on the basis of the complaint submitted by the Association EPAR from Subotica (Serbia), 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 report from the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure.

The Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure has applied for financial support from the Western Balkans Investment Fund (WBIF) in order to develop technical documentation for the construction of new port in Belgrade. After the approval of financial resources, technical documentation will be prepared in 2019. The realization of this documentation involves the elaboration of a Preliminary Feasibility Study with the general project in order to determine the justification of micro locations from technical, ecological and all other aspects that involve shifting the subject location several hundred meters upstream to move the construction from the northern part of Foland located at the Beljanice site which is the habitat of strictly protected species. In the process of development of the mentioned documentation and spatial plan of the special purpose area for the new port of Belgrade, a strategic environmental impact assessment will be carried out with the conditions of nature protection.

2. In this process, we point out that all the protected species of birds in the area of Beljanice recorded in the so-called, Southern and Central Forland and to continuously monitor the status of the populations of these species and their habitats and preservation measures. It is also planned the procedure for protection of the ecological network of the Republic of Serbia and the possible declaration of the special protected area.

### 3. General conclusion

Bearing in mind the different factors of endangering the strictly protected species and their habitats and the risk of their survival, the application of different protection measures, will reduce them to the significantly lower rate. 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 competent authorities and organizations, with active information and involvement of non-governmental organizations.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon and thank the Secretariat in advance, for the highest consideration of this report.

Sincerely yours,

**MINISTER**  
Goran Trivan