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Wageningen, 21 December 2006

Confirmation of proposed Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in Romania by the BirdLife International Secretariat

Dear Attila

Thank you for sending me the data that SOR and the Milvus Group have collected and used to propose 132 sites in Romania for consideration as Important Bird Areas (IBAs). I have now assessed these proposals against the IBA 'C' criteria, which were developed specifically by BirdLife International for use in the European Union (Appendix 1). These criteria were first applied in the original 15 EU Member States in *Important Birds Area in Europe* (Heath & Evans 2000), and have since been applied in the 10 countries that acceded to the EU in 2004, as well as in Bulgaria.

I am pleased to confirm that all 132 proposed sites meet at least one 'C' criterion (Appendix 2), and thus all can be described as *IBAs of European Union importance*. Consequently, on behalf of the BirdLife International Secretariat, I can confirm that we now recognise the existence of 132 IBAs in Romania. This entitles SOR to use the official IBA logo (bottom right) to promote and defend these sites, which form part of a global network of sites crucial for the protection of birds and biodiversity.

It will not be possible for us to reflect these changes in the online version of BirdLife's World Bird Database until 2007. Until then, the data available via our website (<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sites/index.html>) will continue to show only the 44 sites described in Heath & Evans (2000). In the interim, I would encourage you to make the latest information available via your own national IBA websites (www.iba.sor.ro and www.ibaromania.ro). By the time you have entered these data into the World Bird Database and published your new national inventory, the BirdLife website should also have been updated.

I hope that this confirmation allows you to proceed with the task of preparing your new national IBA inventory, which I look forward to seeing next year. Congratulations to you and the rest of your colleagues at SOR and the Milvus Group on all your hard work so far. Good luck in your efforts to secure the protection of these sites as part of Romania's contribution to the Natura 2000 and Pan-European Ecological Networks.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian Burfield".



Dr. Ian Burfield – European Research & Database Manager, BirdLife International

cc Tamas Papp – President, Milvus Group (Association for Bird and Nature Protection)
Dan Hulea – Director, Romanian Ornithological Society (BirdLife Partner in Romania)
Mark Day – European Country Programmes Manager, RSPB (BirdLife Partner in the UK)
Lincoln Fishpool – Global IBA Programme Coordinator, BirdLife International

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Honorary President of BirdLife International: HH Princess Takamado of Japan

Appendix 1. Summary of the 'C' criteria* used to identify Important Bird Areas in Romania.

* As developed and applied in Heath, M.F. & Evans, M.I., eds. (2000) *Important Bird Areas in Europe: priority sites for conservation*. BirdLife Conservation Series No. 8. BirdLife International, Cambridge.

C – EUROPEAN UNION LEVEL CRITERIA

C1. Species of global conservation concern

The site regularly holds significant numbers of a globally threatened species, or other species of global conservation concern.

C2. Concentrations of a species threatened at the European Union level

The site is known to regularly hold at least 1% of a flyway population or of the EU population of a species threatened at the EU level (listed on Annex I and referred to in Article 4.1 of the EC Birds Directive).

C3. Congregations of migratory species not threatened at the EU level

The site is known to regularly hold at least 1% of a flyway population of a migratory species not considered threatened at the EU level (as referred to in Article 4.2 of the EC Birds Directive) (not listed on Annex I).

C4. Congregatory – large congregations

The site is known to regularly hold at least 20,000 migratory waterbirds and/or 10,000 pairs of migratory seabirds of one or more species.

C5. Congregatory – bottleneck sites

The site is a ‘bottleneck’ site where at least 5,000 storks (Ciconiidae) and/or at least 3,000 raptors (Accipitriformes and Falconiformes) and/or 3,000 cranes (Gruidae) regularly pass on spring or autumn migration.

C6. Species threatened at the European Union level

The site is one of the five most important in the European region (NUTS region) in question for a species or subspecies considered threatened in the European Union (i.e. listed in Annex I of the EC Birds Directive).

Appendix 2. Individual 'C' criteria met by the 132 sites confirmed as Important Bird Areas in Romania.

Site name	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6
Acumularea Rogoiesti-Bucegea		C2		C4		
Acumularile Belcesti - Tansa si Popi	C1		C3	C4		
Aliman - Adamclisi	C1					C6
Allah Bair - Capidava	C1	C2				C6
Avrig-Scorei-Fagarasi	C1					C6
Balta Alba Amara Jirlau	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Balta Vederoasa	C1	C2		C4		C6
Bestepe Victoria	C1	C2			C5	C6
Blahnita	C1	C2	C3			C6
Bratul Borcea	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Bugeac	C1	C2		C4		C6
Calafat - Ciupercenti	C1	C2		C4		C6
Campia Cermeiului	C1					C6
Campia Crisurilor	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Campia Gherghitei	C1					C6
Campia Nirului - Valea Ierului	C1					C6
Canarale Harsova	C1					C6
Canaraua Fetei	C1	C2				C6
Caria - Mata - Radeanu	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Cheia	C1	C2				C6
Cheile Bicazului - Muntii Hasmas						C6
Cheile Carasului Muntii Semenic						C6
Cheile Nerei - Beusnita	C1					C6
Ciocănesti	C1	C2		C4		C6
Comana	C1	C2		C4		C6
Confluenta Jiu-Dunare	C1	C2		C4		C6
Confluenta Olt-Dunare	C1	C2		C4		C6
Cozia - Buila - Vânturarita						C6
Cursul mijlociu al Somesului	C1					C6
Dabuleni-Grinduri	C1	C2				
Dealurile Dorobantu	C1					C6
Dealurile Homoroadelor	C1			C4		C6
Dealurile Nordice a Muntilor Fagarasi	C1					C6
Dealurile Tarnavelor - Valea Nirajului	C1					C6
Defileul Crisului Repede - Valea Iadului						C6
Defileul Inferior al Muresului	C1					C6
Defileul Superior Al Muresului						C6
Delta Dunarii	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Denistepe	C1					C6
Depresiunea Ciucului	C1					C6
Depresiunea Giurgeului	C1					C6
Domogled Valea Cernei						C6
Dorohoi - Saua Buceei						C6
Dumbrăveni - Plopeni	C1					C6
Dumbravita-Rotbav-Macura Codlei	C1					C6
Dunare Oltenita	C1	C2	C3			C6
Dunare Ostroave	C1	C2				C6
Dunarea Veche Bratul Macin	C1	C2				C6
Dunareni Bistret	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Elestele lernut Cipau	C1			C4		
Elestele Mihesi de Câmpie - Tăureni	C1			C4		C6
Elestelele Jiliei si Miletinului	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Elestelele Vladesti - Oancea si Lunca Prutului	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Galatui	C1	C2		C4		C6
Gârla Mare-Gruia-Izvoarele	C1	C2	C3			C6
Grădisteaua - Dridu	C1		C3	C4		
Gradisteaua Muncelui						C6
Hagieni Negru Voda	C1					C6
Hunedoara Timisana	C1					C6
Ianca Plopua Sarat	C1	C2				C6
Iazurile de pe valea Ibanesei-Baseului-Podrigai	C1	C2		C4		C6
Iezera Călărasi	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Insula Mica a Brailei	C1	C2		C4		C6
Istrita						C6
Kogălniceanu - Gura Ialomitei	C1					C6

Site name	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6
Lacul Brates	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Lacul Dunareni	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Lacul Fundata	C1	C2		C4		C6
Lacul Oltina	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Lacul Stanca Costesti	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Lacul Strachina	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Lacul Tătaru	C1	C2				C6
Lacurile de Acumulare - Arges			C3	C4		C6
Lacurile de Acumulare Buhusu - Bacau	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Lacurile de Acumulare Lucasu de Jos - Tileacă				C4		
Lacurile Fălticeni	C1	C2		C4		C6
Lunca Barcau	C1					C6
Lunca Inferioara a Turului	C1					C6
Lunca Muresului Inferior	C1	C2				C6
Lunca Siretului Inferior	C1					C6
Lunca Siretului mijlociu			C3	C4		
Lunca Timisului	C1					
Maglavit	C1	C2		C4		C6
Mandra Fagarasi	C1					C6
Mangalia Limanu	C1	C2				C6
Marea Neagră	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Maxineni	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Mlastina Satchinez	C1					C6
Mostisteia	C1	C2		C4		C6
Muntii Baraolt Bodoc	C1					C6
Muntii Caimani						C6
Muntii Ceahlăului						C6
Muntii Cindrel - Frumoasa						C6
Muntii Ighisului-Creasta Cocosului						C6
Muntii Locvei - Almajului	C1					C6
Muntii Macin	C1	C2			C5	C6
Muntii Metaliferi						C6
Muntii Rarau Giumalau						C6
Muntii Retezat						C6
Muntii Rodnei						C6
Muntii Trascaului	C1					C6
Muntii Vrancei						C6
Nucet	C1	C2	C3	C4		
Olteneita - Ulmeni	C1	C2	C3			C6
Ostrovu Lung - Gostinu	C1	C2				C6
Padis-Muntele Vladeașa	C1					C6
Padurea Babadag	C1					C6
Padurea Barnova	C1					
Padurea Bogata	C1					C6
Padurea Horga - Zorleni	C1					
Padurea Macedonia	C1					C6
Padurea Madariac	C1					
Padurea Miclesti	C1					C6
Padurea Radomir	C1					
Pescăria Cefa - Pădurea Rădvani	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Piatra Soimului - Scorteni - Garleni	C1					C6
Plopșu	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Podisul Hârtibaciului	C1			C4		C6
Portile de Fier	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Saraiu - Horia	C1					C6
Siutghiol	C1	C2		C4		C6
Stena Casimcea	C1					C6
Subcarpatii Vrancei						C6
Suhaja	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Tasaul	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Techirghiol	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Valea Alceului	C1					
Valea Fizesului	C1					C6
Valea Oltului	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6
Valea Raului Negru	C1					C6
Vanatori Neamt	C1					C6
Vedea Dunare	C1	C2	C3	C4		C6