



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

BG0000332

SITENAME

Karlukovski karst

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [1. SITE IDENTIFICATION](#)
- [2. SITE LOCATION](#)
- [3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION](#)
- [4. SITE DESCRIPTION](#)
- [5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS AND RELATION WITH CORINE BIOTOPES](#)
- [6. IMPACTS AND ACTIVITIES IN AND AROUND THE SITE](#)
- [7. MAP OF THE SITE](#)

1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

[Back to top](#)

1.1 Type	1.2 Site code
A	BG0000332

1.3 Site name

Karlukovski karst

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

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 – 788/29.10.2008 (promulgated SG 105/2008).

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

[Back to top](#)

Longitude

24.01861111111111

Latitude

43.21194444444445

2.2 Area [ha]:

14210.7855

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
BG31	Северозападен / Severozapaden
BG31	Северозападен / Severozapaden

2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Continental (100.0 %)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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

[Back to top](#)

Species					Population in the site						Site assessment			
Group	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	Type	Size		Unit	Cat.	Data quality	A B C D	A B C		
						Min	Max		C R V P		Pop.	Cons.	Isol.	Glob.
B	A402	Accipiter brevipes			r	2	4	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A086	Accipiter nisus			p	4	4	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A168	Actitis hypoleucos			r	3	6	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A229	Alcedo atthis			p	5	12	p		G	B	A	C	B
B	A465	Alectoris graeca graeca			p	15	25	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			p	7	18	p		G	D			
B	A255	Anthus campestris			r	10	15	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A024	Ardeola ralloides			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A215	Bubo bubo			p	10	16	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A133	Burhinus oedicnemus			r	1	1	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A087	Buteo buteo			p	5	8	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A403	Buteo rufinus			p	6	10	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A224	Caprimulgus europaeus			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A224	Caprimulgus europaeus			r	20	40	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A136				r	5	15	p		G	C	B	C	C

		Charadrius dubius											
B	A031	Ciconia ciconia		r	10	10	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A030	Ciconia nigra		r	3	3	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A080	Circus gallicus		r	2	3	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A081	Circus aeruginosus		c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A231	Coracias garrulus		r	5	5	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A122	Crex crex		r	3	25	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A122	Crex crex		c				P	DD	C	A	C	C
B	A238	Dendrocopos medius		p	10	15	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A429	Dendrocopos syriacus		p	40	50	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A236	Dryocopus martius		p	1	6	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A027	Egretta alba		c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A026	Egretta garzetta		c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A379	Emberiza hortulana		r	150	200	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A511	Falco cherrug		r		1	i		G	B	B	B	B
B	A511	Falco cherrug		c				P	DD	B	B	B	B
B	A103	Falco peregrinus		r		2	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A099	Falco subbuteo		r	2	5	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A096	Falco tinnunculus		p	10	35	p		G	B	A	C	B
B	A442	Ficedula semitorquata		c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A125	Fulica atra		p		2	p		G	D			
B	A123	Gallinula chloropus		p		2	p		G	D			
B	A092	Hieraaetus pennatus		c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A022	Ixobrychus minutus		r	3	4	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A022	Ixobrychus minutus		c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A338	Lanius collurio		r	200	250	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A339	Lanius minor		r	15	30	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A246	Lullula arborea		p	60	150	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A230	Merops apiaster		c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A230	Merops apiaster		r	45	45	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A077	Neophron percnopterus		c				P	DD	C	A	C	C
B	A077	Neophron percnopterus		r		1	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A023	Nycticorax nycticorax		c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A072	Pernis apivorus		r	3	6	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A072	Pernis apivorus		c				P	DD	C	A	C	B
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo		c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A393	Phalacrocorax pygmeus		w	10	10	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A393	Phalacrocorax pygmeus		c	5	20	i		G	C	B	C	C

B	A234	Picus canus			p	6	12	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A307	Sylvia nisoria			r	100	120	p		G	C		C	A
B	A397	Tadorna ferruginea									C	B	C	C
B	A165	Tringa ochropus			r	1	1	p		G	C	B	C	C

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
B	A247	Alauda arvensis			650	650							X	
B	A218	Athene noctua			12	12							X	
B	A366	Carduelis cannabina			150	150							X	
B	A363	Carduelis chloris			75	75							X	
B	A347	Corvus monedula			115	115								X
B	A113	Coturnix coturnix			190	190							X	
B	A377	Emberiza cirius			60	60							X	
B	A382	Emberiza melanocephala			17	17							X	
B	A269	Erithacus rubecula			145	145							X	
B	A359	Fringilla coelebs			230	230							X	
B	A244	Galerida cristata			90	90							X	
B	A251	Hirundo rustica			350	350							X	
B	A233	Jynx torquilla			33	33							X	
B	A271	Luscinia megarhynchos			380	380							X	
B	A383	Miliaria calandra			900	900							X	
B	A280	Monticola saxatilis			6	6							X	
B	A278	Oenanthe hispanica			9	9							X	
B	A214	Otus scops			40	40							X	
B	A329	Parus caeruleus			100	100							X	
B	A443	Parus lugubris			22	22							X	
B	A235	Picus viridis			20	20							X	
B	A276	Saxicola torquata			25	25							X	
B	A210	Streptopelia turtur			103	103							X	
B	A311	Sylvia atricapilla			75	75							X	
B	A283	Turdus merula			650	650							X	

B	A285	Turdus philomelos			280	280									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
N23	3.0
N21	2.0
N22	1.0
N12	16.0
N07	
N09	24.0
N15	10.0
N19	
N20	1.0
N08	13.0
N17	2.0
N16	22.0
N10	6.0
Total Habitat Cover	NaN

Other Site Characteristics

Karlukovski Karst is located in north-western Bulgaria, in the pre-Balkan between the town of Cherven Bryag on the north and the Kosmatitsa river valley and the Iskar gorge on the south. On the west and east it covers the grounds of the villages of Drashan, Kameno Pole and Dolna Breshovitsa up to the town of Lukovit. The site is located in a hilly karst region, cut by canyon-like river gorges. The baserock is of Triast and Jurassic limestones, at many places exposed in rocky crests, walls, stony plateaus, pot-holes and caves. A big share of the territory is occupied by open grasslands with xerothermal associations with prevalence of *Dichanthium ischaemum*, *Poa bulbosa*, *Chrysopogon gryllus*, etc., small patches of mesophyle meadows with *Festuca pratensis*, *Poa sylvicola*, *Alopecurus pratensis*, *Lolium perenne*, *Agrostis stolonifera*, etc., as well as shrubs dominated by *Carpinus orientalis*. Of the forest habitats the broadleaved oak forests are best represented. The mixed forests of *Quercus cerris* and *Quercus frainetto* predominate. In some places these forests are mixed with *Carpinus orientalis* (Bondev 1991).

4.2 Quality and importance

Karlukovski Karst is an important breeding habitat for many petrophile bird species. The area supports 128 bird species, 25 of which are listed in the Red Data Book for Bulgaria (1985). Of the birds occurring there 57 species are of European conservation concern (SPEC) (BirdLife International, 2004), 2 of them being listed in category SPEC 1 as globally threatened, 18 in SPEC 2 and 37 in SPEC 3 as species threatened in Europe. The area provides suitable habitats for 41 species, included in Annex 2 of the Biodiversity Act, which need special conservation measures, of which 37 are listed also in Annex I of the Birds Directive. Karlukovski Karst is one of the most important sites in Bulgaria on European Union scale for the breeding Long-legged Buzzard *Buteo rufinus*, Levant Sparrowhawk *Accipiter brevipes*, Eagle Owl *Bubo bubo*, Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus*, European Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* and the Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria*. It is of European importance for the Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* that breeds there in very dense population. The area holds good breeding populations on a national level of the Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris*, the Black Stork *Ciconia nigra* and the White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*. Two globally threatened species regularly occur in the area ? the Corncrake *Crex crex* as breeding species and the Pygmy Cormorant *Phalacrocorax pygmeus* during the migration.

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]
M	G01.02		i
M	E01.02		i
M	E02		i
M	H06.01		i
M	D02.01		i
M	J02.05.02		i
M	F03.01		i
M	A07		i
H	G01.04		i
L	E03.02		i
M	G02.04		i
L	K01.01		i
H	A01		i
M	D01.01		i
L	B01		i
H	L08		i
L	E04.01		i
L	D01.04		i
H	A09		i
L	D02.02		i
M	H04		i
M	D01.02		i
H	E03		i
H	J02.03		i
H	E03.01		i
M	A03		i
H	J02.04		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

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
H	A01		i
M	A04		i
M	A05.02		i
M	A05.01		i
H	A09		i
L	E04.01		i
L	B01		i
L	K01.01		i
M	J02.05.02		i
M	G02.04		i
M	A03		i
M	D02.01		i
M	G01.02		i
L	D02.02		i
M	E01.03		i

4.5 Documentation

Initial proposal and description of the site made by Georgi Stoyanov – BPPS, 1000 Sofia, 40 “V. Levski” blvd., tel:(+3592) 9634037; Dimitar Gradinarov – BSPB, 1111 Sofia, P.O.Box 50, Phone (+3592)9715855; CEIE - 1303 Sofia, 17A “S.Vratchanski” Str., Bulgaria, (+3592)9808497 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; Botev, B. and Tz. Peshev, (eds). 1985. Red Data Book of Republic Bulgaria. 2: Animals. Sofia: Bulgarian Academy of Science. (In Bulgarian.); Iankov, P. 2002.(red.). Svetovno zastrasheni vidove ptici v Bulgaria. Nacionalni planove za dejstvie za opazvaneto im. Chast 1. BDZP-MOSV, Prirodzashtitna poredica, Kn. 4, Sofia: 204-219.; MOSV. 2005. Arhiv na zastitenite teritorii v Bulgaria. Baza dannii (nepubl.); Nikolov, Hr., S. Marin, A. Darakchiev. 1999. Malkiat kormoran v Bulgaria. Razprostranenie, chislenost i zaplahi. ? Nauch. Tr. Plov. Univ., Animalia, 35, 6, 67-81.; 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.; Stoianov, G. 1996. Gnezdova ornitofauna na skalnite biotopi na Iskurskia prolom. Diplomna rabota, Biologicheski fakultet pri SU ?Sv. Kl. Ohridski?, Sofia.; Shurulinkov, P., R. Conev, B. Nikolov, G. Stoianov, L. Asenov. 2005. Pticite na Sredna Dunavska ravnina. Sofia, 120 s.; 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 Iankov, P., N. Petkov, A. Kovachev, D. Plachiisky. (in print). Pygmy Cormorant in Bulgaria 2001/2002. Final Report.; 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.); 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; Shurulinkov, P., B. Nikolov, R. Tsonev. 2001. On the distribution of the Black-headed Bunting (Emberiza melanocephala) in Bulgaria. ? In.: Tryjanowski P., Osiejuk T., Kupczyk M. (Eds). Bunting studies in Europe.

Bogucki Wyd. Nauk., Poznan, 81-87. 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=BG0000332&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	1.051	BG06	0.007	BG00	98.942

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
BG03	SAMUILITSA 1 AND 2	+	
BG03	TEMNATA DUPKA CAVE	+	
BG03	TEKTONSKI GREBEN KALETO	+	0.4
BG03	PROHODNA CAVE	+	
BG03	CHERVENITSA	+	
BG03	KUPENITE	+	0.03
BG03	CHUKLITE	+	
BG03	STRUPANITSA ROCK FORMATIONS	+	0.09
BG03	KAMARATA	+	
BG06	SHTARKA	+	0.007
BG03	BANKOVITSA CAVE	+	
BG03	SKALNITE KUKLI - PLADNISHTETO	+	0.45
BG03	SKOKA WATERFALL - BELILKATA RIVER	+	0.001
BG03	GALABARNIKA	+	
BG03	HAYDUSHKA DUPKA CAVE	+	
BG03	SVIRCHOVITSA CAVE	+	
BG03	KUKLITE ROCK FOMATION - ULEYA	+	0.08

designated at international level:

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

5.3 Site designation (optional)

The total area with legal protection by national nature conservation law is less than 1% of the site's territory. 17 protected areas are designated. 16 are nature monuments and one is under ?Protected area? category. Most of them are designated to protect the caves and rock formations. About 63% of the site overlaps with Karlukovski Karst CORINE Site, which was designated in 1998 because of its European value for rare and threatened habitats, plant and animal species, including birds. In 2005 it was 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 Inspectorate of Environment and Water -Vratsa, Pleven;Danubean River Basin Directorate;Forestry Departments - Lukovit, Mezdra, Pleven;
Address:	
Email:	

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No, but in preparation
- ☒ No

7. MAP OF THE SITES

INSPIRE ID:

[Back to top](#)

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).