



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

BG0002029

SITENAME

Kotlenska planina

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

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1.1 Type	1.2 Site code
A	BG0002029

1.3 Site name

Kotlenska planina

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 – 910/11.12.2008 (promulgated SG 15/2009), amended by Order No. RD – 72/28.01.2013 (promulgated SG 10/2013).

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude

26.4703

Latitude

42.9058

2.2 Area [ha]:

99299.7712

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
BG32	Северен централен / Severen tsentralen
BG33	Североизточен / Severoiztochen
BG34	Югоизточен / Yugoiztochen
BG33	Североизточен / Severoiztochen

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

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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	4	6	p		G	B	A	C	B
B	A402	Accipiter brevipes			c	7	10	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A086	Accipiter nisus			p	17	39	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A086	Accipiter nisus			c	40	90	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A079	Aegypius monachus			c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A229	Alcedo atthis			p	2	14	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A054	Anas acuta			w	2	4	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A056	Anas clypeata			c	4	20	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A052	Anas crecca			w		106	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A052	Anas crecca			c	200	220	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A050	Anas penelope			w		37	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A050	Anas penelope			c	10	60	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			c	400	400	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			p	16	24	p		G	B	A	C	B

B	A053	Anas platyrhynchos			w		2310	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A051	Anas strepera			w		4	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A041	Anser albifrons			w		320	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A041	Anser albifrons			c	1200	3000	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A043	Anser anser			w		180	i		G	A	B	C	A
B	A255	Anthus campestris			r		1	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A091	Aquila chrysaetos			p	4	6	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A090	Aquila clanga			c		1	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A404	Aquila heliaca			p	1	2	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A089	Aquila pomarina			r	7	8	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A089	Aquila pomarina			c	200	220	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A028	Ardea cinerea			c	28	50	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A028	Ardea cinerea			w		7	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A029	Ardea purpurea			c	1	26	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A059	Aythya ferina			w		40	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A059	Aythya ferina			c	20	60	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A061	Aythya fuligula			c	14	16	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A061	Aythya fuligula			w	23	830	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A060	Aythya nyroca			w		12	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A060	Aythya nyroca			r	1	1	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A060	Aythya nyroca			c	4	16	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A104	Bonasa bonasia			p	30	290	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A215	Bubo bubo			p	2	4	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A067	Bucephala clangula			w		2	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A087	Buteo buteo			w		9	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A087	Buteo buteo			c	1100	1300	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A087	Buteo buteo			p	31	47	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A403	Buteo rufinus			p	3	4	p		G	C	B	C	B
B	A224	Caprimulgus europaeus			r	80	760	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A136	Charadrius dubius			r	1	10	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A031	Ciconia ciconia			r	22	22	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A031	Ciconia ciconia			c	3900	4800	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A030	Ciconia nigra			r	12	12	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A030	Ciconia nigra			c	120	160	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A080	Circus gallicus			c	20	42	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A080	Circus gallicus			r	6	6	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A081	Circus aeruginosus			p	2	3	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A081	Circus aeruginosus			c	200	600	i		G	A	A	C	A
B	A082	Circus cyaneus			w	1	1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A083	Circus macrourus			c	1	4	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A084	Circus pygargus			c	130	380	i		G	A	A	C	A
B	A231				r	1	10	p		G	C	B	C	C

[illegible]

B	A246				r	180	1000	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A242	Melanocorypha calandra			p		1	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A068	Mergus albellus			w		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A070	Mergus merganser			w		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A069	Mergus serrator			w		7	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A230	Merops apiaster			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A230	Merops apiaster			r	165	165	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A073	Milvus migrans			c	40	120	i		G	C	A	C	B
B	A073	Milvus migrans			r	2	2	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A077	Neophron percnopterus			r		3	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A077	Neophron percnopterus			c	9	9	i		G	A	A	C	A
B	A058	Netta rufina			c	1	2	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A023	Nycticorax nycticorax			c	2	18	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A094	Pandion haliaetus			r		1	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A094	Pandion haliaetus			c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A020	Pelecanus crispus			w		7	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A020	Pelecanus crispus			c		1	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A019	Pelecanus onocrotalus			c	1	4	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A072	Pernis apivorus			r	11	12	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A072	Pernis apivorus			c	1100	1100	i		G	B	A	C	A
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			w		147	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			r	10	10	p		G	B	A	C	B
B	A017	Phalacrocorax carbo			c	600	700	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A393	Phalacrocorax pygmeus			w		9	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A393	Phalacrocorax pygmeus			c	2	12	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A234	Picus canus			p	15	100	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A034	Platalea leucorodia			c	10	10	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A005	Podiceps cristatus			w		22	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A005	Podiceps cristatus			c	60	90	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A008	Podiceps nigricollis			c	100	110	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A008	Podiceps nigricollis			w	10	15	i		G	B	A	C	B
B	A249	Riparia riparia			r	150	150	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A155	Scolopax rusticola			w		7	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A155	Scolopax rusticola			c	10	16	i		G	C	A	C	C
B	A155	Scolopax rusticola			p	1	7	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A193	Sterna hirundo			w		27	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A307	Sylvia nisoria			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C

B	A307	Sylvia nisoria			r	200	300	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A004	Tachybaptus ruficollis			w		22	i		G	B	B	C	B
B	A004	Tachybaptus ruficollis			c	100	110	i		G	B	B	C	B
B	A048	Tadorna tadorna			w		50	i		G	C	B	C	C
B	A142	Vanellus vanellus			r	1	10	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A142	Vanellus vanellus			c	2	40	i		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			2000	2000							X	
B	A218	Athene noctua			90	90							X	
B	A366	Carduelis cannabina			320	320							X	
B	A363	Carduelis chloris			5100	5100							X	
B	A347	Corvus monedula			380	380								X
B	A113	Coturnix coturnix			160	160							X	
B	A377	Emberiza cirius			175	175							X	
B	A382	Emberiza melanocephala			90	90							X	
B	A269	Erithacus rubecula			19000	19000							X	
B	A359	Fringilla coelebs			43000	43000							X	
B	A244	Galerida cristata			275	275							X	
B	A251	Hirundo rustica			2200	2200							X	
B	A233	Jynx torquilla			21	21							X	
B	A271	Luscinia megarhynchos			3150	3150							X	
B	A383	Miliaria calandra			1825	1825							X	
B	A280	Monticola saxatilis			9	9							X	
B	A278	Oenanthe hispanica			20	20							X	
B	A214	Otus scops			140	140							X	
B	A329	Parus caeruleus			1750	1750							X	
B	A443	Parus lugubris			28	28							X	
B	A235	Picus viridis			455	455							X	
B	A210	Streptopelia turtur			500	500							X	

B	A283	Turdus merula			16300	16300							X	
B	A285	Turdus philomelos			5100	5100							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
N22	
N23	3.0
N10	5.0
N15	7.0
N17	
N09	10.0
N19	7.0
N08	3.0
N16	50.0
N06	3.0
N21	1.0
N12	11.0
Total Habitat Cover	NaN

Other Site Characteristics

Kotlenska Mountain is located in the central share of the Eastern Balkan. Its limits are defined by the rivers Ticha to the north, up to the point where it joins Ticha Dam, Stara Reka to the west and Luda Kamchia to the south. To the east the area reaches Varbishi Pass in its section from the village of Beronovo to the town of Varbitsa, and continues along the Varbitsa - Byala Reka road passing at 1.5 km from the bank of Ticha Dam. Many clearly formed secondary ridges with steep slopes and deeply cutting gorges and ravines descend from the main ridge of the mountain to the Ticha and Luda Kamchia river valleys. The terrain is steep and heavily indented. Ticha Dam is located in the north-eastern part of Kotlenska Mountain. The region is sparsely populated, mainly in its periphery and along the river valleys. About 23 of the mountain territory is occupied by primary broadleaved forests mainly of *Fagus sylvatica* subsp. *moesiaca*, at places mixed with *Carpinus betulus*. More limited are the forests of *Quercus dalechampii*, sometimes mixed with *C. betulus* and *Carpinus orientalis*, the mixed forests of *Quercus cerris* and *Quercus frainetto*. A small location of natural mixed forests of White Fir *Abies alba* and Beech *Fagus sylvatica* has been established in the western part of the mountain. The secondary forests and shrubs of Oriental Hornbeam have a very limited distribution in the region. The rest of the territory is occupied by open grasslands, used as pastures and farmland. Three types of grass associations dominate the grasslands: mesophyte, xero-mesophyte and xerothermal grass associations. A considerable part of the open areas, including the agricultural plots, have a secondary origin, i.e. they spread on territory previously occupied by old forests. The wet areas and the river valleys cover a comparatively small part of the mountain territory. The only wetland in the mountain is Ticha Reservoir, which is not fringed with marsh vegetation. Limestone rocks and karst formations are dispersed everywhere in the high mountain areas (Nedyalkov 1984; Bondev 1991; Georgiev 1993). In 1997 the area is appointed as Important Bird Area by BirdLife International.

4.2 Quality and importance

The territory of Kotlenska Mountain supports 182 bird species, 51 of which are listed in the Red Data Book for Bulgaria (1985). Of the birds occurring there 81 species are of European conservation concern (SPEC) (BirdLife International, 2004), 10 of them being listed in category SPEC 1 as globally threatened, 21 in SPEC 2 and 50 in SPEC 3 as species threatened in Europe. The area provides suitable habitats for 65 species, included in Annex 2 of the Biodiversity Act, which need special conservation measures, of which 58 are listed also in Annex I of the Birds Directive. Kotlenska Mountain is a place of global importance for the breeding Corncrake *Crex crex* and one of the most valuable sites in the country at European Union level for Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*, Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus*, Short-toed Eagle *Circus gallicus*, Lesser Spotted Eagle *Aquila pomarina*, Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*, Booted Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus*, Peregrine Falco

peregrinus, Hazel Grouse *Bonasa bonasia*, Semi-collared Flycatcher *Ficedula semitorquata* and Middle Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos medius*, where these species breed in considerable numbers. Through the Kotlenska Mountain pass the most western part of Via Pontica migration flyway. It is a typical bottleneck site where more than 3,000 raptors migrate in autumn every year. The most numerous migrants are Honey Buzzard, Buzzard *Buteo buteo*, Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus* and harriers. The Crane is also recorded during migration. During the winter and migration period Ticha Reservoir holds significant numbers of waterfowl ? Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica*, Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*, Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*, etc.

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	A07		o
M	A04		i
M	F03.01		o
M	A05.01		i
L	H05		i
M	B01		i
M	G01.02		i
M	G05		i
M	B		i
M	B02.02		i
M	A03		i
M	F03.02.02		i
M	A04.03		i
M	B		o
L	D02.01		i
M	G05.01		i
M	H05		o
M	G02.10		i
M	F06		i
M	G01.04		i
M	F04		i
L	A07		i
M	C01.01.01		i
M	B01.02		i
L	J01		i
L	G02.04		i
M	F03.01		i
M	F02.03		i
L	G01.05		i
L	A01		i
M	A01		o
L	D01.01		i
M	G05		o
M	A03		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

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	A04		i
M	F02.03		i

4.5 Documentation

Initial proposal and description of the site made by I. Angelov, I. Dimchev, V. Vasilev - 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 ; E. Stoyanov - Fund for the wild FLORA and FAUNA, 2700 Blagoevgrad, P.O.Box 78, tel/fax.: (+35973)881440. Data revised by a team of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (<http://www.bas.bg>). Documents: BDZP/BirdLife Bulgariya. 2005. ?Nacionalna banka za ornitologichna informacia 1988-2005?, Balgarsko Druzhestvo za zastita na pticite; Bondev, I. 1991. Rastitelnostta na Bulgariya. 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.); Kostadinova, I. (sast.) 1997. Ornitologichno vazhni mesta v Bulgariya. BDZP, Prirodzashtitna poreditsa. Kniga 1, BDZP, Sofiya, 176 s.; Michev, T., Tz. Petrov, L. Profirov, P. Iankov, S. Gavrilov. 1989. Razprostranenie I prirodzashtiten status na skalniya orel *Aquila chrysaetos chrysaetos* (L.), 1758 v Bulgariya. ? Izv. Muz. Yu. Bulgariya, 15, 79-87.; MOSV. 2005. Arhiv na zastitenite teritorii v Bulgaria. Baza danni (nepubl.); Nedyalkov, S. (kol). 1984. Nauchen doklad po zadacha: ?Razrabotvane na

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Link(s): <http://natura2000.moew.government.bg/Home/ProtectedSite?code=BG0002029&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 [%]
BG04	0.1	BG03	0.448	BG06	0.14
BG00	98.312	BG01	1.0		

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
BG03	MAARATA	+	0.018
BG03	DRYANOVSKA CAVE	+	
BG03	ORLOVITE CAVES	+	
BG03	MALKATA MAARA CAVE	+	
BG06	HARSOV GRAD	+	
BG03	CHERNITE IZVORI	+	0.02
BG03	SVETI 40 MACHENIKA	+	
BG03	BADZHALA KAYA	+	
BG01	ORLITSATA	+	1.0
BG03	ZLOSTEN	+	0.4
BG06	KORENIK	+	
BG03	NAHODISHTA NA CHERNI BOROVINKI	+	

BG04	ARDACHLAKA	+	0.1
BG03	SINI VIR	+	
BG06	ORLOVA SKALA	+	0.1
BG03	LEDNITSATA	+	
BG03	URUSHKI ROCKS	+	0.01
BG03	BILERNIKA	+	
BG03	IZVORITE	+	
BG06	VIDA	+	
BG03	PRIKAZNA CAVE	+	
BG03	PESHTERATA V M. TSAREVETS	+	
BG03	KARVAVATA LOKVA	+	
BG06	ZHELEZNI VRATA	+	0.04

designated at international level:

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

5.3 Site designation (optional)

In the Kotlenska Mountain there are 24 protected areas ? a reserve, protected areas and natural monuments, but they cover only 1.3% of its territory. Most of the protected areas are designated to protect the landscape features. The ?Orlitsa? Reserve was designated in 1984 to protect the primary beech forest ecosystems, rare raptors and unique karst landscape. About 16% of the territory of Kotlenska Mountain was appointed as CORINE Site in 1998 because of its European value for habitats, rare and threatened plant and animal species. In 1997 the area was appointed as Important Bird Area by BirdLife International.

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

Organisation:	RIEW-Veliko Tarnovo, Stara Zagora, Burgas, Shumen; Danube River Basin Directorate; State Game-breeding Center "Veliki Peslav"; Forestry Departments - Varbitsa; Elena; Kipilovo; Kotel; Omurtag ; Sadovo; Sliven; Smyadovo; Stara Reka; Ticha;
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:

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).