



## 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

[Back to top](#)

### 3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

### 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	<a href="#">Accipiter brevipes</a>			r	2	4	p		G	A	A	C	A
B	A086	<a href="#">Accipiter nisus</a>			p	4	4	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A168	<a href="#">Actitis hypoleucos</a>			r	3	6	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A229	<a href="#">Alcedo atthis</a>			p	5	12	p		G	B	A	C	B
B	A465	<a href="#">Alectoris graeca graeca</a>			p	15	25	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A053	<a href="#">Anas platyrhynchos</a>			p	7	18	p		G	D			
B	A255	<a href="#">Anthus campestris</a>			r	10	15	p		G	C	A	C	B
B	A024	<a href="#">Ardeola ralloides</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A215	<a href="#">Bubo bubo</a>			p	10	16	p		G	B	A	C	A
B	A133	<a href="#">Burhinus oedicnemus</a>			r	1	1	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A087	<a href="#">Buteo buteo</a>			p	5	8	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A403	<a href="#">Buteo rufinus</a>			p	6	10	p		G	C	A	C	A
B	A224	<a href="#">Caprimulgus europaeus</a>			r	20	40	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A224	<a href="#">Caprimulgus europaeus</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A136	<a href="#">Charadrius dubius</a>			r	5	15	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A031	<a href="#">Ciconia ciconia</a>			r	10	10	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A030	<a href="#">Ciconia nigra</a>			r	3	3	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A080	<a href="#">Circaetus gallicus</a>			r	2	3	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A081	<a href="#">Circus aeruginosus</a>			c				P	DD	C	B	C	C
B	A231	<a href="#">Coracias garrulus</a>			r	5	5	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A122	<a href="#">Crex crex</a>			c				P	DD	C	A	C	C
B	A122	<a href="#">Crex crex</a>			r	3	25	p		G	C	A	C	C
B	A238	<a href="#">Dendrocopos medius</a>			p	10	15	p		G	C	B	C	C
B	A429	<a href="#">Dendrocopos syriacus</a>			p	40	50	p		G	C	A	C	C



B	A247	<a href="#">Alauda arvensis</a>			650	650	p							X	
B	A218	<a href="#">Athene noctua</a>			12	12	p							X	
B	A366	<a href="#">Carduelis cannabina</a>			150	150	p							X	
B	A363	<a href="#">Carduelis chloris</a>			75	75	p							X	
B	A347	<a href="#">Corvus monedula</a>			115	115	p								X
B	A113	<a href="#">Coturnix coturnix</a>			190	190	p							X	
B	A377	<a href="#">Emberiza cirlus</a>			60	60	p							X	
B	A382	<a href="#">Emberiza melanocephala</a>			17	17	p							X	
B	A269	<a href="#">Erithacus rubecula</a>			145	145	p							X	
B	A359	<a href="#">Fringilla coelebs</a>			230	230	p							X	
B	A244	<a href="#">Galerida cristata</a>			90	90	p							X	
B	A251	<a href="#">Hirundo rustica</a>			350	350	p							X	
B	A233	<a href="#">Jynx torquilla</a>			33	33	p							X	
B	A271	<a href="#">Luscinia megarhynchos</a>			380	380	p							X	
B	A383	<a href="#">Miliaria calandra</a>			900	900	p							X	
B	A280	<a href="#">Monticola saxatilis</a>			6	6	p							X	
B	A278	<a href="#">Oenanthe hispanica</a>			9	9	p							X	
B	A214	<a href="#">Otus scops</a>			40	40	p							X	
B	A329	<a href="#">Parus caeruleus</a>			100	100	p							X	
B	A443	<a href="#">Parus lugubris</a>			22	22	p							X	
B	A235	<a href="#">Picus viridis</a>			20	20	p							X	
B	A276	<a href="#">Saxicola torquata</a>			25	25	p							X	
B	A210	<a href="#">Streptopelia turtur</a>			103	103	p							X	
B	A311	<a href="#">Sylvia atricapilla</a>			75	75	p							X	
B	A283	<a href="#">Turdus merula</a>			650	650	p							X	
B	A285	<a href="#">Turdus philomelos</a>			280	280	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
N16	22.0
N17	2.0
N08	13.0
N20	1.0
N21	2.0
N23	3.0
N15	10.0
N07	0.0

N12	16.0
N09	24.0
N19	0.0
N10	6.0
N22	1.0
<b>Total Habitat Cover</b>	<b>100</b>

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

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

L	K01.01		i
M	D01.01		i
H	G01.04		i
M	G02.04		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

#### 4.4 Ownership (optional)

#### 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, Prirodozashtitna 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. Beliata shturkel (Ciconia ciconia) v Bulgaria. Prirodozashtitna 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. Ptici na Sredna Dunavska ravнина. 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)

[Back to top](#)

#### 5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]	Code	Cover [%]
BG00	98.942	BG06	0.007	BG03	1.051

#### 5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

designated at national or regional level:

Type code	Site name	Type	Cover [%]
BG03	BANKOVITSA CAVE	+	
BG03	SKOKA WATERFALL - BELILKATA RIVER	+	0.001
BG03	KUPENITE	+	0.03
BG03	SVIRCHOVITSA CAVE	+	
BG06	SHTARKA	+	0.007

BG03	HAYDUSHKA DUPKA CAVE	+	
BG03	CHERVENITSA	+	
BG03	PROHODNA CAVE	+	
BG03	STRUPANITSA ROCK FORMATIONS	+	0.09
BG03	TEKTONSKI GREBEN KALETO	+	0.4
BG03	KUKLITE ROCK FOMATION - ULEYA	+	0.08
BG03	SAMUILITSA 1 AND 2	+	
BG03	SKALNITE KUKLI - PLADNISHTETO	+	0.45
BG03	TEMNATA DUPKA CAVE	+	
BG03	GALABARNIKA	+	
BG03	CHUKLITE	+	
BG03	KAMARATA	+	

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 sites 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, Plevan;Danubean River Basin Directorate; Forestry Departments - Lukovit, Mezdra, Plevan;
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).

