



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 BG0002021

SITENAME Sakar

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 A	1.2 Site code BG0002021	Back to top
----------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------

1.3 Site name

Sakar

1.4 First Compilation date 2005-10	1.5 Update date 2015-07
--	-----------------------------------

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:	2007-12
National legal reference of SPA designation	Site classified as SPA by Council of Ministers Decision No. 802/04.12.2007 (promulgated SG 107/2007).
Explanation(s):	Site classified as SPA by Council of Ministers Decision No. 802/04.12.2007 (promulgated SG 107/2007). 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 - 758/19.08.2010 (promulgated SG 72/2010), amended by Order No. RD - 70/28.01.2013 (promulgated SG 10/2013).

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

[Back to top](#)

Longitude 26.35611111111111	Latitude 41.983333333333334
---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

2.2 Area [ha]:

125722.2834

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

BG34	Югоизточен / Yugoiztochen
BG42	Южен централен / Yuzhen tsentralen

2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Continental (100.0
%)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

[Back to top](#)

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.
B	A402	Accipiter brevipes			c		15	i		G	C	B	C	A
B	A402	Accipiter brevipes			r	12	12	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A085	Accipiter gentilis			p	18	18	p		G	B	B	C	B
B	A085	Accipiter gentilis			c		63	i		G	B	B	C	A
B	A086	Accipiter nisus			c		88	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A086	Accipiter nisus			p	12	12	p		G	B	A	C	B
B	A293	Acrocephalus melanopogon			r	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A293	Acrocephalus melanopogon			c	1	1	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A168	Actitis hypoleucos			w		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A229	Alcedo atthis			p	6	12	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A054	Anas acuta			w		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A056	Anas clypeata			c	4		i		M	C	B	C	C
B	A052	Anas crecca			w	5	100	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A050	Anas penelope			w		10	i		G	B	B	C	B
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			p	2	40	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			w	11	560	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A055	Anas querquedula			c	3		i		M	C	B	C	C
B	A051	Anas strepera			w		4	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A041	Anser albifrons			w		62	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A043	Anser anser			w	16	30	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A255	Anthus campestris			r	80	350	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A091	Aquila chrysaetos			c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A091	Aquila chrysaetos			p	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A090	Aquila clanga			r		2	i		G	B	A	C	A

B	A090	Aquila clanga			c		2	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A404	Aquila heliaca			p	11	11	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A509	Aquila nipalensis			c		1	i		G	A	A	B	A
B	A509	Aquila nipalensis			r		1	i		G	A	A	B	A
B	A089	Aquila pomarina			r	31	31	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A089	Aquila pomarina			c	29	30	i		G	C	A	C	A
B	A028	Ardea cinerea			c	3	12	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A028	Ardea cinerea			w	1	4	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A029	Ardea purpurea			c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A024	Ardeola ralloides			c	1	5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A059	Aythya ferina			c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A061	Aythya fuligula			w		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A060	Aythya nyroca			w		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A060	Aythya nyroca			c		5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A021	Botaurus stellaris			w		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A021	Botaurus stellaris			c	1	2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A133	Burhinus oedicnemus			r	18	36	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A087	Buteo buteo			w	10	20	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A087	Buteo buteo			c		258	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A087	Buteo buteo			p	40	43	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A088	Buteo lagopus			w		5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A403	Buteo rufinus			p	20	55	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A403	Buteo rufinus			c		8	i		G	C	B	C	A
B	A403	Buteo rufinus			w		1	i		G	C	B	C	A
B	A243	Calandrella brachydactyla			r	130	260	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A224	Caprimulgus europaeus			r	40	80	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A136	Charadrius dubius			r	2	25	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A196	Chlidonias hybridus			c	1	2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A198	Chlidonias leucopterus			c	1	2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A197	Chlidonias niger			c	1	5	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A031	Ciconia ciconia			c	908	1000	i		G	C	B	C	B
B	A031	Ciconia ciconia			r	22	35	p		G	C	B	C	B
B	A030	Ciconia nigra			r	14	20	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A030	Ciconia nigra			c	60	206	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A080	Circus gallicus			r	15	15	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A080	Circus gallicus			c	20	31	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A081	Circus aeruginosus			c	18	50	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A082	Circus cyaneus			c	10	15	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A082	Circus cyaneus			w		15	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A083	Circus macrourus			c		2	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A084	Circus pygargus			r	16	16	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A084	Circus pygargus			c	4	100	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A231	Coracias garrulus			r	15	60	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A122	Crex crex			r	3	12	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A038	Cygnus cygnus			w		6	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A038	Cygnus cygnus			c	1	7	i		G	C	B	C	C

					Min	Max		C R V P	IV	V	A	B	C	D
B	A247	Alauda arvensis			6500	6500	p						X	
B	A227	Apus pallidus			17	17	p						X	
B	A218	Athene noctua			125	125	p						X	
B	A366	Carduelis cannabina			125	125	p						X	
B	A363	Carduelis chloris			800	800	p						X	
B	A347	Corvus monedula			300	300	p							X
B	A113	Coturnix coturnix			1200	1200	p						X	
B	A378	Emberiza cia			7	7	p						X	
B	A377	Emberiza cirius			650	650	p						X	
B	A382	Emberiza melanocephala			5000	5000	p						X	
B	A269	Erithacus rubecula			105	105	p						X	
B	A359	Fringilla coelebs			700	700	p						X	
B	A244	Galerida cristata			6000	6000	p						X	
B	A251	Hirundo rustica			2200	2200	p						X	
B	A233	Jynx torquilla			37	37	p						X	
B	A271	Luscinia megarhynchos			3150	3150	p						X	
B	A383	Miliaria calandra			10000	10000	p						X	
B	A261	Motacilla cinerea			2	2	p						X	
B	A278	Oenanthe hispanica			225	225	p						X	
B	A214	Otus scops			200	200	p						X	
B	A329	Parus caeruleus			450	450	p						X	
B	A443	Parus lugubris			200	200	p						X	
B	A325	Parus palustris			7	7	p						X	
B	A235	Picus viridis			150	150	p						X	
B	A336	Remiz pendulinus			3	3	p						X	
B	A276	Saxicola torquata			275	275	p						X	
B	A311	Sylvia atricapilla			300	300	p						X	
B	A304	Sylvia cantillans			2	2	p						X	
B	A283	Turdus merula			1250	1250	p						X	
B	A285	Turdus philomelos			90	90	p						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
N20	
N09	16.0
N23	5.0

N17	3.0
N21	5.0
N10	
N15	6.0
N07	
N08	13.0
N06	1.0
N19	4.0
N12	35.0
N22	
N16	12.0
Total Habitat Cover	NaN

Other Site Characteristics

A low-mountain region with rounded hilltops and comparatively open river valleys of the Maritsa and Tundzha tributaries, close to the state border with Turkey. The terrain altitude is between 50 and 856 m. On its territory there are about 30 small settlements, the town of Topolovgrad and a poorly developed road network. Lower parts of the Sakar territory is occupied by farmland, which has replaced forests of *Quercus pubescens* and *Quercus virgiliana*. On about 15% of the area there are dispersed xerothermal grass associations, dominated by *Dichanthium ischaemum*, *Poa bulbosa*, *Chrisopogon grillus*, etc., and, more rarely, meso-xerothermal vegetation. The shrubs of *Paliurus spina-christi*, mixed with *Jasminum fruticans* in combination and the xerothermal grass formations determine the comparatively high numbers of the Hare *Lepus europeus* and the Sousek *Spermophilus citellus* respectively. The region also supports broadleaved forests of open type, composed of *Quercus pubescens* and *Quercus virgiliana* with Mediterranean elements, at places with secondary origin (Bondev 1991). Many of the riverbeds and valleys in the Sakar are still fringed by old trees of White Poplar *Populus alba*, willow *Salix* sp., etc., which provide nesting conditions for the birds of prey.

4.2 Quality and importance

The area of Sakar currently supports 220 bird species, 59 of which are listed in the Red Data Book for Bulgaria (1985). Of the birds occurring there 96 species are of European conservation concern (SPEC) (BirdLife International, 2004), 11 of them being listed in category SPEC 1 as globally threatened, 23 in SPEC 2 and 62 in SPEC 3 as species threatened in Europe. The area provides suitable habitats for 76 species, included in Annex 2 of the Biodiversity Act, which need special conservation measures. Sixty-eight of them are listed also in Annex I of the Birds Directive and more than half of them breed in the region in significant populations. Sakar holds the biggest populations in the country of Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca*, Lesser Spotted Eagle *Aquila pomarina*, Booted Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus*, Black Kite *Milvus migrans* and Long-legged Buzzard *Buteo rufinus*. It is one of the most important areas in the country on European Union scale for the species mentioned above, as well as for the Levant Sparrowhawk *Accipiter brevipes*, the Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris*, Calandra Lark *Melanocorypha calandra*, Greater Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*, Masked Shrike *Lanius nubicus*, Stone Curlew *Burhinus oedipnes*, Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus*, Syrian Woodpecker *Dendrocopos syriacus* and the Olive-tree Warbler *Hippolais olivetorum*. The Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*, the Grey-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus* and the Red-Backed Shrike *Lanius collurio* occur there with representative populations. With less numerous populations two other globally threatened species than the Imperial Eagle also breed in Sakar the Corncrake *Crex crex* and the Saker Falcon *Falco cherrug*. Eight more globally threatened species occur there on migration Pygmy Cormorant *Phalacrocorax pygmeus*, Dalmatian Pelican *Pelecanus crispus*, Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca*, Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus*, Spotted Eagle *Aquila clanga*, Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni* and Great Snipe *Gallinago media*.

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	A03		i
M	D02.01		o
M	A04.03		i
M	B02.02		o
L	A01		o
L	J01		i
M	F03.02.03		o
M	B02.01		o
M	A09		o
H	L09		o

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	A09		o
M	A08		o
M	A08		i
H	A09		i
M	A04		i
M	A04		o

L	A03		o
M	A10		i
H	A09		i
M	B01.02		o
M	B01		i
M	A01		i
M	A07		o
M	B02.01		i
M	F03.02.03		i
M	B01		o
L	B02.04		i
L	B		o
L	B02.04		o
L	J01		o
L	J02.12		o
M	A04.03		o
M	D02.01		i
L	J02.12		i
L	B		i
M	A10		o
M	A08		o
M	B02.02		i
M	A08		i
M	A07		i
H	L09		i
M	B01.02		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 Stoycho Stoychev, Dimitar Demerdjiev, Dr. Petar Iankov - 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>).Documents: BDZP/BirdLife Balgariya. 2005. Nacionalna banka za ornitologichna informacia 1988-2005, Balgarsko Druzhestvo za zastita na pticite;Boev, Z. 1991. Razprostranenie I status na stridoyada (*Haematopus ostralegus* L. 1758) (*Haematopodidae* Aves) v Balgariya. *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 3, 75-91.;Bondev, I. 1991. Rastitelnostta na Balgariya. S. Universitetsko izdatelstvo Sv. Kliment Ohridski, 183 s.;Botev, B. and Tz. Peshev, (eds). 1985. Red Data Book of Republic Bulgaria. 2: Animals. Sofia: Bulgarian Academy of Science. (In Bulgarian.);BDZP.2000. Finalen otchet na proekt Kartirane gnezdovite nahodishta na tsarskiya orel (*Aquila heliaca*) I merki za tyahnoto opazvane. 1998-2000, Plovdiv, BDZP, 89 s.;Iankov, P. 2002.(red.). Svetovno zastrasheni vidove ptitsi v Balgariya. Natsionalni planove za deystvie za opazvaneto im. Chast 1. BDZP-MOSV, Prirodozashtitna poreditsa, Kn. 4, Sofiya: 204-219.;Kostadinova, I. (sast.) 1997. Ornitologichno vazhni mesta v Balgariya. BDZP, Prirodozashtitna poreditsa. Kniga 1, BDZP, Sofiya, 176 s.;Michev, T., Tz. Petrov, L. Profirov, P. Iankov, S. Gavrailov. 1989. Razprostranenie I prirodozashtiten status na skalniya orel *Aquila chrysaetos chrysaetos* (L.), 1758 v Balgariya. *Izv. Muz. Yu. Balgariya*, 15, 79-87.;MOSV. 2005. Arhiv na zastitenite teritorii v Bulgaria. Baza danni (nepubl.);Petrov, Tz 1997b. Belyat shtarkel (*Ciconia ciconia*) v Balgariya. Prirodozashtitna poreditsa, Kniga 2, BDZP, Plovdiv.;Petrov, Tz., P. Iankov, T. Michev, B. Milchev, L. Profirov. 1991. Razprostranenie, chislenost I merki za opazvane na cherniya shtarkel, *Ciconia nigra* (L.) v Balgariya. *Izv. Muz. Yu. Balgariya*, T. 17, 25-32.;Stoychev, S. 1997. Prouchvane varhu gnezdovata ornitofauna na Sakar planina. Diplomna rabota, Plovdivski universitet Paisiy Hilendarski, Biologicheski fakultet, 69 s.;Vatev, I., P. Simeonov, T. Michev, B. Ivanov.1980. Belochelata svrachka (*Lanius nubicus* Lichtenstein) gnezdyasht vid v Balgariya. *Acta zoologica Bulgarica*, 15, 115-118.;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).;BirdLife International. 2005. World Bird Database Important Birds Areas.Bulgaria. Cambridge. (unpublished);Heath, M.F. and Evans, M.I., eds. 2000. Important Bird Areas in Europe: Priority sites for conservation, vol. 2 Southern Europe. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International (BirdLife Conservation Series No. 8).;Iankov, P., N. Petkov, A. Kovachev, D. Plachiisky. (in print). Pygmy Cormorant in Bulgaria 2001/2002. Final Report.;Kostadinova, I., S.Dereliev. 2001. Results the Mid-Winter Counts of Waterbirds in Bulgaria for the period 1997- 2001. BSPB Conservation Series. Book 3, BSPB, Sofia, BG;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. Preliminarily 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.;Milchev, B., A. Kovachev. 1998. A contribution to the bird fauna of the Sakar mountains.MOEW. 1998. CORINE Biotopes Database of the sites of European Importance for the biodiversity. Bulgaria, MOSV (nepubl.);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;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=BG0002021&siteType=BirdsDirective>

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

[Back to top](#)

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
BG03	0.135	BG00	99.865		

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
BG03	HAYDUSHKATA DUPKA	+	
BG03	BRASNARSKIYAT STOL	+	0.004
BG03	DERVISHKA MOGILA - ROCK FORMATION	+	0.026
BG03	KARAKOLYOVATA DUPKA	+	0.005
BG03	SVETA TROITSA	+	0.1
BG03	DOLMENS	+	
BG03	NAHODISHTA NA DIV BOZHUR	+	

designated at international level:

Type	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
Other	IBA	=	100.0

5.3 Site designation (optional)

Only 0.1% of the territory of Sakar is under legal protection. The existing 7 protected areas are designated or protection of landscapes, stony features or rare plants. In 1998 about 18% of the area is appointed as CORINE Site because of its European value for habitats, rare and threatened plant and animal species, including birds. In 1997 the area is designated as Important Bird Area by BirdLife International.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

[Back to top](#)

Organisation:	Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water - Haskovo, Stara Zagora;East-Aegean River Basin Directorate;Forestry Departments - Elhovo, Svilengrad, Topolovgrad, Harmanli;
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)

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).