

THE NERETVICA RIVER – HYDROECOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS

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The Neretvica River is a right tributary of the Neretva river. Its delta is located in Jablanicko lake, downstream from the settlement of Buturovic polje. The river system of the Neretvica drains surface waters from the central Bosnian shale mountains; the southern foothills of the Zec mountain and partly of the Bitovnja mountain.

The Neretvica river has a highly developed river system formed by a dendroid river net conditioned by a hydrogeological water-resistant series of Paleozoic formations. The main stream and its tributaries have quite large dips on the longitudinal mismatch and stepped profile.

Draining surface waters from high mountain foothills, the Neretvica river carries clean and clear water, so it is considered as a very important natural resource for drinkable water. The river system of Neretvica and the basin represent a natural landscape of extremely high quality, which, even according to the most rigorous criteria, meets the criteria for being declared as a protected area of the highest rank.

The domicile inhabitants from the Neretvica river valley and basin are disturbed because of intention of the Public Institution "Elektroprivreda" Bosnia and Herzegovina to build 15 mini hydroelectric power plants on this river, which would permanently destroy this natural watercourse.

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