



NATURA 2000 - STANDARD DATA FORM

For Special Protection Areas (SPA),
Proposed Sites for Community Importance (pSCI),
Sites of Community Importance (SCI) and
for Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

SITE **BG0002063**
SITENAME **Zapadni Rodopi**

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

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1.1 Type A	1.2 Site code BG0002063
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1.3 Site name

Zapadni Rodopi

1.4 First Compilation date 2005-10	1.5 Update date 2015-07
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1.6 Respondent:

Name/Organisation:	Ministry of Environment and Water, "National Nature Protection Service" Directorate
Address:	Sofia Maria Luiza Blvd. 22 1000 Sofia
Email:	r.dimova@moew.government.bg

1.7 Site indication and designation / classification dates

Date site classified as SPA:	2007-03
National legal reference of SPA designation	Site classified as SPA by Council of Ministers Decision No. 122/02.03.2007 (promulgated SG 21/2007).

Explanation(s):	Site classified as SPA by Council of Ministers Decision No. 122/02.03.2007 (promulgated SG 21/2007). Issued designation order by the Minister of Environment and Water with prohibitions and restrictions on activities contradicting the conservation objectives of the site – Order No. RD – 835/17.11.2008 (promulgated SG 108/2008). Site extended by Council of Ministers Decision No. 335/26.05.2011 (promulgated SG 41/2011). Issued Order No. RD – 890/26.11.2013 (promulgated SG 107/2013) for extension of the site and introducing in the increased area of the site the prohibitions set by Order No. RD – 835/17.11.2008.
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B	A269	Erithacus rubecula			57000	57000						X	
B	A359	Fringilla coelebs			95000	95000						X	
B	A244	Galerida cristata			22	22						X	
B	A251	Hirundo rustica			225	225						X	
B	A233	Jynx torquilla			27	27						X	
B	A271	Luscinia megarhynchos			27	27						X	
B	A383	Miliaria calandra			375	375						X	
B	A214	Otus scops			17	17						X	
B	A329	Parus caeruleus			3500	3500						X	
B	A235	Picus viridis			120	120						X	
B	A267	Prunella collaris			3	3						X	
B	A317	Regulus regulus			18500	18500						X	
B	A210	Streptopelia turtur			60	60						X	
B	A311	Sylvia atricapilla			16500	16500						X	
B	A333	Tichodroma muraria			27	27					X		
B	A283	Turdus merula			21000	21000						X	
B	A285	Turdus philomelos			7500	7500						X	
B	A282	Turdus torquatus			6000	6000						X	

Group: A = Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, Fu = Fungi, I = Invertebrates, L = Lichens, M = Mammals, P = Plants, R = Reptiles

CODE: for Birds, Annex IV and V species the code as provided in the reference portal should be used in addition to the scientific name

S: in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes

NP: in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)

Unit: i = individuals, p = pairs or other units according to the standard list of population units and codes in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting, (see [reference portal](#))

Cat.: Abundance categories: C = common, R = rare, V = very rare, P = present

Motivation categories: **IV, V:** Annex Species (Habitats Directive), **A:** National Red List data; **B:** Endemics; **C:** International Conventions; **D:** other reasons

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

4.1 General site character

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Habitat class	% Cover
N17	63.0
N19	13.0
N23	1.0
N06	1.0
N10	
N20	1.0
N08	6.0
N22	
N21	
N11	3.0
N09	2.0
N07	
N15	1.0
N16	9.0
N12	

Total Habitat Cover	NaN
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Other Site Characteristics

The site includes the higher parts of the Western Rhodopes with the most representative pseudo-boreal coniferous forests in the country, unique for Europe. To the north it reaches the towns of Velingrad, Rakitovo, Batak and Peshtera. The biggest share of forests belonging to the Scots Pine *Pinus sylvestris*, followed by Spruce *Picea abies*. Smaller territories are occupied by Fir *Abies alba*, as well as of Beech *Fagus sylvatica*. At some places there are forests of Austrian Pine *Pinus nigra* and coppice forests of *Quercus daledampii*. About 10% of the area is covered by open grasslands ? pastures and meadows with domination of *Agrostis capillaris*, *Nardus stricta*, etc., as well as with shrubs. Its territory includes three big dams ? *Dospat*, *Shiroka Polyana* and *Golyam Beglik*, as well as hundreds of peat bogs.

4.2 Quality and importance

The region of Western Rhodopes supports 130 bird species, mainly breeding ones, 21 of which are listed in the Red Data Book for Bulgaria (1985). Of the birds occurring there 43 species are of European conservation concern (SPEC) (BirdLife International, 2004), 15 of them being listed in category SPEC 2 and 28 in SPEC 3 as species threatened in Europe. The area provides suitable habitats for 26 species, included in Annex 2 of the Biodiversity Act, which need special conservation measures, of which 23 are listed also in Annex I of the Birds Directive. The Western Rhodopes hold the biggest breeding population of the Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus* in Bulgaria. It is among the most valuable areas in the country on the level of European Union for this species, as well as for the Hazel Grouse *Bonasa bonasia*, the Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium passerinum*, the Tengmalm`s Owl *Aegolius funereus*, European Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*, the Black Woodpecker *Dryocopus martius*, White-backed Woodpecker *Dendrocopos leucotos* and the Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus*. The area is also important on a European scale for the European Robin *Erithacus rubecula*, the Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*, the Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*, the Common Blackbird *Turdus merula*, the Goldcrest *Regulus regulus* and the Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*.

4.3 Threats, pressures and activities with impacts on the site

The most important impacts and activities with high effect on the site

Negative Impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	E04.01		i
H	J01		i
M	B02.04		o
L	D02		i
L	L		i
L	E01.03		i
M	A02		o
H	B		o
H	G02.02		i
L	I03.01		o
L	A09		o
M	G01.05		o
M	H04		o
L	A09		i
L	L08		i
H	G02		i
M	E03.03		o
L	E02.01		o
L	E03.01		i
L	A08		o
L	D05		i
H	G02.02		o
L	K01.01		i
L	H04		i
M	G01.04		i
L	D01.05		o
M	G01.04		o
H	L07		i
M	L07		o
L	D01.02		i
H	B01.02		o
M	J02.05.02		o
L	D05		o
H	E01.01		i
H	J02.05.02		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
L	C01.03.01		i
L	D01.05		o
M	G01.04		o
L	L		i
L	G01.01		o
M	A10		o
L	D05		o
L	E02.01		o
L	D01.05		i
L	F03.02.01		o
L	A09		o
L	A05.02		i
L	A09		i
L	D01.04		o
M	A04		i
L	C01.01.01		o
M	A04		o
H	F03.01		o
L	D01.06		o
L	A01		o
L	F03.02.01		i
L	F01		o
L	A08		i
L	E01.03		i
M	F06		o
L	G02.08		o
M	G01.05		o
L	L08		i
L	E02.02		o
L	F04		i
L	C01.03		o
L	A10.01		o
L	C01.01		o
L	F01		i
M	A05.01		i

L	C01.03.01		i
M	E01		i
H	J01		o
H	B		i
M	G05		o
L	C01.01		o
L	G01.03		o
M	F03.02		i
M	B02.01		o
L	E03.03		i
M	G01.06		o
M	H05		o
L	E02.02		o
L	F03.02.01		i
M	F03.02.03		i
L	C01.03		o
L	C01.03.01		o
M	D02		o
L	G01.01		i
L	F01		i
L	A10.01		o
L	G02.08		o
H	F03.02.03		o
M	E01		o
M	A05.01		o
L	K01.01		o
M	C01.04		i
M	B01		i
L	F03.02.09		o
L	G01.02		i
H	D02.01		i
L	F01		o
L	D01.04		o
M	B02.03		i
M	A04.03		o
M	A04.03		i
M	E01.04		i
M	H		o
L	F03.02.02		o
L	F03.02.01		o
L	A07		o
L	E04.01		o
M	G01.02		o
L	F03.02.02		i
L	H05		i
M	D01.01		o
L	E05		o
M	E03		o
L	A08		i
L	A02		i
L	F04		o
L	I03.01		i
L	F02.03		o
M	E01.01		o
M	B02.03		o
M	G02		o
L	G01.03		i
L	D01.06		o
L	G02.04		i
L	E03		i
L	D01.05		i
L	E01.03		o
L	C01.01.01		o

L	F04		o
M	F03.02.09		i
L	A05.02		o
L	A01		i
L	E01.03		o
M	A03		o
H	F06		i
H	G02.10		o
L	C01.03.01		o
L	E04.01		i
M	G01.02		o
H	B01		o
L	E05		i
L	E04.01		o
L	F03.02.09		o
L	G01.03		o
H	F03.01		i

L	A05.02		i
M	B02.01		i
M	F03.02		o
L	H		i
L	F04		i
H	C01.04.01		i
L	F02.03		i
H	A03		i
L	G02.08		i
L	G05		i
L	E01.04		o
M	B02.04		i
M	A10		o
H	B01.02		i
H	B02.02		o
L	G02.04		o
H	B02.02		i
L	A05.02		o
L	G02.10		i
L	G01.01		o
L	A07		i
L	E05		i
M	F03.02.09		i
H	G01.06		i
H	G02.10		o
M	E03.01		o
L	D01.01		i
M	D01.02		o

Rank: H = high, M = medium, L = low

Pollution: N = Nitrogen input, P = Phosphor/Phosphate input, A = Acid input/acidification,

T = toxic inorganic chemicals, O = toxic organic chemicals, X = Mixed pollutions

i = inside, o = outside, b = both

4.5 Documentation

Initial proposal and description of the site made by J. Spiridonov - Wilderness fund, G. Stoyanov - Birds of Prey Protection Society, D. Plachiiski - Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds, Bulgaria, 1111 Sofia, P.O.Box 50, phone (+359 2) 9715855, fax (+359 2) 9715856, www.bspb.org . Data revised by a team of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (<http://www.bas.bg>). Data on site extension provided by Institute for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, BAS and Dr. P. Shurulinkov - NMNH, Sofia. Documents: BDZP/BirdLife Balgariya. 2005. ?Nacionalna banka za ornitologichna informacia 1988-2005?, Balgarsko Druzhestvo za zastita na pticite; Botev, B. and Tz. Peshev, (eds). 1985. Red Data Book of Republic Bulgaria. 2: Animals. Sofia: Bulgarian Academy of Science. (In Bulgarian.); Michev, T., C. Petrov, L. Profirov, P. Iankov, S. Gavrilov. 1989. Razprostranenie I prirodzashtiten status na skalnia orel *Aquila chrysaetos chrysaetos* (L.), 1758 v Bulgaria. ? Izv. Muz. IU. Bulgaria, 15, 79-87.; Michev, T., C. Petrov. 2000. Pticite na Rodopite. ? Bulgarski suiuz za zashtita na Rodopite, Sofia, 122 s.; MOSV. 2005. Arhiv na zastitenite teritorii v Bulgaria. Baza dannii (nepubl.); Nikolov, B., I. Hristov, P. Shurulinkov, I. Nikolov, A. Rogev, A. Ducov, R. Stanchev. 2001. Novi dannii za niakoi slabo izucheni vidove gorski sovi (*Strix uralensis*, *Glaucidium passerinum*, *Aegolius funereus*) v Bulgaria. - Nauka za gorata, Kn. 1/2, 75-86.; Petrov, C. 1997b. Beliat shturkel (*Ciconia ciconia*) v Bulgaria. Prirodzashtitna poredica, Kniga 2, BDZP, Plovdiv.; Petrov, C., P. Iankov, T. Michev, B. Milchev, L. Profirov. 1991. Razprostranenie, chislenost I merki za opazvane na chernia shturkel, *Ciconia nigra* (L.) v Bulgaria. ? Izv. Muz. IU. Bulgaria, T. 17, 25-32.; Simeonov, S., T. Michev. 1985. Suvremenno razprostranenie I chislenost na buhala (*Bubo bubo*(L.) v Bulgaria. ? Ekologia, 15, 60-65.; BirdLife International. 2000. Threatened birds of the world. Barcelona and Cambridge, UK: Lynx Edicions and BirdLife International, 695pp. Birdlife International. 2004. Birds in Europe: Population estimates, trends and conservation status. Cambridge, UK: Birdlife International (Birdlife Conservation Series No. 12).373pp.; BSPB/BirdLife International. 2005. World Bird Database ? Important Birds Areas.Bulgaria. Cambridge. (unpublished); Guidelines for evaluation of protected zones according, which include habitats for birds to art.7, par.3, under the art.6 par.1.3 and 1.4 of the Biodiversity Act. 2005. (In Bulgarian.); Kostadinova, I., M. Mihailov, (comp.) 2002. Guide for NATURA 2000 in Bulgaria. BSPB nature conservation series No5. BSPB, Sofia, 80pp. (In Bulgarian.); Kostadinova, I. 2005. Application of C criteria for Identification of Important Bird Areas of European Union importance in Bulgaria. Preliminary implementation and analysis of the gaps. ? In: Petrova, A. (ed.), Current state of Bulgarian biodiversity ? problems and perspectives. Pp. 533-548. Bulgarian Bioplatform, Sofia Kouzmanov, G. 1996. L`Aigle pomarin *Aquila pomarina* en Bulgarie. ? In: Meyburg, B.-U. & R. D. Chancellor eds. Eagle Studies. World Working Group on Birds of Prey (WWGBP), Berlin, London & Paris, 319-326.; Kouzmanov, G., G. Stoyanov, R. Todorov. 1996. Sur la Biologie et la Protection de l'Aigle royal *Aquila chrysaetos* en Bulgarie. - In: Meyburg, B.-U. & R.D. Chancellor eds. 1994. Raptor Conservation Today, WWGBP/ The Pica Press, 505-515.; Michev, T., Tz. Petrov, L. Profirov. 1989. Status, breeding, distribution, numbers and conservation of the White Stork in Bulgaria; MOEW. 1998. CORINE Biotopes Database of the sites of European Importance for the biodiversity. Bulgaria, MOSV (nepubl.); Nankinov, D. 1997b. Status of Tengmalms Owl, *Aegolius funereus*, in Bulgaria. ? Riv. Ital. Orn., Milano, 66, 2, 127-136; Osieck, E. 2000 Filling in the requirements of the EU Birds Directive: Lessons from the ?Dutch Case??. In: European IBA Workshop. 29 March - 2 April 2000, Brussels, Belgium. Proceedings. BirdLife

International, 86-99; Petrov, Tz. 2002. Expert report of the project "Assessment of the existing diversity of birds in the Western Rhodopes. Sofia .p.21 (In Bulgarian); Shurulinkov, P. & G. Stoyanov. 2004. Über die südliche Grenze des Sperlingskautz-Vorkommens, *Glaucidium passerinum*. ? Orn. Mitt., 57, 6: 198-200. Waliczky, Z. 2000 "Important Bird Areas of European Union Importance: explanation of the EU Criteria applied in IBA 2000? In: European IBA Workshop. 29 March - 2 April 2000, Brussels, Belgium. Proceedings. BirdLife International, 12-16

Link(s): <http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/Home/ProtectedSite?code=BG0002063&siteType=BirdsDirective>

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

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Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
BG03	0.01	BG06	2.2546	BG01	2.8
BG00	94.9354				

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
BG06	TARNOVITSA	+	0.0076
BG06	SACHAN DERE	+	0.01
BG06	PETROVO BARDO	+	0.07
BG06	PYASAKA	+	0.0038
BG06	KAVAL TEPE	+	0.06
BG01	BEGLIKA /V.KOLAROV/	+	1.08
BG06	BATASHKI SNEZHNIK-KARLAKA	+	0.79
BG06	PORECHIETO NA REKA DEVINSKA	/	
BG01	KUPENA	/	
BG06	BATLABOAZ	+	0.11
BG06	TOSHKOV CHARK	+	0.0433
BG06	DRUMA	+	0.0054
BG06	ATOLUKA - VASIL PETLESHKOV	+	0.24
BG06	HADZHIYSKI CHARK	+	0.0092
BG06	HAIDUSHKA SKALA	+	0.0022
BG06	SUVATYA	+	0.0038
BG06	ROVNO	+	0.038
BG06	FOTINSKA REKA	+	0.2379
BG06	CHATAMA	+	0.02
BG06	VINISHTE	+	0.11
BG06	SHIROKA POLYANA	+	0.0757
BG06	KARVAV CHUCHUR	+	0.0022
BG06	TODIN GROB	+	0.0038
BG06	HAMBARITE	+	0.0038
BG06	MIRCHOVITSA	+	0.0054
BG06	SAMODIVSKA POLYANA	+	0.1
BG06	BALABANLII	+	0.09
BG01	DOUPKATA	+	0.92
BG06	STUDENATA CHUCHURKA	+	0.0541
BG06	KEMERA	+	0.08
BG03	FOTINSKI VODOPAD	+	0.01

BG06	LUNGURLII	+	0.003
BG06	NESTEROVI POLYANI	+	0.0038
BG06	KORIYATA	+	0.0216
BG06	SLANCHEVA POYANA	+	0.05
BG01	MANTARITSA	+	0.8

designated at international level:

Type	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
Other	IBA	*	90.0
	MANTARITSA	+	0.54
	KUPENA	/	
	DOUPKATA	+	0.54

5.3 Site designation (optional)

About 11% of the territory of Western Rhodopes is under legal protection. There are 31 protected areas here ? 4 reserves of which 3 are biosphere reserves, one maintained reserve, 22 protected areas and 4 nature monuments. The Doupkata, Kupena and Mantaritsa Reserves are designated to protect the rare and endangered animal species and typical for the region forest ecosystems. They are recognized under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme. Beglika Reserve is designated for protection of pseud-boreal spruce forests. In 1998 about 96% of the area was appointed as CORINE Sites because of its European value for habitats, rare and threatened plant and animal species, including birds. In 2005 the territory was designated as IBA by BirdLife International.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

Organisation:	RIEWs-Pazardzhik, Blagoevgrad, Smolyan; East-Aegean and West-Aegean River Basin Directorates; Forestry Department - Pazardzhik, Garmen, Borino, Vellingrad, Devin, Dospat, Eleshnitsa, Mesta, Mihalkovo, Pestera, Seliste, Chehlyovo;
Address:	_____
Email:	_____

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, but in preparation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

7. MAP OF THE SITES

INSPIRE ID:

Map delivered as PDF in electronic format (optional)

Yes No

Reference(s) to the original map used for the digitalisation of the electronic boundaries (optional).