



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 BG0001042
SITENAME Iskarski prolom - Rzhana

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [1. SITE IDENTIFICATION](#)
- [2. SITE LOCATION](#)
- [3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION](#)
- [4. SITE DESCRIPTION](#)
- [5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS](#)
- [6. SITE MANAGEMENT](#)
- [7. MAP OF THE SITE](#)

1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code BG0001042	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Iskarski prolom - Rzhana

1.4 First Compilation date 2006-07	1.5 Update date 2021-11
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1.6 Respondent:

Name/Organisation:	Ministry of Environment and Water, "National Nature Protection Service" Directorate
Address:	Sofia Kn. Maria Luiza Blvd. 22 1000 Sofia
Email:	natura2000@moew.government.bg

1.7 Site indication and designation / classification dates

Date site classified as SPA:	0000-00
National legal reference of SPA designation	No data
Date site proposed as SCI:	2007-03
Date site confirmed as SCI:	2008-12
Date site designated as SAC:	2021-03
National legal reference of SAC designation:	Designation Order No. RD - 276/ 31.03.2021 (promulgated SG 43 /2021) issued by the Minister of Environment and Water.
Explanation(s):	Adopted by Council of Ministers Decision No. 122/02.03.2007 (promulgated SG 21/2007). Issued by the Minister of Environment and Water designation Order No. RD - 276/ 31.03.2021 (promulgated SG 43 /2021) with prohibitions and restrictions on activities contradicting the conservation objectives of the site.

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

[Back to top](#)

Longitude

23.4969

Latitude

43.0286

2.2 Area [ha]:

22693.7269

2.3 Marine area [%]

0.0

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name**NUTS level 2 code****Region Name**

BG31	Северозападен / Severozapaden
BG41	Югозападен / Yugozapaden

2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)Alpine (95.15
%)Continental (4.85
%)**3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION****3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them**[Back to top](#)

Annex I Habitat types						Site assessment			
Code	PF	NP	Cover [ha]	Cave [number]	Data quality	A B C D	A B C		
						Representativity	Relative Surface	Conservation	Global
3260B			2.88		G	A	C	B	B
3270B			0.41		G	A	C	B	B
6110B			7.65		M	B	C	B	B
6210B			771.87		M	A	C	B	B
6430B			15.72		M	B	C	B	B
6520B			562.03		M	A	B	A	A
7220B			0.32		G	A	C	A	A
8110B			9.42		M	C	C	B	C
8210B			35.12		M	A	C	A	A
8220B			34.52		M	B	C	A	B
8230B			28.24		M	B	C	A	B
8310B				23	G	B	C	B	B
9110B			194.68		M	A	C	A	A
9130B			2943.11		M	A	C	B	A
9150B			444.87		M	A	C	A	A
9170B			1295.32		M	A	C	B	B
9180B			758.39		M	A	B	B	B
91CAB			54.16		M	D			
91E0B			1.04		G	A	C	A	A
91G0B			551.93		M	A	C	B	A
91H0B			1.67		M	B	C	B	B
91I0B			7.33		M	D			

91M0		418.11		M	B	C	A	B
91W0		1693.47		M	B	B	B	B
91Z0		89.8		M	A	C	B	B
9260		0.35		M	D			
9530		1.32		M	D			

- **PF:** for the habitat types that can have a non-priority as well as a priority form (6210, 7130, 9430) enter "X" in the column PF to indicate the priority form.
- **NP:** in case that a habitat type no longer exists in the site enter: x (optional)
- **Cover:** decimal values can be entered
- **Caves:** for habitat types 8310, 8330 (caves) enter the number of caves if estimated surface is not available.
- **Data quality:** G = 'Good' (e.g. based on surveys); M = 'Moderate' (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = 'Poor' (e.g. rough estimation)

3.2 Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and listed in Annex II of Directive 92/43/EEC and site evaluation for them

Species				Population in the site							Site assessment			
G	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	T	Size		Unit	Cat.	D. qual.	A B C D		A B C	
						Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	Glo.
I	1093	Austropotamobius torrentium			p	193452	193452	i	C	M	C	A	C	A
M	1308	Barbastella barbastellus			p	97	187	i	C	M	C	A	C	A
F	1138	Barbus meridionalis			p	114382	114382	i	C	G	C	A	C	A
A	1193	Bombina variegata			p	5	5	localities	R	M	C	A	C	A
M	1352	Canis lupus			p	6	7	i	P	M	C	A	C	A
I	1088	Cerambyx cerdo			p				P	DD	C	B	C	B
F	1149	Cobitis taenia			p	987830	987830	area	P	P	C	A	C	A
R	1220	Emys orbicularis			p			localities	P	DD	C	A	C	B
I	6199	Euplagia quadripunctaria			p				V	DD	C	A	C	A
P	2327	Himantoglossum caprinum			p				R	DD	C	B	C	B
I	1083	Lucanus cervus			p				P	DD	C	B	C	B
M	1355	Lutra lutra			p	9	10	i		G	C	B	C	B
I	1060	Lycaena dispar			p				V	DD	C	A	B	B
M	1310	Minopterus schreibersii			p				R	DD	D			
I	1089	Mormus funereus			p	147136	170905	i	R	M	C	B	C	B
M	1323	Myotis bechsteinii			p	101	250	i	C	M	C	A	C	C
M	1307	Myotis blythii			p	11	50	i	R	G	C	B	C	C
M	1316	Myotis capaccinii			p				P	DD	D			
M	1321	Myotis emarginatus			p				P	DD	D			
M	1324	Myotis myotis			p	11	50	i	R	G	C	B	C	C
I	4020	Pilemia tigrina			p				V	DD	A	A	A	A
M	1305	Rhinolophus euryale			p				V	DD	D			
M	1304	Rhinolophus ferrumequinum			p	51	100	i	C	G	C	B	C	C
M	1303	Rhinolophus hipposideros			p	51	100	i	C	G	C	B	C	C
M	1302	Rhinolophus mehelyi			p				V	DD	D			

F	5339	Rhodeus amarus			p				P	DD	D			
I	1087	Rosalia alpina			p				P	DD	C	B	C	B
F	1146	Sabanejewia aurata			p	601930	601930	area	P	P	C	B	B	B
R	1217	Testudo hermanni			p			localities	P	DD	C	A	B	A
A	1171	Triturus karelinii			p	4	4	localities	V	P	C	A	C	B
I	1032	Unio crassus			p			i	R	M	C	B	C	B
M	2635	Vormela peregusna			p				P	DD	C	B	C	B

- **Group:** A = Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, I = Invertebrates, M = Mammals, P = Plants, R = Reptiles
- **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)
- **Type:** p = permanent, r = reproducing, c = concentration, w = wintering (for plant and non-migratory species use permanent)
- **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](#))
- **Abundance categories (Cat.):** C = common, R = rare, V = very rare, P = present - to fill if data are deficient (DD) or in addition to population size information
- **Data quality:** G = 'Good' (e.g. based on surveys); M = 'Moderate' (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = 'Poor' (e.g. rough estimation); VP = 'Very poor' (use this category only, if not even a rough estimation of the population size can be made, in this case the fields for population size can remain empty, but the field "Abundance categories" has to be filled in)

3.3 Other important species of flora and fauna (optional)

Species					Population in the site				Motivation					
Group	CODE	Scientific Name	S	NP	Size		Unit	Cat.	Species Annex		Other categories			
					Min	Max		C R V P	IV	V	A	B	C	D
R		Ablepharus kitaibelii						P					X	
I		Balkanopetalum armatum						P				X		
I		Bittacus italicus						V			X			
I		Brenthis hecate						C						X
A		Bufo viridis						P					X	
R		Coluber caspius						P					X	
R		Coronella austriaca						P					X	
I		Duvalis pretneri						P				X		
I		Duvalius papasoffi						P				X		
I		Duvalius pretneri						P				X		
R		Elaphe longissima						P					X	
A		Hyla arborea						P					X	
R		Lacerta viridis						C					X	
F		Leuciscus cephalus						C						X
I		Lithobius lakatnicensis						P				X		
R		Natrix tessellata						P					X	
I		Neptis sappho						C						X
F		Noemacheilus barbatulus						R			X			
I		Paranemastoma bureschi						P				X		
I		Parnassius apollo						C					X	
I		Parnassius mnemosyne						C					X	
F		Phoxinus phoxinus						R						X
R		Podarcis muralis						C					X	

A		Rana dalmatina						P					X	
I		Saga pedo						R					X	
I		Scolitantides orion						C					X	
I		Speocyclops lindbergi						P				X		
I		Typhloiulus bureschi						P				X		
R		Vipera ammodytes						P					X	
I		Zerynthia polyxena						C					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

[Back to top](#)

Habitat class	% Cover
N15	3.0
N16	48.0
N08	31.0
N19	10.0
N09	8.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

The pSCI includes part of River Iskar Gorge through the main chain of Balkan Mountain, especially its part called Rzhana. The zone also includes a valley of medium tributary of River Iskar, but also a bio-corridor along smaller valley to mountain slopes facing the opposite side of the mountain. In the zone there are well preserved forests especially in the higher mountain part. The cave part of the site is a complex of abandoned mine galleries (N 43° 00' 35.2" E 23° 26' 18.7" WGS 84, alt. 1440) gridded between 1955 and 1965. The most important entrance for bats is the most upper one, which is a subject of regular landslides due to loose rocks.

4.2 Quality and importance

The zone is an important stepping-stones bio-corridor along Iskar river for fishes, but also for temophile fauna in the area there are still viable populations of *Testudo hermanni* and this is the most high (in the case most south) location along Iskar river for this species. In the zone is situated one of the biggest known in Bulgaria population of *Myotis bechsteinii* and *Barbastella barbastellus*, both inhabiting in old beech and oak forests. This gallery of the cave Izdrimetz, which is within the site boundaries, is very important swarming site (reproduction and social contacts) for all bat species, which are living in the area between end of August till October. 15 bat-boxes (type SCHWEGLER 2FN) are installed around the gallery and 10 more are hung at about 300 m in the forest below. The site "Izremets" is neighbouring to the area of the Monastery "Sedemta Prestola" where several colonies of *Myotis bechsteinii*, *Nyctalus noctula* and *N. leisleri* were recently discovered in tree hollows and bat boxes (25 are installed there). In table "Ecological Information - Other Important species", the species justified by 'A-National' are not necessarily included in the National Red Data Book, because its last edition is too old (1985), not up-dated and has no legislative value. The species indicated by 'A-National' are the protected flora and fauna species, included in the Bulgarian Biodiversity Act, and therefore this motivation is given highest priority.

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]
H	B01.02		i
M	B02.03		i

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside /outside [i o b]
M	A05.01		i

L	A02		i
L	D02.01		i
H	F03.02.03		i
L	H07		i
M	B03		i
M	C01.04		i
M	B02.04		i
H	B02.02		i
M	J02.03		i
L	F03.02		i
L	F04		i
M	C01.01		i
H	B		i
M	G01.03		i
L	A08		i
M	J01		i
H	F03.01		i
M	E03.01		i
H	A04.03		i
H	J02.05		i
H	B02.01		i
H	J02		i
H	B02.02		o
M	E01		i
L	D01.02		i
M	F03.02.01		i
M	E03.03		i
M	E02		i
L	A07		i

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

4.4 Ownership (optional)

4.5 Documentation

Initial proposal and description of the site made by Balkani Wildlife Society, office@balkani.org , tel.:+359 2 963 14 70; Centre for Environmental Information and education, ceie@ceie.org , tel.: +359 2 980 8497; Boyan P. Petrov - NMNH, BAS, boyanpp@nmnh.bas.bg. Initially listed documents: Petrov B. 2006. Distribution and status of Myotis bechsteinii in Bulgaria (Chiroptera: Vespertilionidae).- Lynx n.s., Praha, 37: 179-195.Data revised by a team of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (http://www.bas.bg).New data provided by project "Mapping and assessment of the conservation status of the natural habitats and species - Phase 1" (see link).

Link(s): <http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/Home/ProtectedSite?code=BG0001042&siteType=HabitatDirective>

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

[Back to top](#)

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
BG03	0.09	BG00	95.075	BG06	4.835

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
BG03	Sedemte prestola	+	0.09

BG06	Treskavetz	+	4.835
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5.3 Site designation (optional)

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

[Back to top](#)

Organisation:	Regional Inspectorate of Environment and Water: Vratsa, Sofia
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

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

Consolidation of the cave entrance's arc is urgently needed in order to guarantee its long-term existence. Regular monitoring is highly recommended to avoid negative impacts.
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7. MAP OF THE SITES

[Back to top](#)

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).

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